



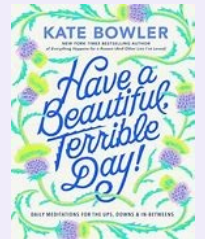
# THE SELWYN SPIRE

February 2024

Selwyn Avenue Presbyterian Church  
2929 Selwyn Avenue Charlotte, NC 28209, Tel: 704-372-6836, [www.selwynpres.org](http://www.selwynpres.org)

## Lent: A Journey of Hope through the Tears

Our Lenten series will follow lectionary preaching using Kate Bowler's new devotional book, [Have a Beautiful, Terrible Day!: Daily Meditations for the Ups, Downs & In Betweens](#) as guidance.



Lent is full of hard truths. It is a perfect moment for spiritual honesty. We can look on this tragicomedy with love and bemusement as we wait for the *someday* that will be God's promised future. There, God's kingdom comes. God's will be done on earth as it is in heaven. And in the meantime, there's... hope through the tears.

**Lenten Sunday School** Weekly classes at 9:30am, February 18 through March 24.

- The Social Gospel. The Conversations on Faith class will discuss the Social Gospel. Triggered by working conditions in the late 19th century that included child labor, this movement sought to expand Christian practice beyond personal salvation toward improving the lives of all.
- A Journey of Hope through the Tears. Lent marks the forty days leading up to Jesus' execution and surprising return to life three days later. The practice began in the fourth century as a way to prepare Christians for the holiest, hardest days of our story. The cross isn't the end of the story but this season of grief is carved out to acknowledge the reality of Jesus' sacrifice. Our Savior knew pain, grief, and despair, and so do we. Easter is coming, but for now we sit in the ashes of our broken dreams and broken hearts, knowing God sits here with us. This class is an invitation to join others in community and bless whatever this season is bringing you.

**Pastors Lenten Bible Study** Join Lori Archer Raible and Hillary Cheek on Thursdays, February 15 through March 28, at 1pm on Zoom.

**Ash Wednesday– February 14** Combined with Quail Hollow Presbyterian Church at Selwyn.

5:30pm Fellowship Hall Dinner

6:30pm Traditional Worship with imposition of ashes.

**Weekly Sunday Worship at Selwyn, 10:30am.**

**Palm Sunday– March 24**

10:30am at Selwyn with Procession of Palms

**Maundy Thursday– March 28** Combined service at Quail Hollow Presbyterian Church

6:00pm Table Worship, with dinner and communion. Music presentation of Gabriel Fauré's Requiem.

**Easter Sunday at Selwyn –March 31**

Sunday School classes will not meet.

8:30am Outdoor Easter Service

10:30am Traditional Easter Service– Special Music

### SAPC STAFF

Lori Archer Raible, *Pastor*

Margo Richardson Fraga, *Associate Pastor*

Hillary Cheek, *Parish Associate for Mission*

Lisa McLennan, *Parish Associate*

Nancy Nutter, *Director of Children/Family Ministries*

Fred Spano, *Director of Music*

Gay Pappin, *Organist*

Marsha Cooper, *Church Administrator*

Debbie Pott, *Administrative Assistant*

Tonya Moore, *Church Accountant*

Reba Hardaway, *Accounting Administrative Assistant*

Jennifer Dixon Remsen, *Communications*

Dwight Jones, *Weekend Facilities*

Beth Sharpe, *Director of Child Development Center*

Allyson Anderson, *Seminary Intern/Membership*

### GROUP CHAIRS

*Administration* - Grant Armistead

*Child Development Center* - Sam Phifer

*Christian Education & Formation*–  
Charlie Harris/Jodie Bolewitz

*Congregational Life* - Ginny Burgin/Lori Burbank

*Mission* - Christy Horne/Denise Pineno

*Worship* - Dick Metzler

# CONGREGATIONAL LIFE



**We welcome**  
Crew Alden Campion,  
son of Andrew and  
Briana Campion,  
born on January 18, 2024

**SALT SHAKERS**  
will meet on February 11,  
5:30pm at DiAnne Cordell's  
for a Super Bowl Gathering.  
Questions contact [Malyn Pratt](#).

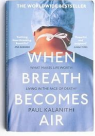


## In Nursing or Retirement Homes

Aldersgate - Dick Metzler  
Asbury - Mary Faye Proctor  
Carmel Hills - Marie Pressley  
Carriage Club - Herman Thomas  
Cypress - Bill and Nancy Budd,  
Steve and Ellen Byrum,  
Bob and Joe Anne Cole,  
Mike and Frankie Hinshaw,  
Robert Shore, Olen and Nancy Smith  
Matthews Glen - Anne McMackin,  
Cara Munday, Anne Rutherford  
Merrywood - Pat Ferguson  
Sharon Towers - Richard and Joan Foard  
Southminster - Kathy Dixon, Kay Hastings,  
Bobbie Linn, Sally Moore  
Summit Place - Willa May Young

## Non-Member Deaths

Constance Wilson Fowke, mother of  
Susan Lemmon on January 24, 2024



## SAPC BOOK CLUB

will meet on February 20, 6:30pm at Sir Edmonds Halley's Restaurant to discuss  
When Breath Becomes Air by Paul Kalanithi, MD. Contact [Nancy Bobbitt](#).

**THE ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING** will be held February 25 following worship.

## CHURCHWIDE RETREAT EARLY REGISTRATION CLOSES FEBRUARY 4



The retreat will be held the weekend of  
**April 26-28, 2024 at Montreat.**  
Reading Jonah— A Sea of Stories is the  
theme. We welcome Anna Carter Florence  
as our retreat leader. She is an ordained  
Presbyterian minister, preaching professor  
at Columbia Theological Seminary in  
Georgia, and author. Click [here](#) to register.  
Registration will close March 22.

## FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

1 Patrick Finein	9 Sebastian Marth Caroline Thompson	16 Addison Ackerly	23 Cliff Aaron Ann Caskey	27 Joe Anne Cole Skye Johnson
2 Ross Bromberger	10 Jenny Black Faith Cooper	19 Parker Horton Walt Howard Chris Stuart Ann Thomas	24 Heather Simmons Luke Skibinski	28 Jane Brown Isabel Cann Jack Daily Emily Otey Beth Sharpe
3 Tripp Anderson Stella Wolf	11 Abbe Aaron	20 Meg Cauthen Catherine Miller Tina Weinberg	25 Elle Hassey Henry Hoskins Hannah King Alan Ward	
4 Maggie Peebles	12 Andy Bentley Heather Smith-Baker	22 Jennifer Canter David Darnell Charles Elliott Evie Harris Ghazale Johnston	26 Brady Ellis Nate Huff Andrew McLellan Deni Pifer	
5 Grayson Craig Emmy Yearwood	14 Bonnie LeBouton Cindy Piacentino Jon White			
6 Andy Wertz	15 Mary Flynn Steve Fraga			
8 David Huff Jim Risko				



### NOMINATION FORM FOR CHURCH ELDERS:

We need your suggestions for Church Elders to begin serving in the spring of 2024. If you like, you may give reasons why the people you are suggesting will make good officers (past service to this or other churches; spiritual leadership, etc.) You may submit suggestions by returning the form to the church office or email your nomination to Marsha Cooper, [marshac@selwynpres.org](mailto:marshac@selwynpres.org) where it will be passed to the Nominating Committee. Please submit your suggestions by the end of January 2024.

Nominations for Elder (9 will be elected - 3 year term)

Nominations for Youth Elder (1 will be elected - 1 year term)

### LIST OF OFFICERS CURRENTLY SERVING AND THEREFORE NOT ELIGIBLE FOR NOMINATION:

Class of 2024: Ginny Burgin, Charlie Harris, Morgan Liles, Dick Metzler, Kurt Parbst, Samantha Phifer, Heather Risko, Ed Thomas, Andy Wertz

Class of 2025: Grant Armistead, Jodie Bolewitz, Libby Guinan, Christy Horne, Hannah King, Roy Koppelman, Susan Lemmon, Tracie Northan, Bobby Yurkutat

Class of 2026: Lori Burbank, Tate Hackman, Todd Muldrew, Adam Piacentino, Denise Pineno, Evan Sauda, Elizabeth Stearns, Caroline Thompson, Tina Weinberg

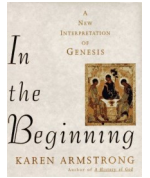
Youth: Ledare Roush

# CHRISTIAN EDUCATION AND FORMATION

## Sunday Mornings 9:30am

Our current Sunday School class series continues through February 11. Our new Lenten series will begin on February 18, 9:30am.

- ❖ **Genesis for Grown-ups** - A sinister snake and animals marching two by two. Are these solely childhood stories or can we mine the book of Genesis for deeper wisdom? Join the Conversations On Faith class as we study Karen Armstrong's book *In the Beginning: A New Interpretation of Genesis*. (Parlor)
- ❖ **Heaven, Hell, Angels and Demons - Oh My!** Join the Faith Forward class for a six-week intergenerational series. Sixth grade through oldest adults are welcome. A conversation-style class where we will dare to dip into some of the greatest mysteries of our faith. (Chapel)
- ❖ Middle and High School Youth are invited to join our Intergenerational Sunday School Class at 9:30am.
- ❖ K-5 Sunday School children will explore scripture and story through an adult guided 'Montessori style' of learning using hands on stations, crafts, reading and group interaction.
- ❖ Worship Readiness 2.0 for 2<sup>nd</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup> graders, will meet through February 11 at 9:30am. At the completion of the final class the children will help lead in the worship service on February 11. Contact [Nancy Nutter](#) with questions.
- ❖ Our skilled nursery workers are downstairs for children ages 0 through 3 years old.  
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- ❖ **Childrens Choir** Children ages 4 through 5th grade are invited to join us. The choir will meet on Wednesdays February 21 through March 13, 5:30–6pm in the Chapel. The children will participate in worship on March 17. Questions, contact [Nancy Nutter](#).
- ❖ **The Tweens**, grades 3<sup>rd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup>, will meet on February 18, March 17 and 24, and April 21. The class will also participate in Second Sunday Service opportunities.
- ❖ **Men's Group**, at 7am each Friday morning. (Bates House)



## YOUTH NEWS

- February 5, First Friday Game Night 6-9pm at Selwyn
- February 25 is Youth Sunday. Our Youth will lead us in worship at 10:30am.
- **2024 Youth trips registration.** Registration is on a first come, first serve basis. See Margo's email for details.
- June 16-22 Appalachia Service Project Mission (ASP) for Rising 9<sup>th</sup> - Graduated 12<sup>th</sup> Grade. Total trip cost \$450; \$100 deposit due upon [registration](#).
- July 7-13 Montreat Youth Conference for Rising 9th-12th Grade. Total trip cost \$400; \$100 deposit due upon [registration](#).

## PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

Women are invited to participate in a Circle, September through May, for Bible study, topics of interest, and service.

Contact a Circle leader, Moderator Pam Brownlee, or the church office for more information.

Circle #1, Women of Wonder - First Monday of the month, 12:30pm (Parlor) - Ann Copeland, Cacky Newitt

Circle #2, Peace Seekers – First Monday of the month, 7:15pm (Parlor) - Catherine Miller

Circle #3, Our Spiritual Journey - First Tuesday of the month, 10:30am (Library) - Bobbie Hankins

Circle #4, Evening Grace – First Tuesday of the month, 7pm (Parlor) - Nancy Bobbitt

Circle #5, Daughters of Faith - Weekly on Wednesdays, 11am (Library) - Tracie Northan

Daughters of Faith Evening - Third Monday of the month, 7pm (Offsite) - Deni Pifer



## STEWARDSHIP



**WITH JOY!** We celebrate Selwyn's faithfulness and commitment to **serve, worship, grow, and give with joy!** We hope to inspire every Selwyn member to share in blessings of stewardship as we support the 2024 annual budget. While 100% of our \$915,000 budget supports the robust ministries and mission of SAPC, our goal is not financial. With more than 260 households, we hope everyone (100%) will communicate an estimate of your annual giving to Selwyn. A pledge of any amount is not transactional, but a personal and significant act of faith.

To make a confidential pledge visit the church website, email church accountant, [Tonya Moore](#) or return your completed pledge card to the church.

# WORSHIP

Communion will be served on February 18 during the 10:30am service. If you are unable to attend the worship service and would like to receive communion at your residence, please notify Dick Metzler or contact the church office, 704-372-6836.



## TECHNOLOGY FOR WORSHIP

The church has a hearing assistance system for use with earbuds or by connecting a hearing aid to your cell phone. To connect your hearing aids and phone, before coming to church please download the Listen Everywhere app. Once you are at the church you will set your phone to the Wifi signal and password. Please refer to the printed instructions available in the narthex.

February 25 is Youth Sunday. Our Youth will lead us in worship at 10:30am. The Annual Congregational Meeting will be held on following worship.



Join us weekly for Worship in the sanctuary at 10:30am. If you cannot attend worship in person an email is sent at 10:15am with the [Facebook link](#).

Sign up to Usher in Worship. Scan the QR Code with your mobile app or contact Jill Cann.



## SANCTUARY FLOWERS



You are encouraged to sign up in honor or memory of people or occasions. Contact [Marsha Cooper](#) to reserve a date. Once the date is confirmed online payments or checks for \$78 should be made to the church indicating "sanctuary flowers". Should be made to the church indicating "sanctuary flowers".

# MISSION

## FOOD FIRST SUNDAY FOR MONTCLAIRE ELEMENTARY

We need one pound bags of rice or beans; 16 ounce or smaller cans of vegetables or fruits; and 16 ounce plastic jars of peanut butter.



Anything larger is difficult for students to carry. No glass jars, please! Bring items to the church on Sundays or during weekday office hours Monday through Thursday 9am-5pm, Friday 9am-1pm.

Our next food packing and delivery is February 1, 9am. [Sign up here](#) to help.

## MONTCLAIRE NEEDS YOU!

The Mission Group is seeking a Selwyn member to manage Montclair teacher appreciation events. A volunteer would manage 2-3 events per school year. This typically involves either a breakfast, lunch, or snack for the Montclair faculty and staff. Costs are covered by the Mission budget. If you are interested in serving Montclair in this way, please contact [Ellen Harris](#) or [Denise Pineno](#).

There are a variety of commitment levels and opportunities to assist Montclair. Scan the QR Code or contact [Ellen Harris](#) or [Denise Pineno](#).



On Sunday, February 11 we will collect the Souper Bowl of Caring special offering to go toward the Rise Against Hunger program.



## OPERATION SANDWICH, FEBRUARY 17

Assist by preparing bagged lunches for our Roof Above homeless neighbors. [Sign up here](#).



## ROOM IN THE INN



Selwyn will host Roof Above homeless neighbors on Mondays from December 4 through March 25 providing three meals and a warm, safe place to sleep. Please sign up to help through [this link](#). There are opportunities to help with set up, food, overnight hosting, and driving the new church van.

## PRESBYTERIAN DISASTER ASSISTANCE HUMANITARIAN SUPPORT IN ISRAEL/PALESTINE

A dire humanitarian crisis has resulted from the October 7, 2023 deadly attacks in Israel and the ongoing conflict between Palestine and Israel. Due to the tremendous loss of lives, forced evacuations, and suffering of people without access to basic necessities, the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) is providing assistance to those most vulnerable, and supporting partners in Israel and Palestine who are responding to the needs of neighbors and strangers in their midst, no matter their religious beliefs, political views or nationality. We are called to care for all of God's children by responding to the urgent needs of those directly affected. Please pray for peace, safe passage, and relief for those needing medical attention and seeking help. To offer financial support you can give [online](#), call (800) 872-3283, text PDAIP to 41444, or send a check made payable to Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) with "DR000081-Israel/Palestine" on the memo line. Mail to: Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), P.O. Box 643700, Pittsburgh, PA 15264-3700.

