

Edgcumbe Presbyterian Church

Midweek Update – September 7, 2016

What Do I Believe

The confirmation students are now working on their faith statements to share with the Session. To support and honor their work, we are spending the Sundays in September exploring this same question: What do I believe? In worship we wrote a simple statement about what we believe about God, about church, and about my self. Then we shared these beliefs with each other. As we talked afterward, we realized that sharing our beliefs was both vulnerable and transformative. In other words, it felt kind of scary to say our beliefs out loud to another human, but it also deepened and expanded our beliefs to hear others and then state our own beliefs. So here are a few questions to ponder: Do I share my beliefs with the people around me? Why or why not? Do I ask others what they believe? Why or why not?

Next Sunday, we will return to Luke, reading from the “lost” section, Luke 15:1-10. Where in your life do you feel lost? Where in your life do you feel found? Jesus reminds us that God is a persistent and successful finder of the lost.

Marilyn Monson: July 30, 1928 – September 6, 2016

Marilyn Monson died at St. Joseph’s Hospital on Tuesday, surrounded by daughters Carol and Christie, son-in-law Tim, and Pastor Julie. Marilyn joined EPC on Easter in 2008, serving as an Elder, a joke teller, a Christmas jewelry gifter, and a woman of faith and wisdom. A memorial service is tentatively planned for next weekend, Sept. 17 or 18 in the afternoon. We will also take some time in Sunday morning worship on September 18 to tell testimonies (or jokes!) inspired by or about Marilyn.

Church Finances

Our checking account is low. If this is a time when you could give generously to EPC, that would be helpful and appreciated. Thank you!

Confirmation Students

Confirmands, please plan to attend worship over the coming weeks as the congregation explores faith and belief together. We know that school has started and you are tired, but we hope this will be interesting and fruitful for your own faith statements!

Lectionary Bible Study with Pastor Phil

The top time slot for a new Bible Study is Monday evenings at 6:15pm. We hope to start up in late September or early October after the conclusion of the Confirmation process. Questions or interest? Please talk with Pastor Phil.

Coming Up

Here are some events coming up in the life our congregation:

- Thursday, Sept. 22 – Session meets
- Sept. 26-Oct. 2 – Pastors Julie & Phil on continuing education with Julie attending a contemplative retreat at Snowmass, Colorado.
- Sunday, Oct. 9 – Pastor Review Process forum after worship
- Some Saturday this fall – All-Church workday
- Dec. 24-25 – Christmas Eve is on Saturday this year, so start thinking about what you want to do: worship on Dec. 24 and not 25, worship on both, etc.

Prayers

- For Marilyn Monson's family after her death this week, as they mourn and as they celebrate the wedding of Carol Schweickhardt's son in Pepin over this weekend.
- For Bruce McCall, in the Alton Memory Care facility, who was put on hospice care last this week. Bruce is confused these days, but it is still possible to visit him, especially in the late morning or early afternoon.
- Prayers for all the students and staff as school starts up again.

People of God--the Lost and the Found--Jesus is looking for you. Pastor Phil