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# Edgewood Presbyterian Church

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## Newsletter February 2023

While I sometimes enjoy finding material to use in the Newsletter, there are many times I would enjoy for some of our talented members to come forward with an inspiring article or two, since we are absent a minister. Usually this is the page for the Pastor to share his thoughts on things relative to the world we live in or about faith, etc.

When we met for Sunday School assembly, there was most always some thought provoking, sometimes humorous, and always spiritual stories told or read, that would inspire us, make us hopeful or that we could benefit from. Some even said, & I quote “now we can go home, because that was like a sermon”. It was that good!

This is my challenge to you church; for someone to step up and give us something inspiring, hopeful, and/or humorous for the next few newsletters. . for March, April, May!

### \*Lenten focus for 2023

Lent is a time of spiritual renewal. It is a season of preparation during the 40 days and six Sundays before Easter. Lent is a time when we reflect upon the love of God and the gift of God’s grace. It has a solemn beginning with Ash Wednesday, which is on

February 22 this year. On that day, with burnt palm branches crushed into ashes smudged onto foreheads, we are reminded that “from dust you came and to dust you shall return”

But Lent is not a time to wallow in worry about God’s wrath. It is not a time of anxiety about our sinfulness or worth. Lent is a time of reflection on what God has done to redeem us and how we can live a whole and full life as a child of God. The Apostle Paul counsels us in Philippians 4: “Have no anxiety about anything” (RSV).

While Lent is a time of prayer, fasting, service and contemplation, at the top of our list should be a prayer for the gift of peace. Shalom, a Hebrew word for peace, denotes fullness and perfection, an overflowing joy that moves from your innermost being and is expressed in the way you live your life and engage with others.

This Lent, let us make our way to shalom, a gift that will bless one another and the world.

\*From Presbyterian Today / Rev. Jimmie Hawkins





Friends,  
Grace and peace to you!

You and your congregation are invited to attend the **Lee County Presbyterian Churches Combined Service for Ash Wednesday at Jonesboro Presbyterian on February 22, 2023, at 7:00 p.m.**

The last time we all gathered was just before the pandemic in 2020 at Euphronia. It will be wonderful to worship together in the same space and lift up our voices in praise as we sing hymns.

Faithfully, John Taylor

### Session Notes

- Head Elder for February – Patsy McBryde
- Treasurer elect for 2023 – Patricia Sellars
- Clerk Elect for 2023 – Patsy McBryde
- A special offering for *Blanket Sunday* will be taken *February 12*. Blankets are \$10. If you want to give in memory or in honor of someone please list and put in envelope with your donation.
- *Holy Communion* will be *February 26*.
- Teresa Mangum and Connie Wynn will attend the West Community Gathering in Laurinburg at Trinity Presbyterian Church, on February 11.
- Patsy McBryde will be the commissioner for the Full Presbytery Meeting, March 4, at Wallace Presbyterian (via Zoom).

- The Session has approved getting a church software program, called Power Church. Jonathan Wester, who is chairman of Stewardship and Finance, is getting it set up.
- Community Ash Wednesday service at Jonesboro Presbyterian, Feb.22.
- Preachers for February: Terry Pleasants, Suzanne Colandro, Terry Pleasants, and Laura Lupton.
- We received and accepted Mary Holder's resignation from the Session, due to health reasons; and she covets our prayers.



*Rev. Jerrod Lowry filled our pulpit on January 22 and had a great message. He is the Stated Clerk and General Presbyter from Coastal Carolina Presbytery*



Jerrold also had a part in officer training (Annual Checklist for Congregations & Sessions) Saturday, January 21, at St. Andrews.



It was a very informative morning. The training on the Book of Order and The Book of Confessions helped the new Elders get familiar with the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church and declarations of our belief.



Rev. Laura Lupton examined our new elders and Installed them during worship service January 8. We are glad to have Debra Wall and Connie Wynn join the Session of Edgewood.

### Fellowship Committee

Sunday, **February 12, 2023**, we will have a soup and sandwich luncheon held in the fellowship hall following worship.

We need to have volunteers to bring a soup or stew; sandwiches or the ingredients to make them, also we need crackers & desserts. All is appreciated and will be enjoyed.

Provided will be beverages, bowls, plates, napkins and spoons.

Sign up sheets will be in the hallway Sunday, February 5. Please sign up for what you can bring. I hope everyone will be able to attend and enjoy the fellowship.

Debra Wall, Fellowship Chair – If you have any questions ( 919 888 8325)



A group from Edgewood went to see a new musical inspired by the original classic novel by Kenneth Grahame, *but written by Leslie Hanna*, "The Wind in the Willows". Yes, that's right, *our* musician, Leslie Hanna wrote the book, lyrics and music for the play. Emily Hanna and other family members were in the play. All enjoyed it!



**February**  
**Prayer Families of**  
**the Week**

- 5 James & Joyce McGehee
- 12 Faye & Willis McNeill
- 19 Janet McNeill
- 26 Jody McNeill & Family

December Treasurer's Report

Receipts . . . . . 9,436.00  
 Disbursements . . 7,950.86  
 Joy Gift Offering 563.00



The PW coordinating team will meet Monday, February 6, at 2:00.

The PW circle will meet Monday February 13, at 2:00. We will resume with lesson 4 in the Rock, the Road, and the Rabbi. If you haven't already, please read chapters 9,12 & 14. Circle Hostesses will be Anne Thomas & Barbara Rosser.

We want to thank the decorating committee for the wonderful job they did at Christmas, and taking it all down and putting it away. We so enjoyed the beautiful decorations!



*To everyone celebrating*  
*February birthdays -*  
*May God guide your path*  
*and always be with you.*  
*Happy Birthday!*

Visiting ministers sometimes bring their little ones. Thanks to the nursery keepers who took good care of Rev. Beth Olker's two foster children.

Beth lives in Biscoe and has a little ways to come with the children.

And it worked out great that Debra Wall brought her two grandchildren that Sunday. It was nice to see our nursery come alive with little ones, and them all playing together!

We now have a brand new crib in the nursery, *donated by* Barbara Rosser. Thank you Barbara!



Beth Olker brought her foster children with her when she was guest pastor.

January 15, 2023



Our deepest sympathy  
Goes to the family of  
Ruby Creed.

A long-time member and friend of Edgewood. May the memories of her love for each of you be a comfort.

