



Edgcumbe Presbyterian Church

Midweek Update - June 30, 2021

In this issue: Welcome Flowers, Worship Sched, June Mission, Backwoods, RJAM, New Address, July Bdays & Anniversaries, Questionnaire, EPP, Tables

Flowers to Welcome Rehoboth Ethiopian Church at EPC

This Sunday (July 4) will be the first time the Rehoboth Ethiopian congregation will meet in the EPC sanctuary. Lisa Holden has painted a 'Welcome' sign, and we are also hoping to greet them with some vases of fresh flowers. Do you have any that you could harvest from your yard or garden? If you do, please email us (lrschiferl@gmail.com) so we can know what to plan for. Our EPC service will be on site (outdoors) on July 4, so if you have flowers to donate please come a bit early. We will be there at 9:30 with some vases to use for arrangements. Thanks. -Rich and Liz Schiferl

Phil adds: Dr. Fekadu and the Ethiopian church musician met with Jay and me last Sunday to look at the sound system and instruments (they will be using one of the electronic keyboards that are stored in the choir loft area). At the end of that meeting, Dr. Fekadu asked me to come to the beginning of their first service for introductions, Q&A, and a short blessing time. I said an enthusiastic Yes, and then asked if others from EPC could join at that 10-15 minute welcoming time. He agreed. So anyone who wants to join us around 12 noon in the sanctuary would be welcome to meet and greet our new brothers and sisters on this Sunday, July 4.

Summer Worship Schedule

Here is the worship schedule for the next months:

- Jul 4 - Outdoors (communion) - the weather looks perfect!
- Jul 11 - In Sanctuary!
- Jul 18 - Outdoors
- Jul 25 - In Sanctuary
- Aug 1 - Outdoors (communion)

Pastors Luna & Phil will be taking 5-6 weeks off from August 2-Sept 12. Our newly re-formed Worship Team is working right now on creative ideas for those Sundays!

June Mission Focus: Plaster House

Plaster House provides preoperative and postoperative care for children in need of orthopedic, plastic and neurosurgery in conjunction with Selian Lutheran Hospital in Arusha, Tanzania. Over 1000 children will be cared for in 2021 with 95% of the cost funded by donors. Ingrid and Ron Eggert volunteered at PH and SLH for 8 & 1/2 years. The first 2 links below are to 4 minute and 11 minute videos about PH. The 3rd link is to the PH Facebook page. Donations should be labeled "Plaster House" or "June EPC Mission."

An introduction to Plaster House by Director Sarah Rejman:

<https://www.theplasterhouse.org.au/media-and-current-events>

A Plaster House Journey through the eyes of one of the children. This is on the Plaster House website, scroll down to the **A Healing Journey** video:

<https://www.theplasterhouse.org/>

New Chapter in Backwoods

this past week, the garlic mustard seed pods ripened, and have begun shedding the next generation plants. a HUGE thank you to all who have helped pick the invasives out of the backwoods. by the end, we collected a pile of garlic mustard taller than pastor luna!! (see lead photo above) 😊

now the next chapter of eradicating invasives has begun, burdock. the burdock plant is also a biennial plant, and is easy to recognize by it's large leaves which look like elephant ears. (it also resembles rhubarb.) this plant has a large taproot, and we have specialized shovels (similar to trenching shovels) in the shed to dig into the soil, and pull up the taproot. there are so many ways to help maintain the backwoods, from burdock removal to pulling out brush,

that any and all help is appreciated!! please check in with pastor luna to find an option that



would be great for you!

RJAM Update

We have reached the last chapter in "*So You Want to Talk About Race*" by Ijeoma Oluo! Please join us at 7pm tonight (June 30) to discuss the last chapter 'Talking is great, but what else can I do?' We will be presenting some ideas of activities folks can do on their own while we take a break from our biweekly Zoom meetings over the summer. We will also discuss getting together in person on July 7 to celebrate finishing the book.

Since much of the past year has been spent looking inward, we are thinking this summer is a time for more outward/community exploration. Here are some ideas we will discuss, along with any others you would like to bring.

- Listen to the new podcast, "Be Antiracist", by Ibram X Kendi (With different guests for each episodes, this podcast imagines what an antiracist society might look like and how we all can play an active role in building one. Listen on Apple Podcasts: <https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/be-antiracist-with-ibram-x-kendi/id1564144316?i=1000518086214>).
- Reach out to the 8218 Ministry to volunteer (Eleta has had some conversations with Miki Lewis-Frost about possible opportunities).
- Join the conversations sponsored by MacGroveland Antiracism Learning and Action 2021 (Includes recorded webinars aimed at exploring 5 questions related to home ownership and the ability to create more equitable wealth; speakers are local community groups). Sign up by July 1!. <https://macgrove.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/06/Mac-Grove-Antiracism-Series-2.pdf> .
- Investigate volunteer opportunities with the St. Paul Interfaith Action group. See: <https://interfaithaction.org/get-involved/volunteer/>
- Get involved with activities to welcome the Rehoboth Ethiopian Christian Church for the use of our worship space on Sundays
- RJAM team (Leslie, Connie, Eleta, Liz, Rich, Luna)

New Address

- Jennie Reedquist has moved!! We are grateful to have learned the lessons of a pandemic community and look forward to staying connected on zoom!! Her new address is: 801 7th Ave., Granite Falls, MN 56241. Blessings and prayers for you in your new home, and prayers for McKenna as she heads back to FSU this Fall!

July Birthdays & Anniversaries

Happy Blrthday to:

Ron Eggert	7/09
Jay McGregor	7/10
Liz Schiferl	7/11
Rich Schiferl	7/13
Carol Schwickhardt	7/16
Lily LeClair	7/19
Heather Clary	7/23
Isaac GebbenGreen	7/28

Happy Anniversary to:
Lisa Holden and Jay McGregor 7/17

Community Questionnaire in July

Presbytery has prepared a "Community Questionnaire" with the help of anti-racism coordinator, Anna Kendig Flores. This questionnaire has been sent to all of the congregations in the presbytery as a means of gathering data about the demographics of the congregations, about insights into mission and ministry opportunities, and the one-time Institutional Race and Equity Assessment of the PTCA. This questionnaire has been designed as an easy way for congregation members to confidentially self-report important demographic information. Presbytery asks that the questionnaire be filled out online in a two week period between July 11-July 24, 2021. More in depth information and a web link will follow as we receive it. Thank you, *Meredith Holt, Clerk of Session*

Life, repeated (aka, Micah GG Graduation Reception)

Micah has an opportunity to go camping with friends up to Gooseberry State Park this weekend, so again, his reception is delayed....current projection: Sunday, July 11th, after worship

Enneagram Prison Project (EPP) Opportunity

For the past three years, Pastor Phil has been working with the Enneagram Prison Project to help work for transformation through the healing work of the Enneagram on both sides of the bars. Because outside programming is still paused for most prisons, EPP is offering its prison program to the general public in an online program called **9 Prisons ONE Key**. Phil highly recommends this to anyone who is interested. It is a donation-based program that will run this Sept-November. To sign up for an information session or to see the schedule, go to this website: <https://enneagramprisonproject.org/9prisonsonekey-training/>

Tables??

If you have read this far, then bless your heart. We are missing two of our white plastic 6-foot tables from church. Is it possible that you borrowed two of these tables sometime over the past year? As we move back into more in person gatherings, we will hope to use these tables again. Please contact Phil or simply sneak them back into church, if you happen to know where they are...