

Edgcumbe

Presbyterian Church

May 21, 2025

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look! i am making all things new...

our scripture from this past sunday (rev 21:1-6) might be one of those scriptures that you want close to you—especially when things get *real*.

Scripture Revelation 21:1-6

1 Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the former heaven and the former earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. 2 I saw the holy city, New Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, made ready as a bride beautifully dressed for her husband. 3 I heard a loud voice from the throne say,

"Look! God's dwelling is here with humankind. He will dwell with them, and they will be his peoples. God himself will be with them as their God. 4 He will wipe away every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more. There will be no mourning, crying, or pain anymore, for the former things have passed away." 5 Then the one seated on the throne said, "Look! I'm making all things new." He also said, "Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true."

6 Then he said to me, "All is done. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will freely give water from the life-giving spring."



i have shared with you this deep knowing i have that jesus' healing which he offers is not for our souls (a traditional model of religion) but **for our minds**. our souls have never left god and we carry the voice of god, which is the holy spirit, within us and they are incorruptible. even with that being true, we *believe* that we are separate and apart from god, so it is our **thinking** and **perspectives** which need healing.

when we accept that not only is god here right now, but god's healing presence is at work, we see that it is our own beliefs and defenses which block us from love's presence. being willing to

realize that we have been wrong, and asking for holy spirit to heal our mind (nothing happens without us consenting!), allows new vision—christ's vision—to be our perspective. when our minds are healed then we can see a new heaven and new earth, and we see god, right here, right now. our minds are saved from our misperceptions and misbeliefs, and we are healed. now, the impossible becomes possible. we do not rely on our own strength. death will be no more because that which is mortal does not hold truth over that which is eternal.

you are the one who brings the kingdom into this moment. so, i invite you to ask yourself: *have you come to the end of fear and suffering?* are you willing to fully surrender yourself to the one who re-minds you that you are the beloved child of god?? yes?? well, then... be ready for all things being made new. this is the choice point we have in each moment. we return to this place of consent to be re-minded each time we have fallen asleep to fear, shame and irritation.

you are a new creation. and extend this healing work of god in all places and in all times!! look! all things are being made new!!

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

Pastors Away June 2-15, and worship plans

Pastors Luna and Phil will be away tending to different aspects of their ministries. Pastor Luna leaves for Scotland on May 29th, where she will be traveling to Scotland to



have two weeks in the Iona Community attending two different workshops: hymn writing and on the life of St. Columba. Pastor Phil will be in the Bay Area of California guiding an Enneagram Prison Project course in a jail in San Mateo county.

During these weeks, Session has been crafting community worship for Sundays June 8th and 15th. We are excited to offer these opportunities for the entire community.

Sunday June 8: All-Church Potluck Brunch, 10:00am



Hosted by Shelley Holden & Mark Wehde
2240 Ferris Lane, Roseville, MN 55113
*Park in their driveway (not the neighbor's)
or in the circle.*

Please RSVP to Shelley at
[**sjholden44@gmail.com**](mailto:sjholden44@gmail.com)

Bring your favorite brunch dish!

Chelsea Witbrook will lead a short reflection time.

Sunday, June 15, Backwoods Worship, 10am

Bring a chair or blanket to enjoy our beautiful Backwoods.
The service will be led by Jay McGregor and Ruth Andersen.



May Mission:
Edgumbe Presbyterian Backwoods

May Mission: EPC Backwoods

We are incredibly blessed to have a 3-acre wooded area next to the church. It is a natural oasis in the middle of the city, and another way for us to connect to the divine. There are walking trails and meditation stations, and when the weather is nice we sometimes hold services under the trees.

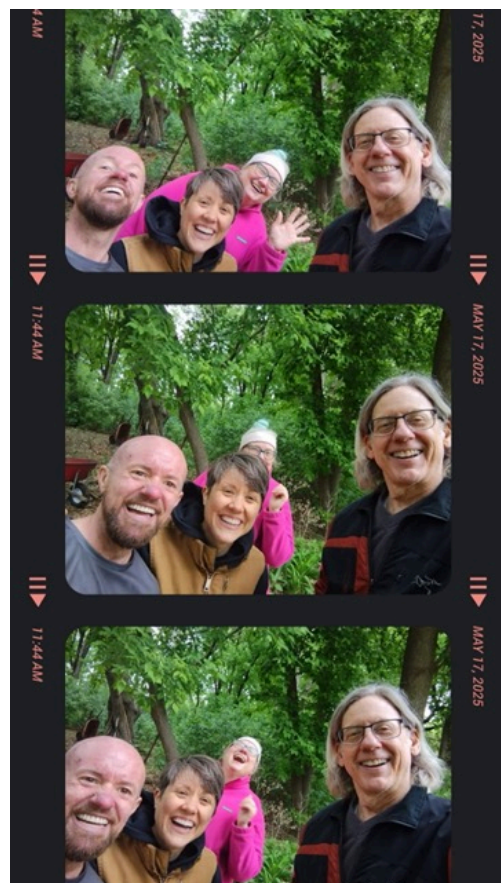
We want to care for and maintain the beauty of one of EPC's most unique features. Not only is this area an extension of our sacred space, but by making it accessible to the public we have made it into an offering to the larger community. Donations towards this month's mission will go toward material improvements to the back woods such as replenishing the wood chips covering the trails. It gives the trails a nice fresh look, is a pleasant soft surface to walk on, and keeps the weeds at bay.

May Mission Update: So far, we have collected \$480 for improvements to the Backwoods. We have spent around \$1120 for wood chips to cover the trails, so there is still time to donate to improving our 'other' sanctuary! You can indicate "Backwoods" or "May Mission" on the memo line with a check, or on the Give Now application on www.epchurch.org. Thanks for your support!

Workday Pics & New Opportunity

Such deep gratitude for those folks who turned out over 2 Saturdays this month to help lay a new path of woodchips on the meditation path, and for those who brought nourishment for the workers!! All of the paths are now completed, and we invite you to come into the backwoods throughout the week to experience these places of reflection and prayer!!

We are also grateful to Micah GebbenGreen (photo at top of Update) who is volunteering again this summer by working alongside his mother a couple of days a week. We also give thanks for a 12-step community



member, Jerry, who reached out to Pastor Luna and is volunteering a few hours each week tending the backwoods—beginning with the labyrinth.

There are many ways to contribute to the stewardship of the backwoods...do you feel the nudge to contribute in some way?? Speak to Pastors Luna or Phil.

Sharing Stories of Forgiveness...

As we tended to movements of forgiveness during Lent, we began hearing stories of how this had real impact in your lives. During the Easter Season, we are creating space so that we can share these stories of forgiveness with each other during worship. Have you noticed shifts and changes in your life? Would you be willing to share your experience with the community?? If so, please contact Pastors Luna and Phil.

May Session Report

Session met on May 8. LaGretta opened with a meditation on the topic: *Where have I (you) seen Christ this week?*

Ron gave a brief finance update noting that expenses for the previous four months approximately equaled income. EPC membership and friends lists were updated with the recent addition of nine new members. Childcare during and after Sunday services was discussed; Phil and Connie will follow up with the affected families and possible helpers. Both pastors will be on vacation June 8 and 15; options for services on those days were discussed and LaGretta will follow up with other Session members.

Question to consider: do we need new teams/committees? Fellowship/fun? Worship and art? Luna noted a backwoods work day Saturday May 10. The meeting ended with an appreciation by each member for Connie's service on Session. -Ron Eggert