



Edgcumbe Presbyterian Church

Midweek Update *February 3, 2021*

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Annual Congregational Meeting - Feb 7

Our biggest announcement this week is that we are having Annual Meeting on **this Sunday, February 7**. On that day, we will have a shorter worship service **WITH COMMUNION**, which will lead into our congregational meeting, with at least the following agenda items:

- Review reports from 2020, including the budget
- Approve new Bylaws that allow us to meet online!
- Elect new Elders and thank out-going officers
- Approve the Pastors' terms of call for 2021

A slightly modified digital 2020 Annual Report should be attached to this email. Reading this Report before next Sunday will help our meeting go quickly and smoothly!

Guests & Videos at Worship last Sunday

Wonderful job welcoming our guests from First Presbyterian Church, South Saint Paul (FPC-SSP), to our worship last week. It was a fun and meaningful service with two (!) videos and good music and the extra spark that happens when everything feels new and different. Special thanks to Todd Barnes who led the prayers and also shared his excellent EPC Backwoods video report, which can be viewed again right here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3tBYZ7BS7p>

New Wineskins

“You cannot pour new wine into old wineskins; for the new wine will burst the old skins. New wine is for new wineskins.” With this simple statement in Mark 2:22, Jesus gives us an amazing and frightening invitation: Are we open to being changed, inside and out? Am I willing to follow Jesus even if it means changing my heart and my life?

What needs to change about my life, about our congregational life, about our church building or worship or plans or habits? Only the Holy Spirit knows. So our first job is to start listening and asking, **“Holy Spirit, what do You want us to change?”** Or equally powerful: **“Holy Spirit, give me the willingness to change.”** As usual, be careful what you ask for, because if we ask, the Spirit is sure to answer.

February Mission Focus: VRJ



VOICES FOR
RACIAL JUSTICE

Our mission focus for the month of February will be Voices for Racial Justice (VRJ). Last Sunday in worship, we heard VRJ Co-Director Monica Bryand share with us about this organization and their work. From their website: *Voices for Racial Justice is a movement organization of leaders, organizers and culture workers who envision a world without racism honoring the culture, knowledge, power, and healing of Black, Indigenous, and communities of color. We are committed to building power through collective cultural & healing strategies for racial justice across Minnesota using organizing, leadership training, community policy & research.* <https://voicesforracialjustice.org/>

Donations for VRJ will be taken throughout the month of February.

Zoom Schedule

We have four Zoom meetings scheduled for our congregation for each week. All of these meetings have been updated and are open to you and to everyone. The links can be found on our church website homepage. 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

2020 Giving Statements

Please keep your eyes open for your 2020 Giving Statements that will be arriving in the mail. If you have any questions please contact Krysta at the church office by email epchurch2149@gmail.com. Thank you for your continued generosity and support of the church.

Kindom & Kingdom

The beautiful artwork on the top of our Annual Report and this Update is by Pastor Luna. At least one person has asked about the word, “Kindom.” “Kindom” is Luna's way of writing

"Kingdom." In other words, she is emphasizing that God's vision for us is a community of "kin" rather than a fiefdom ruled by a "king." I think of it as a "new wineskin" word to hold the New Testament concept of our kinship as the Body of Christ.

The 2021 Annual Report can be seen on the Annual Report page of the EPC website.