

Edgewood Presbyterian Church

Newsletter— February 2026



Core Convictions II

In January, I started a series on the list of my core convictions, those thoughts and beliefs that underlie what I think, say, and do, and I invited you into respectful conversation of these ideas as we grow in our lives of faith together.

Conviction #1:

We are loved, just as we are, by God.

Conviction #2:

Conviction #1 applies to each human being as we are all created in God's image.

God loves all people. Period. Without qualification. Without question. Always.

When we affirm that God loves *us* without question, I believe, we must also affirm that God loves everyone else as well.

If we were to say that God doesn't care about some people for whatever reason, then we qualify God's love; we put parameters on who God can or does love. What prevents those same parameters or boundaries from excluding us as well? If *any* are excluded, then *all* could be excluded.

This may seem naïve or simplistic, and maybe it is. But I would rather err on the side of inclusion, on the side of love, on the side of grace.

Jesus made a point of including outsiders, misfits, sinners, and tax collectors, young and old alike. He invited them to listen to him, to follow him, and to sit at table with him. The last and the least held a special place in Jesus's heart and ministry; they continue to hold a special place in God's heart. When Jesus sat down at the table to celebrate the Passover with his disciples for the last

time, all of the disciples were present, even Judas, the one who would betray him, the one whom Jesus knew would betray him. Even Judas was included at God's table. Who, then, are we to exclude anyone?

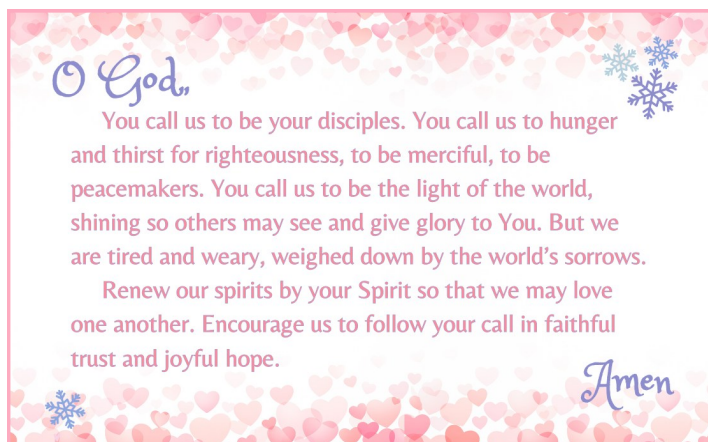


And so, I believe, that no one is outside of God's love. God's concern, compassion, and mercy are expansive and abundant. As the children's song goes, "God's got the whole world in God's hands!" I am loved. You are loved. We *all* are loved!

In faith, hope, & love,

Sara

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Upcoming Services & Sermons

2/1/26	"Light of Folly"	1 Corinthians 1:18-31; Micah 6:1-8	
2/8/26	"Light of Justice"	Isaiah 58:1-12; Matthew 5:13-20	<i>Officer Installation</i>
2/15/26	"Light on the Mountain"	Matthew 17:1-9; 2 Peter 1:16-21	<i>Transfiguration Sunday, Communion</i>
2/18/26	<i>Ash Wednesday Service</i> at Jonesboro Presbyterian – Rev. Rick Martindale preaching		
2/22/26	"Out of Silence"	Psalm 32; Matthew 4:1-11	
3/1/26	"In the Shade"	Psalm 121; Genesis 12:1-4	

TREASURER'S REPORT

December Finances:

Receipts	\$ 8,622.39
Expenses	\$ 11,634.16
Receipts—Expenses	(-\$ 3,011.77)

Special Offerings:

2 ¢ a Meal	\$ 53.00
Joy Gift	\$ 201.00

January—December 2025:

Receipts	\$ 103,468.93
Expenses	\$ 129,762.22
Receipts—Expenses	(-\$ 26,293.29)

Lee County Community

Ash Wednesday Service



Wednesday, February 18 at 7 p.m. • Jonesboro Presbyterian Church, Sanford

All are welcome!

February Prayer Family of the Week

- 1 Johnny and Trisha Sellars
- 8 Stephanie Sellars
- 15 Rusty and Beth Singer
- 22 Brooke Singer

February Birthdays

*Happy Birthday to
everyone celebrating
February birthdays!*

Scheduled Special Offerings

- 2/1/26 – 2 ¢ a Meal
- 2/15/26 – Blanket Sunday
- 3/1/26 – 2 ¢ a Meal

Blanket Sunday - February 15



CWSBLANKETS.ORG

**Head Elder for February
Debra Wall**

12 MONTHS OF
Blessings
2026 – A YEAR OF GIVING

February - Canned Soup
chicken noodle, cream of chicken,
cream of mushroom, tomato, ramen

Edgewood Supporting the CUOC

The Psalms
 Expressions of Faith

Bible Study
 Tuesdays at 7 p.m.

Feb. 3	Corporate Prayer for Help	Psalm 79
Feb. 10	Psalm for Instruction	Psalm 1
Feb. 17	<i>No Class</i>	
Feb. 24	Prayer of Repentance	Psalm 51

Just bring your Bible and a friend!

Sit & Chat
with your pastor
Wednesday, 2:30-3:30 pm
February 4, 11, & 25

at **MonkeyKat Books**
 just down from the Fairview Dairy Bar

If you're looking for a reason to get out of the house, to see a friendly face, to sit and chat, or just sit and read in companionable silence, I hope you'll join me!

Icy weather caused the cancellation of our church services on Sunday, **January 25th**, but our industrious pastor and music director made the worship service available to us in an alternate format. With foresight and extra effort, they recorded the service and made it available on Facebook.

Thank you Sara and Erin!

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 portion of the sermon where the video is mostly frozen, but the audio continues. It eventually clears up.

HYMN #14 - *For the Beauty of the Earth*

**For the beauty of the earth,
 For the glory of the skies,
 For the love which from our birth
 Over and around us lies:**

**Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn
 of grateful praise.**

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Fellowship Committee

Due to the forecast of winter weather this weekend, the Fellowship Committee luncheon and meeting originally scheduled for Saturday, January, 31 has been cancelled. It has been rescheduled to 12:00pm, Saturday, February 7. We will be setting dates for Fellowship events for 2026. Hope to see you there.

Debra Wall: Chair

Communications Committee

January was a little less busy for us than December but we still printed and posted 13 sheets of pictures for the bulletin boards. Check them out in the hallway and in the Fellowship Hall.

With Sara's help with the graphics, we published flyers, registration forms, rules and signs for the January 24th PW Jigsaw Puzzle Competition.

Connie Wynn: Chair

Jigsaw Puzzle Competition

Saturday, January 24
Edgewood Presbyterian Church
316 W. McIntosh St, Sanford, NC



The Jigsaw Puzzle Competition was a great success. Thank you **Teresa** for presenting the idea and devoting the effort and resources to make it a huge success and enjoyable for all.



Winners - St. Andrews Presbyterian Church



2nd Place—Edgewood PieceMakers



3rd Place - The Puzzled Puzzlers



Message from Teresa

Thanks to all who helped with the PW Jigsaw Puzzle Competition or sponsored a team in the competition. Everyone enjoyed the fellowship and meeting new people.

The event earned \$548 for PW missions.

Many have asked to have another competition, so we hope to have another one next year—hopefully without the threat of bad weather. So, form your team now and practice!

Edgewood Presbyterian Women January 12, 2026



The program was Lesson Four:
“The Prodigal Child, The Eldest
Child, and The Devoted Parent”
Presented by Debra Wall



Moderator: Teresa Mangum



Devotion by Trish Sellars



Connie Wynn showed the poster
given to Edgewood Presbyterian
Church by CUOC in
appreciation for their generous
support.

**Next meeting: 2:00 pm, Monday,
February 9, 2026.**

Lesson Five: “The Gift of the Woman
Who Was Poor”

To be presented by Connie Wynn

Hostesses: Trish Sellars and Connie
Wynn



Hostesses: Joyce McGehee and Mary Holder



**PRESBYTERIAN
WOMEN**

Officer Training

Saturday, January 17, 2026
at Bethesda Presbyterian Church
Aberdeen, NC

FOLLOWING THE CALL

Gathering Worship

Welcome

Litany ~ Isaiah 42:5-6; John 1:39, 43

Thus says the Lord, who created the heavens and the earth,

who gives breath and spirit to us.

"I am the Lord; I have called you in righteousness."

You have taken us by the hand and kept us.

"I have given you as a covenant to the people."

You have called us to be your servant, a light for the nations.

"Come! Follow me."

You have called us, and we faithfully follow!

Hymn #69, refrain Here I Am, Lord

Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord?

I have heard you calling in the night.

I will go, Lord, if you lead me.

I will hold your people in my heart.

Scripture - John 1:35-51

Meditation

Prayer

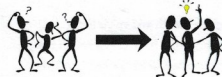
Rev. Sara Martin

FOLLOWING THE CALL

2026

Officer Training

for new and returning elders and deacons
Saturday, January 17, 2026



9:30-9:45 Registration & Refreshments

9:45-10 Gathering Worship

10-11:30 "The Nuts & Bolts of Being an Officer" with Rev. Kathryn Dudley

11:30-12:15 Lunch

12:15-1:30 "The Task of Discernment" with Rev. Dr. Sue Hudson

"We will be collecting a gratitude offering to support Cents-ability."

presented by the West Steering Committee
& hosted by Bethesda Presbyterian Church



Patsy, Debra, Johnny, Connie, Nancy & Sara



Missions Committee

CUOC Donations for February

We are collecting canned soup in February for CUOC. It can be chicken noodle, cream of chicken, cream of mushroom, tomato, ramen, vegetable, etc.



Steve Womack: Chair

Thank you for your generosity in donating canned vegetables in the month of **January**. Due to the weather, we did not make the delivery before the newsletter was published, so we don't have a weight to report - *but it was heavy!*

