

Edgumbe Presbyterian Church,

Midweek Update – June 7, 2017

Your Own Gifts

Sitting around tables together last Sunday, Pastor Julie had us share about at least one gift that God had given to us. Some folks listed spiritual-sounding gifts like faith or wisdom or kindness. Others noted their gifts for organization or problem solving. While most of us were a little nervous naming our own gifts out loud to each other, the experience was actually inspiring and affirming. We were inspired by the diversity and depth of the gifts around us and affirmed in our place in God's family of faith. Take a moment to remember what you said on Sunday or to consider your own gifts if you were not here. Read 1 Corinthians 12:4-13 if you need inspiration. Say a short prayer to God, saying: "God, how do you want me to use my gift of _____ in the world today?" Spend some time in silence to see if God has a new invitation or plan for you today.

This coming Sunday we will read all of Genesis 1, the story of the creation of the world and the animals and humans. As the opening for the whole Bible, it is a beautiful story of the daily rhythms of grace and gratitude, work and rest, love and goodness that defines our relationship with God.

Note from the Technical Department

From this past Sunday through Tuesday, the church email and website were completely out of order. So if you tried to contact the pastors or office during that time, your message may not have gotten through, so please try us again. We apologize for any inconvenience. Thank you to Ron Eggert who helped us figure out and fix the problem!

Outdoor Worship Flyers



Attached to this email are flyers that can be printed and distributed to your friends, neighborhoods, workplaces, etc. We will also have printed flyers available at church on Sunday. These are flyers inviting the community to our three outdoor worship services this summer:

Sunday, June 25 – Guest musician **Matt Patrick** and his band will lead us in an outdoor service of inspiring singing.

Sunday, August 6 – **Outdoor worship and Pet Blessing.** Bring your critter friends to a short blessing ceremony at 10:00. Stay for the whole service if you want!

Sunday, September 3 – **Outdoor worship and communion.** Start off your fall on the right foot and stay for the potluck lunch afterward.

Please pass the word! We could also use volunteers to deliver flyers to the church's immediate neighbors—both inviting them and letting them know when we will be out in their back yards!

Feed My Starving Children "Love Somalia" Report

As you can see from the picture, we had an excellent showing from EPC for this event last weekend, along a huge number of others. Pictured (in our hairnets) are McKenna, Julie, Lydia, Micah, Phil, Isaac, and Connie. Not pictured are photographer Jennie and our fearless coordinator Eleta and family.

Here are some reflections from Jennie Reedquist:

The EPC @ FMSC event brought fun, collaboration, dancing and productivity to a great cause. The shift we all worked Sunday (w/ 2200 other people!) created 2998 cases of food, which contained 647,568 meals focused on aiding the drought-ravaged and starving people of Somalia.

This effort brought people from all over the region to stand shoulder to shoulder, sharing their stories, faith, humor and competitive natures for an hour and a half as we scooped, shook, stacked and shouted out for more. It was a great time to be EPC and do the things we do....



Quiet Garden Day with Pastor Julie

Pastor Julie will be attending a Quiet Garden Day at Christos Center for Spiritual Formation on Friday, June 9th. She is curious to experience this kind of quiet reflective day to see if this might be something we'd like to explore for church's back yard. Any person would be welcome to join her and car pool up to Lino Lakes. Christos center is asking for a free will offering for the day. Please contact Pastor Julie (pastorjulie@epchurch.org) with any interest or questions.

Next Bible Study—June 12

Our next Bible Study will be Monday, June 12, at 6:30pm at the home of the Eggerts (1868 Simpson, Falcon Hgts 55113). Our texts will be Genesis 18:1-15 (21:1-7); Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19; 1 Romans 5:1-8; and Matthew 9:35-10:8 (9-23). All are welcome and soup will be served!

Prayers

· Ongoing prayers for Linda and John Omps, whose daughter Olivia and son-in-law Ben lost Ben's father in a tragic accident. Linda is now with the family in Alaska as they prepare for the funeral. We

pray for God's grace and comfort and strength in this difficult time and for discernment for Linda as she decides how long to stay in Alaska.

In Genesis 1, God not only creates the world; God takes a look and sees that the whole creation is super good. You are part of the goodness and beauty of creation. God has given you gifts to share with the world. God is thrilled with the decision to create you, and God loves you. In Matthew 28, Jesus says, "Look, I myself will be with you every day until the end of the age." Jesus chooses to be with you today. Thanks be to God and don't forget to pass out some flyers!

Pastor Phil