

CHURCH NOTES - December 1, 2024

Selwyn Avenue Presbyterian Church, Charlotte, North Carolina

(Tel) 704-372-6836

(Website) www.selwynpres.org

THE REV. FRANK SPENCER has been the President of the Board of Pensions of the Presbyterian Church since July 2014. Selwyn is his home church, where he served as elder and teacher and seminary intern, and where he was ordained by the Presbytery of Charlotte on February 7, 2015. He earned his Master of Divinity at Union Presbyterian Seminary, Charlotte. He holds a B.A. with honors in German from the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, and is a Baker Scholar graduate of Harvard Business School. Prior to joining the Board of Pensions, he served as President and CEO of Habitat for Humanity of Charlotte and 15 years in healthcare real estate with Cogdell Spencer Inc. He has also served as Chairman of the Board of Directors for the Montreat Conference Center and as a member of the NEXT Church National Strategy Team. Frank is married to Dr. Melanie Davis Spencer, and their adult children are Aly and Brian Zakutansky (sons Samuel and Emmett) of New York City and Clark and Jenifer Gobie Spencer of Charlotte.

NEW BABY Congratulations to Zach and Mary Peyton Harner on the birth of their son James Riley Harner, born on November 18, 2024.

PRAYERS AND SYMPATHY are extended for Ben and Hannah Cook and their daughter Reynolds, in the death of Ben's father, Daniel L. Cook, on November 19, 2024, in Raleigh, NC. Please remember the family in your prayers and caring.

STAY AWHILE AN ADVENT STUDY Join us in the parlor on Sundays at 9:30am for our intergenerational Advent Sunday School. Advent, a season of preparation — like our holiday gatherings themselves — takes time and care. Think of the anticipation that comes with hosting loved ones for Christmas dinner. We begin by extending an invitation. We make plans, and as the event draws closer, we begin our preparations. Ultimately, we open the door and welcome guests, and then finally we celebrate. Advent should feel the same way, a time to make ready for the long-awaited event of Christ's birth. We will be using the book *Stay Awhile: Advent Lessons in Divine Hospitality* by Kara Edison.

TODAY IS FIRST FOOD SUNDAY Help stock the shelves by purchasing and returning requested grocery items (canned fruits and vegetables and 1 lb. bags of rice and beans). No glass items please. Join us December 5 at 9am in the Fellowship Hall to pack and deliver pantry items to Montclair Elementary School.

ADVENT WREATH WORKSHOP, TODAY, 11:30am All ages, children through adults, are invited to meet on the lawn from 11:30am-1pm to make Advent wreaths, crafts, and enjoy light refreshments of cookies and hot cocoa. Wreath kits are \$10 per kit. Payment for kits can be made via text to give, online, by check, or in person at the event.

SERVICE OF COMFORT AND HOPE Join us Wednesday, December 4, 11:30am for a service designed for those seeking quiet in the chaos, seeking a moment to focus, and for those experiencing loss or challenges. RSVP to 704-372-6836 or office@selwynpres.org by 9am Monday, December 2 for the fellowship lunch which will follow.

CHILDREN'S CHOIR Ages 4 through 5th grade are invited to participate. Rehearsals will be held on Wednesday, December 4 and 11, from 5:30 – 6pm in the Chapel. The children will sing in worship on December 15 as part of the Christmas pageant. Questions contact Nancy Nutter.

SAPC WOMEN ARE INVITED to join the Quail Hollow Presbyterian Women for their 4th Annual Christmas Gathering on Saturday, December 7, at 2pm. Join the fun, fellowship, and music in Johnston Hall. The speaker will be Katerina Katsarka Whitley, a teacher, author, and popular retreat speaker. Refreshments will be served. Proceeds from the silent auction and \$1 raffle will go to Charlotte Bilingual Preschool and Family Programs. No RSVP needed. Questions, contact Jan Federal, 704-502-2392 or janfederal@gmail.com.




MISSION GIVING TREE Help give a meaningful gift by selecting an ornament from the Welcome Center tree to fulfill a wish for one of our Mission partners. Please return unwrapped gifts, along with the ornament, by Sunday, December 15.


ROOM IN THE INN Selwyn will host Roof Above homeless neighbors on Mondays from December 2 through March 31, providing three meals and a warm, safe place to sleep. There are opportunities to help with set up, food, overnight hosting, and driving the church van. Please sign up through the weekly email link.

STEWARDSHIP Our community of faith affords us the opportunity to engage with the spirit and unite with Christ. If you have returned your commitment card, thank you. If you have not, we hope you will turn to Acts 4:31-35 in the spirit of faithfulness and generosity as you consider filling out your 2025 estimate of giving. You can return your commitment card to the church office, email church accountant Tonya Moore, or enter your commitment via the church website.

BUDGET UPDATE We ask members to please consider keeping your pledge commitments up to date as we near the end of 2024. Selwyn member Pledges total \$766,600. Actual Pledge receipts YTD are \$653,625. Total deficit is \$49,092.

- Text to Give: 704-734-9818 Enter an amount. The first time you will be prompted to SHELBY to confirm set up. You do not need a key word if giving to the annual fund. You may also give by scanning the Giving QR code.
- Giving Stock: Our account is with Charles Schwab & Co, Inc. When giving stock, please sign a letter of instruction for your broker: Please accept this letter of instruction to transfer __ shares of _____ securities as a gift to Selwyn Avenue Presbyterian, account #6598-4201, DTC Clearing 0164, Code 40. When calling your broker, also contact church accountant Tonya Moore, or 704-996-5504, so she is aware and can credit the proper amount to the correct member.
- End-of-Year Giving reminder: The IRS requires the church receive checks/stocks in 2024 to be counted as a 2024 contribution. If delivered in person, the check must be received in the office by 1pm, December 31, 2024, or in 10:30am worship on December 29. If mailed, your check must be dated 2024, and your envelope postmarked by December 31, 2024. Checks dated in 2024, but postmarked in 2025 must be credited, for IRS purposes in 2025.

THIS WEEK AT SELWYN		
<p>Sunday, December 1 9:00 Chancel Choir 9:30 Sunday School for All 10:30 Worship with Communion 11:30 Advent Wreath Workshop (Lawn) 5:00 PFLAG Adult and Youth Meetings 6:30 Salt Shakers (Amon/Lohr)</p> <p>Monday, December 2 5:00 Room in the Inn 7:30 Monday Men's Group (P) 7:30 BSA Troop (SH)</p> <p>Church Notes deadline is Monday by 9am Spire deadline is Monday, December 30, 9am</p>	<p>Tuesday, December 3 10:30 PW Our Spiritual Journey (L) 7:00 PW Evening Grace (P)</p> <p>Wednesday, December 4 11:30 Service of Comfort and Hope 5:30 Children's Choir (Chapel) 6:15 Handbell Choir (QHPC) 7:30 PW Peace II (L)</p> <p>Thursday, December 5 9:00 Montclair Food Packing/Delivery</p> <p>Friday, December 6 7:00 Morning Men's Group (BH) 6:00 Youth Game Night</p>	<p>Saturday, December 7 10:00 Children's Pageant (S) 12:00 Handbell Choir (S)</p> <p>Sunday, December 8 9:00 Handbell Choir (S) 9:30 Sunday School for All 10:10 Called Session Meeting (Chapel) 10:30 Worship with Baptism 11:30 Second Sunday Service</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; align-items: center;"> <div style="text-align: center;">  Usher </div> <div style="text-align: center;">  Montclair Elementary </div> <div style="text-align: center;">  Give </div> </div>

 Hearing assistance directions are available in the narthex. Download the app for use with earbuds or to connect a hearing aid to your cell phone.

CHRISTMAS 2024—FLOWER FUND

This Advent/Christmas season you are invited to make a contribution to the Agnes and Matt Lyle Flower Memorial Fund in memory or honor of a friend or loved one. Your donation will go towards the Flower Memorial Fund and sanctuary flowers. For each donation of \$12.00 the name of your honoree will be printed in the bulletin on Sunday, December 22. Please return this form and your check to the church office, (payable to SAPC, designating "Flower Memorial Fund" in the memo line). **The deadline is Sunday, December 8.**

Please print neatly. Name(s) of giver(s) for printing in the bulletin _____

Your phone # _____ Email address _____

In memory of _____

In honor of _____