

August 3, 2025

Guest Minister	The Reverend Betsy Lyles Swetenburg
Worship Leader	Steve Shelton
Flowers	Jeannie and Robert Fuller
Ushers	Cambey and Jim Gallagher
Minister's Hospitality	Sally and Tommy McElwee
Refreshments	Brad Bailey
Music	Cissy Shull
Bagpiper	Ella Markland

Website

Please visit the Wee Kirk website (www.weekirk.org) for information about our visiting ministers, church history, and benevolence. For information about volunteering, call or text Jim Gallagher at 704-315-8961. Past sermons also can be found on the website. For more information about sermon recordings, call or text Nancy Wechsler 214-609-0654.

Outreach

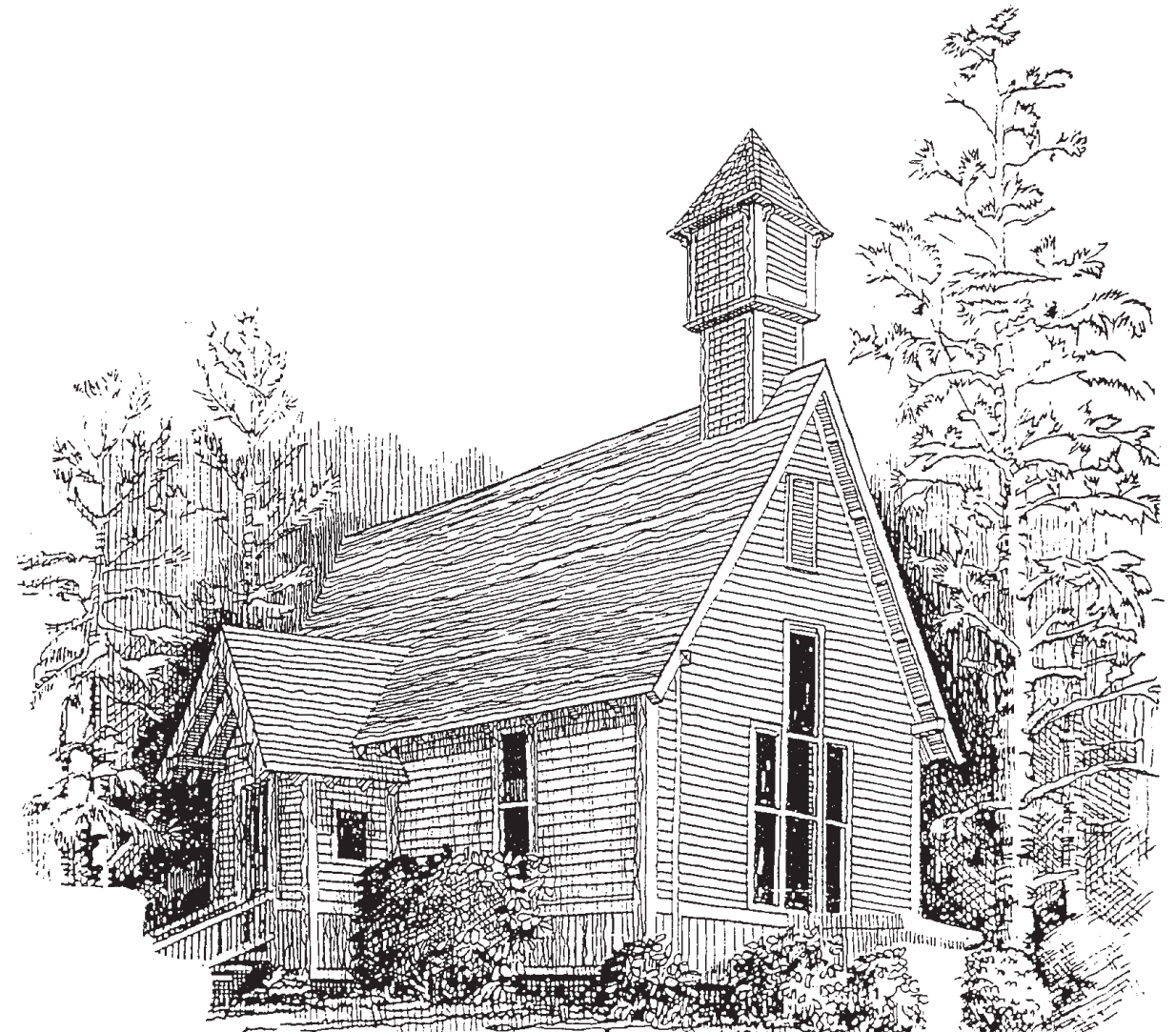
The vast majority of our gifts and offerings go to our Outreach Program, the focus of which is to serve the children and families in Avery County. Through your generosity, we provide funding for tutors in classrooms, swimming lessons for Pre-K and 2nd graders, essential needs, medical care, and enrichment programs, along with scholarship stipends for some Mayland Community College students. Thank you for your support.

Wee Kirk Presbyterian Church

Post Office Box 702, Linville, North Carolina 28646

Manse Phone Number: (828) 737-6918

Wee Kirk Presbyterian Church



Circa 1895

GUEST MINISTER

The Reverend Betsy Lyles Swetenburg

With pleasure today we welcome The Reverend Betsy Lyles Swetenburg and her husband Owen.

Betsy is the Pastor of Northridge Presbyterian Church in Dallas, TX, where she has served since July 2020. Prior to Northridge, Betsy served as an associate pastor at Trinity Presbyterian Church and as Director of Admissions and Financial Aid at Columbia Theological Seminary, both in Atlanta. Betsy graduated from Davidson College prior to attending Columbia Seminary.

She currently serves as: a member of the Montreat Retreat Association (Montreat) Board, chair of the board for the White Rock Center for Hope, a Dallas non-profit, and a facilitator for the Zick Preaching Scholars Program.

Her greatest joy is getting to travel through life with her husband, Owen, and sons, Harris (2) and Patterson (5 months). Betsy and Owen, both North Carolina natives, at times still find it hard to believe that they have two Texans. They have enjoyed finding every opportunity to expose them both to the wonders of their home state and are grateful for this week of continued NC indoctrination!

Reverend Swetenburg can be reached at betsys@northridgepc.org.

Next week our guest minister will be
The Reverend Howard Dudley
Pastor and Head of Staff
Kirk of Kildaire Presbyterian Church
Cary, North Carolina

Friday Morning Bible Study

Reverend Dudley will lead the Bible Study on Friday, August 8, starting at 9:00 a.m. in the card room at the Eseeola Lodge. Complimentary continental breakfast and coffee will be available. Please come and bring a friend! Carter and George MacBain will be hosting Reverend Dudley.

ORDER OF SERVICE

August 3, 2025

ANNOUNCEMENTS

LET US PREPARE OUR HEARTS (Please remain seated)

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.

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Come, all who hunger for hope—Let us hold fast to the promises of God.

Congregation: For the One who promised is faithful.

Leader: Come, all who long for love—Let us consider how to provoke one another to compassion and good deeds.

Congregation: We gather to be stirred, strengthened, and sent.

Leader: Come, all who cherish the stories of those who came before—Let us remember their witness and set more places at the table.

Congregation: With grateful hearts and open hands, we worship the God who gathers us still.

* HYMN NO. 356

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy and Hospitable God, you set a table of welcome and grace, but we confess that we do not always extend the same. We draw lines, close doors, and hold grudges. We hoard what we have been given instead of sharing it freely. You ask us to provoke one another to love, but we confess we are too often content to keep quiet. You call us to remember, but we forget your faithfulness and the faith of those who paved the way for us. Forgive us, O God. Loosen our grip on fear and pride. Widen our hearts. And teach us again to pull out the chairs, to pass the bread, and to share the good news that there is room for all at your table. In the name of Jesus Christ, our Host and our Hope, we pray. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: Hear this good news: In Jesus Christ, the table is always wider than we expect, the welcome deeper than we deserve, and the grace greater than our sin. You are forgiven. You are freed. You are called—to love more boldly, to live more fully, to set more places at the table.

Congregation: Thanks be to God! Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Deuteronomy 6:4-9

NEW TESTAMENT READING

Hebrews 10:23-25

SERMON

“Crowded Table”

* THE APOSTLES’ CREED

Page 14

OFFERING AND *DOXOLOGY

PASTORAL PRAYER AND THE LORD’S PRAYER

* HYMN NO. 555

Now Thank We All Our God

* BENEDICTION

** Those who are able please stand.*