

Edgcumbe Presbyterian Church

Midweek Update

June 21, 2023

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is anything too difficult for the lord?

as we continue to look at the stories of abraham and sarah in genesis, this past week we read about the visitation by the 3 angels, and their pronouncement that sarah would have a son. overhearing this, sarah laughs. genesis says sarah "was no longer menstruating, so she laughed at herself thinking, i'm no longer able to have children and my husband is old" (gen 18:11-12). sarah is **us**. we tell ourselves stories *all of the time* about what is possible or what is not possible. and we have the receipts! see-my physical body no longer has the capacity—we are no longer menstruating! this is not possible!!!

however, the angels know better. they remind us all: **is anything too difficult for the lord?** with this simple pronouncement we are called immediately back into the truth of our lives. **our constant invitation is to offer back to god our will and our life.** aligned with the holy spirit, the doors will open as we take the next right step toward love. and this is true for our edgcumbe community as well. we join our prayers for discernment as to what god is doing with edgcumbe presbyterian....giving back to god the gift of this community so that we can be a blessing in god's realm.

the invitation for each of us from the angel visitation is to let the comfort and surety of god's will to soak into the marrow of our bones: **is anything too difficult for the lord??** and when we step into our lives, we remember that it is god who is doing this in us—it is not us who are doing the work. **christ is always the how....** we are never alone. the holy spirit is enlivening us for god's will to be done..... and all that is asked is our little willingness. ♡

*Holy Spirit, you be in charge, and we will follow you,
trusting that your direction leads to peace!!*



Summer Worship Schedule

Our plan for this Sunday is to worship outdoors in the chair circle under the maple. However, there is a 40% chance of rain, so if the weather is questionable, we will move inside.

Whew!!! We harvested Garlic Mustard!!!

Thank you to all the garlic mustard angels who have helped harvest the garlic mustard out of the backwoods these past weeks! With our work this year, we have made another **great stride** toward the mitigation of this invasive on the property!!

The next area of focus will be on **burdock** (see photo) because these plants are expanding their leaf girth, and have not—as of yet—formed their thistles. These are a bit more rigorous to extract, involving a shovel straight down along their singular thick taproot, and removing the plant. If you could joyfully join the process, please connect with Pastor Luna about finding a time to meet! So grateful for everyone's help!! 🙏



Today is the LAST DAY to RSVP for Carol

Schweickhardt's Celebration of Life Open House

Carol's family has set the date for a gathering and celebration of her life. It will be on Friday, July 7, from 2-6pm, at Holman's Table, which is next to the Saint Paul airport. RSVPs are required, so if you would like to attend, please contact Carol's daughter Melissa at melissa.nilsen@gmail.com to receive an invitation.

Also, that next Sunday, July 9, we will plan to integrate a short memorial service for Carol into our worship service, so that anyone who wants to attend such a ceremony is welcome to attend.

Sharing Photos of Carol Schweickhardt

We have received a request from Carol's family asking for photos of Carol to use at the Celebration of Life gathering. If you have digital or physical photos of Carol, can you please reach out to her daughter Heidi, at heidi.schweickhardt@gmail.com. Please send the digital photos by June 30th, and physical photos could come with you to the celebration or given to Heidi before. Thank you for reaching out to Carol's family!! ❤️

Thank you's Received.....

"Dear Church Members, Thank you so much for allowing me to use the church space to celebrate my highschool graduation. Edgumbe has given me so many amazing memories and

I am so glad I get to make more during my celebration. I appreciate all of your love and support!" ~Lilly LeClair ♡

"Dear EPC, Fred and I echo Lilly's sentiments! Our sweet little church holds so many wonderful memories for us!! We are truly blessed and grateful to be surrounded by such an awesome community! Thank you so much for all you do!" ♡Fred and Belinda Clary

June Mission

The June mission is Plaster House where the Eggerts volunteered for 7 years, Ingrid as a teacher and Ron as a doctor. Plaster House provides outreach, preoperative care, surgery and postoperative care and rehabilitation for children with cleft lip/palate, hydrocephalus, spina bifida, skeletal fluorosis, club foot, burn scar contracture and osteomyelitis. Over 1000 children were cared for in 2022 for free. Ingrid and Ron will talk about Plaster House on Sunday June 11 during worship.



The Plaster House

Building & Grounds Updates

Two projects have unfolded over the past weeks that we wanted to celebrate with you all.

- Jay & Rich have been doing several helpful jobs around the church, including door repair, outdoor watering improvements, and toilet maintenance. But their showcase project is a major clean-up and organization of the basement—go so far as to clean out the crawl spaces! If you haven't been to the basement for a while, stop down there sometime before or after worship and you will be amazed.
- Earlier this summer the mower deck on our 13-year-old riding mower cut it's last blade of grass. While we considered getting a brand new mower (around \$5000), Dean thought he would be able to install a new deck (for \$1400). The deck was ordered and delivered, and Dean switched out the old for the new, with an assist from Pastor Phil, on a hot Sunday afternoon. Ron, our primary mower driver, reports a huge improvement.

Thank you, Jay and Rich and Dean, and everyone who helps good things happen at EPC!