

Edgecomb Community Church

United Church of Christ

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FB/EdgecombCongochurch



Sunday, March 1, 2020

Scripture: Genesis 2:15-17, 3:1-7 & Matthew 4:1-11

Sermon: What did you give up for Lent?

We are all tempted to ignore God's guidance - to go our own way, and to hide our sin and brokenness when we fail. But, God's gracious and extravagant offer is forgiveness, right relationship with God, and guidance on a pathway to life. The three sins which have always plagued human beings –greed for wealth, lust for power and unlimited satisfaction of our appetites also tempted Christ. In his overcoming these temptations, we find inspiration and guidance for our own lives. The challenge is to have the courage and integrity to recognize our brokenness and admit that we need both forgiveness and empowerment to become the people God wants us to be.

March

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| Sun. March 1 | First Sunday in Lent – Worship at 9:30 a.m. Communion Sunday |
| Tues. March 3 | Coffee & Conversation at the Edgecomb Green at 9:30 a.m. |
| Weds. March 4 | <i>Celtic Prayer Service</i> at 5:30 p.m. |
| Thurs. March 5 | Bible Study at 10:30 a.m.
Busy Hands meets at 1:00 p.m. |
| Sun. March 8 | Second Sunday of Lent - Worship at 9:30 a.m. |
| Tues. March 10 | Community Lunch at Noon
Church Council meeting at 4:00 p.m. |
| Thur. March 12 | Bible Study at 10:30 a.m. |
| Sun. March 15 | Third Sunday in Lent – Worship at 9:30 a.m. |
| Tues. March 17 | Community Lunch at Noon |
| Thurs. March 19 | Bible Study at 10:30 a.m.
Busy Hands meets at 1:00 p.m. |

Sun. March 22 **Fourth Sunday in Lent** – *Celtic Prayer Service* at 9:30 a.m.
Tues. March 24 **Community Lunch** at Noon
Thurs. March 26 Bible Study at 10:30 a.m.
Sun. March 29 **Fifth Sunday in Lent**- Worship at 9:30 a.m.

Jonathan Martin, 21st century

"But that's one way we can identify the devil's voice: It always plays to our fears. It is the voice that tells us we must do something to prove who we are, to prove that we're worthy, to prove that we are who God has already declared us to be. When we know we are loved by God, we don't have to prove anything to anyone. There is nothing we can do to make ourselves more beloved than we are."

*******Busy Hands meets on the 1st & the 3rd Thursday of the months from 1-3 p.m.

Edgecomb Community Lunch is held on the 2nd, 3rd, 4th Tuesdays of the month at 12 Noon at Edgecomb Community Church, UCC. All are welcome.

The Edgecomb Community Thrift shop hours are Tuesdays, 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., Thursdays, 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. and Saturdays, 9:00 to 12 Noon.

Henri J.M. Nouwen, 20th century

"Over the years, I have come to realize that the greatest trap in our life is not success, popularity, or power, but self-rejection....When we have come to believe in the voices that call us worthless and unlovable, then success, popularity, and power are easily perceived as attractive solutions....Self-rejection is the greatest enemy of the spiritual life because it contradicts the sacred voice that calls us the 'Beloved.' Being the Beloved constitutes the core truth of our existence."

A Prayer for Lenten Grace A Prayer for Lenten Grace

Loving God,
During the sacred season of Lent, bring me closer to you.
Prepare a place in my home and heart for silence and solitude,
so that I may re-discover the grace of a prayer-full life.
Help me to fast from those things that threaten the well-being of
body and soul and remind me of the grace of simplicity.
Enlarge my heart so that I give to those in need and, in so doing,
re-discover the grace of gratitude and generosity.
May this season be a grace-filled time to rekindle
my love for and faith in you.

Amen.