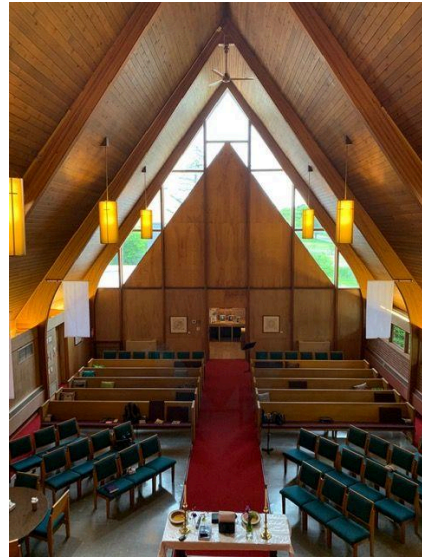
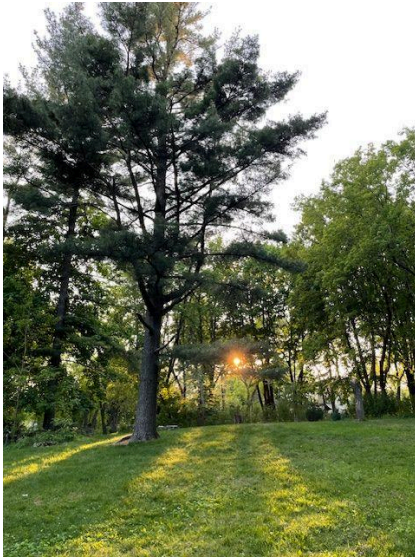


Edgumbe Presbyterian Church

Annual Report 2024

Congregational Meeting: February 2, 2025



AGENDA

Call to Order & Opening Prayer
Establishment of Quorum
Review of 2024 Congregation Minutes
Annual Statistical Report
Report of the Pastors

Approval of Terms of Call for Pastors
Report of Ministry Teams
Treasurer Report, including Budget
Other Business
Adjournment & Closing Prayer

Annual Statistical Report for 2024

Session:

2025 Connie Howe-Vielmetti, Ingrid Eggert
2026 Michelle Trebtoske, Open slot
2027 LaGretta Lunde, Open slot

Pastors Luna and Phil GebbenGreen, Co-Moderators; Ron Eggert, Clerk/Treasurer

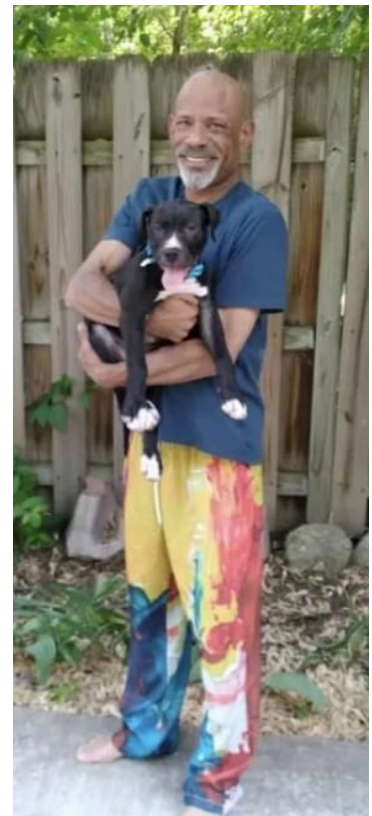
Staff:

Luna & Phil GebbenGreen, Co-Pastors Jenya Trubnikava, Music Director
Krysta Niznick, Office Administrator Marisol Guevara, Custodian

Annual Membership Report:

Active Members as of December 31, 2023	25
New Members	0
Total number added to Active Roll	0
Active Members removed from Roll	1
Death of Active Members	1
Total number removed from Active Roll	2
Active Members as of December 31, 2023	23
Baptized members (children)	5
Total Congregation	28
Friends of EPC	23

Died in 2024: Todd Barnes d. 4/7/2024



Pastors' Report

Routinely, as Luna and I check in after worship or Bible study or Centering Prayer or countless other EPC encounters, we say to each other, "How did we get so lucky to work in such an amazing community?" That is the heart of this report: Edgumbe Church is an amazing community filled with kind and honest and generous and supportive people seeking to follow the Holy Spirit together. Here are some memories and reflections from 2024, in no particular order.

Todd Barnes died in early April, almost exactly a year after Carol's death in 2023. We gathered in his hospital room to pray and cry together, and then we planned his memorial service in one of Todd's favorite spots, the EPC backwoods. Todd was so full of life and vigor and passion and

humor, and he affected our community in so many ways, that it is hard to imagine him gone. As with Carol and every important death in our community, we laugh and cry and mourn, and we remember in faith that nothing can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus. Carol and Todd were both spark plugs in our community, so their passing makes room for new sparks and new plugs!

Officially (see their report below) EPC Mission giving in 2024 was \$18,200. Because I know of some gifts that were inspired by EPC, my own figure for EPC mission is closer to \$30,000. Five years ago, in 2019 our Mission giving was \$2200. That's a fifteen-fold increase! That's a tithe (tenth) of our whole budget. That's biblical-level giving, and it's inspiring and heart-warming and hope-producing. Thanks be to God for your generous souls.

This past year has seen a resurgence in community-building activities, including a couple of backwoods campfires, church workdays, and a wonderful progressive dinner in December. This



feels like a lovely legacy of both Carol and Todd, who “spark plugged” this kind of connection for years.

In 2024, Luna attended her Nature Companionship training and Phil took two trips to Europe to do Somatic Enneagram training. I mention this so that you can see the kinds of training that your pastors are doing, but also as a celebration of a key value of this congregation: to continue to grow in our faith and our learning and in the capacity of our hearts to love and to heal.

Without making this report crazy long, let me add a few other quick reflections that seem self-evident to me, but may or may not be to you. We have a committed and Spirit-filled Session, supported by the competence and care of our Stated Clerk and Treasurer, Ron Eggert. We have a great staff who are a pleasure to work with. Luna and I love you and feel your love and support in so many ways, as we seek to follow the Holy Spirit's lead together.

P.S. Here are two things that began developing in 2024 that will shape our community and spark possibilities moving forward:

- *A bunch of new people are showing up! We have 13 people exploring membership this January/February 2025, and even children have recently graced our worship service.*
- *We received a gift of stackable purple chairs for our sanctuary this past fall, which adds to the flexibility of our sanctuary space. The sanctuary is now our only large “multi-purpose” space in the church. In recent years, we have heard ideas for our church around hosting dance church, yoga classes, healing services, local theater, more clothing exchanges and so on. I wonder if this is a year when we ask ourselves and the Holy Spirit if it's time to re-imagine this space and how it could be used.*

TERMS OF CALL 2025 - Edgumbe Presbyterian Church

Reverends Phil & Julie (Luna) GebbenGreen Co-Pastors, splitting one call 50/50

Presbytery of Membership: **Presbytery of the Twin Cities Area**

Effective Date: January 1, 2025 (original call effective August 1, 2007)

Terms (all should be annual):

Salary & Housing \$66,931 (Includes housing allowance \$28,000)

Vacation = 4 weeks including 4 Sundays

Continuing Education allowance \$5,000 per year, cumulative over 3 years to \$15,000.

Continuing Education leave 2 weeks incl. Sundays, cumulative over 3 years to 6 weeks

Pension/Medical = Full

Automobile allowance, IRS rate, Vouchered up to \$800

Professional Expenses Vouchered up to \$1,000

Social Security Offset ___ Yes No (7.65% of salary & housing)

Medical/Dental Supplemental Yes ___ No Vouchered up to \$4,000 (with half of unused portion at year's end returned to the pastors)

Optional Retirement Contribution ___ Yes No Amount \$ _____

Sabbatical Yes ___ No

Length of leave: 3 months; years of service required: 6 years. (Presbytery guideline is 3 months after 6 years of service.) Session approval of dates and plan required.

Parental Leave - When an installed teaching elder or spouse is to give birth, or to adopt a child, family leave shall be offered under at least the following terms: Eight weeks family leave at 100 percent of pro-rated annual salary and full housing allowance, or twelve weeks at 75 percent of pro-rated annual salary and full housing allowance. (See full Presbytery Policy on Family Leave for more details.)



Personnel Report

Since the reactivation of the personnel committee in November, team members include Meredith Holt, LaGretta Lunde, Pastors Luna and Phil GebbenGreen.

The team recommended and Session approved a 5% raise for all staff for 2025, with gratitude for the dedication and gifts of all five staff members: Pastors Luna and Phil GebbenGreen, Music Director Jenya Trubnikava, Office Manager Krysta Niznick, and Custodian Sol Guevara. The committee also unanimously approved increasing vacation

time for Marisol Guevara, our custodian since 2008 from two to three weeks per year.

In early December, we recruited Edgcumbe congregant Jane Tafel to share her grant-writing expertise as we began the process of applying for a \$60,000 Lilly grant for our pastors' 2026 three-month sabbatical. The grant asks the question: "What Makes Your Heart Sing?" Our pastors have narrowed their answer down to "singing" and "nature." Currently, they are working with another talented grant writer from our congregation, James Witbrook, to finalize the specifics of their sabbatical.

At the same time, the personnel committee met with interested members of our congregation after church one Sunday to generate ideas for congregational activities and possible programming in our pastors' absence. We will be presenting a summary of those ideas during the annual meeting to seek more input and also ask for additional volunteers to help us begin planning for Sunday worship services during the sabbatical.

Building & Grounds

The B&G team is made up of Jay McGregor, Rich Schiferl, Ron Eggert, Dean Grussendorf and Pastor Phil. Activities focused on general building upkeep, repair and enhancements in order to be active stewards of the building and landscape. A few of the projects completed this year:



1. Repaired or replaced the three downspouts around the church building.
2. Replaced the rotten window sill under the office downspout (which we suspect led to basement leaking in past years).
3. Repainted the Preschool entry door and window frames and touched up education wing window frames.
4. Repainted the narthex bathroom.
5. Resurfaced the parking lot and driveway and striped the parking lines.

Our building and property continues to be used by multiple groups.

- Our relationship with the Saint Paul Conservatory of Music came to an end this past summer. SPCM is letting us use the small grand piano in the sanctuary for occasional recitals or concerts in the space.

- Rehoboth Evangelical Church continued to host worship services every Sunday for a small monthly fee.
- Highland AA hosts meetings in our space almost every day, plus quarterly speaker's meetings and the annual Gratitude meeting on Thanksgiving Day.
- We also hosted two outdoor concerts, the memorial service for Todd Barnes, and the many individuals and groups that enjoy our backwoods.
- This spring, over six different teachers from Highland Park Sr High School will use our library and parlor for a quiet spot to conduct their IB tests.

We have several projects on our scope for the coming year:

- A. New, non-carpet flooring for the Parlor.
- B. Exploring a "Bee lawn" in the church front yard. Look for a bee lawn tour this spring.
- C. Exploring costs and ideas for new windows in the church education wing.
- D. Exploring options to get water and electric power into the backwoods. Options for electricity include laying electric wiring or using a portable battery or quiet generator.

Backwoods Report

There have been developments over this past year in the Backwoods that can only be described as Celebrations!! A sampling would include:

- Very low occurrence of garlic mustard (meaning the mitigation efforts and work over the past 5+ years have come to fruition!!)
- Permanent seating (of recycled plastic) has been installed now at all 12 stations, and a full set of 8 permanent chairs are at the circle under the large maple.
- We have received the gifts of time and physical labor this past summer/fall from Micah GebbenGreen, who came in twice a week with a parent to do the various tasks of forest tending.
- During the summer, a small group of stewards met weekly for centering prayer and then tending to the care of the backwoods.
- We planted 3 oak trees in 2023, and even after intentional care, they died. However, this past spring one of the oaks came back to life with new growth!! A miracle and a resurrection!!
- HPSHS teachers have brought their entire class over to have class in the backwoods; other teachers use the woods for their own exercise and meditation.
- First time hosting concert space for Heartfelt.
- Nature experiences within worship.



We give thanks to the Holy Spirit for this extraordinary gift of being stewards of this land, and we continue to surrender it into HS's care for the work and ministry She desires for that area!!

Music Report

I would like to begin this report with a heartfelt thank you to the EPC community for keeping the music program at EPC going. Your kind words, encouragement, ideas, donations and time are so appreciated and treasured. My special shout outs go to the talented, dedicated and hardworking members of the EPC choir. Their continuous professional growth, musicality, their aim for the better, their flexibility, grace and beautiful singing make me and the community so proud and grateful. The choir's weekly performing schedule was busy throughout the year and the repertoire reflected our constant development as the vocal group. The season culminated in Christmas Eve service, when our ensemble of 20 musicians welcomed 75 worshipers, performing the music of Quartel, Harmon, MacMillan, Wetzler, Rorem, and Vaughan Williams.



This year we welcomed Chelsea Witbrook as the new member of the choir, and Shelley Holden as the returning one!

With a broken heart we report the passing of our beloved Todd Barnes, the musician, composer, pianist, organist and overall amazing person. Todd's impact on this community is deep and will never be forgotten. We are so grateful to Todd for sharing his gift of improvisation, his passionate playing, his fearless preaching through music-making, his never ending support and trust in the power of music. We had the honor of providing the music at Todd's memorial service and witnessed the overwhelming impact he had on so many lives. We love and miss you, Todd.



Big thank you to Ruth Andersen for sharing her musical gifts; to Jay McGregor for continuous technical support (and a debut duet singing!), and to the Session for the trust, encouragement and the choir's budget increase – this will allow us to explore/purchase more music and to continue hiring guest musicians, who bring so many gifts to our community. Thank you to each and everyone of you! –Jenya Trubnikava

Small Groups

Two ongoing ministries are the Sunday evening Bible Study and the Tuesday afternoon Centering Prayer group. Both groups meet on Zoom with both regular attendees and new



participants and guests. We also had several backwoods campfire nights and a very successful progressive dinner in December.

Treasurer's Report

For the 4th consecutive year our income has equaled or slightly exceeded our expenses and there was a substantial carry-forward from 2024 into 2025. We ended 2024 with \$24,629 in our Associated Bank checking account (current expenses) and \$2,405 in the Associated savings account (savings for 2026 sabbatical). In addition, we have an emergency reserve at Vanguard of \$84,073, up from last year due to the stock market performance.

The 2025 budget is as lean as we could make it. Almost all of the expense side is devoted to staff salaries and building maintenance and operation. The Montessori Preschool income is contractual. The other income projections (AA and unpledged contributions) are conservative.

Thanks to all of you, our finances are stable and our expense projections for the 2025 budget are also conservative. The 2025 budget has been approved by Session. Approval of our pastors' compensation is on the Annual Meeting agenda. The budget is attached. If you have questions, please call 651-998-9450 or email me ireggert@gmail.com or bring them to the Annual Meeting.



Blessings to all, Ron Eggert

2024 Year-End Report & 2025 Budget

ASSETS:		12/31/24	
Vanguard		84,073	
Associated Checking		24,629	
Associated Savings		2,405	Sabbatical Savings
	2024	2024	2025
	Budget	Actual	Budget
REVENUES:			
Pledge Units	14		16
Pledge Payments	93,660	85,681	85,340
Unpledged Contributions	5,000	10,660	7,500
Montessori Rent/Prop. Tax	54,528	54,528	56,160
AA Rent	18,000	18,000	18,600
St. Paul Conservatory	16,800	19,950	0
Misc. Inc.	0	1,619	0
Monthly Mission	0	19,121	0
Carry Fwd Bank Balance	20,000		24,629
TOTAL REVENUES	207,988	209,559	192,229
	2024	2024	2025
	Budget	Actual	Budget
EXPENSES:			
TOTAL B&G	35,835	42,023	39,306
TOTAL OFFICE	4,645	5,720	4,800
TOTAL PERSONNEL	146,018	135,517	148,230
TOTAL MISSION	3,394	19,415	3,200
TOTAL WORSHIP	2,150	2,624	2,750
TOTAL EDUCATION	200	200	200
TOTAL SESS,DEAC	280	0	0
MISC. EXPENSES	0	2,542	0
TOTAL EXPENSES	192,522	208,041	198,486
NET INCOME	207,988	209,559	192,229
BALANCE	15,466	1,518	-6,257
BUILDING & GRDS EXP.	2024	2024	2025
	Budget	Actual	Budget
Utilities/Heat, Light, etc.	12,000	7,656	9,000
Insurance	6,385	8,564	7,400

Building Maintenance	4,000	2,897	4,000
Services	6,000	7,679	8,000
Assess/Prop Tax	1,200	1,306	1,306
B&G Supplies/Custodial	5,000	6,962	8,500
Grounds Maintenance	750	5,468	600
Special Projects	0	0	0
Backwoods Project	500	690	500
Backwoods Fund	0	802	0
TOTAL B&G	35,835	42,023	39,306
OFFICE EXPENSES	2024	2024	2025
	Budget	Actual	Budget
Computer/Software	800	2,029	800
Telephone/Internet	1,200	1,297	1,345
Copier	675	675	675
Postage	220	238	180
Payroll Services	900	1,074	1,100
Office Supplies	250	49	250
Bank/Vanco Fees	600	358	450
TOTAL OFFICE	4,645	5,720	4,800
PASTOR COMP	2024	2024	2025
	Budget	Actual	Budget
Pastor Housing	30,000	26,000	28,000
Pastor Salary	33,744	37,744	38,931
Pastor Pension/Medical	25,000	20,167	20,950
Continuing Ed	2,400	1,986	5,000
Carry forward Continuing ed	1,681	1,781	414
Automobile	800	781	800
Pastor Misc Allowance	1,000	1,000	1,000
Med/Dent Supplement	4,000	1,447	4,000
Cell Phone	500	500	600
Sabbatical	1,200	1,200	1,200
Pastors Compensation	100,425	92,604	100,895
OTHER PERSONNEL	2024	2024	2025
	Budget	Actual	Budget
Music Director Salary	12,000	10,000	12,600
Office Administrator	6,969	6,615	7,300
Custodian	20,424	20,815	21,445
Handyman	300	0	0

Payroll Taxes	3,200	2863	3,140
Staff Supply	700	599	850
Staff Misc	2,000	2020	2,000
TOTAL OTHER PERSONNEL	45,593	42,912	47,335
OUTREACH & MISSION:	2024	2024	2025
	Budget	Actual	Budget
Per Capita Paid Out	1,194	1,194	1,000
Denom Mission	1,000	1,000	1,000
Other Mission	1,200	1,450	1,200
Special mission	0	15,771	0
TOTAL OUTREACH	3,394	19,415	3,200
WORSHIP & ARTS EXPENSES	2024	2024	2025
	Budget	Actual	Budget
Worship	200	652	200
Music	300	0	1000
Zoom	200	176	200
Musicians	1,000	1,550	1,000
Flowers	200	247	200
ArtPlayce	250	0	250
TOTAL WORSHIP & ARTS	2,150	2,624	2,750
EDUCATION	2024	2024	2025
	Budget	Actual	Budget
Education Expenses	200	0	200
TOTAL EDUCATION	200	0	200
MISCELLANEOUS	2024	2024	2025
	Budget	Actual	Budget
MISCELLANEOUS	0	2,542	0
TOTAL MISC. EXPENSES	850	2,542	0



Congregational Meeting Minutes 2024

Edgumbe Presbyterian Church Minutes of Annual Congregational Meeting - January 28, 2024

BY ENCOUNTERING CHRIST IN OUR CHURCH, WE SHARE GOD'S WORD IN THE
COMMUNITY TO HEAL AND CHANGE LIVES.

Call to Order: On January 28, 2024, the Annual Meeting of the congregation of Edgumbe Presbyterian Church was called to order at 11:15am by Pastor Phil GebbenGreen. The meeting was opened with prayer and a quorum was declared.

Pastor's Report: Pastor Phil noted the passing of our beloved Carol Schweichert, our very special Christmas Eve service with 85 participants, our joint worship service with First Presbyterian church of South St. Paul, the much-appreciated efforts of the Mission team in developing the monthly mission program and the open sharing that occurs among our members after church services, during Sunday evening bible study and during Tuesday centering prayer meetings. Phil also riffed on: not only how that openness changes us, but also changes others.

Pastor Luna said it is an honor for her to be part of the Edgumbe community.

Terms of Call: MSC to approve the Terms of Call for Pastors Phil and Luna GebbenGreen for 2024. The motion carried unanimously.

Team Reports:

Music Report: Jenya expressed her gratitude for all the support offered to the music program. See EPC 2023 Annual Report below for other individual team reports.

2024 proposed Budget: See EPC Annual Report.

MSC to adjourn the meeting at 11:48am.

Ron Eggert, Clerk of Session

Edgumbe Presbyterian Church Minutes of Special Congregational Meeting - June 2, 2024 Election of Elders

Pastor Phil opened with prayer, declared a quorum and called the meeting to order at 11:15am.

The purpose of the meeting was to elect new Elders. LaGreta Lunde has volunteered to be a Session member. Pastor Phil asked if there were other nominations. None were forthcoming.

MSC to close the nominations.

LaGretta said it was humbling to be asked to serve the congregation. Phil noted LaGretta's amazing gift of hospitality.

MSC to elect LaGretta to a 3-year term on Session, 2024-2027.

Many thanks were expressed to Jay McGregor for his service on Session.

Meeting adjourned at 11:30am.

Ron Eggert, Clerk of Session