

## Church Calendar

### Sunday, December 14

- 8:30 AM **MORNING WORSHIP**  
9:50 AM Children's Chapel  
10:00 AM **SUNDAY SCHOOL** (6th grade and under)  
10:00 AM **Congregation and Corporate Meeting**  
11:00 AM **MORNING WORSHIP**  
5:30 PM Season of Prayer in the Chapel  
6:00 PM **EVENING WORSHIP**  
6:00 PM Wee Worship

### Monday, December 15

- 11:45 AM Young At Heart Christmas luncheon

### Tuesday, December 16

- 10:00 AM WIC Bible Study  
5:00 PM I-Mites Basketball practice  
6:30 PM Jr. High Boys' Basketball practice

### Wednesday, December 17

- 6:30 AM Men's Bible Study  
5:45 PM **FAMILY NIGHT CHRISTMAS DINNER**  
7:00 PM **CHRISTMAS YOUTH PROGRAM**  
8:00 PM Sr. High Boys Basketball practice

### Thursday, December 18

- 4:00 PM Jr. High Girls' Basketball practice  
6:00 PM Evangelism Explosion Training

### Friday, December 19

- 12:00 PM Men's Fellowship Lunch & Bible Study  
6:30 PM College & 20's Christmas party  
6:30 PM Acts SS Class Christmas party

### Saturday, December 20

- 2:00 PM Senior High Girls' Basketball practice  
6:00 PM Jr. High Christmas party at the Martins  
6:30 PM Sr. High Christmas party at the Baxas

## Upcoming Events

- Dec. 9-10 WIC Circles Christmas parties  
Dec. 10 Missions Committee Meeting  
Dec. 10 Gingerbread House Contest  
Dec. 10 Youth Caroling  
Dec. 11 Good Grief Dinner  
Dec. 12 Fellowship Class Christmas party  
Dec. 14 Congregation & Corporation Meeting  
Dec. 15 Young At Heart  
Dec. 17 Family Night Christmas Dinner and Program  
Dec. 19 College Christmas party  
Dec. 19 Acts SS Class Christmas party  
Dec. 20 Jr./Sr. High Christmas party  
Dec. 21 Bill Watkins' Fold Lunch in Fellowship Hall  
Dec. 21 The Lord's Supper at the evening service  
Dec. 24 Lessons and Carols  
Dec. 24 No regular Wednesday night activities  
Dec. 24-26 Church Office Closed  
Dec. 28 Christmas Hymn Sing  
Dec. 28 Evangelism/Church Growth Committee  
Dec. 31 No Wednesday night activities  
Dec. 31 Church Office Closed

## Scripture Reading for the Week

Isaiah 9:6-7

*For to us a child is born, to us a son is given;  
and the government shall be upon his shoulder,  
and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor,  
Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.  
Of the increase of his government and of peace  
there will be no end, on the throne of David and over  
his kingdom, to establish it and to uphold it with justice and with  
righteousness from this time forth and forevermore.  
The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this. (ESV)*

## Remembering One Another

Remember in prayer this week the following shut-in members. Also, send them a note of encouragement and/or give her a call.

**Dale and Ginny Zeigler**  
125 Rounded Wing Drive  
Easley, SC 29642  
850-7757

## Praying For One Another

Remember in prayer this week the following members.

**Barry and Liz Myers**  
**John and Kary Newsome**  
**Riley and Cooper**  
**Bill and Sue O'Brien**

## Missionary for the Week

**Rev. Seth Starkey**  
**Belhaven University RUF**  
**Jackson, MS**

Seth was born and raised in Greenville, SC. He graduated from Newberry College in 2007 and 10 weeks later began his studies at Reformed Theological Seminary in Charlotte, NC. During seminary he became the ministerial intern at Second Presbyterian Church in Greenville, SC and continued in that role until his graduation from RTS in 2010. Following graduation, he was ordained as the Assistant Minister at Second Presbyterian. Seth is married to the former Laura Lee Patterson from Knoxville, TN. She graduated from UT Knoxville in 2005. They have two sons, Sam and Charlie. The Starkeys are thankful for the great privilege of impacting the lives of college students through the ministry of RUF.

 **Basketball Schedule for 12-1-12-8** 

Dec. 11	7:00 pm	Women	Christ Church
Dec. 11	7:00 pm	Men	ARP
Dec. 13	8:30 am	Jr. High Boys	Christ Church
Dec. 13	10:30 am	Jr. High Girls	OLR
Dec. 13	10:30 am	I-Mites	Finlay Hall
Dec. 13	1:30 pm	Mites	W. Pres. II
Dec. 15	8:00 pm	Sr. High Boys	Home

**Young At Heart**

**DECEMBER 15, 2014 @ 11:45 AM  
FELLOWSHIP HALL**  
Our Christmas luncheon will be extra special! We will have a delicious luncheon for \$8.00 per person payable at the door. After the luncheon we will go to the sanctuary for a musical piano concert given by Jerry Stepp, Music Director at Eastlan Baptist Church. What a way to go into the Christmas season!

*Lessons and Carols  
Wednesday, December 24, 2014  
6:00 pm*  
*We will marvel with the heavenly host  
as we hear the good news of our Savior's birth  
retold in Scripture and song.*

**December Schedule**

- ⇒ There will be no Wednesday night activities on:  
Wednesday, December 24th  
Wednesday, December 31st
- ⇒ The Church Office will be closed:  
December 24-26
- ⇒ The West End Herald will not be mailed the week of  
December 29th.

**Take Them A Meal**

If you would like to furnish a meal for Holt and Katie Preston after the birth of their daughter, Harper Altman Preston please go to [www.takethemameal.com](http://www.takethemameal.com) and log-in with Preston, password 1892.

**Congregational Meeting**

The Session has called a Congregation and Corporation Meeting **December 14th** at 10:00 am for the purposes of:  
1) Electing up to 9 Deacons to the Board of Deacons.  
2) Formally presenting the 2015 SPC Budget.  
3) Elect a new Trustee for the SPC Corporation.  
  
At the November Session meeting the Elders unanimously elected RE C. Douglas McDaniel to be its nominee for the open Trustee position.

*Family Night Christmas Dinner and Program  
Wednesday, December 17th @ 5:45 pm, Church Gym  
Dinner: 5:45 pm \* Program: 7:00 pm*

**Christmas Hymn Sing  
Sunday, December 28, 2014  
Immediately following the evening service**

**2015 Offering Envelopes**

The 2015 offering envelopes are being prepared. If you do not have offering envelopes, please contact the church office, ext. 18. The Diaconate ask that all members use offering envelopes for accounting purposes.

**Year-End Contributions**

Just a reminder that to obtain a 2014 charitable contribution deduction for income tax purposes, contributions must be received by the church no later than December 31.

**Christian Sympathy**

Our Christian love and sympathy is extended to the family of Mrs. Joanne Batzig who went home to be with the Lord on Wednesday, December 3, 2014. We are thankful for the life and service of Joanne and pray for Art and his family during this time of grief.

**New Bible Study for Women**

All ladies are invited to a new Bible Study beginning Thursday, January 22, 2015 and continuing for 10 weeks each Thursday morning from 9:30-11:30 am. Please join us as we study The Promised One: Seeing Jesus in Genesis by Nancy Guthrie. If you plan to attend please call Mary Russell (329-1670) or email ([erussell1670@charter.net](mailto:erussell1670@charter.net)) as books need to be ordered.

**Christmas Parties**

- WIC Circle 6: Dec. 10th, 6:55 pm, Fellowship Hall
- Fellowship Class: Dec. 12th, 7 pm, Rob & Beth Gustafsons'
- Young At Heart: Dec. 15th, 11:45 am, Fellowship Hall
- College/20's Class: Dec. 19, 6:30 pm, Joel and Alice Barnetts'
- Acts SS Class: Dec. 19, 6:30 pm, Robert and Jenny Spears'
- Jr. High Class: Dec. 20, 6 pm, Joe and Leslie Martins'
- Sr. High Class: Dec. 20, 6:30 pm, Mark and Beth Baxas'

**Christmas Poinsettias Deadline Dec. 10**

I would like to purchase \_\_\_ Poinsettia (s) at \$10.00 ea. Total: \_\_\_\_\_  
 In honor of:  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 In memory of:  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Given by:  
 (Name) \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone # \_\_\_\_\_





following the example of the early church in Acts 6, that the Holy Spirit calls deacons to service through the acclamation of the church congregation. This week, we will continue this practice through the election of deacons. All these men have been nominated by the congregation, approved by the elders, completed an extensive training program designed to ensure their competence in both doctrine and the duties of this office, and then have each been interviewed by the Session. Most important for us this week are the biblical qualifications listed in 1 Timothy 3:8-13: deacons should be reverent and honest, self-controlled, not self-serving, and sound in their faith. The godliness of their wives, if they are married, should commend them to the church, as well as the good order of their households. In sum, deacons who will oversee the people and property of the church should have demonstrated such ability in their sphere of their private lives. None of these men are perfect and all have areas for Christian growth, like the rest of us. But their election should signify the congregation's confidence in their commitment to Christ, their maturity as believers, and their established reputation for godliness.

Third, having considered our debt to the deacons and our need for new deacons, let me say a word to those who will be elected. No doubt, you will quickly realize that this is a serious commitment, but there are reasons for you to take up this obligation. First, it is no small thing for the church to set you forth to serve in such an important way. It is my view that one should be reverently open to callings to serve in the church. God calls us into service, and service as a deacon is one of the highest forms. Second, there are few more important things to which one could be called in this life. We are engaged together in work with eternal significance and that is of serious concern to the Lord God Almighty Himself. Should you not be willing to sacrifice in such a cause? Third, you will be greatly blessed through faithful service as a deacon. I believe that our deacons will tell you of a great satisfaction they receive through their work and of the valuable fellowship they experience within the Diaconate. Moreover, Paul concludes his description of deacons by writing this: "For those who have served well as deacons obtain for themselves a good standing and great boldness in the faith which is in Christ Jesus" (1 Tim. 3:13). What a rich treasure is revealed in those words!



Please pray for God to provide for our church through new deacons who will join the ranks of those already serving. For those not called to this office, please consider how you might offer your own gifts and energies to the work of the gospel in this church. Every member of our church has an important role to play, according to the gifts and graces that Christ has given to each of us. May God meet all our needs according to His riches in Christ Jesus (Phil. 4:19).

In Christ's Love,

Pastor Rick Phillips



### Deacon Nominees

Please be in prayer for the following men as they stand for election to the Board of Deacons on December 14th. A bio of each of these nominees is included in this week's Herald:

- Alan Farley
- Leon Harmon
- Marcus Laughner
- Roger Lusk
- Joe Martin
- Steve Plating
- Chad Scoggins

### CHURCH INFORMATION

*The West End Herald Editor:* RE Melton L. Duncan, Sr.

**Telephone:** 864.232.7621

**Website:** spcgreenville.org

#### Social Media

facebook.com/spcgreenville  twitter.com/spcgreenville 

**Fax:** (864) 232-7622 \* **Email:** info@spcgreenville.org

**Office Hours:** Monday - Friday 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM

**Information Centers:** Church Services information 1 \* Directions 2  
Hospital Information 3 \* Upcoming Events 4 \* Church Directory 5 \*  
Monthly Activities 6

**Church Services: Sunday:** Sunday School - 10:00 AM  
Morning Worship - 8:30 and 11:00 AM \* Evening Worship - 6:00 PM

**Wednesday:** Supper - 5:45 PM \* Prayer Meeting - 6:55 PM  
Adult Bible Study - 7:25 PM



### When travelling in Charleston, SC Visit Christ Church Presbyterian

Service Location:  
Moultrie Middle School  
645 Coleman Blvd.  
Mount Pleasant, SC 29464

Sunday Schedule  
**Prayer Meeting: 9:30 AM**  
**Morning Worship: 10:30 AM**  
**Evening Worship: 6:00 PM**

*From Dr. Jon Payne about Christ Church Charleston:*

We promote the simple Christian life, that is, one where private and family worship are central in everyday home life. Private worship (personal devotions) and family worship help prepare the entire household for a more God-centered, Christ-exalting, and Spirit-filled observance of the Lord's Day.

One of the primary tasks of the leadership of Christ Church is to keep the means of grace central in the life of the church. The means of grace (Word, sacraments and prayer) are the means that God Himself has personally appointed and promised to bless for the salvation, sanctification, and comfort of His people

Someone once said that the future never needed the past more than it does today. We believe that this is true of the Christian Church. Indeed, when the Church loses touch with her past, she easily forgets who she is and why she exists. This is precisely what has happened over the past half-century in evangelical America. The contemporary church has experienced a real loss of identity and connectedness to her roots. This ahistorical mindset has helped to foster high levels of superficiality and ignorance in the American evangelical church.

**CHARLESTON, CHARLESTON**

This past weekend Lynda and I were the guests of Dr. Jon Payne and his family in Mt. Pleasant / Charleston. Even in winter Charleston is resplendent. It was the second year Christ Church Presbyterian has hosted a 2-day theology conference for the community in conjunction with a lovely special evening of sacred music (Saint-Saëns' Christmas Oratorio) performed by members of the congregation and invited musical guests. Headlining the conference was former Moderator of the PCA, the beloved Dr. Harry Reeder of the historic Briarwood Church in Birmingham and the witty Dr. Carl Trueman of Westminster Theological Seminary for messages on the subject of Advent. It was a feast of biblical truth and beauty.

We stayed for Sunday morning worship (Moultrie Middle School) and brought greetings from the Second Church family to Christ Church at the service. Christ Church is already a large church (over 175 regular visitors), with a healthy mix of young and old people from different backgrounds. So many people wished to pass along their appreciation for our church's involvement with the founding of Christ Church, people are genuinely grateful for our leadership and practical assistance.

Part of our commitment to the new work involves financial oversight and management. Last night our Session approved the 2015 Charleston Budget administered through the SPC Treasurer and a special oversight committee. This new church plant has become one of Second Presbyterian's biggest missions initiatives and by God's Grace is doing very well.

Next year our own Dr. Richard D. Phillips will join Rev. David Strain of First Presbyterian Church of Jackson, MS speaking for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Christmas Conference on Reformed Theology at Christ Church.

**WIDOWS FUND**

Just a reminder: the Session has established a special designated fund for the benefit of approved beneficiaries in special condition and critical need. There is still an ongoing opportunity to contribute to this fund above and beyond your regular tithe to the church. If you wish to contribute please do so by making checks out to Second Presbyterian Church ATTN Widows Fund.

**The Second Presbyterian Church**

105 River Street  
Greenville, South Carolina 29601-2537

**Return Service Requested**

**WORSHIP AT SECOND  
THE LORD'S DAY**

**December 14, 2014**

**MORNING WORSHIP**  
8:30 & 11:00 AM

**A PRISONER OF CHRIST**  
Ephesians 3:1

Hymns: 195, 230, 252

Anthem: Away In A Manger  
Dr. Richard D. Phillips preaching

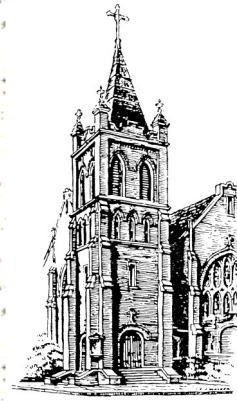
**EVENING WORSHIP**  
6:00 PM

**A HEART FOR GOD**  
Psalm 84

Hymns: 203, 226, 199  
Psalter: Psalm 67

Dr. Richard D. Phillips preaching

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**The Second Presbyterian Church**  
Corner of River and Rhett Streets  
Greenville, South Carolina

December 8, 2014

**Letter from the Senior Minister  
The Ministry of Our Deacons**

At our congregational meeting this Lord's Day, we will be electing men to serve our church in the office of deacons. The Bible clearly lays out two classes of office in the church: elders to oversee and shepherd, and deacons to serve and lead in the ministry of good deeds. Our *Book of Church Order* describes the diaconal ministry as "one of sympathy and service, after the example of the Lord Jesus; it expresses also the communion of saints, especially in their helping one another in time of need." In this ministry, the deacons minister to those in need, promote the grace of liberality in giving, collect and distribute gifts to those in need of benevolence, care for the property of the congregation, and make arrangements to facilitate the gatherings of the church congregation.

Our first response to this description of the deacons' ministry ought to be to express our collective gratitude for the labors of these faithful men. As pastor, I am especially aware of our debt to the work of the deacons; I can hardly imagine how we could conduct our services without their faithful service. I can assure you that our deacons make significant sacrifices of time and energy on behalf of our church. This inevitably means that their wives and children also make sacrifices. So let's make sure that they know how much they are appreciated. As you have opportunity, could you express your appreciation for the faithfulness and ability with which our deacons and their families serve our church?

My second reflection is to observe what an important thing it is for the Lord to provide us with new deacons. We believe,