

Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

Beloved, my family and I need your prayers.

This month, Claire will have surgery to remove a golf-ball sized tumor. Initially, doctors said it was benign lipoma, or fatty mass. After it seemed to grow, she had an MRI and was referred to the Levine Cancer Institute for a possible malignant liposarcoma. The surgeon believes it may be lipoma, but only after it is removed, will we know for sure.

In our church, far too many of you are in a similar, or more difficult situation with cancer or other health concerns. Our prayer list is long. Yet more of you should be on the list, having only to this point, confided in me or another person close to you for prayer.

I believe there is power in prayer. But the miracle of prayer is not found in getting what we want from God, but in the very act of wrestling with God. Too often, we give control of our lives to someone or something other than the one true God. In our culture today, we have an illusion of control, and often, we want to control God.

In Genesis, God promises a blessing for Jacob, just like his grandfather Abraham. And like Abraham, Jacob conspires to take that blessing on his own terms. He tricks his father Isaac into giving him the family blessing promised to the eldest son. Then Jacob goes on the run, fearing his brother's revenge. When he returns, he expects a fight.

He sets up his camps for defense and goes off on his own. There, in the night, he wrestles with a mysterious figure, who injures Jacob, making him unable to fight. This figure blesses Jacob with a new name, Israel - meaning one who wrestles with God. Humbled, Jacob goes to his brother and finds grace, where he expected war.

Beloved, in the face of illness, death, and tragedy, God goes before us, preparing the way. By faith, we wrestle with God, and it humbles us, giving us eyes to see God at work, even when things are not as we expect them to be.

I don't have answers for why God allowed Helene to destroy so many lives. I don't have answers for why God allows faithful Christians to be divided by worldly idols, like politics, economics, and culture. I don't have answers for why faithful Christians have to face cancer and other illnesses, even death.

But what I do know is that God is with us, ready to embrace us, be it with a loving hug or in our wrestling and it is by humble prayer that we recognize God's presence. I will continue praying for you and I ask you to pray for us.

Shelby Presbyterian Church

226 East Graham Street P.O. Box 1444 Shelby, NC 28151-1444 Phone: 704.487.8503 www.shelbypres.org infoeshelbypres.org Office Hours: 9:00-4:00 Mon-Thurs; 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 erineshelbypres.org

Sexton: Scott Bradford

scotteshelbypres.org

Director of Music & Organist:

Emily Monroe emily@shelbypres.org

Choir Director: Bruce Moser

bruce@shelbypres.org

Nursery Director: Lilly Hamilton

Nursery Assistant: Maggie Hohne, & Heather Johnson

Rainbow Connection Director: 704-487-7075 Abby Goins rainboweshelbypres.org

- Drew

From the Desk of Carol Ann

Embracing Change, Even When It's Hard

As the weather shifts and the crispness of fall begins to settle in, many people, like my husband Joel, absolutely love it. He thrives in the cooler air, relishing the beauty of autumn and all the changes it brings. Picking up leaves? Really? But for me? Well, I can feel my body starting to shut down! I'm a warm-weather person at heart—I love my flowers, sunshine, and everything that comes with summer.

When our basement flooded again after Helene, I knew I couldn't just push things aside. I had to really sort through everything and decide what to keep and what to let go of. As I was working through the mess, Lavery, my oldest son, came up to me and said, "This is really hard for you, Mom, isn't it?" And he was right. It was hard.

Change, whether it's the shift in seasons or being forced to face things we've avoided, can be tough. It's uncomfortable, inconvenient, and sometimes overwhelming. But it's also necessary. The several boxes I went through and the treasures I found helped give me a peace. While it was hard to go through several boxes that I had been holding onto for so long, there was a sense of peace afterward, knowing that some of the clutter was cleared.

I also thought about the recent hurricane and the powerful reminder it brought of how change, even the unexpected kind, often brings people together. In the face of destruction, where people's lives were completely changed, we watched as neighbors and communities came together to help one another—offering support, meals, and a helping hand to those in need. It is a beautiful example of how, when things feel overwhelming, God places the right people in our lives to lighten the load and remind us that we're never truly alone.

In the same way, the changing seasons remind me that God is always at work, even when it feels uncomfortable. He's constantly shaping us, helping us to let go of things that no longer serve us, and making space for new growth in our lives.

So, whether you're like Joel and embracing the cooler air, or more like me, missing the warmth of summer, remember that change—no matter how hard—can bring something valuable with it, even if it's just the chance to grow. Change has its way of moving us forward.





Chimers

Nov. 3 Mason Tyree Nov. 10 Ivie Carter

Nov. 17 Anna Grace McCullough

Nov. 24 Mason Tyree

Buddies on the Bench

Ruby Raudez Ivie Carter Anna Grace McCullough Corban Stern

SUNDAY NIGHT YOUTH NOVEMBER SCHEDULE

BIBLE STUDY 3

Meet in Youth room - 5:00-7:00

BIBLE STUDY 10

Meet in Youth room - 5:00-7:00

BIBLE STUDY 17

Meet in Youth room - 5:00-7:00

FRIENDSGIVING AT CA'S 24

5-7:00





November 13 and 20 at the regular Wednesday night hour.



Wednesday nights and would like to be involved in the play, please let CA or Emily know.

Children and youth will must attend ALL rehearsals and be in Sanctuary on Sunday, December 1st at 8:45

NO REGULAR CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES ON WEDNESDAY NIGHTS IN DECEMBER



and your family countdown to Christmas with meaningful activities for each day.





Save the date!



SPC TARTAN

Sweatshirts



We're selling SPC sweatshirts featuring authentic SPC tartan material!

- **Cost:** \$40 for Hoodies, \$35 for Crewnecks
- Order Deadline: Nov. 17th

Get yours just in time for Christmas!

WEDNESDAY NIGHT SUPPER

TACO NICHT

NOVEMBER 6TH

THIS MONTH THE F3 CLASS WILL PROVIDE TACOS AND ALL THE TOPPINGS.

OUR PROGRAM WILL BE ON THE BANKER'S HOUSE WITH CAROLYN JACKSON PRESENTING.
THERE IS NO SET PRICE, MONETARY DONATIONS ARE APPRECIATED.

EVERYTHING IS PROVIDED, NO NEED TO BRING SIDES.



All Saints' Day Nov. 3rd

On Sunday, November 3, the names of all Shelby Presbyterian Church members who have died since October 1, 2023 will be read at the 10 o'clock Worship Service. **We remember:** George Beattie, Lucy Bolick, Dr. Dick Bowles, Dr. Dick Bowling, Barbara Dixon, Annelle Kelly, and Faye McCants.



JOIN US IN RECOGNIZING OUR VETERANS

Veterans Sunday



If you served in the military, please call the church office by November 6th, if you think we may not have your name from last year. Names will be published in the bulletin on November 10th in honor of Veterans Day.







THE RAINBOW CONNECTION PRESCHOOL

This month we spend the majority of our days discussing the things we are thankful for, and how we can express our gratitude.

On November 21st we will have our Thanksgiving Luncheon at 11am in the fellowship hall. We ask all of our families to donate items to create "Cowboy Soup", and everyone eats for free! It is a wonderful example of how everyone can come together for one meal.

Some of us sit around a table every evening to share our meals, and some of us grab a slice of pizza for the youngest on the way to pick up their older sister from track. Whether you are the parent that spends hours on supper, the busy parent driving all over, or the parent that forgot to take the chicken out—we can always remind our little ones about being thankful.

Thankful for clean water, thankful for power, thankful for slices of pizza on the go, and thankful for each other.

We are also thankful for our SPC community for all of the wonderful things they do for us at Rainbow Connection.

"Let them give thanks to the Lord for his unfailing love and his wonderful deeds for mankind." (Psalm 107:21)





Feeding Kids Cleveland County and Community Partners are joining together to host the annual Community Table Thanksgiving Meal on Wednesday, November 27th at Jefferson Park at 4:00 pm. We need YOUR HELP to volunteer at Jefferson Park for this upcoming event. Set up is at 2:30. Help needed to set up chairs, tables, receiving food, serving food, decorating

and clean up. Food, Fun and Fellowship for everyone! Please contact Marie Jackson, marie@shelbypres.org or 704-466-6065.

The Food Ministry is looking ahead to Christmas. Every year, we give each guest a bag that contains useful everyday items. Any help collecting these items would be greatly appreciated. Please drop off contributions at the church office. We need at least 75 of all items listed. Toothpaste, toothbrushes, deodorant, shaving cream, razors, soap, floss, shampoo, toilet paper, body wash, combs, and miscellaneous items such as fingernail clippers, emery boards, etc. Thank you. - The Food Ministry

ADVENT DEVOTIONAL: This year's devotional will continue our theme from Montreat by focusing on the names of the people mentioned in the nativity story. Would you write a short devotional and/or prayer (just a paragraph or two)



reflecting on one person in the nativity and the meaning of their name? All you have to do is go to bit.ly/24AdventNames and sign up to make your contribution to our joint worship this Advent Season!

NOVEMBER EVENTS & IMPORTANT DATES

Wednesday, November 6th: Wednesday Night Supper children eat at 5:40, dinner at 6:00, and program at 6:30.

Thursday, November 7th: Men's Breakfast at 7:00 am at Ken and Mary's Restaurant, 1628 S. DeKalb St.

Sunday, November 17th: Youth are leading worship.

Monday, November 18th: Newsletter articles are due to Miranda,

mirandaeshelbypres.org.

Thursday, November 21st: Circle of Friends will meet in the private dining room at Pfeiffer's Café for lunch at 11:00! If you can attend, please call or text Nancy Blackley at 704-692-8095.

Thursday, November 21st: Rainbow Thanksgiving Luncheon, SPC is invited to join our Rainbow Families for a Thanksgiving Lunch in Ellis Hall at 11:30.

Sunday, November 24th: Youth Friendsgiving at 6:00.

Wednesday, November 27th: Community Thanksgiving at Jefferson Park at 4:00. Thursday, November 28th and Friday, November 29th: Church Office Closed

ARE YOU ON DUTY IN NOVEMBER?

Deacons Taking Up Offering & Ushers

Michelle Moser, captain Nov. Mike Jackson Holly Petrilli Jennifer Niblack

Elders Serving Communion

Nov. 24 Susan Bell Carolyn Billings Richard Dedmon Carolyn Jackson Bill Jobe Laura Lampley (Margie's assistant) Dan McLaurin Tom Martin John Schweppe Jr. Larry Wilson

Sanctuary Worship Guild

Nov. 3 Lyn Huston Lori Wehmueller

10 Paul & Joyce Couey

17 Harriette Beam Lara Beam

24 Judy Greer Rachel White

Sound & Video Teams

Nov. 3 David Grose Joe Petrilli

> 10 Chip Blackley John Brotherton

17 Chip Blackley Joe Petrilli

24 John Brotherton David Grose

Worship Liturgist

3 Marlene Lovelace Nov. 10 Carolyn Billings 17 Youth Lead Worship

24 Carolyn Jackson

Sanctuary Flowers

3 - 17 available Nov.

24 Martin

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



RMD + QCD = SPC MINISTRY

That's a crazy equation, isn't it?

For the distinguished 'septuagenarians plus' members of our congregation, did you know that you can satisfy the Required Minimum Distribution of your IRA TAX FREE by making a Qualified Charitable Distribution directly to Shelby Presbyterian Church?

Of course you'll need to consult with your tax professional too, but if you meet the age requirements, and you have an eligible account that you need to take a distribution from in 2024, you can easily and without tax implications send funds, up to \$105,000 directly from your RA account to the church.

Contact your tax professional & your investment advisor before the end of the year to find out how to take advantage of this option today!

Erin Borders, CPA SPC Bookkeeper/Treasurer



MISSION & MINISTRY SEPT. '24 REPORT

\$2,339

YOUR GIFTS TO EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE*

(5 CENTS A MEAL, MEMORIAL GIFTS, CHRISTMAS EVE OFFERING, BUDGET FUNDS, & DIRECT DONATIONS)

\$2,074

ASSISTANCE GIVEN
IN SEPTEMBER TO
HELP INDIVIDUALS
AND FAMILIES
ESCAPE CRISIS



HOUSEHOLDS AIDED WITH FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

2024 ANNUAL TOTALS (THRU SEPT.)

YOU GAVE: \$27,600 AID GIVEN: \$34,762

YOUR GENEROSITY HAS GIVEN YOUR NEIGHBORS A CRITICAL LIFELINE IN CRISIS. EACH MONTH, YOUR GENEROSITY GIVES FAMILIES A GLIMPSE OF GOD'S GRACE TO MEET URGENT NEEDS (TITUS 3:14 NKJV). THANK YOU FOR YOUR COMMITMENT TO LOVING YOUR NEIGHBORS.

🙎 FOOD MINISTRY & BACKPACKS



MORE THAN 40 HOT LUNCHES SERVED IN ELLIS HALL WEEKLY



MORE THAN 40 FAMILIES RECEIVED GROCERIES FOR HOME EACH WEEK



15 STUDENTS RECEIVE FOOD FOR THE WEEKEND EACH WEEK



Riley Shem Blackley

Riley is the son of David and Brie Blackley and little brother to Warren and Finn.

Overjoyed grandparents are Fred and Nancy Blackley.

Thanks and praise to God for this new life!



Evelyn Hazel Thomas
October 14, 2024

Evelyn is the daughter of Robbie and Margaret Thomas.

Overjoyed grandparents are Scott and Sherry Thomas.

Thanks, and praise to God for this new life!



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 Carolyn Billings, Member Life Ministry Chairperson, at 704 300–0931 or cbillings2577@gmail.com, or the church office 704.487.8503. Please include the following in your prayers:

John Auten JoAnn Beattie Family of Dick Bowles Betty Bowling Sue Breen Sid Bridges Jo Ann & Allen Callahan Hannah Carpenter Karen Carpenter Myra Carpenter Matthew Carpenter Sandy Carpenter Conway Carter Betty Clark Randy Derwin Clark Kay Clark-James Robin Collins

Bert & Joy Cushman

Lisa Perkins-Dodrill Judy DuBois Debbie Ferrell Barbara Ghigo Tim Hamrick Ina Harrington August Hohne Scot Horton Andi Houser Joan Hunt Kevin Jones David Kelley Chuck Laughlin David LeGrand Paul Luisi Cheryl Lutz Brooke McCurry Nancy Minor

Julia Perotti Pauline Persing Ann Pharr Tommy Price Clay Pruett Susan Reed Dot Roark Larry Stern Beverly Styers Bill & Patty Thorne Linda Ware Jackie Weathers Jack Weller Pat & David Wilkison Stephanie Williams Diane Windham Teresa Wingo

Racial injustices

• John McCall in Taiwan

Rainbow Connection

• U. S. Economy

Food Ministry

- Children and Staff of Turning Point Academy
- Covid-19 research, caregivers, and patients
- All those serving in the military
- Our brothers & sisters of Monte los Olivos
- Christians who are persecuted for their faith
- All disaster victims (volcanoes, floods, fires, etc.) All refugees
- All victims of violence

Thank you for expanding your prayer list to include specific children and youth each month. During November, pray for our **Sixth Graders:** Eva Greer, Lilly McCullough, Tristan Ormand, Paxton Warrick, and our **Seventh Grader:** Walker Borders.

Happy Birthday!

November 1	Nate Haig
	May Reed
November 2	Carolyn Jackson
November 3	Todd Cerwin
	Merridith Martin
	Brett Niblack
	Andrew Wehmueller
	Susan Jones
November 5	Barry Persing
November 6	Mary Lampley
	Lucas Stern
November 7	Joyce Boyette
	Spencer Borders
November 8	Bee Strain
November 8	Ken Morgan
	John Brotherton
November 9	Alex Niblack
November 10	Julie Bryan
November 11	Susie Brown
November 13	Charlie Brownlee
November 13	Janie Brownlee
November 14	Robin Smith
	Tyler Hendrix
	Dottie Vincent
	Paxton Warrick
	.Devin McCullough
November 21	Holly Conner
	Richard Hart
November 21	Marie Patterson
November 21	Lane Wilson
November 22	Carolyn Cooper
	Tori Clifton
	Steele Bryant
	Tabatha Coker
	Jessica Stern
November 25	Zelma Whitney
November 26	Barbara Blackburn
	Barbara Hannah
	Suzanne Waldrop
	Eliza Stern
	Dennis Beam IV
November 30	Margie Trivett

SPC Reports & Minutes

SESSION MINUTES AUGUST 20, 2024

<u>Clerk's report:</u> Discussion was held on Communion schedule, and decided to follow current system of Miranda preparing the position assignments, leaving it to active assigned Elders to secure replacement when they are unable to serve. Elders suggested making edits to the schedule at the Officer Retreat on Jan. 12, and then reporting any changes to Miranda. Communion preparation has been handled (very capably) by Margie Trivett, who is no longer an active Elder. Preparation will be handled beginning January by a Communion Subcommittee, chaired by an active Elder.

<u>Diaconate Report:</u> Michelle Moser reported the TV in Narthex Parlor is now working in "real time" with sanctuary speakers using a temporary set up until a more permanent one is complete. On Heritage Sunday, all present will receive a 2x2 square of the church tartan material. The October 2 Wednesday night meal will be Presbyterian chicken, and program will be given by June Hobbs on the section of Sunset Cemetery where African Americans who were segregated or enslaved were buried. Church picnic on October 13 Kathy and Larry Wilson's.

<u>Pastor's Report:</u> Pastor Drew reported that 150 church members attended weekend retreat at Montreat's Assembly Inn (with no complaints from Montreat Staff!). He emphasized the unique nature of our church having so many people attend a retreat. Elders recommended we continue closing the church office on the Monday after Montreat to recognize all the hard work by pastor and staff in preparation for, and while at Montreat.

<u>Minutes and online votes:</u> Minutes of August 20, 2024 meeting were approved on motion of Susan, second by Bill—unanimously approved.

<u>Finance Committee</u> – Carolyn J reported the deficit from July continued for August largely due to property improvements. Utilities continue to be under budget, but other expenses have arisen that needed to be addressed.

<u>Personnel Committee</u> – Laura reported that Personnel is searching for another nursery worker. The Anti-Racism policy developed by the congregation in the Spring book study and worked on by Personnel and Drew, was discussed, and was unanimously approved as submitted.

<u>Property Committee</u> – Bill reported 10 to 12 volunteers showed up for church workday August 31, working inside and out. Bill has estimate of \$14,600 from Quality Insulating to insulate ceilings in second floor educational wing. Motion to approve expenditure by Mystie, second by Steve; unanimously approved. Bill is seeking bids and building code requirements on insulating, heating and cooling, and weatherproofing of the part of the white house behind the church that is used in our food ministry. Drew is also checking with Presbytery re possible grant-funding targeted to food programs.

<u>Music and Worship</u> — Steve reported on the 2025 Communion schedule. After correcting the February date to February 2, 2025, motion by Carolyn J, second by Bill, unanimously approved.

Old Business - None

New Business - Blood drive scheduled for October 15 in Ellis Hall.

Drew reported on the sale of the former John Knox property to Family Worship Center, the congregation that has been renting it from Presbytery. It is unclear what will be the outcome of the final John Knox Session request that 10% of any proceeds received by Presbytery be donated to Shelby Presbyterian Food Ministry.

<u>Action Items</u>: Drew will send Anti-Racism Policy to Presbytery. Larry will work on Communion Schedule with Miranda. Anti-Racism Policy to be attached to these minutes.

FOURTH QUARTER DONATIONS: As we come to the end of the year (believe it or not), we are looking out for any "end-of-the-year" donations from stocks. If you give in this way, please arrange for those donations to be in the office before Christmas or immediately after. That would be very helpful. The office will be closed for Christmas Eve, Tuesday 12/24, Christmas, Wednesday 12/25, Thursday 12/26 and Friday 12/27. Thank you for your cooperation.

OCTOBER 2024 STEWARDSHIP REPORT								
2024 Operating Budget		\$678,528.00						
Needed Weekly								
OCT. 6: Received\$23,494.00 OCT. 13: Received\$3,715.15 OCT. 20: Received\$19,146.12	Worship156	Livestream View128 Livestream Views148 Livestream Views33	5¢-A-Meal\$251.90					

SHELBY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH - NOVEMBER 2024

SUNDAY		MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						• 5:30 Girl Scouts	2
20 th Sunday after Pentecost Five-Cents-A-Meal Offering All Saints' Day • 9:00 Sunday School •10:00 Worship in Sanctuary & livestreaming on YouTube & Facebook. • 11:00 Handbell Choir •11:30 Officer Training • 5:00 Youth Night	3	• 9:30 Hot Lunch Ministry • 6:00 Discipleship Ministry • 7:00 Boy Scouts • 8:00 AA	5 • 10:30 Staff Meeting • 7:00 Worship & Music	• 11:00 Member Life • 6:00 Wednesday Night Supper • 6:00 Growing in Grace • 7:00 Choir	• 7:00 Men's Breakfast • 8:00 AA & Al-Anon	8	• 9:00 Officer Training
21st Sunday after Pentecost Carol Ann Hoard is preaching Veterans Day • 9:00 Sunday School •10:00 Worship in Sanctuary & livestreaming on YouTube & Facebook. • 11:00 Handbell Choir • 11:00 Deacons Meeting • 5:00 Youth Night	10	• 9:30 Hot Lunch Ministry • 1:00 Clerk's Council • 7:00 Boy Scouts • 8:00 AA	• 10:30 Staff Meeting • 6:00 Fellowship Cmte.	• 11:00 Rainbow Cmte. • 6:00 Growing in Grace • 7:00 Choir	• 12:00 Finance Cmte. • 6:00 Mission & Ministry • 8:00 AA & Al-Anon	15	16
22 nd Sunday after Pentecost Youth are leading worship • 9:00 Sunday School •10:00 Worship in Sanctuary & livestreaming on YouTube & Facebook. • 11:00 Handbell Choir • 5:00 Youth Night	17	• 9:30 Hot Lunch Ministry • 7:00 Boy Scouts • 8:00 AA	• 10:30 Staff Meeting • 5:30 Personnel • 6:30 Session	• 6:00 Growing in Grace • 7:00 Choir	• 11:00 Circle of Friends • 11:30 Rainbow's Thanksgiving Lunch • 8:00 AA & Al-Anon	22	23
23rd Sunday after Pentecost Communion • 9:00 Sunday School •10:00 Worship in Sanctuary & livestreaming on YouTube & Facebook. • 11:00 Handbell Choir • 5:00 Youth Friendsgiving	24	• 9:30 Hot Lunch Ministry • 7:00 Boy Scouts • 8:00 AA	• 10:30 Staff Meeting • 6:30 Media Cmte.	• 12:00 Church Office Closed • 4:00 Community Thanksgiving	28 HAPPY THANKSGIVING CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED • 12:00 Ellis Hall Reserved • 8:00 AA & Al-Anon	CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED	30