

Edgumbe Presbyterian Church

Midweek Update – September 14, 2016

What Do I Believe (That I Didn't Used To)

As we are working on faith statements this month (inspired by our confirmation students), we usually think about what we do believe. But another interesting approach is to consider what we used to believe that we don't believe any longer. Here are a few examples from my own life:

- *I used to believe that God was part justice and part love. Now I believe that God is all love, all the time.*
- *I used to believe that having more money would make me more happy. Now I believe that happiness is a choice I make that has nothing to do with my outer circumstances.*
- *I used to believe that most of my energy should be spent preparing for the future. Now I believe that I am called to live in the present moment.*

See how that works? We will spend some time in worship reflecting on our changing beliefs about things like money, forgiveness, trust, who I am, who God is, etc.

Our main text is Luke 16:1-9, about the steward who changes his system of living when he gets a pink slip. What causes you to change your thinking or habits?

Bruce McCall Death – Service on October 15

Longtime member Bruce McCall died early this morning after his entire family gathered around him yesterday. Bruce (and his wife Alice) joined EPC in July of 1960, raised their three boys here (Hugh, Dean, and Don). Bruce served in many ways at church, most notably acting as treasurer for several terms and as chairman of the Boy Scout troop based here. Bruce was a man who always chose to take the positive view of life, creating a life of love and integrity. A memorial service is planned for Saturday, October 15, in the early afternoon with an off-site reception.

Marilyn Monson – Service on September 23

Marilyn Monson's memorial service is now planned for Friday, September 23, at 11:00am followed by a luncheon reception. The family is providing the main food, but we could use punch and bars, if you would like to contribute. To the service, please wear colorful clothing and wild earrings! We will also take some time in Sunday morning worship on September 18 to tell testimonies (or jokes!) inspired by or about Marilyn.

Outdoor Work-Day This Saturday 9-11am

We have some brush clean up and woodchip moving to do. All are welcome to help out on Saturday, September 17, from 9-11am at church. Wheelbarrows and pitchforks would be great or else just come!

Church Finances

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

Confirmation Students

It is now time to finish up your faith statements and set up a time to meet with Pastor Phil, if you have not already done so. You are welcome to invite your mentor to this meeting.

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 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:

- This Saturday, Sept. 17 – All-Church workday 9-11am
- Wednesday, Sept 21 – EPC Crescent Cove task force at 6:45pm
- Thursday, Sept. 22 – Session meets at 6:15pm
- Friday, Sept. 23 – Marilyn Monson service at 11am
- 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
- Saturday, Oct. 15 – Bruce McCall service in afternoon

Prayers

- For the families of both Bruce McCall and Marilyn Monson after their deaths in the past week.
- For Andrew Kingsriter who had another hospital stay this past week to address a re-inflammation of infection.
- For Todd Barnes as he heads to an Alaska camping adventure.
- For those struggling with back pain and making medical decisions, especially Frank Alden and Lois Glewwe.
- For our confirmation students as they work on their faith statements: Gabby, Chloe, McKenna, Sam, Cali, Chris, Isaac, Lily, and Cora (and their mentors!)

As we think about living and dying, we remember that we belong to God forever and ever and always. Amen.

Pastor Phil