



THE SELWYN SPIRE

February/ March 2025

Selwyn Avenue Presbyterian Church
2929 Selwyn Avenue Charlotte, NC 28209, Tel: 704-372-6836, www.selwynpres.org

Dear Beloved Members of Selwyn Avenue and Quail Hollow Presbyterian Churches,

As we stand on the threshold of becoming one church with two campuses, we give thanks for the journey that has brought us to this moment. Through prayer, reflection, and faithful conversation, we have sought to listen for God's voice, discerning the path that will lead us into a shared future as one united body of Christ.

Most recently, our merger was officially affirmed by the Presbytery of Charlotte, and now our two congregations can proceed toward the final steps of a civil merger. So, what's next? Later this month elders from both congregations will gather for the first time as one Session. Together we will give thanks and pray, then each Session will complete the legal steps required for an official merger. Finally, the combined Session will consider a new set of by-laws and a slate of elders representing members on both campuses.

Our Reformed tradition reminds us God's providence is ever at work—guiding, sustaining, and calling us forward. Reformer, John Calvin, spoke of God's sovereignty not as a distant force but as an intimate assurance that, in all things, God's hand is leading us. Even in seasons of change, we trust God is at work, bringing about renewal and transformation in ways beyond our understanding. As we prepare to step into this new chapter together, we do so with faith, courage, and trust, knowing that *"the Lord is faithful in all His words and kind in all His works"* (Psalm 145:13).

Therefore, on **Sunday, March 2nd at 10:30am**, we will gather on the Selwyn campus as our youth lead us in combined worship. Immediately afterward, you are invited to a very important congregational meeting in the Fellowship Hall. Together, we will enjoy a light lunch while hearing updates from our elders and voting to affirm our new by-laws. As one congregation, Quail Hollow will officially become a campus of Selwyn Avenue Presbyterian Church. Our first official act will be to elect a new class of elders representing both campuses.

Throughout scripture, God's people are called to bold steps of faith. Abraham was called to journey to an unknown land (Genesis 12:1), Moses led the Israelites forward with the assurance God would go before them (Exodus 33:14), and the early church was formed through the power of the Holy Spirit, binding diverse communities into one body (Ephesians 4:4-6). Likewise, guided by our North Star Vision we are called into a future not yet fully seen, but one we trust is shaped by God's grace and faithfulness. As we move ahead, our leaders will create opportunities for intentional togetherness through worship, mission, study and fellowship. Furthermore, the Planning Committee will continue to advise and guide our Session as we build up the body of Christ and pursue our North Star Vision. As the prophet Isaiah reminds us:

*"Do not remember the former things or consider the things of old. See, I am doing a new thing!
Now it springs forth; do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert."* (Isaiah 43:18-19)

With deep gratitude for the past and eager expectation for what lies ahead, let us move forward together—united in Christ, strengthened by faith, and confident in the promise that wherever God calls, God also provides. May we embrace this journey with joy, knowing we do not walk alone, but with one another and with the Spirit who leads us ever onward.

In Christ's Hope and Promises,

Rev. Dr. Lori Archer Raible
Senior Pastor

SAPC STAFF

Lori Archer Raible, *Pastor*
Margo Richardson Fraga, *Associate Pastor*
Brian Daoust, *Associate Pastor*
Lisa McLennan, *Parish Associate*
Nancy Nutter, *Director of Children/Family Ministries*
Fred Spano, *Director of Music*
Gay Pappin, *Organist*
Allyson Anderson, *Resident Pastor at QHPC*

Marsha Cooper, *Church Administrator*
Kris Seek, *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*

GROUP CHAIRS

Administration - Grant Armistead
Child Development Center - Jeremy Caskey
Christian Education & Formation—
Jodie Bolewitz / Todd Muldrew
Congregational Life - Lori Burbank
Mission - Christy Horne
Worship - Susan Lemmon

CONGREGATIONAL LIFE



Selwyn Avenue
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



Annual Congregational Meeting, March 2

The first joint congregational meeting between Selwyn and Quail Hollow will be held following worship in the Fellowship Hall.

Purposes include a 2024 year-end-review, adopting new by-laws for our merged church, electing the incoming class of elders for 2028, and voting on changes to the terms of call for the installed



SALT SHAKERS will meet on Sunday, March 2, 6:30pm at the home of Lee and Nancy Bobbitt. Remember to bring a covered dish to share.

Questions, contact [Malyn Pratt](#).



SAPC BOOK CLUB will meet on March 18, 6:30pm at Sir Edmond Halley's Restaurant to discuss *Small Things Like These* by Claire Keegan.

Questions, contact [Nancy Bobbitt](#).

We Welcome



Annie Elizabeth Gualtieri,
daughter of Dan and Katie Gualtieri
born on December 22, 2024

We Welcome



Jones Robinson Houston,
son of Zach and Maggie Houston
born on January 27, 2025

We Welcome



Elaine Betsy "Ellie" Potter,
son of Philip and Michelle Potter,
born on February 3, 2025

IN MEMORIAM

Marie Flanagan Pressley

July 17, 1925 – January 27, 2025

In Nursing or Retirement Homes

Aldersgate - Dick Metzler
Asbury - Mary Faye Proctor
Brighton Gardens of Charlotte - Beth Carter
Carriage Club - Herman Thomas
Cypress—Bill and Nancy Budd,
Ellen Byrum, Bob and Joe Anne Cole,
Mike and Frankie Hinshaw,
Robert Shore, Olen and Nancy Smith,
Bob Walker
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
TerraBella Cramer Mountain -
John McCarter

Non-Member Deaths

Kennedi Anyiah Jones, daughter of
Dwight Jones, on December 26

Jean Clark Sharpe, mother of Beth
Sharpe on December 28

William Arthur (Bill) Stearns, father of
Elizabeth Stearns, on December 29

Julia (Judy) Summerall Atwell, former
Selwyn member), on December 29

Benedict (Ben) Elton Nutter,
father-in-law of Nancy Nutter, on
January 11

GIVING INFORMATION To make a confidential pledge use this [link](#), email church accountant, Tonya Moore or return your completed pledge card to the church.

Text to Give: 704-734-9818 Enter an amount. The first time you will be prompted to SHELBY to confirm set up. Then, it is as easy as texting the amount to the number. You do not need a key word if giving to the annual fund. You can also scan 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 as follows: 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 can credit the proper amount to the correct member.

NEW MEMBERS We welcomed the following members to the Selwyn family on January 26. Please provide a warm welcome.



Ryan Cook and Megan Lavery

Ryan is from Charlotte and attended Appalachian State. He works for a local homebuilder. Megan is from Connecticut, and attended Elon. She works in Resource Management. Ryan and Megan are engaged, and they enjoy spending time outside with family and friends. Ryan in particular enjoys tennis, golf, and fly fishing. They are excited to take advantage of opportunities to help others.



Alex and Claire Holt

Alex and Claire are both from Greensboro and met while attending UNC Charlotte. Alex works in finance with Ally and Claire is a Project Manager for CBRE, a real estate firm. Alex and Claire found Selwyn while touring the CDC. They are excited for their growing family to be surrounded by a welcoming and loving community. Alex is an avid golfer, and they both enjoy spending time with their three-year-old golden retriever, Betty.



Tim and Sarah Palmer

Tim is from Charlotte and attended UNC Chapel Hill for both undergrad and law school. He is an attorney with Piedmont Lithium. Sarah is from Raleigh and attended UNC Chapel Hill for undergrad and Wake Forest for law school. She is a civil litigation attorney with Poyner Spruill. In addition to spending time with family and friends, the Palmers enjoy being on a picketball court.



Brock and Shannon Weston

Brock is from Gastonia and attended the University of South Carolina. He works in commercial real estate. Shannon was born in Florida, but moved to Charlotte at a young age. She is a graduate of UNC Wilmington and works as a recruiter for Honeywell. They enjoy time outdoors with their two labs. They are excited to join our faith community and develop authentic relationships within our congregation.

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
Chris Beam | 10 Jenny Black
Faith Cooper | 19 Parker Horton
Walt Howard
Chris Stuart
Ann Thomas | 24 Curtis Correll
Heather Simmons
Luke Skibinski | 28 Jane Brown
Isabel Cann
Jack Daily
Emily Otey
Beth Sharpe |
| 3 Tripp Anderson
Stella Wolf
Ellie Potter | 11 Abbe Aaron | 20 Meg Cauthen
Catherine Miller
Tina Weinberg | 25 Marshall Daoust
Elle Hassey
Henry Hoskins
Hannah King
Alan Ward | |
| 5 Grayson Craig
Emmy Yearwood | 12 Andy Bentley
Heather Smith-Baker | 21 Bruce Brown | 26 Brady Ellis
Nate Huff
Andrew McLellan
Deni Pifer | |
| 6 Andy Wertz | 14 Bonnie LeBouton
Cindy Piacentino
Jon White | 22 Jennifer Canter
Evelyn Harris Cleary
David Darnell
Charles Elliott
Ghazale Johnston | | |
| 8 David Huff
Jim Risko | 15 Mary Flynn
Steve Fraga | | | |



MARCH BIRTHDAYS

- | | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|---|---|--|---|
| 1 Debbie Haruta
Gabriela Sanders | 4 Reece Kinker
Asher Riley
John Tibe | 10 Hunter Aulebach
Charlie Harris
Helen Jones
Cacky Newitt
Del Turner | 18 Grier Patterson | 25 Lucas Haines
Alice Watson |
| 2 Alecia Hatlem
Susie Hoskins | 5 William Flynn
Graham Martin | 11 Chuck Ellison | 19 John Lonetti
Rush Otey
Enid Randall
Joe Salinas
Lou Waple | 26 Brian Halstead
Sutton Howard |
| | 6 Holly Goodman
John McCarter | 12 Daniel Daily
Michelle Potter | 20 Katy Shoemaker
Heather Smith
Katie Sontag | 27 Lily Coble
Caroline Koppelman
Althea Muldrew |
| | 7 Becky Wilson
Bradley Kemp | 13 Sam Ryburn | 21 Erin Mills | 28 Maeve Raible |
| | 8 Tommy Dodsworth
Jack Malloy
Britta McCorduck
Adam Ramsey | 14 Todd Muldrew | 22 Tate DePhillips
Libby Guinan
Drayton Thrasher | 29 Milo Gibson |
| | 9 Beth Long
Matt Wakefield | 16 James Cheek
Lucas Halstead
Jim Williams | 23 Charles Horne
Maria Skibinski | 30 Tyler Hall
Shelley Waple |
| | | 17 Jack Mills | | |

**Daylight Saving
Time Begins**

**Spring Forward
March 9, 2025**

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

PRESBYTERIAN WOMENS RETREAT

APRIL 26TH AND 27TH 2025

BETHELWOODS CAMP AND
CONFERENCE CENTER

REGISTRATION IS \$115

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER!](#)



OUR SPEAKER THIS YEAR IS REV. GAIL HENDERSON- BELSITO

Ruth,
Naomi,
God,
and Us:
Together
on the
Journey

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

- Women of Wonder - First Monday of the month, 12:30pm - Ann Copeland, Cacky Newitt
- Peace Seekers I - Every other Tuesday evening, 7:15pm, - Catherine Miller, Ann Caskey
- Peace Seekers II - First Wednesday of the month, 7:30pm - Caroline Thompson
- Our Spiritual Journey - First Tuesday of the month, 10:30am - Bobbie Hankins
- Evening Grace - First Tuesday of the month, 7pm - Nancy Bobbitt
- Daughters of Faith I - Weekly on Wednesdays, 11am - Tracie Northan
- Daughters of Faith Evening II - Third Monday of the month, 7pm - Deni Pifer



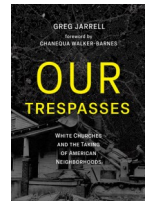
Our Trespasses

A LENTEN JOURNEY FROM SIN TO GRACE

Lent, the 40-day liturgical season leading to Easter, is a time of repentance, self-examination, and spiritual renewal. Lent invites believers to reflect on their need for God's grace, acknowledging sin and seeking transformation.

Greg Jarrell's, *Our Trespasses* provides a compelling lens for understanding the communal and systemic nature of sin, emphasizing how broken relationships—personal and societal—call for reconciliation. His exploration of sin as something woven into the fabric of our shared lives aligns with Lent's call to repentance, not just as individual confession but as a reorientation toward justice and healing in the world. 'Greg's book uncovers how race, geography, policy and religion have created haunted landscapes in Charlotte, callings us to consider how we value our lands, livelihoods, and communities.' You are invited to [purchase the book online](#) or pick one up at the church office for \$20.

Whether attending worship, serving alongside our mission partners, committing to a Lenten Bible study on the themes of sin and grace, reading and discussing Jarrell's book, you are invited to join us on a journey toward Easter resurrection.



Adult Bible Study and Education Opportunities for Lent, March 5- April 13

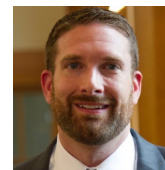
Guided Book Discussions on *Our Trespasses*: each week learners will discuss portions of Jarrell's book.

- Sunday Mornings at 9:30am- Both campuses, Selwyn Avenue Parlor and Quail Hollow Parlor
A Theological Journey from Sin to Grace: All questions, doubts, and curiosities welcomed as we approach the biblical themes of sin and grace in preparation of Easter.
- Sunday Mornings at 9:30am- Selwyn Avenue Chapel
- Wednesday Afternoons at 1pm- Quail Hollow Campus

Lenten Guest Scholars and Preachers

We will gather in the Selwyn Campus chapel at 9:30am and then be led in worship by our guest preachers at 10:30am. The 9:30am education hour will be live streamed for those gathered on the Quail Campus.

- Sunday, March 16- From Sin to Grace, Dr. Rich Voelz, Union Presbyterian Seminary Professor
- Sunday, April 13 - *Our Trespasses*, Rev. Greg Jarrell



Dr. Rich Voelz



Rev. Greg Jarrell

Serving, Gathering, and Worshipping Through Lent

Ash Wednesday, March 5 -

- Columbarium Prayer and Imposition of Ashes, 7:30am-9am. For all those with an early commute, pass through the columbarium on Selwyn Avenue to receive the imposition of ashes as we mark our turn toward the cross.
- Combined 5:30pm Dinner and 6:30pm Worship on the Quail Hollow Campus. Childcare is available.

Sunday, March 9 - Second Sunday Service, all ages are invited to gather at 12pm on the Selwyn Campus as we learn and engage in the support of our friends and neighbors who attend Montclair Elementary School.

Palm Sunday, April 13 -

- Palm Sunday worship on both campuses. At Selwyn Avenue the children's choir will sing and Rev. Greg Jarrell will teach and preach. Quail Hollow preschoolers will sing in worship at Quail Hollow.
- Second Sunday Service- We will gather at 12pm on the Selwyn Campus prior to traveling uptown to participate in a walking tour, 1-3:30pm, including time for lunch. Led by Greg Jarrell, participants will explore uptown Charlotte searching for stories of 'exclusions and invisibilities' and looking for the untold stories built into our cityscape that continue to determine our future. 'Charlotte's Haunted Future' covers 2 miles with several stops for rest. Space is limited and registration is required.

Maundy Thursday, April 17 -

- Combined 5:30pm Dinner and 6:30pm Worship on the Selwyn Avenue Campus. Childcare will be available.

Easter Sunday, April 20 - Morning Worship Services – Childcare will be available.

- 8:30am- Worship on the Quail Hollow Campus
- 10:30am- Worship on the Selwyn Avenue Campus

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION AND FORMATION

CHILDREN'S CHRISTIAN EDUCATION AND FORMATION DURING THE LENTEN SEASON

Sunday Mornings

- Our youngest children (0-3) are greeted by four experienced caregivers in the nursery. Volunteers read stories with the children and sing. There are snacks provided and time to go out on the playground.
- Children four years and older gather at 9:30am in the Bowman Building to learn. Using the PCUSA curriculum, Follow Me, Practice Spiritual Disciplines, we will explore prayer, service and Bible study, allowing us to draw closer to God.
- Worship Readiness 2.0 for 2nd – 4th grades will meet March 9 – 30, 9:30am in the Bowman building Tween Room. Exploring how and why we worship, learners will engage Scripture, investigate the bulletin, and learn the essential prayers and creeds we use in worship. This class culminates with our children helping lead March 30 worship as we recognize their commitment to deepen their understanding of faith.
- Chapel Time during a portion of the worship hour every Sunday. Four years – 2nd graders can leave the sanctuary with adult leaders, after the Children's message, to explore the day's scriptures. They return to the sanctuary during the offertory.

Sunday Evenings

SAPC's Tween Bible Study Group will meet on February 23, and March 16 and 23 at 5:30pm. Third through fifth grade students will join SAPC's Christian Educator, Mrs. Nancy Nutter, in the fellowship hall for dinner and study. We will cover the Ministry of Jesus, read scriptures and enjoy games and projects that encourage our understanding of Jesus' life and mission.

Thursday Evenings

Selwyn's Children's Choir (4 years and older), will practice on March 20 and 27, and April 3 and 10 at 5:30pm in the Chapel near the Welcome Center. Music Director, Dr. Fred Spano, and Mrs. Nancy Nutter lead the children through music and song for the season. The children will sing in worship on April 13, Palm Sunday.

IT'S TIME TO REGISTER FOR VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

This year we are offering two different Vacation Bible Schools, one for elementary age children, the other for preschoolers, age 4 and 5. Volunteers are needed for both.

VBS for Elementary Children, completed Kindergarten through fifth grade, will meet June 23– 26, from 9am– 3pm. Cost is \$150 per child. We will be using Group's True North: Trusting Jesus in a Wild World curriculum which integrates Bible study, art, games, and more. We will spend time outside and enjoy God's world as much as possible. VBS team led by Nancy Nutter.

VBS for Preschool Children, ages 4 and five, will meet June 23-26 from 9:30– 11:30am. Cost is \$40 per child. Andrea DePhillips will be the leader.

The registration form can be [found here](#).

Please fill out and return the registration form, along with your check made out to Selwyn Avenue Presbyterian Church, to Nancy Nutter by June 1.



BAPTISM CLASSES

Selwyn will offer a two-week Baptism class on Sunday, March 30 and Sunday, April 6 at 9:30am in the library. This class is designed for parents interested in learning more about the sacrament and wanting to schedule their child's baptism.

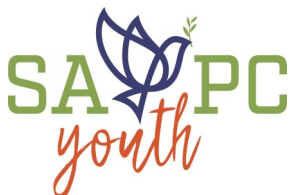
For more details, please call the church at (704) 372-6836 or [email Margo Fraga](mailto:margo@selwynpc.org).

YOUTH NEWS

YOUTH GAME NIGHT March 7, from 6—9pm. See [Brian Daoust](#) for details.

YOUTH GROUP March 16 and 23, from 5:30-7pm in the Fellowship Hall. See [Brian Daoust](#) for details.

MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH Please attend the 9:30am intergenerational Sunday School class in the Chapel.



WORSHIP

Communion will be served on March 9, during the 10:30am Worship Service.

If you are unable to attend the worship service and would like to receive communion at your residence, please notify Catherine Miller.



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



SANCTUARY FLOWERS

You are encouraged to sign up in honor or remembrance 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."

SIGN UP TO USHER IN WORSHIP

If you can help in March, please contact Marsha Thrasher. If you can help in April, please contact Lori Burbank.

MISSION



ROOM IN THE INN

Selwyn will host Roof Above homeless neighbors on Monday evenings 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 to help through [this link](#).

SECOND SUNDAY SERVICE, MARCH 9

All ages are invited to gather at 12pm on the Selwyn Campus as we learn and engage in the support of our friends and neighbors who attend Montclair Elementary School.

Questions, contact [Brian Daoust](#).

HELP PACK FOOD BAGS FOR FAMILIES AT MONTCLAIRE ELEMENTARY

Our upcoming food packing and delivery dates are March 6 and 20.

We meet in the Fellowship Hall at 9am.

Sign up to help on one or more days through [this link](#).

MONTCLAIRE ELEMENTARY AND GEP

There are a variety of ways to assist the Montclair Elementary community during the school year.

Sign up to help through [this link](#), visit the church website, or contact [Ellen Harris](#) or [Karey Tom](#).

You may also learn more by scanning the "Selwyn Serves Montclair Elementary" QR



OPERATION SANDWICH, MARCH 15

Assist by preparing bagged lunches for our Roof Above homeless neighbors. Please sign up in increments of ten lunches through [this link](#). Prepared lunches should be brought to the church on March 15 between 9-10am for delivery to Roof Above.

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

Join us for another year at Habitat for Humanity. Our work days will be April 26, July 19, and October 18. You can use [this link](#) to sign up.

[Click here](#) to learn about and sign up for Habitat for Humanity's annual advocacy event, *Building Futures*. They are hosting an Affordable Housing symposium on Wednesday, March 26, 6:30-8:30pm.

The featured speaker is Clint Smith, New York Times Bestselling Author and writer at The Atlantic. He will deliver a compelling discourse that examines how memory and history shape our society's understanding of justice.

