

THE COMMUNITY CONNECTION

PUBLISHED BY THE EDGECOMB COMMUNITY CHURCH, UCC

*"To bring together our communities in spirituality
and loving service to humankind"*

A monthly newsletter dedicated to the dissemination of information from and for the people of Edgcomb and the Edgcomb Community Church



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EDGECOMB COMMUNITY CHURCH

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WORSHIP SERVICE

Please join us for our livestreamed services which are available at

9:30 a.m. each Sunday using link:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCUAqYh6UMZyucMGNL21xqgA/live>

To watch any previous service at any other time use link:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCUAqYh6UMZyucMGNL21xqgA>

We are currently preparing the church and ourselves for returning to in-person worship. Guidelines are being created to Keep us all safe.

THE COMMUNITY CONNECTION

Editor: Marjorie DiVece

**News for the June edition is due
by 5 p.m. Tuesday, May 25,
at edgcomb.church@gmail.com**

**If you would like to receive this
newsletter via email, please send your**

Email address to:

edgcomb.church@gmail.com

Greetings Neighbors and Friends!

Welcome to the first edition of *The Community Connection*, Edgcomb Community Church's monthly newsletter. After more than a year of wearing facemasks and social distancing our hope is this newsletter will help us stay connected as we continue to move through this pandemic. During these challenging times we believe *The Community Connection* is a wonderful way to share information about the "happenings" in the Town of Edgcomb as well as in our extended local communities.

Some questions for you! Is there a special meeting or celebration you want your neighbors to know about? Do you enjoy writing poetry? Have you read a new book that you can recommend by writing a review? Do you have a story or a remembrance from the past you have always wanted to tell? Do you enjoy taking photographs? Do you... you get the idea!

If you said YES to any of these questions, we hope you will consider *The Community Connection* as a way of sharing and staying connected with your community. We also want to hear your suggestions, thoughts, and ideas, too!

For further information, to share ideas, or if you are interested in submitting information for the June 2021 edition of *The Community Connection*, please contact our editor, Marjorie DiVece. Marjorie may be reached by email at edgcomb.church@gmail.com, or by phone at 207-882-6338. We do request all submissions be received by the 4th Tuesday of the month for your information to appear in the next month's newsletter.

Dear neighbors and friends, we hope you will join us in this new adventure and endeavor and help us stay connected with each other. Thank you!

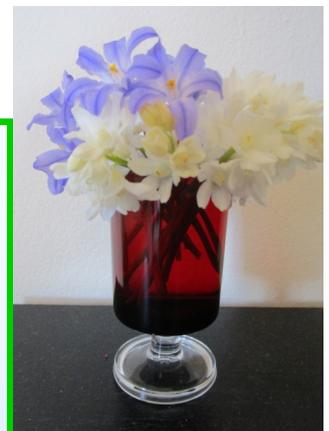
Blessings,
Rev. Kate Pinkham

*"Our humanity comes to its fullest bloom in giving.
We become beautiful people when we give whatever
we can give:*

*a smile, a handshake, a kiss, an embrace, a word of
love, a present,*

a part of our life...all of our life."

- Henri J.M. Nouwen



Edgecomb Town Meeting

Annual Town Meeting—Friday, May 21, 1 PM
The Town Warrant is available on the Town of Edgecomb website.

The vote on Edgecomb's 2021 Warrant, which will be conducted by referendum ballot again this year because of ongoing restrictions by Maine's CDC on large group gatherings, will occur on May 21 at the Town Hall beginning at 1 p.m. Residents can also obtain an Absentee ballot beginning April 21 by contacting the Town Clerk, Claudia Coffin.

Church Calendar

- May 2 5th Sunday of Easter and Communion, 9:30 AM— Rev. Kate Pinkham
- May 9 6th Sunday of Easter, 9:30 AM – Rev. Kate Pinkham
- May 16 7th Sunday of Easter, 9:30 AM – Rev. Kate Pinkham
- May 23 Pentecost Sunday - Rev. Larry Krewson
- May 24 Church Council Meeting, 5:30 PM on Zoom
- May 30 Celtic Prayer Service, 9:30 AM – Rev. Kate Pinkham

Edgecomb Eddy School News

- May 4 - PTA Meeting 6-7 p.m via Zoom
- May 10 - School Committee Meeting 6-8 p.m.
- June 1 - PTA Meeting 6-7 p.m. via Zoom
- June 7 - School Committee Meeting 6-8 p.m.

Edgecomb Eddy Elementary is pleased to open Pre-Kindergarten and Kindergarten registration for the 2021/2022 school year.

The Pre-Kindergarten program is offered to all children who live in Edgecomb, Alna, and Westport. Children who turn four on or before October 15, 2021 have priority for registration. If there are remaining spaces, we will “wait list” students who turn five with birthdays between July 1 and October 15. Families of “wait list” students will be contacted by August 14 regarding registration confirmation.

The Kindergarten program is offered to all children who live in Edgecomb, Alna, and Westport. Children who turn five on or before October 15, 2021 are eligible to enroll in Kindergarten.

Parents who are interested in enrolling their students or have questions may call 882-5515 or email Principal Michaud (imichaud@aos98schools.org).

May Birthdays

Sue Sikes	15
Carolyn Potter	27

June Birthdays

Sam Soule	7
Susan Greene	9
Bob Zak	10
Ruth Sasala	10
Jean Krause	17
John Potter	22
Henry Boudin	27



Red Flag Fire Danger

Due to the extremely dry conditions, often with high winds, Fire Chief Potter says there will be no burn permits issued until further notice. Thank you for your cooperation.



History of Mother's Day

{from [History.com/topics/holidays/mothers-day](https://www.history.com/topics/holidays/mothers-day)}

Celebrations of mothers and motherhood can be traced back to the ancient Greeks and Romans, who held festivals in honor of the mother goddesses Rhea and Cybele, but the clearest modern precedent for Mother's Day is the early Christian festival known as "Mothering Sunday."

Once a major tradition in the United Kingdom and parts of Europe, this celebration fell on the fourth Sunday in Lent and was originally seen as a time when the faithful would return to their "mother church" — the main church in the vicinity of their home — for a special service.

Over time the Mothering Sunday tradition shifted into a more secular holiday, and children would present their mothers with flowers and other tokens of appreciation. This custom eventually faded in popularity before merging with the American Mother's Day in the 1930s and 1940s.

Ann Reeves Jarvis and Julia Ward Howe

The origins of Mother's Day as celebrated in the United States date back to the 19th century. In the years before the Civil War, Ann Reeves Jarvis of West Virginia helped start "Mothers' Day Work Clubs" to teach local women how to properly care for their children.

These clubs later became a unifying force in a region of the country still divided over the Civil War. In 1868 Jarvis organized "Mothers' Friendship Day," at which mothers gathered with former Union and Confederate soldiers to promote reconciliation.

Another precursor to Mother's Day came from the abolitionist and suffragette Julia Ward Howe. In 1870 Howe wrote the "Mother's Day Proclamation," a call to action that asked mothers to unite in promoting world peace. In 1873 Howe campaigned for a "Mother's Peace Day" to be celebrated every June 2.

Other early Mother's Day pioneers include Juliet Calhoun Blakely, a temperance activist who inspired a local Mother's Day in Albion, Michigan, in the 1870s. The duo of Mary Towles Sasseen and Frank Hering, meanwhile, both worked to organize a Mothers' Day in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Some have even called Hering "the father of Mothers' Day."

Anna Jarvis

The official Mother's Day holiday arose in the 1900s as a result of the efforts of Anna Jarvis, daughter of Ann Reeves Jarvis. Following her mother's 1905 death, Anna Jarvis conceived of Mother's Day as a way of honoring the sacrifices mothers made for their children.

After gaining financial backing from a Philadelphia department store owner named John Wanamaker, in May 1908 she organized the first official Mother's Day celebration at a Methodist church in Grafton, West Virginia. That same day also saw thousands of people attend a Mother's Day event at one of Wanamaker's retail stores in Philadelphia.

Following the success of her first Mother's Day, Jarvis — who remained unmarried and childless her whole life — resolved to see her holiday added to the national calendar. Arguing that American holidays were biased toward male achievements, she started a massive letter writing campaign to newspapers and prominent politicians urging the adoption of a special day honoring motherhood.

By 1912 many states, towns and churches had adopted Mother's Day as an annual holiday, and Jarvis had established the Mother's Day International Association to help promote her cause. Her persistence paid off in 1914 when President Woodrow Wilson signed a measure officially establishing the second Sunday in May as Mother's Day.



Happy Mother's Day



Some lesser-known facts about Memorial Day

(Taken from [history.com/news/8-things-you-may-not-know-about-memorial-day](https://www.history.com/news/8-things-you-may-not-know-about-memorial-day))

Memorial Day and its traditions may have ancient roots – While the first commemorative Memorial Day events weren't held in the United States until the late 19th century, the practice of honoring those who have fallen in battle dates back thousands of years. The ancient Greeks and Romans held annual days of remembrance for loved ones (including soldiers) each year, festooning their graves with flowers and holding public festivals and feasts in their honor. In Athens, public funerals for fallen soldiers were held after each battle, with the remains of the dead on display for public mourning before a funeral procession took them to their internment in the Kerameikos, one of the city's most prestigious cemeteries. One of the first known public tributes to war dead was in 431 B.C., when the Athenian general and statesman Pericles delivered a funeral oration praising the sacrifice and valor of those killed in the Peloponnesian War – a speech that some have compared in tone to Abraham Lincoln's Gettysburg Address.

One of the earliest commemorations was organized by recently freed slaves – As the Civil War neared its end, thousands of Union soldiers, held as prisoners of war, were herded into a series of hastily assembled camps in Charleston, South Carolina. Conditions at one camp, a former racetrack near the city's Citadel, were so bad that more than 250 prisoners died from disease or exposure and were buried in a mass grave behind the track's grandstand.

Three weeks after the Confederate surrender, an unusual procession entered the former camp: On May 1, 1865, more than 1,000 recently freed slaves, accompanied by regiments of the U.S. Colored Troops (including the Massachusetts 54th Infantry) and a handful of white Charlestonians, gathered in the camp to consecrate a new, proper burial site for the Union dead. The group sang hymns, gave readings and distributed flowers around the cemetery, which they dedicated to the "Martyrs of the Race Course."

The holiday's "founder" - In May 1868, General John A. Logan, the commander-in-chief of the Union veterans' group known as the Grand Army of the Republic, issued a decree that May 30 should become a nationwide day of commemoration for the more than 620,000 soldiers killed in the recently ended Civil War. On Decoration Day, as Logan dubbed it, Americans should lay flowers and decorate the graves of the war dead "whose bodies now lie in almost every city, village and hamlet churchyard in the land."

According to legend, Logan chose May 30 because it was a rare day that didn't fall on the anniversary of a Civil War battle, though some historians believe the date was selected to ensure that flowers across the country would be in full bloom.

It didn't become a federal holiday until 1971 – Americans embraced the notion of "Decoration Day" immediately. That first year, more than 27 states held some sort of ceremony, with more than 5,000 people in attendance at a ceremony at Arlington National Cemetery. By 1890, every former state of the Union had adopted it as an official holiday. But for more than 50 years, the holiday was used to commemorate those killed just in the Civil War, not in any other American conflict. It wasn't until America's entry into World War I that the tradition was expanded to include those killed in all wars, and Memorial Day was not officially recognized nationwide until the 1970s, with America deeply embroiled in the Vietnam War.

From Decoration Day to an official Memorial Day – Although the term Memorial Day was used beginning in the 1880s, the holiday was officially known as Decoration Day for more than a century, when it was changed by federal law. Four years later, the Uniform Monday Holiday Act of 1968 finally went into effect, moving Memorial Day from its traditional observance on May 30 (regardless of the day of the week), to a set day – the last Monday in May.



May 2021

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

						 1 World Labyrinth Day at Edgcomb Community Church 1-3 p.m.
2 9:30 a.m. Worship Live-streamed at Edgcomb Community Church	3 Edgcomb Selectmen's Meeting 6 p.m.	4 PTClub Meeting 6-7 p.m via Zoom	5	6 Edgcomb Planning Board Meeting 6:30 p.m. via zoom	7	8
9 9:30 a.m. Worship Live-streamed at ECC <i>Mother's Day</i>	10 Eddy School Committee Meeting 6-8 p.m.	11	12	13	14	15
16 9:30 a.m. Worship Live-streamed at ECC	17 Edgcomb Selectmen's Meeting 6 p.m.	18	19 Schmid Advisory Committee Meeting 7 p.m. via zoom	20 Edgcomb Planning Board Meeting 6:30 p.m. via zoom	21 Edgcomb Annual Town Meeting Referendum 1 p.m. at Town Hall	22
23 9:30 a.m. Worship Live-streamed at ECC with Rev. Larry Krewson	24 ECC Council Meeting 5:30 p.m. via zoom	25	26	27	28	29
30 Celtic Prayer Service, 9:30 AM – Rev. Kate Pinkham Live-streamed at ECC	31 					