

Church Calendar

Sunday, May 10

- 8:30 AM **MORNING WORSHIP**
- 9:50 AM Children's Chapel
- 10:00 AM **SUNDAY SCHOOL**
- 11:00 AM **MORNING WORSHIP**
- 5:30 PM Season of Prayer in the Chapel
- 6:00 PM **EVENING WORSHIP**
- 7:30 PM Worship & Music Committee Meeting

Monday, May 11

- 6:30 PM Session Meeting

Tuesday, May 12

- 10:00 AM WIC Circles 1 & 3 meet at the church
- 2:30 PM WIC Circle 5 meets at the church
- 7:00 PM WIC Circle 2 meets at Tammy Loopers
- 7:00 PM WIC Circle 4 meets at the church

Wednesday, May 13

- 6:30 AM Men's Bible Study
- 5:30 PM Missions Committee Meeting
- 5:45 PM **FAMILY NIGHT FELLOWSHIP SUPPER**
- 7:00 PM CAT KIDS PROGRAM

Thursday, May 14

- 6:00 PM MARRIAGE SEMINAR

Friday, May 15

- 12:00 PM Men's Lunch and Bible Study
- 6:00 PM MARRIAGE SEMINAR

Scripture Reading for the Week

Psalm 31: 3-5

For you are my rock and my fortress; and for your name's sake you lead me and guide me; you take me out of the net they have hidden for me, for you are my refuge. Into your hand I commit my spirit; you have redeemed me, O LORD, faithful God. (ESV)

Upcoming Events

- May 6 GRADUATION BANQUET
- May 7 National Day of Prayer
- May 10 Worship & Music Committee Meeting
- May 11 Session Meeting
- May 12 WIC Circles 1-5
- May 13 Missions Committee Meeting
- May 13 CAT KIDS PROGRAM
- May 14-15 MARRIAGE SEMINAR
- May 17 The Lord's Supper at the morning services
- May 18 Young At Heart
- May 20 CAT Kids Spring Fling
- May 20 Administration Committee Meeting
- May 20 WIC Circle 6
- May 22 Jr. High Fellowship
- May 24 Evangelism/Church Growth Committee
- May 25 Church Office Closed
- May 27 CE Committee Meeting
- May 27 MUSICAL CAT KIDS BEGINS
- May 28 WIC Shower for Laura Compton Hayes

Upcoming Dates

- June 7 All Adult Sunday School begins
- June 8-12 General Assembly-Chattanooga, TN
- June 13-20 Mission Trip to MTW-Cherokee
- June 22-26 Vacation Bible School
- July 4 Annual Church Picnic
- July 6-11 Sr. High trip to Edisto Island
- July 13-17 Mission Trip to Calvary Home
- July 17-25 Mission Trip-Cajamarca Peru
- July 20-24 Jr. High trip to Ridge Haven
- August 9 Missions Emphasis Sunday
- August 30 Rally Day
- September 25-27 World Missions Conference

Remembering One Another

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

Mrs. Marian Wood
5 Creekbend Road
Simpsonville, SC 29681
297-0783

Praying For One Another

Remember in prayer this week the following members.

Gregg and Laura Styles
Sam

Kitty Swillen
Sarah and Maggie

Billy and Cassie Therrell
Robert, Callie, Caroline, Charlotte, Duncan

Missionary for the Week



Rev & Mrs. Stephen Speaks

The start of the 2015 fall semester will mark the 31st year of RUF at Clemson University. RUF seeks to minister to Clemson students by giving a heart-felt witness to the person and work of Jesus Christ. Our purpose is to cultivate mature relationships among students that manifest themselves in a love for others, a heart for service, and a deep intimacy with the Living God. We hope to see the Kingdom of God advance beyond the Clemson campus by being a loving witness and a helping neighbor for the sake of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. We long to see hearts changed by the Gospel of grace and to see students live lives of significance during and after college.

Praise for Christian Mothers

*Favor is deceitful and beauty is vain:
But a woman that feareth the Lord, she shall be praised.
Give her of the fruit of her hands
and let her own works praise her in the gates.*
Proverbs 30:30-31



CAT Kids Program



Wednesday, May 13

Supper: 5:45 PM

Program: 7:00 PM

*Come and see what our covenant children
have learned this year in CAT Kids.*

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

Marriage Seminar

**“Created, Fallen,
Redeemed”**

Dr. Richard D. Phillips

May 14-15, 2015 * 6:00 pm

Includes a delicious meal both nights

\$40 per couple

Nursery Provided

Register Online @ www.spcgreenville.org

Greenville Seminary Graduation

The Twenty Fifth Commencement

Dr. David W. Hall, Speaker

Friday, May 22, 2015 * 6:00 pm

Woodruff Road Presbyterian Church

Reception following

James Eric McCarthy will receive his Master of Divinity degree.

Greenville Seminary Bookstore

GPTS will be holding their annual book sale all day on Saturday May 16th at the Taylors Main Street Campus. Come out and support GPTS and find a good book!

Graduation Banquet



Wednesday, May 6, 2015

5:45 PM * Church Gymnasium

Speaker: Mr. Scott Cook

Join us as we honor our 2015 graduates.

Treasurer's Report

APRIL 2015 & YTD

	Actual		
	April 2015	YTD 2015	YTD Budget
Offerings	95,741	409,600	448,667
Outlays:			
Operating Expenses	74,083	305,137	434,471
Mission Disbursements	<u>24,188</u>	<u>38,008</u>	<u>44,631</u>
Total Outlays	98,271	343,145	479,102
Net Offerings	(2,530)	66,455	

—Contributions in April 2015 were \$95,741.

—Contributions YTD April 2015 were \$409,600 versus \$337,649 for YTD April 2014.

—Please continue to pray that the Lord will provide the financial resources necessary for the programs and ministry of SPC.

—If you have any questions, please contact Bobby Mann or Jeremy Weaver.

Men's Chorus

This Sunday, May 10, the Men's Chorus will be singing in the evening worship service and will meet in the sanctuary at 5:30 pm.

National Day of Prayer



Thursday, May 7 is the 64th annual National Day of Prayer. Set aside some time Thursday to pray for our nation, our leaders, men and women in the military and for national repentance. For more info: www.nationaldayofprayer.org

Young At Heart

The monthly Young At Heart luncheon will be Monday, May 18 at 11:45 am in the Fellowship Hall. The cost of the catered lunch is \$7.00 per person payable at the door. This month we will enjoy a Spring Fling Picnic with good food and fellowship. Our scheduled speaker, Carol Gibson, cannot be with us due to illness.



Showering with Love

WIC
cordially invites all ladies to a
Wedding Shower
for
Laura Compton Hayes
Friday, May 28, 2015
7:00 pm - 8:30 pm
Fellowship Hall

Baptisms

David McAbee (Mac) Griffin, covenant son of Matt and Olivia Griffin received the Sacrament of Baptism on Sunday, May 3, 2015. Also receiving the Sacrament of Baptism on Sunday, May 3, 2015 was Caroline Crawford Scott, covenant daughter of Stephen and Londa Scott. We are thankful for the Griffin and Scott families and pray for Mac and Caroline that they will love and serve the Lord all the days of their lives.

CAT Kids Spring Fling



Wednesday, May 20, 2015

6:45 PM

At the church

Musical CAT Kids will begin Wednesday, May 27th



Smyrna is the shortest. It contains no rebukes, but reveals Christ's close familiarity with the sufferings they had and were about to experience: "I know your tribulation and your poverty (but you are rich) and the slander. . . . Behold, the devil is about to throw some of you into prison" (Rev. 2:9-10). The word tribulation means pressure of great oppression.

Already, the Christians of this city were financially impoverished, probably because participation in social and economic life was forbidden to those not willing to worship Caesar as Lord. Jesus is not speaking of a mere removal of tax-exempt status, but the word for "poverty" means a crushing situation in which even basic needs cannot be met. Their situation reminds believers today that this kind of persecution should not be unexpected by those who name Jesus as Lord.

A second form of persecution took the form of slander, which Jesus says was coming from the Jewish community, who did not want to lose their privileged status by association with the Christians. We know that Christians in the early church were falsely accused of drowning their children and eating human flesh, wrongly associated with the sacraments of baptism and the Lord's Supper. This form of persecution is currently escalating against Christians in America, as we are accused of "hate crimes" because of our moral stance against homosexuality. Jesus warned that more persecution would soon come: "Behold, the devil is about to throw some of you into prison." When he adds, "Be faithful unto death," it seems that some at least would also be slain (Rev. 2:10).

As Christians brace for official oppression in America, Jesus' words to Smyrna offer a great hope. Primarily, Jesus declares his sovereignty over such tribulation. We see this in his ability to foretell these events. He begins his letter saying, "The words of the first and the last" (Rev. 2:8). As the Lord of the beginning and the end, Jesus is sovereign over everything in between. Jesus also foretold that it would not be an interminable persecution: "for ten days you will have tribulation" (Rev. 2:10). "Ten days" is probably a symbolic number indicating a lengthy but not indefinite period of time. There would be an "eleventh day" when he would remove the trial. Jesus also informed Smyrna of the reason for this suffering: "that you may be tested" (Rev. 2:10). So it will be in America when Christians are forced to pay a



tangible earthly price for our fidelity to God's Word. Will the loss of tax-exemption and the threat of cultural exclusion cause us to yield our allegiance to Christ? This is the matter about which we should be praying: what truly matters is not whether or not we suffer persecution but whether we remain faithful should it come. As Christians brace for a Supreme Court ruling that would have been incomprehensible just a few years ago, together with an intensity of opposition we have seldom known, we too should be comforted by Christ's sovereign control over present history. If persecution comes, we must receive it as a test from our gracious Savior and an opportunity to show his power as we gladly endure it in faith to his Word.

May the Lord bless you this week.

Pastor Phillips

This article originally appeared on Reformation21 and is used with their permission.



CHURCH INFORMATION

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

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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



Biblical Masculinity: Self Control

The next stop on our tour through proverbial masculinity is self-control. Proverbs 16:32 tells us, "Whoever is slow to anger is better than the mighty, and he who rules his spirit than he who takes a city."

Self-control is especially important in relationships, such as in marriage. The reality is that our relationships will always involve at least some friction and even conflict. (That's right, your marriage is not the only one with conflict...). The tendency is to focus on the offenses of the other person, but the more godly a man is the more he will direct his attention towards himself. A lot of men struggle with anger; this problem signals a need for serious heart-work. Why do I get angry? a man should ask of himself. Why am I quick to yell, belittle, or strike out? Notice the contrast between being slow to anger and being mighty; anger often flows from a reliance on strength, which God has given men to use for good and not for evil.

If a man lacks self-control, especially in terms of anger, this matter should be a serious focus in prayer. Such a man -- and there are lots of them -- should spend time on his knees honestly talking with God about what it is that provokes him and asking the Lord to help him see what is behind this raw nerve. Is it a defensiveness that masks an unwillingness to repent? Is it pride, so that any challenge to authority leads to rage? Every man should give serious attention to this matter of self-control, lest the strength that God has given him should be misused and exercised in an abusive manner. Jesus promises the help of the Holy Spirit to those who ask, so ask the Holy Spirit's help in plowing your own heart and gaining the vital virtue of self-control.

James writes that "no one can tame the tongue" (Ja. 3:8). This reminds us not even to bother trying to gain self-control in our own strength. An issue like this depends on the Lord's work deep beneath the surface. Only when the grace of God has mastered our hearts will our tongue come under his control. But men should target their prayers to such an area, zealously seeking from God the grace of self-control as our hearts are increasingly under his control.

Be in prayer for Sons of SPC serving in the Military:

SR Michael Morgan, Jr.

SHIP: 02 DIV: 932M

3600 Ohio Street

Great Lakes, IL 60088-3156

Michael's Graduation Date is June 19, 2015.

PV2 Robert E. Pennington,

Charlie Company 369th Sig. BN

Building #29708

Fort Gordon, GA 30905

Captain Matthew Russell

5462 Whittlesey Blvd.

Apt. 316

Columbus, GA 31909

Matthew is an instructor at the Maneuver Captain's Career Course.

VBS 2015

VBS is June 22-26. The theme is *Missions: Faith in Motion.*

If you would like to help in VBS, please look at the following needs and let us know how you can serve:

- ⇒ Creating student worksheets (fill in blanks, crosswords, coded messages, hidden pictures, etc.)
- ⇒ Teaching a class
- ⇒ Being a classroom helper
- ⇒ Decorating

We would ask **everyone** to pray for the material preparations, teachers, helpers and especially the children. If you could serve in any of the above ways, please email Jill Mann:

bjmhmman@att.net

Please respond by Tuesday, May 12.

The Editor



The Second Presbyterian Church

105 River Street
Greenville, South Carolina 29601-2537

Return Service Requested

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

May 10, 2015

MORNING WORSHIP

8:30 & 11:00 AM

GROWTH AND MATURITY

Ephesians 4:13-15

Hymns: 55, 298, 562

Anthem: O Lord, Give Thy Holy Spirit to Our Hearts

Dr. Richard D. Phillips preaching

EVENING WORSHIP

6:00 PM

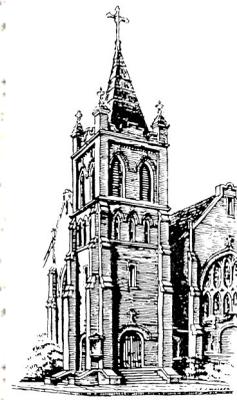
THE ATONEMENT OF CHRIST

1 Corinthians 15:3-4

Hymns: 522, 242, 246

Psalter: Psalm 78 (verses 9-20)

Dr. Richard D. Phillips preaching



The Second Presbyterian Church

Corner of River and Rhett Streets

Greenville, South Carolina

May 4, 2015

Letter from the Senior Minister

Will the American Church Be a New Smyrna?

Part One

As the Supreme Court deliberates on the question of homosexual marriage, American Christians are bracing for a level of government persecution yet unknown to us. The fear is that with homosexuality declared a constitutional right, opposition will officially be akin to racism. Under such a ruling, Christian institutions who refuse to grant homosexual rights may be subjected to official oppression and lose their tax exempt status as non-profit institutions. Even churches may lose their tax-free status if they refuse to permit marriages between two men or two women. This would deal a heavy financial blow and may be a precursor to the removal of our religious freedoms, so that public speech against moral perversion becomes a crime punishable by fine or imprisonment.

Christians who know the book of Revelation will notice a striking parallel between this potential situation and that which Jesus described to the church of Smyrna in Revelation 2:8-11. This ancient city was a jewel on the Aegean Sea, the chief city of the Roman province of Asia. With over 200,000 residents, it was noted for its historical loyalty to the Roman empire. In the year 26 a.d., the city even competed for and won the honor of erecting a temple to the emperor Tiberius and was famed for its commitment to the Roman imperial cult. As such, the church there was vulnerable to the persecutions that the emperor Domitian was about to unleash on those who would not bow to his supposed deity.

Of the seven letters to the churches of Revelation, the one to