

Edgumbe Presbyterian Church, Midweek Update – August 23, 2017

FAITH PRACTICE: READING MATTHEW

Our faith practice this week is the ongoing discipline of reading through the book of Matthew. Here are a few tips and suggestions from Pastor Phil.

- 1. Each time you start to read the Bible, say a short prayer asking God to guide your reading and to teach you what you need to learn in that moment.*
- 2. Don't be afraid to read to large sections in one sitting--several chapters, for example. One mistake that people make is to read a very short passage and then get caught on one line that doesn't make sense or that bugs them. Let the flow of the book carry you past tricky passages to a larger picture of who Jesus is and what God is doing.*
- 3. The heart of the book of Matthew is the "Sermon on the Mount" in chapters 5-7. It is one of the clearest expressions of God's vision for our lives. If reading the whole book is intimidating to you, start with those three chapters.*

WORSHIP THIS SUNDAY, AUGUST 20 – INCLUDING AN ARTIST FORUM

Our text is from Exodus 1 & 2, the story of the Hebrew midwives and the saving of baby Moses at the beginning the Exodus saga. Fun detail: this text fails to name the most powerful man in the world (the Pharaoh, leading to years of scholarly debate about which Pharaoh this was), but does name the two midwives (Puah & Shiphrah).

After worship, our **guest artist Jinger Markley** will talk about her "100-Day Project" that is currently hanging around the church building.

OUTDOOR PLANS UPDATE

We had a wonderful forum about the backyard plans with good questions, new ideas, a walking tour of the property and lots of general excitement. At this point, the only concrete step that is happening is ongoing buckthorn abatement and general clean-up. Look for details soon about a fall work day.

MUSIC NOTES FROM DEB

This past Sunday the choir (including some new-to-the choir voices) joined together before worship to sing through the hymns of the day and play around with some other music, melodies and harmonies. It was very fun! A lovely way to start church. If you are a singer and would like to hang out and sing with some other fun singers please join us this coming Sunday morning for some more music around the piano.

We will start at 9:15. Come ready to sing!

It's helpful (but not required) for me to know who might be coming (ex. to choose music accordingly). Please feel free to email me at debcarlson@q.com to

let me know if you're thinking of coming. --Thank you! Deb Carlson, Music Director

PLASTER HOUSE LOCAL OPPORTUNITY

For several years this congregation has helped support the work of Plaster House in Arusha, Tanzania. Here is a note from the Eggerts:

Plaster House is having a fund raising event on Tuesday Sept 5th at 7PM at:
First Christian Church
Spring House Ministries
610 W 28th St, Minneapolis, MN 55408

Plaster House director Sarah Rejman will talk about growth and change at Plaster House. All are welcome! For more information about The Plaster House, visit www.theplasterhouse.org or the Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/events/1637309242948996??ti=ia>
Thanks, Ingrid & Ron

SCHOOL TOOLS

We will dedicate our School Tools gifts to Highland Park High School during worship this Sunday, August 27. So please bring any offerings for School Tools to the church by then. We plan to deliver the material to HPHS on Tuesday afternoon, August 29. If anyone can help out with this delivery, please talk to Pastor Julie.

STORYTELLING EVENT – SEPT. 11

For several years our church has co-sponsored storytelling events with Humble Walk Lutheran community. Every one of these evenings of stories told by local folk has been moving and amazing. The next event, at 7pm on Monday, Sept. 11, will be at Edgumbe Church. The topic is: “What I Learned during Summer Vacation.” Does that make you think of a story? If you have any inkling or desire to share a story, please talk to Pastor Phil and we will explore the idea together.

CONTEMPLATIVE PRAYER ON TUESDAYS

Our meditative prayer group continues to meet each Tuesday at 3pm in the sanctuary. Feeling frazzled or overwhelmed or just in need of some quiet space? Join the circle of silence and support. Beginners are always welcome!

PRAYERS

- **Bob Ekstrand** has been moved into hospice care as his heart function falls below 20%. Prayers for Bob and his children Howard, Peggy, and Deb. A service is being planned for Bob at Sandberg funeral home in North St. Paul, details to follow later.
- Ongoing prayers for Dean Grussendorf and his mother **Doris** who is on hospice care, and for Eleta's father, **Montell** in the midst of his bone marrow transplant, and for recovery blessings for **Marlys**, Bryan Kingsriter's mother.