

# Edgumbe Presbyterian Church

*Midweek Update*

*December 12, 2018*

## **PARTNERS**

I have been reflecting this week on Julie's sermon from Sunday about being partners in ministry—with each other and with God. I so often feel like I need to do everything myself. "If you want something done right, do it yourself," has been one of the biggest lies I have told myself over the years. According to Julie and the Apostle Paul in Philippians, it is much more life-giving and spiritually productive to think of myself as a partner. It is not all up to me, AND I get to step up to do the work with the help of my community and the Holy Spirit. That actually sounds like fun.

Most of us fall into one of two Partnership categories. Either, like me, you tend to be somewhat skeptical of everyone else (and God, for that matter) and so take too much on your own shoulders, OR you tend to distrust your own abilities or worth and so make a habit of deferring to others, rarely bringing your full self into the communal work. Which category do you fit in? Is it working for you? What would happen if you tried out the other side of the Partnership coin for a bit?

## **ADVENT SCHEDULE**

- Sunday, Dec. 16 – Advent 3 & Carol sing-a-long, Phil preaching
- Sunday, Dec. 23 – Advent 4, Julie preaching
- Monday, Dec. 24 – Christmas Eve candlelight communion worship at 4:00 pm. Special offering on that evening for Project Home.
- Sunday, Dec. 30 – Elder-led worship with the GebbenGreens in Michigan, Fred Clary preaching

## **GIVE-AWAY BAGS & JOSEPH'S COAT**

Two Mission Opportunities:

1. We still have a bunch of homeless give-away bags that we packed back in October. If you could find ways to give out more of these bags, please help yourself to more. Right now they are on the front steps of the sanctuary.
2. Our Joseph's Coat donation bins in the narthex are full to overflowing. The problem is that we don't have anyone right now who volunteers to deliver those donations. Could that person be you? Joseph's Coat takes clothing

donations on Tues and Thursday mornings. If you can help out in this way, please talk to Pastor Phil.

### **STUDY OPPORTUNITIES**

One of the conversations that came up at the Worship & Arts meeting was whether people were interested in a Bible Study (with Pastor Phil), and/or an ongoing Adult Sunday School class with various topics (centering prayer, Enneagram, how to read the Bible without wanting to poke out your eyeballs, book studies, A Course in Miracles, etc.). Over the next weeks, we will have a survey at church for you to fill out your input, interest, and open time slots.

### **YEAR-END FINANCIAL REMINDERS**

Please note that all contributions for 2018 must be either received in the church office by 12/31/18 or postmarked by 12/31/18 in order to qualify as a tax-deductible donation for the current year. The same deadline also applies for gifts of stock and securities.

If you have questions about giving or church finances, please contact either Treasurer Ron Eggert at [ireggert@gmail.com](mailto:ireggert@gmail.com) or Office Manager Krysta Niznick at [secretary@epchurch.org](mailto:secretary@epchurch.org) or 651-698-8220.