

Edgcumbe

Presbyterian Church

April 22, 2026

In this issue: Backwoods Workday Saturday, Ordinations Sunday, Reading Scripture, April Missions, Backwoods Restoration, May Events: Kafika House & Enneagram Class, Ty's Lyrics, ACIM Class Offering



- Join us this **Saturday** at **1pm** for a **Backwoods Workday** to continue the restoration work. Bring gloves, garden rake, buckets, long sleeves & pants, and water.
- Join us this **Sunday** for **ordination** of new elders Dean Grussendorf and Ratchet Mattison! 🎉

Which Part of Our Mind Do We Read Scripture With?

As we do our biblical work at Edgcumbe, one of the pieces we are learning to observe is this: Who/What is reading this passage?? Depending on if we are reading scripture from the separated/false self mind or from the At-One/True Self Mind, the meaning of a text can be radically different. In the very same passage! As we joined our Minds together to look at 1 Peter 1 this past Sunday, we saw where this dynamic can play out.

From a false self thought system, when we read "...a Father who judges all people..." (1 Pet 1:17), we inherently think and feel the separation between God and ourselves and immediately sense the fear and judgment that follows. However, when we rest in the Mind of the True Self, we hear how that word judges is actually the Greek word *krinonta*, which implies a distinguishing and discerning, and it untangles judgment and shame from the meaning. This dynamic is also true whenever we come upon the "blood of Christ" repeatedly used throughout scripture, which has been used to imply "the blood of Jesus sacrificed on the cross which is needed to appease an angry God because we were all beyond redemption." As I mentioned on Sunday, when I asked Holy Spirit how to understand this phrase, She showed me that the blood shows our **familial line** with Jesus, so it actually proves our **kinship** with him. So, when the True Self reads, "...you were liberated by the precious blood of Christ, like that of a flawless, spotless lamb," (1 Pet 1:19), we are invited to claim our likeness and kinship with Christ, and to know our innocence that Jesus represents.

As we move into this Easter Season, we continue to die to these beliefs and thoughts of separation, fear, guilt, death, and we resurrect into our One Mind which is the Peace of God beyond all understanding. Jesus, the angels, scripture's frequent message is "do not be afraid, I give you my Peace." This means whatever we are facing in our lives—right now—we have the peace of ages to re-mind and comfort and embolden us. I invite you to ****pause**** right now, and breathe

that truth in. The Kingdom of God is right here, right now. ***Breathe*** And we become the Peace of God, living into our lives and our communities, and we incarnate the Resurrected One to bless the world with God's healing, love and justice. This is who and what we are. And we live this out in our One Body!! Thanks be to God!! Joy to you!! Pastor Luna 🌀

April Mission: Pastors' Sabbatical Fund

Sabbatical Fundraising for the Month of April - written by Elder Chelsea Witbrook
Pastor Phil and Pastor Luna will be away on Sabbatical mid-July through mid-October. For the month of April, instead of donating to a typical "Mission," we're asking the congregation to support our Pastor's sabbatical expenses. Sabbatical is meant to be a time of rest, healing, learning, and joy, and our Pastors have some wonderful trips planned to accomplish exactly that! It also helps them renew their energy and creativity so they can continue this meaningful work in our EPC community, which will enrich the quality of our community experience as a whole.

If you donate, here's what you'd help make possible:

- Luna attending the Hymn Society Annual Conference in New Jersey-- so she can continue nurturing this vocation of hymn writing! (Also, Phil and Luna would drive out there, and road trips are fun, but expensive!)
- Phil and Luna attending the Enneagram Prison Project Camp in California. Meeting with fellow staff and Ambassadors in person - to rest and play would be such a joy! (Also, another LONG road trip!)
- Phil and Luna attending the Time and Space Week at Iona community in Scotland. This week will focus guided meditations and small group reflections on the rhythms of time and space, while resting in the Community's twice daily worship services ! (Plus, plane tickets and some time exploring Scotland)
- Phil and Luna attending the Holy Relationship Retreat and Soul Liberation in the Netherlands. This is an experience designed for couples. Since our pastors also happen to be married to each other, this investment in their relationship is good for us all! (Plus, flights and 3 nights in Amsterdam)
- Phil and Luna attending Relationships with the Essence and Virtues Workshop with Russ Hudson in St. Paul. Russ is a fantastic spiritual teacher and will certainly offer our pastors fodder for preaching and teaching.
- A GebbenGreen Family Weekend on the Superior Northshore with their children for a couple nights in a cabin.

Also this month the Mission Team organized opportunities to go to **Union Gospel Mission**. Three different teams of EPC folks gathered to serve a meal to men who are currently unhoused, and it was such a gift to learn about this program and meet the men. This is a photo from one of the shifts of EPC, with Ratchet, Tim, Rachel, Luna, and Jay.





Backwoods Restoration

Backwoods ecosystem restoration ministry has begun for the 2026 season! The EPC community has been working 10+ years removing various invasive species to the Backwoods. The land was once overtaken by various invasive species including buckthorn, burdock and garlic mustard, and by being unchecked for decades, was unbalanced and unhealthy for anything but these monocultures. A HUGE thank you to all who have joined in the restoration work in big and small

ways. It truly does take a village to steward the Backwoods! And now, our Backwoods' Meditation Path and Stations for reflection and prayer are welcoming not only people coming to the Edgumbe Presbyterian building, but is a destination for the neighborhood and school communities.

We will also have our first **All Community Backwoods Workday** on **Saturday April 25th** beginning at **1pm**. Please bring gloves, sturdy shoes and long sleeves as we do various tasks of stewardship.

Two May Events: Kafka House & Enneagram Class



May mission of the month and LUNCH at Eggerts' on May 7th

In May we will be supporting Kafka House in Tanzania, a mission familiar to many of us at EPC. (As many of you know, Ron and Ingrid Eggert have a long history with this organization). Sarah Rejman, Founder of Kafka House, will be in the Twin Cities in May, and we are all invited to meet her at the Eggerts'

home at noon on May 7th. Their address is 1868 Simpson Street, Falcon Heights, MN 55113. Please email Ron and Ingrid at ireggert@gmail.com and let them know you'll be there!

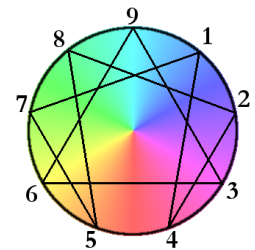
Enneagram Intro Workshop: Differentiating Ego and Essence facilitated by Chelsea Witbrook

Saturday May 9, 2026

Time: 1:00 - 4:30pm

Location: Edgumbe Presbyterian Church, in the "Parlor" room

Suggested Donation: anywhere between \$20-\$100 *(No one will be turned away due to lack of funds.)*



Brush up on the Enneagram! Learn about all 9 personality types, how to find your own type, and how to differentiate between your Ego and your Essence.

In the process, you will build understanding and empathy for yourself and others.

Bring your family and friends! This is a wonderful way to connect and strengthen bonds.

Whether you're an experienced Enneagram student or brand new, you will benefit from this

exploration.

This workshop will be interactive, informative, and FUN! Anyone age 16+ is welcome.

Register [HERE](#).

Lyrics to Song Ty Sang on Sunday

Thank you again to Ty and Emma who gave us "Can I Imagine" this Sunday. Here are lyrics of the song:

Can I imagine, can I imagine
Can I imagine, can I imagine

Can I imagine, can I imagine
That I lack for nothing
That I can be guided
That I can finally rest
Can I imagine, can I imagine

Can I imagine, can I imagine
What if you were really worthy of love
What if you were already home
What if you were really worthy of love
What if you were already home, home, home, home

If you wanna live in love
Then you gotta die to fear
If you wanna live in love
Then you gotta die to fear, fear, fear, fear ohhhohhhhhhhhhh oh

A Year-long Course in Miracles Class Offering

Some folks in the EPC community have asked the Pastors about finding a community to further study A Course in Miracles. There is a class offering beginning in May taught by Friend of EPC Amber SpritHorse. The Total Transformation Class is

"a 52-week program that comprehensively covers all topics ranging from the ego and the initial thought of separation, to "mythical me" and its idols and defenses against awakening to the Love we are, to forgiveness and accepting the Atonement. We discuss literal healing and miracles and offer tools and prayers to make the mandatory switch from "mythical me" to Holy Self. Best of all, you undertake this journey with like-minded, mighty companions and begin practicing the 7 Keys of Authentic Communication and the Holy Relationship. Those who have already graduated have testified that this course is life-changing and fundamental to their awakening."

Amber is one of Pastor Luna's mentors, has visited Edgcumbe, and she will be facilitating the exact class that Pastor Luna taught last year. If you feel guided to explore more about this possibility, this [link](#) tells more about this opportunity.