

Edgcumbe Presbyterian Church

Midweek Update

July 12, 2023



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Life Lessons from Carol

This past Sunday, we held our...probably final...memorial service for Carol Schweickhardt. Our congregation was joined by family and quilting friends and faraway folk like Angelie for a sweet service of remembrance and laughter and tears and singing. On the one hand, we celebrated Carol's life and mourned her death. On the other hand, we do what we always do by reminding each other that nothing can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus. The trees and the wind and the butterflies all joined us in worship.

Several themes emerged during the service of things that we learned from Carol in our precious time together. Here are a few of those themes:

- **Celebrate imperfection.** In her crafting or quilting or singing solos on Zoom, Carol would choose adventure and fun and even messiness over the need to have everything look perfect. One of her favorite things to say was: "To do art, you need to get messy."
- **Sometimes you don't need a plan.** If you noticed, Carol would often say the first thing that came into her head. How refreshing! Or she would start a major art project without knowing how she wanted it to turn out. Carol certainly experienced anxiety and worry, but she mostly embodied a spirit of trust and adventurousness in her daily life and decisions. "What's fun?" and "What's meaningful?" were more meaningful questions to her than, "How are we supposed to do this?"
- **Choose life and love and connections.** Carol was a generous and even profligate (*recklessly extravagant or wasteful in the use of resources*) welcomer. She loved getting together with other people to...quilt, go bowling, sing, drum, tap dance, drink soda in her backyard, you name it. Carol's face would light up when she saw you. She invited a pizza delivery guy into worship. She liked having space to herself but she LOVED people.

Carol's life had themes. Yours does too. How are you inspired by Carol, and what themes do you want to live out in the world today?

Up-coming Worship Schedule

- Sunday, July 16 - Indoor worship including the ordination of Michelle Trebtoske
- Sunday, July 23 - Outdoor worship in Backwoods in a joint service with First Presbyterian, South St Paul

backwoods joy! a note from pastor luna

the lovely outcome of working in the backwoods as much as i have is noticing the extended community which is beginning experience the backwoods—from the montessori families, to the gentleman meditating in station 3, to a woman walking in solitary along the path....the community is finding and being with the backwoods! what joy!! 🌈



we have attended to most of the 2nd year burdock about to bloom, so we can shift again to the removal of buckthorn. if you could joyfully join the process of removing the various invasives, please connect with me about finding a time to meet, or go on your own...let the holy spirit guide your service! 🌈

want to support the backwoods ministry but don't want to remove the invasives? a new emerging opportunity is underway which is **hauling brush** to the county compost sites. there is now a growing pile of brush on the east side of the edgcumbe parking lot by the cottonwood trees which needs to be brought into the composite sites. might this be a joyful service opportunity you would like to engage in?? no instructions are needed, just load brush and unload at composite site, but feel free to talk to myself or pastor phil if you have any questions!!

July Mission

The July mission is Guild, a Minnesota not-for-profit organization that empowers those living with mental illness and/or experiencing long-term homelessness by helping them find the tools they need to lead stable, fulfilling lives in communities of their choosing. This is the organization where new elder Michelle Trebtoske works. On any given day, Guild serves nearly 900 individuals in the Twin Cities metro area. From mental health crisis services to street outreach, our team is ready to help in some of the toughest situations. Check out their website at guildservices.org.

Michelle adds: The money collected from Mission for Guild would go specifically to the Client Assistance Fund which helps clients with urgent monetary needs specific to life circumstances or emergencies that come up for them and their family. These funds go directly to a client who has a request.

Please designate any gifts: "July Mission" or "Guild"--thank you!

Concert in the Backwoods - July 29

Plan to come and invite friends and neighbors!



*Music in the
Back Woods*

**ENJOY A NIGHT OF LIVE MUSIC
IN THE BACKWOODS OF
EDGCUMBE PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH,
ST. PAUL, MN**

**Saturday, July 29, 2023
6:00 - 8:00 PM**

FEATURING:

- MOTHER BANJO
- CHRISTY MERRY
- FAITH BOBLETT
- YEV

Music in the BackWoods is an event to support the development of the Jessa Roquet Foundation and its mission. Suggested donation:\$10