

# Edgumbe Presbyterian Church

## Midweek Update

Dec 2, 2020

In this issue: Odds & Ends, RJAM, Office Hours, Finance, Zoom, Christmas Joy, Birthday Update

### Odds & Ends

My mind is scattered (a few too many post-vacation details) but also grateful. Here are some items to pass on right now.

- ❖ I've been getting reports all day on the nice **worship service** this past Sunday. Loads of gratitude to emcee Jay, sharers Ron and Ingrid, prayer leader Todd, musicians Ruth, Todd, Connie, Leslie, and all of you for being the wonderful community that you are.
- ❖ Luna and I had a nice **time off**. We didn't go anywhere; we didn't really do anything. Mostly we slept a lot. And took long walks through Saint Paul parks. And tried, with only a little success, to get our kids to do their homework.
- ❖ The **new shed** will be finished by this afternoon! The electrician is here right now putting in the lights and outlets. The education wing also has a new fascia layer, fixing a decades-long problem. Big gratitude to the donors who made these upgrades possible.
- ❖ Elder Eleta pointed out that every person who took the survey admitted that they were struggling with feelings of **depression**, and the ups and downs of these days. I wish I had something pithy and deep to say to make us all feel immediately better. I don't. What I do have is an invitation back to the basics of faith and self-compassion. Here are a few questions to help you check-in with yourself.
  - What is the source of your peace right now? Try saying this to yourself over and over: **The only peace is the peace of God**. Let that thought reshape your mind.
  - Are you holding yourself with love and gentleness? Getting enough sleep, taking walks, eating well? Meditating, praying, giving thanks? No one else is going to show up to nurture and take care of you. **How do you want to parent yourself** through a stressful moment in your own life?
  - Finally, are you allowing yourself to **feel your own feelings**? Letting oneself feel sad seems like it will lead into a bottomless well of despair. It doesn't. It leads to freedom. It leads to joy. Don't be afraid; let yourself feel. That's good parenting.

### Racial Justice And Me

RJAM is meeting tonight at 7pm--please join us!! It will be the book club kickoff. We will be reading "So You Want to Talk About Race" by Ijeoma Oluo. Liz and Rich still have 2 books not yet claimed. Let them know if you want one or two and we can find a way to get them to you.

## **Office Hours**

In the Covid era, we do not have regular office hours. If you need to communicate with Office Manager Krysta Niznick, the best method is to email her at [epchurch2149@gmail.com](mailto:epchurch2149@gmail.com).

## **Financial Update**

Thank you to everyone who has pledged for 2021. The Session will use this information to design our budget for the coming year in hope and trust. If you still hope to pledge, please return the pledge cards as soon as possible--by dropping off at the church mail slot or you can email Krysta directly at [epchurch2149@gmail.com](mailto:epchurch2149@gmail.com).

## **Zoom Schedule**

We have four Zoom meetings scheduled for our congregation for each week. All of these meetings are open to you and to everyone. Here is our current schedule:

- Sunday morning Worship at 10am
- Sunday evening Bible Study at 6:30pm
- Tuesday Centering Prayer at 3pm
- Wednesday evening Gathering at 7pm

## **Mission of the Month: CHRISTMAS JOY OFFERING**

Throughout the month of December we will receive the *Christmas Joy Offering*, one of four special offerings designated by the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). Fifty percent of the receipts of the offering are distributed to the Board of Pensions for assistance programs that provide support to retired and active church workers and their spouses and families. The remainder of the offering supports racial ethnic education through the General Assembly Council. To learn more about this special offering, go here: <https://specialofferings.pcusa.org/offering/christmas-joy/> You may give to this offering through our church by either using our online giving on our website or mailing a check. Please note "Christmas Joy" in the memo.

## **December Birthday**

We just found out about Mel Houle's birthday on December 5. Have a very Happy Birthday Mel!