

## **Edgumbe Presbyterian Church, Midweek Update – May 24, 2017**

hello, dear people of god~

pastor julie here...pastor phil is away this week on a teaching team sharing compassionate communication (non-violent communication) to presbyterian pastors in northern minnesota. through the events in manchester, england, and every place of violence that doesn't even break into headlines, i am so aware of the incredible need for all of us to brush up on our communication skills to find ways of connection and compassion, rather than retreating and acting with fear and additional violence. have you seen the image of fred rogers making the rounds on the internet these past few days? fred rogers, of mr. roger's neighborhood, was a presbyterian pastor whose call was to the ministry of children's tv programming!! and there is an image of him saying:

"when i was a boy and i would see scary things in the news, my mother would say to me, 'look for the helpers. you will always find people who are helping.'"

this connects to the john 14 passage we had this past sunday--"if you love me, you will keep my commandments. i will ask (god), and (god) will send another Companion, who will be with you forever... you know him, because he lives with you and will be with you."

what are the commandments that jesus refers to? mark 12 say this: you will love the lord your god with all of your heart, with all of your being, with all of your mind, and with all of your strength. the second is this: you will love your neighbor as yourself. no other commandment is greater than these.

the ego makes love an emotion, but how the bible uses love is always more far reaching. yes, there is the giving and receiving of love, but it also intersects with honesty/unguardedness, trust, presence, listening, empathy, forgiveness, humility.

people of god, the holy spirit is already dwelling within you, and we now embody this holiness as we are present to and open to love with god, to others, and to ourselves.

may you know your blessedness, and may you be a blessing to the world!

deep peace to you!! pastor julie

### **Sunday, May 28**

This Sunday morning is a very special worship service. Jenya will be with us for the last time for several weeks as she leaves to celebrate the summer with her parents and family. The choir will be singing and there will be very special musical selections.

### **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)

### **Prayers**

- From Eleta: Continued prayers for my parents, Montell & Terry Pierce. My dad’s condition still isn’t the best, but the infection that landed him in the hospital a week ago is under control so he will be able to come home today. Prayers also for Terry and her sister as they prepare to move Grandma Mary from their house into a care facility. My grandma was accepted to Serenity Humboldt yesterday, which is less than a mile from my parent’s house. She’ll likely be moving in by the weekend. Some have offered help to my parents during this time. We have set up a “meal donation” page to help provide a meal a day that they will not have to cook. If you are interested in helping, click on this link: <https://mealtrain.com/k905k2>.