

## **Edgcumbe Presbyterian Church, Midweek Update – May 10, 2017**

### **Breaking Bread Together II**

In honor of the early Christians penchant for eating together as an act of faith, we worshipped and celebrated communion this past Sunday while eating around tables in the front of the sanctuary. The Eggerts wrote this reflection of the experience:

*Thank you for the wonderfully different worship and communion experience this past Sunday. Our understanding of scripture is much increased when the text is paired with original context and then brought into a contemporary setting. This past Sunday succeeded 100% on both accounts! An opportunity to experience communion in a small group, home-like setting, improvising perhaps like early Christians. And our former student, Theresia, visiting from Tanzania and used to a much more formal church service, was excited by and touched by the service and the welcome she received.*

One of Pastor Julie's invitations to us was to find time in the next weeks to share a meal with another member or family from Edgcumbe Church. In this "breaking bread" together, our fellowship and faith will be strengthened and renewed. Feel free to expand this practice beyond the walls of EPC to your neighbors, colleagues, school mates. Have you wondered if someone in your life is lonely? Stop wondering and invite them for coffee or lunch. Proverbs says, "The world of the generous gets bigger and bigger." Let's open our hearts and our kitchens to the big world around us and see what happens.

### **Congregational Meeting—Sunday, May 21, after Worship**

The Session has called a congregational meeting on May 21 to elect members to the offices of Elder and Deacon. Right now we have two open slots for Elder and one open slot for Deacon, so if you are interested either position, please talk to one of the pastors or to Elder Eleta Pierce.

### **Outreach & Growth Team Update**

The O & G team believes that God has blessed our church in so much grace, and we are looking at several ideas to share that grace with the world and neighborhood around us. For this summer, besides the Art Journaling and Feed My Starving Children events (see below), we also hope to host a couple of special outdoor worship services with engaging themes such as a Pet Blessing service, guest musicians, games, and potlucks. With some more planning, we would also create a "Summer at EPC" flyer that could be delivered or posted around the neighborhood.

Here is a partial list of other ideas that the O & G team is exploring: a forgiveness ceremony, Enneagram class, community storytelling event, date night for parents with free babysitting at church, monthly community meals, bubble ball (!), holy yoga, using social media to advertise, and hanging up more signs and invitations around the church. Please remember that it is always a great idea to invite others to worship at our wonderful church!

### **Storytelling Tonight, May 10, with Humble Walk**

Real-life stories and live music tonight at Art House North (793 Armstrong Ave 55102) at 7pm. The stories are all based on the theme: *But I Was Not Consumed*.

### **Storytelling II: at the Montreal Hi-Rise**

Our next opportunity to share stories with the folks at MHR will be on Saturday, May 20, from 2-4pm. Pastor Phil will be leading this event, and it would be great to have several folks from EPC join the fun. We will let you know by Sunday whether or not we need treats to share that day.

### **Buckthorn Puller and Help**

After a generous donation, we have now ordered a heavy-duty Buckthorn up-rooter that should arrive within the next week or two. If you have any interest in connecting with the earth in a down and yanking out some invasive trees, talk to Pastor Julie! She would love to have you join her and tend to our back forest.

### **EPC June Mission Project: Feed My Starving Children**

Let's join 30,000 people in making 6,000,000 meals for Feed My Starving Children's "Love Somalia" MobilePack event in downtown St. Paul!

When: Sunday, June 4, from 3:15-5:30 pm

Where: St. Paul RiverCentre, 175 West Kellogg Blvd. St. Paul, MN 55102

We have teamed up with First Presbyterian Church in South St. Paul and reserved a number of spots to help fill MannaPacks that will be sent to feed the children of Somalia in this large-scale packing event. Everyone ages 5 and up are welcome to pack (those under 18 must be accompanied by an adult). Sign up either on the sheet in the Narthex, or contact the church office. If you are interested in carpooling, please let us know when you sign up so that we can coordinate rides. For more information on volunteering, visit: <https://www.fmsc.org/get-involved/volunteer-info>

"For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat..." Matthew 25:35

### **Art Journaling Workshop on June 3**

Art Journaling Talk and Workshop with Briana Goetzen of OrangeSpiralArts.com

Saturday, June 3rd, 2017, 1pm-4pm

#### Workshop Description:

*"We have to dare to be ourselves, however frightening or strange that self may prove to be." --May Sarton*

Inside us all is a yearning for self-understanding and personal expression. One way to help yourself learn, grow, and transform into your authentic self is through art journaling. The art journal is your trusted companion throughout your life's journey of living, loving, loss, and re-discovering joy.

In this 3-hour workshop, you will hear a talk by Expressive Artist and Creativity Coach, Briana Goetzen, MA. She will share the power and positive influences art journaling can have in your life. After the 10-minute talk, Briana will guide participants through the creative steps in making a multi-layered journal spread. At the end of the workshop, there's a good chance you will feel both inspired and more connected to your authentic self.

Cost: \$20 plus materials (list sent when you register)

Contact Carol Schweickhardt for further information or to sign up.

[Cschweickhardt@gmail.com](mailto:Cschweickhardt@gmail.com) [651 468-9888](tel:6514689888)

### **Next Bible Study—May 15**

Our next Bible Study will be Monday, May 15, at 6:30pm at the home of the Eggerts. Our texts will be Acts 17:22-31; Psalm 66:8-20; 1 Peter 3:13-2; and John 14:15-21. All are welcome, and soup will be served!

### **Prayers**

- It was never officially announced that Bob Holt, brother to Tom, died on April 13. Prayers for Tom & Meredith and the rest of Bob's family as Bob returns home to live with God.
- Prayers for our young people as they finish one school year and begin to make summer plans and register for classes next year.

When the early Jerusalem Christians shared meals and prayer together, Acts 2 says that "A sense of awe came over everyone. God performed many wonders and signs through them." People of God, share a meal with someone this week. And then expect miracles. Peace to you today, Pastor Phil