

Edgcumbe Presbyterian Church

Midweek Update - January 23, 2019

DETAILS, DETAILS

Today in the office, Krysta and I have been furiously trying to get out the bulletin, this Midweek Update, and the Annual Report. Plus, my computer has been acting up. So, I'm all tapped out. I have no spiritual wisdom to share. I'm just hanging on. But God is still good.

See the end of this email for a report about a change in the pastors' hours.

ANNUAL MEETING: FEBRUARY 3

Each year we gather on one Sunday early in the year to review the previous year, take stock of our life together, approve pastors' call and salaries for the coming year, eat and celebrate together. Our Annual Meeting this year will be on February 3, both during and after worship on that Sunday morning with a potluck brunch!

2018 GIVING STATEMENTS

Giving Statements for 2018 were mailed out today. Questions can be directed to Office Manager Krysta Niznick. Also, we appreciate everyone who paying the Per Capita. If you still need to pay, the amount this year is \$35.70 for each member.

PRAYERS

- For Eleta and Tierra as Tierra is now home from residential care. And Eleta's furnace now works!

Pastoral Division of Hours at EPC

When Pastors Phil and Julie began their ministry at Edgcumbe, they decided to split the call so that Pastor Phil worked 2/3 of the hours, and Pastor Julie worked 1/3 of the position. For 2019, the Session and Pastors are proposing that the position move to a 50-50 split of time and responsibility. Not only is this an appropriate symbol of the joint nature of this call, but also 2018 saw several developments unfold which impacted how Julie and Phil spent their time and energy in ministry at EPC.

One area of change has been in worship preparation and planning. As Deb became more ill, Pastor Julie began to take primary leadership in the preparation and planning for the services she preaches at. Now that Jenya is on staff at Edgcumbe, the scope of her job is slightly different than Deb's, so the need continues for Pastor Julie in this role.

Another area of change came through the development of our backwoods ministry. Both Pastors Julie and Phil do the primary work for the various needs for the backwoods, but all of this work came as an addition to the usual work that Pastor Julie had been tending to.

The final development of Pastor Julie's work is that she is the primary contact person for the Centering Prayer group which meets weekly at EPC. The group size varies week by week, but on average has eight people who come for this time of quiet and centering. Julie is also building ongoing relationships with 12-Step Spirituality and the local chapter of America Pilgrims on the Camino.

As these three areas settled into rhythms in 2018, there was an additional dynamic from Pastor Phil as well. This was the year he began his work with Enneagram Prison Project, and very quickly as he began his training, the EPP folk recognized Pastor Phil's gifts and talents for teaching and organization, and he was asked to do more work for the national organization. As Pastor Julie increases her hours of service to EPC, it allows Pastor Phil to be able to decrease his hours. For Phil, this decrease mainly shows up by not meeting weekly with Deb Carlson anymore and rarely coming into the office on Thursdays when he is teaching at Shakopee Women's Prison.

In addition to their equal division of worship leadership, Session moderation, and visitation, Pastor Phil takes a primary role in education, staff and personnel issues, building and grounds, and administration. Pastor Julie takes a primary role with the Deacons, Centering Prayer ministry, and the backwoods. The Pastors will continue to split one position that is 90% of fulltime.

NOTE: The congregation votes to approve the terms of call for Pastors Julie and Phil at the Annual Meeting on February 3. If you have any questions about that call or vote, please talk to one of the Pastors or any Elder: Meredith, Jay, Eleta, or Fred. Thank you!