



Edgcumbe Presbyterian Church

Midweek Update

June 1, 2022

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setting intentions....

“.... The tree’s leaves are for the healing of the nations.” (rev 22:2)

for the past few weeks, we have been surrounded with verses from the book of revelation, hearing about the kin-dom of god which we are living *and* moving toward....a place that does not have a temple because god **is** the temple. a city that does not have a sun or moon because god’s glory **is** the light. and a river of life-giving water, with the tree of life on each side, and the tree’s leaves are for ***the healing of the nations***.

our brother, jesus, is a teacher and a healer, and through his living presence (christ is



alive! WE SEE HIM EVERYWHERE!!!), we find purpose in our lives. as we consent to god’s loving presence, and god’s healing action in our own lives, we extend these gifts to all whom we encounter. our lives are to be truly helpful, and we do this, not in our actions, but by seeing the pure christ in those whom we interact with in our day. by seeing christ in another, we participate in god’s healing in the world!! in our morning prayer time, we can set an intention to be of serve, to be instruments of god’s healing in the world!

we, the body of christ at edgcumbe, are also ***extraordinarily blessed*** by being stewards of our backwoods space—a place where literal leaves have a purpose for the healing of the nations. the backwoods discernment team is in a process to articulate the **intention** and **purpose** of our backwoods spaces. this past sunday in worship, we reflected upon our own individual experiences of being in the backwoods... and what was shared was truly extraordinary and beautiful, and reflects our own healing which has opened:

- *When I spend time in nature or walk in the backwoods, I can more effortlessly feel at one with God and all that is.*
- *Memories of Deb. Breathing fresh air. Watching the leaves move in the wind. Listening.*
- *I encounter God as I move and rest in nature.*
- *The fact that the woods are there and available (is meaningful to me).*
- *I find the fact that the backwoods is set up for meditation and has 12 stations based on the 12 Steps of AA to be very meaningful.*
- *It gives me a relationship that deepens when I touch and groom. It is similar to currying a horse or brushing a dog. It feels like a deep relationship.*
- *A place in nature to gather with others that is away from the busy world.*
- *The trees. The quiet. A place for beautiful gatherings.*
- *That visitors to the building find peace in the woods. I love this unusual mission.*
- *(What is meaningful?) Silence. Peace.*
- *Most meaningful—a place of community among nature. Especially events taking place in the stage area.*
- *Backwoods is meaningful as a place to BE with myself, God, Mother, Bird, Critter, deer. I am supported and nurtured by trees and sky. By sound. By breath. I am breathing trees. Trees are breathing me.*
- *Meaningful to be with friends and wonderful events.*
- *Most meaningful: preserve nature in the city, and welcoming “neighbors” (who is my neighbor?)*
- *It supports and nurtures me with the quiet, a haven within the city.*
- *It gives me a place to focus in silence and prayer. I am also nurtured by the work days both socially and spiritually.*
- *I am nurtured by the space, beauty, when I care for the woods, and it allows me to connect to the Still Small Voice.*
- *I feel a healing sense of timelessness and sustaining nurture.*
- *Backwoods supports and nurtures me with the quiet space, connecting with the Spirit, opening for my thoughts*
- *I like to notice how nature is so random and so in charge of itself.*

please continue to hold the backwoods discernment team in your prayers as we continue to listen for god’s invitation for edgcumbe presbyterian through these particular trees and leaves!



in joy!! pastor luna

Worship Coming Up

Worship this week will be in the sanctuary (and on Zoom) with communion. Immediately after worship we will have a brunch and Plaster House presentation in the parlor (see the annc about June Mission below). All are welcome!

Congregational Meeting:

On June 12, 2022, there will be a meeting of the congregation after church to elect new session members. The terms for Connie Howe-Vielmetti and Ingrid Eggert ended in May of this year. Both have agreed to continue for another term. At the present time there are 5 elders

serving on session. If anyone in the congregation would like to serve on session, please contact one of the current members: Jay McGregor, Connie Howe-Vielmetti, Rich Schiferl, Ingrid Eggert or Meredith Holt.

Thank you, Meredith Holt

From Mission Team – Thank you!!!

A BIG thank you from the Mission Team to all who helped in the back woods last Saturday!! There were about 15 people who showed up to work (including 5 millennials!). Here's what we got done: 4,078 garlic mustard plants were pulled. 112 buckthorn plants (with roots) were taken out. 184 burdocks were dug from their temporary homes at Edgcumbe.

One tick was found on Pastor Phil. Several mosquitos bit us. There was much laughter and talk. We made huge progress back there! There's more to do, so please watch for the sign-up sheet coming soon to volunteer your time for more eradication and fun.

p.s. the numbers are totally fictitious, but it was a LOT. 🤪 -Lisa H

Backwoods Joyful Stewards

As we hold the preciousness of the land in our hearts, we are aware that it needs attention. Please consider committing to a certain amount of time a week to:

- pull invasive species OR
- watering, mowing, and/or other maintenance OR
- plant groundcovers, new trees, etc

There will be a sign up sheet coming soon to help get that organized. Pastor Luna is happy to meet with people to work in the backwoods. Send her an email to schedule time!

Graduation Announcements

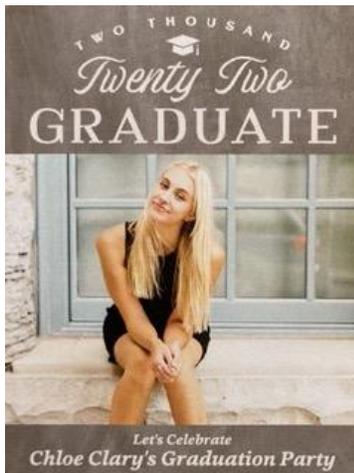


2022 High School Graduate – **Emir Powell**

From Eleta: Proud mom moment as I announce that my son, Emir Powell (Christopher) is graduating from Humboldt High School with High Honors in English and Social Studies.

We would like to extend an **invitation to all EPC folk** to his **graduation open house** Saturday, June 18, from 2-7 pm at our house (788 Ottawa Ave) on the West Side of St. Paul

P.S. "Emir" means ruler or chief



The EPC community is invited to celebrate the graduation of **Chloe Clary!**

Friday, June 24th

5pm-8pm

Historic Streetcar Station

1224 Lexington Pkwy N

St Paul, MN 55117

RSVP to Heather Clary at 612.940.3998 or heatherclary723@gmail.com

June Mission - Plaster House in Arusha, Tanzania



June 5 After Worship: Plaster House presentation and salad lunch in Fellowship Room. We will have salads, bread and dessert! Please join us----{optional bring an item to share}.

Our long-time members Ron and Ingrid Eggert will have slides and stories from their many years as missionary doctor and medical servants at Plaster House.

Plaster House provides pre-operative and post-operative care for children in need of orthopedic, plastic and neurosurgery in conjunction with Selian Lutheran Hospital in Arusha, Tanzania. Over 1200 children were cared for in 2021 with over 95% of the cost funded by donors and volunteers. Plaster House has 80 beds, 45 staff and can care for over 100 patients at a time.

The philosophy of this mission is that no child in Tanzania should live with a treatable disability. So Plaster House provides a "High Love, Low Cost" surgical rehabilitation program at the facility in Arusha, northern Tanzania. The children come from families all over Tanzania who are very poor, and often from rural areas. No child is turned away.

Since 2008 more than 5000 children with correctable disabilities have come through welcoming doors to be guided through their transformational, healing journey of assessment, followed by surgery or other treatment and then recovery. They leave with hope and a brighter future.

Prayer List

Please hold these requests in our prayers this week:

- For **Meredith Holt** who will be having a pacemaker on June 7th, with covid testing and isolation prior to the procedure beginning tomorrow, June 2.
- For **Connie Howe-Vielmetti** who is participating in a 6 day centering prayer meditation silent retreat beginning this Friday, 6/3

(Do you have circumstances you would like the community to hold in prayer with you? Contact Pastor Luna or Krysta in the Office— epchurch2149@gmail.com)