



THE SELWYN SPIRE

Selwyn Avenue Presbyterian Church

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

LENT at SELWYN

Toward the Cross

JOIN US for a SEASON of REFLECTION

Only two months ago, we lit candles, sung in joy and knelt along side the magi beneath a star of hope. The manger, Mary, the baby boy: the mystery of God's love found rest in that one peaceful moment of the word made flesh. But it was only a moment. Somehow Herod, Egypt, famine, Rome and thirty-three years rush right past us and we hardly blinked an eye. So much life happens in between.

Who knows? I bet Jesus and his family pressed through life just like the rest of us. I bet he broke his arm as a teenager, struggled to study, and caught the flu. Loved ones would have died and siblings would have fought, all while Rome was squeezing their community from the inside out. Were there glimpses of light and joy as Mary dealt with a leaky roof and struggled to make ends meet as her children grew?

Mary would have remembered; the leap in her womb, Gabriel, the star, and the gifts during the long days of life. But our happy memories, not even memories of a promise, are not enough to carry us through the trials of life. We may be sick, some of us are grieving, exams are around the corner, and the stars are still tucked deeply within a blanket of endless clouds. How long, O Lord? How easily it is to settle into the status quo, in-between our nostalgia of the past and the future we fear.

Yet, this is precisely where God interrupts. The incarnation, is God's activity, an embodiment of God's promise to be among us, on the ground, moving toward the future, on the go! It's not a wish-dream-Hallmark-escape-fantasy. Mary's memories couldn't have prepared her for the realizations of Lent. The promises held within the framework of a wooden manger, are only realized by the shape of a wooden cross. The only way to a life of resurrection hope and joy is through the cross.

This truth, the truth of Lent, catches us by surprise every year. Yet, I am grateful for the invitation to wake up and consider, pray, and reflect on a God whose love for us is so deep and so profound, not even death can overcome it. In good faith and hope Selwyn, it is time for us to walk toward Jerusalem together.

"Costly grace is the gospel which must be sought again and again and again, the gift which must be asked for, the door at which a man must knock. Such grace is costly because it calls us to follow, and it is grace because it calls us to follow Jesus Christ. It is costly because it costs a man his life, and it is grace because it gives a man the only true life. It is costly because it condemns sin, and grace because it justifies the sinner. Above all, it is costly because it cost God the life of his Son: 'Ye were bought at a price', and what has cost God much cannot be cheap for us. Above all, it is grace because God did not reckon his Son too dear a price to pay for our life, but delivered him up for us. Costly grace is the Incarnation of God."

~ Dietrich Bonhoeffer, The Cost of Discipleship

March 1 First Sunday in Lent

Worship with Communion

March 8 Second Sunday in Lent

Worship with Baptism

March 15 Third Sunday in Lent

Worship with Baptism, Handbell Choir,
Join us for Rush's last Sunday in worship.

March 22 Fourth Sunday in Lent

Worship with the Rev. Dr. Jan Edmiston,
Presbytery of Charlotte General Presbyter,
Former Co-Moderator, PCUSA General Assembly

March 29 Fifth Sunday in Lent

April 5 Palm Sunday

Procession of Palms, Children's Choir Sings

April 9 Maundy Thursday

5:30pm Dinner, 6:30pm Worship with Communion

April 12 Easter Sunday

8:30am Worship

9:30am Fellowship

10:30am Worship with Baptism

This year Selwyn's Lenten Offering is designated to the Appalachia Service Project (ASP) mission trip's building supplies and for enrichment experiences at Montclaire Elementary School's Greater Enrichment Program (GEP).

CONGREGATIONAL LIFE



Daylight Saving Time Begins
Spring forward March 8, 2020



SALT SHAKERS will meet on Sunday, March 1, 6:30pm at the home of the Pratt's 2559 Selwyn Ave Questions, contact [Malyn Pratt](#).



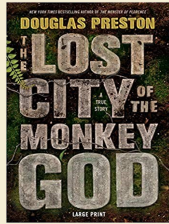
Prayer Shawl Ministry The next meeting will be in the Parlor on March 15 after worship.

Contact Anne Rutherford, 704-341-7585.

SAPC BOOK CLUB will meet on March 17, 6:30pm at Sir Edmund Halley's.

This month's selection is The Lost City of the Monkey God by Douglas Preston

Questions contact Beth Ramsey, 704-840-9433.



WELCOME NEW MEMBERS



On February 9 we welcomed Max and Katie Bourg (left) and John Amon (right) as new members.
On February 23 Jeremy and Allison Black (not pictured) were welcomed as new members.



CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

Final details are being addressed to finish out inside building spaces in Phase Three.

Exterior work will continue as weather permits.

Please call the church office for entry during weekday office hours, 704-372-6836. Thank you for your patience.

In Nursing or Retirement Home

- Aldersgate - Dick Metzler
- Asbury Health Center - Dottie Metzler
- Carriage Club - Mildred Long, Herman Thomas
- Charlotte Square - La Melle Hagerty
- Genesis Salisbury Center - Margaret Cunningham
- Merrywood- Jo Caldwell
- Plantation Estates - Anne McMackin, Cara Munday, Anne Rutherford
- Sharon Towers - Richard and Joan Foad
- Southminster - Art Jones, Bobbye Linn
- The Cypress - Bill and Nancy Budd, Bobby Davis, Olen and Nancy Smith
- Waltonwood Cotswold - Mary Faye Proctor

AA MEETINGS

Selwyn is the host site for a weekly Alcoholics Anonymous meeting on Wednesdays, 8-10pm in the Fellowship Hall. All are welcome.

Please direct questions to Metrolina AA Intergroup, 704- 377-0244 or 70-332-4387.

IN CASE OF SEVERE WEATHER Tune to WSOC-TV or WBTV for information on service or meeting cancellations. Please note there are separate listings for Selwyn Avenue Presbyterian Church and the Selwyn Avenue Child Development Center. In case of snow or ice on the weekends we will make every effort to hold Sunday morning worship at 10:30am but will cancel Sunday School and other events or meetings. We will also put closing and cancellation messages on the Church's voice mail system. During the week the Church Office will follow the CMS closing schedule. If there are power outages at the Church, both the CDC and Church will be closed.



PARKING LOT REMINDER The small parking lot is one-way, from the Selwyn Avenue entrance, down the hill, and out onto Glendale. When exiting, there is a stop sign at the bottom of the hill and a speed bump to remind drivers to exit carefully and slowly. Please do not enter from Glendale and drive up the hill.

Easter 2020

This Easter 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. For each \$10.00 donation the name of your honoree will be printed in the bulletin on Sunday, April 12.

Please return this form and your check (payable to SAPC) to the church office and designate "Flower Memorial Fund" in the memo line of your check. **The deadline is Sunday, March 29.**

Your phone # _____ and email address _____

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

In memory of

In honor of

RECONNECT: *Your Story. Our Story*



MAY 1-3
2020



MONTREAT
CONFERENCE CENTER

Join us for our intergenerational church-wide getaway to the mountains for a time of community-building and spiritual refreshment.

We will have outdoor programming for children, hiking, bluegrass & barbecue, youth ropes course, childcare for our youngest ones and more.

All ages welcome -- Accessible accommodations for all!

[Click here to register now.](#)

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION AND FORMATION



PASTOR'S BIBLE STUDY, taught by Rush Otey, meets on Wednesday mornings from 11-1:45am in the Nell Bates House through March 11.

This term we are learning from the Book of Job and the Gospel According to Mark. All adults are welcome!



BIBLE STUDY, taught by Kim Lee, continues on Sundays from 4-5:30pm in the Library. You will find a safe place to explore and test faith, develop deep and wide friendships, and grow in your relationship with and understanding of God.

Please contact [Kim Lee](#) with any questions.



THE MEN'S GROUP meets every other Friday at 7am in the Bates House for fellowship and thematic study. The next meetings are February 28, March 13 and 27. All men are invited to join.

CALLING ALL CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

Help us prepare for and welcome our neighbors to Room in the Inn at Selwyn.

Following worship on Sunday, March 8, children and families will gather in the Fellowship Hall for lunch and mission events. We will be decorating; cooking; playing setup games; making sandwiches and much more to prepare to welcome our neighbors.



You can help:

[Donate food/drink items](#) by March 4. Please label your offerings "Children and Families serve RITI" and place in the kitchen.

[RSVP](#) to join us on Sunday, March 8 for lunch and activities.



REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN

Vacation Bible School is Monday, June 15 – Friday, June 19

- 9am – 12noon for Three-Year Olds through rising Kindergarteners at Selwyn. [Sign up.](#)
- 9am – 3:30pm for rising First through Fifth grades at the Quarry - Carrigan Farms, Mooresville. [Sign up.](#)



Children's Sunday School, 9:30am

Our new rotation series is on the disciples -- the men and women who dropped everything and followed Jesus. [Here is a link](#) to our Spark curriculum with some engaging ideas to expound on these Gospel stories. Note: Select the desired rotation—game, art, cooking, music—scroll down to "upper elementary" and voila!

Children's Choir

We invite children ages 3 through 2nd grade to join us. The group meets on Wednesday evenings from 5:30 – 6pm in the upstairs Bowman building. The Children's Choir will sing on Palm Sunday, April 5.

STEWARDSHIP 2020, FACE TO FACE

Your commitment at any level matters. By making an annual pledge you support the vision and mission of SAPC. Please return your pledge card in the offering plate or to the church office. Or you may email your commitment to Church Accountant [Tonya Moore](mailto:Tonya.Moore@selwynpres.org), or pledge online: www.selwynpres.org/giving/.

MISSION



LENT

LENTEN GIVING

A traditional Lenten discipline is to fast from something and to give the money we would have spent to the care of our neighbors as a way of reflecting God's mercy. Selwyn is designating this year's Lenten offering to our Appalachia Service Project (ASP) mission trip's building supplies and for enrichment experiences at Montclaire

Elementary School's new afterschool and summer Greater Enrichment Program (GEP).

Pick up a fish box to help collect coins or send a check to the Church designating Lenten Special Offering. There will also be "One Great Hour of Sharing" envelopes available on Easter during worship.



FOOD FIRST SUNDAY IS MARCH 1

Immediate needs are cereal, small bags of rice and canned fruit. No glass items please. Thank you for helping feed the Montclaire Elementary School families in need. Please grab a bag from the Narthex and fill it up.

Thank you, Selwyn!

Jesus said,
*You shall love
your neighbor
as yourself.*



We need YOU!

Join us in serving & loving our neighbors at Montclaire Elementary:

After-School Program
Tutoring
Food Pantry

www.selwynpres.org/volunteer



Monday nights through March, we host twelve homeless neighbors and provide three meals and a warm, safe place to sleep. Please consider helping. Current needs: March 9 and 23 - overnight hosts.

Supplies: two liter sodas, socks, large and extra-large t-shirts. [Sign-up to help](#) or contact [Michelle Bentley](mailto:Michelle.Bentley@selwynpres.org).

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN



This month, the Presbyterian Women are contributing to Montclaire Greater Enrichment Program (GEP). The after school and summer enrichment program helps low income children from falling behind in school. Research shows if a poor child is not in school then they are not learning. Please consider making a donation and make a change in a child's life?

All women are invited to participate. There are two daytime Circles. Currently there is one evening Circle. A new young adult evening Circle will begin in April.

WORSHIP



COMMUNION WILL BE SERVED on March 1.

If you are unable to attend the worship service and would like to receive communion at your residence, please notify Pam Brownlee, 704-622-5730 or the church office, 704-372-6836.

2020 SANCTUARY FLOWERS The calendar is available on the table in the Fellowship Hall. Individuals, families, classes and groups are encouraged to sign up for flower dedications. The price is \$65 for the weekly arrangement. This is a lovely way to honor special people, occasions, committees or groups and provide this meaningful aspect of our Worship Service. Please sign up so we can continue to enjoy God's beauty in this way.

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1 Debbie Haruta
Gabriela Sanders | 9 Beth Long
Matt Wakefield |
| 2 Alecia Hatlem
Susan Hoskins | 10 Charlie Harris
Helen Jones
Cacky Newitt |
| 4 Chloe Parsons
John Tibe | 11 Chuck Ellison |
| 5 William Flynn
John Thompson | 12 Daniel Daily |
| 6 Holly Goodman
Kate Lowe
John McCarter
Cole Salton | 13 Sam Ryburn
Donna Todd |
| 7 Becky Wilson | 14 Todd Muldrew |
| 8 Jack Malloy
Britta McCorduck
Adam Ramsey
Joy Widener | 15 Molly Burbank |
| | 16 Lucas Halstead
Jim Williams |
| | 17 Jack Mills |
| | 18 Eleanor Hahn
Grier Patterson |



- | | |
|--|------------------------------------|
| 19 Rush Otey
Enid Randall
Joe Salinas
Lou Waple | 26 Brian Halstead
Sutton Howard |
| 20 Katy Shoemaker
Heather Smith
Katie Sontag | 27 Lily Coble
Althea Muldrew |
| 21 Mory Lowe
Erin Mills | 28 Maeve Raible |
| 22 Tate DePhillips
Libby Guinan
Drayton Thrasher | 29 Kat Gibson |
| 23 Charles Horne
Megan Kobal
Maria Skibinski | 30 Tyler Hall
Shelley Waple |
| 24 Jeremy Black | |
| 25 Alice Watson | |

CALENDAR

Sunday, March 1

- 9:30 Chancel Choir (S)
- 9:30 Sunday School for All
- 10:30 Worship with Communion (S)
- 4:00 Bible Study (L)
- 5:30 Youth Group (FH)
- 6:30 Salt Shakers (Pratt's)

Monday, March 2

- 12:30 PW Circle 1 (P)
- 5:00 Room In The Inn (FH)
- 7:00 Boy Scouts (SH)

Tuesday, March 3

- 10:30 PW Circle 3 (BH)
- 7:00 PW Circle 4 (Bobbitt's)
- 7:15 BSA Troop Committee (SH)

Wednesday, March 4

- 11:00 Pastor's Bible Study (BH)
- 5:30 Children's Choir (B)
- 6:15 Handbells (B)
- 8:00 AA Meeting (FH)

Friday, March 6

- 6:00 Youth Game Night (BH)

Sunday, March 8

- 9:00 Chancel Choir (S)
- 9:30 Sunday School for All
- 10:30 Worship with Baptism (S)
- 11:30 Children and Families Lunch/RITI Setup (S)
- 4:00 Bible Study (L)
- 5:30 Youth Group (FH)

Monday, March 9

- 5:00 Room In The Inn (FH)
- 7:00 Boy Scouts (SH)

Tuesday, March 10

- 5:00 Child Development Center Group
- 6:00 GSA Juniors/Cadettes (SH)

Wednesday, March 11

- 11:00 Pastor's Bible Study (BH)
- 11:00 Daughters of Faith (L)
- 5:30 Children's Choir (B)
- 6:15 Handbells (B)
- 6:30 Cub Scouts (SH)
- 8:00 AA Meeting (FH)

Friday, March 13

- 7:00 Men's Group (BH)

Sunday, March 15

- 9:00 Chancel Choir (S)
- 9:30 Sunday School for All
- 10:30 Worship with Baptism (S)
- 11:30 Prayer Shawl Meeting (P)
- 4:00 Bible Study (L)
- 5:30 Youth Group (FH)

Monday, March 16

- 5:00 Room In The Inn (FH)
- 7:00 Boy Scouts (SH)

Tuesday, March 17

- 6:30 SAPC Book Club (Sir Edmond Halley's)

Wednesday, March 18

- 11:00 Daughters of Faith (L)
- 5:30 Children's Choir (B)
- 6:15 Handbells (B)
- 8:00 AA Meeting (FH)

Saturday, March 21

- 6:30 Just Friends (Cordell)

Sunday, March 22

- 9:00 Chancel Choir (S)
- 9:30 Sunday School for All
- 10:30 Worship (S)
- 4:00 Bible Study (L)
- 5:30 Youth Group (FH)

Monday, March 23

- 9:00 Spire Deadline
- 5:00 Room In The Inn (FH)
- 7:00 Boy Scouts (SH)

Tuesday, March 24

- 6:00 GSA Juniors/Cadettes (SH)

Wednesday, March 25

- 11:00 Daughters of Faith (L)
- 5:30 Children's Choir (B)
- 6:15 Handbells (B)
- 6:30 Cub Scouts (SH)
- 8:00 AA Meeting (FH)

Friday, March 27

- 7:00 Men's Group (BH)

Sunday, March 29

- 9:00 Chancel Choir (S)
- 9:30 Sunday School for All
- 10:30 Worship (S)
- 11:30 Session Meeting (FH)
- 4:00 Bible Study (L)
- 5:30 Youth Group (FH)

Monday, March 30

- 5:00 Room In The Inn (FH)
- 7:00 Boy Scouts (SH)
- 7:00 Daughters of Faith (Pifer's)

Church Office Hours

9am-5pm Mon.-Thurs.
9am-1pm Fri.

- (BH) - Bates House
- (BHP) - Bates House Parlor
- (BHB) - Bates House Back Room
- (B) - Bowman Building
- (C) - Chapel
- (FH) - Fellowship Hall
- (GR) - Grace Room
- (L) - Library
- (P) - Parlor
- (S) - Sanctuary
- (SR) - Science Room
- (SH) - Scout Hut



YOUTH NEWS



YOUTH SUNDAY - FEBRUARY 23

SAPC STAFF

Rush Otey, *Pastor*

Lori Raible, *Pastor*

Lisa McLennan, *Parish Associate*

Kim Lee, *Director of Children's and Family Ministries*

Fred Spano, *Director of Music*

Gay Pappin, *Organist*

Margo Richardson, *Director for Youth/Young Adults*

Marsha Cooper, *Church Administrator*

Lawson Caldwell, *Administrative Assistant*

Tonya Moore, *Church Accountant*

Reba Hardaway, *Accounting Administrative Assistant*

Jessica Masanotti, *Communications Specialist*

Steve Stevenson, *Facilities Coordinator*

Beth Sharpe, *Director of Child Development Center*

GROUP CHAIRS

Administration - Matt Baskerville

Child Development Center - Jamie Yearwood

Christian Education and Formation - Erin Mills

Congregational Life - Emily Battle

Mission - Ashley Armistead/Meg Dewey/Allison Tibe

Worship - Pam Brownlee

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