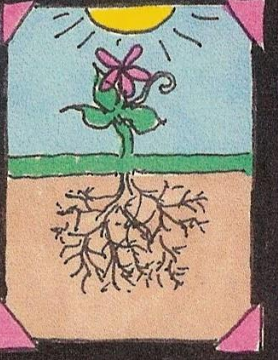
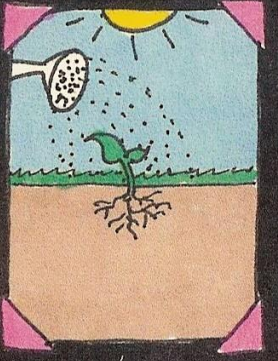
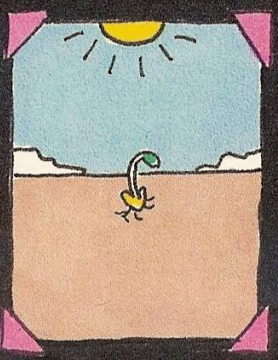
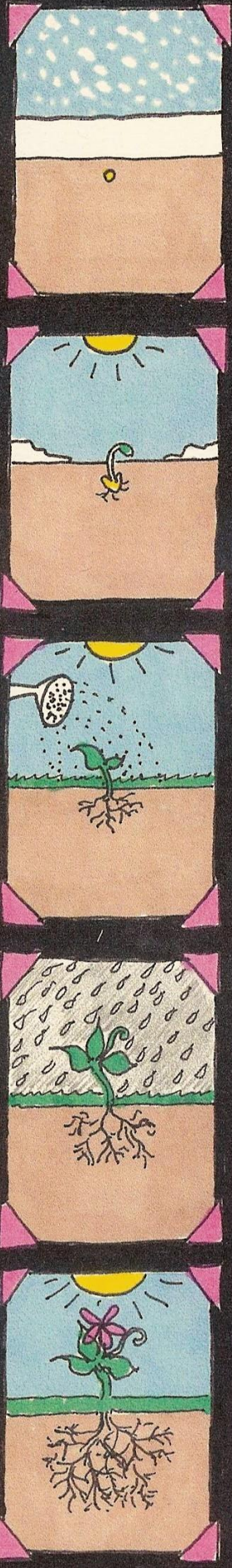


March 11

Throughout my life the season of Lent had no particular meaning for me. Give something up for my Creator God, not I! My selfishness would not let that happen. I thought, as an alcoholic, my happiness was the most important thing for me this or any time of year. The spiritual program of AA has helped me get out of myself more and into other people and things that are just more important. I want my God, among others, to be proud of how I can put others ahead of myself and to do the right thing.

In just the short time I've been back at the Upper Room at FUMC rehabbing from surgery, my spirituality has grown. Being here forces me to be with the sharers and givers in our Church family – people whose goals are to live more like Christ and walk the path He would choose for us. I see this going on at this Church every day in the ministries it provides to those in





need. For this, I'm very thankful! I want to be more like Christ also, so I'm glad I was chosen to write a little something about it.

I may not give up many things this Lent but pray that as I move forward in my journey, through not only this season of Lent but all seasons, I may be more like Christ and listen to and obey His message of selfishness, caring and helping those in need.

Edwin (Ted) Neal