

Windows

May 2025

Vol. XXXVI No. 5 1330 India Hook Road, Rock Hill, South Carolina 29732
(803) 328-5000

HAPPY
Mother's
DAY

She is clothed with

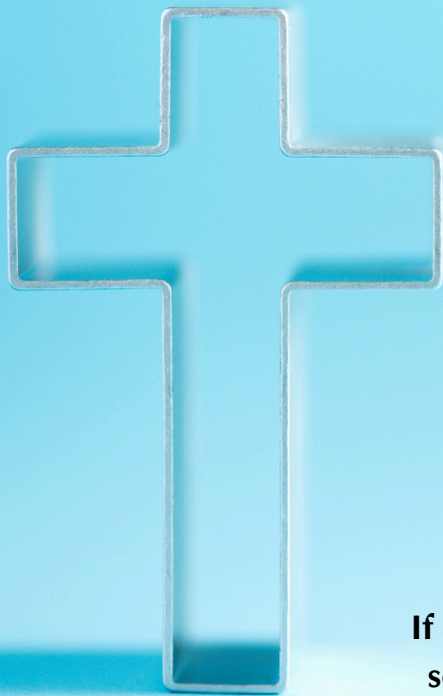
Strength & Dignity

She can Laugh at the days to come.

She speaks with Wisdom,
& Faithful instruction is on her tongue.

Proverbs 31:25-26





May Church Schedule

**The 2nd and 4th Wednesdays at 3:00 pm
in Heritage Hall**

5/14 Jonathan Taylor, Westminster Presbyterian Church

5/28 Rev. Jon Oliphant, First ARP Church of Rock Hill

**If you would like to suggest someone to conduct a Wednesday church
service, please contact Nancy Anderson, in apartment 214, or Cami
Freeman #5018, or Melissa Russell #5011
All Denominations are welcome!**

If you would like to submit an article or
pictures, please email them to:
camifreeman@westminstertowers.org
The deadline for the June '25 edition of
Windows is Monday, May 12.

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May 2025
Vol. XXXVI No. 5

Newsletter Committee Members:

Linda Lenz - Chairman
Lou Ardrey
Arlene Jenkins Blackwelder
Jody FitzGerald
Carole Partridge

This Month's Contributors:

Lou Ardrey
Arlene Jenkins Blackwelder
Ed FitzGerald
Jim Thomason
Earl Wilcox

Grammarian
Jody FitzGerald

Publisher
Cami Freeman

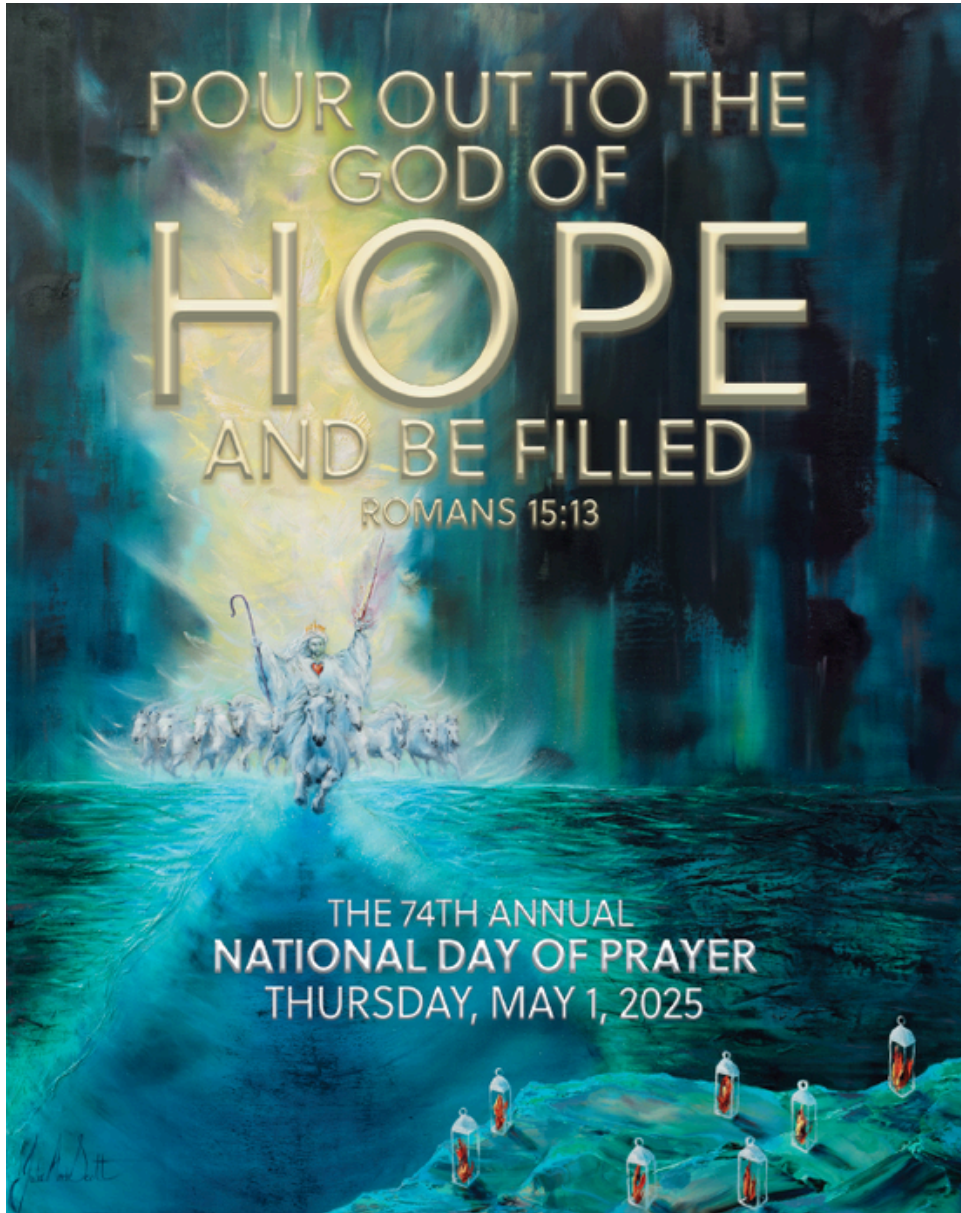


*A specially commissioned painting by artist
Julie Ann Scott, to represent the 2025
National Day of Prayer USA. A striking
symbol of hope as well as an encouragement
to prepare our lamps for His coming when He
will triumph overall.*

The next Newsletter Committee Meeting
will be on Monday, May 19, 2025,
at 2:00 pm, in the 2nd Floor Lounge.

National Day of Prayer

by Lou Ardrey



Westminster Towers will, once again, host a National Day of Prayer. It will be observed on Thursday, May 1st, in Heritage Hall from 1:30 to 2:30. The theme this year is Pour Out To The God Of Hope And Be Filled...based on Romans 15:13 "May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit."

Special guests for the event will include Rep. Tommy Pope who will deliver some remarks about the need for prayer for our country. Other areas of prayer will be led by:

Family - - - John Robinson
Church - - -Rev. Ken Watson
Business - - - Chris Miller
Education----Scott Dillon,
Military---Don Hunt
Government----Judge Bill McKinnon
Arts, Entertainment & Media----Dr. Kristen Wunderlich.

One of the greatest promises in God's Word is full of hope: "If my people who are called by my name, will humble themselves, pray, seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways, then will I hear from heaven, will forgive their sin and will heal their land.

2 Chronicles 7:14. That promise carries some conditions. If God's people will do four things: humble ourselves, pray, seek his face, and turn from our wicked ways, then he will do three things: hear from heaven, forgive our sin, and heal our land.

Plan to join millions who will gather all over America on this special day as we humble our hearts, bow our heads, and lift our voices in prayer to intercede for our great nation and its leaders.

Honoring Our Mother on Mother's Day

You know her as Lou Ardrey, but to us she's Mama, Mom, Grandmama, Grandma, and Mimi. She and Daddy moved to the Towers in 2015, and he passed away in May 2020. Over the years, she's taught Bible studies, arranged musical events, written dozens of articles for The Windows, hosted a yearly Christmas Coffee, and baked hundreds of loaves of bread. That's just at The Towers!

Family has always been important to her. Growing up, she made sure that we made a trip to see family in SC at least once a year, driving 14 hours with 3 kids in the back of a station wagon! Now, she plans the Ardrey family Christmas meal, visits her sisters (94 & 98), and encourages us (3 children and 2 spouses, 6 grandchildren and 2 spouses, and 1 great grandchild) to get together at least once a year... not an easy task!

She's passionate about sharing her love of God's word. She led Bible studies in her home in Fort Mill for 20 years, then started here, and now she's on YouTube!

She's faithfully served at Westminster Church for over 30 years in Women's Ministry, Bible studies, Tuesday Prayer Group, and National Day of Prayer events.

She shares her love of music by arranging performances here, but also encouraged grandkids through guitar, piano, and violin lessons.

She's a great encourager-through words and actions. She remembers special days with cards and gifts, attends sporting events, musical concerts, and theater productions - she's done it all!



Lou Ardrey

She is patient, kind, a great listener, full of joy, selfless, and incredibly giving with her time and her love. She gives generously and abundantly.

She doesn't expect much in return and always says "words are the best gift," so Happy Mother's Day!

Love, Sarah/Paul, Lydia/Jamie, Kelly,
Daniel/Tessa/Bishop, Jonathan, Haley, Luke,
Robert, Hannah/Connor

Dear Friends of Westminster Towers,

This annual Mother's Day Memorial Offering is a very popular and well-received event whereby residents, families, and church members remember their mothers and their legacies.

Many years ago, the Westminster Towers Endowment Fund was established to support residents who outlived their financial resources. This fund is contributed to by many of our current residents throughout the year and is under the direction of the Board of Directors. The principal is never touched; only the earnings are used. 100% of all contributions go directly to this fund and are exclusively used to help residents who outlive their financial resources.

Financial assistance from the fund is managed privately, confidentially, and securely with a Board of Directors committee to review applications. So very often, those who exhaust their finances have lived with us for many years. Westminster Towers is their home. We strive to use all options available, for example, our Endowment Fund, and support from family members, and home congregation. Last year, your gifts helped several residents over the age of 90 remain at home here at The Towers.

Would you join us this year in remembering/honoring your mother by giving a gift to our Mother's Day offering? We would be honored to list you and your mother's name in the monthly Westminster Towers Windows newsletter and post the names in our beautiful lobby.

**Sincerely,
James R. Thomason
President / CEO**

MOTHER'S DAY



Memorial Offering

Jean Barnes

Mike & Rosemary Nelson	Nell Holler Givens
Ruthann Poore	Ruby Hunt Jenkins
Yvonne Lautzenheiser	Mary E. Lingenhoel
Ray Lautzenheiser	Ethel Lautzenheiser
Charles Ives	Elsie Margaret McGuire Ives
Lou Ardrey	Sarah Dorothy Lucas Allen
Lessie Adickes Polk	Lillian Adickes
Wes & Sally Hayes	Wilbur Kirkland Hayes
Dorothy Marie Morrison	Ivy Celestia Paul
Frank Kiser	Nellie Acuff Kiser, and Elizabeth Tribby Craft
Jane Mitchell	Mary Gilbert Mitchell

Meet Your Neighbor

Arlene Jenkins Blackwelder

Elizabeth “Betty” Mansfield Wheatley was born October 30, 1937, and grew up in Charleston, SC. Her childhood and youth experiences were spent at the ocean, crabbing and swimming.

After Betty graduated from high school in 1955, she graduated from St Francis School of Nursing in Charleston in 1958. She met Gerald Wheatley, her future husband, who had graduated from the Citadel in 1956, on a blind date in Columbia, SC. They moved to Autobon, NJ, where Betty was a nurse at Cherry Hill Hospital.

Betty returned to Charleston where she and Gerald raised three girls and one boy, Kathy, Lauren, Terri, and Jerry. After retirement from nursing, her daughters asked her to assume the role of bookkeeper for their clothing store on King Street, which she did from 1986 until the store closed in 1996.

Gerald Wheatley owned a chemical business, G&L Enterprise, which Betty ran after Gerald passed away in 1996.

Eventually, Betty moved to Rock Hill to be closer to her children. She attended St. Mary’s Catholic Church from 2006 - 2019 when the pandemic affected so many people. She still loves to visit her many friends when she can.

Betty moved to Westminster Towers, apt. 326, November 9, 2024. She enjoys playing Bridge and Rummikub. She loves spending time with her family, socializing, and meeting new Westminster friends. She adds a bright spot to each and every person she meets! I am fortunate to have Betty as my new neighbor!

Please say hello and welcome Betty in passing.



Elizabeth “Betty” Mansfield Wheatley

Gone but not Forgotten

In Memoriam for Marie Graham

Earl J. Wilcox

Dear Marie,

We thought we were ready to say good-bye

But we were not, it now seems.

We wanted you to stay a bit longer

So we could learn how to smile through pain

To greet each day with kindness – to tinker with

God's grace just enough to give depth and

Love to others if they were watching your

Placid poise and genuine artful living.

Words cannot fulfill all our needs, but in these

Brief lines we offer heartfelt grief and eternal love.

March, 2025

Artwork of Juanita Eising

Juanita Eising has left us the lasting legacy of her artwork. We were privileged to have a few of her pieces specifically crafted for Windows.

Though her April submission did not grace last month's issue, we are delighted to share one of her last pieces created especially for us.



April 2025



February 2024



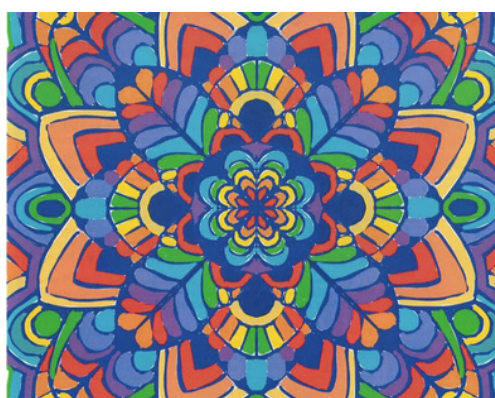
March 2024



Love is in the Air 2023



He is Risen 2023



August 2023



February 2022

How Does Our Garden Grow...

by Ed FitzGerald

Now that Easter is here, planting in the Towers Gardens is underway full force. The raised gardens, accessible from the basement exit, were an Eagle Scout project from a Boy Scout troop located in Tega Cay. The gardeners receive consulting advice on soil preparation, plant selection, and irrigation from Kevin Chambers, son of Norma Chambers, a Manor Resident.

Vegetables and fruits like peppers, peas, tomatoes and strawberries are popular and are already in the ground. Some of the gardeners prefer only flowers, and the resplendent beauty makes the setting a beautiful place to visit! A recent addition is the arbor, donated by the Towers which will provide a growing frame for our thriving Confederate Jasmine vines. Soon, the fragrance of their flowers will fill the garden area with a refreshing aroma. There are chairs and benches spaced along the plots. If you are looking for a beautiful work of nature for a visit, tour the gardens. Here, residents have created a beautiful reflective place for meditation and prayer.

Come visit---late afternoon is quieter and cooler, and you will see, firsthand, the beauty of creation!



Installation of the new arbor





Freedom Is Not Free

By Kelly Strong

Submitted by Lou Ardrey

I watched the flag pass by one day,
It fluttered in the breeze.
A young Marine saluted it,
And then he stood at ease.

I looked at him in uniform
So young, so tall, so proud
With hair cut square and eyes alert,
He'd stand out in any crowd.

I thought, how many men like him
Had fallen through the years?
How many died on foreign soil?
How many mothers' tears?

How many pilots' planes shot down?
How many died at sea?
How many foxholes were soldiers' graves?
No, freedom is not free.

I heard the sound of TAPS one night,
When everything was still.
I listened to the bugler play
And felt a sudden chill.

I wondered just how many times
That TAPS had meant "Amen"
When a flag had draped a coffin
Of a brother or a friend.

I thought of all the children,
Of the mothers and the wives,
Of fathers, sons and husbands
With interrupted lives.

I thought about a graveyard
At the bottom of the sea,
Of unmarked graves in Arlington.
No. Freedom is not Free!



A Brief History of Memorial Day

Memorial Day (originally known as Decoration Day) is one of the federal holidays in the United States for honoring and mourning the U.S. military personnel who died while serving in the United States Armed Forces. It is observed on the last Monday of May.

The first national observance of Memorial Day occurred on May 30, 1868 (then Decoration Day), and was proclaimed by

Commander in Chief John A. Logan of the Grand Army of the Republic, to honor the Union soldiers who had died in the American Civil War. The National Cemetery Administration, a division of the Department of Veterans Affairs, credits Mary Ann Williams with originating the "idea of strewing the graves of Civil War soldiers—Union and Confederate" with flowers.

The world wars turned it into a day of remembrance for all members of the U.S. military who fought and died in service. In 1971, Congress standardized the holiday as "Memorial Day" and changed its observance to the last Monday in May.

May Outings

Signup at the Bulletin Board

Friday, May 2

10:00 am Outing to Chester DMV and
Lunch at Buttermilk's Barbeque.

Wednesday, May 7

10:15 am Day trip to Historic Camden &
Lunch (Rescheduled from April)

Wednesday, May 7

7:00 pm Piano recital of Lizzy Urich at
Barnes Recital Hall at Winthrop. Program
starts at 7:30.

Friday, May 9

11:00 am Picnic at Westminster Park

Wednesday, May 14

5:00 pm Diner at Red Bowl.

Friday, May 16

11:00 am Lunch at Fish Market

Saturday, May 17

10:00 am Outing to visit Jim Townsend's
Antique Car Shop in Rock Hill.

Wednesday, May 21

5:00 pm Diner at Rizzo Brothers
(formerly known as Luigi and Sons.)

Friday, May 23

11:00 am Lunch at Flipside in Rock Hill

Wednesday, May 28

5:00 pm Diner at Longhorn Steakhouse.

Friday, May 30

11:00 am Lunch at Nathan's Famous in
Rock Hill.

Saturday, May 31

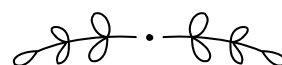
3:30 pm Transportation to the Rock Hill
Symphony Orchestra. Concert begins at
4:00 pm.



In Loving Memory



**Donna Reese
Dot Southwell
Gloria Dixon
Nell Branning**



Acknowledging Those Who Donate

In Remembrance/Honor

Ed & Jody FitzGerald

Dicksie Ward,
and J. Mark Sherbert

Sonja Erickson

Dicksie Ward

Ruthann Poore

Marie Graham

Jim & Nancy Bright

Dicksie Ward

Ester Jackson

Dicksie Ward

and Marie Graham

Arlene Jenkins Blackwelder

Barney Blackwelder

Jim & Nancy Bright

Donna Reese, Dot Southwell,
Nell Branning, and Gloria Dixon

Ruthann Poore

Nell Branning

Spencer & Lib Anderson

Donna Reese, and
Dot Southwell

Spencer & Lib Anderson

Gloria Dixon

Doug & Debbie Rainwater

Gloria Dixon

Ed & Jody FitzGerald

Dot Southwell, Gloria Dixon,
Nell Branning, and Donna Reese

Sue Nazak

In Memory of our recently
departed friends.

Lou Ardrey

Barney Blackwelder, Fay Reynolds,
Marie Graham, Juanita Eising,
Dicksie Ward, Donna Reese,
Dot Southwell, and Gloria Dixon

If you want to make a donation to any of our funds
(Endowment, Employee Assistance, or General Fund),
please bring cash/check to Pam Engle in the business
office. You can make checks out to Westminster Towers,
and in the memo section, indicate the fund you are
supporting.

April 2025 Memories

