





## Welcome!

We are an open table people. That means all are welcome here. No matter your past dilemmas or present challenges, no matter your age or race, no matter your gender or political party: we want you to be creative, bold, generous, and make a difference. We hope God unleashes your passion and gifts because the world sorely needs them. We are eager for you to wonder, question, explore and grow. Most of all, we want to journey with you in the adventure of Christ's love. We are glad you're here!

*Michael Swartzentruber*  
Senior Minister

## Our Staff

*Michael Swartzentruber*  
Senior Minister

*Holly Fuqua*  
Associate Minister

*Sara Don Bailey*  
Ministry Intern

*Kyla Burkhardt*  
Lead Children's Coordinator

*Chris Weiss*  
Music Minister

*Diana Vetter Moore*  
Music Associate

*Stephen Daming*  
Pianist

**Nursery:**  
Stephanie Chavez &  
Hannah Woggon

*Kim Skidmore*  
Little Elks Director

*Alyssa Parrett*  
Youth Ministry Intern

*Stasia Kruse*  
Administrator

**Children's Coordinators:**  
Danielle Evans, Aly Partain, &  
Andres Caban

# December 31, 2017

## If you are a guest with us today

- We hope you feel at home here, so relax and be yourself.
- We would love to know you are with us today. Please fill out a **Connection Card** (located in the seat pocket of the chair in front of you). You can drop it in the offering plate during service or leave it at the Welcome Center in the foyer.
- Let us know how we can share more about our church, plug you in, and pray for you.

## Explore South Elkhorn

**January 28 • Room 108 • 5:00 PM**

Join us for our gathering of newcomers and curious souls. Meet our team, engage in conversation, and find your place in our spiritual community. For more information or to RSVP, please fill out the connection card or contact the church office:  
[admin@southelkhorncc.org](mailto:admin@southelkhorncc.org).

## Children's Worship & Wonder

After the children's sermon, children age 3 to Grade 3 are invited to hear a sacred story, wonder about its meaning, & gather together for a feast (rooms 203 & 209).

## Nursery

Nursery is available for children ages 6 weeks to two years during Sunday School & worship (rooms 214 & 215).

# Life Together



## Welcome Sara Don Bailey

Welcome to Sara Don Bailey preaching today before leaving in January for the seminary. Sara Don has been the Ministry Intern here at South Elkhorn for the past year. Sara Don has been an integral part in helping with Worship and other functions throughout the year.



## Celebration Choir

**Sunday • January 14 • 10:00 AM**

Come on stage in the Worship Center before service to prepare a familiar song and sing together in the service. All are invited regardless of age or ability level.



## Chili Cook Off & Talent Show

**Sunday • January 21 • 5:00 PM**

Families and people of all ages are invited to bring chili for a fun afternoon of feasting and fellowship. Sign up on white board in foyer to bring chili or chili fixings. There is a separate sign up sheet to sign up to be in the talent show.



## Making Disciples

### Mentored Baptism Journey

An eight week journey toward Baptism involving reading the bible, exploring the basics of Christian faith, discovering the meaning of Baptism, a service project, and developing a mentor relationship with a caring Christian adult leader. Contact Holly Fuqua to enroll at [hollyfuqua@gmail.com](mailto:hollyfuqua@gmail.com) by January 28.



## New Sermon Series

Start the new year on a journey toward a new life, moving from:

**January 7** Loneliness to *Solitude*

**January 14** Hostility to *Hospitality*

**January 21** Illusion to *Prayer*

**January 28** Competition to *Compassion*

Bulletin & sermon audio available at  
[southelkhorncc.org/sermons](http://southelkhorncc.org/sermons)

## Children & Youth

**Tiny Tots** (Age 2 - Pre K), **Children** (Grades K - 5), **Youth** (Grades 6 - 12)

### Tonight

No Evening Programs

**Sunday, January 7, 5:00 PM**

Regular Programs Resume

- 4:40 PM Children's Choir
- 5:00 PM Open Gym & Snack
- 5:30 PM Activities
- 6:30 PM Pick Up

Download Spring Children Guide at:  
[southelkhorncc.org/children](http://southelkhorncc.org/children)  
Download Spring Youth Guide at:  
[southelkhorncc.org/youth](http://southelkhorncc.org/youth)

# Sermon

## The Meantime

*Luke 2:22-40*

**Focus Verse:** "Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, "This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed- and a sword will pierce your own soul too. "

*Luke 2:34-35*

**Quote:** "There is a reason that we say 'in the meantime.' Because it can be mean."

—Laura McKinney

## Big Ideas:

- Anticipation & Celebration
- The Dread
- The Mean Time

## Discussion Questions

1. Read the passage carefully and slowly. What word or phrase stands out to you?
2. What does it mean for you to anticipate good news in your life? How do you feel striving for a goal?
3. Do you ever feel a kind of dread or worry after reaching a goal? Why might that be?
4. How do you handle "waiting"? What's it like to be "in the meantime"?

## Stay Connected

Receive updates, event info and encouragements by text.

Text SECC to 40650