



South Mecklenburg PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

A Service of Worship

Day of Pentecost

May 31, 2020, 10:10 a.m.

WE GATHER

PRELUDE *Partita on Come, Holy Ghost, God and Lord: I. Processional*
Kevin Hildebrand

WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH Dr. Matthew S. Brown

One: The Lord be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

MOMENT FOR CAPITAL CAMPAIGN Greg Hobby

INTROIT *Hail Thee, Festival Day!* Ralph Vaughan Williams

CALL TO WORSHIP Rev. Whitney Bayer

One: Come to Jesus, you who are thirsty.

Many: **Alleluia!**


One: Drink deeply of the Holy Spirit.

Many: **Alleluia!**


One: Let your heart overflow with the living water that renews the face of the earth.

All: **Alleluia! Thanks be to God.**


HYMN

Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken



1 Glo - rious things of thee are spo - ken, Zi - on, cit - y of our God.
 2 Round each hab - i - ta - tion hov - ering, see the cloud and fire ap - pear
 3 See, the streams of liv - ing wa - ters, spring-ing from e - ter - nal love,



God, whose word can - not be bro - ken, formed thee for a blest a - bode.
 for a glo - ry and a cov - ering, show-ing that the Lord is near.
 well sup - ply thy sons and daugh - ters and all fear of want re - move.



On the rock of a - ges found-ed, what can shake thy sure re - pose?
 Thus de - riv - ing from their ban - ner light by night and shade by day,
 Who can faint while such a riv - er ev - er flows, their thirst to as - suage?



With sal - va - tion's walls sur - round-ed, thou may'st smile at all thy foes.
 safe they feed up - on the man - na which God gives them when they pray.
 Grace, so like the Lord the giv - er, nev - er fails from age to age.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

Rev. Bayer

God of new creation, we confess that we have failed to trust your bountiful goodness. By the power of the Holy Spirit you brought forth the earth and its creatures in abundance. Yet, we hoard earth's resources and refuse to share your gifts. We dishonor your generosity by withholding our charity to those in need. We betray your kindness by dealing harshly with our enemies. We disregard your compassion by severely judging the sins of others. Forgive us. By the power of your Spirit renew our hearts and free us from sins that we may enjoy the fullness of your blessing upon all creation. (silence)

Leader: Trusting your mercy, we lift these prayers to you in the name of Jesus Christ, our Redeemer. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S GRACE

Rev. Bayer

RESPONSE OF PRAISE

Gloria Patri

*Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen. Amen. Amen.*

WE HEAR AND RESPOND TO THE WORD

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Heather Wojick

Brooks Hamilton Wojick

Son of Heather and Brad Wojick

Representing the Session: Greg Hobby

CHURCH FAMILY MOMENT

Rev. Bayer

1. The Holy Spirit is sometimes described as wind. When we are worshiping together in the sanctuary, we have scarfs for you to wave during hymns that reminds us that the spirit is present. Using your ribbon or streamers, make something to wave during hymns at home.
2. Learn the story of Pentecost by watching this video: <https://whatsinthebible.com/what-is-pentecost/>.
3. Journal and consider these questions:
 - a. In the scripture today, Jesus says that “living water” will flow out of the heart of believers. Where else do we see water in the Bible?
 - b. Have you ever been really thirsty? What was it like when you finally got some water to drink? How is Jesus like living water?
 - c. What does your soul thirst for? Is that an easy or difficult question to answer? Why or why not?
 - d. Choose one: wind, fire, dove. All of these are symbols of the Holy Spirit. How is the Holy Spirit like the symbol you chose?

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

Dr. Brown

READING FROM THE OLD TESTAMENT

Isaiah 44:1-4

But now hear, O Jacob my servant, Israel whom I have chosen! Thus says the Lord who made you, who formed you in the womb and will help you: Do not fear, O Jacob my servant, Jeshurun whom I have chosen. For I will pour water on the thirsty land, and streams on the dry ground; I will pour my spirit upon your descendants, and my blessing on your offspring. They shall spring up like a green tamarisk, like willows by flowing streams.

READING FROM THE NEW TESTAMENT

John 7:37-39

On the last day of the festival, the great day, while Jesus was standing there, he cried out, "Let anyone who is thirsty come to me, and let the one who believes in me drink. As the scripture has said, 'Out of the believer's heart shall flow rivers of living water.' " Now he said this about the Spirit, which believers in him were to receive; for as yet there was no Spirit, because Jesus was not yet glorified.

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Living Water, Holy Spirit

Dr. Brown

SPECIAL MUSIC

Fill Me, Lord

Brad Nix

Jane Royther, Laura Hancock, Collin Sinclair, and David Kinsey, quartet
Zach Bowyer, bongos and soloist

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (unison)

From: **A Brief Statement of Faith**
Rev. Bayer

We trust in God the Holy Spirit, everywhere the giver and renewer of life. The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith, sets us free to accept ourselves and to love God and neighbor, and binds us together with all believers in the one body of Christ, the Church. The same Spirit who inspired the prophets and apostles rules our faith and life in Christ through Scripture, engages us through the Word proclaimed, claims us in the waters of baptism, feeds us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation, and calls women and men to all ministries of the church. In a broken and fearful world the Spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing, to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior, to unmask idolatries in Church and culture, to hear the voices of peoples long silenced, and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace. In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit, we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and joyful lives, even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth, praying, "Come, Lord Jesus!"

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER (unison)

Rev. Bayer

. . . "Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors, and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever." Amen.

TIME FOR OFFERINGS AND REFLECTION

Tongues of Fire (Pentecost Dance)

Alfred V. Fedak

Online giving option: As an alternative to the traditional offering plate, you may support the ministries of SMPC using your mobile device by texting SMPC to **73256** or give online at <https://secure.accessacs.com/access/oglogin.aspx?sn=138679>

Please remit all giving and financial correspondence to: P. O. Box 79321, Charlotte, NC 28271

DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION (unison)

Dr. Brown

Holy God, Breath of life, Water for life, we give you thanks for the movement of your Spirit, which awakens us to your presence, draws us into community, calls us into service, and equips us for ministry. Trusting your goodness and wisdom, we offer these gifts and our lives to you. Continue to shape and direct us in ways that are pleasing to you and healing for your creation. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

WE GO OUT TO SERVE

HYMN

As the Wind Song

1 As the wind song through the trees, as the
2 As the rain - bow af - ter rain, as the

stir - ring of the breeze, so it is with the Spir - it of
hope that's born a - gain, so it is with the Spir - it of

God, as the heart made strange-ly warm, as the
God, as the green in the spring, as a

voice with - in the storm, so it is with the Spir - it of
kite on a string, so it is with the Spir - it of

God. Nev - er seen, ev - er known where this wind has
God, mak - ing worlds that are new, mak - ing peace come

blown bring - ing life, bring - ing power to the world,
true, bring - ing gifts, bring - ing love to the world,

as the danc - ing tongues of fire, as the soul's most deep de -
as the ris - ing of the yeast, as the wine at the

sire, so it is with the Spir - it of God.
feast, so it is with the Spir - it of God.

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

Dr. Brown

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

*Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place,
I can feel his mighty power and his grace.
I can hear the brush of angels' wings, I see glory on each face.
Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place.*

*Surely the presence of the Lord is in our hearts,
We can feel the bond of family though we're apart.
We will go and do the work of God as from worship we depart.
Surely the presence of the Lord is in our hearts. Amen.*

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WORSHIP NOTES

Our Mission . . . to seek God's will for our lives,
joyfully responding to the Good News of Jesus Christ with Love and Grace.

Stop by Coffee Grounds ONLINE after worship today!

After streaming our worship service live, join us anytime between 11:30 a.m. and 12:00 p.m.
to see familiar faces and perhaps meet someone new.

Email Nancy Metzler, nancy@smpchome.org for the Zoom ID#.

Leading Worship this Morning

Dr. Matthew S. Brown, Pastor

Rev. Whitney Bayer, Associate Pastor of Congregational Care

Zach Bowyer, Director of Music and Organist

Greg Hobby, Elder

Quartet: Laura Hancock, David Kinsey, Jane Royther, Collin Sinclair

A/V: Kari Case and Harrison Case

Online giving option: As an alternative to the traditional offering plate, you may support the ministries of SMPC using your mobile device by texting SMPC to **73256** or give online at <https://secure.accessacs.com/access/oglogin.aspx?sn=138679>

In this time of social distancing, we want to stay connected with you! If you don't receive our weekly email, generally sent out on Thursday mornings, contact Nancy Metzler, Director of Hospitality and Connection, nancy@smpchome.org. This email contains information about upcoming worship services and church activities, as well as messages from our pastors and staff. Also, check us out on Facebook: www.facebook.com/southmecklenburgpresbyterian. This link works even if you don't have a Facebook account, and you can view photos, videos, and other church communications.

Interested in joining South Mecklenburg Presbyterian Church? Through the gift of technology our Session will gather to welcome new members on June 28 at 11:30 a.m. Please consider joining our church family in this nontraditional yet meaningful way. To learn more, contact Nancy Metzler, Director of Hospitality and Connection, nancy@smpchome.org or 980-265-2839.

Congregational Notes (as of May 27, 2020)

Remember in Prayer

- The family of Lois Harvey who entered the Church Triumphant May 22 including her daughter Lisa and family Brian, Lauren and Alyssa Richardson.
- Our church, our community, our country, and the world as we face this world-wide pandemic.
- Our mission partners in Bayonnais, Haiti.

To join the prayer chain or send a prayer request: prayer@SMPChome.org.

Church office: 704-544-0404

Preschool office: 704-544-9831

Dr. Matthew S. Brown, Pastor matt@smpchome.org	980-265-2834
Rev. Whitney Bayer, Associate Pastor of Congregational Care whitney@smpchome.org	980-265-2835
Zach Bowyer, Director of Music and Organist zach@smpchome.org	980-265-2838
Rebecca Guzman, Director of Spiritual Formation rebecca@smpchome.org	980-265-2837
Nancy Metzler, Director of Hospitality and Connection nancy@smpchome.org	980-265-2839
Donna Rogers, Director of Communications donna.rogers@smpchome.org	980-265-2831
Freda H. Smith, Administrator freda@smpchome.org	980-265-2843
Rev. Jessica Tidwell, Director of Youth Ministry jessica@smpchome.org	980-265-2836
Mary Katheryne Zagora, Financial Administrator mkzagora@smpchome.org	980-265-2840
Carol Watkins, Director of SMPC Preschool carol.watkins@smpchome.org	980-265-2845



South Mecklenburg Presbyterian Church

8601 Bryant Farms Road • Charlotte, North Carolina 28277 • 704.544.0404

*Please remit all giving and financial correspondence to:
Post Office Box 79321, Charlotte, NC 28271*

www.SMPChome.org

OUR JOURNEY THROUGH A TRYING TIME

My eyes are spent with weeping; my stomach churns; my bile is poured out on the ground because of the destruction of my people ... The thought of my affliction and my homelessness is wormwood and gall! My soul continually thinks of it and is bowed down within me. But this I call to mind, and therefore I have hope: The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases, his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness. "The Lord is my portion," says my soul, "therefore I will hope in him.

- Lamentations 2:11; 3:19-24



Among the great gifts we have inherited from the Hebrew Bible (The Old Testament) are the profound and unvarnished ways they grant us the permission to grieve. In the Psalms, through the laments of Jeremiah, and out of the plaintive sorrows of the preacher in Lamentations, we discern a God big enough to absorb the rawest emotions our grief can generate. Maybe that's why I've long been confused by the cultural practice sunglasses at the funeral. All vanities aside, there is no need to hide our tears from God. Piety and grief are not mutually exclusive. Indeed, in our deepest grief there is no one who wants to offer the warmth of embrace more than God. As David Wilcox sang, "If he felt the nails in his hands, he surely knows how you feel." Grief is not contrary to faith. In fact, grief is a sign of faith, possibly an outward expression of the inner knowledge that life matters, a treasure to be celebrated, and in death a loss to mourn. Our grief is not a denial of God's eternal promises. It just hurts, and it is okay to say so.

As our nation reels from the loss of 100,000 to the rage of the Covid-19, we can only begin to imagine the legion of those wilting under the weight of sorrow. Though we cannot heal their grief, we can share their lament, trusting that the One who loves us most fully, grieves with them and will not let them go. In the words of the Psalmist, "Why are you cast down, O my soul, and why are you disquieted within me? Hope in God; for I shall again praise him, my help and my God." Psalms of praise will come, but when we just do not have the voice to praise, God is still present to hear our lament. May the Lord bless and keep those for whom the whelming of sorrow is raw and real for now.

Grace and Peace,

Matt

Dr. Matt Brown's
BIBLE STUDY

Matt invites you to join him for a weekly Bible Study via Zoom.

Each week we focus on the Bible passage that will guide worship for the coming Sunday. You can join us on Wednesdays at either 9:30 a.m. or 6:30 p.m.

If you would like to participate, email Matt, matt@smpchome.org, and he will send you a Zoom Invitation.

WHERE IS GOD
IN A PANDEMIC?



WEBINAR: WHERE IS GOD IN A PANDEMIC?

Understanding and Responding to Suffering

Thursday, May 28,

7:00 p.m., ZOOM



You are invited to a virtual webinar led by Dr. Richard Boyce, Vice President and Dean, Union Presbyterian Seminary in Charlotte. Save the date: Thursday, May 28 at 7:00 p.m. This webinar is co-hosted by Union Presbyterian Seminary and by four congregations whose pastors are members of a Text study group including Jody Welker. Richard is in the group as well. Sponsoring congregations are: the Kirk of Kildaire, Palma Ceia Presbyterian in Tampa, South Mecklenburg Presbyterian in Charlotte, and Park Lake Presbyterian in Orlando.

Richard will offer a brief presentation on the topic of God and suffering in light of the pandemic. Then he wishes to engage in dialogue via your questions.

We invite your questions for Dr. Boyce prior to the event. You can email your questions to Dr. Matt Brown, matt@smpchome.org. Click here to connect to the webinar: <https://zoom.us/j/99520368686>



WEAR RED for Pentecost



Look for this post on our Facebook page, and post your photos in the comments!

Pentecost Sunday!

Please wear red, orange, or yellow on Pentecost Sunday and [visit our Facebook page](#) to post your Pentecost worship attire.

Come, holy spirit!

No matter your age, you may appreciate this beautiful coloring page: <https://www.illustratedministry.com/2020/pentecost-coloring-page-holy-spirit/>

SPIRITUAL FORMATION MINISTRY

from the desk of Rebecca Guzman, Director of Spiritual Formation



Check your email for the ZOOM link, or email rebecca@smpchome.org.

Kids Zoom Pentecost Meetup
Sunday May 31
11:15 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

Join Rebecca for a quick kids zoom meetup to watch a special Pentecost video and show off your Pentecost projects. Check your email for a zoom link or [email Rebecca](#) if you don't receive one.



[Contact Rebecca Guzman here.](#)



Faith Practice at Home

Click on the link to Faith Practice at Home for a pdf with five easy steps to hear the week's Bible story and to engage it as a household. Do this anytime before worship at 10:10 a.m. on Sundays, and you'll be amazed at the new things you might notice in the flow of worship, the liturgy, and in the sermon – all because you've taken some time to know the story! *Click on the Faith Practice at Home logo above!*



Listen to this week's FaithCAST!

Click the image above to listen.



3rd-5th Grade Trivia
Sunday June 7
4:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m., ZOOM

Join your friends for a fun Disney Universe themed trivia (includes Marvel and Star Wars). There will be a prize! Sign up at <https://www.signupgenius.com/>

**FOR WORSHIP,
CHILDREN WILL NEED:**

Paper

Pencil

Crayons/Markers/Colored Pencils

Ribbons or streamers

Connected device to watch a YouTube video



**REGISTER
NOW**

VIRTUAL Grandparent Camp
June 10-12

Grandparent camp is for children ages 5+ and their grandparents. Each grandparent can accompany up to two children for three mornings of worship, storytelling, play, creativity, and mission.

Grandparent camp will be modified in 2020 and offered virtually, so all participants will need access to a device.

Supplies will be packaged for pickup before camp. Grandparents and grandchildren do not need to be in the same home. [Sign up on MySMPC](#) and [contact Rebecca Guzman](#) with questions.

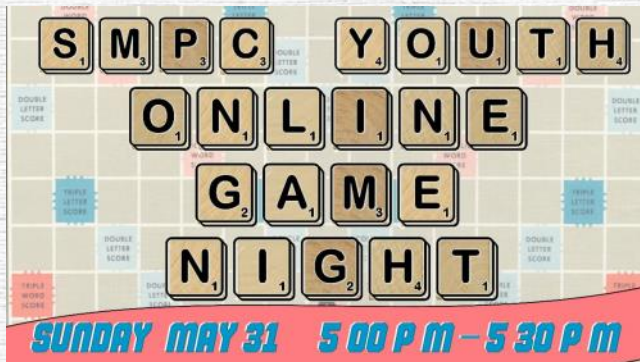
Deadline to register is June 1 so we can order and put together kits.

Children!

Be sure to check your email on Saturday mornings for resources for parents to use with children on Sunday mornings! If you are not receiving the emails, please [contact Rebecca Guzman](#).

YOUTH MINISTRY

from the desk of Rev. Jessica Tidwell, Director of Youth Ministry



Youth Game Night

Sunday, May 31

5:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.

Check the Youth email for the ZOOM link
or email jessica@smpchome.org.



[Contact
Rev. Jessica Tidwell
here.](#)

MEMBERSHIP MINISTRY

from the desk of Nancy Metzler, Director of Hospitality & Connection



Looking for ways to stay better connected with your church family? If you haven't already, check out *Church Life*! You can view the church calendar and membership directory, stay up-to-date on current events and classes, and make financial contributions.

If you've never used *Church Life* and don't have a user name and password, go to the church website, www.smpchome.org, and click on the [Church Life logo](#) (left). Follow the prompts to enter your first name, last name and email address; these must match the information we have on record for you. You will receive a password via email, which must be changed with your first successful login. You may then enter a password of your choice.

Once you have a user name and password, you can download the *Church Life* app to your smart phone or device. You will have instant access to SMPC contacts and events anytime, anywhere – use it to view people (including photos) and make phone calls or send emails to them with just one click.

[Click here for step-by-step instructions.](#)

If you have any questions, please let me know! Nancy Metzler, nancy@smpchome.org or 980-265-2839.

MeetUP: Coffee Grounds ONLINE

Sunday, May 31

11:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m., ZOOM

This Sunday, pop in/out to **Coffee Grounds ONLINE!** After streaming our worship service live, email Nancy Metzler, nancy@smpchome.org for the Zoom ID# to see familiar faces and perhaps meet someone new.



[Contact Nancy Metzler here.](#)

ONLINE GIVING



Many of our donors feel a connection to the church's work when they are able to place their gift in our offering plates and then dedicate those offerings through prayer with the congregation. This is an important practice and an important part of our worship services. Many other donors appreciate the convenience and discipline of online giving, and those gifts, too, are dedicated through prayer during the worship services each week. For the next several weeks, while meeting together is not possible, the church would like to encourage either **online giving** (options and instructions below) or **mailing gifts** to our P.O. Box 79321, Charlotte, NC 28271.

For questions or help with online giving, contact Mary Katheryne Zagora in the church office, mkzagora@smpchome.org or 704-544-0404 ext 116.

To give online:

1. [Click HERE](https://secure.accessacs.com/access/oglogin.aspx?sn=138679): <https://secure.accessacs.com/access/oglogin.aspx?sn=138679>
2. Enter the amount you would like to give, and then select a fund from the drop-down menu.

Most gifts will be to the Operating Fund. For Spoon it Up donations, select "Other" and type Spoon it Up in the memo box.

3. Enter your email address and click continue. On the next screen you will be prompted to enter your debit card, credit card, or bank account information.
4. Click "Give."

To give via text:

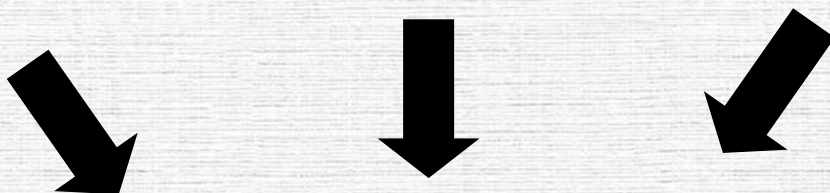
1. Text SMPC to 73256.
2. Click the link in the reply text you will receive.
3. Enter the amount you would like to give and tap the "Text Gifts" box.
4. You will be prompted to enter your debit card, credit card, or bank account information.
5. Click "Give."

To set up a recurring online gift:

1. Log in to ChurchLife and select "Give Online" from the "Giving" drop down menu.
2. Enter the amount you would like to give, and then select a fund from the drop-down menu.
3. Choose the frequency of your gift amount (weekly, semi-monthly, monthly, quarterly).
4. Enter your debit card, credit card, or bank account information and click "Give."

Staying Connected

ROKU  **amazon** **fireTV**

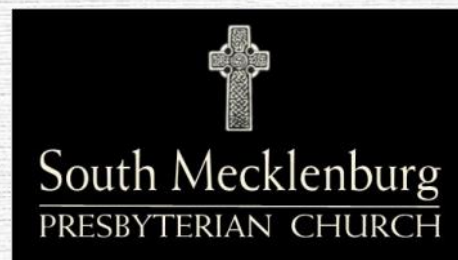


BOXCAST



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".



Staying Connected

South Mecklenburg Presbyterian Church is employing various avenues of technology to keep us connected and informed.

Our worship staff, careful to maintain social distance, are gathering in our Sanctuary on Sunday mornings to create a worship experience through live streaming. Access to live streaming has been expanded across several communication channels to make it even easier to join in worship.



Our website, www.smpchome.org has been revamped to shift our live and past worship services to the forefront. From the home page of the website, we can join in worship, view the worship bulletin, and participate in online giving. Our website is viewable in both desktop and mobile versions.



We are also taking full advantage of our existing Facebook page (www.facebook.com/southmecklenburgpresbyterian) by live streaming our worship service, sharing announcements and updates, and creating “Noon Prayer”, a Facebook Live video leading us in prayer at 12:00 p.m. each Wednesday. Be sure to “like” our page.



If you use the streaming services ROKU, Apple TV, or Amazon Fire TV, you can now view our live and past worship services by adding BOXCAST from your channel store. Search for “South Mecklenburg Presbyterian Church”, mark it as favorite, and watch from your television. (See instructions on the previous page.)



Our staff, committees, studies and groups are using ZOOM, a video conferencing platform to meet “face-to-face”. If your group is interested in this format, please contact Rev. Jessica Tidwell, jessica@smpchome.org, or Rebecca Guzman, rebecca@smpchome.org, for details.





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PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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Charlotte, NC 28277