



# THE SELWYN SPIRE

November 2023

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

## The Parable of the Hiker

Imagine that our church is a hiker about to cross a river. The hiker starts walking across a wooden bridge that arcs toward the far shore. Each plank of the bridge represents one pledge from one Selwyn household. The hiker reaches the high point of the bridge and sees that the bridge stops short of the far shore. Looking down, the hiker notices several planks floating down the river.

Imagine that each floating plank represents an unpledged monetary gift from a household.

The hiker jumps in, grabs hold of a plank and struggles toward the shore, but she is wishing that bridge had been a little bit longer.

Running a church when you don't know how much money you have to work with is like taking a long walk off a short bridge. In this stewardship season, our number one goal is to increase the number of households that submit a pledge.

Please prayerfully consider making a pledge this year and  
help our church keep its head above water all year long.

by John Lemmon



John and Susan Lemmon with two of their grandchildren

**WITH JOY!** We celebrate Selwyn's faithfulness and commitment to **serve, worship, grow, and give with joy!** This stewardship season we hope to inspire every Selwyn member to share in blessings of stewardship as we **support the 2024 annual budget.** A pledge of any amount is not transactional, but a personal and significant act of faith. To make a confidential pledge use [this link](#), email church accountant, [Tonya Moore](#) or return your completed pledge card to the church.

## SAPC STAFF

Lori Archer Raible, *Pastor*  
Margo Richardson Fraga, *Associate Pastor*  
Hillary Cheek, *Parish Associate for Mission*  
Bryan Hovey, *Parish Associate for Pastoral Care*  
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*

## 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

**Daylight Saving  
Time Ends -  
Remember to fall back  
November 5, 2023**



## SALT SHAKERS

Sunday November 5, 6pm  
Lee and Nancy Bobbitt  
will host. Remember to bring  
a covered dish to share.

Questions contact  
[Malyn Pratt](#).



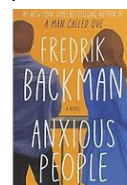
## PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

The next meeting will  
be in the Parlor on November 12  
after worship.

Please contact Susan Lohr,  
704-582-3314 if you have any  
questions.

## SAPC BOOK CLUB

will meet November 14, 6:30pm at  
Sir Edmond Halley's  
Restaurant to discuss  
Anxious People by  
Fredrik Backman.  
Questions, contact  
[Nancy Bobbitt](#).



**2023 GIVING** We appreciate every effort being made in keeping your  
current pledge commitment up-to-date as we near the end of 2023.



- Scan the Giving QR code.
- 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.
- Giving Stock: Our stock 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 is aware of the transaction and can credit the proper amount to the correct member.
- End-of-Year Giving reminder: The IRS requires the church receive checks/stocks in 2023 to be counted as a 2023 contribution. If delivered in person, the check must be received in the office by 1pm, December 29, 2023 or in 10:30am worship on December 31. If mailed, your check must be dated 2023, and your envelope postmarked by December 31, 2023. Checks dated in 2023, but postmarked in 2024 must be credited, for IRS purposes in 2024.

Since June 2022, Rev. Bryan Hovey has provided many members with excellent pastoral care and worship leadership. Although Bryan has served in a temporary, part-time capacity his presence has been substantial. Bryan embodies his vocation as a pastor and care-giver. As he and his wife Carol welcome their first grandchild, Alora, Bryan has decided to retire from Selwyn. His last day is Sunday, October 29, All Saint's Day. Join us in worship as we give thanks to God for Bryan's ministry among us. We will ensure Bryan receives any notes of gratitude sent to the church at 2929 Selwyn Avenue, Charlotte, NC 28209.



## 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,  
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,  
Art Jones, Bobbye Linn, Sally Moore  
Summit Place - Willa May Young

## Non-Member Deaths

Laurine Cann, mother of Simon Cann, on  
October 1, 2023  
Robert Ramey, Jr, former Selwyn pastor,  
on October 18, 2023

## Non-Member Birth

Alora Grace Gilbert, granddaughter of  
Bryan and Carol Hovey on October 4

# NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

1 Addison Roper  
2 Don Hamburger  
Lily Kincade  
3 Jay Pfeifer  
4 Kate Claxton  
Will Nauman  
Jack Stien  
Ed Thomas  
5 Mike Hinshaw  
Robert Reynolds  
6 Avery Ellis  
Susan Flynn  
Bryan Kincade  
Naomi Randall

7 Reese Horton  
Fletcher Moore  
Olen Smith  
9 Fred Cooke  
Millie Johnston  
Patricia McLellan  
Hattie Walton  
Janet Williams  
10 Amanda Barkley  
Jeremy Caskey  
David Harris  
Susan Lemmon  
11 Grant Armistead  
Mitchell Cooper  
Tate Hackman  
Allison Lindsey

12 Liza Macholz  
13 Camille Cumbus  
Meredith Northan  
H Lucas  
14 Riley Battle  
Sharon Raines  
Karah Ramsey  
Karey Vera



15 Barbara Hall  
Katelyn Price  
16 Bob Cole  
Katie Cumbus  
Debbie Pott  
Rebecca Thompson  
17 Harrison Liles  
Andrew Sontag  
Libby Stuart  
18 Tracie Northan  
19 Maddie Parbst  
Bruce Walker  
20 Charlene McDermott  
Joe Raible

21 Melanie Ackerly  
23 Jake Canter  
Georgine Jeffries  
Megan Tibe  
24 Jim Glen  
Reba Hardaway  
Madeline Lindsey  
25 Robert Salton  
Grant Sharpe  
26 Maggie Houston  
30 Steve Randall

# CHRISTIAN EDUCATION AND FORMATION

## ADVENT WREATH WORKSHOP— NOVEMBER 26, 11:30am

All ages, children through adults, are invited. We will 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. Please [signup to reserve](#) one or more kits. Payment for kits can be made via text to give, online, by check, or in person at the event.



The annual Mission Giving Tree will also be available with opportunities to give to some of our Mission Partners.



**CHILDRENS CHOIR** We invite children ages 4 through 5<sup>th</sup> grade to join us on November 15 and 29, and December 6, at 5:30pm as we prepare music for Advent.

**CHILDREN'S PAGEANT** practices will be Saturday, December 2 and 9, at 10am and Sunday, December 10, at 9:30am. The Children's Pageant will be presented on December 10, at 10:30am worship.

## Sunday Mornings 9:30am

- ❖ Our skilled nursery workers are downstairs for children ages 0 through 3 years old.
- ❖ 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. Our Milestone Ministry class, for 3<sup>rd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> graders, will meet Sundays through November 12. The focus will be *Using Your Bible*. Participants will receive their Bibles in worship on November 12.
- ❖ Middle and High School Youth are invited to join our intergenerational Sunday School Class. Our series called "*Faith Tending- Rooted and Reaching*" will focus on Worship and will be centered around the Bible.
- ❖ Adults have two classes from which to choose:

Conversations on Faith will gather in the parlor for a series called *A Survey Of Buddha, Christ and Contemplative Christianity*. The class will study the book "Living Buddha, Living Christ: by Thich Nhat Hanh". Thich Nhat Hanh uncovers striking bonds between the two contemplative spiritual traditions. As an outsider to Christianity, the author brings new meaning to walking in the footsteps of Jesus.

Faith Forward is an intergenerational class meeting in the Chapel. The class is intentionally taught to be inclusive of 6<sup>th</sup> grade through adult learners as we engage in our series called "*Faith Tending- Rooted and Reaching*". The class is centered on Worship and the Bible.

## Monday through Friday Education

- ❖ Pastor's Bible Study with Rev. Lori Raible will conclude Wednesday, November 15 at 11:30am. See the weekly email for the link.
- ❖ Men's Group, at 7am each Friday morning. (Bates House)

# YOUTH NEWS

- November 19, High School Fall Day Trip, 9:30am—3pm RSVP to [Margo](#) (text or email) if you can participate in the day trip. The group will gather at the church before embarking on a day that includes brunch, hiking, apple picking, and more.
- November 3, First Friday Game Night 6-9pm @ Providence Presbyterian
- December 1, First Friday Game Night at Selwyn 6-9pm with Providence Presbyterian.
- December 1-2, Middle School Lock-in at the church following Game Night. Middle School Youth from Providence High School will join us.

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## PFLAG

Would you like to learn more about how to support your LGBTQ+ friends and family in a faithful way? You are invited to a community-wide [workshop](#) led by PFLAG and hosted by SAPC. All are invited on December 3 from 5-7pm. A light dinner will be served. To RSVP [click here](#).



# WORSHIP

## OCTOBER 29 ALL SAINTS SUNDAY WORSHIP WITH COMMUNION GUEST PREACHER JACQUELINE LAPSLEY



Selwyn welcomes guest preacher Jacqueline E. Lapsley to the service. She is President of Union Presbyterian Seminary, Richmond, VA and Charlotte, NC. Dr. Lapsley previously served at Princeton Theological Seminary for 25 years and is a noted Old Testament scholar. She earned her Ph.D. from Emory University, an M.Div. from Princeton Theological Seminary, an M.A. from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and her A.B. from Smith College. Jacq Lapsley, a ruling elder in the Presbyterian Church USA, is married to Rev. Greg Bezilla, an Episcopal priest. They have two adult children.



Tuesday, November 21

### **RADICAL Inclusion**

**COMMUNITY-WIDE  
INTERFAITH  
THANKSGIVING SERVICE**

**7 - 9 PM**

**Trinity Presbyterian Church**  
3115 Providence Rd Charlotte, NC 28211



## LISTENING EVERYWHERE TECHNOLOGY FOR WORSHIP



Listen **EVERYWHERE**

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 additional printed instructions available in the narthex.



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](#).

### Sign up to Usher in Worship

Scan the QR Code with your mobile app or contact Dick Metzler.



**Service of Comfort and Hope** Join us Wednesday, December 6, 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](mailto:office@selwynpres.org) by 9am Monday, December 4 for the fellowship lunch which follows.



### 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".

## CHRISTMAS 2023—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 18. Please return this form and your check (payable to SAPC) to the church office. Please designate "Flower Memorial Fund" in the memo line of your check. The deadline is Sunday, December 3. Please print neatly.

Your phone # \_\_\_\_\_ Email address \_\_\_\_\_

Name(s) of giver(s) as you would like it printed in the bulletin. \_\_\_\_\_

In memory of \_\_\_\_\_

In honor of \_\_\_\_\_



# 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.

Our next food packing event is November 2, 9am. Volunteers will pack and deliver items to the school. Please join us in the Fellowship Hall if you would like to help.

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## MONTCLAIRE NEEDS YOU!

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



The October GEP newsletter is [available here](#)

## SECOND SUNDAY SERVICE NOVEMBER 12

All ages are invited to participate following worship. A light lunch will be served before participants make and decorate treats for delivery to designees. Attendees will also add the ornaments to the Mission GivingTree.



## HABITAT WORKDAY

From October 2 - 6, Charlotte proudly hosted the 37th Jimmy and Roslyn Carter Work Project at The Meadows at Plato Price. It was a huge success with 27 new homes either finished or framed.



Selwyn has volunteered to paint the interior of one of those houses for our workday on November 18. You can sign up to help by [clicking here](#) or go to the church website and click on the link to the SignUp Genius for Habitat.

## OPERATION SANDWICH NOVEMBER 18

Help prepare bagged lunches for our Roof Above homeless neighbors. Sign up to [help here](#).

## 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.