



THE DIACONATE: FIVE ESSENTIAL TRUTHS IN FIVE MONTHS (3 OF 5)

Through the first months of 2025 I have committed to reserving newsletter cover articles for the subject of the church office of deacon. Last year, the Session determined that the Diaconate would be a major concentration of our interest and training, not only among Church Officers, but across the whole church family. Deacons are essential to the Church. They are one of two specific offices provided to the people of God as the gifts of the Ascended Christ. By the absence of His Heavenly Session where He reigns upon Heaven's Throne, Jesus presents to His body two orders of officers to mediate His presence and authority and service by the empowerment of His Spirit. Those offices are Elders and Deacons. Deacons are essential for the life of a healthy church.

The Vital Service of the Diaconate

In every faithful church, there are countless unseen acts of service that allow the ministry of the Word to flourish. From missions' outreach to managing the practical needs of the congregation, deacons play a crucial role in ensuring that elders remain focused on their calling to shepherd the flock. Throughout church history, the work of deacons has centered on mercy ministry—providing for the vulnerable and tending to tangible needs. Yet their responsibility extends even further, as they remove obstacles that might distract the elders from their primary duties. Deacons are not only problem-solvers but also proactive servants who anticipate needs before they arise, ensuring that the mission of the church remains unhindered.

Much like offensive linemen protecting a quarterback, deacons labor behind the scenes, rarely receiving public recognition yet playing an indispensable role in the health of the church. The best deacons are those who see and meet needs without seeking credit, sacrificing their own time and resources for the good of the body. They take initiative, responding to challenges before they become crises. A faithful deacon is reliable, diligent, and committed—not angling for authority, but instead serving with humility and wisdom (for more about deacon qualifications see: [2 Timothy 3:8-13](#)). Without such deacons, the elders would face constant distractions, and the ministry of the church would suffer under the weight of unaddressed practical concerns.

As we reflect on the role of deacons in our own congregation, let us be deeply grateful for those who serve in this essential office. Their quiet, faithful work allows our church to function smoothly, enabling the elders to focus on preaching, teaching, and shepherding. If you see a deacon this Sunday, take a moment to thank them for their service. And as we consider the future of our church, let us pray for God to raise up more godly leaders who embody the heart of a deacon—humble, proactive, and eager to serve.

ELDERS

Kim Freyermuth
 Jim Mueller
 Kevin Oak
 Mic Perry
 Todd Stegmiller
 Steve Wagamon

DEACONS

Angie Freyermuth - Chair
 Dorothy Rursch - Secretary
 Kay Amy
 Mitch Anderson
 Connie Huntley
 Tom Huntley
 Melody VanOteghem
 Deb Wagamon

TRUSTEES

Mel Block - Chair
 Larry Pithan - Secretary
 Ken Benningfield
 Aaron Ehm
 Jeff Fuhr
 Phil Fuhr
 Colby Mueller
 Cindy Oak
 Bill Sloan
 JR Thomas

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

- | | |
|------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1 - Paul Hopkins | 18 - JoAnn Rursch |
| 2 - Pat Block | 19 - Brandee Neece |
| 2 - Shawn Docherty | 19 - Michael Orr |
| 2 - Betty Murdock | 20 - Kenzie Hopkins |
| 4 - Larry Hesch | 21 - Elizabeth Adams |
| 4 - Maggie Pape | 23 - Eric Moel |
| 8 - Mark Freyermuth | 24 - Rayce Bagwell |
| 8 - Kortney Gierlus | 26 - Addyson Tomlin |
| 13 - Angie Freyermuth | 26 - Nataleigh Tomlin |
| 14 - Lauren Stegmiller | 26 - Amy Weiss |
| 15 - Austyn Hetzler | 27 - Luci Goodnight |
| 15 - Scott Nelson | 27 - Lisa Nelson |
| 17 - Jon Darland | 28 - Jennifer Harper |
| 17 - Carson Thomas | 29 - Beth Flickinger |

APRIL ANNIVERSARIES

- 8 - Scott & Lisa Nelson
 12 - Joshua & Lindsay Fuhr
 14 - Neal & Vicky Ruggles
 24 - James & Rikki Hetzler
 25 - Jake & Amanda Fuhr
 29 - Steve & Debra Wagamon

ADDRESS CHANGES

Evelyn Hessman has moved to a new room & Bill & Kris Olin now live in Reynolds. Please note:

Evelyn Hessman
 Friendship Manor
 1209 21st Ave. Rm B107
 Rock Island, IL 61201

Bill & Kris Olin
 17507 76th St. W
 Reynolds, Il. 61279



Thank you to our church family for all the cards, phone calls, thoughts and prayers, and support we received during my mother's passing.



How grateful we are for this church and its caring people.

Your kindness was greatly appreciated.
 Teresa and Jim Balmer

GREETERS FOR APRIL

- Sunday, April 6th - Rick & Melody VanOteghem
 Sunday, April 13th - Tyson & Angela Freyermuth Family
 Friday, April 18th - Bob & Kathy Stegmiller
 Sunday, April 20th - Jim & Teresa Balmer
 Sunday, April 27th - Steve & Deb Wagamon

HE IS RISEN

February 25, 2025, at 7pm

Location: Church Conference Room

Present: TE Zach Hopkins and RE's Jim Mueller, Mic Penry, and Todd Stegmiller. Observers: Kim Freyermuth and Kevin Oak. A quorum is present.

Pastor Zach acted as moderator of the meeting. Zach opened with prayer and a scripture reading from Acts 17:30-31. The Elders prayed for individual members of the congregation. The Session reviewed and discussed Chapter 4 of *The Whole Christ* by Sinclair Ferguson.

Approval/Amendment of Docket: It was M/S/C to approve the docket.

Approval of Minutes: It was M/S/C to approve the minutes of the January 28, 2025, Session Meeting.

Correspondence: None

Zach's Report: Office Visits: The Pastoral Report was reviewed and discussed.

Old Business:

- Church Officer Training is completed. Newly elected Elders and Deacons will be ordained/installed on 3/2/25.
- The Session met informally to work out the details for the Shepherding Program for 2025. The time was effective and new shepherding groups are complete.
- TE Hopkins will be on vacation from 3/13-20/25. RE Stegmiller will lead Sunday School on 3/16/25; TE George Salnave (retired) has accepted the invitation to fill the pulpit.
- 2025 Easter Schedule: 4/18/25 Good Friday worship with communion at 6pm. 4/20/25 Easter Breakfast at 8:30am, no Sunday School, and worship at 10am.
- It was M/S/C to approve Youth Education Scholarship requests for Kira Nelson and Laina Nelson for the '24-'25 school year.

New Business:

- Feedback for the new Adult Sunday School Class on a survey of the prophets in the Old Testament was offered. Members are encouraged to take advantage of this discipleship and learning opportunity.
- The Spring Adult New Members Class will be held 3/23; 3/30; 4/6 after worship. Any new members will join on Palm Sunday (4/13/25) with a reception hosted by the Deacons. There was discussion about adjusting the format of the classes to allow for more personal elder interviews with each prospective new member.
- Results from the Men's Ministry Survey that has been available to members for the last month were reviewed. TE Hopkins will be coming up with a draft ministry plan in order to minister more effectively to the men of our congregation.
- Elders were invited to the 3/2/25 meeting of the Diaconate for the purposes of observing the continuing education discussion of ch.1 of "Gospel Training for Deacons." It was also proposed that a joint meeting of the Session and Diaconate might be scheduled for May. RE Penry will confer and report.

- It was M/S/C to have a “Published Blackout” of the Church livestream during the period of the updated A/V system provided by Top Notch Productions. The Trustees report that the updates will begin on 3/3/25 and could span two or three Sundays. Rather than attempt a modified livestream, we will announce that it will be unavailable until the new system is running. In the meantime, we will also be soliciting new volunteers to participate in a training on the new system on/about 3/21/25.
- The Lord’s Supper will be administered on 3/2/25.
- The next stated meeting of the Session will be 4/2/25. The irregular date should be noted.
- It was M/S/C to adjourn the meeting at 9:55pm. TE Hopkins closed the meeting with prayer.

Welcome,



2025 VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL REGISTRATION!

Mark 10:14 - Jesus said to them, “Let the children come to Me & do not hinder them, for to such belongs the Kingdom of heaven.”

Plans are underway for our summer VBS Camp at Loud Thunder. Many of our leaders have been procured. NOW we are ready to open the gates (so to speak) and “let the children come.”

SET AN ALARM!

Registration opens at 6am on Monday, April 21st for both campers and counselors. It will stay open until June or it fills up. Last year camper registration was full in a mere 18 minutes, so don’t wait and risk not getting to be a part of VBS this year. Sign-up is online. Click [HERE](#) or on the image for the link or scan the QR Code.

If it is full when you go to register:

- **For Campers** - call the church office (309-795-1713) and leave your name, phone number, name & ages of the children you want to register.
- **For Counselors** - there will be a waitlist option with the online registration, so sign-up for that.

Things come up for families between the time they register & camp, so there are often cancellations. In the event of a cancellation, we take names off the waitlist in the order they came in.

If you know of someone interested in being a part of VBS, please share the link and pass this info along.

Our next VBS Planning Meeting is Sunday, April 6th at 12:15pm at our church. Anyone interested in being a part of this ministry is welcome & encouraged to attend.



3-19-25

Present: Mel Block, Aaron Ehm, Darren Hall, Colby Mueller, Cindy Oak, Larry Pithan, Bill Sloan, JR Thomas, Session Representative Jim Mueller.

Mel opened the meeting with a prayer at 6:05pm.

Minutes for February meeting reviewed.

Treasurer's report for February reviewed and approved.

Old Business

- A/V system installation is complete. Trustees constructed platform at the back of the balcony for the new equipment.
- Carpeting at front of sanctuary to be completed by March 25th. Will relocate organ and piano. Also, will install two additional pews.
- Some road repair is needed at the entrance to the Dunlap cemetery.

New Business

- Scheduled a spring yard cleanup day for Saturday, April 12th at 9:00am.
- New lighting has been installed behind the stained-glass windows at the front of the sanctuary.
- Discussed upcoming projects including enclosure of the two ducts at the rear of the sanctuary.
- Considering options for replacement or covering of wall paneling at the SS building hallways.
- Changed trustee meeting start time to 7:00pm for summer.
- Colby gave an overview of the new A/V system to the trustees after the meeting.

Mel closed the meeting with a prayer at 6:40pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Larry Pithan



Date: March 2, 2025

Present: Kay Amy, Mitch Anderson, Angela Freyermuth, Tom & Connie Huntley, Dorothy Rursch, Melody VanOteghem, Deb Wagamon and Session Rep. Mic Penry

Pastor Zach opened with prayer.

Gospel Training for Deacons:

- Pastor Zach went over the Introduction: *What is a Deacon? Lesson 1: Servant Leadership.*
- Next month meeting will be on *Lesson 2: Biblical Qualifications for Deacons*

Old Business:

- **Spring Blood Drive** - scheduled for Saturday, March 15th, 2025. Kay and Melody are the chair people to work with Impact Life.
- **Cards:** Update from Connie - they have March cards ready to be sent at the appropriate time.
- **Directory:** The list was gone over to see who we had to contact for their pictures
- **Shut-in/Eyes on You List:** The Shut-in/Eyes on You have been assigned and it was suggested we meet with the elder that we are paired up with to discuss a strategy of engagement and caring for our church members.

New Business:

- New Adult Members Reception on Palm Sunday, April 13th, 2025
- Meeting Schedule - planning on monthly meeting on a Sunday after church

Next meeting scheduled for Sunday, April 6, 2025 at 11:30 after church service.

Angie closed meeting with a prayer.

Respectively submitted,

Dorothy B. Rursch

SPRING BLOOD DRIVE UPDATE

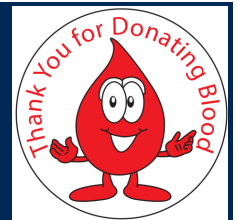
Thank you to everyone who participated in our Spring Blood Drive.

Your generous donations made this a great success. We registered 33 donors and collected 36 donations! Outstanding! That is the most donations we've had from this drive since 2014! OUTSTANDING! You are saving MANY precious lives!

It's hard to emphasize the importance of local blood drives and the impact it can make in our community. Just because we're a small little church in EdginGton IL, doesn't mean we can't make a huge difference and save the lives of many. A special shout-out to past and present Deacons and church members for helping make this happen. Without your help and support, this wouldn't have been so successful.

Thank you for donating blood and giving the gift of life. Our next drive is Saturday, Sept. 20th. We hope to see you again.

With Gratitude and Blessings, Melody VanOteghem and Kay Amy



BLOODCENTER.ORG

WOMEN'S MINISTRY

- March 11, 2025, (Rescheduled from the 5th)

Present today: Nancy Cooksey, Kathy Stegmiller, Sharon Orr, Dorothy Rursch, Pam Pithan, Shirley Flemming, and Sue Miller

Old/New Business:

- WM booklets are printed and available. They are in the basket in the foyer. We made a few changes/corrections to the funeral committee volunteers and hopefully have those taken care of (Mary Ann Vroman needs to be on the April-June committee and JoAnn Rursch needs to be removed from the July-September committee and conversation had yielded that most of the ladies on any committee would be happy to help just about any time).
- Kathy read the thank you notes from: The Moline Community Foundation for our \$250 donation; Bethany Home for the quilts; Phyllis Strafford and Lisa Bowman for their Christmas candy; Andalusia Ambulance for \$500, and JoJo's family for \$1,000 cash donation.
- Pam headed up the Annual Meeting luncheon. We served 53 people and collected \$569 in donations. We had 8 Soups, at least 8 desserts, veggie trays, 15 pounds of pork for sandwiches, and we used the buns left over from the Harvest Party, so they didn't go to waste, and we didn't have to buy any.
- Bible Study is going well. 21 women purchased the books. The Tuesday morning group averages about 6 and the Wednesday evening group varies from 6 to 11 ladies in attendance.
- The blinds for the Sunday School Wing were installed and Kathy paid the \$3,000 donation from WM to help with that cost.
- See the attached Treasurer Report
- We discussed the Women's Retreat being offered at MCC in Muscatine on May 5, offered by Jill Holler, Joy Carter and Deana Dawson. It is from 9:30-3:30 and includes pastries for breakfast and A Guy and a Grill for lunch. Cost is \$25. Advance registration can be made at: jillandjoy.org. Click on "Renewal 2025"
- Quilts for HS graduates: Jacob Freyermuth, Reid Schelker, Logan Schelker. Recognize other grads: Rachel Johnson, McKenzie Reimers, Kira Nelson college/master's programs. Our 8th grade graduates: Raegan Miller, Kinnley Fuhr, Max Fuhr, and Olivia Freyermuth.
- Mother's Day/Father's Day gifts have been purchased, and the Sunday school kids will hand them out again. Kathy found One Minute Inspiration for Women and One Minute Insights for Men books for \$.99 each! We have 50 of the women's book at a cost of \$49.50 and 40 of the men's for \$39.60.
- Our list of concerns/needs included: Teresa Balmer for the loss of her mother; Deb Wilson for her recovery from knee surgery; Betty Miller who is recovering from a hospital stay; Katie Pearson who broke her leg in several places; Ken Kaiser, Robin Preston, Deb Wagamon, Fred Stevenson and Drew Schaffer who are all fighting cancer; our community members who have recently lost homes to fires.
- We discussed that the Yard Sale Days in Edgington are not the responsibility of our church, and that there is a FB page for Edgington where there might be information about it. We discussed ideas for fundraisers, and decided we would act on that if we felt our funds draw down, and agreed we would keep an eye on it for now.
- Our hostess today was Nancy Cooksey who kept her delicious Oreo Dessert in the freezer for today's rescheduled meeting thanks to the awful weather last week! Thank you, Nancy! YUM!
- Next Meeting is June 4 at 1pm.

March 18, 2025

Present: Jim and Bailey Johnson, Eric and Kelly Moel, and Cassie Fuhr.

Jim opened the meeting in prayer.

Old Business:

- **Review ministry updates:** Newsletters and emails.
- **Banquets:** There are 7 people committed to go to the Pregnancy Resources banquet and 10 people committed to go to the YouthHope banquet.
- **School Supplies:** We have a list of requested supplies. Jim & Bailey are going to take inventory of the supplies we currently have on hand and check it against the list.
- **Coat Drive:** Jim is going to contact Lisa to put a reminder in the monthly Church newsletter in the spring as we transition from winter to spring/summer clothes.

New Business:

- **Newell Family Donation:** There was a motion to donate \$500.00 to the Newell family that had a house fire. The motion was voted on and approved. Jim will get with Barb when she gets back to get a check.

Next meeting – Tuesday, April 15th at 6:30pm.

Jim closed the meeting in prayer



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!

Your 2025 Deacon team includes: Kay Amy, Mitch Anderson, Angie Freyermuth, Tom & Connie Huntley, Dorothy Rursch, Melody VanOteghem, & Deb Wagamon.





FALL COAT DRIVE REMINDER

Please keep our coat drive in mind as you are doing your Spring cleaning of your closets and purging your home of winter apparel that you no longer use!

The Mission Committee would love to share what you no longer wear with someone in our community that has a need. Please donate your winter items as you come across them.

Thank you!!!



FOOD PANTRY DISTRIBUTION

We will be packing food baskets on Friday, April 4th at 9am.

Distribution will be on Saturday, April 5th from 9-11am.

If you know of anyone in need of food, please let either Shirley Flemming or Sue Penry know so we can get them on the list.

Thanks to all who support us!

Food Pantry Staff - Jim & Teresa Balmer, Don & Beth Easterla, Dewey & Shirley Flemming, Marlin & Darcy Krueger, Mic & Sue Penry, & Jim Schaubroeck



**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.



GREAT NEED = GREAT OPPORTUNITY

Every day, we see the needs of at-risk kids and teens at the Youth Center. Some days are really hard: dealing with disruptive behavior, disrespect, and the harsh realities many of the kids and teens live with. The need for YouthHope is great. Kids and teens are searching for meaning, freedom, and purpose. They desire to know and fully experience God's love.

This year is our 89th year of ministry, and we get to share the HOPE of Jesus every day! Every need we see as an opportunity for ministry!



Our frontline Spiritual Battle is very real! These kids and teens need YOU to help support, teach, and guide them during these critical years!

- Join us to care for and surround two teens who are grieving the death of their father and dealing with anger, regret, and depression.
- Help speak truth to a 5th grader who declared she is an Otherkin (self-identifies as a cat). She needs to hear that she is deeply loved, perfectly created, and has great purpose.
- Partner with us to combat violent aggression between two groups of 11 and 12 year old girls by showing them they are seen, valued, and loved unconditionally. By teaching forgiveness, they are hearing there is an alternative: a new perspective and attitude that will help release the anger and resentment in their hearts.
- Pray for Amelia*, a 13 year old girl, feeling the pressure to perform sexually to be accepted in Jr. High, to now find her identity in Christ.

We need your support for these frontlines! If God is calling you to get more involved at YouthHope, please respond! There is a specific role and situation that you can be the solution. Thank you for your support, prayers, and partnership to bring youth HOPE!

In Appreciation,

Esther Joy King, Executive Director

(click [HERE](#) for the rest of the March Report)

P.S. Please join our team in prayer at 8:15am and 2:00pm everyday, to ask God to move in the lives and hearts of these cherished kids and teens.

WORKDAY
April 26th
8am-4pm
Help clean & prepare for summer camps!
Indoor & Outdoor projects
Lunch is provided!
RSVP: Kevin Perrine
309-762-4577

YouthHope
Infinite
IMPACT
2025 FUNDRAISING BANQUET
APRIL 17, 2025
Bend XPO Center
922 Mississippi Parkway, East Moline, IL 61244
DOORS OPEN @ 5PM
DINNER @ 6PM
EVENT INCLUDES DINNER, LIVE AND SILENT AUCTION,
AND AMAZING TESTIMONIES!

2025 FUNDRAISING BANQUET

Annual Fundraising Banquet
April 17 | 5pm Doors Open

Help make infinite in our community by partnering with YouthHope! Host a table of 10 guests for dinner, bid on Auction items, and help bring youth HOPE!

Our Mission Committee is sponsoring tables for those who sign up to attend! If you would like to learn more about our ministry partner, YouthHope, please take this opportunity and sign up! (Signup sheet is located on the table in the sanctuary foyer.)

(For more info, click on the banquet image)

EVERYDAY ACTION, EVERYDAY LEGACY



This year marks the beginning of Pregnancy Resources' 35th anniversary of ministry in the greater Quad Cities area. From our earliest days, the vision of Pregnancy Resources has been clear: Unplanned pregnancies and abortions would decrease by providing holistic, life-affirming, biblically based resources and education that promotes informed decisions regarding pregnancy, parenting, and biblical sexual integrity. This approach has resulted in creating a beautiful Legacy of Life. It is a legacy that you can be a part of.

Preparing for this important year, I had to look up the definition of legacy. In my background, a legacy was never talked about. Instead, the focus was on immediate needs and how to get through today.

Legacy is "the long-lasting impact of particular events, actions, etc. that took place... of a person's life." What struck me most about the definition was "the long-lasting impact of particular... actions..." The long-lasting action of a person or a group of people can leave a legacy.

My journey as a Christian was profoundly shaped by the intentional actions of the women and men in my church. Their commitment to pass on their Legacy of Life in Christ transformed my life and my son's. It all began with their "Yes". These women and men invested their knowledge and time.

A small circle of women visited with me regularly, sharing their knowledge of God's Word and truth. They sat and explained the truth to me even when it was hard to hear. I wasn't a project; instead, I was a person who needed care and compassion. Each woman gave me small action steps to follow, and they encouraged me regularly.

My transformation didn't happen overnight. The women and a few father-like figures from the church were generous with their time and offered me a place to ask hard questions.

They invited me into their home for a simple meal of sandwiches, chips, and conversations. These conversations helped shape a Godly foundation. They spoke life to me, and my life was changed by their actions! These women and men have a life legacy because they chose to invest their knowledge and time.

Every day, women and men enter the doors of Pregnancy Resources and need someone available and ready to volunteer to speak Life to their situation. You can be that significant person whose actions can lead to a Legacy of LIFE!

What action can you take? At Pregnancy Resources, your contribution as a volunteer is invaluable. You can focus on meeting a mom or dad's unique needs. As a volunteer, you can become a client advocate, dad coach, teacher, or more. Your actions can inspire and motivate a mom or dad to take small steps toward Life! OR... You can help lead Making Life Disciples in your church.

By sharing Making Life Disciples in your church, you can offer a safe place to ask questions. One conversation at a time can help your church family minister well to the hard questions about abortion in our culture. It is our everyday actions that leave a legacy!

If God is clearly laying this on your heart and you are ready to take the next step, I encourage you to sign up for PRC 101 Volunteer Training or Taste of Making Life Disciples. We celebrate your help, which has empowered moms and dads to choose Life. Together, we can continue to build a Legacy of Life.



We love our volunteers!!!

If you are interested in more information or would like to register, please either click on the image to the right or email maia@qcpregnancy.org

Training Dates

July 15 - 17 - (Morning only)
October 21 - 23

Morning Session

8:30am - 12:00pm

Evening Session

5:30pm - 9pm
Dinner provided

M & S – BEYOND THE CURRENT REALITY

Recently, I've found myself wondering who I can believe.

After returning from my overseas travel, I wanted to catch up on national news. I listened to one network representing one end of the political spectrum and then tuned to another network on the other end of the political spectrum. Honestly, I thought they were speaking about two different worlds. The two perspectives were in such stark contrast that I wondered who was telling the truth. Who could I believe? Can I even know what is happening in our nation?

One thing is sure. We live in confusing times. We need a lot of wisdom as we attempt to make some meaning out of all that is transpiring in our world.

This is the current reality...no denying it!

However, for the follower of Jesus, the current reality is not all there is.

For the follower of Jesus, we anchor our reality in the Kingdom of God, whether visible or invisible. We know the triune God-Father, Son, Spirit, is not bound by earthly kingdoms that come and go. And frankly, that kingdom is worth pursuing and building up.

We had ***an amazing time of worship and study around God's word in N....*** Thank you so much for interceding with us! Pastor N, our N..... Partner - J, and myself came together to teach the principles of understanding and applying God's word in its context and truth. We had asked that only 30 students attend - we thought if the number was larger it would make it difficult to engage in group study. But, 60 people came from long treks over mountains (One brother traveled two days!). Many slept on the church floor. Many are first-generation Christ-followers from Hindu backgrounds. As you can imagine, being with these brothers and sisters is humbling. They challenge me to keep pursuing the God of the Bible, not the gods of our imaginations and inclinations.

From N....., I flew to A..... where I attended a conference of global theological educators. That too was a ***mind-boggling experience***. In the 1980s, while a college student, I joined with a small group of students praying for the gospel to go into A..... At the time, there were no known Christians and communism had imposed an atheistic worldview on the people of A..... Can you believe, 40 years later, I'm attending a global conference of theological educators? In A.....? And, the cherry on top? ITEN played a role in opening a theological seminary that has trained 100s of pastors and church planters that are planting churches throughout A..... and beyond. I sometimes need to pinch myself at the kindness of my Father to allow me to see a glimpse of His work in His global church.

The trip was a wonderful opportunity to update my understanding of global theological education. The conference was organized by the International Council on Evangelical Theological Education (ICETE). Suffice it to say, I am increasingly persuaded that this is a vital niche of God's work among the nations today. God is using leaders from the nations to take the gospel to the remaining unreached peoples. I feel very privileged to be a small part in such a huge global endeavor.

For those who are interested, what is called "non-formal theological education" is a rapidly expanding area. "Non-formal" simply means it takes place outside formal accredited theological institutions (seminaries). While both formal and non-formal training are essential, we are seeing more of our time and energy in ITEN devoted to the "non-formal" training niche.

THANKS-GIVING:

- **Safety in travel.** N and I were in a small car accident in N..... Although we weren't injured, there was someone driving a motor scooter who was. **Pray** for his complete healing please, and no negative repercussions for our national partner. It brought home to me once again the realities of being a guest in a host country.

For safety reasons we are not linking the full report and pictures. If you would like to receive their regular updates via email, please contact the church office and Lisa will connect you with M & S to be added to their email list.

- **Fruitful training in N.....** We are so grateful for our partner J, who not only organized and handled all the logistics, he also co-taught with us. Please **pray** for him, for God to uphold, strengthen and encourage him in all that he is called by God to put his hand to.
- **Pastor N M** accompanied me again. I cannot describe how helpful it is to have a partner in ministry. Please pray for N as he and his family begin to raise their support for full-time ministry with ITEN.

PRAYER REQUESTS:

- **Solid application of the truths taught in N.... for our 60 trainees.** We learned a lot about how to interpret and apply the Bible. Pray that these lessons continue to bear fruit.
- **Both S and I are dealing with significant back issues.** Unfortunately, I suffered a severe bout of sciatica while I was away. We're grateful that our daughters stepped into help.
- Due to the back issues **we had to postpone a planned trip to visit ITEN colleagues in G.....** We hope to get there in November.
- **April - M will share with the mission leaders of the Central Carolinas Presbytery.** Pray for these leaders to discern God's leading in their ministries and leadership.
- **May - We will travel to Findlay, OH, where M will be a main speaker at Gateway EPC.** Pray for God's Spirit to lead us all into deeper knowledge and understanding of His kingdom on earth.

THANK YOU!!

We can never say enough how grateful we are for your encouragements of prayer, email, support and relationships across the miles!

THE BURDSALL FAMILY *Serge* Grace at the Fray

Happy March and early spring! Sorry for the long delay in updates- moving took up most of January and then we were without decent Wi-Fi in the new flat for much of February. Thank you, as always, for your support and your prayers and for your messages and cards and gifts over Christmas. It is always encouraging to hear from many of you at the holiday - and we do greatly appreciate it! Sorry for the slow responses- still catching up and finding things after unpacking!

As we have spent the last couple months in a bit of chaos and upheaval, it has been good to remember God's character - His faithfulness and strength and compassion. Last week at Asha, the kids started looking at Nehemiah. In Nehemiah 1 and 2, he prays to God and then boldly asked King Artaxerxes for help. Nehemiah had confidence that the "great and awesome God" would keep his covenant promises (Neh 1:5-6) - and the result was the king granting all Nehemiah's requests and more!

We are encouraged when we read of God's promises - both that he has sent Jesus as a Savior and as our great high priest, and that one day people of every tribe, language, people and nation will worship in eternity (Rev 5:9-10). We want to be continuing to pray with confidence for God's promises to be fulfilled, even when we see hardness of heart in those around us, or hear of situations of abuse or violence in the world. Thank you for your prayers for us and for those we live and work among! And we will be praying for you and your neighborhoods as well!

Updates on the last couple months:

Early January C went to a conference for those working with youth and children. It was both encouraging to have time to worship and pray, and also great teaching and ideas for sharing the gospel with kids.

Most of January was spent sorting, packing, downsizing (our new place is slightly smaller and also doesn't have a garden).

For safety reasons we are not linking the full report and pictures. If you would like to receive their regular updates via email, please contact the church office and Lisa will connect you with the Burdsalls to be added to their email list.

(Cont. from p. 13)

S has been busy with English classes for men. He has many different ability levels, so about three classes throughout the week. The women's studies have an optional time discussing a Bible story after, but none of the men have been keen to stay for something like that, but they have been willing to stay for tea and some informal conversation. **Pray** for S as he plans lessons and builds relationships, and for opportunities to have faith conversations.

February 1st was a long day. Our new flat has a very small and very slow lift, so it seemed to take forever to get things up to the 5th floor. We were encouraged by the many volunteer helpers we had. It made the day much less stressful. Please **continue to pray** for us as we settle into this new area and try to meet new neighbors. It is an adjustment living in a tower block and comprehending that there could be around 300 people just in this one building! An entire small town in one space! **Pray for friends, especially Bengali friends.**

It has been tiring just figuring out new travel patterns. Our first week we were getting A to school 20 minutes too early because we didn't want to be late! In the middle of February was school half term, which was a great chance to just rest and get used to this new space.

Right before half term was a week of Life Exhibition. This is the third year C has helped. It is a great way to be able to tell local school kids about Jesus in a fun and interactive way. Almost 500 kids came through in the week, from 9 different schools. It was really encouraging to see school kids recognize volunteers from various churches that had also come to the schools for assemblies or who lived near the schools. C got to chat with kids from a school where she had done a Christmas assembly and will be back for Easter - great to build connections. There were many great questions from kids: "How do you know Jesus is real?" "Why did Jesus die?" "Why do we have to love our enemies?"

Each week, Asha events include: Women's Arts and Crafts on Monday morning, Men's English class on Tuesday, Women and Men's English classes on Wed, Men's English class on Thursday, book table outreach on Friday, Shantir Boi bookshop - open all weekdays, visiting in homes Mon., Wed., and Fridays, church services on Sunday afternoons, staff meetings and elders meetings during the week. **Please pray** for all of these events and for us and our teammates as we work in these areas.

Some things to highlight for prayer in the next month:

Ramadan started yesterday and lasts until March 30/31. **Pray for our Muslim neighbors** at this time, that they could see the futility of working hard for eternal results, and also as they see visions and dreams, that these would lead them to questions and interest in Jesus. And in general, **pray for us and ministry here** that often slows down during this time.

There will be a baptism at Asha on March 23! Praise God with us for this and also **pray for the woman** being baptized, for strength and confidence for her and also for protection over her.

In the weeks before Easter break, C will be helping with school assemblies. Pray for these opportunities to share what Christians believe about Easter and why we think it is good news!

With love,

C, for S and the kids





EDGINGTON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

TREASURER'S REPORT FEBRUARY 2025



	Beg. Balance	Receipts	Disbursement	Ending Balance
General Fund	\$ 96,869.58	\$ 13,335.88	\$ 13,405.23	\$ 96,800.23
Education Fund	\$ 15,915.82	\$ 181.38	\$ -	\$ 16,097.20
Building Fund	\$ 160,232.87	\$ 1,217.75	\$ 1,112.91	\$ 160,337.71
<i>Building Checking</i>	\$ 55,437.55	\$ 1,217.75	\$ 1,112.91	\$ 55,542.39
<i>Building Money Market</i>	\$ 104,795.32	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 104,795.32
Youth Group	\$ 14,737.99	\$ 100.00	\$ 3,425.51	\$ 11,412.48
Totals:	\$ 287,756.26	\$ 14,835.01	\$ 17,943.65	\$ 284,647.62

February 2025 MONTHLY REVIEW - General Fund

Receipts - February 2025

Pledges	13,204.10	
Interest Income - General Fund	11.78	
Per Member Asking	120.00	
Basement Rent	-	
	\$ 13,335.88	\$ -

Expenditures - February 2025

Administrative

	\$ 4,634.50	
ABS (copier rental)	121.82	34.6%
AT&T - Phone for elevator	244.48	
Cemetery Upkeep	-	
Computers: Hdw, Sftw and Apps	274.27	
Edgington Water District	-	
Insurance	-	
Jeanne Hayes (Custodian)	560.38	
Johnson Controls	-	
Kone (Elevator)	450.00	
Lisa Bowman (Office Manager)	1,112.42	
MidAmerican Energy	464.00	
Millenium Waste	70.58	
Office Supplies	476.41	
Repairs & Maintenance - general	624.99	<i>to be reimbursed from Building Fund</i>
Reytel - Internet	120.26	
Shipping/Postage	6.45	
Taxes / FICA / Penalty	108.44	
	\$ 8,770.73	

Discipleship (Internal)

		<i>to be accounted for in March</i>
Children's Director		
Continuing Education	188.05	
Deacon Expense	-	
EPC General Assembly	-	
EPC (health)	48.89	
Events	-	
Fidelity (pension)	1,131.68	
Flowers	-	
Housing Allowance	4,000.00	
Meals	44.16	
Mileage	72.80	
Pastor HSA (insurance)	-	
Pastor Salary	2,782.08	
Presbytery Expense	73.88	
Pulpit Supply	-	
Resource Materials	429.19	
Sunday School	-	
Worship Supplies	-	

Mission (external)

	\$ -	
Mission - International	-	0.0%
Mission - US	-	
Mission - Local	-	

TOTAL EXPENSES **\$ 13,405.23** **\$ -**

NET OPERATING INCOME **\$ (69.35)**

INCLUDED IN GENERAL FUND TOTAL

Mission monies included in general fund of \$11,610.74 and Assistance Fund of \$4,483.46



TREASURER'S REPORT (Cont. from p. 15)

February 2025 - Building Fund Detail

Beginning Balance	\$ 160,232.87
Receipts	
Investment Income	1,213.45
Checking Interest	4.30
Money Market Interest	-
	1,217.75
Expenditures	
Donations from Women's & YG	(6,000.00)
Flooring America	2,000.00
JR Thomas (AV project)	288.91
Great Plains Blind Factory	4,824.00
	1,112.91
Ending Balance	\$ 160,337.71



FOOT CLINIC

Next Clinic: Monday, April 21st, beginning 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.



PRINT VERSION OF DIRECTORY

We are very much wanting to print a hard copy of the digital directory to put into the hands of those who would like one, but we want to see **ALL** of your lovely faces! As of this printing we are still missing **MANY** of you!



Angie Freyermuth has graciously volunteered to take the pictures of everyone missing from the directory and submit them to the church office. If you are one of the people who have not yet submitted a picture to the church office, please try to catch up with Angie after one of the worship services very soon. Thank you!



MEDICAL EQUIPMENT AVAILABLE FOR USE

Are you aware that the church has a variety of medical equipment available for you to borrow as needed? We pray you never do need it, but life happens & if you need to borrow something, just contact the church office.

Here is the current supply list:

- Bath/Shower Chair
- Bedside Commode
- Commode Safety Rails
- Cane & Quad Cane
- Crutches
- Knee Scooter
- Medical Seats
- Raised toilet Seat
- Walkers
- Walkers w/seats & brakes



OUR SOCIAL ACCOUNTS


[FACEBOOK](#) 


[SOUNDCLOUD](#)


[YOUTUBE](#) 


[INSTAGRAM](#)

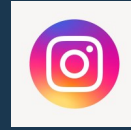


edgingtonepc.org

FOLLOW US ON ALL OUR SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORMS!

Just scan the QR codes to go directly to each one of our accounts on the various platforms or search for us on the ones you use. Text & icons below are linked.

[Facebook link](#)
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[Instagram link](#)
[YouTube link](#)



Have you ever been intrigued by the prophetic books of the Old Testament?

The Adult Sunday School class "The Prophets Agree" will survey the prophetic witness of the Old Testament. Each class will feature the historical and biblical context for each prophet and a summary of their message. God spoke through prophets in the course of history and their words are still relevant to us today.

Please join us as we grow in our knowledge of God's Word.

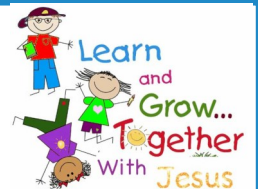


We meet every Lord's Day morning at 9am in the church basement. Please join us!

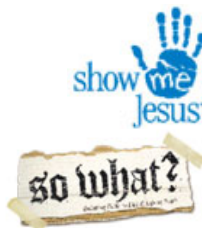


CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES

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 - Nathan & Lyndsey Flickinger



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!

Children's Education

Pre-K & Kindergarten Classroom

Our class format incorporates lots of imagery and activities to help drive home the key lesson points.

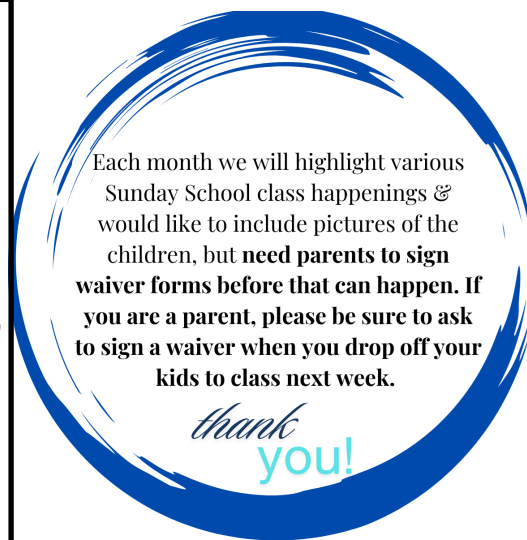


Hi! I'm Beth Flickinger and my husband Jason and I teach the preschool and kindergarten Sunday school class. I have been involved in teaching Sunday school most of my adult life. I feel like this is the perfect way to honor to the people who served as my wonderful Sunday school teachers when I was growing up.

"Seeing the Bible through children's eyes is incredibly encouraging to my faith walk."



We typically have 4-6 kids in class and have room for lots more, so please send your child or grandchild anytime!



Each month we will highlight various Sunday School class happenings & would like to include pictures of the children, but **need parents to sign waiver forms before that can happen. If you are a parent, please be sure to ask to sign a waiver when you drop off your kids to class next week.**

thank you!



welcome

Please plan to stay after the worship service on Sunday, April 13th to give a warm welcome all of our new members at the New Member Reception that the deacons will be hosting in the dining room.

2025 VBS PLANNING MEETING

Sun., April 6th at 12:15pm at Edgington EPC.

This year we will guide kids on the ultimate Alaskan adventure where northern lights glow over majestic mountains, racing rivers, and glistening glaciers. True North VBS shows kids that Jesus is a faithful friend we can always trust. He's our True North!

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!

We hope you will join us for all our Easter services and related events.

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GOOD FRIDAY



HALLELUJAH! CHRIST IS RISEN!

EASTER WORSHIP

WORSHIP 10AM



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

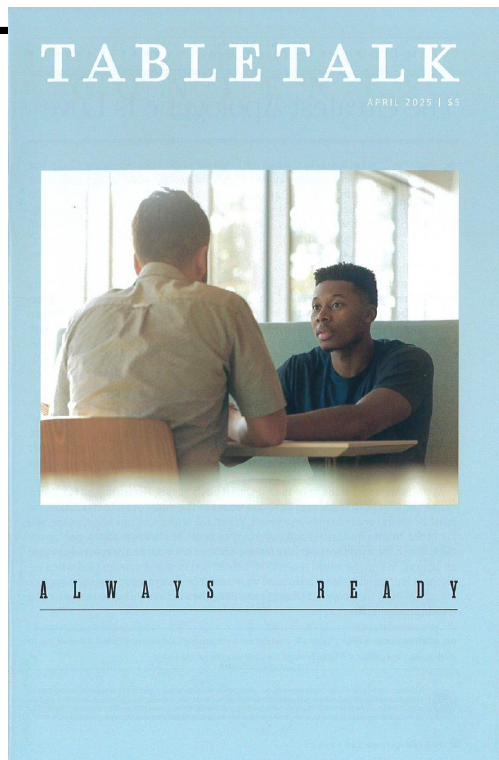
We will have eggs (depending upon availability), bacon, sausage, biscuits and gravy, pancakes, and waffles.

Serving starts at 8:30am and ends at 9:30.



EASTER BREAKFAST

GET YOUR APRIL COPY OF
THE TABLETALK DEVOTIONAL



LOCATED ON A TABLE IN THE SANCTUARY FOYER

EVERY SUNDAY (UNLESS NOTED)

5:30-7:30PM (UNLESS NOTED)

EEPC YOUTH GROUP

4.6 - KICKBALL

4.13 - POINTLESS GAME SHOW

4.20 - EASTER

4.27 - GAME 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 April 2025 Newsletter must be in by **NO LATER** than **Wednesday, April 16th** 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!



QUILTING

Thursday, April 17th, 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 donate to various ministries.

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!



2025 Youth Mission Trip June 21st - 28th



2 Corinthians 9:8

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.



6/21 - 6/28 Worksite projects in Ashby, Minnesota – Staying at Ashby Public School, Ashby, MN

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 – talk to Cade Reimers or Nathan Flickinger
 - When we have our spots filled, there will be more info including: lodging details, tool lists, estimated schedule, and more!

APRIL 2025



EEPC

Sunday School 9am
Worship Service 10am

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

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
30 Membership Matters, 11:15am Youth Group, 5:30	31 Meal Site	1 Meal Site Women's Bible Study, 10am	2 Meal Site Women's Bible Study, 6:30pm Session Mtg., 7pm	3 Meal Site Chair Exercises, 4:30pm Choir Rehearsal, 6:30pm	4 Food Pantry Packing, 9am Meal Site	5 Food Pantry Distribution, 9-11am
6 Food Pantry Sunday Membership Matters, 11:15am Deacons' Mtg., 11:30am VBS Mtg., 12:15pm Youth Group, 5:30pm	7 Meal Site	8 Meal Site Women's Bible Study, 10am	9 Meal Site Women's Bible Study, 6:30pm	10 Meal Site Chair Exercises, 4:30pm Choir Rehearsal, 6:30pm	11 Meal Site	12 Trustee Yard Work Day, 9am - ?
13 Palm Sunday B/P Checks New Member Reception, 11:15am Youth Group, 5:30pm	14 Meal Site	15 Meal Site Mission Comm. Mtg., 6:30pm	16 Meal Site Trustees' Mtg., 7pm Newsletter Items Due	17 Meal Site Quilting, 9am Chair Exercises, 4:30pm Choir Rehearsal, 6:30pm	18 Meal Site Good Friday Service, 6pm	19 Good Friday Meal Site Good Friday Service, 6pm
20 Easter Easter Breakfast, 8:30-9:30am Worship, 10am	21 VBS Registration Opens, 6am Foot Clinic Meal Site	22 Meal Site	23 Meal Site	24 Meal Site Chair Exercises, 4:30pm	25 Meal Site RLP Mtg., Highview EPC, North Prairie, WI	26 RLP Mtg., Highview EPC, North Prairie, WI
27 B/P Checks Youth Group, 5:30am Pastor Zach begins 6-week Sabbatical	28 Meal Site	29 Meal Site Session Mtg., 7pm	30 Meal Site	1 National Day of Prayer Meal Site Chair Exercises, 4:30pm	2 Meal Site	3