

# THE SHELBY PRES (S)

Published monthly by Shelby Presbyterian Church  
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**Director of Music:** Amy Allen  
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**Nursery Director:** Tricia Butler  
**Nursery Assistant:** Holly Conner  
**Rainbow Connection Director:** Becky Dorsey

## MARCH 2021

### Hi SPC!

The month of March this year is the church season of Lent. The word Lent comes from an old English word that simply means "Spring", which is when the season of Lent usually falls.

Lent is the six weeks leading up to Easter. Lent recalls the 40 days Jesus was tested in the wilderness. There in solitude and fasting, Jesus was tempted by the devil. At Lent, we in our own life recreate in some way Jesus' 40 days in the wilderness, as well as Jesus' journey from Galilee to Jerusalem, which is often called "the way of the cross."

Lent in the church is a time of preparation leading up to Easter. It is intended for church members to be a time of confession, repentance and spiritual discipline, through which we prepare to meet the risen Christ at Easter. It is a time of self-denial, where through physical deprivation we become spiritually ready to meet Christ.

During Lent the church asks its members to give up something for Lent, usually something one loves or is even addicted to, a food, a drink, an activity. Remembering Jesus words that any who would become his disciples must deny themselves (Mark 8:34), we are encouraged to "fast", to give something up, in one way or another, and to one degree or another.

At the same time, the church asks us to take on a new spiritual discipline during Lent, an activity that helps us grow closer in our relationship to God, such as prayer, Bible study, worship, Sabbath-keeping, silence, solitude, selfless giving.

Lent began on Ash Wednesday. Regrettably, we did not have an Ash Wednesday service this year because of COVID. All that touching and personal closeness would have put us all at risk for the virus.

Church members over the years, even those who did not grow up with the tradition of Lent, have often spoken to me of the positive benefits they have discovered during Lent. How many times Lenten disciplines have served as a kick-start, the beginning of the renewal, of their own spiritual life. May it be so for all of you!

Blessings,  
David Garnett

### NEWS FROM CHURCH EDUCATOR

Greeting,

Hope everyone is doing well and looking forward to spring.

Tuesday, March 30<sup>th</sup> will be my last day as your Christian Educator. As most of you know, I now have five grandchildren who all live out of town and I want to be able to spend more time with them. Their ages range from nineteen years to six weeks so I will have plenty of activities to keep me busy.

I have enjoyed all of my time in this position and want to thank those of you who were willing to step-in and help with Sunday School and other activities involving our SPC children.

I am not leaving SPC. I hope to see everyone soon.

-Linda Ware

## BEGINNING TO OPEN DOORS

Our church family has weathered the past year with strength and faith. While we have stayed apart physically, we have tried to remain in contact with each other and uphold our collective Christian faith. Our Session believes that we can emerge from this time as a stronger church that is wholly unified in our mission to Grow, Praise, and Serve. With that mindset, our Session created a Reopening Task Force shortly after we became unable to be together and assigned a mission to focus on actions that would assure we were doing what was necessary to maintain our existing ministry and also to prepare for new opportunities after this pandemic subsides. By Session approval of recommendations from the Task Force and several of our committees, we have introduced innovative ways to provide worship opportunities that we have not experienced before. These include on-line recorded worship and bible study, Zoom Sunday School sessions, and outdoor worship at the Farmers Market Pavilion. Most recently, we have finally achieved the milestone of streaming a service live from our sanctuary.

Our Task Force recently surveyed the congregation to obtain feedback on the overall feeling about beginning to open the doors for indoor worship opportunities in the coming months. A total of 47 responses (representing 98 members) is summarized here:

- 16 responses (32 members) indicated they would return in March.
- 14 responses (28 members) indicated they 'Maybe' would return in April.
- 11 of 29 responses (21 members) which indicated they would not return in March did agree that it is acceptable for those wishing to do so.
- 16 responses (33 members) have attended outdoor worship, but will not attend indoor worship in March. Of those, 6 responses (12 members) would also not attend indoor worship in April.

The Task Force unanimously recommended the following protocols for review by our Session, which voted and approved for these to be instituted and the congregation be allowed to attend live indoor services beginning March 7<sup>th</sup>:

- Eighteen (18) household unit reservations will be available each week (14 spots in the sanctuary plus 4 in the balcony). A

reservation could be 1 person, or everyone living in a household.

- A maximum congregation of 50 will be permitted to be present.
- Every third pew would be used while the two between would remain empty and assure spacing would exceed 6' between individuals not living in the same household.
- Controlled entry, assigned seating with reservations, and organized exit by members would be guided by officers and trained volunteers.
- No one should attend if they are not feeling well or are aware they may have been exposed to anyone who has tested positive for COVID within the previous week.
- Masks would be required at all times.
- Hand sanitizer would be available.
- Bulletins would be located at each assigned seat.
- The service itself would be modeled after the successful outdoor services that have been taking place with no singing, no passing the offering plate, communion trays, etc.
- The task force does not recommend removing cushions, hymnals, or Bibles from the pews.
- The sanctuary will be cleaned weekly by the cleaning contractor using currently accepted procedures.
- Outdoor services may be offered in addition to indoor services as weather permits.

We understand that the decision to hold indoor worship in this manner will not address everyone's concerns about whether each and every one of us can return. However, we believe this is the time to take the next step in beginning to open our doors and return to worship and fellowship in our sanctuary on a regular basis. For those who believe it is time to participate in these services, we hope to see you in the pews soon. For those who choose to utilize on-line opportunities to participate, please continue to provide feedback on ways to improve and provide all our members an opportunity to have meaningful worship.

In Christ,  
John Brotherton  
Clerk of Session

## LIVESTREAMING SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE



Sunday Worship is now livestreaming! Worship is being livestreamed from the sanctuary every Sunday at 10:00 am on our YouTube channel.

[https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC18Wq\\_KqagrEWqF4ld2uVA](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC18Wq_KqagrEWqF4ld2uVA)

## SPC STAFF CHANGES



Our SPC Personnel Committee has an unusual challenge before it this year. During 2021 it has the task of filling five present or future vacancies on our church staff. We will have four

staff retirements in 2021, including our Organist, Christian Education Director; Bookkeeper; and Rainbow Connection Director. And we still have an opening for a Youth Director. If you are aware of anyone with the particular gifts and talents to fill any of these positions, please contact Personnel chair, Martha Noblitt.

## ARE YOU MISSING EMAILS?

Are you getting the weekly emails from Miranda? If you're not, try checking your spam or junk folder. Be sure to add Miranda ([miranda@shelbypres.org](mailto:miranda@shelbypres.org)) as a contact to keep her emails from going to Spam. If you still aren't getting emails, call Miranda in the church office and make sure she has your info right. She sends out the bulletin and info about the upcoming sermon every Thursday afternoon.

## DIRECTORY CHANGE

Margaret Harry no longer has a landline, her cell is 704-472-1191

## NEWS FROM RAINBOW CONNECTION



The year at Rainbow Connection is flying by. It's hard to believe that it's almost spring!

This month we will celebrate St. Patrick's Day and the first day of spring. We love springtime on the playground! We enjoy going out year around, but it's so nice to have spring arrive with warm, sunny days.

Registration for our 2021/2022 school year will begin this month. Registration forms will be sent home or mailed out in early March. Current Rainbow and SPC families may start registration on March 22<sup>nd</sup>. We will open registration to the community on March 31<sup>st</sup>. There have been many new families requesting information about our program this year. I anticipate filling our classes quickly!

We hope to have Summer Program this year, but will wait a little longer to make this decision. We will start registration for this in April, if possible.

Thank you for your continued prayers and support for Rainbow Connection!

-Becky Dorsey, Director



**Daylight Saving Time Begins March 14<sup>th</sup>.**

**Don't forget to spring ahead one hour. You don't want to be late for church!**



Articles for the **April** edition of *The Shelby Pres(s)* are due in the church office **Wednesday, March 17<sup>th</sup>.**

## FOOD MINISTRY NEEDS

The Food Ministry is in need of some groceries items, if you would like to donate any of the items below it would be greatly appreciated.

**Cereal:** Cheerios, Rice Crispy, Golden Puffs, Corn Flakes, Shredded Wheat, Rice Chex, Wheat Chex, Corn Chex, Oatmeal (Old Fashioned), Kix

**Soup – Condensed:** Chicken Noodle, Tomato, Cream of Chicken, Cream of Mushroom, Vegetable Beef.

**Potatoes:** Roasted Garlic (mashed, instant) Mashed Potatoes (instant), Whole Caned Potatoes, Sliced Caned Potatoes.

**Can Vegetables, 15 oz.:** Green Beans, sweet Peas, Corn, Pork and Beans.

**Canned Meat:** Light Tuna, Chunk Chicken Breast, Spam, Spam Oven Roasted Turkey.

**Pasta:** Elbow Macaroni (16 or 32 oz.) Shells Macaroni (16 or 32 oz.), Wide Egg Noodles (16 oz.) Spaghetti (16 oz.) Spaghetti O's (15 oz. can) Spaghetti Rings & Meatballs (15 oz. can), Spaghetti O's with Franks (15 oz. can)

**Misc.:** Peanut Butter



## CONGRATULATIONS!

...to Mary and Luke Ware on the birth of their son, Miles David Ware, born on January 6, 2021 in Charlotte. Miles has a proud four year old sister, Mary Lauren. Overjoyed grandparents are Linda Ware of Shelby and David and Susan Sherrill of Charlotte. Thanks and praise to God for this new life!



## MEMBER CARE

The goal of the Member Care 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 Jessi Ogburn, Member Care Chairperson, 704.487.0650, or [jessio@carolina.rr.com](mailto:jessio@carolina.rr.com) or the church office 704.487.8503.

Please include the following in your prayers:

Jim Barnette	Mollie Ley's Family
Judy Becton	Faye McCants
Sandy Brenneman & Family	Debi McDaniel
Karen Carpenter	Joe Miller
Myra Carpenter	Jim Monroe
Sandy Carpenter	Jim Murray
Carletta Clyatt	Ann Pharr
Bert & Joy Cushman	David Pharr
Wendi Davis & Family	JoAnn Richards
D'Erica & Zach Davis	Mishay Simpson
Debbie Ferrell	Beverly Styers
Mike Goss & Family	Grace Teddy
Ina Harrington	Susan Spragins Washburn
Fred & Joan Hunt	

- Covid-19 research and patients
- Racial injustices
- U. S. Economy
- All those serving in the military
- Our brothers & sisters of Monte los Olivos
- John McCall in Taiwan
- Dr. Steve & Alene Burgert in Kenya
- Jo Ella Holman in the Caribbean
- 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 March, pray for our **Second Graders:** Eva Greer, Addison Julian, Lilly McCullough, Tristan Ormand, and our **Third Graders:** Walker Borders.

## PRAYERS & SYMPATHIES TO . . .

† Wendi Davis and family, on the death of her husband, Bob Davis, January 26, 2021.

† Sandy Brenneman and family, on the death of his mother, Martha Brenneman, January 30, 2021.

† Mike Goss and family, on the death of his wife, Anne Goss, January 31, 2021.



☺ HAPPY BIRTHDAY ☺



March 1	Sharon McInnis
March 2	Damon Burroughs
March 3	Gloria Jobe
March 3	Jon Pharr
March 4	Adele Aylmer
March 4	Brie Blackley
March 4	Shields Fletcher
March 4	Alex Haydon
March 5	Tyler Burns
March 5	Erin Carter
March 6	Hal Bryant
March 6	Mary Kelly
March 6	Jake Taylor
March 7	John Ogburn
March 8	Anna Greer
March 8	John Haskell
March 8	Olive Pharr
March 9	Carol Williams
March 10	Margaret Schweppe
March 10	Nathan Wright
March 11	Judy Pearson
March 12	Parker Dixon
March 12	Betty Hager
March 12	Ted LeGrand
March 12	Rachel White
March 13	Nancy Hendrix
March 13	Cheryl Sisk
March 14	Nancy Blackley
March 14	Pat Wilkison
March 15	Anna Langley
March 15	Thomas Neville
March 15	Reagan Wall
March 16	Joe Henderson
March 16	Reece Ware
March 17	Libby Jackson
March 18	John Auten
March 19	Bob Eddins
March 20	Frances Evans
March 21	Jonathan Bridges
March 21	Chris Burns
March 22	Conway Carter
March 22	Meredith Teddy
March 22	Laura Wheeler
March 22	Wendy Hannah Wright
March 23	Sue Breen
March 23	Don Bridges
March 25	Carol Bridges
March 25	Kate Fletcher
March 26	David Beam
March 26	Jeanne Spragins
March 27	Gracie Blackley Huggins
March 28	Elliott Welton
March 29	Jeremy Baker
March 29	Janice Blake
March 29	Margaret Harry
March 30	Mason Venable
March 31	Susan Teddy
March 31	Donna Jo Yocum

MEMORIALS & HONORARIUMS  
RECEIVED IN FEBRUARY

...to the Choir Fund in memory of Ann Goss.  
 ...to the Legacy Fund in memory of Martha Brennemman and Mollie Ley.  
 ...to the Memorial Fund in memory of Ann Goss.  
 ...to the Organ Fund in memory of Martha Brennemman.

FEBRUARY 2021 STEWARDSHIP REPORT

2021 Operating Budget..... \$520,766.00  
 Needed Weekly..... \$10,014.73  
**February 7**  
 Received..... \$16,282.00  
 Livestream Views .....29  
**February 14**  
 Received..... \$5,975.00  
 Livestream Views .....104  
**February 21**  
 Received..... \$400.00  
 Livestream View.....88

2021 FLOWER CALENDAR



A Flower Calendar for 2021 is posted on the bulletin board inside the Harris Street entrance outside the fellowship hall. If there is a Sunday in 2021 that you would like to reserve, please call the church office and we'll sign you up.

EASTER LILES



As is our custom, Easter Lilies will fill our Sanctuary on Easter Sunday, April 4<sup>th</sup> (after which you may take yours home). If you would like to order a lily(ies) - **\$15 each** - to be placed in the church, either in memory or in honor of someone, we ask that your check accompany the order form below and that it be made payable to "Shelby Presbyterian Church". Turn your form and check into the church office **by March 21<sup>st</sup>**.

I (We) would like \_\_\_\_\_ lily(ies) placed in the church on Easter.  
 Enclosed is \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (**\$15 each** payable to SPC).  
 In Memory of \_\_\_\_\_  
 In Honor of \_\_\_\_\_  
 By \_\_\_\_\_

**SESSION MEETING NOTES**  
**JANUARY 9, 2021**

**Opening**

- A quorum was present.
- Meeting called to order and opening Prayer – David Garnett
- Lighting of the Christ Candle (during Officer Retreat) – David Garnett

**Planned Business**

- A motion from the Finance Committee was made to approve the 2021 Budget.
- Discussion included:
  - No funds allocated for Nursery due to uncertainty of timing need to staff nursery. Finance Committee to address necessary funding as the need arises.
  - Salary for staff is covered at current rates for all active staff members.
- The 2021 budget was approved unanimously.

**Other Business / Communications**

- Discussion held regarding timing of plan to re-open the church building and potential for indoor, in-person services.
  - Action was deferred to Reopening Task Force to provide next recommendation.
- Update from Pastor Nominating Committee will be reviewed to assure written communication is received by church members who may not receive it electronically.
- Planned Congregational Meeting for January 24 will be held following outdoor service at the Pavilion. Meeting may be delayed in the event of adverse weather conditions.
- Motion made to not meet as scheduled on January 19. Approved unanimously.
- The members to attend Presbytery Meeting on January 30, 2021 will include David Garnett and 2 other Elders to be identified and registered by January 21, 2021.

**Closing**

- David Garnett closed the meeting with prayer.

**CONGREGATIONAL MEETING NOTES**  
**JANUARY 24, 2021**

- The meeting was called to order by Interim Pastor David Garnett
- Clerk of Session John Brotherton stated that a quorum was present.

**Budget for 2021** – Finance Committee Chair Scoot Dixon

The Approved Budget for 2021 was presented along with the 2020 Budget for comparison.

- Pledges for 2021 are slightly lower than 2020, however this is somewhat anticipated due to the uncertainty presented by the ongoing COVID Pandemic.
  - 2020 unpledged offerings were up and we finished the year positively in relation to the budget.
  - The number of families submitting pledges for 2021 is down slightly, however the average amount of pledges from those received has increased.
  - Encouragement was provided to the congregation to continue in stewardship of both time and talents in addition to pledged financial giving.
  - Questions from the floor were called for; none were forthcoming.
  - Members were invited to see the full itemized budget in the Church office and questions are welcomed for the Finance Committee.
- Nominations for at large members of Nominating Committee**
- Nominating Committee – Jon Brownlee
- Current members are Chair, Jon Brownlee, and at-large members Mystie Brotherton and Chuck Lampley.
  - Nominations for two more at large members were called for from the floor. Robin Holland and Thomas Couch were nominated.
  - A motion was made and seconded that the nominations be closed. Motion passed unanimously.
  - A vote for the two nominees, Robin Holland and Thomas Couch, was called and passed unanimously.
  - Prayers for the Nominating Committee were asked for as they complete their work.
  - The meeting was closed with Prayer by Interim Pastor David Garnett.

**PRESBYTERY IN BRIEF**  
**JANUARY 30, 2021**

The 126<sup>th</sup> Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of Western North Carolina met on January 30, 2021 via the miracle of Zoom.

Cam Murchison and Marie Palacios were very patient in answering our questions about how to make it work, and how to vote, and how to raise our hands. They'd be good kindergarten teachers! We are grateful for their careful advice and for them and others who ran the technical side of this meeting.

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 AM by the moderator, Dick Larson. He immediately installed the moderator for 2021, Hal Bennett, and vice-moderator, Sarah Thornburg.

The moderator called for the Clerk to present the docket, which was adopted by common consent. A quorum was present.

The consent agenda was adopted by common consent.

Beth Gunn, staff Associate Presbyter for Youth, announced that the Presbytery High School Mission Retreat has been rescheduled to March 26-27 with a new format.

Our ever-cheerful General Presbyter, the Rev. Dr. Byron Wade, led us in worship, assisted by the Rev. Leah Epps of Fairview and United Churches in Lenoir, and the Rev. John Hagmann of First Church, Morganton. Organist Glenn Little of the Davie Street Church in Raleigh provided the music. The sacrament of communion was celebrated, and all were able to partake in their homes. The sermon was on Mark 1:21-28.

After worship, we were split into twenty-two breakout rooms by our able administrators. We shared with a few people what our congregations have been doing during this very strange year.

Coming back to plenary, we resumed our meeting. Charles Sellers presented the budget for 2021, and answered a few questions. The budget was adopted by common consent.

The Personnel Committee presented the remuneration amounts for the Presbytery's staff; this passed.

Whit Malone attempted to present the COM report, but was overtaken by the radio station PWNC, 530 AM, where "Mo Degrassi" (sometimes known as John Pea) presented several people:

- Rob Warren was welcomed as new pastor at First, Marion;

- Lynn and Robin Honeycutt were examined by the Presbytery to become Commissioned Co-Pastors at the Sweetwater church. The examination was sustained, and Lynn and Robin were commissioned. Sweetwater will celebrate this at a Service of New Beginnings soon.

These presbytery members were recognized for their length of service, retirement or completion of the CLS program:

25 Years of Service: C. Lynn Michie, Margie B. Stansell, Keith B. Freeman

50 Years of Service: Patrick Hardy, William J. Serjak, Neal Lloyd

75 Years of Service: James A. Cogswell

Honorably Retired: Wanda Neely, Luke Harkey, Merri Alexander, Charles Davenport, Bobbi White, Randall Boggs, Terry Hanna, Gary Van Brocklin, Chris Taylor, Joanne Glaser

CLS Graduates (2020): Richard Collier, Frank Denniston, Charlita Lytle, Nancy McFadden

The Christian Education Committee reported on the upcoming Celtic Spirituality Retreat. Vivian Hare presented this video. The virtual retreat is scheduled for March 12-13, 2021.

The Rev. Jill Isola reported on the Matthew 25 Initiative and shared a video about it.

Elizabeth Little, our Board of Pensions area representative, reported on the work of the Board. Items of interest:

- On March 1, the Board will go paperless. Invoices will be accessed on line.
- On January 1, prescription service was switched from OptumRX to Express Scripts.
- Temporary disability was added to the benefits package for ministers for 2021.

As always, Elizabeth is ready to help those having trouble with any aspect of the Board's policies.

The General Presbyter, the Rev. Dr. Byron Wade, reported on his activities these first few months, and his offer of "video lunch dates" for those interested.

The Rev. Tempe Fussell prayed prayers of intercession for those whose names we raised.

Moderator Hal Bennett prayed for the Presbytery's work and ministry, and the meeting was adjourned exactly at noon!

Respectfully submitted,  
David Roquemore  
Pastor, First, Newton

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

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