



## RESURRECTION DECLARATIONS

This past December I read an article by a man who mocked the truth of the resurrection. For him, believing in the resurrection of Jesus as a historical event is entirely unnecessary because it is just as meaningful as mere symbolic metaphor. While this might seem like the same old story that we tend to hear as the Easter season approaches, insult was added to injury by the fact that this man was an *ordained pastor*. After I read this, I picked my jaw up off the ground and thought: we can never stop teaching and proclaiming the most basic truths of the Christian faith. We should never assume people understand something that we can't even give the most basic explanation of.

So to that end: why does the resurrection matter? The Apostle Paul's eloquent answer to that question appears in [1 Corinthians 15](#), and is summarized like this: Christianity stands and falls with the proclamation of the resurrection. That's true because the resurrection is the keystone of the *Gospel itself*. Think for a moment about the major events of Jesus' life on earth: birth, death, resurrection, and ascension. His birth and death only have significance if the resurrection is a reality, and His ascension cannot happen at all if Jesus doesn't have life after the grave. Everything hangs on the truth claims of the resurrection. Particularly, there are four things that it means for us as Christians.

First, the resurrection confirms Jesus' identify as the divine Son of God. Paul writes that Jesus “was declared to be the Son of God in power according to the Spirit of holiness by His resurrection from the dead” ([Rom 1:4](#)). Throughout His life on earth, Jesus makes many bold claims, but none greater than when He said “I and the Father are one” ([Jn 10:30](#)). There have been many people who have claimed to be God Himself, but nobody has ever proved it; except Jesus. The resurrection declares that Jesus is exactly who He said He was.

Second, the resurrection assures us that our sins are truly forgiven. In that masterful chapter on the resurrection Paul writes, “if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins” ([1 Cor 15:17](#)). If Jesus is not raised, then that means the Father did not accept the Son's sacrifice of His life for the forgiveness of our sins. That would mean we are still guilty before God in our sins. But as Paul also wrote in [Romans 4:25](#), Jesus was “delivered up for our trespasses and raised for our justification.” That means our right standing with God is secured by His being raised as an exclamation mark on our redemption.

Third, the resurrection of Jesus declares that Jesus is still alive today at the Father's right hand, where He intercedes for us. That was the writer to the Hebrew's declaration: He ever lives to make intercession for us ([Heb 7:25](#)). That means that Jesus is praying for us. He sees us in our struggles and bears us up by His mercy through faithful and constant prayers. The truth of Christ's intercession is also the culminating comfort of Paul's rejoicing in [Romans 8:34](#). Jesus ever lives to intercede for believers. You are never alone!

Finally, and unfortunately, what tends to be avoided in this subject matter, is that Christ's resurrection guarantees the pattern of our future resurrection. Jesus was resurrected physically and bodily; so will be all believers. Jesus is said to be the “firstfruits” of resurrection glory, and one day we will have our share in that glory as well ([1 Cor 15:20-23](#)). An eternally physical and bodily existence in the New Heavens and New Earth where we will see Jesus face to face, because, most obviously, we will have eyes and a face. What a thought!

As we worship on the Lord's Day, we proclaim the truth that is especially highlighted during the season of Easter: Jesus is alive! I look forward to rejoicing together with you in this glorious, and most essential truth of the Christian faith. He is Risen!

*Zach*

## ELDERS

Keith Wilson - Clerk  
Jim Mueller  
Kevin Oak  
Mic Penry  
Patrick Shovar  
Todd Stegmiller

## DEACONS

Dorothy Rursch - Chair  
Teresa Weber - Secretary  
Jim Balmer  
Teresa Balmer  
Beth Flickinger  
Marlin Krueger  
Darcy Krueger

## TRUSTEES

Mel Block - Chair  
Larry Pithan - Secretary  
Ken Benningfield  
Kim Freyermuth  
Jeff Fuhr  
Phil Fuhr  
Darren Hall  
Cindy Oak

### APRIL BIRTHDAYS

1 - Paul Hopkins	17 - Carson Thomas
2 - Pat Block	18 - JoAnn Rursch
2 - Shawn Docherty	19 - Brandee Neece
2 - Betty Murdock	19 - Michael Orr
4 - Larry Hesch	20 - Mackenzie Hopkins
4 - Maggie Pape	24 - Rayce Tomlin
6 - Janice Armstrong	26 - Addyson Tomlin
8 - Mark Freyermuth	26 - Nataleigh Tomlin
8 - Kortney Gierlus	26 - Amy Weiss
13 - Eddy Bull	27 - Luci Goodnight
13 - Angie Freyermuth	27 - Lisa Nelson
14 - Lauren Stegmiller	28 - Mitchell Bayne
15 - Scott Nelson	29 - Beth Flickinger
17 - Jon Darland	

### APRIL ANNIVERSARIES

3 - Scott & Cindy Cullen  
8 - Scott & Lisa Nelson  
12 - Joshua & Lindsay Fuhr  
14 - Neal & Vicky Ruggles  
29 - Steve & Debra Wagamon



*He is Risen*

### GREETERS FOR APRIL

Palm Sunday, April 2nd - Jason & Beth Flickinger  
Good Friday, April 7th, 7pm - Patrick & Peggy Shovar  
Easter Sunday, April 9th - Michael & Sharon Orr  
Sunday, April 16th - Nathan & Amy Oak  
Sunday, April 23rd - Jon & Nita Darland  
Sunday, April 30th - Mitch & Sue Miller

February 28, 2023, at 7pm

**Location:** Conference Room

**Present:** TE Zach Hopkins and RE's Jim Mueller, Kevin Oak, Mic Penry, Todd Stegmiller, and Keith Wilson. Absent: RE Patrick Shovar (Excused) A quorum is present.

Pastor Zach acted as moderator of the meeting. He opened the meeting with prayer and read from John 10:30. He also led a discussion concerning Westminster Confession of Faith Chapter 2, Section 3, (The Triune God). The Elders prayed for individual members of the congregation, then concluded the study of the book *Gentle & Lowly* by Dane Ortlund by discussing Chapters 21-23.

**Approval/Amendment of Docket:** Motion was made and seconded to approve the docket. Motion carried.

**Approval of Minutes:** The January 11th, 2023 Session minutes were reviewed. A motion was made to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded and approved.

**Correspondence:** Two correspondences from Stated Clerk of RLP Annie Rose were reviewed and discussed. A thank you card from RLP Moderator Ted Tromble was received and read. Ted and Annie both expressed their thanks for the hospitality shown by our church during the Presbytery meeting.

**Zach's Report:** Zach reported on members with health concerns and prayer needs. Since our January 11th meeting he conducted: 1 office visit, 5 home visits, and 1 hospital visit. He conducted a Leadership Training session, and attended the Mission Committee, Countyline Ministers, Youth group, YouthHope, 37th Stated RLP, RLP CC, RLP MC, RLP Church Planting, and Women's Bible Study meetings.

**Old Business:**

- The Annual Congregational meeting held on January 22nd, 2023 was discussed and minutes reviewed. A motion was made to approve the minutes, was seconded and approved.
- The Session discussed feedback concerning the possibility of creating a Children's Ministry Director. The feedback concerning this has been positive. Zach plans to have a conversation with the Sunday School teachers.
- The 37th RLP meeting that our church hosted on January 27th – 28th was reviewed. Much appreciation was expressed for all of the volunteers that helped out and contributed to a successful meeting.
- Zach reported that our church's PMA/POI payments have been received by the Presbytery and the General Assembly.
- New officers were ordained and installed at the February 12th worship service. Those ordained and installed were: Ruling Elder Todd Stegmiller and Deacons Jim Balmer, Teresa Balmer, Marlin Krueger, Darcy Krueger, Dorothy Rursch, and Teresa Weber.
- Zach asked for feedback on the 2023 Leadership Gathering that was held on February 18th, 2023. Everyone felt that the session was good and the information provided was very helpful.
- The baptisms of Max, Cade, and Charlie Fuhr, sons of Andrew and Cassie Fuhr, occurred on February 19th, 2023.



**New Business:**

- The Session discussed RE committee assignments. It was decided that assignments would remain as: Jim – Trustees, Kevin – Mission, Patrick – Deacons, Mic – Christian Education, Todd – will float with a focus on Deacons, Keith – Clerk and Personnel. Barb Freyermuth was elected to serve as Treasurer.
- Zach has scheduled a spring Membership Matters class for March, 12th, 19th, and 26th after worship services. Communications have been sent out to prospective members. Ruling Elders are encouraged to attend these sessions. New members will be joining on April 2nd.
- A Facility use request for the use of church facilities on May 13th, 2023 for Bailey Iverson's wedding shower was reviewed. A motion was made to approve the request. The motion was seconded and approved.
- Zach reviewed the 2023 Easter Schedule:
  - Good Friday Worship – April 7th at 7:00pm. Communion will be served
  - Easter Breakfast – 8:30am
  - Easter Worship – 10am (We are hopeful that a choir will be organized)
- Mic brought a facility use request from Kathy Stegmiller to sponsor a Matter of Balance class. The Session was agreeable as long as the schedule did not conflict with other activities.
- Communion will be held on March 5th. The next Called Session meeting will be March 28th at 7:00pm. The Session will discuss Part 1 of the book *A Praying Church* by Paul E. Miller at that time.

Motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting at 9:30pm. Motion Carried.

Teaching Elder Zach Hopkins closed the meeting with prayer.

Keith Wilson, Clerk of Session

## **NEED A HAND OR ENCOURAGEMENT? ASK A DEACON!**

The Deacons' charge is to care for the church body. You may already know that we provide delicious treats to celebrate new members, collect coats for those in need, and organize blood drives. But did you now that we are ready to serve in other ways, too?

Here are some of the ways a Deacon can help out:

- Visit shut-ins (including those who are temporarily unable to make it to worship) to provide cheer and recordings of the sermon.
- Deliver meals to those who are injured, ill, or have experienced a loss
- Visit widows(ers) to comfort and provide company.
- Send cards to recognize milestone birthdays and anniversaries, and express condolences
- Organize transportation to doctor's appointments (please give advance notice)

Please, if you or someone you know could benefit in one of these areas, please let a Deacon know right away. We try to anticipate needs, but we are only human, and need help with knowing needs!

The 2023 Deacon team includes: Jim & Teresa Balmer,  
Beth Flickinger, Marlin & Darcy Krueger, Dorothy Rursch, & Teresa Weber.



Date: 3-15-23

Present: Mel Block, Darren Hall, Cindy Oak, Larry Pithan, Session Representative Jim Mueller.

Mel opened the meeting with a prayer at 6:00pm.

Treasurer's report for February reviewed and approved.

Minutes for February 15th meeting reviewed and approved.

### **Old Business:**

### **New Business:**

- Material for church siding project is in storage at lumber yard. Mike Chillemi will begin installation as soon as weather permits. Planning to replace the siding on the steeple and the entire south side of the building. Trustees will need to paint siding after installation.
- Set up a spring cleanup date of Saturday, April 8th at 9am.
- Trustees have received and approved a proposal from CSI insulation to add insulation in the attic. This includes the sanctuary attic, Education wing attic, and above the ceiling at the east end of the sanctuary. Will add insulation to bring value up to R-50.
- After the meeting the trustees removed several items from the education wing attic in preparation for new insulation.

Mel closed the meeting with a prayer at 6:30pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Larry Pithan



## **SPRING CLEAN UP DAY**

Saturday, April 8th, 9am



The Trustees will be having a Spring Clean up day on Saturday, April 8th, beginning at 9am.

We will be trimming bushes, cleaning up yard waste in the landscaping rocks around the building, and putting the battery back in the lawnmower and sharpening the blades.

Bring your gloves, wheelbarrow, rakes, leaf blowers, and trimmers if you can join us.

We would appreciate your help!

February 21, 2023

The Mission Committee met on February 21st, 2023 at 6:30pm in the conference room. Those attending were: Deb Wagamon, Nancy Engstrom, Jim Johnson, Eric and Kelly Moel, Kevin Oak and Pastor Zach.

Zach opened the meeting in prayer

**Orientation for New Members:**

- Zach presented an overview of the mission and purpose of the Mission Committee at EEPC for the new members. We also discussed how the committee could find new opportunities to be of service in our local communities, as well as getting more involved with our regional ministries. There was a time for questions and discussion.

**New Business:**

- 2023 Mission Commitments: There was discussion and review of the 2022 commitments and where we should be for 2023. The following outline was presented, motion for approval was made and seconded. Listed below are the 2023 Mission commitments.

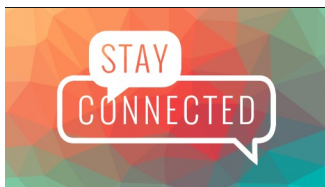
2023 Mission Commitments	Amount Committed
World Outreach (Burdall)	\$ 8,500.00
World Outreach ITEN (Anderson)	\$ 7,500.00
World Outreach ITEN (Kuhn)	\$ 4,000.00
World Outreach (Huber)	\$ 4,200.00
EPC Church Planting (Lancaster)	\$ 6,000.00
Youth Hope	\$ 6,000.00
Youth Hope – Cre8 Studios	\$ 3,000.00
Pregnancy Resources	\$ 3,000.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$42,220.00</b>

- **Rockridge School District Teachers:** Nancy presented a list of supplies needed for the Elementary, Jr. High, and High School classrooms. We motioned and approved a donation of \$500 for these supplies. The Mission team members will complete the shopping for each level presented and bring the supplies back to EEPC to be given to Brandee Neece who will take them to the teachers listed.
- **Pregnancy Resources:** Deb will contact Liz to sign up the attendees for the March 30th fundraising banquet. She will also confirm our participation in the Baby Bottle Campaign in May/June and how many bottles we will order.
- **Youth Hope:** Deb will reserve a table for the April 13th fundraising banquet. We are also prayerfully considering how we can continue to support the Camp Summit building project.
- **New Ministry Ideas:** The team will continue to generate new ideas for increasing our support for local and regional ministries. This will be a topic on the March agenda.

Deb closed the meeting in prayer

Our next meeting will be held on Tuesday March 21st, 2023 at 6:30pm.





Check out the next several pages for the ministries we support and for ways that you can get personally INVOLVED!

{get involved}  
be the church

PROUDLY SERVING  
SENIORS SINCE 1968



## Project NOW Community Action Agency



For many years now Edgington EPC has been a host site for Senior Meals. The doors are now open here for meals **EVERY WEEKDAY!**

Meals are available for a suggested donation of \$3 to anyone 60+ years or with a disability. If you are new to the program, you need to call 309-788-6335 the day before to request your meal.



Those who attend regularly come early to play cards and enjoy each other's company for a little longer than just meal time.

If you would like more information or want to check out the menu for the month click the Project Now logo above for the link to their website or call 309-788-6335.

I AM  
THE  
RESURRECTION  
AND  
THE  
LIFE  
JOHN 11:25



### 2023 LOCAL BLOOD DRIVES

May 20th - St. Pat's, 8 - 11am

Sept. 9th - Edgington EPC, 7 - 10:30am

Nov. 11th - Midwest Bank in Andalusia  
on the donor bus (tentative), 1 - 4pm



### 2023 VBS PLANNING MEETING

Sunday, April 23rd,  
12:15pm

Our VBS kids will launch into an out-of-this-world adventure that will leave an impression that will last a lifetime!  
The theme is: Stellar, Shine Jesus' Light.

We would appreciate it if people would start saving their empty toilet paper rolls and empty 2 liter bottles! There will be a more comprehensive list of needed supplies coming out in the months ahead and we are so grateful for all your help and donations!

This community outreach takes **MANY** hands, **MUCH** work, and **LOTS** of planning!  
**We could use your help!**

Please look for ways to be involved and contact Kathy Stegmiller at 309-791-1162 for more info.

*Thank you!*

## MCCALLUM'S MARCH MUSE 2023

The emergency financial needs for EduNations sites in S. L. have been more than met.  
Praise God!

### February Classes in V.

Thank you for your prayers for the Ministry Leadership Training Institute (MLTI) classes. Ed did fabulously teaching via Zoom in spite of not being able to see the men's faces and his body telling him after 11:30pm that darkness meant he should be sleeping rather than teaching another 4 hours.

Nan had no travel issues on her own and was able to connect with the class as a group and in individual meetings to hear about family, work, ministry joys and trials. We saw improvement from pre- to post-test scores on New Testament knowledge. Pretest scores reinforced the need for basic biblical instruction. The students learned a topic title and graphic icon like the one on the right (1 Corinthians - Disagreements) for each book of the NT and received bound resource material similar to a Study Bible. Each returned home with the goal to teach the material in their context. The group spent time discussing how to overcome obstacles they experienced in replicating the teaching.

The Christian Community Development class prior to Ed's provided leaders a biblical framework, understanding the difference between crisis response and development. Time was planned to develop regional project ideas. The goal over the next few months is to do the ground work for the projects that they prayerfully picked.

**Pray for faithfulness in meeting these goals. These men face many challenges:** time away from farming which sustains their families, government push back in one area, logistics for meetings with area churches, prioritizing time commitments.

**In a problem solving discussion they decided to:** pray through obstacles, team with each other, ask for help, think of solutions to roadblocks, not keep the training to themselves as it's valuable equipping for all.

We asked 9 men to give a 10-minute devotion in the national language and learned that this was extremely challenging. They can teach in their mother tongue with much higher ease. This seems to indicate that a Phase 2 needs to be in their mother tongue which limits classes to one people group. We and the leadership of our national partners had thought multiple ethnic groups could meet together which doesn't seem to be the case. Assumptions are risky as they are so often wrong. The impact of the tower of Babel! (Genesis 11:1-9)

### Looking forward:

The last 2 classes will be presented in May. Ed is teaching I Corinthians in a workshop style to help them apply the biblical observation/interpretation/teaching they learned in the first class as they dig deeply into a New Testament setting that experienced issues they see in their own churches.

Our team partners, David/Debbie W, will teach Toward a Gospel-Centered Life and Ministry workshop.

May Celebration of the completion of the pilot MLTI's 12 courses. Like all pilots our data is a mixture of encouragement and seeing where we need to make adjustments. We need to look at expectations, delivery, language usage, defining coaching needs, and implementing self-sustaining practices. We've been asked by our national partners to oversee a Phase 2 where people from Phase 1 do the teaching with ITEN providing teacher coaching. Lots is currently on the table. We'll keep you posted.

Chance to take an active role: If you want to Pick a Pastor for Prayer from the class, let Nan know and will send you a packet that includes a picture of each man, biographical information, and prayer needs. Not all of the class are pastors - some are elders in their church. All are involved in church ministry and/or as evangelists. All are to train others what they learned at MLTI classes - the II Timothy 2:2 model: "and what you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses entrust to faithful people, who will be able to teach others also."

**Long range for McCallum's:** We continue in prayer for M..... and ask you to do so as well. Last week Nan learned there is a church here in the area of families from an region of this country that is significant to ITEN. We'd like to visit them.

We will be transitioning to working with ITEN on a reduced level as self-funded workers January 1, 2024. What that looks like is still nebulous. Truly today's troubles are enough for today! Thanks for hanging with us on our redeployment.

Ed's has been tenacious with icing and exercising after his knee replacement. (Check out your health insurance plan is you are a senior citizen. We found a free option through Silver Sneakers.)

Nan will attend the Child Safety and Protection Network for the last time as World Outreach's Senior Child Safety Officer March 22-25 along with the new Assistant Director for World Outreach. Pray for networking and learning what will be needed for the months ahead. Nan has been honored to present one of the daily devotions.

May the Lord bless your lives as you study scripture and apply it to your life and setting!

Nan & Ed McCallum



There is more to this update! Email the church office to read it all!



Happy March! Sorry to have skipped February - hoping to be back on track now! Hope you are all well and not covered in too much snow! Here in L..... the daffodils and crocus are everywhere - it still amazes us Midwesterners that spring comes so quickly.

#### Updates and ministry prayer needs:

Over the recent February half term we had an Asha event for ladies and children.

The ladies made soap and had a good discussion about what repentance means.

The children had a club event about Jonah. It was well attended and a great time to see the kids interacting with the Jonah story, even acting it out! Pray that what was discussed will sink in, and pray that these attendees will come on a Sunday too.

At the end of January local ministries and churches put on an event for school children called the Life Exhibition. It was an interactive way to explain Jesus life, death and resurrection. C..... helped out one day of the week long event. It was great to see kids interact with the message and also see teachers impressed at the friendliness and welcome of all those involved. It was also encouraging to see many Christian groups in the borough coming together to reach schools!

S.... and a teammate have been working on a podcast about life, Christianity, being English, being Bengali... if you would like to have a listen, check out the link here (*contact the church for the link*). Pray that this podcast can connect to many, and will lead to conversations about Jesus.

Continue to pray for the people that come to Asha services. We have about 5 or 6 that come almost every week. Pray for God to be working in their hearts. And pray for our team as we lead and worship, that we would do so with joy and with dependance on God.

This month there are many extra book table events in the lead up to Easter. Pray for S.... as he is out more frequently there - for wisdom and gentleness as he connects with people. And pray for those that take literature or have talks with those at the tables.

Ramadan is starting around March 22. Pray for our outreach during this time - for chances to discuss faith and fasting, or to be invited to breaking of fast meals. And pray that our neighbors participating can see an alternative to a very works-based faith. If you want to pray specifically at this time, there is a link to a prayer guide here (*again, contact the church for the link*).

We are having a brunch with the university-age girls from club this Saturday. Pray for that time with them, and for future opportunities to continue connecting with them and having deeper conversations with them about faith.

Also continue to pray for the weekly things we are involved in- S.... and talks with people at the bookshop, for his mentoring and teaching, for book tables and those conversations. C..... and visits to schools and afterschool clubs, for time at ESOL, for Sunday School and planning outreach for kids through Asha. And, pray for more chances to meet one on one with people, both for building relationship and for being able to share the hope we have.

#### Family prayer requests:

C.... flew to Colombia a few weeks ago - he is travelling and planning to work remotely. Pray for his safety as he moves around.

J..... is doing a university visit this month - pray for him as he thinks about his future plans, and us as we try to give advice in a system we don't totally understand.

Pray for us as we parent all the kids, but especially A..... - that she gets enough focus of our time. And, praise that she is enjoying school and friendships here.

We just had a group from our supporting Presbytery here for about a week- seeing what we do, praying, participating in some book tables.. it was great to see people and encouraging to be supported. Grateful for that care, and for the support we continue to have from all of you!

With love,

S., C., and kids

*For safety reasons it has been decided not to include a link to their full update. If you would like to receive their regular updates via email, please contact the church office and Lisa will connect you with the Burdsall's to be added to their email list.*

## CHEERING FOR GOD, CHEERING FOR OTHERS! (click [HERE](#) for full newsletter)



Praise God for all He has done! We have seen Him work, move, and orchestrate things in His perfect timing! For example, Legacy Baptist Church brought a massive food collection the week our Food Pantry delivery was delayed. We were nearly out of food, but God provided!

“Finnely” got connected to a reading buddy who helped get him glasses, provided groceries for the family, and helped get the laundry done! They have grown close and his confidence has soared and attention has focused. This support comes during a tough transition and has been a constant and much needed encouragement.

We praise God for our answered prayers!

- TWO MORE New Staff have joined our team!
- We had a powerful week of staff training, vision casting and program planning!
- Our Gun Violence Prevention Program began!
- We are close to finishing the Camp Summit Capital Campaign! Praise God! The new building will be completed for summer camps!

We are so excited to share updates like these and amazing testimonies of lives changed at our Banquet on April 13th! This will be a powerful and moving night - you don't want to miss it!

Thank you for your prayers and partnership! Together, we bring youth HOPE! God bless you!

### SPRING 2023 - SATURDAY WOK DAYS

April 22 (8am - 4pm)

May 20 (8am - 4pm)



Join us for some fun and fellowship as we prepare for Summer Camps!

**Work Day Projects:** Pressure wash decks, basketball courts, and boats, Rake leaves and clear trails, cut, split, and stack firewood, clean gutters and siding, Deep clean lodge, Landscaping & retaining wall, Clean, set-up, and decorate for summer camps

Camp Summit, 3321 57th Ave., New Windsor, IL 61465 (4 mi. south of New Windsor)

**Contact us to signup:** Kevin Perrine, Director of Operations, 309-762-4577 | [kperrine@youthhopeqc.org](mailto:kperrine@youthhopeqc.org)



**HOPE IN MOTION**

### You are invited!

### HOPE IN MOTION FUNDRAISING BANQUET

Thursday, April 13th, 2023

Doors open at 5pm

Dinner at 6pm

Live auction at 6:45pm

Program at 7pm

The Bend Expo

922 Mississippi Parkway

East Moline, IL 61244

Enjoy dinner, live and silent auction, and AMAZING youth testimonies!

The Mission Committee hopes to have one or two tables of Edgington EPC faces in attendance at the banquet. There is a sign-up sheet on the table in the sanctuary foyer. See Deb Wagamon if you have any questions.

## EDUCATING AFTER THE CHOICE FOR LIFE



Pregnancy Resources utilizes pregnancy tests, ultrasounds, and education to help women and men make informed decisions for life. Part of supporting a parent's choice for life includes equipping these clients to be the best parents possible. Parenting Education Programs are an intentional part of this holistic approach to **ministering to the needs of BOTH the mom and dad.**

Pregnancy Resources currently offers 22 class times every week. From learning how to have a Healthy Pregnancy to how to manage an unruly toddler in Active Parenting, **our clients have multiple opportunities each week to grow in their parenting skills.**

In 2022, more than 1,000 classes were attended by our clients. There were moms, dads, grandparents, and sometimes close friends. Many times, clients attend class for material assistance benefits, but they **always leave with more knowledge than they expected.**

In their own words, clients say things like "The information is very helpful and helps to prepare myself" and that, **"It's interactive and easy to understand, and a great place to ask questions."** Clients enjoy the group aspect, saying things like "it's a small group so it seems to be more personal and gives everyone a chance to talk." When asked what they had learned when we talked about safety, one parent in training said, "Do not shake the baby, because I didn't know that it could hurt the baby."

As a part of this holistic care, there are times in classes when spiritual things are discussed. Often, we have comments like, "I like that she prayed for me," and **"I liked learning to be a better parent and also hearing the word of God."**

Volunteer teachers do a great job of helping to equip our clients to be the parents they have the potential to be. Thank you for making these educational moments possible.

Pam White, Moline Center Director

### PRO WOMAN IS PRO-LIFE - Blog from the Director, Trisha Wilson

March is Women's History month. Many of the early champions of the women's rights movement, in both the United States and throughout the world, were and are unapologetically pro-life. Today we honor some of those came before us and who walk among us, leading the way to say that **all life matters and women deserve better than abortion.** Here are some of their thoughts, in their own words...

**Elizabeth Cady Stanton** called abortion "infanticide" and wrote that "when we consider that women are treated as property, it is degrading to women that we should treat our children as property to be disposed of as we see fit."

**Susan B. Anthony** frequently referred to abortion as "child murder" and "infanticide." She said: "Child murders practice their profession without let or hindrance, and open infant butcheries unquestioned... Perhaps there will come a day when an unmarried mother will not be despised because of her motherhood... and when the right of the unborn to be born will not be denied or interfered with."

**Mother Teresa** said: "I feel that the greatest destroyer of peace today is abortion, because it is a war against the child, a direct killing of the innocent child, murder by the mother herself. And if we can accept that a mother can kill her own child, how can we tell other people not to kill one another?" She also said: "It is a poverty to decide that a child must die so that you may live as you wish."

Author **E. A. Buchianeri** said: "Abortion should be listed as a weapon of mass destruction against the voiceless."

Women's Rights Advocate and Activist **Alice Paul** said: "Abortion is the ultimate exploitation of women."

Author and Eastern Orthodox Theologian **Frederica Mathewes-Green** said: "Abortion is not a sign that women are free, but a sign that they are desperate."

President of Feminists for Life **Serrin Foster** said: "Most women 'choose' abortion precisely because they believe they have no other choice."

**Alveda King** said: "Abortion and racism are both symptoms of a fundamental human error. The error is thinking that when someone stands in the way of our wants, we can justify getting that person out of our lives. Abortion and racism stem from the same poisonous root, selfishness."



# EDGINGTON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

## Treasurer's Report February 2023

		Receipts	Disbursement	Balance
General (includes Edgington)	\$ 88,786.60	\$ 16,023.38	\$ 16,071.92	\$ 88,738.06
Education Fund (Jahn)	\$ 9,225.30	\$ 253.52		\$ 9,478.82
Building Funds	\$ 246,572.28	\$ 1,050.25	\$ -	\$ 247,622.53

### February 2023 MONTHLY REVIEW - General Fund

#### Receipts - February 2023

Pledges	15,716.84
Interest Income - General Fund	10.54
Per Member Asking	200.00
Thrivent Grant Payment	96.00

\$ 16,023.38

#### Expenditures - February 2023

##### Administrative

ABS (copier rental)	-
AT&T - Phone for elevator	106.76
Computers: Software and Apps	1,203.20
Computers: System/Hardware	75.59
Flowers (Easter)	(218.00)
Kone Contract (annual)	1,605.24
Lisa Bowman	1,283.07
MidAmerican Energy	755.00
Millennium Waste	53.71
Office Supplies	82.04
ReyTel - Internet	117.94
Robin Preston	286.08
Shipping & Postage	1.98
Taxes / FICA / Penalty	123.04

\$ 5,475.65

*Paid in March*

##### Discipleship (Internal)

Continuing Education	7.41
EPC (health)	26.48
Fidelity (pension)	960.89
Honorarium	150.00
Housing Allowance	3,176.18
Meals	31.33
Mileage	186.68
Music	110.00
Presbytery Expense	150.00
Resource Materials	14.99
Travel (rental cars for Youth)	857.16
VBS Expense	42.99
Zach Hopkins salary	3,176.16

\$ 8,890.27

*Flowers for RLP service minus donation*

*To be reimbursed from YG*

*To be reimbursed from VBS*

##### Mission (external)

Mission - International	1,556.00
Mission - Local	50.00
Transfer to Education Fund	100.00

\$ 1,706.00

*Donation to Education Fund*

#### TOTAL EXPENSES

\$ 16,071.92

#### NET OPERATING INCOME

\$ (48.54)

#### INCLUDED IN GENERAL FUND TOTAL

Mission monies included in general fund	\$ 13,819.20
Assistance Fund included in general fund	\$ 5,153.46

GET YOUR APRIL COPY OF  
THE TABLETALK DEVOTIONAL



LOCATED ON A TABLE IN THE SANCTUARY FOYER

If you would like to submit something for the newsletter, **please** be sure to have it in by the deadline.



ALL submissions for the May 2023 Newsletter must be in by **NO LATER** than Wednesday, April 19<sup>th</sup>. Items received after that date may not make it into the newsletter.

*Thank you for your cooperation!*

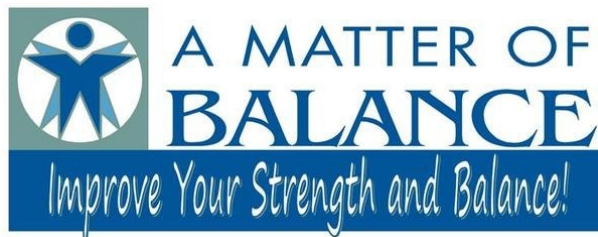
*~ Lisa Bowman, Office Manager*



Do you know anyone that is not receiving the Edgington EPC Newsletter each month? If so, please contact the church office at 309-795-1713 or [edgingtonepc@gmail.com](mailto:edgingtonepc@gmail.com) and let me know. I will be happy to make arrangements for it to be received by whatever means works best.

The newsletter is distributed via email and postal service. It is also posted to our Facebook page and website: [edgingtonepc.org](http://edgingtonepc.org).

*Thank you so much for your help!*



CONCERNED  
ABOUT  
FALLING?

Matter of Balance (MOB) is a falls prevention program designed to help reduce the fear of falling and increase the activity levels of older adults. Western Illinois Area Agency on Aging (WIAAA) is sponsoring a MOB class in our church basement for anyone who is interested and 60+ years of age.

There is no charge. The classes will be Mondays and Wednesdays from 12 - 2pm starting April 10th and ending on May 3rd.

This class is full, but if all goes as planned, we will offer it at our church again in early Fall of this year.

If you are interested, please notify Nita Darland, Sharon Orr, or Kathy Stegmiller and your name will be put on a waiting list. Then you will be notified when plans are finalized for the next class.

HE IS NOT HERE  
FOR  
*He is Risen*

MATTHEW 28:6



UNITYPOINT FOOT CLINIC

Next Clinic: Monday, April 17th  
starting at 9am

If you would like to receive a pedicure done by a medical professional, please call the church office at 309-795-1713 to schedule an appointment.

## SERMON SERIES

We are in the Old Testament looking at the second half of the story of God's grace to the Patriarchs of Israel as we study "Generations of Grace - The Covenant Continues: Isaac & Jacob" in Genesis 25-35.

We hope you will join us!

Sunday, April 2nd – Palm Sunday

Friday, April 7th, 7pm - Good Friday Service

Sunday, April 9th – Easter Sunday

Sunday, April 16th – [Genesis 34](#)

Sunday, April 23rd – [Genesis 35](#)

Sunday, April 30th - [Genesis 48](#)

## GENERATIONS OF GRACE



THE COVENANT CONTINUES: ISAAC & JACOB



## SCRIPTURE LINKS - Download the apps!



ESV.org is an online Bible reading tool created to help you read and engage with God's Word. While many features of the site are available without signing in, we invite you to **create a free account**, which makes it easy to save personal notes, highlight favorite verses, and start interactive reading plans.

*(Click on the images to go to their websites)*



Blue Letter Bible provides powerful tools for an in-depth study of God's Word through our free online reference library, with study tools that are grounded in the historical, conservative Christian faith. We view the Bible as central to our study resources. We intentionally designed the website to include study tools that are linked directly to Bible passages. Dig deep into the Word using commentaries, encyclopedias, maps/images and much more. One of our most used tools is the Lexicon search, which gives users immediate access to the original Hebrew and Greek words.

## MAKE A PLAN TO BE IN GOD'S WORD

We hope you have a plan to be in God's Word for 2023! To help you with that, Pastor Zach has a chronological Bible reading plan on the table in the sanctuary foyer.

ESV.org has a number of Bible reading plans and if you are reading this in a digital copy you will find the link to those **HERE** and on the top of the reading plan on the two next pages.

You will also find a link to **BacktotheBible.org** at the bottom of the reading plan. It has too many opportunities to list to help you grow in your walk with the Lord, including a link to goTandem, which is basically a spiritual fitness app designed to assess your spiritual fitness and help you set goals, get strengthened, and be spiritually healthy. Check it out!

We encourage you to explore these plans designed to help you prioritize abiding in God's Word. Each plan differs slightly, so find one that fits your unique learning style and study goals for the year. We hope these options will serve you as you grow as a disciple of Christ and share the truths you are learning with those in your life.





Pastor Zach is on Facebook Live every Sunday morning at 10am for our Lord's Day Worship Service .



If you are not already a member of our Facebook group, please click on the image for the link. "Like" our page and request to join. We are pretty quick to respond. Make sure you are "following" our page and turn your notifications setting on if you would like to receive a notification when Pastor Zach begins to stream. We will post a worship guide each week in advance of the service.

The Westminster Shorter Catechism, consisting of a summary of Christian doctrine in 107 questions and answers, was written by the Westminster Assembly in London over 350 years ago. When Presbyterianism came over the Atlantic Ocean to the shores of this country, the Catechism came as well. The Catechism has been acknowledged by many to be the most accurate and succinct summary of the Christian faith ever produced. So is it still useful today? Join us in Sunday School to learn more.

TO  
GLORIFY  
AND  
ENJOY  
GOD  
FOREVER



ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL 2022

## THE SHORTER CATECHISM

9:00AM - FELLOWSHIP HALL

*We meet every Lord's Day morning at 9am in the church basement. Please join us!*



### CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES

Every Sunday morning at 9am



Toddler	- Hillary Terrill & Kortney Geirlus
Pre-K	- Beth Flickinger
1st-2nd	- Katie Pearson & Sue Miller
3rd-5th	- Kathy Stegmiller
Junior High	- Tara Johnson
Senior High	- Brandee Neece



*All of Scripture is the unfolding story of salvation and Jesus is its focus. We show how Jesus, revealed throughout the Bible, came to seek and save the lost.*

*We look forward to the privilege of caring for and teaching your children about Jesus each Sunday!*



## WOMEN'S MINISTRY RUMMAGE & BAKE SALE

Start cleaning out those closets and drawers! Gather together items you've been wanting to replace with something new! The Women's Ministry Rummage Sale is just around the corner!



**WHEN:** Saturday, May 13th, 8am - 2pm  
Sunday, May 14th, after church

**BAKE SALE • PLANT SALE • LUNCH • INDIVIDUAL SELLERS**

**INDIVIDUAL SELLERS:** Get rid of your gently used items from home and make a profit!

- Rent a table for \$10 & bring your marked items and cash box to sell your treasures and you keep the \$.
- If you would like to rent a table, please contact Nancy Cooksey by Monday May 8th.
- Set up on Friday, May 12th and remove unsold items at the end of the sale.

**DONATIONS NEEDED:** Plants and Baked Goods (especially pies) would be appreciated on Fri., May 12th.

**LUNCH:** Pulled Pork Sandwiches, Hot Dogs, and Desserts will be served.

**Questions or comments:** Nancy Cooksey 309-737-8855

*Sale Proceeds will be used for church remodeling projects.*

**QUILTING**  
Thursday, April 20th, 9am

Please join us on the third Thursday of nearly every month from 9am - noon as we create, piece, and sew quilts to present to next year's graduating seniors, as well as Winnie's Place.

Even if you don't know how to sew, but can operate a pair of scissors and/or an iron, we would love to have you! If we can increase our production, we will be able to bless even more people in the community.

*Hope to see you there!*



### 2023 VBS ONLINE REGISTRATION OPENS MONDAY, APRIL 10th at 6am

Set an alarm!!! Registration fills quickly and you don't want to miss out on the fun!

This year our kids will launch into an out-of-this-world adventure that will leave an impression that will last a lifetime! The theme is: Stellar, Shine Jesus' Light.

VBS runs July 24th - July 28th at the Loud Thunder Boy Scout Camp from 8:45am - 3:30pm each day.

Please click on the VBS logo above for a link to the registration website and follow the links there for more information!

Contact Kathy Stegmiller for more info.  
309-791-1162



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# GOOD FRIDAY

Easter Services  
and related  
events/info

HALLELUJAH! CHRIST IS RISEN!

## EASTER WORSHIP

WORSHIP 10AM

the  
RESURRECTION  
and  
the  
LIFE

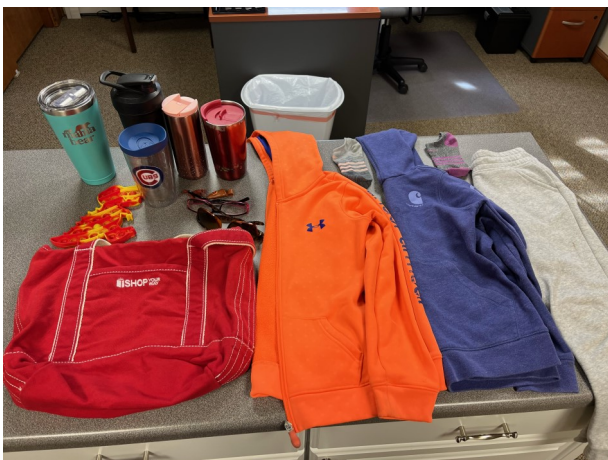
Please join us Easter morning prior to the service for a BIG breakfast served by the youth.

We will have eggs, bacon, sausage, biscuits and gravy, pancakes, and waffles.

Serving starts at 8:30am.

All donations made will help offset the cost of their summer mission trip.

## EASTER BREAKFAST



### Lost and Found

Please zoom in & look!

Do any of these items look familiar to you???

If so, please check the **LOST & FOUND** basket located under the table in the sanctuary foyer that has the TableTalk devotionals and newsletters sitting upon it.





## 2023 Youth Mission Trip

July 8<sup>th</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup>



**WHO:** High School Students / Ages 14+

**WHAT:** You and your group will provide home repairs at no cost for elderly, disabled, and disadvantaged people who need your help. Project crews typically serve the same resident for the entire trip, creating an environment where meaningful relationships develop. Projects typically include painting houses, repairing porches, and general home repairs.

**WHY:** Because you want to have a meaningful summer experience of service and Christian growth while making new friends from all over the country.



7/8 1<sup>st</sup> Presbyterian Church – 503 Fisher Street | Little Rock, IA 51243

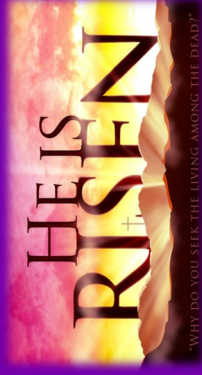
7/9-14 Worksite projects in Mission, SD – Staying at Local School

### WHERE & WHEN?



- **I think I want to go! What do I need to do?**
  - Get this trip on your calendar! Make sure you don't have any schedule conflicts. Spots are limited so we need to be sure that those students who sign up can go.
- **How much is this going to cost?**
  - A deposit of \$100 will secure your spot. Turn this into the office ASAP.
  - A second payment of \$150 is due before the trip.
  - The total of \$250 covers \*\*everything\*\*
    - Except whatever random snacks or weird things you might want to buy – that's on you!
  - Please don't let finances be a factor, there are support opportunities available to help you cover your costs. Just ask!
- **What's next?**
  - Register online starting March 1<sup>st</sup> (Church Facebook Page)
  - When we have our spots filled, there will be more info including: lodging details, tool lists, estimated schedule, and more!

# APRIL 2023



Sunday School 9am  
Worship Service

**EEPC**  
Phone: 309-795-1713  
Email: [edgingtonepc@gmail.com](mailto:edgingtonepc@gmail.com)  
WEBSITE: [www.edgingtonepc.org](http://www.edgingtonepc.org)

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
26 B/P Checks Membership Matters, 11:30am Youth Group, 6pm	27 Meal Site	28 Meal Site Women's Bible Study, 10am Session Mtg., 7pm	29 Meal Site Women's Bible Study, 6:30pm	30 Meal Site	31 Meal Site	1
2 Palm Sunday Food Pantry Sunday New Member Reception, 11:30am Youth Group, 6pm	3 Meal Site	4 Meal Site Women's Bible Study, 10am	5 Meal Site Women's Bible Study, 6:30pm	6 Meal Site	7 Good Friday Meal Site Good Friday Service, 7pm	8 Spring Clean Up, 9am
9 Easter Breakfast, 8:30am NO Sunday School	10 Meal Site VBS Registration Opens, 6am Matter of Balance, 12 - 2pm	11 Meal Site Women's Bible Study, 10am	12 Meal Site Women's Bible Study, 6:30pm Matter of Balance, 12 - 2pm	13 Meal Site	14 Meal Site	15
16 Youth Group, 6pm	17 Foot Clinic Meal Site Matter of Balance, 12 - 2pm	18 Meal Site Mission Comm. Mtg., 6:30pm	19 Meal Site Matter of Balance, 12 - 2pm Trustee Mtg., 6pm Newsletter Items Due	20 Quilting, 9am Meal Site	21 Meal Site	22
23 B/P Checks Deacon's Mtg., 11:30am VBS Mtg., 12:15pm Youth Group, 6pm	24 Meal Site Matter of Balance, 12 - 2pm	25 Meal Site Session Mtg., 7pm	26 Meal Site Matter of Balance, 12 - 2pm	27 NO Meal Site	28 Meal Site R&LP Mtg., Warrenville, IL	29 R&LP Mtg., Warrenville, IL
30 Youth Group, 6pm	1 Meal Site Matter of Balance, 12 - 2pm	2 Meal Site	3 Meal Site Matter of Balance, 12 - 2pm	4 Meal Site	5 Meal Site	6 Spring Serve Day, Time???? Basement Reserved