

Edgcumbe

Presbyterian Church

Midweek Update

February 15, 2023



In this issue: only one will, Glorian's Service
Saturday—pls park in the HP HS lot if you are
able, Baby Shower, Feb. Session, Feb. Mission

NOTE: Worship is on Zoom only this Sunday, February 19 (link on our website)

there is only one will: god's will, which is love

at first glance, this statement seems ridiculous to us—doesn't it? all we have to do is look at our lives, and that glance confirms that we have our own individual wills. we assert ourselves in directions toward what we want, hoping to fulfill our desires.

however, as we remember that we are still at one with god, we begin to understand that we share in the christ mind—which is an uninterrupted communion with god. the result of our falling asleep to our at*one*ment means we have forgotten our source—that we are extensions of the creator. as we mistakenly believe we are separate from god, we take over the job of creator and create lives where we become the center. we have forgotten that we can only even begin to understand our identity and purpose from the place of the christ mind..

as a result of falling asleep, we mistakenly think we actually know what will make us happy and what is in our own best interest.

when we remember that we are extensions of god, we then recognize that **we share in god's will**. and here is the point of choice: because we were created with free will, god does not impose their will on us.... meaning, **we have to choose it for ourselves**. it is in our **willingness**, and in our **valuing** god's will, that brings us to the place where we will live and thrive, as looked at in deuteronomy 30 this past sunday. we see that our path to freedom becomes in the relinquishing our small individuated will back to god, and to ask that god's will be done.

on sunday, we prayed together a prayer that the recovery communities have used for generations, based on the third step (made a decision to turn our will and our lives over to the care of god as we understand god). i invite you to continue to try out this prayer in your own time of devotion through the week. set an intention to release your will and pray to be an extension of god's will.

Third step prayer

"God, I offer myself to Thee—to build with me and do with me as Thou wilt.

Relieve me of the bondage of self, that I may better do Thy will.

**Take away my difficulties that victory over them may bear witness to those I would help
of Thy Power, Thy Love and Thy Way of life. May I do Thy will always!"**

this is my prayer as well....i join with you!! holy spirit, you lead the way!!
joy to you!! pastor luna ☺

Celebration of Life for Glorian Green

There will be a memorial service for Luna's Mother, Glorian Green, on Saturday, February 18 at 2:00 pm; the EPC community is invited and welcome to attend. 70-100 people are expected. If any of you would like to donate cookies or a salad for the reception, please talk to me or send me an email. (tloht42@gmail.com or 651-699-2280). Thank you, Meredith



**A further note: the parking lot at Edgcumbe will be needed
for people with limited mobility on Saturday.**

If you are able, please consider parking in the high school parking lot....thank you!!

Baby Shower Thanks

On behalf of Rondale and Ray Ray, EPC member Todd Barnes would like to thank Christ's extended EPC family for all the love and support so many of you shared with us - and the delightful welcome you gave baby Anavi into this world. Todd said he will never forget the love and generosity shown to Rondale and Ray Ray during this sacred, special time.

Quote from Carol S: "Best baby shower ever!"

Breaking news: Anavi was born on Monday, graciously waiting until the day after the shower! All are well.

Accepting and Spreading Love, February 9 - Session Meeting

The monthly Session meeting began with devotions led by Meredith on 1 Corinthians 1-7: What is Love? Discussions were centered around when (and also why) do we have trouble receiving the Love of God? No matter how much we may resist this Love, it is always there.

A short discussion on finances and salary and bonus decisions, as reported in the annual meeting, was held. Our finances are strong as we head into the beginning of 2023.

The Racial Justice and Me (RJAM) team at EPC had a strong presence in 2020 and 2021. A short review of RJAM actions, proposals, learnings and unlearnings was discussed. The RJAM focus had been on education about racism, white supremacy, white privilege, etc. The intent was to take these learnings and change our individual habits and interactions with the people

and world around us. A gathering of those interested in RJAM past and future work will be scheduled in order to discuss next steps we can take individually and/or as a community.

The outreach team has met to begin planning activities to reach into the community. A bowling outreach event is being planned for early March.

The pastor's reports emphasized moving back out into the community now that Covid has become less of an issue. This has resulted in more opportunities to interact with EPC family members as well as the local community at large. Getting back out into the community can be uncomfortable, especially since it has been a while since we have been able to do this due to Covid. Circling back to where the meeting started, these new, or renewed connections to those around us often (if not always) result in spreading and receiving love. Where are you being nudged to reach out and share love with those around you?

Respectfully submitted by Rich

February Missions

February Mission focus is on Angelie Ryah and her work with Southern California Latino neighborhoods in San Diego, California. Belong Farm is an organization that works to provide gardens which produce fresh, organic produce for low-income families at the Mexico/US border.

The vision for Belong Farm began in 2017 when Angelie Ryah moved to the San Diego - Tijuana border out of deep concern and curiosity about immigration. Learning about the desperation and despair that drove so many to leave home made her dream of creating a place that offers welcome, trauma healing, and a way forward. So in 2021 she launched a community garden, Jardin Manos Sanadoras / Healing Hands Garden in a Covid-stressed Latino neighborhood as a space to learn to grow vegetables, healthy eating, and resilience during the pandemic.

Hundreds of pounds of vegetables have been distributed from this humble beginning! Angelie is now starting her own small farm as part of [Foodshed](#), an expanding network of regenerative farmers committed to bringing organic produce and food security into immigrant neighborhoods in Southern California. Her goal is to also supply local migrant shelters with food as more refugees are expected when Title 42 is lifted.

Angelie visited EPC last October and gave an exciting update on the progress there.



Please consider a mission donation to help provide seeds and materials for the coming season. You can indicate "So. California Belong Farm" on the memo line with a check, or on the Give Now application from [epchurch](http://epchurch.com) website. Thanks for your support!