

Edgcumbe

Presbyterian Church

Midweek Update

January 29, 2025

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Upcoming Worship at EPC

- This Sunday, February 2nd, we will have the **Annual Congregational Meeting & brunch** after a shorter worship service. Look for the 2024 Annual Report this Sunday.
- Sunday, February 9th, guest preacher Rev. Stephanie Friant will be presiding with the Elders.

ingredients for community...

last sunday, both in worship and in the new member exploration class, we were woven together with images from 1 Cor 12:12-27 and the pc(usa) book of order's "the marks of membership." what does it mean to be a member of a community of faith? does it shift the intention in how one would relate to a community? does it change me?

i have always been curious about dynamics within communities. there are even whole systems of thought articulating those qualities that make communities (families, organizations, etc.) healthy and open, and those characteristics which lead to being unhealthy and closed. you yourself, i am sure, have been a part of groups which have led to your well-being and growth, and others which have been caught with intrapersonal struggles. being a community of faith can even add additional dynamics to these ideas!

the first thing to recognize is that community is not only vital, but **essential**, to live out our christian lives. some might say: i can believe in god by myself, i don't need to go to church. yes, you can have a relationship with god on your own, but to live it out, it has to be practiced on a daily basis. that is why we need spiritual communities so that we can live into trust! these bodies of trust are the living presence of christ. they are the means of christ's presence of grace, healing, and forgiveness in the world!

through my work in a course of miracles, i have seen another unsung reason why we need community: because we cannot see our own shadow sides on our own. and it is in our shadow sides where we still hold pain, suffering and fear. as we live into community, we bump into our

own prickly edges (some call those “triggers”), and under holy spirit’s care, they become the gifts we get to bring to her for her healing!! we need community so that we can continue to awaken from all forms of fear!! yay!! 🥳

the twelve step world has taught me that one quality is essential to be able to live a life of trust, which is the willingness to **practice honesty**. to have a healthy community, the individuals within have to be able to speak honestly and freely, without fear. so we bring that wisdom into our community of edgcumbe, as well.

communities can be places of healing for people, but it starts with each individual. so, as people of edgcumbe, we become willing to practice:

- accepting at*one*ment
- trust (of god, and Self, and others)
- be-ing in presence
- bravery
- forgiveness

as folk explore becoming members and saying yes to this particular body of christ, we recognize that the risen christ is the living heartbeat of the community. it is not any particular personality, but god alone, who calls each of us to awaken to the kindom that is already here. that is what it means to be a member of edgcumbe. the willingness to consent to god’s loving presence and healing action in ourselves, and in the world.

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

On-Going Support for Michelle Trebtoske

Thank you to everyone who has helped Michelle prepare her house for sale or donated to the love offering to help her cover moving expenses. Michelle’s new job in Wisconsin starts on Feb 24, which means that she will move to temporary housing on Feb 19 and put her South St. Paul house on the market around Feb 12—which is coming right up!

We will have a second work day at Michelle’s home this Thursday from 2pm-4pm. Her address is 409 4th Ave S, South St Paul 55075. We are also continuing to sponsor a **Love Offering** for Michelle. Please give any donations to EPC, designated for Wisconsin Bound! (or for Michelle).

January Mission: Angelie Ryah’s work at the Border

Our mission focus for January, 2025 is Angelie Ryah and her work at the border. Angelie Ryah has lived in the San Diego - Tijuana area for the last six years, and has been involved in several types of ministry. As a spiritual director she was able to offer pastoral care for faith leaders and activists on both sides of the border, while learning about the realities of immigration. During Covid, she was part of a new intentional community who desired to serve migrants especially in their local neighborhood. She founded a community garden, Jardin Manos Sanadoras / Healing Hands Garden, where



families learned to grow their own food, form friendships, and celebrate life together. That significant experience led her to learn about small-scale regenerative farming and start Belong Farm, with the vision of creating a healing space where people can connect deeply with nature, the Sacred, and each other. This experiment has been both joyous and challenging! She is currently discerning next steps for ministry and life, with a desire to bring her passion, skills, and experience back into the community.

February Birthdays



Happy Birthday to:	
Sherla Mayer	2/07
Leslie Snow	2/12
Vanya Hogan	2/14