



Edgcumbe

Presbyterian
Church

Midweek Update February 9, 2022

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good ideas vs god ideas...

last sunday in luke, jesus asked to be taken out into a fisherman's boat so that he could teach the crowd who had gathered. after he finished teaching, jesus asked simon to row further out into the deep water and to drop his net for a catch. simon replied, "master, we've worked hard all night and caught nothing. but because you say so, i'll drop the nets." so, he dropped the nets, and the catch was so huge that their nets were splitting and nearly capsized two boats.

one of the things i am learning in my 2nd year of devotion class is that there is a difference between good ideas and god ideas. knowing that our egos speak first and loudest, we are often mesmerized by the various and sundry good ideas that we can generate. but(!!!) no matter what ideas come, they will all be an act of self will. and, even if our best intentions are to be in service, we will end up needing to exert an effort to meet these goals.

instead of good ideas, let's start exploring the realm of "**god ideas**"--ideas which come when we listen to the holy spirit. i recognize this is an absolutely new dimension for all of us...so, **we will be learning how to do this together**. but as elder connie shared with us during worship this past week, perhaps the most essential part of this new path for us is to become **listeners**... listen within our prayers--quiet our own minds, and allow imaginings and ideas to arise from deeper within us, the place of our essential selves...the place which is always at home with god.

our annual meeting was an opportunity to reflect on one chapter of our communal life together. as we begin this new chapter in this new year for the edgcumbe community...where will the Holy Spirit lead us? i want to express my **deepest gratitude** for all of those who prepared for our annual meeting, as well as everyone who participated in the gathering. i was

amazed to hear the various stories we shared about how god has been working within and through edgcombe presbyterian this past year!!

holy spirit--we surrender this new chapter of our life together into your care...you be in charge, and we will follow you, trusting that your direction leads to peace!!

~pastor luna

Worship Schedule for February

Here is the worship schedule for the next three weeks:

- February 13 - in person in the sanctuary, live-streamed on Zoom
- February 20 - Zoom only
- February 27 - in person in the sanctuary, live-streamed on Zoom

Tree Removal

Let's hope that the fourth time's a charm! After several delays due to frigid temperatures, the church front yard basswood is scheduled to come down tomorrow morning, February 10. Gawkers are welcome.

February Mission:NAMI

Our February mission focus and donation will support the Twin Cities chapter of NAMI. NAMI {National Alliance on Mental Illness}, is the nation's largest grassroots mental health organization dedicated to support for the millions of Americans affected by mental illness. NAMI started as a small group of families gathered around a kitchen table in 1979. It has grown into an alliance of more than 600 local affiliates and 48 state organizations that work in communities to raise awareness and provide support that was not previously available to those in need. NAMI's mission is to provide advocacy, education, resources, and public awareness so that all individuals and families affected by mental illness can build better lives. The local chapters also provide legal assistance, housing assistance, triage for psychiatric providers, counseling and special services for youth. Offices are located around the state and locally at 1919 University Avenue in St. Paul. Please consider a donation this month to this worthwhile organization, as we celebrate a month of love and valentines.