

Edgcumbe Presbyterian Church

Midweek Update – April 11, 2018

WE ARE

In a busy and complex world, sometimes it is just good to stop for a moment and remember who we are.

- **WE ARE AT ONE WITH GOD AND EACH OTHER.** It isn't called the Atonement for nothing.
- **WE ARE LOVED.** We don't need to do anything to earn love; it is a gift, and it is abundant. Breathe in God's love for you right now.
- **WE ARE GRATEFUL.** When I led a prayer in Deb Carlson's hospital room today, I asked if there was anything she wanted to add. She then prayed for several minutes, and it was ALL gratitude—for good hospital staff, for a wonderful family, for a loving church, for me, for supportive friends, for hope in the midst of difficulty. Taking a moment to be grateful is a powerful and miraculous act.

While Pastor Julie and several church members will be attending a semi-annual quilting retreat this weekend, the rest of us can gather on Sunday to sing and pray and remember who we are.

UPDATE ON DEB CARLSON

From Pastor Phil: I saw Deb today in the hospital and she is feeling tired but much better, with improved management of her pain and discomfort. After a stent was put in her liver, her doctors are hoping to move toward chemo in the next day or two and then send her home. Deb continues to feel loved and supported in the circle of support from all those who love her.

From Pastor Julie: we continue to hold deb (and bob, audrey and chet) in our prayers as deb is the hospital to help support her liver so that her planned chemotherapy can begin.

i also want to extend deep care to each of us in this community in these days as well.....deb is a beloved one amongst us, and because she loves each of us as well, these are tender days for all of us. we have the full range grief, not only as a community, but as individuals, as well. it is also true that a present grief can activate old grief that never had a chance to heal. i would encourage each of us to be gentle with ourselves, and to seek the

support we are needing. and please know there an open invitation to meet with pastor phil or myself at any point to support the path ahead.

*holy spirit, in this holy moment, you be in charge, and we will follow you, trusting that your direction leads to s
uppeace. amen.*

Here are two websites for supporting Deb and keeping informed:

www.caringbridge.org/visit/debcarlsonqs

www.gofundme.com/supportfordebcarlson



EVENTS NEXT TWO SUNDAYS

- On Sunday, April 22, we will celebrate Earth Day with a property-wide trash clean up. Melting snow always reveals bottles and wrappers and paper that we hope to move from the ground to the recycling bins and trash container. Wear sturdy shoes and hope for no snow!
- After worship on Sunday, April 29, will have a short congregational meeting after worship to elect Elders and Deacons.

ENNEAGRAM PRISON PROJECT UPDATE

I (Phil) attended orientation at Shakopee Women's Prison on Monday (along with Jay McGregor!), so I will start the first EPP class tomorrow afternoon, April 12! This is all super exciting for me, and I am so grateful for the support and prayers of the congregation as this moves from a possibility to a reality.

We are At One; We are loved; We are grateful! Yea God! Pastor Phil