

Edgcumbe Presbyterian Church

Midweek Update – November 8, 2017

FAITH PRACTICE: FEAR OR FAITH

The basic choice we have at every single moment of our lives is to choose between fear and faith.

FEAR is constricting, limiting, and deadening. Life lived out of fear is characterized by punishment, blame, and judgment. The ego flourishes in a fear-state; therefore the ego tries to convince you over and over again that you have much to be afraid of.

FAITH is expansive, life-giving, and peaceful. Life lived in faith is a life that feels whole and nurturing, restful and inspiring. When you recognize that you are connected to God in every moment, then both fear and the ego slide away as meaningless and unimportant.

Take a moment today to say this prayer:

I am not afraid of death.

Nothing can separate me from God's love.

Say it to yourself as many times you need, to remind yourself of what is most true—the love and care of God. When we remember who we are in God, then there is nothing that can hurt us, nothing that can harm us in any way, nothing to be afraid of.

NEXT SUNDAY

Worship on this coming Sunday is packed with good things, including the baptism of Jay McGregor and the reaffirmation of baptism of Lisa Holden. We will also have a farewell blessing Angelie Ryah, and we will consecrate the front door angel wings painted by McKenna. Hope you can be there!

PASTORS' VACATION AND GRATITUDE SERVICE

Pastors Julie and Phil will be taking off from work Nov. 13-20 for vacation time. So on Nov. 19, worship will be a day of singing and gratitude stories led by Carol Schweickhardt and Todd Barnes.

TURKEYS AT MONTREAL HI-RISE

There is still time to sign up to help serve Thanksgiving lunch at the Montreal Hi-Rise or give to the EPC Thanksgiving Fund.

STEWARDSHIP

We are hoping that everyone can get their 2018 giving card into the offering plate or to the church office by Nov. 19 so that the Session can begin their work on next year's budget. You can also email or phone your information into the church office (secretary@epchurch.org, [651.698.8220](tel:651.698.8220)) Thank you! If you have

any questions about giving or the church budget, please feel free to talk to treasurer Ron Eggert when he returns from Tanzania or to any church elder (Eleta, Fred, Carol, Meredith).

CHRISTMAS EVE: 10AM IT IS

We got about ten votes for a morning service and one for the afternoon, so it looks like we will be worshipping at 10am on Christmas Eve, Sunday, Dec. 24.

ADVENT DECORATING

Speaking of Christmas, several folk will be decorating the church for the Christmas season after church on November 19—if you can stay and help out that day, it would be greatly appreciated. Many hands make for fun work!

NEW ADDRESS FOR MARLYS

Marlys Kingsriter has moved! Her new address is [16784 211 Avenue N.W., Big Lake, MN 55309](https://www.google.com/maps/place/16784+211+Avenue+N.W.,+Big+Lake,+MN+55309).

BACKWOODS UPDATE: NEW PLANTS

After we finished the Eagle Scout project last month and after tearing out buckthorn all summer, we have now started planting attractive and native plants where we can, including: five viburnum bushes, four red-stemmed dogwoods, two burning bushes, and one weeping willow. Next spring we will want to plant another load of bushes, plants, and trees to beautify the space the keep the buckthorn at bay. So if you have any sources of perennial grasses, bushes (viburnum, dogwood, forsythia, etc) or mid-sized trees (dogwood, any kind of fruit tree, anything coniferous) or larger trees (birch would be especially awesome, then please talk to one of the pastors.

FOOD SHELF

Our narthex foodshelf is again low, so if you are cleaning out your pantry or going to the grocery store, remember to bring something for the church foodshelf.

PRAYERS

- Prayers for Angelie Ryah as she hands over the keys of her house today.
- Prayers for the Eggerts who are arriving back (today maybe?) in the Twin Cities after a month in Germany and Tanzania.
- Prayers for several people in the congregation having medical tests, making treatment decisions, and adjusting to new physical realities.

Peace & care to you, Pastor Phil