Edgcumbe

Presbyterian Church

Midweek Update

April 9, 2025

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Holy Week

Every week is holy. Every single Sunday is an Easter celebration of new life and miracles and light and love. And: this coming week is the traditional Christian Holy Week, when we remember the events leading up to the death and resurrection of Jesus.

- This Sunday is **Fire Sunday**. Usually called "Palm Sunday" to celebrate Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem-this year we will end worship with a fire on our front patio to burn/release any grievances that we are holding on to. We will have a paper for a forgiveness exercise in preparation for this fire, but any of you is welcome to bring something from home that you feel ready to toss on the flames of forgiveness. After worship, anyone who wants to **join Edgcumbe Church** is being asked to attend a meeting with the Session.
- On **Maundy Thursday, April 17**, we will have a potluck meal and worship in the church sanctuary, starting at 6:00pm. This is a wonderful time of fellowship, followed by a short worship service built around Holden Evening Prayers. In this service, we allow our hearts to enter the darkness and the hope and the surrender of letting go, even to the point of death, trusting in the grace of Jesus Christ. Whether or not you can bring food to share, please join us.
- **Easter Sunday is April 20.** Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting? We gather again in the hope of resurrection, in the joy of singing together, in perfume of colorful mums, and in the embrace of God's love to set aside our ancient fears and remember together Who We Are!

Forgiveness

This Lent, we continue to explore the theme of forgiveness, using this simple exercise:

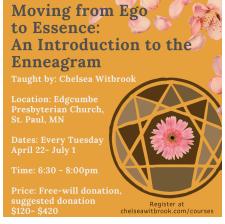
God is the love in which I forgive. God is the love in which I forgive you, _____.

Forgiveness is your doorway to salvation today. Forgiveness invites the Spirit to teach you everything you need to learn to lay all fear aside that love might find its rightful place in you. Forgiveness is the seen bed for miracles and true peace. Forgiveness creates enough space in

your heart, so that you can discern God's holy and perfect will for your life. Are you searching clarity for what you should do in your life? Start with forgiveness.

Looking Ahead

- Our Introduction to the Enneagram course led by Chelsa Witbrook begins on Tuesday April 22–so the time to register is Right Now. All you need to register is to go to: chelseawitbrook.com/courses. Spread the word!
- We are having an all-church **backwoods workday** on Saturday, May 10, at 10am. Many hands make light work, as they say, so your hands would be greatly appreciated.



April Mission: One Great Hour of Sharing

One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) is a Special Offering received through our denomination, the PC(USA) during Lent. The theme of this special offering is **Love Repairs the Breach.** In Isaiah 58, we are called to be repairers of the breach. Showing and sharing our love, is how we are repairing the breach in so many of our interactions in this world, opening the path to a new season of justice, freedom and peace.

Each gift to One Great Hour of Sharing supports efforts to:

- 1. Relieve hunger through the Presbyterian Hunger Program
- 2. Promote development through the Presbyterian Committee on the Self-Development of People, and
- 3. Assist in areas of disaster through Presbyterian Disaster Assistance.



One Great Hour supports programs in over 100 countries. Check out this video that highlights support programs in just three of these areas: Chicago with the Alliance for

Community Services; New Mexico with Tewa Women United to strengthen leadership and advocate for civil rights; and disaster assistance in Nepal. <u>TWO-MINUTE VIDEO CLIP HERE</u>

Please consider a mission donation during April. You can indicate "One Great Hour" or "April Mission" on the memo line with a check, or on the Give Now application on <u>www.epchurch.org</u>. Thanks for your support!