



Thursday, November 25, 2021

SMPC Now

SOUTH MECKLENBURG PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

"Know that the Lord is God. It is he that made us, and we are his; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture. Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise. Give thanks to him, bless his name." – Psalm 100:3-4

The newer the car, the more advanced the technology. Our late-model cars, perhaps the last generation of gas-powered vehicles, come equipped with more connectivity, computing power, and cameras than Apollo 11, all of which has come to seem essential even though our morning commute may only extend to twenty minutes. We can back out of the driveway without the assistance of a chiropractor, courtesy of the rearview camera. We can pull into the garage without crashing into Jr.'s trike, thanks to the sensors surrounding the chassis. Driving on a six-lane freeway can be a bit frustrating with all the alarms, warnings, and beeps alerting you to lane lines, passing cars, and slow vehicles. Call it the technology of alertness, developed to compensate for human inattention and our unacknowledged blind spots. Today's cars will even tell you to take a break if you hit one too many lane lines or your speed is overly inconsistent. They say that in the near future our driving skills will vanish because our cars will drive themselves. What was Greyhound's motto? Leave the driving to us. I'm old enough to confess that such a world is beyond my capacity to comprehend.

We drive cars that are more alert than we could ever hope to be. Will our awareness of the world around us diminish as we rely more on technology to pay attention for us? The Psalmist declares, "I will extol the Lord at all times; his praise will always be on my lips." Such gratitude extinguishes when we are not alert to all for which we could be thankful were we to just pay attention. Where'er there is breath, there is reason for thanksgiving.

Henry Van Dyke, the Presbyterian pastor remembered for composing the lyrics of the treasured hymn, *Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee*, also said, "Gratitude is the inward feeling of kindness received. Thankfulness is the natural impulse to express that feeling. Thanksgiving is the following of that impulse." So, let us pay attention, sense the impulse, and act on it every day.

Grace and Peace,
Matt



**WORSHIP
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 28**

The First Sunday in Advent

**8:30 a.m., Chapel
10:10 a.m., Sanctuary**

Our 10:10 a.m. worship service is also streamed live.

**In compliance with the current
mask mandate by the city and county,
please remain masked indoors.**

**For children's worship,
children age five and over must mask indoors.**

When outside, masks are not required.

Advent Devotional Collection

A Retirement Celebration
honoring Freda Smith's 16 years of faithful service to SMPC
Sunday, November 28
after the 10:10 a.m. worship service.

A basket for cards and well wishes will be available at the Welcome Desk.



**Explore Seasons,
our 2021 Advent program guide!**

***CLICK THE IMAGE ON THE RIGHT
TO VIEW!***



WORSHIP MINISTRY



NEW!

Join Rev. Diane Giannola for a short, calming break to your day!

November 30, December 7, 14, and 21

Noon on Zoom

Click the image above to email Rev. Diane Giannola for the Zoom link!



NEW TIME!

**A Festival of Carols
Sunday, December 12
6:00 p.m., Sanctuary**

This Advent tradition moves from morning to evening!

Also live-streamed on www.smpchome.org/Boxcast/Facebook Live.

MISSIONS-OUTREACH MINISTRY



CLICK ABOVE TO VIEW DETAILS AND PURCHASING OPTIONS!



Bread Donation & Delivery



CLICK ABOVE TO HELP DELIVER BREAD TO OUR NEIGHBORS!

December & January dates available!

Pray for our friends in Haiti.

To send funds to help with disaster relief, make an online donation:

Through SMPC:

CLICK HERE

Selecting fund "Other", including "earthquake" in the memo.

Through Presbyterian Disaster Assistance:

CLICK HERE

A primary way to support our efforts in Haiti is to sponsor a child.

*Contact Judy Jones, Contact Judy Jones, judy21jones@gmail.com,
for details., for details.*

YOUTH MINISTRY



CLICK ABOVE TO REGISTER!

TEXT UPDATES

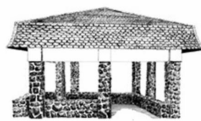
*Sign up for Youth Ministry text reminders by texting
@SMPCYG to 81010*

INSTAGRAM

*Follow SMPC Youth Ministry
on Instagram
@smpcyouth*

PARENT VOLUNTEERS

*It takes many hands to make our
Youth Ministry gatherings successful!
SIGN UP TO HERE TO HELP*



**Massanetta
Springs**

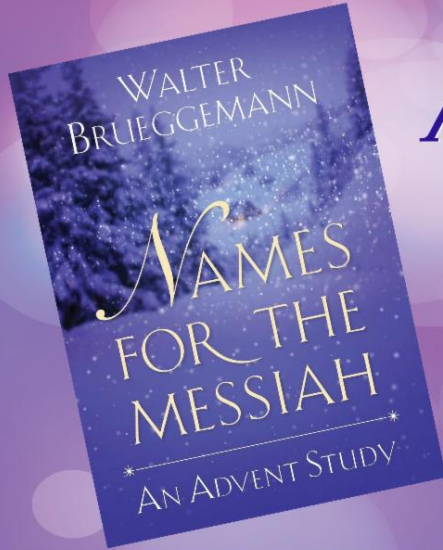
CAMP AND CONFERENCE CENTER

MIDDLE SCHOOL CONFERENCE: June 16-19, 2022

Register by Friday, December 31 on Church Life.



SPIRITUAL FORMATION MINISTRY



ADVENT BIBLE STUDY

FOR ADULTS & YOUTH

MONDAYS, BEGINNING NOVEMBER 29



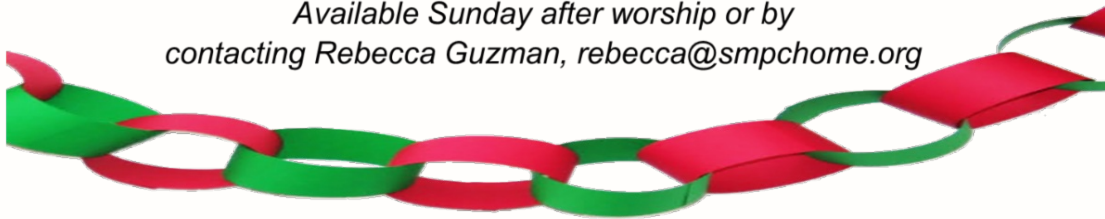
6:30 PM, MCQUEEN ROOM

CLICK ABOVE TO REGISTER!

Advent Paper Chain Kits

Families are invited to complete these paper chain kits to count down to Christmas with prayer, Bible verses, acts of service, and fellowship together. Your envelope has everything you need.

*Available Sunday after worship or by
contacting Rebecca Guzman, rebecca@smpchome.org*



SUNDAY, DECEMBER 5

AGES 4- 5TH GRADE

5:00 P.M. - 6:30 P.M.

CLICK ABOVE TO REGISTER!

SMALL GROUPS AND MEET-UPS

A Caregiver's Journey

Tuesday, December 14 **1:00 p.m., McQueen Room**

This group now meets the second Tuesday of each month.

Finding meaning and purpose as you care for a loved one with Alzheimer's or dementia.

Facilitators: Kathy Garner (SMPC Faith Ambassador through the Alzheimer's Association) and Rev. Whitney Bayer.

Contact Rev. Whitney Bayer, whitney@smpchome.org, to sign up.



All Things Considered

Sundays, 8:30 a.m. - 9:30 a.m., Zoom

Study: *The Wired Word*, a curriculum that links current events to appropriate Scripture. Because the topic changes weekly, depending on what's happening in the world, this is a perfect class for folks who can't commit to coming every week. Please contact Rebecca Guzman to be added to the weekly email with the topic and zoom information.

Contact Rebecca Guzman, rebecca@smpchome.org, for the Zoom ID#.

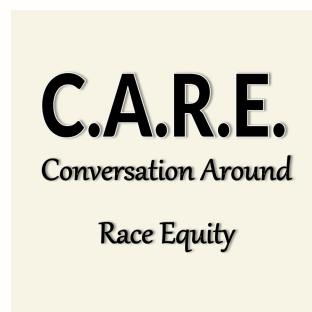


C.A.R.E.

Conversation Around Race Equity
Sunday, December 12, 4:00 p.m. &
Monday, December 13, 12:00 p.m.

Led by: Rev. Whitney Bayer and Rev. Diane Giannola

Email Rev. Whitney Bayer, whitney@smpchome.org, for the Zoom ID#.

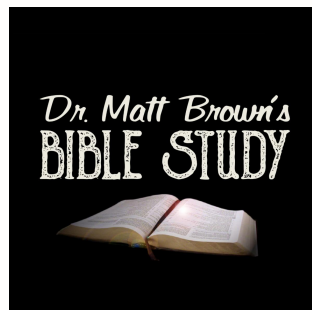


Dr. Matt Brown's Bible Study

Wednesdays, 9:30 a.m. & 6:30 p.m. Zoom

An exploration of the scripture for the coming week's sermon.

Contact Dr. Matt Brown, matt@smpchome.org, for the Zoom ID#.



Food for Thought Book Group

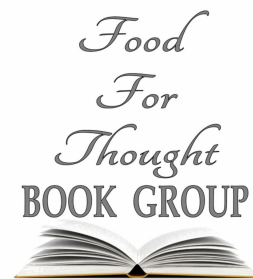
Thursday, December 2, 6:30 p.m., Zoom

Theme: Conquering Loneliness

The Brilliant Life of Eudora Honeysett by Annie Lyons.

Click the image link for this year's schedule and reading list. (The 2021-2022 Reading List is also available!)

Contact Kathy Paquette, khesspaquette@aol.com, for the Zoom ID#.

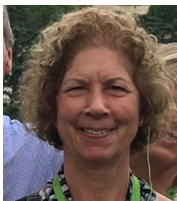


The Joy Class

Sundays, 8:30 a.m.-9:30 a.m., Zoom

Study: *First Corinthians: Searching the Depths of God* by Jaime Clark-Soles. This class is open to all and always enjoys new faces.

Contact Rebecca Guzman, rebecca@smpchome.org, for the Zoom ID#.



If your SMPC Small Group or MeetUp would like to host a ZOOM online meeting, or a socially-distanced gathering on SMPC's campus, please contact Nancy Metzler, Director of Hospitality & Connection at nancy@smpchome.org.

Also, if you are interested in formally joining the SMPC family, Nancy would love to speak with you!

WORSHIP MINISTRY

Would you like to provide flowers?

The 2021-2022 sign-up calendar to provide flowers for Sunday Worship is available [HERE](#).

You may provide your own arrangement, have a florist supply your arrangement, or make a donation to the Sanctuary Building Fund and the Worship Committee will provide the flowers.

Questions? Contact Karen Malmut, karenmalmut@yahoo.com, 704-591-9496.

GIVING



2022 Operating Fund Campaign

Click the image above to pledge online.

Questions? Contact Mary Katheryne Zagora, mkzagora@smpchome.org.

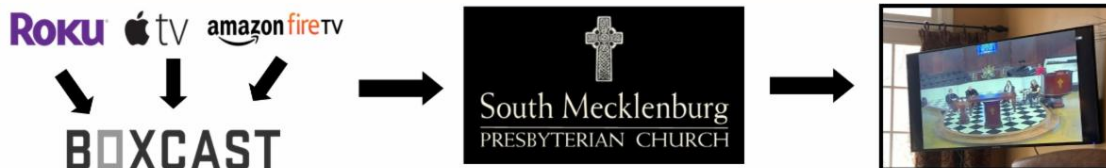
STAYING CONNECTED

Visit our Website



LIVE STREAMING WORSHIP
SUNDAYS, 10:10 A.M.

**ON WWW.SMPCHOME.ORG, THE BOXCAST APP ON YOUR TV,
AND FACEBOOK LIVE.**



If you have ROKU, Apple TV, or Amazon Fire TV, you will now find SMPC among the offerings on the BOXCAST channel.

- ◆ Initialize your streaming service.
(ROKU, Apple TV, or Amazon Fire TV)
- ◆ Find BOXCAST in your Channel Store, adding it to your channels.
- ◆ Open the BOXCAST channel, and search for *South Mecklenburg Presbyterian Church*.
- ◆ You may watch live or choose past worship services.
- ◆ Using your remote, choose SMPC as a “favorite”.



8601 Bryant Farms Road Charlotte, North Carolina 28277 704.544.0404

www.smpchome.org

Join our mailing
list!

South Mecklenburg Presbyterian Church | 8601 Bryant Farms Rd., Charlotte, NC 28277

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with



