

# SOUTH MECK PRESS

LENT 2026

SOUTH MECKLENBURG PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



Join us for worship on Sundays at 10:10 am or via livestream  
Facebook: @southmecklenburgpresbyterian | Instagram: @southmeckpres | smpchome.org

## FROM OUR TRANSITIONAL PASTOR

**DR. SANDY HULL**

*"I am about to do a new thing," says the Lord. "Now it springs forth; do you not perceive it." (Isaiah 43:19).*

We are walking together along this path called transition. The uncertainties can make us anxious, but it is a time of great promise. God has done wonderful things at South Mecklenburg Presbyterian Church, and God goes ahead of us now. God has a bright future for SMPC, a future of increasing love for one another and increasing impact on our community and our world. May we be open to the new thing that God is doing!

Heartfelt thanks to all of you for welcoming me so graciously as I have begun my ministry as Transitional Pastor. Your enthusiasm and energy are a joy to behold and a blessing for me personally. Please continue to pray for our transition journey and for me as I seek to fulfill God's calling among you.

We are now entering the season of Lent, the season leading up to Holy Week and Easter. The forty days of Lent reflect the forty days Jesus spent alone in prayer in the wilderness. In our Lenten sermon series, "Living the Life," we will take Jesus' example seriously, exploring together the practices of the spiritual life that enable us to grow in our relationship with God and experience God's power as we seek to live out Jesus' love for all people.

I'm grateful to God for the opportunity to walk with you.

Grace and Peace,  
Sandy

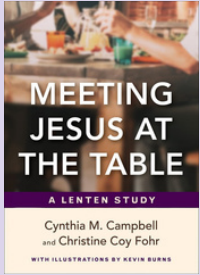


## Easter Sunday Worship

**APRIL 5**  
**9:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.**

Sanctuary & Livestream | smpchome.org  
Childcare provided for ages 3 and under

# EVERYONE IS WELCOME AT SMPCH



## MEETING JESUS AT THE TABLE

### LENTEN ADULT STUDY

Sundays beginning February 15, 9:00-10:00 a.m.,  
McQueen Room or Zoom

Register on Realm. Contact: Rev. Melissa White, melissa@smpchome.org.



## SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKE SUPPER

**Tuesday, February 17, 5:30-7:00 p.m., Mecklenburg Hall**

Bring your family and friends for a pancake feast as we prepare to journey through the Lenten season together. We will collect food donations to support our Center of Hope ministry: pancake mix (add water variety), syrup, Tang drink mix or lemonade and quick grits. \$5/person (maximum family cost of \$20). Register on Realm. Contact: Melissa White, melissa@smpchome.org.

## ASH WEDNESDAY

**Drive-Through Ashes -**

February 18, 7:30-9:15 a.m.,  
Church Parking Lot



**Worship Service -** February 18, 7:00 p.m., Sanctuary and Livestream, Childcare for ages 3 and under provided

## PALM SUNDAY

March 29, 10:10 a.m.  
Sanctuary & Livestream

## HOLY WEEK SPIRITUAL PRACTICES: SELF-GUIDED PRAYER STATIONS

March 30-April 2 - Anytime between 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., Sanctuary - Journey through self-guided prayer stations during Holy Week. Great for individuals or small groups. Contact: Rebecca Guzman, rebecca@smpchome.org.

## MAUNDY THURSDAY DINNER & COMMUNION



**Thursday, April 2, 6:00 p.m., Mecklenburg Hall** - Dinner will be served! We'll share communion and remember our Lord's gathering with His disciples on the night of His arrest when they broke bread together. Register on Realm. Contact: Melissa White, melissa@smpchome.org.

## GOOD FRIDAY TENEBRAE SERVICE

April 3, 7:30 p.m.  
Sanctuary & Livestream



## EASTER SUNDAY WORSHIP

Sunday, April 5  
9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.  
Sanctuary & Livestream



# 'LIVE THE LIFE' THIS LENTEN SEASON

Join us this Lent as we focus on spiritual practices - what they are and why they're an important part of our faith journeys. Here are some ideas!

- 1 Come to worship on Sundays at 10:10 a.m. or join us online** as we dive into a sermon series titled "Living the Life" - more below!
- 2 Join the SMPC Spiritual Discipline Lenten Reflections texts.** Beginning Ash Wednesday, you'll receive a faith prompt every day via text to invite you into a deeper relationship with God and with each other. Written by Rev. Lindsey Odom and Rebecca Guzman, and suitable for all ages. Text LENT2026SMPC to 84576 to join.
- 3 Reflect as a family with Lenten Faith Conversation Cards.** The Spiritual Discipline Lenten reflection texts will also be available as Faith Conversation Cards to help families engage in the daily spiritual disciplines together. Find them in the Connection Center or the church office beginning Sunday, February 15.
- 4 Scan the QR code to download a "bingo" sheet** where you can note spiritual practices you're already doing and find creative ways to practice new, fulfilling ways to deepen your relationship with God and others. Bingo sheets will also be available in the Connection Center beginning Sunday, February 15.
- 5 Journey through the self-guided prayer stations during Holy Week.** Monday, March 30-Thursdays, April 2, Anytime between 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. in the sanctuary. Great for individuals or small groups. Contact: Rebecca Guzman, [rebecca@smpchome.org](mailto:rebecca@smpchome.org).

## 'LIVING THE LIFE' LENTEN SCRIPTURES AND SERMONS



**February 22** - "Joining Jesus in the Desert" (Matthew 4:1-11) - Why Spiritual Practices Matter  
**March 1** - "Moved with Compassion" (Mark 1:40-45) - The Spiritual Practice of Serving  
**March 8** - "Beyond Words" (1 Kings 19:11-13) - The Spiritual Practice of Silence  
**March 15** - "Receiving God's Guidance" (Mark 1:29-39) - The Spiritual Practice of Discernment  
**March 22** - "For God's Sake, Stop!" (Genesis 2:1-3; Exodus 20:8-11) - The Spiritual Practice of Sabbath

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

**FEBRUARY 15 & MARCH 15, VARIOUS TIMES, SARDIS PRESBYTERIAN - ROOM IN THE INN**

**FEBRUARY 17, 5:30-7:00 PM, MECKLENBURG HALL - SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKE SUPPER**

**FEBRUARY 18, 7:30-9:15 AM, CHURCH PARKING LOT - ASH WEDNESDAY DRIVE-THROUGH ASHES**

**FEBRUARY 18, 7:00 PM, SANCTUARY & LIVESTREAM - ASH WEDNESDAY WORSHIP SERVICE**

**FEBRUARY 22, 9:00-10:00 AM, MECKLENBURG HALL - ALL-CHURCH LEARNS & SERVES WITH TIME OUT YOUTH**

**MARCH 6-8, MONTREAT - ALL-CHURCH RETREAT**

**MARCH 7, 8:00 AM-12:30 PM, THE COMMONS - AMERICAN RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE**

**MARCH 15, 5:00-6:30 PM, MECKLENBURG HALL - SMPC YOUTH & BAM! EASTER MEAL KITS & EGG HUNT**

**MARCH 20, 7:30 PM, SANCTUARY - STATELINE COMMUNITY ORCHESTRA PERFORMANCE**

**MARCH 21, 8:30AM-1:30 PM, CN JENKINS - PRESBYTERY DAY OF MISSION**

**MARCH 29, 10:10 AM WORSHIP - PALM SUNDAY**

**APRIL 2, 6:00 PM, MECKLENBURG HALL - MAUNDY THURSDAY DINNER & COMMUNION**

**APRIL 3, 7:30 PM, SANCTUARY & LIVESTREAM - GOOD FRIDAY TENEBRAE SERVICE**

**APRIL 5, 9:00 AM & 11:00 AM, SANCTUARY & LIVESTREAM - EASTER SUNDAY WORSHIP**

**APRIL 19, 10:10 AM WORSHIP, SANCTUARY - CONFIRMATION SUNDAY**

**MAY 17, 11:15 AM, MECKLENBURG HALL & CHURCH PARKING LOT - LUNCH ON THE GROUNDS**

**JUNE 7, 10:10 AM, SANCTUARY - GRADUATE SUNDAY**

**NOW REGISTERING!**  
**SMPC PRESCHOOL**  
AGES 2-TK  
[smpcpreschool.org](http://smpcpreschool.org)

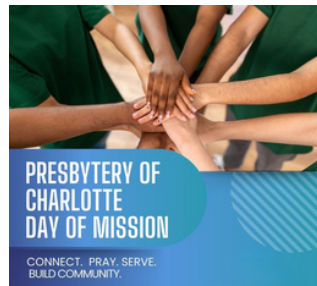




## JOIN THE CHARLOTTE PRESBYTERY DAY OF SERVICE

**Saturday, March 21, 8:30  
a.m.-1:30 p.m., CN Jenkins  
Memorial Presbyterian  
Church, 1421 Statesville  
Ave, Charlotte, NC 28206**

We hope to have at least  
50 people from SMPC  
serve!



We will have a carpool from SMPC at 7:45 a.m.  
Please register on Realm or via QR code so that we  
have an accurate SMPC headcount.



The Realm link also contains a link  
to register with the Presbytery,  
which will allow you give service  
preferences and dietary  
restrictions. Contact: Lindsey  
Odom, [lindsey@smpchome.org](mailto:lindsey@smpchome.org)

## MORE LENTEN SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

If your family is focusing on service this Lenten  
season, consider joining others at SMPC! Here are  
a few ideas! You can also go to  
[smpchome.org/serve](http://smpchome.org/serve) for more.



Be a child/youth liturgist during worship.



Volunteer or bring a food item for Room in the  
Inn on February 15 or March 15.



Assemble hygiene kits and learn more about  
Time Out Youth at the All-Church Learns and  
Serves on Sunday, February 22.



Make a dessert for Center of Hope guests  
and drop it off before worship on Sunday,  
March 14.



Make bag lunches for Roof Above and bring to  
the church on Saturday, February 28 or March  
28.



Sponsor a child from Haiti and write an email to  
him/her from your family.