



THE SELWYN SPIRE

July 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](#)

June 24, 2026

Dear Church Family,

Some moments in life are difficult to capture with words, and this is certainly one of them. With deep trust in God's faithfulness, immense gratitude for the privilege of serving alongside you, and a heart that is both full and heavy, I want to share that I will be stepping down from my role as Associate Pastor of Selwyn. My final Sunday preaching will be August 30th.

Six years ago, I arrived in Charlotte from Switzerland just 30 days before the world shut down in a global pandemic. What I expected to be a brief six-month chapter turned into a life-changing journey. I came as a single woman, eager to embrace the unknown, and in Selwyn I discovered far more than a place to serve—I found a community that became home.

Selwyn, you have been part of some of the most meaningful moments of my life. You witnessed me meet Steve, fall in love, and build a life together. You celebrated our marriage and welcomed our son, Elias, not only into the world but also into this family of faith. Through every season, you have loved us, prayed for us, and walked alongside us in ways that have shaped us more deeply than words can express.

And what a gift it has been to walk alongside you as well. I have had the sacred privilege of sharing in your lives—in times of joy and sorrow, through ordinary Sundays and life's holy milestones. I will miss it all: the conversations, the laughter, the tears; the theological discussions over coffee; the stories shared in rocking chairs at Montreat or while our children played on the lawn; the baptism meetings and baby blessings; the potlucks and cooking together in the kitchen.

I have witnessed your faith lived out in countless ways—in the care you show one another, the ways you faithfully show up for each other, and your commitment to the promises made at the baptismal font. Those moments have been a profound testimony to God's work among you. Together, we have navigated seasons of uncertainty and challenge. Through it all, you have remained a people of deep faith, marked by resilience, generosity, and a love that reflects the heart of Christ. It has been an honor to be shaped by your witness.

After much prayer and discernment, I realize this next season is calling me more deeply into my vocation as a wife and mother. I am stepping away from full-time pastoral ministry so I can spend more time with Elias and support Steve as we continue to build and run our company together. At the same time, God has blessed Steve with an incredible new professional opportunity giving our family the flexibility and stability to embrace this new chapter with excitement and gratitude.

While much will change for our family, one thing will not: Charlotte is still home. Over these past six years, this city and this community have become deeply woven into our lives, and we are grateful our story here is not coming to an end. The Presbytery's Commission on Ministry (COM) requires departing pastors to step away from all pastoral, ceremonial, and advisory duties. I am so glad and find comfort knowing I will continue to see and run into you in the neighborhood and on the greenway!

Yet even as I grieve, I do so with hope. I have hope because I have seen God's faithfulness at work among you. I have seen it in your love for one another, your willingness to serve, your courage to embrace new possibilities, and your desire to be a church reflecting Christ's love in the world. I see it in the children being raised in faith, in sustaining friendships, and in the vision continuing to guide Selwyn's ministry.

Most importantly, I have hope because the future of this church rests in the hands of a faithful God who has been guiding Selwyn for 85 years and will continue to lead and sustain this congregation in the years ahead. In this season of transition, I want to offer a word of encouragement. The work of the church rests on the whole body of Christ. I invite you to lean in—to step forward with courage, faith, and generosity. Live into the promises made at the baptismal font: to support one another, to love your neighbors, and to participate fully in the life and mission of this church. God is already at work among you, and I know you will continue to grow into all God is calling Selwyn to be.

So thank you—for allowing me to serve among you, and for shaping my own faith more than you know. Selwyn will always be in our hearts and, most certainly, in our prayers.

With deep love, gratitude, and peace in Christ, Rev. Margo Fraga

CONGREGATIONAL LIFE

IN MEMORIAM

Carol Crumbley
May 23, 1937- June 5, 2026

IN MEMORIAM

Herman Edward Thomas
June 13, 1928 - June 14, 2026

IN MEMORIAM

Elizabeth Jane Weingart
January 14, 1938 - June 12, 2026

IN MEMORIAM

Irvin W. Hankins, III
September 1, 1946 - June 23, 2026

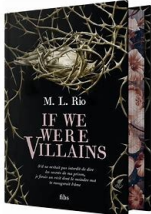
In Nursing or Retirement Homes

Aldersgate - Dick Metzler
Asbury - Mary Faye Proctor
Brighton Gardens - Beth Carter
Carriage Club - Peggy Hornberg
Cypress - Bill and Nancy Budd,
Ellen Byrum, Joe Anne Cole,
Mike and Frankie Hinshaw,
Olen and Nancy Smith,
Bob and Frances Walker
Huntersville Oaks - Pat Ferguson
Matthews Glen - Anne McMackin,
Cara Munday, Anne Rutherford
Sharon Towers - Joan Foard
Southminster - Emily Cox,
Kathy Dickson, Kay Hastings,
Bobbie Linn, Sally Moore
TerraBella Cramerton - John McCarter

Congratulations and Best Wishes
Alex Dewey and William Hardening III
were married on May 30, 2026



Congratulations and Best Wishes
Eliza Cann and Andrew Paisley
were married on May 2, 2026



SAPC BOOK CLUB

Members of both campuses are invited to participate. Join us on July 21, 6:30pm at Sir Edmond Halley's Restaurant for a discussion of *If We Were Villains*.
Questions, contact [Nancy Bobbitt](#).

INDEPENDENCE DAY

The Church Offices and CDC
will be closed on
Friday, July 3.



SELWYN CAMPUS GIVING

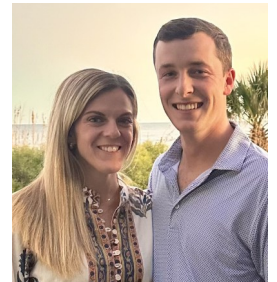
To make a confidential pledge, you can use this [link](#), email church accountant [Amy Read](#), or return your pledge card to the church office.

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.

2026 Stewardship Commitments: If you have returned your commitment card, thank you. If you have not, you can return it to the church office, email [Amy Read](#), or enter your commitment via the [church website](#).

NEW MEMBERS

We welcomed
Alexandra and Alex Glontz
on May 31, 2026.
Please provide a warm welcome.



JULY BIRTHDAYS

1 Clinton Chandler Dan Gibson	6 Grant Malloy Zachary Pineno	12 Tim Baskwell Ken McLellan	22 Bobbie Hankins Hazel Hardwick	28 Ana Baskerville Lynne Wakefield Janette Zimmer
2 Frank Caldwell DJ Harrison William Prowse Caroline Trotter	7 Frances Arnheim Nancy Calhoun Emma Hatlem Reagan Patterson	14 Chuck Cheney Quinn Nicholson Jackie Salinas	23 Lena Hart	29 Gale Haruta Saylor Riley
3 John McGirt Fred Spano Elizabeth Stone	8 Phillips Trotter	15 Madelyn Shekletski	24 Chad Brown	30 Emily Cox Roman Piacentino Bobby Pifer Cameron Tan
4 Todd Horton Nancy Marshall	9 Isabella Vera	17 Bryce McLellan Julia Walton Katie White	25 Jason Coble Erin Salzlein	31 Eileen Chiantella Steve Windell
5 Connor Armistead Calvin Hamilton Elliot Miller Caroline Oberg Ryan Rea	10 Thomas Ellison Renny Marshall	18 Henry Elliott Coleman Kiger	26 Ginny Sharpe	
	11 Lily Cann Matt Elliott Alex Kemp Nancy Smith Kacie Tibe	19 Ethan Randall Vanessa Riley	27 Carson Bahr Mike Malloy Ali Martin Denise Pineno Peter Reavis Christian Sanchez Bobby Wakefield Seth Widmer	
		21 Kathy Dickson Lawson Turner		





July 12 - Seeds of JOY—Come plant with us and watch JOY grow

July 19 - Splash into JOY Sunday Water activities for all ages
Dress Casual

August 2 - Old-Fashioned Fun Day Classic games and simple joys like watermelon

August 9 - Paint the Yard with JOY Mural Painting Day

August 16 - Bluegrass & Bird Feeders Bluegrass in worship and make your own bird feeders

August 23 - Game On! Yard Games Sunday Games for all ages

August 30 - Backpack Blessings Sunday Education and Back-to-School Sunday

We don't want the Quail Campus Second Sunday fun to end. Join us during and after worship on Second Sundays this summer.

July 12 Seeds of JOY—Come plant with us and watch JOY grow

August 9 Food Truck VBS Celebration—Come learn how we were on a Roll with God

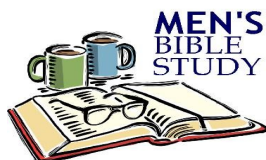
September 13 Blessings of the Backpacks



CHRISTIAN EDUCATION AND FORMATION

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.

SUMMER SUNDAY SCHOOL CONTINUES IN THE PARLOR

Adult Sunday School will use *Wired Word*, which is published each week. The curriculum holds the Bible in one hand, and the newspaper in the other. "News is inevitable--whether it be good or bad, but what better way to extract hope from this input, is to juxtapose Bible verses as tools to persevere and navigate our daily walk in Christian faith."

With our nation celebrating 250 years, three lessons will center around *America the Beautiful*, *The Gettysburg Address*, and *The Declaration of Independence*, each written by people of faith for people of faith. The study will us to better understand the culture and nation we live in through a biblical lens as people of faith seeking to be more like Jesus.

An Elementary VBS will be offered August 4-6, 9am-1pm, on the Quail campus for ages 4-10 years old. The cost is \$60. The Quail campus will be using the curriculum *On a Roll with God*.

[Register here](#) for



WORSHIP



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.



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".

MISSION

FIRST SUNDAY FOOD DRIVE



Have A Heart For Mission?

Want to get involved in Selwyn mission endeavors?

Contact [Brian Daoust](#) or [Karey Tom](#).

HABITAT WORKDAY

Please consider helping on July 11. The worksite is located at [416 E. 5th Avenue, Gastonia, NC 28054](#).

We also need someone to provide lunch for the workers.

Sign up [here to help](#).

We Need **VOLUNTEERS!**

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY BUILD DAY



**SATURDAY
JULY 11TH**

COME JOIN US
on the job site
IN JULY!

LUNCH WILL BE
PROVIDED.

STAY TUNED FOR
A VOLUNTEER
SIGNUP LINK!

**SECOND HARVEST
FOOD
DISTRIBUTION
FOR
MONTCLAIRE
COMMUNITY**

SECOND HARVEST MOBILE
FOOD TRUCK WILL ARRIVE
AROUND 3:45 PM

DISTRIBUTION WILL TAKE PLACE
5:00 PM - 6:00 PM

WE NEED
10 TO 15 VOLUNTEERS
to help make a difference!



We will organize and distribute food for the families of Montclair Elementary School Students who are food insecure this summer.

Thank you for your
kindness and support!

STRONGER TOGETHER. HEALTHIER TOGETHER. MONTCLAIRE TOGETHER.

**SUMMER
SIZZLER**
is back at Montclair for 2026!

HERE ARE THE DATES:
June 22 - July 29
Mondays through Thursdays
7:30 am - 4:00 pm

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

VOLUNTEERS **FIELD TRIP HOSTS** **SNACKS** **SUPPLIES**

Help distribute food at Montclair Elementary on July 21,
3:45 - 6pm to the Montclair families. Sign up [through this link](#).

Use [this link to volunteer](#) to help in the morning or afternoon or to help provide supplies. If you'd like to help with their wishlist, visit [this link](#).

SELWYN CAMPUS STAFF

Lori Archer Raible, *Pastor*

Margo Richardson Fraga, *Associate Pastor*

Brian Daoust, *Associate Pastor*

Allyson Anderson, *Resident Pastor at QHPC*

Lisa McLennan, *Parish Associate*

Caroline Thompson/Karley Wilkie-Nadler,
Co-Directors of Child/Families

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