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# Edgewood Presbyterian Church

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## *Newsletter* *March 2023*

Excerpts from:  
An Invitation to a Holy Lent



Dear Friends,  
At the time of the Christian Passover, we celebrate our deliverance from sin and death through the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. We begin our Lenten journey by acknowledging our need for repentance, for in penitence, we name those things which damage us and others for what they really are, and we open ourselves to the One whose love knows no boundaries and whose mercy is demonstrated to us in the life of Jesus Christ.

By taking an honest look at our lives, and repenting of our sinfulness; by praying quietly but with full hearts; by letting go of those things that harm us and by taking on works of love for others; by reading and feasting on God's Word, we observe a holy Lent, and prepare ourselves for the passion of Holy Week and the joy of Easter.

By: Cindy Neal

Sacrifice – During Lent, Let us....  
Fast from judging others; feast on Christ within them.  
Fast from: discontent, anger, & pessimism.  
Feast on gratitude, patience, and optimism.  
Fast from complaining, worry, and from facts that depress.  
Feast on appreciation, trust in God's care, and truths that uplift.  
Fast from bitterness.  
Feast on forgiveness.  
Fast from self-concern.  
Feast on compassion for others

By: William A. Ward

Prayer:

Dear Father, I am longing to experience a fresh knowledge of You this Easter. You have given up everything for me in offering your Son as payment for my sins. Show me if there is something I can offer You that would cause me to bow more deeply at Your throne this season. In the Name of the One who loves me so, Christ Jesus, Amen.

## Session Notes

*Property and Grounds* chairman, Johnny Sellars says that things may look a little brighter at Edgewood these days. We had more of the old florescent lights changed out to LED, and they really make a difference.

We had a visit from the Fire Marshal, who inspected our Exit signs. They were getting dim so we have had them changed to LED's.

If you know of anything that needs addressing, please let Johnny or Patricia Sellars know.

*Christian Education* Chairperson, Jean McSwain reports about their meeting on February 26. Those present were Mary Lee Byrd, Teresa Mangum, Joyce McGehee, Stephanie Sellars, Beth Singer, and Jean McSwain. Nancy Mead was unable to attend.

We decided to have our children's Easter celebration on Sunday, *April 2* (Palm Sunday), after the worship service. Invite your children to come to church and stay for lunch, crafts and Easter egg hunt!

We ask the congregation to bring candy to fill the eggs. We will assemble on Saturday, April 1.

Stephanie volunteered to organize Bible School. She will need lots of helpers /volunteers. The dates will be July 26, 27 and 28. It will be from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. ( In lieu of a meal) this year a light snack and drink will be served.

The next meeting will be held in the library on Sunday, June 25 at 10:30 am.



## Music & Worship

Leaders in March: Musician – Leslie Hanna

Worship: March 5 – QRE Gracie Williams

12 – Rev. Kathryn Dudley

19 – Terry Pleasants

26 – Rev. Laura Lupton

Congregational / Corporation Annual Meeting- March 26, after worship.

Palm Sunday -: April 2 – Terry Pleasants

Easter 9 – Gracie Williams

16 – Suzanne Colandro

Communion 23 – Rev. Laura Lupton

30 – Rev. Jane Love



What a blessing Sunday (2-26-23), with two talented Christian ladies leading us in worship. (2-26-23)

Leslie Hanna blessed us with her acapella version of *What Wondrous Love is This*. And Rev. Laura Lupton blessed us with her worship leadership, prayer, & communion.



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

The circle will meet Monday, March 13, at 2:00. Ladies, please come out and join us for the bible lesson 5 (taken from chapter 18 & 21) Mt. of Olives, and Triumphant Entry. Connie Wynn will lead us in this study.

Refreshments will be provided by Patsy McBryde & Connie Wynn.

Happy Birthday to all who are celebrating March Birthdays!

Jean McSwain has retired from making the weekly floral arrangements for worship. We want to thank her for her many years of service for providing these beautiful arrangements each Sunday.

There is a flower calendar in the hallway for anyone who wants to furnish flowers on Sunday, in honor or memory of someone. Please let Patsy know also of when you want to provide flowers for the service. The PW will purchase an artificial arrangement for seasonal use.



**Missions**

Thanks to all who made donations to the Blanket Sunday offering, in memory or in honor. We collected \$758.00 for the Church World Service, and that will be a lot of blankets to help with disaster relief.

The “First Sunday” offering in March will go to Cents-ability Hunger Offering, or 2-Cents-a-Meal program.

March Prayer Families of the Week

	5	Marty, & Amanda McNeill & Jaxtin
	12	Sheila McNeill
	19	Jean, Leroy, & Trent McSwain
	26	Nancy & Dave Mead

*Fellowship chairperson, Debra Wall says “thanks” to everyone who made the delicious soups, sandwiches, and deserts. And thanks to everyone who contributed something to make it a fun fellowship time. We had around 36 in attendance, February 12.*

*Thanks Jerry & Connie Wynn for the “couples” pictures!*



February 12, 2023



February 12, 2023

## The Power of Prayer

By: Jerry Wynn

**Matthew 7:7** *“Ask, and it will be given to you, seek and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you.”*

During the WWII, most large industries converted their manufacturing facilities to build products for the war effort.

Production of automobiles was discontinued so that the manufacturers could build jeeps, military trucks, tanks, bombs, and aircraft components. Major appliance manufacturers retooled to build aircraft parts, ammunition containers, military helmets and any of thousands of other components for military needs. Cutting off the production of their normal products during the war created a shortage of automobiles and major appliances.

In 1946, WWII had just ended. Millions of soldiers were returning home from fighting for our country. Some were returning to wives and children and readjusting to civilian life and jobs. Other soldiers were returning home to girlfriends, marrying and starting new jobs, new families, and new households. The demand for new appliances increased quickly. But it took time for industries to convert their facilities back to produce the products they built prior to the war. Material shortage and having to fill the empty inventory chain prolonged the availability of products to the general public. So, for a long time, there was a severe shortage of many products, especially major appliances.

At that time, there was a young family living in Henderson, NC. Major (that was his name, not his rank) was in the early stage of his insurance business career. Sallie stayed home with their 5-year old daughter Joyce and their 3-year old son. Sallie helped with the income by making dresses and altering clothes for neighbors.

They had an old ice box which had to be replenished with a large block of ice, delivered by an “iceman”, 2-times each week. Sallie very badly wanted a modern refrigerator. It would have a much larger capacity than the ice box and would keep food colder. She could even make her own ice. She wouldn’t have to empty the drain pan every day. It was her dream appliance. They had saved some money to buy one, but refrigerators just were not readily available. The few refrigerators that became available through retailers were usually sold to friends of the dealers. Basically, you had to know the right person to even have a chance buy a new refrigerator. But, Sallie often expressed her intense desire to have one.

Willard was a cousin of Major’s. He was a marine who served in Europe during the war. After his discharge, he returned to his parent’s home in Macon, NC. He found employment as a grocery store management trainee in Henderson, 25 miles from Macon. In 1946, 25 miles was quite far to commute to work, so Major invited Willard to stay with his family until he could find a place of his own. Willard became a temporary family member,

sleeping there and eating most meals with the family.

Very often, at meal time, one of the children would be asked to say the blessing. One evening, when all sat down at the table for dinner, the 3-year old was asked to say the blessing. It was a day that Sallie had apparently complained about the old ice box. The son asked his usual child's blessing, but tonight he added a little extra to his prayer. He asked God to "Please help my mother get a new refrigerator". Willard was very touched that the young boy had the faith to expect God to answer such a request.

The following Sunday, as was routine for Willard, he drove to Macon to have Sunday lunch with his parents and other family members. During lunch, Willard told the story of the 3-year old asking God to help his mother get a refrigerator. The family was quite impressed with the story. The following week, Willard's sister told a friend about the prayer. That friend happened to work at a store that sold appliances. When the friend went to work the following day, she told the owner of the store the story of the prayer from the 3-year old boy. He too was very moved. As a result, the store owner sent word to Sallie and Major that he was expecting to receive a new refrigerator soon for his inventory, and that he would make it available to them if they would like to buy it.

Oh, the name of the 3-year old was Jerry. And that's how my mother got her first refrigerator.

The power of prayer should not be underestimated, even from a 3-year-old.

