



Dear Church,

We've recently been announcing that our series in Genesis, "*Generations of Grace*" is drawing to a conclusion, and we have been looking forward to what's next from the pulpit ministry of Edgington EPC. The plan is to begin Luke's account of the life and ministry of Jesus in the fall, which leaves some time over the summer for another topical sermon series.

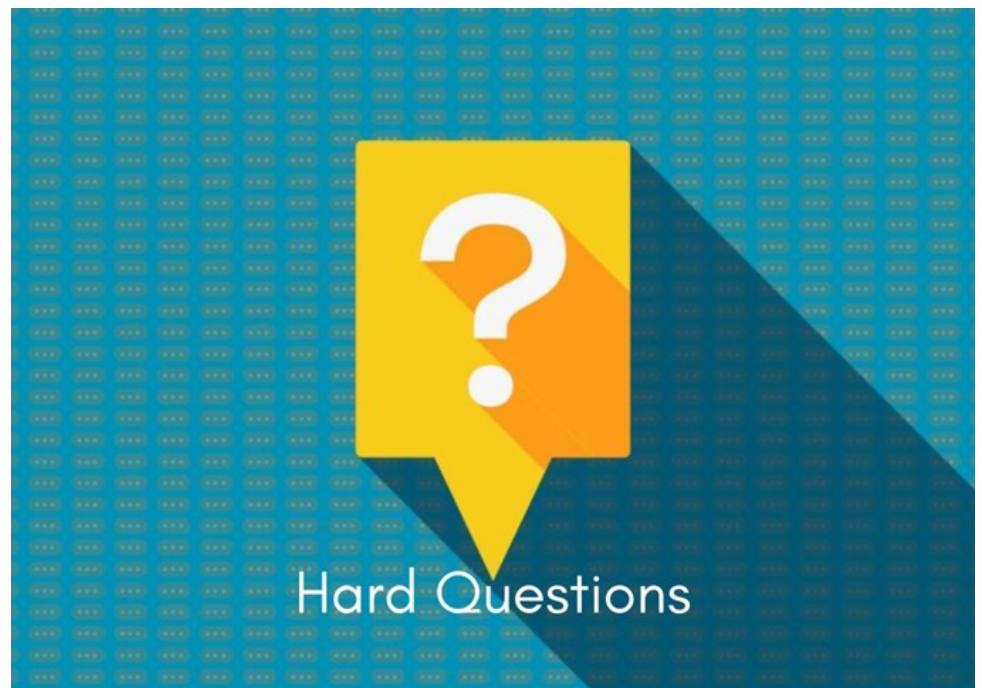
The Elders have selected "*Hard Questions*" for this next seasonal series. We are still in the process of curating a list of questions and we would like to involve you! With "*Hard Questions*" we have in mind, first, hard questions that you might have asked or are currently asking of yourself and your faith, but also, secondly, those hard questions that you might occasionally receive from a friend, co-worker, neighbor, or family member that have left you a bit frustrated and/or scratching your head wondering how to respond. So, you'll notice there is both an intention of maturing Christian knowledge, in the first motivation, but also a desire to further equip the saints for the ministry of apologetics (meaning defense of the faith, i.e., providing answers).

Do you have suggestions for this series? You can pass them along to myself or any of the elders. We hope to begin this series toward the middle to the end of the month of May, so the time is quickly approaching. As the list of questions develops, I hope to provide an outline so you can expect what is upcoming in terms of content.

I look forward to seeing you on the Lord's Day as we explore these topics together.

Your Pastor & Friend,





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

MAY BIRTHDAYS

3 - Amy Ryser	19 - Bob Stegmiller
4 - Amy Nitzel (Schelker)	19 - Teresa Weber
7 - Beth Easterla	22 - Olivia Freyermuth
7 - Peggy Weiss	22 - Phil Fuhr
9 - Pam Johnson	23 - Pam Ehm
9 - Mic Penry	24 - Lee-Ann Druckmiller
10 - Cade Reimers	24 - Jonathan Gierlus
13 - Teresa Balmer	27 - Renee Meredith
13 - Jennifer Elliott	28 - Roma Milner
13 - Colton Landi	30 - Kyle Johnson
14 - Wyatt Fuhr	31 - Darcy Krueger
19 - Jason Ruggles	31 - Debbie Tomlin


2023
class of
 CONGRATULATIONS GRADUATES!

MAY ANNIVERSARIES

6 - Dewey & Shirley Flemming
 12 - Michael & Joyce O'Hare
 13 - Gene & Renee Meredith
 18 - Matthew & Elisabeth Tomlin
 19 - Augie & Mary Rose Kerres
 22 - Bill & Pam Ehm
 24 - Jason & Kelly Ruggles
 25 - Michael & Sharon Orr
 27 - Jason & Beth Flickinger
 30 - Jim & Teresa Balmer
 30 - Korey & Tara Miller
 30 - Bob & Kathy Stegmiller



GREETERS FOR MAY

Sunday, May 7th - Marvin and Peggy Weiss
 Sunday, May 14th - Bill and Lisa Sloan
 Sunday, May 21st - Jeff and Kathy Fuhr
 Sunday, May 28th - Molly Cook



TO OUR NEWEST FAMILY MEMBERS!

We are so thankful to God for our newest members and look forward to seeing how God grows them and uses them for His glory here at Edgington EPC and in our community.

welcome



Aaron & Michelle Ehm

18628 91st St. W.
Reynolds, IL 61279
Aaron's cell: 309-738-6696
aoehm@hotmail.com
Michelle's cell: 309-737-6543
mmaranda24@yahoo.com

Nathan & Lyndsey Flickinger

409 4th St. E.
Milan, IL 61264
Nathan's cell: 309-648-1695
nkflick@gmail.com
Lyndsey's cell: 214-205-3876
lucaslyndsey@yahoo.com

Jim Pettit

3427 139th St. W.
Taylor Ridge, IL 61284
Home #: 309-795-1446
Cell: 309-738-6933

Pamela Ehm (not pictured -
Pam will officially join w/next
new member group)

2828 149th Ave. W.
Milan, IL 61264
Pam's cell: 309-738-2037
ehmranger@outlook.com

Bailey Iverson

105 5th St.
Sherrard, IL 61281
309-428-1292
lverson.b10115@gmail.com



March 28, 2023, at 7pm

Location: Conference Room

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

Pastor Zach acted as moderator of the meeting. Zach opened the meeting with prayer and read from Mark 11:1-10. The Elders prayed for individual members of the congregation, then discussed part one of the book *A Praying Church* by Paul E. Miller.

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

Approval of Minutes: The February 28th, 2023, Session minutes were reviewed. A motion was made to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded and carried.

Zach's Report: Zach reported on members with health concerns and prayer needs. Since our February 28th meeting, he conducted 3 office visits, and 5 home visits. He attended Countyline Ministers, RLP CC, RLP Chaplain, and RLP Church Planting meetings. He conducted three sessions of the Membership Matters class. He also attended Women's Bible Study and conducted the planning and funeral of David Rursch.

Old Business:

- Children's Ministry Director. Zach plans to have a conversation with the Sunday School teachers to gather feedback. He will post the position to the Church's website and Facebook page.
- Zach reported on the Membership Matters class that was conducted March 12th, 19th and 26th. Participants in the class were Kay Amy, Aaron Ehm, Michelle Ehm, Pam Ehm, Nathan Flickinger, Lyndsey Flickinger, Bailey Iverson and James Pettit. It was moved, seconded, and carried to accept these individuals as members. They will join the church at the April 2nd worship service and will be welcomed with a reception after the service.
- 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

New Business:

- The 38th RLP meeting will be held in Warrenville, IL April 28th–29th. It was moved, seconded, and carried to appoint Mic and Keith to serve as delegates for this meeting.
- The Session discussed the resignation of custodian Robin Preston. Appreciation was expressed on her conscientious care of the church over the past years. A few ideas were discussed concerning replacing her and the follow-ups necessary.
- The Session discussed the recent retirement of Pastor Harold Losey at Hamlet/Perryton Presbyterian Church.

- Next Preaching Series: Zach indicated that he will soon be wrapping up his preaching of Jacob's story in Genesis and has decided to preach from the book of Luke this fall and asked for suggestions for the summer. It was suggested that he do a series on 'Hard Questions'. Each Elder is suggested to submit a 'Hard Question' to Zach as a suggestion for a topic.
- Zach requested vacation April 17th – 24th. It was moved, seconded, and carried to approve the vacation. Mic will preach Sunday, April 23rd.
- Communion will be held on Sunday, April 2nd and during the April 7th Good Friday Service. The next Called Session meeting will be April 25th at 7:00pm. The Session will discuss Part 2 of the book A Praying Church by Paul E. Miller at that time.

Motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting at 9:47pm. 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: 4-19-23

Present: Mel Block, Jeff Fuhr, Cindy Oak, Larry Pithan, Session Representative Jim Mueller.

Mel opened the meeting with a prayer at 7:00pm.

Treasurer's report for March reviewed and approved.

Minutes for March 15th meeting reviewed and approved.

Old Business:

- Expect church siding work to begin soon
- Spring cleanup yard work has been completed. Jeff and Kathy Fuhr have volunteered to mow again this summer.
- Repair work for the second floor Sunday School room is progressing. Cleanup was completed and drywall ceiling hung by trustees and volunteers. The contractor is working on taping and finishing of drywall.
- Discussed new carpeting for balcony. Decided to hold for now until balcony seating options have been determined.

New Business:

- Discussed methods to provide additional support for second floor Sunday School room ceilings.
- Lawn mower for the church has been serviced and is ready to use.
- Mel volunteered to spray and fertilize the lawn.
- Will investigate possible PPP tax refund.
- Water survey from Edgington Water Association will be filled out.
- Need to install drain line for basement dehumidifier.

Mel closed the meeting with a prayer at 7:50pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Larry Pithan



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



Date: April 23, 2023

Attendees: Jim and Teresa Balmer, Beth Flickinger, Marlin and Darcy Krueger, Dorothy Rursch, Teresa Weber, and Session Representative Patrick Shovar.

Dorothy opened the meeting with prayer and read Scripture from John 6:27.

Minutes from February meeting were approved.

February – April Activities:

- 18 visits and cards to shut-ins
- 62 additional calls/visits/cards (1 message/9 calls/4 visits/48 cards), 2 Baby, 1 Baptism, 16 Birthday, 2 Anniversary, 12 Get Well, 3 Sympathy, 26 Thinking of You

Old Business:

- **Blood Drive:**
 - Our goal for the blood drive was surpassed. 33 units were collected, 4 double red (DR), 29 whole blood (WB), and we also had two first-time donors.
- **New Member Reception:**
 - Reception was well attended and many stayed to socialize afterwards.
- **Shut-ins:**
 - Update was given on shut-ins.

New Business:

- **College Care Packages:**
 - Each deacon signed cards with a greeting, and a gift card was enclosed for each of our eight college students to let them know we are praying for them and wish them well as finals approach.
- **May Baskets:**
 - Plants will be purchased, prepared and delivered to shut-ins.

Next Meeting will be held Sunday, June 25th at 11:30am.

Dorothy closed the meeting with prayer.

Respectfully Submitted,

Teresa Weber



March 21, 2023

The Mission Committee met on March 21st, 2023 at 6:30pm in 1st floor conference room. Those attending were: Deb Wagamon, Nancy Engstrom, Jim Johnson, and Kevin Oak.

Deb opened the meeting in prayer

Old Business:

- Reviewed and approved February minutes
- Review mailings and local ministry newsletters

New Business:

- **2023 Mission Commitments:** Approved 1st Quarter Commitments for 2023

2023 Mission Commitments	Amount Committed
World Outreach (Burdall)	\$ 2,125.00
World Outreach ITEN (Anderson)	\$ 1,875.00
World Outreach ITEN (Kuhn)	\$ 1,000.00
World Outreach (Huber)	\$ 1,050.00
EPC Church Planting (Lancaster)	\$ 1,500.00
Youth Hope	\$ 1,500.00
Youth Hope – Cre8 Studios	\$ 750.00
Pregnancy Resources	\$ 750.00
	\$10,550.00

- **Rockridge School District Teachers:** Nancy will contact Brandy Neece to set a time the team can help load and distribute the last of the school supplies stored in the conference room.
- **Pregnancy Resources:** We have 6 individuals registered for the March 30th fundraising banquet and have voted and approved \$300 for the table donation.
- **Youth Hope:** We have registered for a full table at the April 13th fundraising banquet. We have voted and approved \$300 for the table donation. The committee will be inviting others to join our table as we have 4 open seats to complete the table.
- **New Ministry Ideas:** Discussion was held on this topic and several ideas were generated. The team continues to prayerfully consider and generate new ideas for increasing our support and involvement with local and regional ministries. This will be a topic on the April agenda where we will have a full attendance.

Kevin closed the meeting in prayer.

Our next meeting will be held on Tuesday April 18th, 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.



A MATTER OF
BALANCE

Improve Your Strength and Balance!

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.





FOOD PANTRY DISTRIBUTION

On Thursday, March 23rd, six of us set up tables and boxes for the distribution and loaded some carts to be ready for the 15 people who packed the boxes on Friday. Even though we had a heavy snowfall on March 25th when our food pantry distribution was scheduled, God sent us good help – a big thank you to Jim Mueller who plowed the parking lot and Mic Penry who shoveled the walks. We also had wonderful help from 5 high school students who did the heavy lifting. Sue Penry usually interacts with the food pantry patrons, but she was ill. Her granddaughter, Grace, stepped in to help with that. In addition to the high school students we had 7 adults help on Saturday.

Because of the snowstorm 10 families had to reschedule their pickups. By Monday morning all the boxes had been picked up. We served 36 families consisting of 77 adults, 7 teens, and 20 children.

Now we are ready to restock our shelves with nonperishable items. Thank you to all who helped us with donations of time, money, and food. We certainly appreciate the support from area churches and the community.

Dewey & Shirley Flemming, Jim Schaubroeck, Mic & Sue Penry, Don & Beth Easterla



2023 COMMUNITY-WIDE VBS

Our plans for this summer's VBS, "Stellar - Shine Jesus' Light", are moving forward!

We had open enrollment on April 10th and were full within 2 hours (180 campers). At the VBS meeting on April 23rd, the decision was made to accept the 19 children on the waitlist and that will be the cutoff for this year.

Fortunately, we also filled up our counselor roster with 45 high-school and college youth. In addition, we have had a wonderful response from adults in our church and community to volunteer at camp in some capacity. Thank you all for your willingness to be God's hands and feet in this endeavor. The leaders are busy working out the details for their specific areas and we will share them as they are finalized.

We are compiling a list of needed supplies for anyone who wishes to donate, but it is not quite completed, so please check next month's newsletter or the clipboard that will be in the front entryway of the church in a couple of weeks.

Please pray that all involved with this outreach will heed God's direction and guidance to maximize positive results for His Kingdom.

Our next planning meeting will be on June 4th at 12:15pm.

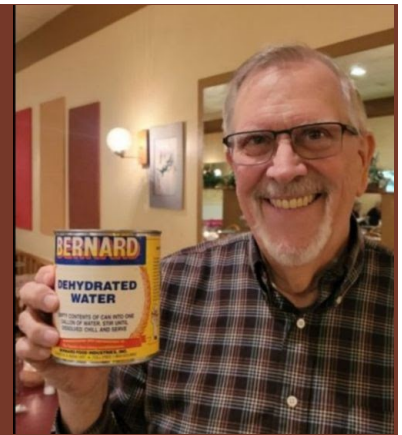
Thank you all for your continued support and prayers!

MCCALLUM'S ALMOST APRIL MUSE 2023

March 22-25 Nan attended the Child Safety and Protection Network annual conference along with Jordin Greer - the new Assistant World Outreach Director. Sadly they forgot to take a photo together. They networked with many sending organizations, attended informative workshops, and got to know each other. Each day had dessert plus sweet connections with people who safeguard children/teens from harm in Christian settings.

The plenary sessions focused on helping families flourish while living overseas presented by TCK Training. Topics covered:

1. Skills practiced by families who are flourishing.
2. Developing emotionally safe spaces for children/teens.
3. Building resilience to withstand developmental traumas.
4. Positive childhood experiences that undergird children/teens.
5. Hope for families with Third Culture Kids (TCK's) who grow up outside of their passport country.
6. ACE (Adverse Child Experiences) Research on risk and parental skills needed to help children/teens flourish.



To read their White Paper on "Caution and Hope: The Prevalence of Adverse Childhood Experiences in Globally Mobile Third Culture Kids" [click here](#). (If you would like the link, please contact the Edgington Church office.)

Nan led one of the morning devotions having small groups praying scripture passages to go with John Michael Talbot's worship song "Open my eyes, Lord".

May's classes in... have been tweaked. Instead of two full topics in two weeks, Ed's study of I Corinthians will flow into the second week allowing for more time to address problems the church in Corinth had, how Paul told them to respond, and how these principles of addressing church members' behavior can be applied in their setting. Each person will develop a sermon and deliver it to the class in their mother tongue. This allows them to go deeper into I Corinthians and apply it in sermon preparation and delivery. Feedback will be given by their peers. While this frees up D&D, whose availability changed it also gave us impetus to apply educational research encouraging going deeper rather than dumping more and more information on the learners.

MK, ITEN's new team leader, will end the second week looking at Peter's transformation from fisherman to apostle through the power of relational encounter with Jesus. Langham has published MK's book, *In Quest of the Rock*. We were blessed to hear him teach the content at a conference.

Please keep M..... in your prayers. Many believers want to have protection from harm, yet be in sight of those who want to know about the hope that is found through Jesus. We were hopeful to have begun to meet with folks there via Zoom but it hasn't happened. Life is challenging there.

We pray for those suffering due to weather disasters and societal cruelty that are in the news today. May the Lord use each of us to bring healing and hope to those in need. There are many times that we experience suffering. While we'd like to not go through these times, God promises He will never leave or forsake us. He neither slumbers or sleeps. He never gives us more than we can bare. He holds our tears in His bottle, which is a poetical way of saying that He knows our crying, as He is aware of our lives.

If you'd like to pray with us about challenges you are dealing with, give a call or send us a message.

Thank you for being a part of our lives! We appreciate you.

Nan & Ed McCallum

MCCALLUM MUSE A'MOVIN' IN MAY

Thank you to those who donated make-up/toiletry-sized bags and large colorful bags capable of holding 50#. We put some goodies in each bag for fun. The men enjoyed picking out gifts for their wives. ITEN donated 27# of theology books to their library on Bible School campus. In May we'll bring more resource books: 15 New Testament commentaries, 1 OT commentary, OT themes, prophecy history, 2 Greek NT resources, preaching, Biblical poetry, Augustine's confessions and Calvin's Institutes and others. Our partners in S..... plan to bring solar powered lights for the men. Very helpful where there's limited electricity.

Here's the list of classes the men have had. Any you would like take or have taught? These topics were chosen in consultation with the H.... Bible College to provide basic leadership training to shepherd, lead, teach and share the gospel. Pray for the final 2 courses which will be May 8th-19th.

1. Understanding, Teaching, & Apply Scripture
2. Spiritual Formation
3. Theological Foundations
4. Church - Nature, Mission, & Leadership
5. World Mission & Evangelism - taught by Kairos local team
6. Old Testament Survey
7. Pastoral Ministry
8. OT Book Study: Genesis
9. Christian Community Development
10. New Testament Survey
11. N.T. Book Study: I Corinthians
12. Gospel Centered Life & Preaching I Corinthians -Ed & Nan, David & Debbie W

Ed created and taught the material in blue font. It gave him the chance to go deeper into countless topics and questions he has wanted to for years. As the material has been and will be replicated, he sought to be theologically accurate, apply adult learning practices, and write in 6th-7th English for ease in translation and understanding. Our talented colleagues, BA and SW, carefully created and taught the other classes. The H.... Bible College have master copies of each MLTI courses - Ministry Leadership Training Institute - to use as they desire. ITEN has used some of the courses in other countries as well. We pray the Lord will use them in many settings to train leaders and believers.

Throughout the two weeks, Nan & Ed will spend time chatting and "hanging out" with the men listening to their stories and praying with them. Nan volunteered to shoot video that can be turned into a communication piece for ITEN. Pray for her to keep this in mind and to have a good eye.

We are grateful that the leadership of World Outreach approved our request to extend working with Phase 2 of MLTI. We have been praying and brainstorming aspects this next step. **1. How to choose teachers from our current class?** Our local partner, H.... Bible College will approve and appoint these men along with the Evangelical Church of V/ North. What qualities are needed for this set of men is the big question we have been battling around. **2. How will we coach them? How much time will that require? 3. Where will classes be that they teach? Are there locations in their region of the country that can be used? How will funding be handled?**

Some of you with keen memories will recall that we had said we'd end June 31 of this year. Then we said December 31 of this year. We now are looking at 3 more years but with less hours and no creation of new curriculum. Our bodies and minds are telling us to reduce time demands...we are listening. This will allow us to be more involved in our family and neighborhood, hike and sing more, & to smell the orange blossoms and entertain. Don't know if the house will be any cleaner but hopefully more organized & tidy.

We will continue to need support through the end of 2023 as we will be able to beginning pulling retirement funds for living costs. In 2024 if you want to continue to support the work of ITEN and/or specifically in V....., please get in touch. We'd love to tell you about some people we team with whom you could be a blessing.

Ed and Nan McCallum



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

We thought it might be nice to hear some short "snapshots" of things that are happening here and interactions we have had:

Through connections out of the bookshop S.... helps at, in a way that seems worked by God, he has started tutoring an Egyptian doctor in English. The man mainly needs conversation help, so their lessons have been conversational and about deeper things like faith and family. Not too long ago the man said he told his wife that he feels S.... will be a lifelong friend and not just a teacher.

We are hoping to have this family over for a meal after Ramadan - please be praying for continued chances to build relationship.

C..... has been helping with a school lunch time craft club since the autumn, with mainly the same girls attending each week. At the last club before Easter break the girls anxiously asked if she and her coworker would be back next term or if they would "abandon them". She could reassure the girls that they would be back! Continue to pray for good relationships with these girls, and that some would come to the after school club so that contact isn't lost. And, pray for us and the positive impact of being seen in the community helping and caring in this way.

One man who has been visiting services and talking to teammates for a long time about faith, recently said the main thing holding him back from faith in Jesus was the reaction from his family. This is a real cost, and we see it in our MBB teammates and their long ago loss of family over their decision. Our teammates hold Jesus as their best decision, but pray we can be church family and community in a very deep, sacrificial way at Asha-loving and serving each other and those around us.

C..... recently helped a local group (C....t....) put on an Easter Experience for year 8 students at M..... school. The entire year 8 class (150 kids) came over the course of a few days to see and hear an interactive talk/play about what happened at Easter. It was great to watch these kids interact with the story and hear truth, and to see teachers respond positively to the experience. This is also a glimpse into how we see God working in this area. All these kids have now heard the Easter story accurately (religious education classes in schools are not always accurate). Currently in M..... 6th Form (years 12-13) a lunch time Bible study has just been formed by students (J..... and friends!) and there is a hope this will happen in the secondary school soon too (years 7-11) If kids have questions or want to know more from what they heard, hopefully they will soon have a meeting of fellow students that they can talk with! And praying for you all and your Easter services and times with family!

Continue to pray for our Muslim friends during Ramadan- it is very focused on doing the right "works" in order to be honored. Pray for our conversations, that we can share clearly the grace we have, and for their hearts in these convos. And pray they will see God in visions and dreams in these last few days.

S.... is continuing in ESOL tutoring- pray for him and these times, that they would be practically helpful, but also relationship building.

At our recent Easter talk event at girl's club, a couple of the older girls were really engaged and took home a comic book version of the Easter story - pray for them as they read, and for us as we chat with them about questions/ comments after break.

Family prayer requests:

We will be celebrating our 25th anniversary in May! Since we've really never done anything for our anniversary, we "went big" and are spending a few days in Iceland after Easter. Praise for 25 years and pray for the kids here while we are away.

Pray for J..... and his friends as they do this school Bible study- last week they had a kid come by with some good questions. Pray they can answer well and continue to encourage others in this. Also pray for J..... as he considers universities and future plans.

With love, C..... (for S.... 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.

As always, there is more to this update than there is room. If you would like to read more, please contact the church office.

JEFFREY LANCASTER - Weddings and What Not

Quick update:

The photo to the right captures well the reality of our mission. We're continuing to walk forward in seeking to love and serve the city of Chicago. It's a long obedience in the same direction.

This winter/spring chapter has been both good and challenging.

We've continued to see God bless our efforts at building and growing relationships. I was humbled and honored to be asked to preside at the wedding of two of our young friends (see photo below). The husband is Jewish and the wife grew up Sikh in India. They are very dear to us... truly have become a part of our family. Though neither would profess faith in Christ, they are very respectful of our faith and more than willing to entertain hearing the gospel news.

We continue having social gatherings that the Lord seems to be blessing. Hopefully we will be able to pull off at least one social gathering a month this summer.

Our Life's Gonna Life series started off great then quickly bottomed out. The first study we had 3 of the 6 people who were from other religious backgrounds. They ended up staying for over 2 hours and asking a barrage of questions about the story of Christianity. It was an outstanding discussion. The remaining weeks were a discouragement for us. Seems like some struggled with winter sicknesses and others had last minute conflicts come up. We ended up canceling the remaining meetings.

As many of you know, I was prayerfully considering a part-time corporate chaplaincy gig. I served up the idea to the company of a friend of mine. This was a part of my planting effort. Thought it would be a good way to open up doors for more relationships and more ministry. Initially they seemed interested. Anyway, they eventually decided they weren't ready to go in the direction of a corporate chaplain. I still use desk space at their office and will continue to pray for the Lord Jesus to use me in spreading his love in that wonderful environment. I love those folks.

As everyone knows, winters are harsh in Chicago. People go into hibernation mode. The thaw is now happening and the city is starting to buzz with energy. We are excited this time each year, because it means our relationship ministry efforts can kick into overdrive.

Please keep praying for us! We covet your devotion to this work in prayer.

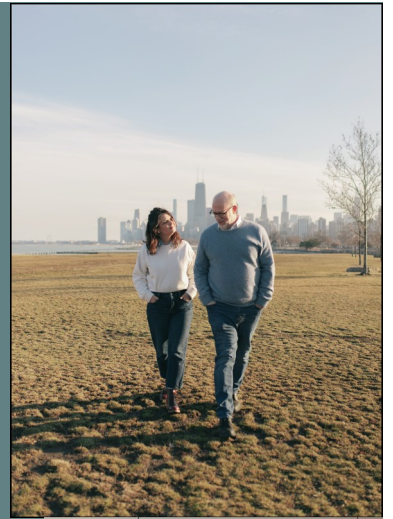
*** We've been experiencing a bit of a drop off in support recently. I ask that you prayerfully consider donating to our work if you're able. We're grateful for everyone who's contributed to this mission. You're all a vital part of this ministry enterprise.

Our boys are getting married this summer (see our family photo below - we're grateful to be adding Caroline and Anne Russell into our family... hope they're ready for their Lancaster plunge!). Bedon and Caroline's wedding is NEXT week (May 5th). Jeffrey and Anne Russell tie the knot on August 12th. These are good times.

Sending much love your way from Chicago!

Peace,

Jeffrey



WHY CAMP? (click [HERE](#) for full newsletter)

27 years ago, our staff were on a retreat at Lake Warren in Monmouth, Illinois. God spoke clearly to us during that retreat to start a camp near the Quad Cities for low-income youth!

This summer will be our 23rd summer of camps at Camp Summit, and thousands of kids' lives have been impacted forever!

Camp Summit is an amazing place where God meets kids and teens. It is a place for low-income youth to escape the snares and traps of city living. At camp, God becomes the focus as youth experience a week without screens. They find quiet in nature and freedom in prayer and worship to hear God's voice clearly.

Camp Summit is offered for 8 weeks of overnight, week-long summer camps, as well as, year-round opportunities for kids and teens to go to camp.

I believe this is the most important time for youth to go to camp as we all witness the decline of moral and ethical absolutes in our society. The power, potential and impact of camp is greater today than ever.

Please join us in praying for the kids and teens who will be attending Camp Summit this summer. Please also pray for our staff and volunteers who are working together to make this a great summer camp experience!

Thank you for your faithful support and prayers! Together we are bringing youth HOPE!

Mark Drake, Executive Director



SPRING 2023 - SATURDAY WORK DAY

Saturday, May 20th, 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

Summer Supplies Needed:

S'mores ingredients

Fruit Snacks

Foam Shaving Cream

Composition Journals

Freeze Pops

Camp Snacks

Bug Spray

Baby Shampoo

Bottled Water

Adventure Bibles

Sun Screen

Bunch-O-Balloons

DONATION COLLECTION: FRIDAY, MAY 19TH

DONATION LOCATION: 3928 12th Ave., Moline, IL 61265

MOVING FORWARD IN 2023



Banquet 2023 was an amazing night to come together and celebrate how God is using Pregnancy Resources to make a difference in our community. Testimonies of hope, courage, and redemption were shared. There was an update on various battles being fought on the state and federal level to protect or attack life, and we were called to action. Here's a glimpse of that special night...

Pregnancy Resources has identified 3 action steps that will significantly expand care to women and men in crisis and when life hangs in the balance. First, most women in our area don't receive follow up care in the weeks after an abortion. These women sometimes suffer devastating medical and emotional problems. So, in the last few months, the **Pregnancy Resources medical team developed a Post Abortion Medical Screening protocol.** Since the first of the year, **lifesaving intervention has already occurred several times because of this care.** Women who choose abortion once are much more likely to abort again. The hope is that this care, in this moment of crisis, **will open the door for a choice for life with the next pregnancy and show our sincere concern for the woman even when her choice is not what we would choose.**

Second, expanded access to life affirming early pregnancy care continues to be desperately needed. In 2021, the Mobile Medical Unit began serving in East Moline at the QC Mission on Thursday afternoons. The neighborhood has welcomed us, and lives have been saved. Today, **your Board of Directors is excited to announce the launch of a permanent Pregnancy Resources center inside the QC Mission.** In the coming months, this **additional location** will provide life affirming early pregnancy care at least two days per week to our neighbors in eastern Quad Cities and outlying areas.

Finally, abortion clinics in Illinois now offer "abortion on the go" mobile vans to cities bordering the state line. **Pregnancy Resources will continue to be the sole ministry offering a life affirming Mobile alternative.** We will utilize the Mobile Medical Unit to provide pregnancy testing, limited ultrasounds, and other resources to our friends and neighborhoods that are being targeted by the abortion industry or face extremely limited resources. Pregnancy Resources has a **2023 Banquet fundraising goal of \$170,000.** If you have already made a 2023 Banquet gift to support this work, THANK YOU. If you have not yet made your Banquet gift, thank you for prayerfully considering how you might be able to support this life-saving work.

- **Do my dimes make a difference?**

YES! In 2021, over 500 individuals and families came together to impact families with their change. Each bottle made a difference and when it was all put together, those bottles made up over 10% of our ministry budget! (*estimated number of people due to anonymous givers)*

- **Is any gift too small?**

NO! Every penny will impact a mom or dad with holistic, gospel-centered care.

Mark 12:41-44 is the story of the widow's mite. Every penny is humbly received and we give thanks for your gift as urban missionaries. We could not reach those we do without YOU!

- **Who can participate in Baby Bottles?**

From the tallest to the smallest! People of all ages can participate in Baby Bottles. It is a great way to introduce giving to children and help them see the value of life and caring for others.

- **What is the impact of a Baby Bottle?**

*Every baby bottle is an opportunity to share the truth with compassion and love to a woman or man who enters the doors at Pregnancy Resources. **A baby bottle can hold up to \$50.00 in change!** That baby bottle could provide 2 pregnancy tests, with full options counseling and compassionate care with a peer-to-peer mentor.*

- **What if I miss my turn-in date at my church?**

No worries friend! You can drop your filled bottle off at either of our locations.



Edgington EPC will participate in the Baby Bottle Campaign from Mother's Day to Father's Day!

EDGINGTON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Treasurer's Report March 2023

		Receipts	Disbursement	Balance
General	\$ 88,738.06	\$ 31,936.59	\$ 22,979.39	\$ 97,695.26
Education Fund (Jahn)	\$ 9,478.82	\$ 109.55	\$ -	\$ 9,588.37
Building Funds	\$ 247,622.53	\$ 758.69	\$ -	\$ 248,381.22

Donations this month (over \$100) contributed by members

Insulation	\$ 6,500.00
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March 2023 MONTHLY REVIEW - General Fund

Receipts - March 2023

Pledges	30,279.82
Interest Income - General Fund	12.76
Per Member Asking	120.00
VBS Registrations (to be transferred to VBS)	1,524.01
	\$ 31,936.59

Expenditures - March 2023

Administrative

	\$ 3,156.34
ABS (copier rental)	282.34
AT&T - Phone for elevator	135.44
Computers: Software and Apps	79.99
Crawford Company	340.20
Lisa Bowman	892.98
MidAmerican Energy	755.00
Millennium Waste	53.71
Office Supplies	10.00
ReyTel - Internet	119.44
Robin Preston	333.28
Shipping & Postage	55.20
Taxes / FICA / Penalty	98.76

Discipleship (Internal)

	\$ 8,123.05
Continuing Education	644.00
Deacon Expense	63.00
EPC (health)	26.48
Fidelity (pension)	960.89
Flowers (Easter)	(300.00)
Housing Allowance	3,176.18
Meals	33.21
Mileage	91.05
Resource Materials	137.90
Worship Supplies	114.18
Zach Hopkins salary	3,176.16

Mission (external)

	\$ 11,700.00
Mission - International	5,000.00
Mission - US	2,550.00
Mission - Local	4,150.00

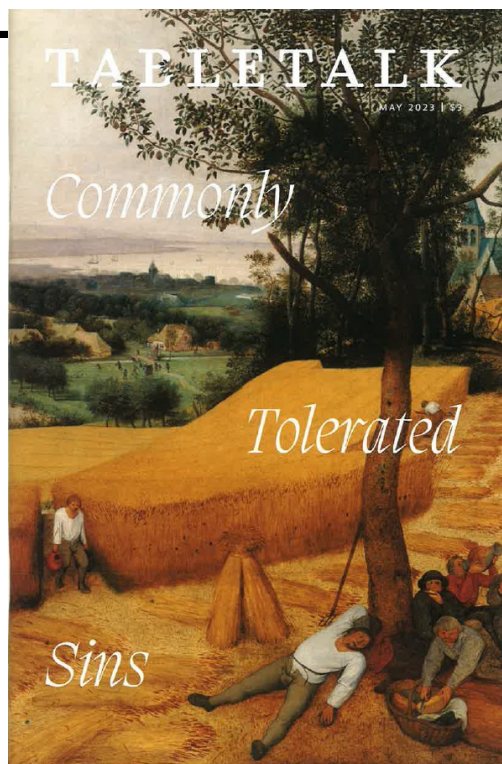
TOTAL EXPENSES **\$ 22,979.39**

NET OPERATING INCOME **\$ 8,957.20**

INCLUDED IN GENERAL FUND TOTAL

Mission monies included in general fund	\$ 8,506.53
Assistance Fund included in general fund	\$ 5,153.46

GET YOUR MAY COPY OF
THE TABLETALK DEVOTIONAL



LOCATED ON A TABLE IN THE SANCTUARY FOYER

EVERY SUNDAY (UNLESS NOTED)
6-7:30PM (UNLESS NOTED)

EEPC YOUTH GROUP

5.7 - YARD GAMES
5.14 - MOTHER'S DAY
5.21 - PIZZA COOKOFF
5.28 - TRIVIA NIGHT

FOR ALL HIGH SCHOOL
STUDENTS
CADE REIMERS FOR MORE INFO
- 309.373.2488



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



ALL submissions for the June 2023 Newsletter must be in by **NO LATER** than Wednesday, May 17th. 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 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.

Thank you so much for your help!



UNITYPOINT FOOT CLINIC

Next Clinic: Monday, May 15th 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.

CURRENT SERMON SERIES

We are wrapping up our series 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. Please see below for what's coming next! We hope you will join us!

Sunday, May 7th – [Genesis 34](#)

Sunday, May 14th – [Genesis 35](#)

Sunday, May 21st – [Genesis 48](#)

Sunday, May 28th – TBA

GENERATIONS OF GRACE



THE COVENANT CONTINUES: ISAAC & JACOB



NEW SERMON SERIES BEGINNING LATE MAY



Hard Questions

1 Peter 3:15 encourages Christians to be prepared with an answer for the hope we have. Sometimes we have to give that answer to others who are asking us questions - other times, we have to give that answer to ourselves.

Knowing what you believe and why you believe it matters - especially with difficult and sensitive subjects. "Hard Questions" will explore some of those subjects.

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

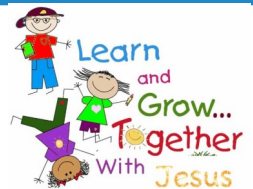
9:00AM - FELLOWSHIP HALL

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, May 18th, 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!

HELP NEEDED WITH SUNDAY SCHOOL BULLETIN BOARDS

The Christian Education Department could use a little help with their bulletin boards and keeping them updated.

If you would are interested in taking over these boards and getting creative for the kids, please contact the church office.

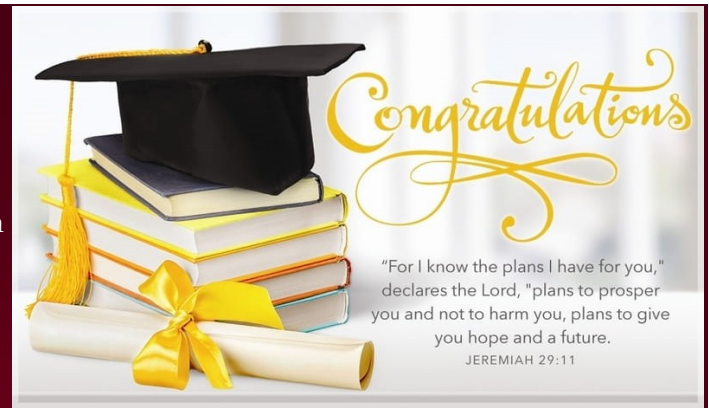
Thank you so much!



2023 GRADUATES

We would like to recognize and celebrate all our 2022 students that are moving on to their next adventure!

Please keep them in prayer as they try to discern God's path for their lives.



8th Grade moving into High School:

Calen Fuhr

Jackson Parchert

Jacob Ryser

Grace Schmidt

High School Graduates:

Ella Goodnight

Plans to attend Luther College in Decorah, IA. She is studying neuroscience and will also be playing volleyball for them.

Laina Nelson

Plans to attend Augustana for pre-med. She will also be on their volleyball and track team.

Amelia Rursch

Plans to attend Rhoades College in Memphis, TN pursuing a degree in Political Science.

College/University Graduates:

Rachel Johnson

Graduated from St. Ambrose University with a degree in Early Childhood Education and a Special Education Endorsement, Cum Laude, Dean's List, & Kappa Delta Pi member. She will be teaching Kindergarten in Illinois City next fall.

Colby Mueller

Graduating this summer with an Associate's Degree in Agricultural Business from Kirkwood Community College in Cedar Rapids, IA. He will be returning back to the family farm and continue to grow corn, soybeans, and raise cattle with his father, Jason Mueller, and his great uncle, Jim Mueller. Colby spent his spare time in Ag Biz Club, where he networked with agricultural businesses and built new connections to help his future endeavors. During his second year of college he was elected President of the Ag Business Club. Colby and his fellow officers used their newly built connections to help new students start their networking as well.



We will be recognizing all our graduates during the worship service on Sunday, May 14th.

Please be sure to join us and congratulate them on their accomplishments!



2023 Youth Mission Trip

July 8th – 15th



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 1st 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 1st (Church Facebook Page)
 - When we have our spots filled, there will be more info including: lodging details, tool lists, estimated schedule, and more!

MAY 2023



Sunday School 9am
Worship Service

EEPC

Phone: 309-795-1713
Email: edgingtonepc@gmail.com
WEBSITE: www.edgingtonepc.org

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
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 Basement Reserved
7 Food Pantry Sunday Youth Group, 6pm	8 Meal Site	9 Meal Site	10 Meal Site	11 Meal Site	12 Meal Site	13 Rummage Sale, 8am - 2pm
14 Mother's Day B/P Checks Graduate Recognition	15 Foot Clinic Meal Site	16 Meal Site Mission Comm. Mtg. 6:30pm	17 Meal Site Trustees Mtg., 7pm Newsletter Items Due	18 Quilting, 9am Meal Site	19 Meal Site	20
21 RHS Graduation, 2pm	22 Meal Site	23 Meal Site	24 Meal Site	25 Meal Site	26 Meal Site	27
28 B/P Checks Youth Group, 6pm	29 Memorial Day NO Meal Site	30 Meal Site Session Mt., 7pm	31 Meal Site	1 Meal Site Women's Ministry Qtly. Mtg., 1pm	2 Meal Site	3