



THE SELWYN SPIRE

November 2026

Selwyn Avenue Presbyterian Church

2929 Selwyn Avenue Charlotte, NC 28209
Selwyn campus: [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#)

Tel: 704-372-6836, www.selwynpres.org
Quail campus: [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#)

Dear Selwyn and Quail Friends,

We go to great lengths to avoid thinking about death, much less talk about it. These days, we expect our physicians and medical professionals to deliver cures and miracles, and anything less teeters on blame if not a lawsuit. And yet, at a rate of 100% all of us will die.

Instead of facing the reality of suffering or death, our tendency is to avoid it at all costs. We pretend, deny, avoid, dismiss, or try to outwit the reality of our humanity, which of course, inevitably involves aging and death. Now, if you are tempted to stop reading, then you are making my point (wink, wink).

Please stay with me, because Christian hope is at the very heart of our faith. When we hope for good weather, a Panther's victory, or world peace, we are expressing a desire for something good to happen we cannot control. Christian hope is something different. Hope in the face of sadness or despair. Hope in the face of uncertainty. Hope in the face of chaos or trauma. Hope, even in the face of death, is not naïve optimism or wishful thinking, but confidence in the faithfulness of God.

From beginning to end, the Bible tells a story of God's salvation and redemption in human history. Time and time again, God creates, calls, saves people from bondage, and restores those who are lost. With clear purpose and direction, God chooses to work and dwell among us toward *shalom*; a reality of justice, love, grace, and wholeness *on earth as it is in heaven*. Over and over, we encounter a God who refuses to abandon creation. So, when we look toward the future, we remember what God has already done.

The Christian faith does not deny the reality of death, nor does it dismiss the grief and sorrow that accompany it. Even Jesus wept at the grave of his friend Lazarus. The resurrection of Jesus reveals death does not have the last word! As the Apostle Paul writes, '*Nothing can separate us from the love of God in Christ, not even death.*' Ours is an audacious faith! In pure defiance against the horrors of death, we Christians expect a miracle. Instead of caving, we gather, lift our eyes, raise our voices, and proclaim a bold protest to death! Honestly, it is utterly remarkable. We shout Alleluia!

In the final chapters of Revelation, we find a breathtaking vision of God's promised future: *a new heaven and a new earth, where God will dwell among God's people, wipe away every tear, and make all things new*. This creative vision is not a promise of escape from our broken world with all its troubles. It is a promise God has not given up on the world. God's purposes for creation, God's work among us, is not finished.

This is why Christian hope orients the way we live every day as much as our approach to suffering and death. Hope allows us to face what is broken without surrendering to despair. It gives us courage to love, forgive, pursue justice, and to participate in God's ongoing work of reconciliation even when the outcome is uncertain. We trust God's promises of eternal life are true, not only for those who have gone before us, but for all of us too!

As a growing congregation with two campuses, we have so much to celebrate. Yes, our growth is requiring a collective leap in stewardship, but ours is a grand inheritance worthy of our shared faithfulness and trust in God.

November is the final month of the church calendar year; we continue to grieve those we have lost this past year. I miss them, and I remember each of our Selwyn and Quail saints, with deep gratitude as they are among the Communion of Saints from whom we have all benefitted. Soon, with Christian hope we will turn our attention to the season of Advent! Get ready, because we trust God's future, we are free to live courageously in the present.

With Hope,

CONGREGATIONAL LIFE

We Welcome



Cameron Charles Russell-Broadie ,
son of Alex Russell and Josh Broadie,
born on October 24, 2026

We Welcome



Sloane Adele Anderson,
daughter of James and Kelsey Anderson,
born on October 15, 2026



will meet on November 1, at 11:30am in the Parlor.
If you would like to learn more about this
ministry, please join us.



THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!

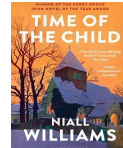
Our 2027 Stewardship campaign is "Good to Grow", inspired by verses in Ephesians 4. So far Selwyn has received almost 50% of our \$994,500 goal. Every pledge matters. We invite you to place your Estimate of Giving in the offering basket on Sunday. You may also drop your 2027 pledge by the church office, or you can use the [online link](#).

SELWYN CAMPUS GIVING

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 phone number. You do not need a keyword if giving to the annual fund.

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 [Amy Read](#), so she is aware and can credit the proper amount to the correct member.

SAPC BOOK CLUB



Members of both campuses are invited to participate. Join us on November 17, 6:30pm at Sir Edmond Halley's Restaurant for a discussion of Niall Williams *Time of the Child*. Questions, contact [Nancy Bobbitt](#).

In Nursing or Retirement Homes

Aldersgate - Dick Metzler
Asbury - Mary Faye Proctor
Brighton Gardens - Beth Carter
Cypress - Bill and Nancy Budd,
Ellen Byrum, Joe Anne Cole,
Mike and Frankie Hinshaw,
Olen and Nancy Smith,
Bob and Frances Walker
Matthews Glen - Anne McMackin,
Cara Munday, Anne Rutherford
Pritt Health—Joyce Greene
Sharon Towers - Joan Foard
Southminster - Emily Cox, Kathy Dickson,
Kay Hastings, Bobbye Linn,
Sally Moore, Cacky Newitt
TerraBella-Newton - Pat Ferguson



NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

1 Addison Roper
2 Rennie Cook
Lily Kincade
3 Jacqueline Black
Jay Pfeifer
Ashley Short
4 Kate Claxton
Gracie Kattenhorn
Will Nauman
Jack Stein
Ed Thomas
5 Mike Hinshaw
Robert Reynolds
6 Avery Ellis
Susan Flynn
Bryan Kincade

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
Bill Navarro
11 Grant Armistead
Mitchell Cooper
Tate Hackman
Allison Lindsey

12 Liza Macholz
Carmen Walker
13 Camille Cumbus
H Lucas
Meredith Northan
14 Barrett Baker
Riley Battle
Emmett Pettiglio
Karah Ramsey
Sharon Raines
Karey Vera
15 Barbara Hall
Katelyn Price
16 Katie Cumbus
Rebecca Thompson

17 Harrison Liles
Andrew Sontag
Libby Stuart
18 David Baysinger
James Harner
Katie Hamilton
Tracie Northan
19 Maddie Parbst
Bruce Walker
20 Charlene McDermott
21 Melanie Ackerly
22 Brian Daoust
23 Jake Canter
Georgine Jeffries
Megan Tibe

24 Hunt Anderson
Nancy Dearman
Madeline Lindsey
25 Claire Browning
Leo Miller
Grant Sharpe
26 Ron Blake
Conner Gillis
Maggie Houston
27 Betsy Baskwell
30 Karen Baysinger
Steve Randall



CHRISTIAN EDUCATION AND FORMATION

CHILDREN'S CHOIR RETURNS NOVEMBER 15

We are excited to renew our Children's Music Program on the Selwyn campus. Sunday, November 15, following worship, all children (ages 4 through 5th grade) are invited to participate in choir as we prepare for the Children's Christmas Pageant worship service on Sunday, December 13. Rehearsals are November 15 and 22, and December 6 (following worship with a snack period) and Saturday, December 12, 10 to 11:30am. Children are asked to attend as many rehearsals as possible. Questions? Please contact René Prager, reneprager.sapc@gmail.com or 704-372-6836.

Parents/Caregivers please bring your children to the Fellowship Hall after worship for a snack. Fred Spano and René Prager will bring the children to the Chapel for rehearsal, 11:45-12:15. Parents should plan to pick-up in front of the Welcome Center. Please use this [link to RSVP](#) so that we have ample snacks and supplies.

Please note: If you plan to participate in the pageant, but NOT in the Children's Choir portion, you do NOT need to attend on November 15 and 22. You will receive a separate notice about pageant participation.



Please join us as we celebrate the beginning of Advent with our annual Advent Wreath Workshop. Sign-up for your Advent kit, which includes: one foam wreath, greenery, four Advent candles with candle holders. The cost is \$10 per kit. You may pay online, or check/cash can be brought to the event. Registration is required by November 15. Please use [this link](#).

Adult Sunday School Parlor Class - Conversations on Faith - 9:30am Every Sunday (Parlor) Gather to read, reflect, and explore together

Adult "Faith In 30" - 9:30am Every Sunday (Fellowship Hall) A class designed for those who want to connect, learn, and grow—even when time is limited.

Confirmation Class, 7th and 8th grade - 9:30am Select Sundays (Bowman Building, first room on the left)

3rd—6th grade Sunday School- 9:30am Every Sunday (Bowman Building, first room on the right)

K-2nd Sunday School- 9:30am Every Week (Bowman Building Big Room)

3s/4s Class Drop children off in the nursery. Teachers will come for a short lesson.

Nursery- 9:30-11:30am Every Week (Downstairs in the CDC)

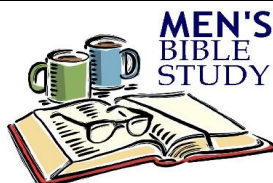
Please sign your children in. Each room is staffed by two caring adults.

We provide a safe, loving, and welcoming environment for children from birth through age 4, giving parents the opportunity to participate in Sunday School and worship with peace of mind. Children are grouped by age to ensure they receive developmentally appropriate care: Newborn Room: Birth through pre-walkers; Toddler Room: walkers—2; Preschool Room: Ages 3—4



FIRST AND THIRD MONDAY EVENINGS, 7:30pm

Led by Ted Zimmer and Curtis Correll. It is open to men of all ages. Click [this link](#) from your phone.



FRIDAY MORNINGS, 7am

Led by Roger Mills and Joe Bentley at the Bates House. Men of all ages walk through life and faith with honesty, trust, and accountability.

YOUTH NEWS

YOUTH GROUP

November 15,

5:30 – 7 PM

for Middle & High School Youth –

Dinner Served each gathering

[CLICK HERE TO SIGN UP FOR DINNERS](#)



SAPC YOUTH AND PARENTS, MARK YOUR CALENDAR—SUMMER 2027

- June 20-26 ASP Mission Trip
- July 11-17 Montreat Youth Conference.

WORSHIP



COMMUNION

Communion is served the first Sunday of each month on the Quail campus at the 9am service.

Communion will be served on the Selwyn campus at the 10:30am service on November 1, and on November 29 for the First Sunday of Advent.

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



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 \$65 should be made to the church indicating "sanctuary flowers".



Join us weekly for Worship in the Sanctuary at 10:30am. If you cannot attend in person, an email is sent each Sunday at 10:15am with a [Facebook link](#). You do not need a Facebook account to view the service.

MISSION

Help restock the pantry by purchasing one-pound bags of rice and dry beans, and 16 ounce or smaller cans of vegetables, fruits, and protein. Bring to the church during office hours or on Sunday. No glass jars please. Join the team on November 9, 10am to pack bags for delivery to Montclair Elementary. Questions, contact [Nancy Bobbitt](#). Click [here](#) to sign up.

FIRST SUNDAY FOOD DRIVE



ROOM IN THE INN OVERNIGHT HOSTS ARE NEEDED

Selwyn wants to host each Monday evening through Tuesday morning, December through March. This requires the Mission Group to procure two overnight hosts ahead of time for each week, starting with the December dates. You can sign up through [this link](#) in the weekly email.

Habitat for Humanity BUILD DAY
hosted by Selwyn Avenue Presbyterian Church on November 7 with Charlotte Church Partners

NOVEMBER 7 8AM - 4PM BREAKFAST AND LUNCH PROVIDED

RSVP through the Volunteer link on LinkTree and Facebook.

Sign Up through [this link](#).

Operation Sandwich, November 21

Assist by preparing bagged lunches for our Roof Above homeless neighbors.

Sign up in increments of ten lunches through [this link](#).

Prepared lunches should be brought to the church on November 21 between 9-10am for delivery to Roof Above.



SECOND SUNDAY SERVICE PROJECT, NOVEMBER 8

You are invited to bring homemade or purchased cookies. Help sort, package, and deliver cookies to homebound members after worship. Sign up [through this link](#).

SELWYN CAMPUS STAFF

Lori Archer Raible, Pastor
Brian Daoust, Associate Pastor
Grady Moseley, Interim Associate Pastor
Congregational Life/Worship
Lisa McLennan, Parish Associate
Frank Spencer, Parish Associate at Quail
René Prager, Director of Christian Education and Formation for Adults and Children

Fred Spano, Director of Music
Gay Pappin, Organist
Marsha Cooper, Church Administrator
Donnette Dixon, Administrative Assistant
Amy Read, Church Accountant
Jennifer Dixon Remsen, Communications
Dwight Jones, Weekend Facilities
Beth Sharpe, Director of Child Development Center

GROUP CHAIRS

Administration - Mike Bolewitz
Child Development Center - Jeremy Caskey
Christian Education & Formation - Elizabeth Stearns
Congregational Life - Michelle Bentley
Mission - Karey Tom
Worship - Catherine Miller