



Edgcumbe

Presbyterian Church

Midweek Update

July 20, 2022

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Sabbatical Preparation – Part 1

We are just a week and a half from the beginning of the pastors' sabbatical, from August 1-October 31. Here are some details to know as we get closer to that time.

- **The most important thing to remember is that God has you, God has always had you, and God will never let you go. Period.** EPC is God's church and God is not going anywhere. All will be well.
- **During these three months, Pastors Luna and Phil are taking off from church work 100%.** We are staying away from absolutely everything related to church, not because we don't love you, but to give our minds and bodies and hearts a full experience of rest.
- **What if something really tricky happens or what if I need some extra spiritual support?** Great question. When you need support or something comes up that feels too much for the community, please please reach out. The first call or email should always be to one of our Elders: Meredith, Jay, Connie, Ingrid, Rich, or (almost) Todd. The Elders have the names of others who can support them or the congregation in times of need. Next week, we will publish info of others who can be contacted as needs arise.

Luna and I are deeply grateful to be able to pastor in this dynamic and authentic community and for your generosity in granting us this sabbatical time. This coming Sunday during our worship service, we will again explore the idea of sabbath living.

Sunday Worship for July



Plans for the next three Sundays:

- July 24: Worship, with the elder ordination of Todd Michael Barnes, in the sanctuary streamed on Zoom
- July 31: Pancake brunch, worship in the sanctuary (or maybe outdoors) and streamed on Zoom for Luna and Phil's last Sunday before sabbatical
- **PANCAKES!?!** A pancake breakfast to celebrate summer and to kick-off Sabbatical time will be shared on Sunday, July 31, before the Worship Service. First batter will hit the griddle at 9 am. The batter is a Schiferl family recipe with a hint of whole wheat, robust egg and buttermilk base and a smooth finish with pure maple syrup. Bring your appetite and family and friends for a great fellowship time before the worship service.

Backwoods work time – this FRIDAY, July 22nd, 8am

Please come this Friday as we joyfully continue to stewardship the backwoods by tending to the 10 year plan of eradicating the invasives!! Bring gloves and water! All help is greatly



appreciated!!

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 folx 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.

Food & Fellowship with Rehoboth Ethiopian congregation

The Rehoboth Ethiopian congregation that worships in the EPC building on Sunday afternoons has invited the EPC congregation to a time of food and fellowship on Sunday, August 14, in the church parking lot / backyard. All are welcome!

July Mission - Project Home

Our Edgcombe mission focus for July is Project Home. For several years we've supported their amazing effort to provide shelter services, food support, and links to permanent supportive housing.

Over 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.

Project Home at the Provincial House

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 approximately 20 families with minor children.

Please consider a special donation and mark on your electronic or check payment "July mission."

Backwoods Community Concert: July 28!

We are hosting a concert in our backwoods on Thursday, July 28. All are welcome. There is a flier attached to this Update—feel free to forward it to others or post on social media or print out copies and post in coffee shops, libraries, or other visible spots!

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 Back Woods of Edgcombe 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 ~ Waltzing on Waves
~ Annie Fitzgerald ~ Matthew French
~ Alicia Kay

Heather Grantham coming before Presbytery Sept 13th

EPC Member Heather Grantham (and EPC representative Connie H-V) came before the Committee on Ministry last month, and they voted unanimously to approve Heather for ordination for a Validated Ministry to her position at Hamline United Methodist!! Congratulations Heather!!



Congratulations Holy Spirit!! Please mark **Sept 13th** on your calendar as Heather comes before the Presbytery of the Twin Cities for approval to this ministry. The EPC community is encouraged to attend the Presbytery meeting to stand alongside Heather in this joyful and celebratory recognition. Stay tuned for the details of the time of the zoom meeting, and how to sign up to receive the link.

Prayers

We pray for God's grace in all things, and for these specific people this week.

- For Luna's Mom, Glorian, who continues in quarantine post- Covid infection, as well as enrolled in hospice care in Eau Claire.
- For Watson and Joan Fearing as Joan continues to navigate health issues.

Session Notes - June 14

As always, we began the business of Session with the intention of making no decisions on our own, but calling upon God. Devotions were done by Elder Jay and we explored 'What have we gotten completely wrong?' The example of original Sin as opposed to Primal Goodness was offered. We delved into discussion of the 'Is-ness' of God and what helps us to open our hearts. It was an interesting and thought-provoking topic.

Minutes were approved from the last Session meeting and there was a discussion about who would greet newcomers if we have any in the Pastor's absence. We also were given contact info for local Pastors whom we can call upon for help if the need arises. We got some practical advice for how to manage Sunday worship from Phil and Luna—the best advice was to Be Intentional about asking the Holy Spirit to Bless our Worship time together and HAVE FUN!

Financial update- we briefly went through the budget spreadsheet and a few things were clarified. We discussed that Jamie Schultz (the Pastor at Bryn Mawr Presbyterian Church in Mpls.) will need to be paid if we have her moderating Session Meetings when Phil and Luna are gone.

There was discussion regarding Phil and Luna's Sabbatical plans and the hopes that the congregation can help fill in some of the financial gaps.

New Elder Todd—We shared Elder wisdom with Todd Barnes, approved him for ordination, and got a date on the books for his ordination as Elder (July 24th). We celebrated the gift of Todd!!!

Jamie Schultz joined our Zoom and introduced herself. We talked about rest and Sabbath. She encouraged us by saying that we already know how to lead whether Phil and Luna are there or not. She will be a resource to us if we have questions during the pastor's absence and will also attend Session if we need her to.

We were excited to hear that Heather Grantham has been approved by the Committee of Ministry and now will move forward toward ordination. She will be presented to the larger Presbytery on Sept 13th. - Elder Connie Howe-Vielmetti

GG Remodel pics

In case you are interested in the kitchen and half bath remodel at the GebbenGreen home, here are a few glimpses of the space today. Framing, and the rough plumbing, HVAC, and electrical are mostly done. More electrical, window installation, insulation, and then drywall are next. Project is slated to be done at the end of September.



Imagine our sink and dishwasher right about there.



Notice the old lath and plaster walls.



The half bathroom isn't quite ready yet...