

Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

Recently, as we finished reading for the night, I picked up my sleepy son Harrison, and carried him to the bathroom. I probably could have made him get up himself, but I love the way he wraps his arms around my neck for the short journey. Relishing his embrace, I also realized that soon he might be too big for me to do this.

At this point, I felt a profound sense of grief out of nowhere, followed by renewed sense of joy that he is my son, as I picked him up again to return him to his bed.

One of the refrains of the Easter Season is the command to rejoice. This is a season of joy. In the early church, persecuted Christians often refused to kneel for prayer from Easter to Pentecost. In the face of real reasons for grief, Scripture and the Church have always insisted on joy.

When we hear the word "Joy" today, we define it as a "feeling of great pleasure or happiness." Certainly, we recognize that it is not really "joy" when we just get our way. It's more complex, but how do we find joy, when there is still so much to grieve in our world? **What then, for us, is biblical joy?**

To answer this, let's start with understanding grief, which is our response to loss in our lives. All change brings loss, and all loss will bring change. Grief is our response of sadness over change. For big things, like the loss of a loved one, our grief is big. Still, we grieve even the small things, like our children growing up.

It is healthy and good to grieve because change is hard. We struggle knowing that we will miss our loved ones and we miss the way things were. Grief leads us to joy amid loss and change, and we see this in the joy of a new hope in the Resurrection, which is a catalyst for still even more change.

In this season, we can set aside the impulse to seek joy in our perfection or that all our expectations will be satisfied, because that is not where we find biblical joy. We can lean instead into the expectation that even amid painful loss and many changes, there is joy.

What's more, we can look to the promise of this season, that our desire to see all things made new will be satisfied. Christ is risen, the Holy Spirit is here with us, and through the love of God, we can comfort one another in our grief and be a part of making this world a better place.

Shelby Presbyterian Church

226 East Graham Street
P.O. Box 1444
Shelby, NC 28151-1444
Phone: 704.487.8503
www.shelbypres.org
info@shelbypres.org
Office Hours: 9:00-4:00 MonThurs; 9:00-12:00 Fri.

Pastor: Drew Mangione dreweshelbypres.org

Minister of Christian Ed. &
Families: Carol Ann Hoard
carolanneshelbypres.org

Church Administrator: Miranda Wood

mirandaeshelbypres.org

Office Assistant: Sherry Thomas sherry@shelbypres.org

Bookkeeper: Erin Borders erin@shelbypres.org

Sexton: Marie Jackson marie@shelbypres.org

Director of Music & Organist: Emily Monroe

emily@shelbypres.org

Choir Director: Bruce Moser bruce@shelbypres.org

Nursery Director: Lindsay Carter

Nursery Assistant: Lilly Hamilton

Rainbow Connection Director:Abby Goins 704-487-7075
rainbow@shelbypres.org

From the Desk of Carol Ann



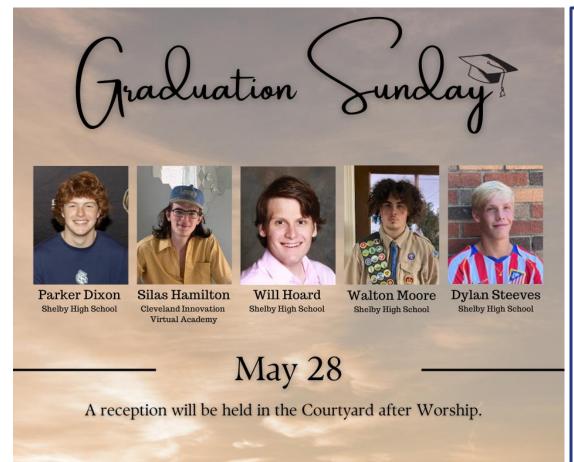
It has started – the seeds, the trays, the grow lights, the heating pads, the small watering bottle. Not much gives me greater joy than to plant flower seeds and watch them grow into plants with beautiful flowers. By the middle of summer, I will take such pride in my blue-ribbon winning dahlias and zinnias.

Just as we rejoice over the flowers and plants in our gardens, God rejoices over us. As gardeners, we lavish tender care on our gardens – planting, weeding, pruning, fertilizing, watering. Jeremiah used the image of God as the Great Gardner and told them the tenderness God has toward His people. "I will rejoice in doing good to them, and I will plant them in this land in faithfulness, with all my soul." Jeremiah 32:41



Jeremiah wrote this verse to people in trouble. When we walk through difficult and troubled times in our lives or walk with another in trouble, it's easy to forget that God rejoices in doing good in our lives and in those of the people we love. I have seen God doing good in my life these past several weeks and will never forget. Folks rallied around the Hoard Family while Joel had his back surgery. I have watched the love poured out for Steve as he grieves. Even during the hard times of life, we must look for the goodness that comes from God. We can cling to the image of God the Great

Gardener, who lavishes tender love and faithfulness on us with his heart and soul. When we experience spiritual winter in the midst of spring, God is faithful, tenderly cultivating our souls that we may know the beauty of Springtime in our hearts once again.



SUMMER YOUTH TRIPS

WILDERNESS TRAIL
JULY 5TH - 10TH

Cost is \$100 - 2 spots are left.

PASSPORT CAMP JULY 16TH – 22ND BEREA COLLEGE BEREA, KY

Cost: \$100 — sign up by **May 8**th



THANK YOU TO ALL OUR SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS AND THEIR DEDICATION AND LEADERSHIP.

K and PreK - Kimberly Dixon, Allison Moore, Nancy Blackey, Laura Carter 1st & 2nd grade - Anne Langley, Mary

Raudez, Robin Holland, Mimi Martin, Emily Melton, Catherine Couch

3-5th grade- Margie Trivett

Youth - Susan Grose, Nell Canipe

Christian Issues Class - Ali Paksoy,

Barbara Blackburn, Darlene Gravett, Don Bridges

Serendipity Class – John Brotherton, Dan McLaurin, Ben Brooks, Sandy Brenneman

F3 - Michelle Moser, Elizabeth Schweppe Kerygma - Doug Bryan

Women in Progress - Janet Reynolds



There is a void in the youth room. As we try to carry on, we miss Cheryl's smile, her words of welcome, her tears as she talks of her love for the youth, the way she made each person feel special and her friendship. We are thankful for her life and the years she spent dedicated to the youth.

YOUTH SUNDAY PRACTICE

Friday, May 5th at 6:00 In the Youth Room Dinner will be provided.

May 7th

YOUTH SUNDAY

All youth meet in the fellowship hall at 8:30am for breakfast and then we will walk through the service! We are thankful for your leadership!



Summer Sunday School Classes



Some Adult classes do not meet in the summer so we are going to offer a joint Sunday school class in Ellis Hall for the summer. Our children and youth will continue to meet for the summer. We will offer two classes for children and one for youth. We will be looking for summer teachers for the children's group. If you are interested in taking a Sunday or two let Carol Ann know.

For the adult class, we are planning on having a panel of church members to help lead the discussions. We would love your input on the Discussion Questions. The series will be "Can I ask that?" So, if you have a question and would like more information and some discussion, email it to carolanneshebypres.org by May 14th.





IMPORTANT DATES

MAY 7th

Youth Sunday 5 Cents a Meal

MAY 14th

Children's Sunday Mother's Day

MAY 22nd

Newsletter Articles due to Miranda miranda@shelbypres.org

MAY 28th

Graduation Sunday

MAY 29th

Memorial Day Church Office Closed

What's Going on at SPC?!

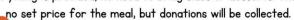
wednesday night supper Growing in Grace Children's Choir

will present

"In the Image" A Musical by Mark Burrows Wednesday, May 3rd at 6:00 in Ellis Hall

Children performing need to be in Ellis Hall at 4:30

Join us for Jammin' J's pizza and salad.
*Everything is provided, no need to bring sides or desserts. There is







MEDIA COMMITTEE UPDATES:

<u>Photo Policy</u>: The SPC Media Committee recognizes that while sharing photographs of public worship is an important part of our mission to help spread the message of the Gospel and commemorate special occasions, we must also protect the sanctity of private worship. Any photography taken during worship will be done with this in mind.

Directory: Submit edits to: bit.ly/SPCdirectoryupdate



Join us for

Tuesday Lunch

May 9 11:30-1:00 Cost is \$7

All are invited to a BBQ lunch on May 9th. Come and fellowship with your friends and make some new ones.



Sign up by calling the church office by May 3rd.







THE RAINBOW CONNECTION PRESCHOOL

April was an incredibly busy time, Easter parties, egg hunts, extra outside time, exploring spring, and spring break!

This month we will have our graduation ceremony on May 23rd for our graduating to and 5s classes. We have watched these children grow over the years, and we are all excited for them to go off to "big school" as they say!

Summer camp starts in June, and I am sure our teachers have many fun things planned!

We are beyond blessed to be a part of the SPC community, and we are so thankful for all of the love and support.

"Start children off on the way they should go, and even when they are old they will not turn from it" (Proverbs 22:6)

Abby Goins, Director











MONTREAT CHUCH RETREAT

September 15 – 17, 2023

Join your church family for a time of spiritual renewal and fellowship! Enjoy a weekend of activities together in a beautiful, relaxing setting. The weekend kicks off with dinner on Friday and concludes after worship on Sunday.

Cost per room at Assembly Inn:

\$450 for Apartment – 1 available (includes 1 King room and a 2 Twin room) \$385 for Two Room Suite – 5 available (includes 1 Queen room and a 2 Twin room) \$225 for Single room – 40 available (2 Twin room OR 1 Queen room)

**Meals are included through a fund previously given by a generous donor. If you wish to donate to this fund, the meal plan costs are: ages 12+ \$60 and ages 5-11 \$30 and we ask that you denote this with your balance payment.

\$100 Deposit is due by Friday, May 26th and balance is due by Thursday, August 10th.

To register, complete the form below and turn in to the office with your \$100 depos Names of all attending family T-shirt size Age	it:
Number of rooms: Ist room type choice: 2nd room type choice:	
**Weekend Meal plans needed (12+) (5-11) I plan to donate to the Lacey fund for meals and/or t-shirts (\$10 per)	

ARE YOU ON DUTY IN MAY?

Chimers

May 7 Corban Stern

14 Corban Stern

21 Oliver Stern

28 Oliver Stern

Deacons Taking Up Offering & Ushers

May Kyle Aldinger, captain Michelle Moser Elizabeth Schweppe Trey Warrick

Wednesday Night Elders &

Deacons

May

3 Bill Jobe John Schweppe Jr. Mary Ann LaSelva Thomas Monroe

Worship Liturgist

May 7 Youth Sunday

14 Children's Sunday

21 Lori Wehmueller

28 Ben Brooks

Sound & Video Teams

May 7 Patrick Glenn

Joe Petrilli

14 Patrick Glenn
John Brotherton

21 David Grose Joe Petrilli

28 Chip Blackley

Sanctuary Worship Guild

May 7 Judy Greer Rachel White

> 14 Beverly Elmore Stuart Schweppe

21 Barbara Blackburn Barbara Hannah

28 Lyn Huston Lori Wehmueller

Sanctuary Flowers

May 7 available

14 available

21 available

28 available

*A Flower Calendar is posted on the bulletin board at the Harris Street entrance outside the fellowship hall. If there is a Sunday that you would like to reserve, please call the church office and we'll sign you up.



News from Habitat for Humanity

Announcing two important projects at Young and Oak Streets in Shelby: 1 - Our Annual Women's Build will be held on two consecutive Saturdays in May. The number of volunteers on each day will be limited so participation will be first-come-first-served. The dates are Saturday, May 13 and Saturday, May 20. You may call the Habitat office to put your name on the list, indicating which day you wish to work. The number is 704-482-6289.

2 - The Habitat Church Partnership Build is scheduled for two consecutive Saturdays in June. Our Shelby Presbyterian Church representatives on the Steering Committee are Susan Grose and Bill Jobe. The dates are Saturday, June 10, and Saturday, June 17. Again the number of volunteers will be limited each day, so plan to sign up as soon as registration opens on May 14. Susan and Bill have information and will share it with anyone who is interested. Five churches have partnered together to build this house.

You may also contact Richard Hart, 229-563-1253, or rchart1121@gmail.com about either of these exciting projects.

THE MEDIA COMMITTEE is looking for volunteers to run the soundboard and video equipment occasionally on Sunday mornings. Adults, as well as older, responsible youth will work in pairs each Sunday to support this important aspect of our SPC ministry. Training will be provided. If interested, please email Holly Petrilli at hollypetrilliehotmail.com.

FAITH SHARING

Faith sharing is just what it sounds like -- sharing our life experiences from our unique perspective as a believer and member of the body of Christ. Being encouraged and inspired on our faith journey by members of our own church family has become a tradition of summer worship at SPC.

This spring, please pray specifically about this important opportunity, and if you feel the Spirit leading you to share your perspective, please contact Mystie Brotherton at 704–473–7525 or uncmystie@gmail.com to sign up for a Sunday between May 28th and September 3rd.



Turning Point Academy

We are so excited to be planning our first Teacher Appreciation Week for Turning Point Academy! This is coming up soon, during the the week of May 8-12. There will be many opportunities for volunteers and ways to help - from homemade goodies, to store-bought supplies; from hands-on serving, to monetary donations. Please keep an eye out for a link to sign up to help! And please contact Molly Brownlee (704-477-8947) with any questions or desires to get involved with our Turning Point Partnership team!

As always, any monetary donations to our Turning Point Fund are greatly appreciated - please take these to the church office and note that it is for "Turning Point Fund". Thank you!

The SPC Turning Point Team



It's warming up outside and in the SPC kitchen. We appreciated your Souper Bowl of Caring contributions. We are seeing an increase in attendance for hot lunches each Monday at 11:45 and food distribution at 11:00. Our doors open at 9:30 with coffee and assorted pastries

available to all. We have enjoyed getting to know many of our guests, and it is special to see them getting to know each other. The social aspect of this ministry is very important. We all need food for our bodies, and we also need nourishment for our spirits. Our dedicated crew of volunteers is blessed not only by serving others; we are blessed by serving with others! We have a wonderful time together. Food pickup and distribution is a vital part of this ministry. If you have a truck and /or strong back that you are willing to share please let Miranda know, and you will be contacted.



Calling All MUSIC LOVERS

THE SPC CHOIR WOULD LOVE TO HAVE YOU JOIN US IN BRINGING MUSIC TO SUNDAY WORSHIP. WHETHER YOU SING OR PLAY AN INSTRUMENT, WE CAN CERTAINLY FIND A WAY FOR YOU TO OFFER YOUR GIFTS IN A FUN AND MEANINGFUL WAY. FROM DIGERIDOO TO DULCIMER, TAMBOURINE TO TUBA - ALL INSTRUMENTS ARE WELCOME. JUST EMAIL BRUCE@SHELBYPRES.ORG AND WE'LL FIGURE OUT A WAY TO GET YOU INVOLVED IN A WAY YOU FEEL COMFORTABLE. THANKS FOR HELPING SPC SING A NEW SONG!



April Happenings

"In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven." Matthew 5:16



EASTER EGG HUNT

April 2, 2023













PALM SUNDAY

April 2, 2023









EASTER SUNDAY

April 9, 2023

























PLANTS OF THE BIBLE with Emile Gebel April 19, 2023







ANNIE KATE BROWN'S BAPTISM

April 23, 2023





The goal of the Member Life Ministry Committee is to extend love and care to all of our Shelby Presbyterian Church Family. If you find anyone in need of attention in our church family, in your neighborhood, or beyond, please contact Lori Wehmueller, Member Life Ministry Chairperson, 704.472.5253 or loriwehmueller@gmail.com or the church office 704.487.8503. Please include the following in your prayers:

Marty & Amy Allen & Family
Ann & David Beam & Family
Pat Birmingham
Debra Blanton
Amy Brown
Karen Carpenter
Myra Carpenter
Matthew Carpenter
Curt Collins
Joyce Couey

Debbie Ferrell
Ina Harrington
Robert Hilton
Joel Hoard
Joan Hunt
David Kelley
David LeGrand
Cheryl Lutz
Faye McCants
Pauline Persing

Ann Pharr
Finley Price
Clay Pruett
Steve Sisk & Family
Beverly Styers
Doreen Wacaster
Jackie Weathers
Family of Barbara Weller
Diane Windham
Teresa Wingo

Bert & Joy Cushman • Children and Staff of Turning Point Academy

- Covid-19 research, caregivers, and patients
- Racial injustices
- U. S. Economy
- All those serving in the military
- Our brothers & sisters of Monte los Olivos
- John McCall in Taiwan
- Food Ministry
- Rainbow Connection
- Christians who are persecuted for their faith
- All disaster victims (volcanoes, floods, fires, etc.)
- All victims of violence
- All refugees

Thank you for expanding your prayer list to include specific children and youth each month. During May, pray for our **Kindergarteners:** Seren Bryant, Elizabeth Couch, William Glen, Avery Moser, Annie Moser, and our **First Graders:** Steele Bryant, Lindsay Glenn, Harrison Mangione, Thomas Pruitt, Ruby Raudez, Oliver Stern, and Kesson Warrick.

Prayers and Sympathy

Our prayers and sympathies go out to Marty Allen and family on the death of his mother Harriett Allen on March 22, 2023.

Our prayers and sympathies go out to Ann Beam and family on the death of her mother Joanne Schenck on March 25, 2023.

Our prayers and sympathies go out to Steve Sisk and family on the death of his wife Cheryl on April 13, 2023. Cheryl had been a member of SPC for 32 years.

Happy Birthday!

stappy Duringy.
May 1 Marie Jackson
May 2 Braxton Clifton
May 2Marlene Lovelace
May 3Jeff Jones
May 4 River Harrill
May 4 Michael Pruitt
May 5Alex McIntyre
May 5 David Persing
May 5Beth Phillippi
May 5Beverly Styers
May 6Laura Trivett
May 7 Grace Henderson
May 7Michael Neville
May 7 Corban Stern
May 8Jay Garrett
May 8Alan Riggs
May 11Tucker McIntyre
May 11Jon Blake Pharr
May 11Miller Noblitt
May 11Mary Ann Weber
May 12 Jeff Roark
May 13Jordan Boinest
May 13 Robert Burns
May 13Stephanie Jobe
May 13 Stockton Ware
May 14 Fred Harrill
May 14Lilly LeGrand
May 15 Mills Bryant
May 15Heidi Steeves
May 15 Brock Taylor
May 16Taylor Pharr
May 16 Butler Strain
May 17 Laura Beam
May 18 Sarah Fletcher
May 20Robin Holland
May 21Kathy Allison
May 21 June Hatfield
May 21 Jennifer Ormand
May 22Ali Huston May 23 Jack Brownlee
May 23Nicole Haydon
May 23 Lillian Moore
May 24Lyn Huston
May 26 Jean Canipe
May 26Catherine Couch
May 26Anna Dow
May 27Ben Brown
May 27 Jeb Kelly
May 28 Catherine Ware
May 29Bly Borders
May 30Faye McCants
May 30Alex Pearson
May 31Jeannie Moore

SPC Reports & Minutes

SESSION MINUTES MARCH 21, 2023

Opening

- A quorum was declared present.
- Meeting called to order and Opening Prayer Drew Mangione
- Lighting of Christ Candle, Recitation of Affirmation of Faith, & Vision Statement Cheryl Sisk

Reception of New Members: The following were welcomed and accepted as new members in our church.

- Christopher and Carol Dow sponsored by Trey and Tara Warrick.
- Florence Brooks sponsored by Margie Trivett.
- Zion Roberts sponsored by Michael Pruitt.
- David and Susan Melton sponsored by Don and Catherine Bridges.

Communications

Clerk's Report - No Report

<u>Deacon's Report</u> - Elizabeth Schweppe reported:

- April 18th will be the next Blood Mobile with opportunities still available for those to participate.
- Additional bottles of pancake syrup are needed for "Feeding Kids of Cleveland County."
- March 23rd is the Rainbow Art Show.

Pastor's Report - Drew reported:

- People continue to struggle in the community with higher power bills. The church has raised our giving limit to \$200.00 but the emergency fund is depleted. Drew requested thought be given to whether the budget be amended to provide additional funds or an appeal made for donations.
- Session minutes approved with an amendment to reflect that Tom Martin was present for the February meeting.

Committee Reports:

<u>Finance Committee</u> – Scoot Dixon reported:

- Net Income remains \$20,000.00 over expenses.
- Certain funds are sitting idle and with interest rates as high as 5%, Erin is investigating opportunities to secure higher earnings for these funds.

<u>Property Committee</u> – Fred Blackley reported:

- He will meet with the contractor in the next few days.
- Work day scheduled for Saturday, March 25th. All are invited to participate.

Worship & Music - Richard Dedmon reported:

- Maundy Thursday Service will take place in Ellis Hall with table communion.
- Good Friday Service in the Sanctuary and Easter Sunday with communion.
- There are 14 active members on the Worship Guild.
- May 3rd will be the church Children's Musical.

Old Business:

 Upon recommendation by the Finance Committee, a second vote was conducted on the use of Cornerstone Funds for the Habitat project – passed unanimously.

New Business: None

APRIL 2023 STEWARDSHIP REPORT 2023 Operating Budget							
APR. 9: APR. 16:	Received\$19,802.00 Received\$5,435.00 Received\$1,336.00 Received\$2,771.09	5¢-A-Meal \$334.58 Worship257 Worship136 Worship156	Worship170 Livestream Views137 Livestream Views131 Livestream Views131				

SHELBY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH - MAY 2023

SUNDAY		MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		• 9:30 Hot Lunch Ministry • 7:00 Boy Scouts • 8:00 AA	• 10:30 Staff Meeting • 7:00 Worship & Music	• 11:00 Member Life • 4:30 Growing in Grace • 5:00 Property Cmte. • 6:00 Wednesday Night Supper • 7:00 Chancel Choir	• 7:00 Men's Breakfast at Ken & Mary's • 1:00 Rainbow Teacher Appreciation Lunch • 3:00 Cecelia Music Club • 8:00 AA & Al-Anon	• 6:00 Youth Sunday Practice	6
5 th Sunday in Lent Five-Cents-A-Meal Offering Youth Sunday • 9:00 Sunday School •10:00 Worship in Sanctuary & livestreaming on YouTube & Facebook. • 5:00 Youth Night	7	• 9:30 Hot Lunch Ministry • 6:00 Discipleship Ministry • 7:00 Boy Scouts • 8:00 AA	• 10:30 Staff Meeting • 12:00 BBQ Fellowship Lunch • 2:00 Clerk's Council	• 11:30 Rainbow Cmte. • 6:00 Growing in Grace • 7:00 Chancel Choir	• 9:00 Rainbow's Breakfast with Mom • 12:00 Finance Cmte. • 8:00 AA & Al-Anon	12	13
6 th Sunday in Lent Mother's Day Children's Sunday • 9:00 Sunday School •10:00 Worship in Sanctuary & livestreaming on YouTube & Facebook.	14	• 9:30 Hot Lunch Ministry • 7:00 Boy Scouts • 8:00 AA	 10:30 Staff Meeting 5:30 Personnel 6:00 Fellowship Cmte. 6:30 Joint Session & Diaconate Meeting 	• 6:00 Growing in Grace Party • 7:00 Chancel Choir	• 6:00 Mission & Ministry • 8:00 AA & Al-Anon	19	20
7 th Sunday in Lent Kyla Roberts Baptism • 9:00 Sunday School •10:00 Worship in Sanctuary & livestreaming on YouTube & Facebook.	21	• 9:30 Hot Lunch Ministry • 7:00 Boy Scouts • 8:00 AA	Last Day of Rainbow • 10:30 Staff Meeting • 6:00 Rainbow Connection Graduation	Rainbow Teacher Workday • 7:00 Chancel Choir	Rainbow Teacher Workday • 8:00 AA & Al-Anon	Last day to sign up for Montreat and deposit is due.	27
Day of Pentecost Graduation Sunday • 8:30 Senior Breakfast • 9:00 Sunday School •10:00 Worship in Sanctuary & livestreaming on YouTube & Facebook. • 11:00 Senior Reception	28	CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED • 7:00 Boy Scouts • 8:00 AA	• 10:30 Staff Meeting • 6:30 Media	• 7:00 Chancel Choir	JHV STA		ode. We

SHELBY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH 226 E. GRAHAM ST. SHELBY, NC 28150

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION
U. S. POSTAGE
PAID
SHELBY, NC
PERMIT #3