

**Ora
et
Labora**

Edgcumbe

Presbyterian Church

August 19, 2026

In this issue: Reflection, Worship, TC Food Justice Fundraiser, Update from Emily, NAMI walk, August mission Sabbatical Photos and submissions, Bible study, prayers

Reflection from Ingrid

“Ora et labora” has been part of our EPC weekly schedule for a while, early Thursday morning, for work in the backwoods and prayer. What does it mean, what language is it, where does it come from?? Growing up in southern Germany, in a historically Lutheran city, but close to the historically Catholic areas of Bavaria, I encountered this term when visiting landmarks in the state, such as monasteries. Benedictine monasteries especially have been a big part of the “ora et labora” (pray and work in Latin) history - contributing by “ora et labora”, writing bibles by hand before the invention of the printing press for distribution to churches; managing forests; running plant nurseries for villages; being involved in education by establishing secondary schools and dormitories for students living in rural areas and training future monks and priests; and not to forget brewing beer (growing hops and barley) or other alcoholic beverages, such as wine and liquor, at a time when water was not safe to drink, among much other work. My sister lived in a small town on the Danube; her children went to the local Benedictine high school. Another Benedictine monastery on the Danube in Austria specialized in writing bibles (in Latin, until Luther challenged authorities by issuing a bible in German ‘for the people’), some of which are on display in their library, which our family has visited. Here in Minnesota we have the Benedictine Abbey in Collegeville, with St Johns and St Benedict's Colleges as an example of “ora et labora”. It is a very old and very broad term indeed!

Join us Sunday, August 23

Rachel Swan will be leading worship.

Fundraiser concert for TC Food Justice!

Lisa's group Heartfelt, will be singing with guest musicians, Brethren Bones, on August 30th, Sunday, at 4:00 p.m. on the backwoods' stage of EPC! Bring a chair and join us for a fun night of music! Pay what

you can to support a wonderful organization, TC Food Justice. Hope to see you there!

-Lisa

A Great new Job for Emily Trudeau and Donations Requested for her Office

Hi everyone. I have a new super exciting position with the State of Minnesota working for the Department of Children, Youth and Families. I feel my whole life has prepared me for this position. The job comes with the need for me to create a home office in my spooky basement and I could use your help. I do not use Facebook Marketplace because of some sketchy experiences I have had in the past. I have put together a list below but really anything you can donate would be greatly appreciated!

Foot stool, small trash can, rugs, small side table or shelves, paint for the walls, cash to help pay for trash removal.

Thank you, Edgcumbe Family!
Emily Trudeau

NAMI WALK - SAVE THE DATE: SEPTEMBER 26, 2026



Please watch this newsletter for info about carpooling from Edgcumbe and shuttles. Mission and Belonging teams are working together for this event.

Event Schedule: 9:00-noon

9am: Opening Remarks

9:30: Walk Begins

10am: Mental health resource fair, activities, DJ, and more!

Noon: event ends

August Mission:

Our mission focus for August is Highland Park High School. HPHS are our closest neighbors, and we have an ongoing tradition of supporting them through grocery gift cards and Kleenex boxes. We had an especially high demand for groceries last year because of the surge, but there is always a need as some students face continual financial hardships. In addition to grocery assistance, we

provide Kleenex boxes so the teachers don't have to purchase them themselves. Our goal is to have one box for each classroom. Disinfectant wipes are also requested as they are also always handy.

Collecting Photos of EPC Community during Sabbatical

Please take photos of yourself and the EPC community during this unique time of Sabbatical. James Witbrook will be collecting photos to compile a slideshow to share with our community and our pastors at the October retreat during a storytelling event. Photos can be of work in the backwoods, worship services, potlucks, or 1-on-1 hangouts with EPC friends outside of Sunday mornings. Please send your photos to jameswitbrook@gmail.com with "EPC slideshow" in the subject line.

Submissions to this Update during Sabbatical

If you have an announcement or article for the midweek Update during the pastors' sabbatical, please submit it to Office Manager Krysta Niznick by Tuesday morning at epchurch2149@gmail.com.

Bible Study Continues

We'll continue bible study during Phil and Luna's absence. I will send out the texts early on Sundays or they are available here: <https://epchurch.org/lectionary-.pdf> . Access to the bible study Zoom is here: <https://epchurch.org/> . Hope to see you there at 6:30 PM every Sunday night.
-Ron Eggert

Prayers For.....

Pastors Luna & Phil for rest and inspiration during their sabbatical.
Each member of our Edgcumbe family who is leading worship while our pastors are away.