The Envoy

The Mission of the Edgeboro Moravian Church Family is to Love God, Grow in Christ and Share the Holy Spirit through worship, fellowship, discipleship, ministry and evangelism. Volume 8, Issue 11/12

November/December, 2016

Edgeboro Moravian Congregation

Dear Edgeboro Members and Friends:

The first day of autumn this year was September 22 and the days seem to be going by faster than the leaves are changing colors. By the time you read this, it will already be Thanksgiving season. (Commercials may be telling you it's Christmas season already, but I'm taking this one season at a time.)

Thanksgiving is a time where many people gather around a table with others. About 47 million Americans will travel for Thanksgiving this year to be around tables with friends and family. During this time, tables are special places. Interestingly enough, tables are special places in scripture as well. Just think of all the tables Jesus and the disciples sat around and all the holy moments and meals that occurred around them. One table that I would like to highlight now for Thanksgiving is the table mentioned in Psalm 23:5 – the one that the Lord prepares.

Many of us have heard these words before. Psalm 23, attributed to King David, speaks of opportunities to rest by still waters and green pastures and is filled with gratitude for God's loving presence and shepherd-like care. David definitely seems to have blessings to be thankful for when he sits at the table the Lord prepares for him. Yet blessings are not the only thing that David is counting while at this table.

David has been through a lot, and while he can count blessings on one hand, he could count sorrows on another. Here is a man that just before this said that he had been through the "valley of the shadow of death" (Ps. 23:4). Here is a man who is also attributed to writing the psalm placed right before Psalm 23. Psalm 22 starts out with "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me? Why are you so far from helping me?" and continues to express his deep pain. Here is a man whose enemies (people or things that cause him harm) are still present at the Lord's table with him (Ps. 23:5)!

David is sitting at the Lord's table as someone who can count his blessings and his sorrows, and yet he promises to dwell with God (Ps. 23:6) for the rest of his life - and not because God made his enemies and sorrows disappear. It is because he knows that at the Lord's table, "surely goodness and mercy shall follow [him] all the days of [his] life" (Ps. 23:6) We lose the awesomeness of that statement when we translate it from Hebrew. According to scholars, it more closely says, "only goodness and mercy shall pursue me all the days of my life." See the difference? David's hope of being caught by God's goodness and mercy overwhelms his fear of being followed by the things that harm him.

We often hear that Thanksgiving is a time to count our blessings – and it absolutely is. Many of us have many blessings that we could count. But for many, Thanksgiving and the holiday season can also be a very difficult time because in addition to bringing our blessings to our Thanksgiving tables, we also bring our sorrows. These sorrows do not simply go away because the holiday season tells us to be happy and "count our blessings."

If David can teach us anything with these psalms, it's that we are invited to the Lord's table carrying both blessings *and* sorrows and still invited by God to eat, drink, rest, and be revitalized, and that we are relentlessly *pursued* by God's love, goodness, and mercy. Sisters and brothers, may we remember this during the holidays and may our own tables we gather around resemble the Lord's table in Psalm 23.

May our holiday season be blessed.

In Christ.

Pastor Dan

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In this section you will find information about special offerings, services and activities for the communal worship of our congregation.



Joyful Noise Offering

Advent Candlelight Holy Communion Service

On Sunday December 4th, at 4:00 p.m. we will hold a special Candlelight Communion service as way of marking the beginning of the Advent Season. This is one of the most meaningful and beautiful services held at Edgeboro and we invite you to join us for this unique experience of God's grace.

Christmas Eve Services

The Christmas Eve Candle Services are one of the highlights of our Church year and represent a wonderful time to invite your family and friends to experience our Church family. Please be sure to pick up your free tickets for the service you want to attend so that we can manage overcrowding and assure that you will have a seat.

Service Schedule

3:00 PM—Lovefeast and Candle Service 5:30 PM—Lovefeast and Candle Service

8:00 PM—Candlelight Vigil

New Year's Eve Communion

What better way to close out the old year and seek to prayerfully enter the new year than to receive Holy Communion. On Saturday, December 31 from 4:30–6:00 PM the sanctuary will be open for quiet reflection and dialogue with God. Upon entering the Sanctuary participants will be offered a guide for this reflection time. This will be a time to review the past year, and dedicate yourself anew to Christ for the new year. Then, when ready, participants can come forward to receive Holy Communion from Pastor Dan. You are then welcome to stay as long as you wish.

The Joyful Noise Offering for September 11th was for Allentown Rescue Mission.

The amount was \$171.80

The Joyful Noise Offering for September 18th was for the Nepal Ministry—Kindergarten. The amount was \$219.63.

Thank you for your generosity!

GREETINGS TO ALL STARMAKERS:

The Putz committee is again asking for white Moravian stars to give to each school child that visits our Putz during the Advent season.

Last year, with your help, we surprised nearly 200 students with a small gift from Edgeboro as a reminder of their Putz visit.

So let's get started and avoid the Christmas rush! Also, please string the stars with green or gold thread so they are ready to hang.

Our thanks to all who participated in the last three years and a warm welcome to all new participants.

Servants in November

Elders 9:00AM

6 Craig Neiman

13 Ann Amidon

20 John Bauman

27 Craig Neiman

Elders 11:15AM

6 Myra Jones

13 Ann Amidon

20 John Bauman

27 Johanna Heft

Sacristans

6 David Bond & Linda Lindemuth

13 Bob & Elley Silfies

20 Brad & Mary Williamson

27 Craig & Tammy Baer

Ushers 9:00AM

6 LaRue Jones & Ruth Zaun

13 Earl Kunsman & Rod Sergent

20 David Bond & Linda Lindemuth

27 Heath Hoff Family

Ushers 11:15AM

6 Michael & Terri Long

13 Bob & Elley Silfies

20 John & Rosie Bauman

27 Randy & Deea Graser

Greeters 9:00AM

6 Jane Williamson

13 Ruth Zaun

20 Michael Louie Family

27 Heather James

Greeters 11:15AM

6 Scott & Jessie Sine

13 Nancy Remaly

20 Knox Family

27 John & Rosie Bauman

Sunday Worship Schedule

November 6 Joyful Noise

9:00 AM Worship 10:15 AM Sunday School

11:15AM The EDGE

November 13 Communion

9:00AM Worship 10:15AM Sunday School

11:15AM The EDGE

November 20

9:00 AM Worship 10:15 AM Sunday School

11:15AM The EDGE

November 27 First Sunday in Advent

9:00 AM Worship 10:15AM Sunday School 11:15AM The EDGE

Looking Forward December 4th 4:00PM Advent Vespers & Communion



Nursery Schedule

Date	Toddler Room	Infant Room
11/6/2016	Penny Sergent	Carole Schachter
11/13/2016	Val Hoff	Karen and Woody Werner
11/20/2016	Robyn Balsai	Karen and Woody Werner
11/27/2016	Jenny Minnich	Karen and Woody Werner

Our Worship Attendance for September				
2015		2016		
74 (SS)	Week 1	66(SS) (C)		
136 (RD)	Week 2	81		
203(CL)	Week 3	143 (RD) (CL)		
179(B)	Week 4	138		

B - Baptism

C - Communion

SS - Summer Service

CL - Children's Lovefeast

RD- Rally Day

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Servants in December

Sunday Worship Schedule

Elders

9:00AM

- 4 Craig Neiman
- 11 Johanna Heft
- 18 Ann Amidon (10 AM)
- 25 John Bauman (10 AM)

Elders 11:15AM

- 4 Robyn Balsai
- 11 Michael Long

Sacristans

- 4 John Bauman & Peggy Leith
- 11 David & Sharon Bond
- 18 Glen & Perry Emig
- 24 Michael & Myra Jones (3PM)
 David Bond & Linda Lindemuth (5:30)
 Bob & Elley Silfies (8PM)
- 25 Brad & Mary Williamson

<u>Ushers</u>

9:00AM

- 4 Rod Sergent & Earl Kunsman
- 11 LaRue Jones & Ruth Zaun

Ushers 11:15AM

- 4 Art & Emily Sergent
- 11 Brent Sergent & Family
- 18 Kyle Sergent & Family (10 AM)
- 25 Art & Emily Sergent (10AM)

Greeters 9:00AM

- 4 Groner Family
- 11 Heath & Val Hoff
- 18 Nelson & Sherri Hoff
- 25 Terry Seifert

Greeters 11:15AM

- 4 Sally Abruzzese
- 11 Holly Haines

December 4 2nd Sunday in Advent Joyful Noise

9:00 AM Worship 10:15 AM Sunday School 11:15AM The EDGE

4:00PM Advent Vespers

December 11 3rd Sunday in Advent 9:00 AM Worship 10:15 AM Sunday School 11:15AM The EDGE

Ensemble plays

December 18
4th Sunday in Advent
10:00AM Choir Musicale

and SS Christmas Pageant

December 25 Christmas

10:00AM Worship (one service)



Nursery Schedule

Date	Toddler Room	Infant Room
12/4/2016	Heather James	Carole Schachter
12/11/2106	Sherri Hoff	Karen and Woody Werner
12/18/2016	Season Pagano	Karen and Woody Werner
12/25/2106	Christmas	Christmas

Our Worship Attendance for October				
2015		2016		
136 (C)	Week 1	78 (C)		
105	Week 2	78		
166(B)	Week 3	71		
108 (ALF)	Week 4	(ALF)		

B—Baptism

C = Communion

ALF- Anniversary Lovefeast

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Fellowship

In this section you will find information about fellowship events, correspondence received during the month and birthday and anniversary dates!



BIRTHDAYS

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 1) Liza Engelbrecht
- 4) Bonnie Peters Robert Silfies, Jr.
- 6) Jocelyn Snyder
- 7) Jay Engelbrecht
- 10) Julie Horn Michael Horn Audrey Wilson
- 17) Deea Graser Katlyn Hosterman
- 18) Thomas Pheiffer
- 20) Darryl Bacon Rebekah Miller Eric Sergent Dawn Hudson
- 21) Stephen Moller
- 25) Karen Lovell Megan Weikert Garrett Eldridge
- 26) John Knox
- 27) John Madison Nancy Zulli
- 29) John Horn
- 30) Chris Giesler

Common Thread

The **Common Thread support group**, will be meeting on November 29th and December 20th at 11:00AM. This is because of the holidays. You are encouraged to bring a light lunch with you. If you have any questions, please feel free to call Marcia Horning at 610-657-0207.



Children

- 1) Alexis Beller Hailey Beller
- 6) Jerrah Eldridge Jocelyn Snyder
- 8) Jacob Weikert
- 29) Elyse Borowski

NOVEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

- Bradley and Rebekah Miller George and Linda Moller
- 3) Joe & Susan Testa
- 5) Jay & Liza Engelbrecht
- 8) John & Marcia Madison
- 17) Bradley and Mary Williamson Dan & Megan Terry
- 21) Jeffrey and Jennifer Minnich
- 28) William and Carole Schachter
- 29) Dan & Beth Miller



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Fellowship

In this section you will find information about fellowship events, correspondence received during the month and birthday and anniversary dates!



BIRTHDAYS

<u>DECEMBER</u> BIRTHDAYS

- 2) Katherine Kendall
- 3) Hannah Bucchin
- 4) Amy Giesler
- 6) David Bond
- 7) Earl W. Kunsman IV Rebecca Miller
- 8) Martha Ammon
- 9) Noemi Gonzalez
- 10) Jane Martin
- 13) Mary Lou Bachman
- 18) Melissa Hoff Hope Pearson
- 20) Edward Fotta
- 21) Dana Grubb Diane Talpas Ellen Pagano
- 24) Barbara Burkhardt Holly Haines Dylan Perkins
- 25) Ann Amidon
- 27) Anthony Emig
- 28) Kristen Scalise
- 29) Alice Durner
- 31) Linda Moller Nancy Remaly

Reminder to All!

Don't miss the Council Meeting on Wednesday November 9th at 7:00PM. This Envoy will contain biographies of those who have been nominated for Elders and Trustees plus a copy of the proposed 2017 budget.

Moravian Mints are here!

Moravian Mints will be available after November 3rd in the Parlor. They are still \$6.00 a box.



Children

- 2) Parker Hoff
- 3) Joseph Miller Joshua Testa
- 6) Paige Beller
- 14) Austin Lilly
- 31) Noemi Campanella

<u>DECEMBER</u> ANNIVERSARIES

- 2) Terry and Kathie Smyser
- 16) Sherwood and Karen Werner
- 21) Justin and Jennifer Hoff
- 22) Charles & Judy Ganz
- 29) Ryan and Rebecca Beller
- 30) Tim & Jill Jones



Church News

Prayer Requests Healing

Raymond & Paul (Perry's brothers)
Bob B (Marcia Madison)
Baby Jack & Charlotte (Diane Knox)
Colleen Lynch (Diane Knox)
Richard Bogart (Marcia Horning)
Janna (Sherri Hoff)
Steve L. (Kathy & Robin)
Theresa Sattler (John Bauman)
Clarence Vaden (Lisa Courtade)
Mary Ann (Rita Gambler)
Dan (Rita Gambler)
Betsy (Rita Gambler)
Jenean (Becky & Ryan Beller)
Charlotte (Nancy Remaly)

Guidance

Peter (Anne Hosterman)
Gareth (Messmans)
Jeffrey Boyle (Helene Boyle)
Bill (Nancy Remaly)

Other

Peace – Elsa Acton(Messman's)

Address Changes

Terry & Kathie Smyser 10201 US Highway 27 Box 39 Clermont, FL 34711

John & Nancy Meka 160 Crepe Myrtle Dr. Groveland, FL 34736



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ATTENTION

If you have a report that you want included in the Church Council Report, please get it into the office by

November 1st to give the office time to get the report ready for Church Council on November 9th.

Don't forget on

November 6th to
turn your clocks back
one hour. We get one
more hour of sleep that night.

Pumpkin rolls are being made again this year. They are being made on November 19th from 9AM—5PM. The cost for the pumpkin rolls is \$10. The order and the money is due by Sunday, November 13th. Make the checks payable to "Edgeboro Moravian Church". Please return order and checks to Sherri Hoff. In the memo line, please indicate pumpkin roll. You may pick up the pumpkin rolls on Sunday, November 20th. Any rolls not picked up by noon will be put in the freezer. If you have any questions, please call Sherri Hoff at 610-759-4974 or email at sherrihoff@gmail.com

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The Christmas Season is right around the corner, and there are many opportunities for service at our

Christmas Putz!

PUTZ RAISING ~ Saturday, November 12

We'll start at 10:00 am and work until we are done. We'll order pizza for lunch at 1:00 pm. Please bring a 2-liter bottle of soda, or a dessert, or a bag of chips to share with the group. This activity is open to all ages! Any questions- contact Art Sergent (610-653-2730) or Robyn Balsai (610-865-1110).

Any **HAND MADE CRAFTS** have to be in church on or before November 12th. Please clearly label your bags/boxes of items (include your name) and place them on the stage in Fellowship Hall. Questions – contact Megan Weikert (meggstar@rcn.com or 610-392-0910).

VOLUNTEER to be a hostess, kitchen assistant or Christmas Room assistant. We need people for daytime and nighttime shifts. Training will be provided. Please contact Terri Long (terri.a.long@gmail.com or 610-730-9347) to volunteer.

PUTZ VOLUNTEER TRAINING ~ we'll have two opportunities for training new volunteers. This is a good refresher for past volunteers. Join us in Fellowship Hall on one of these dates:

Sunday, November 27th from 12:30 -1:00 pm Sunday, December 4th from 8:30 - 9:00 am

We'd love to have you join us in sharing the story of the Birth of Christ to visitors near and far this Christmas season!



Board of Trustees' September Meeting Highlights

Many thanks to those who helped with the parsonage project! There was
significant updating needed so that Dan and Beth could move in. Renovating the bathroom, rebuilding the stairs and back porch, fixing cracks in
walls, painting and cleaning were just some of the completed projects. Replacing the furnace and windows are upcoming.



- Don't forget to sign up for e-Giving!
- **Are you a faithful giver?** We understand that it may not be possible to attend church every Sunday. The work of the church continues even when you can't be here. Thank you for considering becoming faithful in your giving. And if you are already a faithful giver *thanks!*

Elder Highlights for September:

Highlights from Board of Elders meetings in September and October

- Elders generated a list of events at Edgeboro for the Calendar of Events that will highlight BAM churches' activities in Bethlehem for the 275th Anniversary. Numerous events at Edgeboro are included on the calendar which was recently published and available for distribution.
- Voted to have Nov. 6 Joyful Noise offering to benefit the Salvation Army's need for toiletries and feminine hygiene products.
- Voted to have Dec. 4 Joyful Noise offering to benefit Moravian Open Door.
- Approved Jan 22, 2017 baptism of Jackson James Lauderman, son of Brian and Ali Lauderman.
- Discussed nominations for elders who are needed to fill vacancies when Myra Jones, Ann Amidon and Paula Horn leave the Board of Elders.
- Approved moving Advent Vespers service to Dec. 4 at 4 p.m. instead of Nov. 27 due to travel conflict with organist Gayle Justice.
- Assigned Elder of the Day for the months of November and December.

Luminaria Night

Luminaria Night is scheduled for Saturday, December 10th, 2016 and many homes and businesses will set out white bags with votive candles burning inside. The proceeds from the sale of these luminaria kits provide funds to New Bethany Ministries. New Bethany helps the homeless, hungry, poor and mentally ill in the Lehigh Valley.

If your neighborhood does not participate, would you consider becoming a block captain? If you have seen your neighbors participating, why not join them in supporting this magical evening? Just contact us through the information below!

www.facebook.com/luminarianight and follow us on Twitter at #LuminariaNight

For more information or to contact us about Luminaria, e-mail luminarianight@gmail.com

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Time for the Edgeboro Ensemble to begin!!

WHO WE ARE: We are a group of Edgeboro musicians who practice together to prepare for performing in church during Christmas and Easter. Then we perform!!!!

DIRECTOR: Megan Weikert - Hm. 610-419-0607 meggstar@rcn.com QUALIFICATIONS: Anyone who has had at least (1) year of instruction on their instrument. Adults and students are welcome. Instrument in the closet? Dust it off and join us!! Students we need you!!



UP COMING REHEARSAL SCHEDULE:

SUNDAY NOV 20th: Choir room 12:15-1:15 (after 2nd service) Snacks and water are provided! SUNDAY DEC. 4TH: Choir room 12:15-1:15 (after 2nd service)

PERFORM IN CHURCH FOR 9:00 SERVICE

SUNDAY DEC. 11TH: (8:30) Report to choir room to leave instrument cases and take instrument to choir loft. Find seats. We begin playing Preludes at 8:45. We will then play along with some Liturgy and Hymns. Then we play Postludes at the end of the service. We will also play preludes for the 11:15AM service starting at 11:00AM

PLEASE CALL or EMAIL: Megan Weikert (director) to inform me of your participation. I am looking forward to having some new members to join our seasoned members!!!!

SEE YOU SOON!

HARVEST HOME

We will be collecting these items from Sunday, October 30th through Sunday, November 20th. All donations will be given to Northeast Ministry. Please place any donated items in the marked bin in the back of the sanctuary or bring them to the church office. Thank you!



Suggested items to bring:

Potatoes Rice

Beans Canned Fruit

Canned Meats Cookies
Crackers Baby Food
Spaghetti Sauce Coffee
Canned Soups Tea

Breakfast Cereal Hot Chocolate Mixes

Fruit Juices (canned or powder)

Canned Vegetables Paper Products

Church Council Meeting Wednesday, November 9, 2016

The Church Council of the Edgeboro Moravian Congregation will convene on **Wednesday**, **November 9th at 7:00 p.m.**

Each communicant member of the congregation is a member of the Church Council and should attend the meeting. At the meeting we will be electing the leaders who will serve on the Board of Elders (who look after the spiritual life of the congregation) and the Board of Trustees (who oversee the buildings and grounds as well as the financial management of the congregation). Included in this newsletter you will see the nominees for each of these boards.

For the Board of Elders we have three seats open and the nominees are Val Hoff, Linda Lindemuth and Shannon Swingle. We thank Myra Jones, Ann Amidon and Paula Horn for their service as their terms have come to an end.

For the Board of Trustees we have 4 seats open. Those stepping down are Bill Henry, Charlie Ganz, Tom Shafer and Glen Emig (finishing Ryan Beller's term). We thank them for their services as their term comes to and end. The nominees are Glen Emig (returning to start his full 1st term), Bill Burkhardt, Tim Jones and Terri Long.

Please keep in mind that the floor will be open for additional nominations at the council meeting but it will be necessary for you to obtain permission from that person for the nomination to be accepted.

Also included with this newsletter is the proposed budget for 2017. This will be reviewed at this council meeting, but not voted on until our January Church Council meeting.

Unity Prayer Watch

The calendar for the Unity Prayer Watch has come out. The day that Edgeboro is responsible for is Monday, December 5th. There will be sign up sheets for covering the time slots closer to the date. This is our chance to participate in praying for the world. What a privilege!

Sugar Cakes!!!

The next time that Moravian Sugar Cakes will be made is Friday November 18th. The price of a Sugar cake is \$6.00. If you are interested in ordering any, please either call the office at 610-866-8793 or Marcia Horning at 610-691-3209 by Tuesday, November 15th. You can pick them up either Friday, November 18th from 8-9PM, or Sunday November 20th after the church service.

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Trustees Nominee

Glen Emig

Glen and his family joined the Edgeboro congregation in December of 1998. He and his wife Perry (and family as well) have been active members ever since. Glen owns his own Auto Repair shop, Glen's Car Care, in Allentown. He has previously served terms as an Elder of the congregation. For the last number of years, Glen has graciously donated his time and truck to clear the parking lot of snow during the winter months. This gift saves the church a lot of money. Glen and Perry also serve as Sacristans, helping to prepare the sanctuary for worship.

Terri Long

Terri is married to Michael Long and they have three children, Meghan Gaur, Doug, and Tyler. They also have two grandchildren. She is a retired Pre-school teacher. Her church activities are Chairperson of Christian Education Committee, Volunteer Coordinator of Putz Committee, Confirmation mentor, Usher and Bake sale coordinator for the Ice Cream festival. She hobbies are spending time with family, Bookclub reading, relaxing at Cape May, staying connected to friends and scrapbooking.

Tim Jones—filling the last two years of Tom Shafer's term

Tim has been a lifelong member of Edgeboro and is married to Jill. He sings bass in the choir. This is his second time on the Trustees. Tim also helps with the shoveling of the snow and mowing the grass in the summer. He likes to play basketball and play with his dog.

Bill Burkhardt

Bill is a retired educator and a lifelong member of Edgeboro. Besides taking charge of making and distributing the beeswax candles, he is the Financial secretary for Edgeboro. Bill is also in the choir. He is the owner of The Dairy Store. He donates the ice cream to the Ice cream festival.

Elders Nominees

Hi! I'm **Val Hoff** and I am a lifelong member of Edgeboro. I went to Sunday School, was confirmed and married here. I have served multiple terms on the board of Elders in the past. I was previously a Sunday School teacher for 20+ years and this year have taken on Co-superintendent of Sunday School. My husband, Heath and I will be married 20 years in May and have three children, Madison (16), Makenna (13) and Parker (11). When not at one of their events, we enjoy camping as a family. I look forward to again serving my church family as a board member.

Linda Lindemuth

Linda was born in Bethlehem and graduated from Ursinus college in 1963. She was married David Lindemuth for 50 years. She is mother of two children, five grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren. She was a house wife for many years and then cook and Banquet coordinator for Bethlehem Masonic Temple Association until retirement in 2006 She has been a member of Edgeboro for many years. She has served as an Usher, Greeter and Sacristan. She also has helped with Mint Making, making Sugar Cakes and helps with the mailing of the Envoy.

Shannon Swingle

I was baptized at central Moravian and grew up going to First Moravian Church of Riverside NJ. When I moved to Bethlehem for college I 'church hopped' for a while and eventually landed at Edgeboro. I love the feeling I get of being part of the bigger church family here!

I have been a camper and camp counselor at Camp Hope for many years! I have been Dean of Pre primary for 5 years and love watching the kids grow in faith!

I am an avid member at The Edge service where I help to lead worship. In past churches I have taught Sunday School and lead youth group.

At Edgeboro I have enjoyed being a chaperone for youth group and youth group lock ins. I hope to help get the youth group back up and running soon! Thank you for your consideration.