



# Edgcumbe Presbyterian Church

## Midweek Update

July 6, 2022

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### A Time for Everything

*There's a season for everything*

*and a time for every matter under the heavens:*

*a time for keeping and a time for throwing away,*

*a time for tearing down and a time for repairing. (ECCLESIASTES 3)*

Luna and I spent most of the past two weeks clearing out our kitchen and dining room, after 18 years in our home, to make space for the demotion of those rooms this week leading to their eventual remodel. We had to pick up every scrap of paper, knick-knack, art piece, and cookware and decide: do we keep this, trash this, recycle this, store this, or put it on the curb? Thousands of decisions and a few insights.

- **Getting rid of things feels fantastic.** With way fewer things in it, our home feels more spacious and hospitable than it has in years. Spiritual growth is always about the willingness to let go, to surrender, to loosen our grip. Imagine the spaciousness and hospitality that is available in our own hearts and minds when we get rid of the internal refuse we are holding onto!
- **Taking breaks is essential.** The highlight of the past two weeks was not cleaning. What stands out for me are the two times we went bowling as a family. We were awful; it's been years since any of us have bowled. But it was goofy and fun and connective. All of our right forearms were sore at the same time. Let's remember to laugh and be goofy together just for the joy of it.
- **The stories we tell ourselves shape us.** Last week, Jay shared how his judgements about his own hair brought him shame; a shame that was transformed when his bro-in-law complimented those same curls. Going through old paperwork and school

documents, it was easy to see how many stories and judgements I have within me about my finances and parenting and organizational abilities and cleanliness and on and on. Am I willing to have the Holy Spirit tousle my hair and let me know how much I belong, no matter what?

There is a time to hang on to our memories and judgements. And there is a time to let go. *Holy Spirit, you be in charge of our hanging on and our letting go, for your direction leads to peace.*

### Sunday Worship for July 10

Our hope this week is to worship outside at the backwoods stage, streaming on Zoom if we can. If rain threatens, our backup plan will be to move to the sanctuary. Either way, we will celebrate communion together. Luna and I look forward to being with you all again.

Thank you to Leslie Snow, who shared her story and music with us last Sunday.

### Sabbatical Worship Plans

Pastors Luna and Phil will be taking a sabbatical from ministry here at EPC during August, September, and October of this year. Right now there is a team of folk joyfully planning worship experiences for the congregation while the pastors are away. Plans are almost complete for the entire three months, with more specifics available soon. Big gratitude to the whole team working on this project: Jay, Connie, Ruth, Todd, Leslie, Lisa, and Carol.

### Backwoods Workday this Saturday

Join us this Saturday, July 9, from 1-3pm for some invasive species reduction in the backwoods.

### July Mission - Project Home

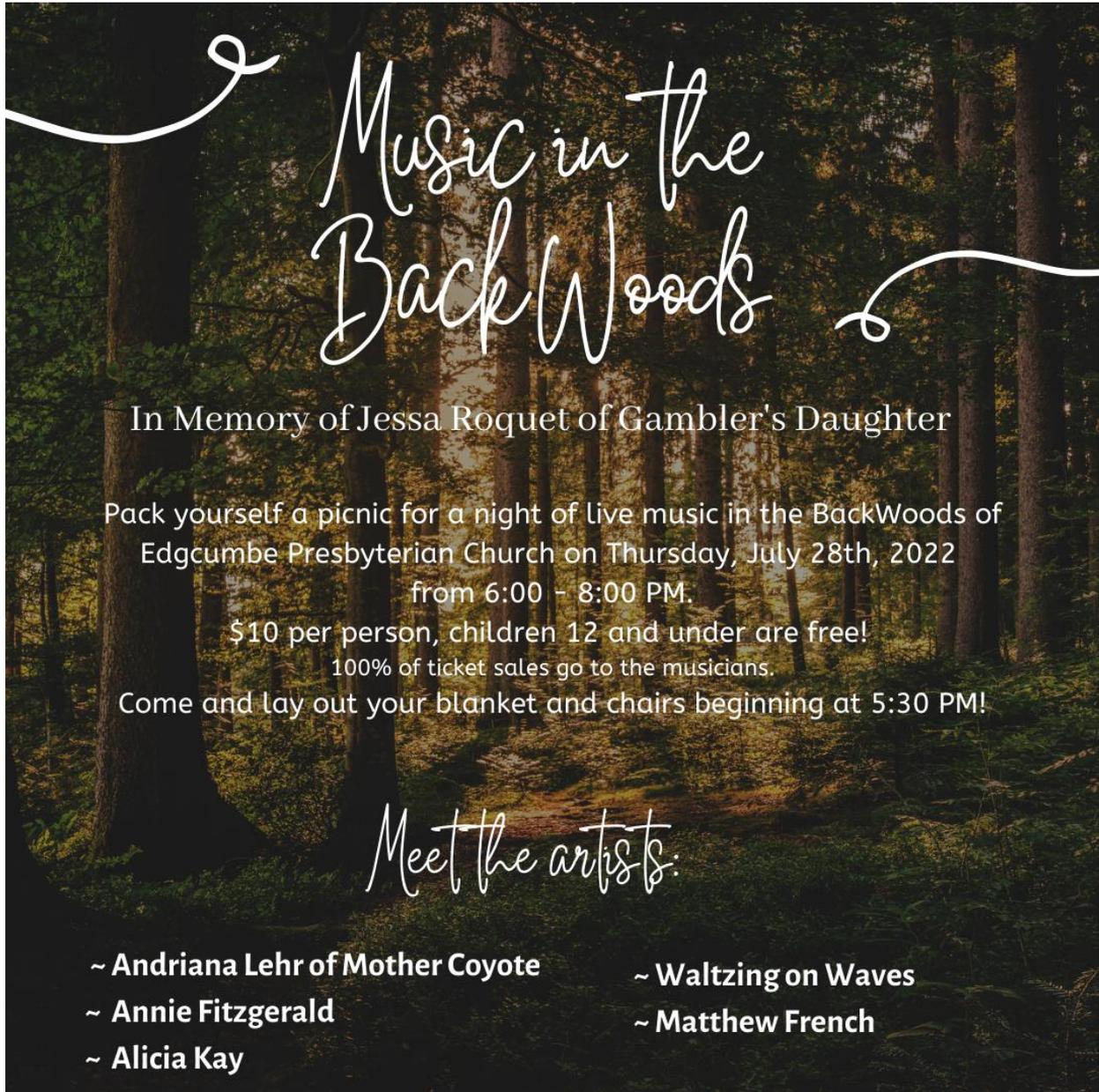
For more than 23 years, Project Home has provided overnight shelter for area families facing homelessness in partnership with dozens of area churches, synagogues, and schools. Additionally, in 2019, Project Home added day shelter services and rapid exit case management services. This 24/7 support helps families achieve both stability and economic mobility through assistance in finding permanent, affordable housing and employment.

When the pandemic hit in March 2020, area faith communities could understandably no longer host guests. Project Home families moved to two sites downtown Saint Paul until March 2021, when Interfaith Action joined with the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet and Ramsey County to open a shelter in the Provincial House, the former home of the Sisters, located at 1880 Randolph Avenue in the Highland Park neighborhood of Saint Paul. This site is now providing shelter, employment and rapid exit housing support for families with minor children. As of June 2022, they are sheltering 48 children, ages 5 months to 16 years old, plus 27 adults (parents, grandparents, and adult children). In the past couple of weeks, they've had a family of 7 and a family of 5 move into housing! God is good!

When the time is right, Interfaith Action would like to re-open the rotating shelters at the network of faith community partners, while retaining the Provincial House location as well. Typically, there are dozens and dozens of families waiting to get INTO emergency shelter. With the increased capacity at the Provincial House, if they add a tier of the mobile model, we could very possibly eradicate the need for an emergency shelter waitlist in our area. Thank you all for your continued support for the children and their parents/grandparents that they serve! To learn more, visit their website at <https://interfaithaction.org/what-we-do/projecthome/>. Cash donations can be made out to the church with "Project Home" in the memo line.

## Backwoods Community Concert: July 28!

We are hosting a concert in our backwoods on Thursday, July 28. All are welcome and the details are on this flier.



*Music in the  
Back Woods*

In Memory of Jessa Roquet of Gambler's Daughter

Pack yourself a picnic for a night of live music in the BackWoods of  
Edgumbe Presbyterian Church on Thursday, July 28th, 2022  
from 6:00 – 8:00 PM.  
\$10 per person, children 12 and under are free!  
100% of ticket sales go to the musicians.  
Come and lay out your blanket and chairs beginning at 5:30 PM!

*Meet the artists:*

- ~ Andriana Lehr of Mother Coyote
- ~ Annie Fitzgerald
- ~ Alicia Kay
- ~ Waltzing on Waves
- ~ Matthew French