

Edgecomb Community Church

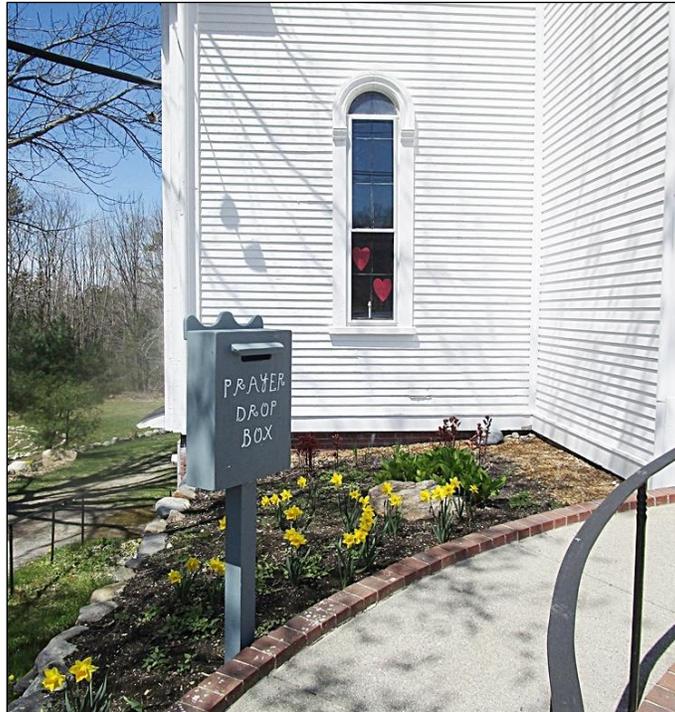
United Church of Christ

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Hearts & Prayers

Sixth Sunday of Easter, May 17, 2020

Scripture: John 14:15-21

Sermon: "I will not leave you orphaned"

John 14:15-21 New Revised Standard Version (NRSV)

The Promise of the Holy Spirit

¹⁵ "If you love me, you will keep my commandments. ¹⁶ And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. ¹⁷ This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you. ¹⁸ "I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. ¹⁹ In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. ²⁰ On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. ²¹ They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me; and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them."

We'll be worshipping together on Zoom at 9:30 a.m. on Sunday, May 17, 2020. All are welcome to join us. I'll be sending out the Zoom link soon.

“There is a LIGHT in this world. A healing spirit more powerful than any darkness we may encounter. We sometime lose sight of this force when there is suffering, and too much pain. Then suddenly, the spirit will emerge through the lives of ordinary people who hear a call and answer in extraordinary ways.”

Richard Attenborough, 21st century

Grace and Susan Greene sent the following idea from Grace’s school. Let’s give it a try!

Service: Each week the school will be working on a different community project to help those around us, give appreciation to those working to fight the pandemic, and bring the community together in tough times.

- This week we are continuing a project to beautify our neighborhoods and our communities by spreading some joy. You may have seen “Grace Rocks” around town before, this week you will create your own. Choose one or more rocks of any size, decorate with a method of your choice, “hide” it somewhere to bring joy to those who find it. Be mindful of staying distant - I’ve seen them “hidden” on hiking trails or out and about in town.
 - Decorating Technique Ideas:
 - Paint
 - Sharpies
 - Nail Polish
 - Melted Crayons

Susan also sent information about this fundraising event. She thought it might be fun to hear some live music. Here is the link to the Portland Symphony “Solo Together” concert at 5:30 p.m. today: <https://portlandsymphony.org/event/solo-together/>

A correction: It was Hildegard of Bingen who thought that God’s favorite color might be green, not Julian of Norwich as mentioned last week.

"I read a wonderful quote from the twelfth century mystic, Hildegard of Bingen, that gave me pause. She described the Holy Spirit as 'the Greening Power of God.' Of course she did not intend that in the context that we might mean by "Greening" something, that is, making it more environmentally friendly. She meant, I believe, that as plants are greened by water, sunlight, and soil, the human soul is 'greened' by the Holy Spirit's presence in one's life. Because of the Holy Spirit the human soul can 'flower and bear good fruit.'"

Sandy Olson, Alternatives for Simple Living, 20th century

Blessing and peace, Kate