

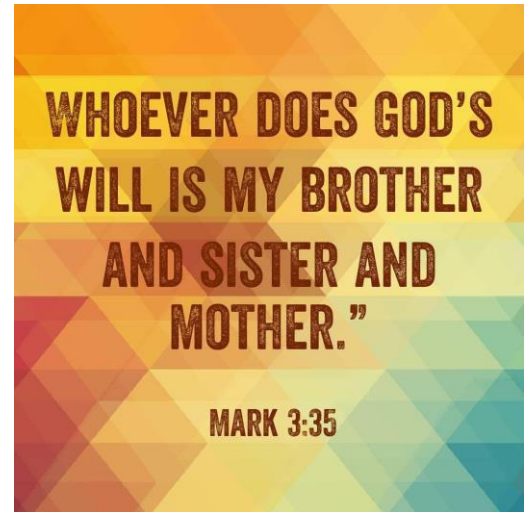
Edgcumbe

Presbyterian Church

Midweek Update

June 12, 2024

In this issue: being out of our minds, Backwoods Workday–this Saturday, EPC Awarded “Favorite Spiritual Community”, New Art installment!, June Mission: Guild, Summer Worship Schedule, Cali Grad Party, New Local Food Market, Pastor Luna on Silent Retreat, Backwoods Gratitude



being out of the world's mind...

over this past year, our scriptures have been inviting us to undo our images and beliefs about ourselves: we are not bodies; we are spirit; we are in the world but not of the world. this past sunday's passage from mark 3 goes even further by showing that to be in the christ mind, the world will see this perspective as being “out of our minds.”

Undoing the ego thought system requires nothing less than the reversal of the thinking of the world.

when we orient from a perspective of separation (which is the ego's thought system), we inherently live in fear—both consciously and (mostly) unconsciously. does this match for you? i am sure we can all name those places where fear

resides within us, but can you just pause and be curious: could there be even deeper fear and anxiety under what i know? what does the still small voice within you have to say?

see!! already, these invitations seem ridiculous to the world's wisdom. why would you want to actually acknowledge and feel our fears, says the world. just put on a happy face. a strong face. an i've-got-this face. the reason why these invitations are crucial is because jesus himself tells us he came so that we might have **life abundantly**. he does not mean that we are abundant with material items. he means that we might be able **to live in the kingdom while we live in the world**.

jesus' own biological family and the religious leaders of his day tried to disown him by claiming he was “out of his mind” and that “he's possessed by beelzebub.” we will not be shown the path to death and resurrection from the world, but only by following jesus. we cannot walk this path alone. we need each other. there is something revolutionary and rebellious **to choose connection and joining**. and we are reminded that this path of following jesus is not simply a slight correction from the world's wisdom, but is, in fact, **a complete reversal of the world's**

perspective and thinking. we find our path by offering our consent and desire to holy spirit, and asking that she repurpose every situation for god's will. i invite now to pray with me in this moment, (**taking a breath**):

*holy spirit, in this holy moment, you be in charge, and we will follow you,
trusting that your direction leads to peace.*

so grateful to be walking this path with you!! in joy!! pastor luna 🌊

All Community Backwoods Workday, Saturday June 15th, 9:30a-12n

Would you be willing to help tend to the various projects for Edgcumbe's Backwoods and Outside property? Focus for this project will be to take down a dead pine tree, pulling garlic mustard and burdock, and clearing pathways/stations/labyrinth of overgrown ground cover. Bring your family, friends, neighbors! Any and all snacks brought will be eaten with gratitude!! 😊 Advised to have long sleeves and pants, hat, water and gloves. (BYO bug spray if desired.) We look forward to being with you Saturday morning, June 15th, 9:30a-12n.

Edgcumbe Presbyterian Awarded "Favorite Spiritual Community"

We have been notified that EPC was awarded as the "Favorite Spiritual Community" in the reader's choice poll through the MN Women's Press! 🎉 Thank you to all who voted for EPC!! We give this recognition to Holy Spirit and ask Her to open the doors for connection with the larger community!!

New art installment!

We have a new art installment being hung on June 4th! Three local artists, each with a different style, have graciously agreed to show their work in our sanctuary! Christine Tierney, Joann Frekot, and Katharine Gotham are artist friends of Jay's brother, Tom McGregor. I reached out to Tom and he recommended them. I'm excited to see how it comes together. Please enjoy the show! -Lisa Holden

June Mission is Guild

Our mission giving in June will go to Guild Services, where Michelle Trebtoske works. This is from their website:

Guild empowers change through engaging individuals and communities, embracing their needs and elevating their voices. We do this work with a spectrum of services because mental illness is different for everyone, and everyone is worthy of shelter, connection, and stability. We recognize that systems built on racial inequity and social injustice significantly impact the lives of the people we serve and have resulted in high disparities in health care and the social determinants of health. We are fully committed to addressing these critical components to the fulfillment of our purpose.

Summer Worship Schedule

We are changing our summer worship plan just a bit for the coming months and adding a Pancake Breakfast. We are also hosting two other congregations—what fun! Here is the current schedule:

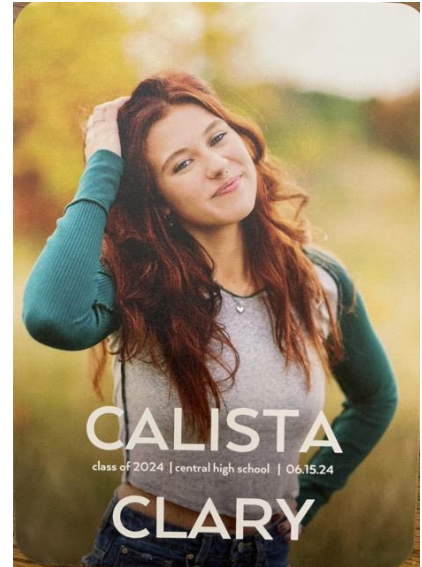
- June 16 Hymn Sing (Jenya's last Sunday for two months)
- June 23 Pastors away, Jay preaching
- June 30 Outdoor worship with Lake Nokomis Presbyterian Church with a PANCAKE BREAKFAST at 9am before worship
- July 14 Outdoor worship with First Presbyterian Church - South St Paul
- August 11 Outdoor worship
- [Maybe] Sept 1 Outdoor worship

Cali Clary Graduation Party - June 15

Cali Clary is graduating from high school! Fred and Belinda and Heather are throwing a party for Cali at Edgcumbe Church on this Saturday, June 15, from 2-5pm, and the congregation is welcome to attend. Congratulations Cali!!

New Local Food Market

From Eleta: The new food market opened this week on Montreal (across the street from the high rise). They are also going to offer the fresh produce distributions starting next month, which is set up like a farmer's market and you go through and take what you can use. The distributions are open to everyone, no matter your income and no matter where you live. See the attached flier for more information and feel free to share this information with anyone who could use it.



Pastor Luna attending a 10 day Silent retreat

Please keep Pastor Luna in your prayers over the next couple of weeks as she attends a 10 day silent Center Prayer retreat in Buffalo, MN. Over the past 10 years, she has attended silent retreats at St. Benedict's Monastery in Snowmass, Co, but the brothers have now closed their retreat center due to their declining numbers. The host of those retreats, Contemplative Outreach of Colorado, has adapted to the transition and is now bringing the 10 day retreats across the country—and offering one in MN next week! Many people from the Tuesday

afternoon Centering Prayer will also be in attendance, including our own Connie H-V and Dave H-V. Please hold in prayer all who will be journeying into the silence.

Pastors Luna and Phil will be taking off a week of vacation from June 20-27.

Backwoods Gratitude

We give thanks to Micah GebbenGreen, who has been, for the past couple of months, sharing his time and strength tending to the Backwoods. He has been coming in twice a week, and has learned a great deal about invasive plants!! He now points out these plants to his own friends as they go around the city!! 🙌



If you have time and space beyond the Community Workdays to help steward the Backwoods, or know family or friends looking for places to share their time in meaningful ways, please talk to Pastor Luna.