

## Edgcumbe Presbyterian Church

Midweek Update – August 17, 2016

### Homecoming and Gratitude

The GebbenGreens are back from our vacation and had a nice time on Lake Superior for fun and in Des Moines for a nephew's wedding and Gebben family gathering. Thank you to everyone who covered jobs here, especially to Lois in the office, Deb and Carol Schweickhardt around worship, Fred Clary for preaching, Kathy Young who handled a bunch of building details, and Jennie Reedquist who mowed the yard! We missed you all and are glad to be back.

Our text for Sunday is Luke 13:10-17. One focus of this passage is the question: What leads to real healing? Do our Sabbath (Sunday) rituals and habits lead to the life-giving nourishment that we need? Another focus of the passage is to note that the woman in the story has been bent over for 18 years. What has been weighing on your life and body for 18 years? Are you ready to release that weight to Jesus? What is keeping you from releasing that weight right now?

### Organ Update

Two weeks ago we asked for donations to help cover costs of updating parts of our organ. Folks from this congregation gave \$1720. The cost of organ repair is \$1730. That is miraculous generosity. You all deserve at A+ for spiritual math. Thank you so much. The electricians were supposed to come out today to do the repairs, but they are delayed due to emergency calls from recent storm damage in the area. They plan to come next week.

### Bible Study with Phil

It has been a couple of years since we have had a group studying the Bible together. I would like to restart such a group this fall. Reading the Bible together takes no expertise or special learning. It only requires a desire to learn from God. My plan is to meet every week or every other week to look at the lectionary texts for the coming Sunday, so that we are reading the scriptures that form the basis for worship and preaching. I would like to suggest four possible times for this study: Monday evenings, Tuesdays at 10:30am or 1:00pm, or Sunday at 8:00am. If this is at all interesting to you, please write or call me, or fill out a form in the church narthex.

### Slightly Changed Office Hours

To regularize our office schedule and to adapt to Lois' health needs, we are making our new church office hours Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday 1-4 pm. Phil is often at church on those same days in the late morning.

### Excellent Class on Loss & Grief at Lake Nokomis PC in October

#### STAYING PRESENT (INSTEAD OF DISCONNECTING)

How do we stay open to God, ourselves and others when so many things hurt us and shut us down to life?

Beth A. Slevcove, author of Broken Hallelujahs: Learning to Grieve the Big and Small Losses of Life, will lead us in a workshop focused on opening to the sacred joy-filled, grief-enriched journey of life. In our

spacious day together, we will take time to acknowledge our losses, tend to the tensions, invite hope, and rest in God's presence as it unfolds through our specific stories.

Tickets: Early Bird - \$30, Regular Ticket - \$35, At the Door - \$40.

Cost includes a delicious lunch.

#### WHEN

Saturday, October 8, 2016 from 10:00 AM to 6:00 PM

#### WHERE

Lake Nokomis Presbyterian Church - 1620 E 46th St, Minneapolis, MN 55407

TO REGISTER, GO TO: [stayingpresent.eventbrite.com](http://stayingpresent.eventbrite.com)

#### School Tools for Highland Park HS

It's time to gather our gifts and bring them to church. Here is the list of needs from the teachers of HPHS:

Ø *Tissues (#1 request)*

Ø *Post-it notes*

Ø *Bus Tokens*

Ø *Pencils/Pens*

Ø *Back Packs*

Ø *Painters Tape*

Ø *Scotch Tape*

Ø *Manila Folders*

Ø *White Board Markers*

We can bring these items and put them under the loom at the front of the sanctuary. Any questions, contact Pastor Julie.

#### Prayers

- Gratitude from church office manger Lois Glewwe that rest is helping her back feel better in the past few days.
- For the Crescent Cove task force meeting tonight and Session on Thursday.

I ask again: What has been weighing you down for the past 18 years? Are you ready to give it God today? Jesus says, "You are set free from your illness." Peace and love to you all, Pastor Phil