



Dear Grace Family,

I'm so glad you got to hear a great message from Debbie this past Sunday! I'm eager to hear what you are continuing to think about in terms of what you are cultivating and letting go of this Lent.

A few Sundays ago we talked about cultivating wisdom. Wisdom is what enables us to remain steady when the storms come—and they will. Wisdom supports our resilience so that when storms come, we are able to get back up, bounce back, bend but not break, and sometimes even grow stronger under pressure.

First, this Sunday at 9am (before Sunday school) we will have a short contemplative prayer practice for anyone who would like to participate. A contemplative practice is simply a way of slowing down long enough to listen—to God, to our breath, and to what is stirring within us. It often includes silence, gentle guidance, and reflection. You don't need any experience—just come as you are.

Secondly, another thing that has been helping me reflect on what it means to cultivate wisdom and live more intentionally is a framework from Brené Brown's *The Gifts of Imperfection*. In the book she outlines ten guideposts for whole-hearted living—each one inviting us to cultivate something in our lives while letting go of something that holds us back. I'm attaching a visual of these.

If you are interested I invite you to read at least some of her book over the next few weeks. Then on the afternoon of Saturday, March 28, we will have a casual gathering where we can talk about what we're discovering together.

Sometimes wisdom grows best when we practice together!

Gratefully,

Carrilea

**March 8-14, 2026**

# March Birthdays

5 - Zoe McMillan  
7 - Gina DeLong  
9 - Donn Wardo  
10 - John Marshall  
10 - Terry Hamby  
13 - David Rogers  
17 - Louise Grose  
28 - Lisa Wardo  
31 - Sam Scott



The Mission Board will be "Cultivating Young Minds" by collecting books and money for Speak Life and Live's summer reading camp. The camp is completely free to the kids who participate, and books are available for them to take home and keep. We are asking for donations of money (the cost for the camp is \$150/child), and new or gently used books, beginning reader through young adult levels. Thank you for your generous support of our special offerings!

**ICM NEEDS CEREAL, RAMEN NOODLES, AND MAC-N-CHEESE.**

## Upcoming events

**Saturday, March 21: Family Picnic at noon at Lake Norman State Park.  
A flyer is attached to this email..**

**Thursday, March 26th: we will be doing a Beer & Hymns at 6pm at Red Buffalo.**

**Easter Saturday: April 4 Egg Hunt and Easter Party on the church grounds.**

**Maunday Thursday Meal: April 2- 6:00pm.**

**Easter: April 5 - Sunrise service at 7am, with a lite breakfast, no Sunday School, then worship with Contata at 11:00am.**

## BUDGET

Needed year to date: \$21,180.00

Received year to date: \$21,542.85

OVER budget: \$362.85

Weekly needs: \$2118.00

This Week's Offering: \$3117.64



Use this PayPal QR code for easy donations.