

# Edgewood Presbyterian Church

Newsletter - May 2026



## Core Convictions V

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:

1. *We are loved, just as we are, by God.*
2. *Conviction #1 applies to each human being as we are all created in God's image.*
3. *Just as we are loved, so too are we called to love one another, to love each human being.*
4. *There is a place for everyone in God's beloved community.*



Conviction #4 leads right into #5:

***Diversity is, not only important, but essential for society, creation, and, thus, also God's beloved community.***

God created the world and all that is in it with exquisite complexity and diversity, with creatures and plants relying on diverse others to thrive – an interdependent eco-system. So, it is with human beings in the world and in the church. We have different gifts and talents, interests and aversions. If we were all woodworkers, where would our food come from? For the church, Paul used the metaphor of the body to explain that, though we are different, we all have a place in the body of Christ:

*For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body— Jews or Greeks, slaves or free – and we were all made to drink of one Spirit. Indeed, the body does not consist of one member but of many. If the foot would say, "Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body," that would not make it any less a part of the body. (1Corinthians 12:12-15)*

Many elements in society and in the media try to tell us to fear and distrust what is different and those who are different: of a different race, ethnicity, gender and sexual identity; those with different languages, religions, and customs. But God created us to be different, diverse, and also dependent upon one another. DEI – diversity, equity, and inclusion – has been mocked and even demonized; yet, God's beloved community depends upon our diversity and the full inclusion of those who are different as we are equally loved and valued by God (see conviction # 2).

In Acts, on the day of Pentecost, the Holy Spirit enabled Jews from many different places to hear the disciples speaking in their own cradle languages (Acts 2:4-12). They didn't develop the ability to hear a common language, but the Spirit adapted the message into the diverse languages present through the Spirit-filled disciples. As one commentator noted, "at Pentecost, divisions fall apart without dissolving people's identities."\* Being one in Christ and being God's beloved community together, does not mean that our

*(Continued on page 2)*

identities – the differences that make us unique, that make us quintessentially ourselves – must be eliminated or diminished. Our diversity, the variety of our gifts, and our acceptance and celebration of those differences – this is what enables us to be the Body of Christ in the world.

Remember:

*Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit, and there are a variety of services but the same Lord, and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good.... Now you (in the Greek – y'all) are the body of Christ and individually members of it. (1 Corinthians 12:4-7, 27).*

In faith, hope, & love,

Sara

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\* Matthew L. Skinner in *Interpretation Bible Commentary: Acts*, Louisville: Westminster John Knox Press, 2025, pg. 39.

O God,

As the season of Easter moves into Pentecost and beyond, send your Spirit to move in and through us. Open our ears to hear the Spirit's whispers calling us in new directions, inviting us into new life in Christ. Ignite in us a desire for peace and justice, not only for ourselves, but for the world!

Alleluia! Amen

**Pastor Sara will be away for Continuing Education from May 4-10, returning to the office on Monday, May 11.**

### Upcoming Services & Sermons

5/3/26	“Life in a New Direction”	Luke 24:13-35	Communion Sunday
5/10/26	Rev. Maggie Beamguard	John 14:15-21	Mother’s Day
5/17/26	Rev. Jerrod Lowery	Acts 1:6-14	75 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary
5/24/26	“One in the Spirit”	1 Corinthians 12:3b-13	Pentecost & Graduate Recognition
5/31/26	“What We Know”	1 Corinthians 13:9-13	Trinity Sunday
6/7/26	“Restored”	Matthew 9:9-13, 18-26	

Lights! Camera! ACTION!

New start date!

Acts of the Apostles Bible Study

May 12 - July 21

Tues. @ 7 PM

New start date!

Pentecost Celebration & Graduate Recognition

Sunday, May 24, 2026

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

Wear red!



12 MONTHS OF Blessings

2026 – A YEAR OF GIVING

May - Breakfast Items

cereal, granola bars, oatmeal, grits, muffin mix, pancake mix, syrup

Edgewood Supporting the CUOC

## TREASURER'S REPORT

### March:

Receipts	\$ 16,839.13
Expenses	\$ 10,948.79
Receipts - Expenses	\$ 5,890.34

### JANUARY - MARCH:

Receipts	\$ 27,585.81
Expenses	\$ 36,655.71
Receipts - Expenses	(-\$ 9,069.90)

### SPECIAL COLLECTIONS:

PCC Cents-Ability	\$ 32.00
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### *Scheduled Special Offerings*

- 5/3/26 - Backpack Pals
- 5/17/26 - PW Birthday Offering
- 6/7/26 - Backpack Pals

### Head Elder for May Connie Wynn

### *May Prayer Family of the Week*

- 3 Connie & Jerry Wynn
- 10 Kelly Boyce
- 17 Catherine Coley
- 24 Ron Coley
- 31 Royce & Edna Davis



### *May Birthdays*

**Birthday wishes  
to everyone  
celebrating  
birthdays this  
month!**



 We Bee-long to God!

**VBS**

Saturday, June 6,  
from 10-2, with lunch



### Christian Education Committee

### Have you heard the buzz? VBS is coming!

At VBS this year through lessons, crafts, and recreation, we will explore how "We Bee-long to God" and, then, how we should Bee kind, loving, and respectful to one another. VBS is open to children 4 years old through 5th grade, with youth welcome to help! We are planning to hold the event outside, and will serve a hot-dog lunch in the fellowship hall. (Our rain date is Saturday, June 27!) During May, we will begin taking registrations and will announce ways that the congregation can help. We are excited to Bee the Church for children in our community!

Nancy Mead: Chair

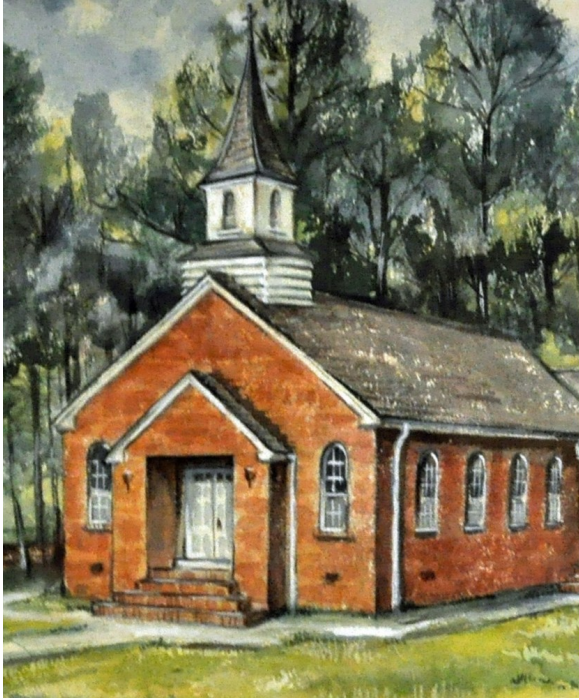
### Communications Committee

Rev. Sara designed the invitation, and we printed 180 for the 75th Anniversary Celebration Committee.

We created a Mother's Day card and printed 200 for the Presbyterian Women to distribute to local long-term care facilities.

We added 7 sheets of pictures to the bulletin boards, updated the website, produced the newsletter, and posted worship videos.

Connie Wynn: Chair



*You're invited...*

to celebrate the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of  
**Edgewood Presbyterian Church**

on Sunday, May 17, 2026  
with worship at 11 a.m.

and a reception following in the fellowship hall with  
heavy hors d'oeuvres, pictures, and joy!



If you'd like to sing with our choir for this celebration, please  
join us at 10:30 am in the Choir Room. If you let us know ahead  
of time, we can email you the music.

***Nursery service will be available during this event!***

## *75th Anniversary Committee*

The invitations have been mailed, and our celebration nears! To make this day a success, we need your help! Here are some ways that you can volunteer:

- Wednesday, May 13 at 11 am – Decorate the Fellowship Hall!  
The more help we have, the faster it will go! We hope to be done in an hour.
- Saturday, May 16 at 1 pm – Prepare some of the food!
- Sunday, May 17
  - ◇ around 9 am – Pick up the rest of the food!  
The order will be prepaid, so it will just need to be picked up at the set time. We will need a couple of folks to help with this.
  - ◇ At 10:30 am – Greet our visitors!  
On the sidewalk at the front of the church, we will have a greeting table for folks to sign in, make a name tag, and receive a gift. We need at least 2 or 3 people to make sure everyone feels welcome!

\* Unless otherwise specified, meet in the Fellowship Hall!

If you want to volunteer or have questions, please contact Jean McSwain or Debra Wall. With your help, our 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration will be a great event!

Debra Wall: Chair  
Jean McSwain: Vice-Chair

## Presbyterian Women

The Presbyterian Women Coordinating Team meeting will be held Tuesday, May 5 at 10 am.

The next circle meeting will be held Monday, May 11 at 2 pm. Hope to see you there.

The Bible Moderator for the May meeting will be Joyce McGehee for Lesson eight: "Remembering Jesus' Baptism".

May hostesses will be Catherine Coley and Dail Dowdy.

Special offering will be for the CUOC Backpack Pals.

The Coastal Carolina PW Spring Meeting was held Saturday, April 25th, at Panthersford PC in Red Springs. Five members attended. Thanks to Jerry and Connie Wynn we had a poster presenting all our special evens for the past year.

The fall meeting will be held in Dunn NC.



Teresa Mangum: Moderator



PRESBYTERIAN  
WOMEN  
in the  
Presbytery of Coastal Carolina  
(PW-PCC)  
**ANNUAL SPRING  
GATHERING  
and  
BUSINESS MEETING**  
April 25, 2026  
Panthersford Presbyterian Church  
Red Springs, NC

### Presbyterian Women Annual Spring Gathering

at Panthersford Presbyterian Church  
in Red Springs, NC

Edgewood representatives were Connie,  
Debra, Teresa, Joyce, and Rev. Sara.



**Edgewood  
Presbyterian Women  
April 13, 2026**



Hosted by the Coordinating Team



The program was Lesson Seven:  
Finding Our Identity:  
“The Woman Who Was Bent Over”  
Presented By Dail Dowdy



**Next Meeting:  
Monday,  
May 11, 2026,  
2:00 PM**

Lesson Eight:  
Remembering Jesus’  
Baptism  
Presentd By:  
Joyce McGehee

Hostesses:  
Dail Dowdy and  
Catherine Coley



Moderator:  
Teresa Mangum



Treasurer:  
Debra Wall



Devotion:  
Trish Sellars

## Congregational Care Committee

Our Congregational Care Committee continues to exemplify the spirit of compassion and community that lies at the heart of our church, our commitment to caring for each member—especially those who may feel isolated or in need.

Recognizing that some members are unable to attend services or church events in person, the Congregational Care Committee has gone above and beyond by making regular phone calls and visits to our homebound members. These efforts ensure that no one feels forgotten and that everyone remains connected to the life of our congregation.

The committee has made it a priority to reach out to our members by sending *birthday cards and “thinking of you” notes*. These small gestures have had a big impact, brightening the days of recipients and reminding them that they are cherished members of our church family. Each week, we send out the *prayer requests* list by email, keeping our congregation informed and united in prayer. We all know the power of collective prayer.

I am deeply grateful for everyone’s dedication and compassionate outreach, and for keeping our church family connected, cared for, and covered in prayer.

Patsy McBryde; Chair

## CUOC Donations for May

We are collecting breakfast items this month: cereal, granola bars, oatmeal, grits, muffin mix, pancake mix, syrup.



## Missions Committee

We delivered 65 pounds of toilet paper to CUOC that you donated in April.

Thank you for your generosity!

Steve Womack: Chair



**CUOC**  
Christians United Outreach Center  
of Lee County



Photo by: Teresa Seagroves



## CUOC Volunteer Appreciation Celebration

On Tuesday, April 20, CUOC volunteers and their guest were served dinner and were given the opportunity to have a little fun at Circle M City in appreciation for their service to the organization.

Christians United Outreach Center of Lee County is a nonprofit organization that has been helping people in our community for 22 years. Volunteers, like some of our members, provide most of the labor needed to distribute food to thousands of families each year, supplementing the food families provide for themselves. CUOC also operates a thrift store with profits used to support operational cost and to supplement the purchase of food for distribution.

Edgewood has supported this mission for many years through donations of food or other items as needed, and of course with monetary donations. We are proud of all our members who support this service.

Jerry & Connie Wynn, Rev. Sara Martin, Dave & Nancy Mead are pictured above. Not pictured, but also attending: Debra Wall, Joy Holder, and Angela Jenkins.

## Property & Grounds Committee



With help from Jimmy and Trish, we upgraded the McIntosh St. church sign, replaced the lettering, and painted the trim.

Johnny Sellars: Chair

### Maunder Thursday



April 2, 2026 at 7 p.m.  
at Edgewood Presbyterian Church

Edgewood Presbyterian Church &  
Jonesboro Presbyterian Church

Rev. Sara Martin, Pastor  
Edgewood Presbyterian  
316 W. McIntosh St.  
Sanford, NC 27330

Rev. John Taylor, Pastor  
Jonesboro Presbyterian  
2200 Woodland Ave.  
Sanford, NC 27330

Dr. Erin Cooper-Watson, Music Director at Edgewood



April 14, 2026



Teresa and sewing partners, Joan and Katherine, presented "Geometry Quilt Squares" at "I Love Science Night" at Bonlee Elementary School.