The Six Great Ends of the Church are statements created to guide the vision and mission of the Presbyterian Church. Together at Selwyn we take these guiding principles seriously.

- The proclamation of the gospel for the salvation of humankind
- The shelter, nurture and spiritual fellowship of the children of God
- The maintenance of divine worship
- The preservation of the truth
- The promotion of social righteousness
- The exhibition of the kingdom of heaven to the world

The last of these precisely and clearly defines the mission of our church. Sounds daunting, but on a good day we catch glimpses of God’s Reign in the many ways we do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with God and our neighbors. If we pay attention, group study, communal worship and our care for one another also reveal a God of majesty, love and grace.

How do we at Selwyn exhibit God’s Reign? How do we do, what we believe? A few years ago the Selwyn session claimed the values our church strives to embody. They include:

- Joy. Hospitality. A boundless care for all those we encounter. Living in covenant with one another. Inter-generational community.
- Honoring the uniqueness of each. Openness and transparency. A willingness to have the hard and honest conversation.

Selwyn has a history of nurturing emerging leaders within our denomination as an expression of our identity. By encouraging our own seminary students, partnering with Union Presbyterian Seminary, and supporting specific theological publications, we are indeed expressing our identity. This connectionalism can often lead us to host seminary interns as well. A few years ago, I was invited to travel to Scotland with a small team of 12 North Carolinian pastors to participate in a small symposium alongside 12 Scottish pastors. The life-giving experience forged lasting friendships. Last summer one of the Scottish pastors asked Selwyn to consider hosting a seminarian from the Church of Scotland. After months of praying and planning, Josh Milton will be joining the Selwyn community for a 10-week summer placement, beginning June 2.

Josh has years of experience working with youth and families in churches near the city of Stirling. He has also served alongside the Parish Minister of Cambusbarren in worship leadership, teaching and pastoral care. Born and raised in India, Josh enjoyed a successful career in media, film and music production prior to settling in the U.K and moving toward a vocation of ministry. With creativity Josh has found many ways to incorporate those gifts in his ministerial work. Josh is energetic and hopeful and his persistence is evident in both the arc of his life and his ability to navigate the many nuances of an overseas placement!

Josh hopes to engage and know as many of our members and community partners as possible. He will focus on how the church partners with our neighbors in mission and how we equip and connect with our youth. He will travel with our youth on the Appalachian Service Project and to Montreat for the Youth Conference. Josh will also join our efforts at the Montclaire Freedom School. Other days will be spent exploring sister churches, Union Presbyterian Seminary, worship, music and teaching.

In the midst of his busy schedule, we hope to wrap the Milton family in ‘the Selwyn Spirit.’ Malyn and Vince Pratt have graciously offered their home for the month of July when Josh’s wife, Rachel, and their four-year-old daughter, Ava, will arrive. Otherwise, when Josh is not traveling with the youth in June, he will be staying with my family.

Please pray for the Milton family as they prepare to ‘hop the pond’ and consider how you specifically might offer them a Selwyn welcome.

A few ideas:

- Serve on the Milton’s support team, planning hospitality and care throughout their stay.
- Meet with Josh; tell him about your faith and your experience with the church.
- Introduce Josh to our Charlotte community partners, by inviting him to meetings or to take a tour.
- Invite The Milton’s into the groups of our congregation or host a fellowship gathering to engage them.
- Seek them out! Share a pew, set up play dates or walks, or take them to the park or pool.

Contact Lori if you would like to serve in these ways or if you have other ideas.

We are organizing a schedule now and will try to make it all happen!
**CHILD PROTECTION TRAINING**

Please plan to attend on Sunday, May 5, following worship in the Fellowship Hall.

All volunteers working with nursery, children, and youth should have this training and renew it every three years. This includes those working at Montclaire.

**SALT SHAKERS** will meet on Sunday, May 5, 6:30pm, at the home of Jim and Terry Glen, 2016 Ferncliff Road.

Questions, contact Malyn Pratt.

**COLLEGE GRADUATES AND FAMILIES**

If you or a family member will graduate from college or from graduate school this spring we would like to hear from you.

Please contact Lawson, office@selwynpres.org or call 704-372-6836 by May 19 with your name, college, and your degree.

This information will be printed in the June Spire newsletter.

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**FROM THE STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE**

Pledges are still being collected for the Giving With Glad and Generous Hearts 2019 Stewardship campaign. While the pledge budget has been set for 2019, there is still a need for $60,000 in Stewardship pledges to meet the goal. To date, $661,925 has been pledged by 52% of the Selwyn households. Please consider renewing your commitment to Selwyn. It is not too late to make a difference in the life of our church through the Stewardship campaign. To make your pledge, email Tonya Moore. Thank you to everyone who has already supported Selwyn’s ministries with your pledge. If you have questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to Jamie Yearwood, Andy Johnston, Andy Burgin.

**SAPC BOOK CLUB** will meet at 6:30pm on May 21 at Sir Edmond Halley’s.

This month’s selection is *Where the Crawdads Sing* by Delia Owens.

Questions, contact Beth Ramsey, 704-840-9433.

**AA MEETINGS**

Selwyn is the host site for two weekly Alcoholics Anonymous meetings. Mondays from noon-1pm in the Bates House and Wednesdays from 8-10pm in the Fellowship Hall.

All are welcome to attend.

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

**PROJECT FOR MAY**

In 1922 Hallie Winsborough, superintendent of women’s work, visited Miss Dowd’s School for Girls in Kochi, Japan. Realizing their needs she challenged the Women of the Church to give one penny for each year of their lives or $1.00 as a “birthday gift” to that mission. Since then the Presbyterian Women have collected the Birthday Offering to support projects which vary from the Good News Shelter in Seoul, Korea to the Residence for Kids in Dublin, Georgia.

This offering is collected at May Circle Meetings.

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CHRISTIAN EDUCATION AND FORMATION

CHILDREN’S SUNDAY SCHOOL THROUGH MAY

The theme is Love Is…

The children will study the 13th chapter of Paul’s first letter to the Corinthians. The passage is suited for life together in community.

In love, we bear all things, believe all things, hope all things, endure all things.

Join us at 9:30am on Sundays.

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL, 9:30AM

Choose from one of the two classes being offered:

- Wired for Worship, Fellowship Hall – Why do we worship every week? What is behind the way Presbyterians worship? Explore gathering together, prayer and confession, the sacraments, and more.

- White Fragility, Grace Room – If you squirm when the word “racism” is mentioned, if your heart is broken by the impact racism has had on society, or if you aren’t sure what to do or say, join this honest conversation. Participants will read White Fragility the book by Robin DiAngelo and commit to attending at least three of the four classes.

DAUGHTERS OF FAITH

Young women are invited to meet with Lori Raible at 11am on Wednesdays. The class will resume on May 8. A meeting is also held at 7pm one Monday night each month. The next evening meeting is Monday, May 20 at the home of Deni Pifer.

Spring Fling - April 25, 2019

We came; we saw; we made rainsticks and birdfeeders; tasted honey; munched on chicken nuggets, tangerines, lemon and lime pie; and left with balloon snakes, swans, and swords. Oh! what fun we had flinging spring!
### Mission

**Stop Hunger at Montclaire Elementary**

Please help to feed some of the Montclaire children and families who are experiencing ongoing hunger. Through May 5, the Mission Group would appreciate your donations of cereal, oatmeal, peanut butter, fruit cups, breakfast bars/ granola bars, dry beans, rice tortillas. Please place items in the specified bins in the Spire hallway.

**Annual Youth Book Drive, May 5 - 19**

The youth will be collecting children's books for Montclaire Elementary and Freedom School, as well as young adult and adult books for Habitat for Humanity. Collection bins will be in the Spire hallway beginning May 5.

**Just Jesus: From Social Justice to Social Change**

The May 5 and 6, 6:30pm public lecture series will explore the importance of converting a passion for social justice into a movement for social change. On May 5, the Rev. Traci Blackmon, Executive Minister of Justice and Local Church Ministries for The United Church of Christ and Senior Pastor of Christ The King United Church of Christ in Florissant, Missouri will lecture in the Myers Park Baptist Church sanctuary. Rev. Jim Wallis, president and founder of Sojourners, a social justice ministry, and the editor-in-chief of the ministry’s magazine, will lecture on May 6, in the Myers Park Presbyterian Church’s sanctuary. A reception will follow each lecture. Sponsored by Union Presbyterian Seminary’s Center for Social Justice and Reconciliation.

**Reading Mentor Training - May 7, 5:30-6:45PM, Morrison Regional Library**


** Rise Above: Becoming a Healer in an Ailing World**

You are invited to hear Dr. Jonathan Haidt on May 7, 7-8:30pm at First Presbyterian Church. The Thomas Cooley Professor of Ethical Leadership at the NYU-Stern School of Business will offer ideas to help rise above the issues that divide us. The Willard Lecture reflects the common goal of nurturing and deepening our relationship with God and one another. The cost of the lecture is $10. Order tickets online, [www.firstpres-Charlotte.org/event/2019-willard-lecture](http://www.firstpres-Charlotte.org/event/2019-willard-lecture/). Free childcare for ages birth to 5th grade, reservations required.

**Help a Child Climb to the Top**

Freedom School Runs June 17 - July 25

Help a child at Montclaire Freedom School fight "summer slide", the summer learning loss that hobbles children in poverty. If you volunteer just one time, you'll give a child a boost. Volunteers can sign up to listen to a child read (DEAR Buddy), provide snacks or supplies and more.

### Worship

**Mother’s Day Choir Returns**

Mothers, daughters, sons, sisters, and brothers are invited to sing on May 12. An easy gospel piece “He Has Done Marvelous Things” will be rehearsed that morning. Since it is Mother’s Day, all mothers and their children are invited to participate: all you need is to be a mother or have one, and a willing spirit! No singing experience necessary. Please contact Fred for more information.

**From the Worship Group**

If your child truly needs to step out of the worship service, please have them do so during a hymn if at all possible. This will minimize distractions for others. Please refrain from bringing food or drink in the sanctuary, especially during worship. In an effort to streamline the recycling of our church bulletins, we ask that after each service you please drop your bulletins in the basket by the outside doors to the Narthex as you leave the sanctuary.
MAY BIRTHDAYS

1  Bailey King
  2  Pam Brownlee
     Connor Simmons
  3  Tate Arrington
     Abong Fankam
  4  Lorelie Moorefield
  5  Bob Summers
  6  Jodie Bolewitz
  7  Sumter Cox
     Meg Dewey
  8  Matthew Sonntag
  9  David Hall
     Harrison Rea
 10  Dean Ferguson
     Stratford Kiger
     Blake Partridge
     Hank Thrasher
 11  Lindsay Craig
     Betty Gamble
     Lawson Simmons
 12  Kit Daily
     Carolyn Miller
     Samantha Salton
     Charles Wakefield
 13  Jack Martin
     Billy Nauman
     Colleen Williams
 14  Brian Hackman
     Sarah Rea
     Jennifer Sweet
 15  Lorelie Moorefield
 16  Grey McLennan
     Tonya Moore
 17  Steele Dewey
 18  Nancy Bobbitt
 19  Andrea DePhillips
     August Olleke
     Harrison Olleke
 20  Matt Baskerville
     Sue McCarter
     Jim Sanders
     Cate Schoeneck
 21  Mills Roush
     Glenn Sedam
 22  Mary Skibinski
 23  Georgia Aaron
     Holden Bolewitz
     Kipp Kiger
     Drew Thrasher
 24  Mark Northan
 25  Ethan Astroth
     Quentin Cooper
     Nan Howard
 26  Adam Piacentino
     Alex Russell
     John Tibe
 27  Ginny Burgin
     Ainsley Childs
     Brodie Childs
     Ben Muldrew
 28  Kitty Young
 29  Chris Bahr
     Liza Horne
     Marsha Thrasher
 30  Georgia Aaron

THE SELWYN COMMUNITY ONLINE

Visit us on Facebook for information about the church, photos, announcements and updates.
Log onto Facebook, search for Selwyn Avenue Presbyterian Church, typing http://blck.by/2cWheeo into your browser, or use the QR code shown.
(QR Code Reader app or tech-savvy child required!)
YOUTH NEWS

* Youth Sunday is Sunday, May 5 - The youth will lead us in worship and the Confirmands will join.
* Combined Youth Group, May 5 at 5pm.
* High School Senior Recognition is May 12 (Mother’s Day). No evening Youth Group.
* Final Youth Group, May 19, 5-7pm. Dinner at Bailey and Hannah King’s.

SAPC STAFF
Rush Otey, Pastor
Lori Raible, Pastor
Mary Bowman, Associate Pastor for Mission
Lisa McLennan, Parish Associate
Kim Lee, Director of Children’s and Family Ministries
Jay Masanotti, Youth Director
Fred Spano, Director of Music
Gay Pappin, Organist
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 - Todd Muldrew
Congregational Life - Christy Parbst
Mission - David Caldwell/Ashley Armistead