
Edgewood Presbyterian Church

Newsletter—July 2023



Celebrating the Sabbath

Submitted by: Jean McSwain

God created the Sabbath for rest. It is not a burden. It is a blessing.

Genesis 2:1-2 'Thus the heavens and the earth were completed in all their vast array. By the seventh day, God had finished the work he had been doing; so on the seventh day, he rested from all his work.

Exodus 31:17-19 It will be a sign between me and the Israelites forever, for in six days the LORD made the heavens and the earth, and on the seventh day He rested and was refreshed. When the LORD finished speaking to Moses on Mount Sinai, He gave him the two tablets of the covenant law, the tablets of stone inscribed by the finger of God. The 4th commandment reads, "Remember the Sabbath Day. Keep it Holy."

Exodus 31: 12-13 Then the LORD said to Moses, "Say to the Israelites, 'You must observe my Sabbaths. This will be a sign between me and you for the generations to come, so you may know that I am the LORD, who makes you holy.

Jesus grew up in Nazareth. Luke tells us: Now Jesus parents went to Jerusalem every year at the feast of the Passover (80 miles round trip). And when he was twelve years old, they went up according to custom. After Passover, they were returning home and Jesus was not with them. They returned to Jerusalem and found him in the temple. And he went down with them and came to Nazareth, and

was obedient to them ... And Jesus increased in wisdom and in stature, and grew in favor with God and man. When Jesus was 30, he began his ministry. John the Baptist baptized Jesus, and Jesus went into the wilderness. Luke 4:16: "After His 40 days in the wilderness, He went to Nazareth where He had been brought up; and on the Sabbath day, He went into the synagogue as was his custom."

Matthew 5:17-19 Jesus said, "Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them. For truly, I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not an iota, not a dot, will pass from the Law until all is accomplished. Therefore whoever relaxes one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven.

Jesus, The Lord of the Sabbath, went to the temple/synagogue on the Sabbath. He healed, He walked about the country side and along the beaches, He preformed miracles, He prayed, yet He had a custom to go to the temple/synagogue. We should worship God at all times, but we must obey the law: Remember the Sabbath and Keep it Holy just as Jesus did. Jesus ascended to Heaven and as promised sent the Holy Spirit on Pentecost where Peter preached and 3,000 were added that day.

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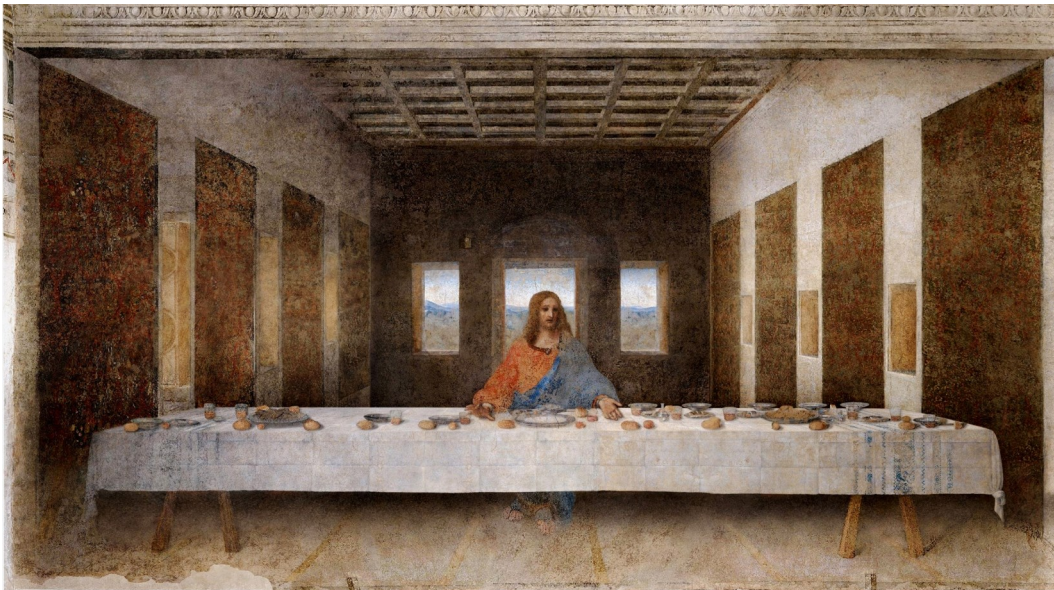
That was then, times have changed. What if your job requires you to work on the Sabbath? A highly respected friend of mine told me this around 60 years ago. "Think about what you are doing instead of going to church. Is it helping someone else or is it just for yourself?"

The New Testament is filled with worship, spreading the gospel message, and gathering

together. The law is still relevant in 2023 as it was in the beginning. We are to love one another and what better way than meeting together to worship God. This is God's story from Genesis to Revelation. God is to be praised, and we show this by following the law to "Remember the Sabbath and Keep it Holy". Jesus kept this law. Why do we think we have a right to ignore it? Hope to see you in church.

JESUS AT AN EMPTY TABLE

submitted by Jean McSwain



What would it look like if the disciples valued worship and community like many believers do their church gatherings today?

Peter - "My mother-in-law came to visit."

Andrew - "I was up late last night."

James (the son of Zebedee) - "My father needs me to help him mend the nets."

John - "I was there last week. Besides, I'm not really being fed."

Philip - "Finally had a sunny day to hit the lake."

Bartholomew - "I had planned to go out with friends."

Thomas - "I doubt it would have been any good."

Matthew - "I had to get the taxes done."

James (the son of Alphaeus) - "My dad wanted to fish today."

Thaddaeus - "The kids needed a rest day."

Simon - "Getting tired of hearing the same old message."

Judas Iscariot - "I have a deal coming up and need to see that everything is set."

What is your excuse?

Going to church is about Worshiping God and being invested in the lives of others. Participating in the mission of the gospel. Loving and being loved.



Family of Josephine Maddox



July Prayer Families of the Week

- 2 Wilson & Dawn Weathers
- 9 Jonathan, Maggie & Kylie Webster
- 16 Jimmy & Jeannie Williams
- 23 Rachel Williams
- 30 Sandy & Jerrica Williams
Ava & Bentley

*We keep close in prayer
Leslie Hanna and her family.*



July Birthdays

- 2 Liesl Owle
- 22 Joyce McGehee
- 26 Dawn Weathers
- 30 Royce Davis

May Treasurer's Report

Receipts \$7501
 Disbursements \$4418
 Special Offerings:
 CUOC \$25
 2 Cents-A-Meal . . . \$25
 PW Birthday \$295
 Pentecost \$340

July Worship Leaders & Music



- 2 – QRE Gracie Williams & Wilson Weathers
*1st Sunday Offering - CUOC Backpack Pals
- 9 – Terry Pleasants & Leslie Hanna
- 16 – Barbara Hedin & Leslie Hanna
- 23 – Rev. Kathryn Dudley & Leslie Hanna
- 30—To be announced

Worship Duties

Head Usher & Announcements: Teresa Mangum

Christian Education Committee

BIBLE SCHOOL

EDGEWOOD'S BIBLE SCHOOL will be held **July, 26, 27, and 28**. The theme is "Rocky Railroad". It will start at 6 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall and end at 8 p.m. A snack will be served. Stephanie Sellars is organizing this and encourages you to come out and take part. Decorating the Fellowship Hall will be July 22 beginning at 9 a. m. The success of Bible School depends on each of us inviting children to attend. May we spread our witness and love for God throughout Sanford and beyond.



Communications Committee

Check the new pictures posted on the bulletin boards each week!

We developed and printed Father's Day cards for the men of the congregation and for distribution to nursing homes.

Newsletters and church schedules are available on the church website.

Videos of our worship services are available on the church Facebook page. ***There have been delays in uploading the videos to Facebook in recent weeks. The solution to the problem is still a mystery. Hope to get it resolved soon.***

Worship Committee

Father's Day cards were distributed to members of the congregation and cards were taken to four local long-term care facilities for distribution.

The committee continues to meet the challenge of scheduling guest pastors and musicians for worship services.

Missions

The special offerings on the first Sunday in June, in **July** and in August will help fund the **CUOC Backpack Pals** program. Many Lee County kids are at risk of having poor nourishment when they are not at school. The Backpack Pals help feed these kids during the summer.



Property and Grounds Committee *at work!*

We have a new table storage cart in the Fellowship Hall thanks to Johnny!



Assembly was a group project.

June 3, 2023



How many Presbyterians does it take...?



Honorary Life Membership Awarded

The Presbyterian Women had the pleasure of presenting Jean McSwain with the Honorary Life Membership June 4, 2023, for her many years of faithful service to the church, love for its members and her Lord. We are very appreciative for her sharing her talents over the years in teaching, leading, and providing flowers for worship service. She has demonstrated her commitment to Christ and the mission of the church.



Several members of Jean's family traveled from the Charlotte area to be with her on this special occasion.

From Jean:

Thank you!

I humbly accept the Honorary Life Membership knowing I owe the honor to my fellow workers in Christ's Church. We do not accomplish anything on our own. It takes cooperation, compassion and support to achieve any task.

In my worship at Edgewood, I have had the hands of many to help me, lift me up and support me. For this I am deeply grateful. working together we can accomplish the task before us.

Let us always love and support each other. Each act we do in the name of Jesus Christ knits us together in the fellowship of the church. Thanks to all of you for the blessing you are to my family and me.

Love in Christ,

Jean McSwain

Graduate Honored

The PW honored Michael Edwards, on June 18, 2023, our High School Graduate.

Michael will be going on to further his education at CCCC, where he has received a *full scholarship* to study Computer Integrated Machining.



SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sunday School is an important part of Christian faith. It is a time to learn about God and His teachings, and to fellowship with other Christians. It can be a source of comfort and guidance in our lives.

Please join us at 10:00AM each Sunday.



Mary Olive Smith Sunday School Class



June 18, 2023



The PW Coordinating Team will meet for their Planning Session July 10, at 11:00. *New officers* are invited to attend. Bring your calendars so we can make plans for the Presbyterian Women for 2023-2024. Lunch will be provided by Teresa Mangum.

The Annual PW Brunch will be *August 12*.

The PW Fall Gathering will be *August 19* at Highland Presbyterian Church in Fayetteville.

The women will be making up Hygiene Kits for Church World Service to bring to the August 19 Fall Gathering. If you would like to participate, please see Connie Wynn.



Jean presented "Celebrating the Sabbath"

Presbyterian Women



June 12, 2023

Fellowship Committee

Save the date!
2-4 PM, August 5, 2023

ICE CREAM SOCIAL!



Details coming soon.



June 10, 2023

Teresa, Connie, and Debra represented Edgewood at the Presbytery of Coastal Carolina West Community Gathering at Lillington Presbyterian Church.