



123 Arlington Ave.
Greenville SC 29601

webcgreenville.org

864.232.7312

OFFICE HOURS

Open Monday -Thursday
9am to 4:30pm
Open Friday
9am-Noon

SUNDAY MORNINGS

9am Classes
10am Coffee & Pastries
10:30am Worship Service

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SUMMER 2025 | ISSUE NO. 7

the newsletter of West End Baptist Church



Marvel at Jesus, Live for His Glory

Vacation Bible School
July 16-18 at 6:00 p.m.



Scan to sign up!

See Katie Penland or call the church office
for opportunities to serve with VBS!



Scan for daily
Bible readings



the newsletter of West End Baptist Church | SUMMER 2025

the weekly
schedule

They devoted

themselves to

the apostles'

teaching and to

fellowship, to

the breaking of

bread and

to prayer.

ACTS 2

SUNDAY
9:00am
10:00am
10:30am
5:30pm
5:30pm

Classes/Sunday School
Coffee Fellowship
Worship Service
Men's Bible Study (2nd & 4th)
Young Adults Bible Study (1st
& 3rd beginning August 3)

WEDNESDAY
6:30pm
6:30 pm

Price Small Group (1st & 3rd)
Bible Recap group (1st & 3rd)

THURSDAY
2:00pm

Swansgate Bible Study



from
pastor
marty

Summer, as most of you know, is my favorite season of the year. Whether you are traveling, vacationing, or just trying to recharge, I encourage you to include something more in your plans. Take thought to include intentional spiritual investments in your planning. We all want lasting memories and to make sure every moment counts, but don't forget the truth that opportunities to focus on things that impact eternity both come and go.

You're probably already involved in Sunday services, VBS, or other church events. But don't underestimate the power of simple, informal moments: worshiping together on the porch, talking about scripture in the car, or praying while roasting marshmallows around a campfire. These spiritual investments can last for eternity.

Summer is fun—and when we center it on God, it becomes even more meaningful. Have fun, make memories, and redeem the time for God's glory!

God is good, indeed!
Marty



daily Bible reading

day chapters
Psalms

1 119:1–88
2 119:89–176
3 120–132
4 133–139
5 140–145
6 146–150

Proverbs

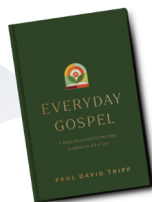
7 1–4
8 5–9
9 10–11
10 12–13
11 14–15
12 16–18
13 19–21
14 22–23
15 24–26
16 27–29
17 30–31

Ecclesiastes

18 1–4
19 5–8
20 9–12

21 **Song of Solomon**
Isaiah

22 1–4
23 5–8
24 9–12
25 13–17
26 18–22
27 23–27
28 28–30
29 31–35
30 36–39
31 40–43



august

day chapters
Isaiah

1 44–48
2 49–53
3 54–58
4 59–62
5 63–66

Jeremiah

6 1–3
7 4–6
8 7–9
9 10–13
10 14–17
11 18–22
12 23–25
13 26–29
14 30–31
15 32–34
16 35–37
17 38–41
18 42–45
19 46–48
20 49–50
21 51–52

Lamentations

22 1–2
23 3–5
Ezekiel
24 1–4
25 5–8
26 9–12
27 13–15
28 16–17
29 18–20
30 21–22
31 23–24



Vacation Bible School
Wednesday - Friday
July 16-18
6:00 pm at WEBC

w|e look
ahead

w|e young
adults

Potluck! Sunday, July 20 at 5:30 p.m. at John Ramirez's home

Bible Study beginning Sunday August 3rd at 5:30 p.m., meeting the 1st and 3rd Sundays each month at WEBC (See John Ramirez for more info.)

w|e youth
middle school &
high school

End of Summer Fun! Day trip to Atlanta Aquarium, lunch at the Varsity, and shopping at the Mall of Georgia! See Olivia Baker for more information and to sign up.

w|e pray
together

Day of Prayer for Schools: Saturday, August 2 at 10:00 a.m. in the Worship Center at West End Baptist Church

Church-wide Prayer Meeting: Sunday, August 10th at 6:30 p.m. in the Worship Center of WEBC

w|e ladies
brunch
out

Brunch at Stax Omega
74 Orcard Park Dr., Greenville
Saturday, August 16th at 10:30 a.m.
Bring your friends & neighbors!

w|e church
picnic!

date: saturday, sept. 6
time: 11:30 - ???
where: legacy park
bring: sides or desserts to share
invite: friends & neighbors!

church is providing hotdogs, hamburgers, & fixin's!
sign-up sheet to bring sides or desserts in welcome area

w|e celebrate!
this month's
birthdays

july

Sophia Foster 1
Patty Lawton 3
Gavin Hearndon 17
Melodie Edwards 18
Bryanna Weed 24
Susan Williams 25
James H. Whitworth 29

august

David Williams 11
Beth Mills 12
Hazel Alewine 12
Allan Clark 13
John Fredrick McAleer, III 14
John McAleer 15
Steven Pearce 20
Cynthia Ballard 20
Austin Bannister 20
Terry Looper 21
Keanan Montoya 23
Caleb Pearce 28

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Live-stream worship services
& sermon recordings available
on our YouTube channel.
More information at our website:
www.webcgreenville.org

Together w|e Glorify God
by making mature
disciples of all nations,
starting right here
in the West End.

w|e

west end baptist



Scott Stephens
Pastor of
Biblical Counseling

how to choose *your church*

Years ago, when my wife and I moved to a new city for work, we immediately began searching for a church family we could join. We had a young child and another one on the way at the time, so some of the considerations for a new church were a robust children's program, welcoming and friendly people, and preaching and teaching that were theologically aligned with our beliefs.

We found a church that was probably the most welcoming and friendly church that we have ever attended. Members guided us to the children's classes and then welcomed us to a Sunday school class that was perfect. We attended for several Sundays and felt that the church was an excellent fit relationally.

Even though we had only attended for a few weeks, my wife had given birth to our second son, and the Sunday School class was there in full force. They brought meals for a couple of weeks and offered to help in many ways.

There were concerns, though. During most of the class teachings, there was very little discussion of the Bible. One Sunday, a member mentioned that she had heard someone teach about the Holy Spirit. She explained some of the teachings, and others in the class were amazed. They had never heard about the wonders of the Spirit; the information was new to them.

Another Sunday during the worship service, the associate pastor preached, and surprisingly, there was no reference to Scripture at all. I began to think about previous sermons from the senior pastor and remembered that if any Scripture was used, it was minimal.

There are many factors we consider when seeking a church family. Finding a church with people we enjoy being with and who show love to us is important. It is also important to find a church that provides a space for our children to form meaningful connections and learn about Jesus Christ. Although important, these things are secondary to ensuring that the church we attend has the proper foundation upon which all of these things can be built.

So, what is the foundation on which every good church should be built?

Specifically, three things lay the foundation for an effective gospel preaching church. Before you consider joining, ask the pastor these three questions:

What are your beliefs about God?

At West End, we believe that God is eternally existent in three persons, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

God the Father: the first person of the Trinity in authority who sovereignly reigns over His universe, Father in truth to those who become children of God through faith in Jesus Christ.

God the Son: Jesus, the only begotten Son of God, born of a virgin, wholly man and wholly God, died as a substitutionary sacrifice for the sins of mankind, arose from the grave, defeating the power of sin and death.

God the Holy Spirit: co-equal with the Father and Son, present in the world today to make people aware of their need for Jesus Christ, living in every Christian from the moment of salvation.

What are your beliefs about God's Word?

At West End, we believe the Holy Scriptures as originally given by God, divinely inspired, infallible, entirely trustworthy, and the supreme authority in all matters of faith and conduct.

What are your beliefs about man and his problems?

At West End, we believe that God created man, both male and female, in His own image as the crowning work of His creation. In the beginning, man was innocent of sin and was given freedom of choice by God. Tempted by Satan, man rebelled against God and fell from his sinless state, bringing sin into the human race. Consequently, all mankind is sinful by inheritance and by choice. Therefore, mankind is under just condemnation without defense or excuse, depraved and in need of a Savior.

All people need salvation. It is a gift of God provided through Jesus Christ, who by His blood obtained eternal redemption for those who believe. Salvation is granted to those who respond in repentance and faith to the conviction of sin by the Holy Spirit. When a person is saved, they are born again (regenerated) by the Holy Spirit and become a new creation. There is always evidence of this change in the life of the believer (fruit).

There are many considerations when thinking about joining a church, and they are important to you and your family. Before committing to join a fellowship with a church, it is essential to have frank discussions with the pastor about his beliefs. Asking the three questions can help ensure that the proper foundation has been established in the church you are considering joining. If these three questions are not answered according to what Scripture teaches, the church should not be considered for your family.

west end
counseling
center



Call 864-232-7312
Or email
sstephens@webcgreenville.org



In recent sermons we have been challenged to consider the things we tend to put ahead of God's will, the things that, if we're being honest, matter most to us. For me, most often, that is comfort and ease. So many months ago, when encouraged to pray about going on a mission trip to the Philippines, my prayer was something like, "God, I really don't want to go. But I will if you want me to (and you make it clear)." Well, He made it clear through my family, and so I went. And, of course, I'm so glad that I did.

To be fair, this trip was not a difficult one. We went to a place that many in our group had been before to work with people who exemplify Christian love and hospitality. One of my biggest takeaways from this trip is God's reminder that He is at work all over the world, and those He has called and redeemed are united in a way that goes beyond distance and cultural differences. These are our brothers and sisters in Christ, ministering to the people around them in His name for His glory.

Looking back, I can't help but wonder why was I reluctant to go. I will never know the rest and peace I crave by sitting home and doing nothing. That's just being lazy, and it does not yield anything of value. But while God may call us to far away places or, perhaps, difficult circumstances, He also promises that in Christ we will find rest for our souls, and that His yoke is easy and His burden is light (Matthew 11:28-30). That's because when we are in His will, doing the work that He has called us to, then we are enabled by His unlimited power and strength, rather than our own. Paul reminds us of this when he told the Colossians, "Him we proclaim, warning everyone and teaching everyone with all wisdom, that we may present everyone mature in Christ. For this I toil, struggling with all his energy that he powerfully works within me." (Col. 1:28-29)

So I encourage you all to follow Christ wherever He leads, abandoning the artificial comfort we have become accustomed to, and resting in Him as He powerfully works within us for His will and His glory.

Steven Hearndon



Approximately 1000 children were reached at 6 different Vacation Bible Schools in the Masinloc area. Our team helped with VBS teams and some painting/construction at Masinloc Christian Academy. To see more pictures and videos of the Philippines Trip, please visit our website: webcgreenville.org or <https://www.facebook.com/WestEndBaptist.Greenville>



Training for Real-Life Ministry: Hope, Help, and Truth

- ▶ Be equipped to offer biblical hope to those carrying heavy burdens.
- ▶ Comprehensive, Christ-centered training. 90 hours of biblical counseling instruction starting September 8th.
- ▶ Flexible learning options. Monday night classes in Greenville, Greer, Gaffney, and online.
- ▶ ACBC Certified. Gain practical tools to counsel with truth, compassion, and confidence.



Contact us at info@upcountrybiblicalcounseling.org
or register at upcountrybiblicalcounseling.org

Biblical Counseling Training – Starts This September

The Upcountry Biblical Counseling Training Center is offering a one-year, 90-hour program to equip church leaders and everyday believers to offer Christ-centered, biblical help for life's struggles.

When: Monday nights, September–May

Where: Greenville, Greer, and Gaffney (in-person and online options)

Topics Include: Foundations of biblical counseling, marriage and family dynamics, specific life struggles, medical concerns in counseling, and how to use Scripture in counseling.

Classes begin September 8.

Learn more and register at upcountrybiblicalcounseling.org.



Interested in learning more about West End Baptist, or becoming a member? We have classes periodically through the year for your convenience. Call the office at 864.232.7312 or email us at info@webcgreenville.org for more information.



We're looking for a few good people! We have many ministry opportunities at West End Baptist Church. Everything from greeting to singing, to teaching and praying, and much more! If you have an interest in something you think we could be involved in, drop us a line or give us a call. Pray about how God could use you in West End Baptist Church. We're moving and growing, and hoping you'll join us! Call our office at 864-232-7312 or email info@webcgreenville.org for more information.



Parks Edwards
*Apologetics
Ministry Leader*

apologetics in the Bible *part 2*

In last month's article, we began looking at the Biblical basis for apologetics. 1 Peter 3:15-16 contains an exhortation by Peter for suffering Christians to be ready to provide a "defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you". In Matthew 12:22-32, Jesus demonstrates the use of apologetic argument in responding to false claims that the Pharisees were making about His ministry. Further insight into the nature and practice of apologetics can be found by examining Paul's speech to the Areopagus in Acts 17.

In Acts 17, Paul ends up in the Greek city of Athens. He is there waiting for Silas and Timothy to join him in further ministry. While waiting, Paul observes the idolatry of the city. The text says "he was deeply distressed when he saw that the city was full of idols" (Acts 17:16). Paul's next move was to engage people in rational discussion regarding spiritual things. Verse 17 records: "so he reasoned in the synagogue with the Jews and with those who worshiped God, as well as in the marketplace every day with those who happened to be there." Importantly, Paul did not see rational engagement with the Jews and Greeks in Athens as a hindrance to evangelism. On the contrary, he pursued it as part of his normal custom of engaging others with the claims of Jesus.

Paul's initial conversations then led to more conversations. He was brought to a place called the Areopagus where he was given the opportunity to further explain the message of the gospel. The Areopagus was a place in Athens where thinkers of the day would engage each other in the latest ideas. It was an intellectual center and provided a significant opportunity for Paul. The content of Paul's speech is instructive. First, he begins by establishing a point of contact with his hearers. The point of contact is the "religiosity" of his audience - "I see that you are extremely religious in every respect" (Acts 17:22). He points out they even have an altar built to "an unknown God" (Acts 17:23). Second, from this starting point, Paul begins to fill in this concept of "an unknown God" with the true God. He points out the "unknown God" has made Himself known. This occurs both in creation (God is responsible for all that exists) and in His sovereign rule (God has made people of all nations to seek Him).

Third, Paul points out the fallacy of thinking that a divine being has the nature of a physical object. He appeals to the fact that even Greek religion holds that human beings are, in some sense, the "offspring of the divine" (Acts 17:28). Paul's point is that, if human nature cannot be accurately described or contained in terms of a physical object (and human beings are the "offspring of the divine"), then neither can the divine nature. Thus, the Greeks should see that physical idols cannot be gods and therefore, constructing idols is not the way to seek and know the true God.

Fourth, Paul moves into an exhortation for his hearers to repent as the true God "has set a day when he is going to judge the world in righteousness by the man he has appointed" (Acts 17:31). He focuses on Jesus' resurrection as proof that this is true - "he has provided proof of this to everyone by raising him from the dead" (Acts 17:31). The response to Paul's message was mixed. Some believed, some "ridiculed him," and others wanted to hear more (Acts 17:32-34).

While we only have a summary of Paul's speech to the Areopagus in Acts 17, it provides valuable insight into how we proclaim and defend the gospel. We should be rightly disturbed by false religion knowing that people are being deceived. We should look for "points of contact" with our non-Christian friends. We should seek to understand the basics of what they believe and discern how the gospel addresses where they are at. We need to be aware of contradictory ideas and assumptions that people hold about God and spiritual things. We need to communicate that Christianity is a religion of history which hinges on the claim that Jesus rose bodily from the dead. And we should not shy away from talking about the judgment to come and what Jesus has done to provide forgiveness for those who trust in Him. This may sound like a lot to do, but be encouraged! These things often happen organically as we take the time to have spiritual conversations with family members, co-workers, and others in our lives.



Find out more on Parks' podcast
Reasoned Hope
Thoughtful Christianity
<https://reasonedhopepodcast.com>

w|e GIVE generously
Our finances as of 6.29.25

YTD TITHES	\$105,937.53
YTD OTHER INCOME	\$359,813.42
YTD TOTAL	\$465,750.95
YTD EXPENSES	\$322,561.72

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thank you! FOR GIVING

Cheerful and sacrificial giving of our finances is part of our worship.

2 Corinthians 9:7
Proverbs 3:9
Malachi 3:10