

grapevine



Sedgefield Presbyterian Church

4216 Wayne Road Greensboro, NC 27407 336-299-4061

MARCH 2023

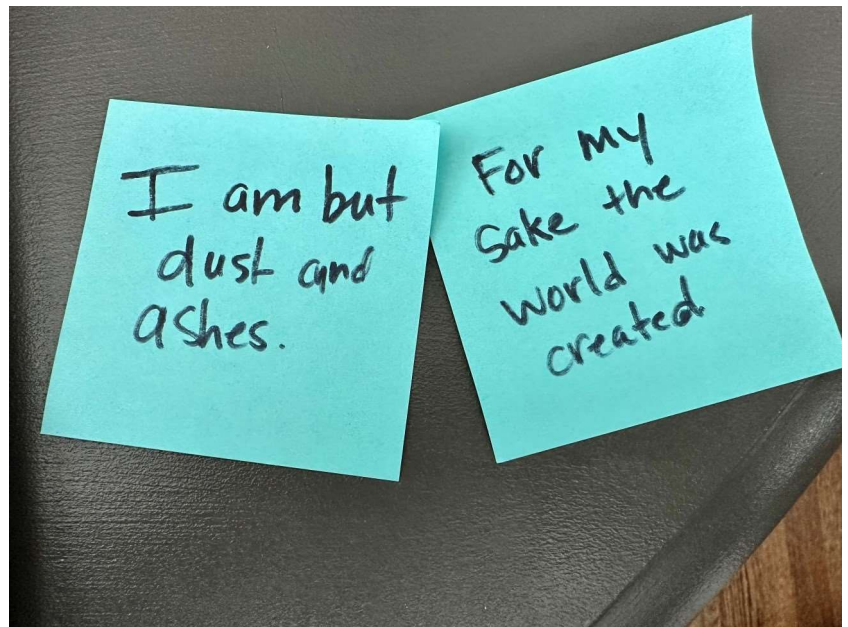
*Have mercy on me, O God,
according to your steadfast love;
according to your abundant mercy
blot out my transgressions. Psalm 51:1*



Just last week we kicked off the Lenten Season with ashes smudged on our foreheads. Sometimes, Ash Wednesday feels like a scam to me. Throughout the year we study scripture, we follow Jesus, we think about what has to die within us so that we can have life. We are created in the image of God, living and breathing and trying our best to share God's love with one another. And today, we are told we will die, that our life is fragile and finite.

And all the other days the world tells us to take vitamins, to eat better, to exercise, to sleep more, to reduce stress in our lives so that we can live forever. We buy into the message that our best days are still ahead of us. We spend an incredible amount of time and money to prolong our lives- and last week we heard the words, "you are dust and to dust you will return."

But as the poet Jan Richardson tells us that we are created for Ash Wednesday, we are built for this, that we are to only turn our face towards the one who calls to us. This is good news, this should allow us to take a deep breath. This season we face and admit our own mortality, that God is God and we are not. We do not have to attempt to manage our own brokenness, and now we are pushed to step into the deep and holy mystery of Christian life.



Let me suggest one of my favorite ways (I have shared this before) to practice the Lenten season. Simcha Bunim was a Jewish rabbi who lived in Poland in the 1700s. He is best known for what might be called the parable of the two pockets. The parable begins with two slips of paper. On one slip is written, "I am dust and ashes." On the other slip is written, "For my sake the world was created." These two slips of paper are meant to be carried around in two pockets.

Rabbi Bunim said, "Everyone must have two pockets, with a note in each pocket, so that he or she can reach into the one or the other, depending on the need. When feeling lowly and depressed, discouraged or disconsolate, one should reach into the right pocket, and, there, find the words: 'For my sake was the world created.' But when feeling high and mighty one should reach into the left pocket, and find the words: 'I am dust and ashes.'"

I challenge you this Lenten season to carry two notes, because we are both at once. For us to experience what God can do with dust, we must continue to stay the journey even when there seems to be no answers or conclusions to the question.

Blessings on your journey.

Kim

Happy Birthday to:

- 2 Mason Slomka
- 4 Sonya Charters
- 5 Cindy Bilbro
- 10 Kim Ambrosio
- 11 Leisa Huddleston
Doug Younts
- 12 Eric Hayes
- 13 Barbara Barker
- 14 Jonathan Perry
- 18 Cassandra Angelo
- 20 Anna Matto
- 24 Wade Burch
- 28 Eric Wilkerson
Kate Priddy
Aleesa Ambrosio
- 30 Page Hyers
- 31 Gene Lester



BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

Happy Anniversary to:

Norma & Rosalino Matto
March 12

Jennifer & Joe Messer
March 20

This Month's Highlights

- Every First Sunday, Pennies for Hunger, Communion
- Every 4th Sunday, Benevolence Basket passed, Youth at Potter's House
- Every Tuesday evening, Boy Scout Troop 8 meets

Wednesday, March 1 Women's luncheon at Sammy G's Tavern

Saturday, Mar 4 & 25 Playground Workday

Sunday March 52nd Sunday in Lent

Monday, March 6 Happy Anniversary to our Little Library!

Sunday, March 123rd Sunday in Lent;
Daylight Saving Time Begins—Spring Forward!

Sunday, March 19 ...4th Sunday in Lent

Saturday, March 25.. Playground Workday

Sunday, March 265th Sunday in Lent

Tuesday, March 28... Women meet at Bon-Bons 6 pm



March	Lay Reader	Usher
5	Ben Hadley	Hadleys
12	Zoe Dillard	Bruce Biingham
19	Myra Montgomery	Bruce Bingham
26	Jef Morgan	Bruce Bingham

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Elders

Session Class of 2023:

David Boger
Ellen Morton

Session Class of 2024:

Karen Johnson
Tim Saunders

Session Class of 2025:

Meghan Hadley
Zoe Dillard



Set your clocks
**FORWARD ONE
HOUR**
on
**Sunday, March 12,
2023**



Session Snippets

From February 20, 2023 meeting

- Session approved the proposed playground enhancement project. Information to be shared with the congregation and preschool families.
- Session would like to host a conversation about what it means to be Presbyterian.
- The Financial Reports are posted outside the church office.
- Elder on Call for March: Meghan Hadley



Continue to keep in your prayers:

God calls us to be a praying people. Being in a faith community together, we join our hearts and voices to offer our prayers for one another and God. Continue to keep in your prayers:



- Russell Gray
- Jenny Gray
- Allen Gray
- Julie Gehling
- Pat Martin (sister of Frances Wolfe)
- Classie Meredith
- Ned McMillan
- Haley Niblock and Dawson Caldwell Niblock (Frances Wolfe's granddaughter and great grandson)
- Dale Walker
- Sarah Freeman

- Jack Hester (Kathy Saunders' father)
- Helen Boyer (Karen Johnson's mother)
- Ross Ramsay (Diane Weeks' father)
- Joann Smith
- Cathy Stinnette (Diane Weeks' sister, in critical condition with pneumonia)
- Elaine Pfefferkorn (Kim's mother)
- Eric Wilkerson (nephew of Gordon and Ruby Johnson)

Note: Prayer requests should be sent to the church office at office@sedgefieldpresbyterian.org.





Please join us at 10 a.m. each Sunday as we continue to learn more about the needs in our community and how we can respond. First, Karen Johnson explained to the Sunday School Class what **Sunday Serve** is and who it serves and she invited the class to help by providing food items that can be included in the meals.

Next, **Officer Sam Alvarez from the Greensboro Police Department** visited to tell us about his journey from Cuba and the Community Resource Unit where he is currently serving. He and fellow officers visit the **Summer Lunch Program** each summer at Colt's Run Apartments. We will have a broader dialog with Officer Alvarez and other police officers one afternoon (to be announced) in the near future.

We have invited **Mickie Dew (Frank Dew's wife)** to join us one Sunday soon to inform us about the Mustard Seed Community Health, a clinic located near A&T which provides free medical and mental health care for low income individuals. Mickie is a member of the board for Mustard Seed.

We also hope Neil Dorman, who is a board member of the Interactive Resource Center (IRC) in Greensboro, will join one Sunday to tell us about the mission of IRC..

Dates will be announced when scheduled.



Christian Education



All children are invited to join us for worship in the sanctuary. After the Time for Children, they are invited to leave with their teacher for a special lesson and/or craft.



Making Valentines for those unable to come to church was one of the activities offered during Children's Church.



Sedgefield Presbyterian Church

Kim Priddy, Pastor 336-299-4061/cell 336-587-5978 Pastorkimspc@gmail.com

Dr. Stephen A. Emberley, Music Director saemberley@gmail.com

Korina McGill, Preschool Director 336-299-5353/cell 336-210-2132 sppreschool@hotmail.com

Rev. Frank Dew, Peace and Justice Advocate

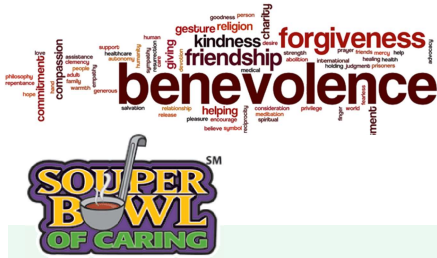
Church Email: office@sedgefieldpresbyterian.org

Church Website: www.sedgefieldpresbyterian.org



URGENT

Benevolence Fund With the increased need for assistance with rent, utilities, and water bills more requests from Guilford Congregational Assistance Network (GCAN) and GUM are anticipated. Please continue to contribute to our Benevolence Fund as you are able. Thank you for your continued support of this very important ministry!!



Thank you to those who contributed to the “Souper Bowl” offering last Sunday. It has been our church’s tradition since 1993 to receive an offering on Super Bowl Sunday that benefits a local food pantry or soup kitchen. \$250 was received on Souper Bowl Sunday and has been donated to the Spartan Open Pantry for UNC-G/Greensboro College to benefit students who are struggling to have enough food.

Since this offering began in 1992, more than \$170 million has been contributed to local food pantries throughout the US. If you would like to make a contribution, you can put your offering in a container that is the back of the sanctuary or drop it off at the church office. Many people still struggle to find food. Thanks for your support!

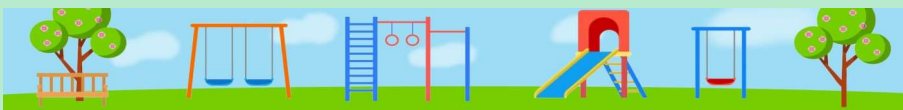
Bread for the World News



breadfortheworld
HAVE FAITH. END HUNGER.

On **Sunday, March 26th**, Eugene Cho, the President of Bread for the World, will be speaking at Duke Chapel. If you are interested in attending in person, talk to Frank Dew. The service may be streamed from the Duke Chapel website.

Bread for the World will be advocating for Farm Bill legislation this year that prioritizes nutrition, equity, and sustainability in our food system-for all people. Our church will hold an Offering of Letters focused on the Farm Bill along with a celebration of benevolence ministries. The date is yet to be determined.



SPC PLAYGROUND ENHANCEMENT PROJECT

Calling all SPC Saints! Our church playground has fallen into disrepair and is in need of a little TLC and we need your help to get it back in good condition!

A group of volunteers has come together and devised a detailed plan for refurbishing the playground to make it a safe and inviting space, once again, for our preschool and church children to enjoy. The estimated cost of the playground renovation is **\$2,400 - \$3,000**. While the playground updates are definitely our first priority, there is also an extended vision for creating a covered picnic area in the unused field adjacent to the playground as a second phase of this project if extra funds become available. We think Spring is the perfect time to get started on this project and are excited to kick off this campaign.

Here's how you can participate!

Make a Donation
Donate funds to help cover expenses for materials and supplies for repairs and additions. You can donate online through Tithely (scan the QR code below) by selecting “Playground” in the dropdown menu or by check made out to SPC with “Playground” noted on the memo line.



Participate in one of our Playground Work Days
Work Days are currently scheduled for **March 4 and March 25** from **10:00 am - 3:00 pm** with lunch provided. Additional dates will be scheduled if needed. More details to come regarding specific needs for these dates.

Purchase Items from our Playground Wish List
Choose one or more items from the SPC Playground Wish List to purchase through our Amazon Registry (scan the QR code below). All items will be sent directly to the church.



Contact Ana Atwater at ana@theatwaters.com or 336-337-1577 with questions or suggestions

PLAYGROUND WORK DAYS

Please volunteer your labor to help with our playground project.

**Saturday, March 4 and
Saturday, March 25**

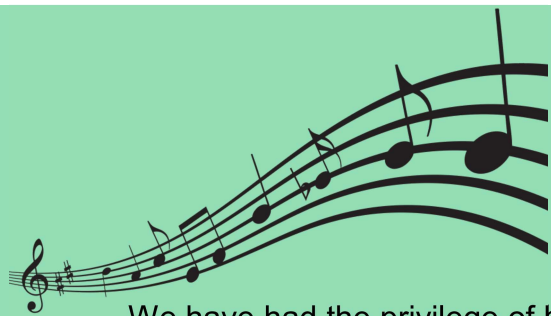
from 10 am—3 pm
Lunch provided.

If you plan to attend either of these workdays, please rsvp to **Meghan Hadley** at meghan.l.price@gmail.com or **336.707.9980** so we can plan our projects accordingly.

**THANKS IN ADVANCE
FOR YOUR SUPPORT!**

SPC Playground Enhancement Committee

Ana Atwater
Meghan Hadley
Lisa Cook
Korina McGill
Chip Burch
Ruby Johnson
Gordon Johnson
Ellen Morton



Upcoming Musical Performances

~A note from Dr. Stephen A Emberley, SPC Music Director

We have had the privilege of having several UNCG music students use their talents in our Sunday services. I enjoy coaching them throughout the week, and several of them will be giving their degree recitals. All recitals are in UNCG's Recital Hall on McIver Street in Greensboro. Junior recitals are 30-40 minutes long. Senior Recitals are 50-60 minutes long.

*Hannah McGuire: Thursday, March 16th at 5:30pm (music ed junior recital)

Megan Weiss: Sunday, March 19th at 3:30pm (music performance junior recital)

*Tahnai Hand: Mon, April 10th at 5:30pm (music ed junior recital)(was a sub a few weeks)

Michael Adams: Thursday, April 27th at 5:30pm (music performance junior recital)

*Hala Elalfy: Saturday, April 29th at 3:30pm (music performance senior recital)

* - denotes final recital before graduation or student teaching.



A note from the Music Director

About the Music Through Lent

Lent: preparation through drawing deeper and closer to the Creator for the upcoming celebration of Easter

I remember observing Lent while growing up. In a very non-Presbyterian faith tradition, the time seemed to me to be focused on shame, guilt, restriction and hopelessness. It was not my favorite season. Seeing the expansiveness of God invited me into deeper, and yes, more risky paths of faith as I became an adult. The Creator is wildly beyond our comprehension and control.

How do we draw deeper and closer to such Divine wildness?

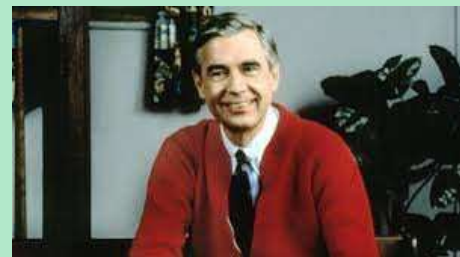
One way I've found helpful is to meditate on where I currently am in this moment. Not where I want to be or how I want the world to change or when I reach an arbitrary weight goal in the gym. We are not defined by labels, jobs, or our goals. Every small detail of our "now" is sacred - in the Beatitudes, Jesus blesses those in need, experiencing difficulty, serving others, doing the best they know to do, being persecuted for who they are. Not those who have it all together. Not those who have all the answers. But those in the wildernesses of life.

The Creator meets us where we are in our wilderness and blesses us. The music through Easter reflects this kaleidoscope of God meeting us in every moment. There are blessings, calls to serve, songs about how much God loves us, the comfort of Jesus as our Refuge. All of this to remind us we never walk alone.

What we seek in Lent to draw deeper and closer to has been present inside us all along.



Won't You Be My Neighbor Day is celebrated every year on **March 20**. The day honors, celebrates, and appreciates the late Fred Rogers, the immensely popular host of the preschool TV series "Mister Rogers' Neighborhood" which ran from 1968 to 2001. Although it has not aired for the past 22 years, many people still consider "Mister Rogers' Neighborhood" as the standard by which they measure all other kids' shows. The show is so iconic that those who grew up in the '70s and '80s would surely have watched Mister Rogers head to the Neighborhood of Make-Believe and sing songs with his puppet friends.





CHURCH CONNECTION

Volunteers at SPC gather regularly to send cards and goodies to our college students. Maintaining this connection is an important ministry. Students' addresses were printed in a previous Grapevine; if you would like another copy, please contact the office.



IN THE NEWS

Eagle Award

William Furman, son of Jimmy and Karen Furman and a member of Troop 316 at Mount Pisgah Church in Greensboro, has earned his Eagle Award.



For his project, Furman led a team of volunteer Scouts and leaders in building and installing three eight-foot benches at Latham Skatepark, providing a more inviting atmosphere and much needed seating for the many visitors of the park.

Women's Luncheon

Please join the women of the church for a luncheon on **Wednesday, March 1 at 11:30 am**



at Sammy G's Tavern
3800 Tinsley Drive
High Point

[https://
www.sammygtavern.com/](https://www.sammygtavern.com/)

Our nephew Eric Wilkerson is living in a new group home. **Eric would enjoy getting a note, or a birthday card (March 28) or anything concerning trains or weather** from his church family.

Our thanks for your continued support for Eric.

Mr. Eric C. Wilkerson
c/o RHA Inc.
6330 Highway 152 E.
Rockwell, NC 28138

**HAPPY
BIRTHDAY!**

Thanks—Ruby and Gordon Johnson

IMPORTANT NOTICE ABOUT WOMEN'S MONTHLY DINNERS

The women of the church will continue to meet each month for dinner. **BUT THE DAYS ARE BEING CHANGED TO TUESDAY EVENINGS at 6 pm.**

March dinner:
Tuesday, March 28
at Bon-Bon's

April dinner;
Tuesday, April 25 at
Box Seat

Please join us!



**2 Hot Dogs, Chips, Drink
\$ 6.00 !**

Every Tuesday
(January—November)
11:30 am —1:30 pm

**Hinshaw Methodist
Church,
4501 W. Gate City Blvd.**



Coming Events April & May



FLEA-ESTATE-RUMMAGE- GARAGE-WHATEVER SALE



is coming up ON
**FRIDAY AND SATURDAY,
MAY 5 & 6**

We have collected a massive amount of goods for this sale, and will need your help setting up AND with the actual sale..

Set up will begin after worship on **Sunday, April 30** and will continue the entire week of May 1 through the sale dates. We will also need volunteers to man the sale on Friday and Saturday, including cashiers and runners.

Please volunteer! Call Karen Johnson or Karen Younts with any questions.



On April 22nd SPC will be holding a Plant Sale!

If you have plants to donate, please bring them to the church before this date.

We are also looking for **donations of pots and lawn art**. Please contact Jef Morgan with questions.

