

The West End Herald

Second Presbyterian Church, Greenville, SC



Vol. CXXXIV, Edition 19

May 17, 2026

In This Issue

- 1** The Amazing Richard Sibbes
- 3** Here and There
- 4** The Valley of Vision
- 5** Corner of River/Rhett
- 6** Birthdays
- 7** Calendar
- 9** Announcements
- 12** The Intercessor



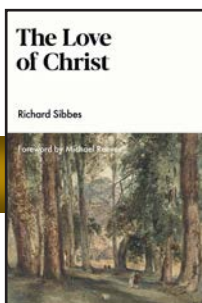
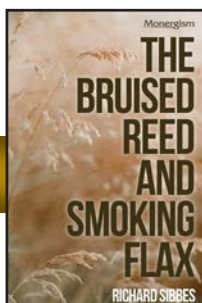
THE
**A
M
A
Z
I
N
G**

RICHARD SIBBES

continued on page 2

The Puritan pastor Rev. Richard Sibbes (1577–1635), was very-appropriately referred to as, “the heavenly Doctor.” Sometimes his books and sermons seem to lift the souls of the church’s saints right into glory, (even while we are still down here on Earth).

A sermon Sibbes preached on Song of Solomon 5:2–3, in a series entitled, “The Love of Christ,” will prove the point. Check out these remarkable words, as I quote him, (and all the italics are my emphases): “Thus [Christ] looks on us, and thus faith looks upon Him too, and together with the sight and sense



of sin, at the same time it apprehends righteousness, perfect righteousness, and so is undefiled. This is the main point in religion, and the comfort of Christians, to see their perfection in Christ Jesus, and to be lost in themselves, as it were, and to be only ‘found in Him, not having their own righteousness, but the righteousness of God in Him,’ (Php. 3:9). This is a mystery which none knows but a believing soul. They have an inward sight to see corruption, and an inward faith to see God not take advantage of it. And surely there can be no greater honor than this. In the sense of sin, of wants, imperfections, stains, and blemishes, yet to wrap ourselves in the righteousness of Christ, the God/Man; and by faith, being thus covered with that absolute righteousness of Christ, with boldness to go, clothed in the garments of this our Elder Brother, to the throne of grace. This is an honor to Christ, to attribute so much to His righteousness, that being clothed therewith, we can boldly break through the fire of God’s justice, and all those terrible [fearful] attributes [of God], when we see them all, as it were, satisfied fully in Christ. For Christ, with His righteousness, could go through the justice of God, having satisfied it to the full for us. And we being clothed with this His righteousness and satisfaction may go through too.”

... Pastor Sibbes goes on to explain how the regenerate Christian churchman grows in one’s love for God in Christ; and how we are to view the “already” of being “dead in Christ,” with the “not yet” of being fully-glorified in Him. Sibbes “bridges” this very practical “gap” in a most wonderful way. He

Here and There

at Second Presbyterian Church



LightBringers
May 7





The prayers in this book are drawn from the largely forgotten deposit of Puritan spiritual exercises, meditations, and aspirations. They testify to the richness and colour of evangelical thought and language that animated vital piety in an important stream of English religious life. ~Arthur Bennett

O God of Unsearchable Greatness,

Help me to repair to that cross,
be crucified to the world by it,
and in it find deepest humiliation,
motives to patience and self-denial,
grace for active benevolence,
faith to grasp eternal life,
hope to lift up my head,
love to bind me for ever
to him who died and rose for me.

May his shed blood make me
more thankful for thy mercies,
more humble under thy correction,
more zealous in thy service,
more watchful against temptation,
more contented in my circumstances,
more useful to others.



at the corner of

River & Rhett

From Treasurer Ron Babington

Through April, general giving was \$514k while actual expenses were \$620k, for a \$106k operating deficit. Giving is \$168k off budgeted pace so far in 2026, which is not uncommon for this time of year but a gap that we'd like to see closed nonetheless.

\$335k has been donated year to date towards *A Time To Build*, and we continue to monetize our parking operations as a key source of funding for this project. The church made \$22k from the recent *Artisphere* weekend alone.



MAY *Birthdays*

- 17** Daniel Kight
- 18** Margaret Butler, Ronda May, Heidi Upton
- 19** Mary Duncan, Caleb Nguyen, Liz Nowak,
Faith Raper, Dustin Waldschmidt
- 20** Tim Owens
- 21** Matt Barbier, Bloom Oliva
- 23** Susannah Farr, Blake Johnson



This Week

MORNING SERMON

Dr. Richard D. Phillips

THE WEAPONS OF OUR WARFARE
2 Corinthians 10:1-6

EVENING SERMON

Rev. Brendon J. Branigin

THE WORD OF THE LORD
1 Peter 1:22-25

Sunday, May 17

- 8:30 A.M. MORNING WORSHIP—*The Lord's Supper*
9:55 A.M. Children's Chapel (*Sanctuary*)
10:00 A.M. Children/Youth/Adult Sunday School
11:00 A.M. MORNING WORSHIP—*The Lord's Supper*
5:00 P.M. Missionary Prayer Band (*Chapel*)
5:30 P.M. Season of Prayer (*Chapel*)
6:00 P.M. EVENING WORSHIP

Monday, May 18

- 6:30 A.M. Men's Bible Study (*Fellowship Hall*)

Wednesday, May 20

- 12:00 P.M. Winsome Widows (*Fellowship Hall*)
5:30 P.M. FAMILY NIGHT FELLOWSHIP SUPPER (*Gym*)
7:00 P.M. CAT Kids Program (*Sanctuary*)
7:45 P.M. Chancel Choir

Friday, May 22

- 12:00 P.M. Men's Luncheon and Bible Study (*Gym*)
1:30 P.M. Mission to Main (*Conference Room*)
6:00 P.M. Spring Fling (*Gym*)

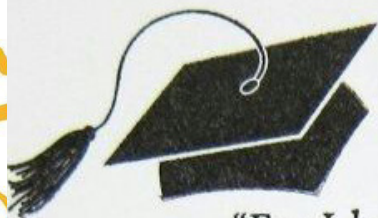
Saturday, May 23

- 7:00 P.M. English Country Dancing (*Gym*)

Upcoming Events

spcgreenville.org/calendar

- May 20** CAT Kids Program
- May 27** Summer Children's Choir Begins
- May 31** Adult Summer Sunday School Begins
- July 6-10** Vacation Bible School



“For I know the *plans*
I have for you,” declares
the **LORD**,
“Plans to *prosper you*
and not to harm you,
plans to give you
hope and a future.”

Jeremiah 29:11

Announcements

Men of the Covenant

Men (9th grade and above) will be having their last breakfast and teaching time on Saturday, May 16, beginning at 8:00 A.M. in the Fellowship Hall. Meat will be provided, but men are asked to bring other breakfast items to share. Meetings will resume in the Fall.

Winsome Widows

The Winsome Widows will meet in the Fellowship Hall at 12:00 P.M., Wednesday, May 20. Lunch will be served followed by a program from the Mobley family. Widows, please join us for this last meeting until September.



Spring Shower

All ladies are invited to a bridal shower for Alex & Paola (Perez) Roten on Saturday, May 30, beginning at 10:00 A.M. in the Fellowship Hall. The Rotens were married on April 25.

Registry: amazon.com/registry

Precepts Bible Study *Mary Settle, teacher*

This Ladies Bible Study has ended until September when they will begin a study in Romans. An announcement will be made this summer regarding dates and book orders.



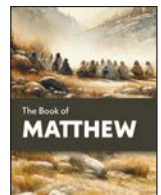
Rafiki Bible Study *Sylvia Long, teacher*

This 20-week class on Matthew will begin September 14.

Ladies will need to order lesson materials from:

<https://resources.rafikifoundation.org/products/matthew-group-bible-study>

or call (352) 483-9131. Please let Sylvia Long know if you are ordering and intend to join this Bible study in the Fall.



would have us, by faith, to understand who we (currently) are in Jesus—as being the impetus for all our sanctifying progress in Christlikeness. Love becomes the great motivator for Pastor Sibbes: both God’s love for His elect church in Christ; and our love for God in Christ. The “heavenly Doctor” knew, from much experience, that the loss of the sight and sense of God’s love is the principal defeater of God’s children. Sibbes does all he can, to try to convince us of the undying, unfailing, indestructible, and unconquerable love God has for His elect/redeemed church children. He understood that we have a hard time believing this—but he (Sibbes) drives the point home, over and over again, largely through the gospel and historical facts of the incarnation and cross atonement of Jesus on our behalf.

If you avail yourself of “the heavenly Doctor’s” gospel antidotes, cures, and miraculous graces, you will find yourself benefitting a lot. Sibbes does not mess around with the ordinary, futile, human, religious remedies—that all always fail. Instead, he directs us right to the heart of God, through faith in and love for the Son of God. ♦

Rev. Mark Henninger is a retired, ordained minister in the Presbyterian Church in America (PCA).



Preparation for the Lord’s Supper on May 17:

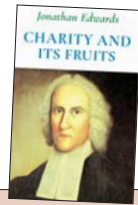
Who are to come to the table of the Lord?

Those who are truly displeased with themselves because of their sins and yet trust that these are forgiven them and that their remaining weakness is covered by the suffering and death of Christ, and who also desire more and more to strengthen their faith and amend their life. But hypocrites and those who do not repent eat and drink judgment upon themselves.

(Heidelberg Catechism #81)

Adult Summer Sunday School

Books are available for \$10 at the Church Bookstore.



Charity and Its Fruits Teaching Schedule

1. Charity, or Love, the Sum of all Virtue	Wednesday May 27	Larson
2. Charity More Excellent than the Extraordinary Gifts of the Spirit	Sundays ↓ May 31	Zimmerman
3. The Greatest Performances or Sufferings in Vain Without Charity	June 7	VanDoodewaard
4. Charity Disposes Us Meekly to Bear Injuries Received from Others	June 14	Weaver
5. Charity Disposes Us to Do Good 6. Charity Inconsistent with an Envious Spirit	June 21	Early
7. The Spirit of Charity Is an Humble Spirit	June 28	Bianchi
8. The Spirit of Charity the Opposite of a Selfish Spirit	July 5	Watkins
9. The Spirit of Charity the Opposite of an Angry or Wrathful Spirit 10. The Spirit of Charity the Opposite of a Censorious Spirit	July 12	Weiland
11. All True Grace in the Heart Tends to Holy Practice in the Life	July 19	Haws
12. Charity, or a Christian Spirit, Willing to Undergo all Sufferings in the Way of Duty 13. All the Graces of Christianity Connected	July 26	Uhall
14. Charity, or True Grace, not to be Overthrown by Opposition	August 2	Lyon
15. The Holy Spirit Forever to be Communicated to the Saints in the Grace of Charity, or Divine Love	August 9	Branigin
16. Heaven, a World of Charity or Love	August 16	Master