

Edgewood Presbyterian Church

Newsletter – June 2025



Repetition – Rote or Comfort?

When I began my Supervised Ministry Internship, the liturgy at the church I was at was different than I was used to. I found that I missed, almost viscerally, the Assurance of Pardon that I had become accustomed to. So, on those Sundays when I preached, I was able to draft the liturgy and included the words that my spirit longed to hear each week and which we use here: ***Friends, believe the good news! In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!*** I love this direct, firm statement of forgiveness that we say to one another, as ministers to one another (think “priesthood of all believers” from the Reformation).



These words of the Assurance of Pardon bring me comfort. At a different church, at a different time, the pastor used the same Prayer for Illumination each week. Other pastors use the same Benediction every time. Some pastors vary these elements. But, some elements of worship need to remain the same, such as the Words of Institution for Communion or the Lord’s Prayer. Regarding other elements, the pastor can adjust the liturgy to fit the season of the church year, the theme of the sermon, or to give new life to worship. “Liturgy” comes from Greek words for “the work of the people.” Thus, “liturgy refers to the words of worship, the prayers, responses, and songs of the people,”¹ as well as the visual elements of my stole, paraments on the pulpit and table, banners, etc.

I have chosen to keep the Assurance of Pardon, the Prayer for Illumination, and the Benediction the same each week, as when I was a congregant, these elements brought me comfort. I have also made a commitment to use the Apostles’ Creed on the first and third (and usually fifth) Sundays of each month so that our members with vision impairments can participate more easily, but on the second and fourth Sundays, I like to change things up so saying what we believe doesn’t become rote and tired.

Let me know what elements of worship and the liturgy that are particularly meaningful to you.

In faith, hope, & love,

Sara

Upcoming Services & Sermons

6/1/25	“A Timeless Song”	Acts 16:16-34; Luke 24:44-53	<i>Ascension Sunday</i>
6/8/25	“The Spirit Moves”	Acts 2:1-21, 41; John 14:15-17, 25-27	<i>Pentecost Sunday</i>
6/15/25	“In the Beginning”	John 1:1-5, 14-18; Genesis 1:1-5, 26-31	<i>Trinity Sunday</i>
6/22/25	“The Clothing We Wear”	Galatians 3:23-29; Luke 8:29-39	
6/29/25	Glory to God Sunday – VBS Edition		
7/6/25	“Living Into Freedom”	Galatians 5:1, 13-25; Luke 10:1-11, 16-20	

¹ Donald Wilson Stake in *The ABCs of Worship: A Concise Dictionary*, (Louisville: Westminster John Knox Press, 1992), 114.

O God,

May we find comfort in familiar words and familiar motions. But may we also be open to the movement of the Spirit drawing us to new words and new motions as the body of Christ.

Amen



Pentecost Celebration

Sunday, June 8, 2025

Join us for cupcakes on the lawn after worship, celebrating the birthday of the Church!

Wear red!



Bible Study

IN THE BEGINNING

Exploring the Book of Genesis - Part 2

May 13 - June 17, 2025

Tuesdays at 11 a.m. & 7 p.m.

We will look at Genesis 25-50, the stories of Jacob and Joseph and their families, still exploring who God is and who we are in relationship with God.

Just bring your Bible and yourself!

TREASURER'S REPORT

MARCH TOTALS

Receipts	\$ 17,205.45
Expenses	\$ 10,507.59
Special Offerings:	
2 Cents-a-Meal	\$ 50.45
Marshall Presbyterian	\$ 15.00
Memorial Gifts	\$ 175.00

Scheduled Special Offerings

6/1/25 – CUOC Backpack Pals
7/1/25 – CUOC Backpack Pals

Head Usher for June
Patsy McBryde

June Birthdays

Happy Birthday to those celebrating birthdays this month!

June Prayer Families

1 Cathy Wicker
8 Jennie & Jimmy Williams and Family
15 Joan Winfrey
22 Stephen & Kathie Womack
29 Connie & Jerry Wynn



2025 Edgewood Graduates

Three Edgewood young adults were recognized on May 11, 2025, for graduations this year. Wyatt McGehee graduated from Lee County High School and will continue his education at CCCC in the college transfer program. Brooke Singer graduated from Lee Christian and will attend Campbell University next year. Ava Williams graduated from Lee Early College, obtaining a high school diploma and an associates degree. She will attend East Carolina University next year. We are proud of these young people and wish them the best as they move onto the next step of their lives.

Easy Access

For those of you who have physical limitations and have not attended Edgewood in recent months, our new ramp makes access to the sanctuary much easier than it used be. Also, the Mary Olive Smith Sunday School Class meets in the room immediately behind the double doors. Access is from the sidewalk, no steps, no ramps. We would love to have you join us.



Communications Committee

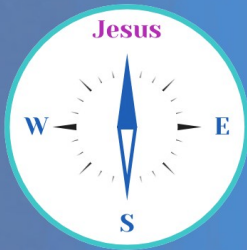
During the month of May, we performed our routine duties, posted some pictures on the bulletin boards, updated the website, recorded the worship services and posted them on Facebook. The Mother's Day cards we developed were distributed to members and long-term care patients.

We welcome contributions for our newsletter from our members. If you have some news you would like to share, pass it on to Jerry, Patsy, or me.

Connie Wynn—Chair

VBS 2025 True North

Wednesday, June 25 - Friday, June 27 ~ 6-8 p.m.



Come learn about
how Jesus is our
True North!

Classes for
children & adults!

Register online at
<https://forms.office.com/r/tgNGtVbB2r>
or email sara.martin@edgewoodpres.org



CUOC Food Donation Request for June

We are asking you to **donate a specific food item** for CUOC again this month. **For the month of June**, we ask you to donate jars or cans of spaghetti sauce.



May CUOC Donations

Thank you Edgewood Members for your peanut butter donations in May.



I am the Resurrection and the Life
says the Lord. John 11:25



Shelia Diane McNeill

God called home another longtime Edgewood member on May 9, 2025 after a short illness. Shelia was a spark that brightened the day of everyone she met. She had a very successful career in banking and was a fierce Wolfpack fan. God's plans for her did not coincide with our expectations, certainly not at such a young age. Our prayers are with Willis and all the McNeill family.

**Presbyterian Women
 Circle Meeting
 May 12, 2025**

Presbyterian Women
 Living for Jesus



*Patsy presented the lesson
 "Intergenerational Justice"*

*The June lesson will be
 "Sustaining Creation's Health for All"
 Presented by Rev. Sara Martin*



*Next Meeting will be
 2:00 PM, Monday, June 9, 2025
 Ladies, come join us!*



Food provided by Debra, Jean and Sandy