

# 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



Volume 3

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## EDGECOMB COMMUNITY CHURCH

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### Church Coordinator

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### WORSHIP SERVICE

**The church is now open for live services at 9:30 a.m. with coffee hour following the service at 10:30 a.m.**

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>

### ECC WEBSITE

[www.edgcombchurch.org](http://www.edgcombchurch.org)

## THE COMMUNITY CONNECTION

Editor: Marjorie DiVece

**News for the January edition is due by  
5 p.m. Friday, December 22,  
at [edgcomb.church@gmail.com](mailto:edgcomb.church@gmail.com)**

**If you would like to receive this  
newsletter via email, please send your  
Email address to:  
[edgcomb.church@gmail.com](mailto:edgcomb.church@gmail.com)**

Dear Members and friends of the ECC,

The Search Committee members want to take some time to update you on what has been happening at our church since Rev. Pinkham's retirement and what the immediate future looks like.

We continue to do business as usual: luncheons, thrift shop, mission outreach, etc. We now have live music twice a month. We will continue the tradition of a Christmas Eve Candlelight service.

We have had and continue to have supply pastors that are guaranteed to wow for sure. If you have not been to worship these last several months or have not watched on YouTube, you are missing quite the experience. And speaking of missing, if you haven't been to Sunday worship for whatever reason, we want you to know that **WE MISS YOU!**

The Search committee continues to be diligent in seeking someone to lead us forward. We want to do justice to all your suggestions and that includes a strong presence in the pulpit as well as someone who is committed to her/his faith and well versed in the Bible.

While we continue to seek this person, for the month of December, Rev. Dr. Janet Peck (Pastor Janet) will be with us this Christmas season. She is so inspiring. And she will be with us 2 weeks a month beginning in January (except for the month of February). We also have commitments from Rev. Char Corbett on a number of Sundays until May. And she is another awe-inspiring pastor. Any Sundays Pastor Janet or Rev. Char are not filling the pulpit, we can assure you that we have some other dynamic preachers lined up. Please come and join us and see for yourself.

So, we ask for prayers and patience as we continue in our search. Blessings to all of you and we hope to see you soon at worship.

The ECC Search Committee,  
Marjorie DiVece, Gail Boudin, Jean Krause  
Dick O'Connor, Sue Sikes, Madeline Olney

# Church Calendar

December 3—2nd Sunday of Advent.  
Worship Service at 9:30 am with  
guest Rev. Dr. Janet Peck

December 5—Tuesday Lunch at noon.  
Last one until April.

December 7—Bible Study via zoom at  
10:30 am

December 7—Hanukkah begins at sun  
down

December 10—3rd Sunday of Advent  
Worship at 9:30 AM with guest  
Rev. Dr. Janet Peck and live mu  
sic with Kate McShane and Jesse  
Heasly.

December 14—Bible Study via zoom  
10:30 a.m.

December 17 —4th Sunday of Advent  
Worship at 9:30 AM with guest  
Rev. Dr. Janet Peck

December 21—Bible Study via zoom  
10:30 a.m.

December 21—First Day of winter

December 24 —No morning worship.  
Christmas Eve Service at 5:00  
p.m. with live music from Kate  
McShane and Jesse Heasly.

December 25 —Christmas Day

December 26—Kwanza begins

December 31—1st Sunday of Christmas.  
Online sermon: [asermonforevery  
sunday.com](http://asermonforevery<br/>sunday.com)



## Tuesday Lunch

Lunch is served the 1st and 3rd  
Tuesdays of each month. Free of  
charge - donations accepted.

**December 5**—Seafood Chow-  
der, Corn Chowder for non-seafood  
eaters, Cheese Biscuits, Salad, Car-  
rot Cake

Tuesday lunches will discon-  
tinue after December 5 until April of  
next spring. However, the church  
vestry will be open the 1st and 3rd  
Tuesdays from 10 a.m. to noon to  
access the Food Pantry and to sit  
and visit with one another while en-  
joying a cup of coffee.



### December Birthdays

Jean Sewall	6
Marjorie DiVece	9
George Malone	16
Sofia Chase	18
George Greene	22

### January Birthdays

Calla Wells	4
Maryjane Wells	9
Grace Greene	30
Phil DiVece	31



# Christmas Sale a Great Success!

A huge thank you to all who participated in this year's Holiday Sale. The totals are as follows:

Raffles	\$151	
Baked Goods	\$365.35	Pie Sale \$926
Busy Hands	\$585	
Fuel Assistance	\$848.05	
Thrift Shop (5-days)	\$864.93	

For a **Grand Total** of \$3,740.23 (a \$500 increase over last year.)

The Thrift Store's last day was Tuesday, November 26, when things were boxed up for the reopening in April. All donations are to be held back until then as there is no storage at the church for them. Thank you all for a great year at the Thrift Store.

**Raffle Winners are:** CJ won the Teardrop Door Decoration; Pam Frenier the Pine Cone Wreath; Cecilia Genthner the Stonewall Basket; Janet Hooper the Wooden Cross; Pam Soule the Coach pocketbook; and Lindsay the Coach Necklace.



Baked Goods for everyone's sweet tooth abound



Busy Hands filled two tables with grand handmade items for everyone on your Christmas list.



*Please join us for a traditional*  
**Christmas Eve Service**  
*Sunday, December 24 at 5 p.m.*

*A service of Lessons and Carols  
ending with candlelight while sing-  
ing Silent Night.*

*Music provided by Katie  
McShane and Jesse Heasley.*

*Please bring your friends and  
neighbors to welcome the Christ  
child this Advent season.*



## **Special guest at Tuesday Lunch**

At Tuesday's Community Lunch held on November 7th Medicare Specialist Renata Lahner was invited to come and have lunch. She visited with the



people and answered any Medicare questions or concerns they might have had. It is always helpful to have resources for complex situations. We greatly appreciate her knowledge and expertise.



Katie McShane and Jesse Heasley, musicians for the Edgecomb Community Church's Sunday services the 2nd and 4th Sundays of each month through March. Come Christmas Eve to enjoy their music.

# Mission Outreach

The Church recently held a Take-Out Baked Bean Supper to raise funds for the Edgecomb Fire Dept. Gail Boudin, Mission Outreach Chairperson, presented Roy Potter, Edgecomb Fire Chief, and fireman John Potter, Jr. with a check for \$430 last week to put towards their UTV (Utility Terrain Vehicle) fund. Our small local church doing great works for its community.



A second Narcan Training Class was held on Wednesday, November 15. Twelve participants took the class and obtained a free Narcan kit. Response has been so positive that Edgecomb Community Church will offer more classes in the future.

Mission Outreach will again be giving the residents of Edgecomb Green special Christmas baskets with lots of special niceties along with everyday necessities. It gives them such a thrill to receive these special packages from their neighbors at Edgecomb Community Church.

## December Delights



**December 1-3**—Wiscasset Holiday Marketfest 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

**December 1**—Wiscasset Parade of Lights 5-7 p.m. Santa arrives.

**December 1**—Boothbay Region Garden Club **Holiday Festival** at St. Columba's Church on Emery Lane, Boothbay Harbor 10-3.

**December 2**—Holiday Fair and Lunch at Boothbay Harbor Methodist Church 9-1:30.

**December 2**—Children's Holiday Market at Wiscasset Public Library 10-12.

**December 2** and weekends through the month—**Garden's Aglow** at Botanical Gardens in Boothbay 4-8:30 p.m.

**December 2,3**—Sheepscot Valley Chorus **concert** 3 p.m. at Boothbay Harbor Congregational Church.

**December 3, 9, 10, 16, 17**—North Pole Express at Boothbay Region Railway Museum 10:45 a.m.—4 p.m.

**December 8**—Bright Night Bath 5-8 p.m. Late night shopping and Candyland, downtown Bath.

**December 16, 17**—Gingerbread Spectacular at Boothbay Harbor Opera House 11-4.

**December 16**—Santa's Day in downtown Bath 8a.m. to 1 p.m.

**December 24**—Christmas Eve Candlelight Service at Edgecomb Community Church 5 p.m.



# In Memory of Ruth Bryant

Tuesday, November 21, 2023, we lost an icon of the church — Ruth Bryant became a member back in November of 1942 along with her parents and brother and sister. Over the next 81 years Ruth served the church in just about every capacity from Sunday School teacher to Choir Director and Organist. She was a member of the Ladies Aid for years, even serving as President and Treasurer for many of those year. She served on just about every committee, too. Ruth always contributed to the church events, making casseroles for the church suppers, attending the suppers, and the Tuesday Lunches of late. If she couldn't physically help out, she always made a donation and gave moral support. Ruth kept several years' worth of church historical information, even writing a brief history of the church which has been placed in the church archives.

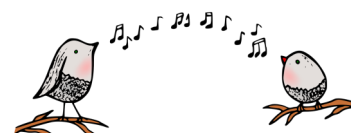
Her warm smile and kind laugh will be sorely missed. She will always be remembered fondly and may her spirit watch over us all.

Ruth's graveside service was held Thursday, November 30, at 1 p.m. at the No. Edgecomb Cemetery with family and friends. Rev. Charlene Corbett officiated. A reception followed at the Edgecomb Community Church.

Ruth is in front row during Bicentennial 1980



SHOWN IN COLORFUL CLOTHING OF AN EARLIER TIME, (a pity this could not be in full color) at last Sunday's Church service are, standing, left to right, Gail Boudin, Joan Myatt, Marjorie DiVece, Gloria Bailey and Maureen Blake. In front, from left to right are: Meredith Garey, Dawn Garey, Abigail Boudin, Ruth Bryant, Jennifer Boudin, Pam Bolint and Seth Bolint. (John Chase Photo)



Ruth's 90th, 3-17-21



Ruth in choir 1970 (far left)



Ruth, teacher, 1981.

# The Little Corner Food Pantry

The Little Corner Pantry is seeing a lot of activity this year. We always welcome any donations of money or non-perishable foods. Below is a list of popular food items people are using. Thank you for remembering our friends and neighbors.

- \*Instant Oatmeal, both plain and flavored
- \*Canned Vegetables
- \*Canned Fruits with no added sugar
- \*Jars of Spaghetti Sauce
- \*Ready to eat cans of soup
- \*Boxes of Pasta
- \*Canned evaporated milk
- \*Dry Cereals, Cheerios, etc.

With the closing of the Thrift Shop and Tuesday lunches taking a winter break, the church will be open the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays from 10-noon for anyone wishing to visit the Little Corner Food Pantry. Lunches and Thrift Store will resume in April.



## Free Covid At-Home Test Kits

Order online at: [www.covidtests.gov](http://www.covidtests.gov)

up to 4 kits per household



\*  
**THE**  
 \*\*\*\*\*  
**CHRISMON**  
 \*\*\*\*\*  
**TREE**  
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A Chrismon tree is an offering to God, proclaiming our Lord Jesus Christ, through symbols.

The idea of handmade ornaments was begun by Frances Spencer of Ascension Lutheran Church, Danville, Virginia.

Chrismons, or Christ monograms, may be made of white and gold materials only, denoting purity, perfection, majesty and glory of God, the Father; God, the son; and God, the Holy Spirit. White lights point to Christ as the Light of the World.

May these symbols remind you of God's greatest gift.

Jesus Christ

\*\*\*\*\*



**LATIN CROSS** - The most common form of the Cross and believed to be of the style on which Jesus died.



**TAU CROSS** - Salvation promised but not yet accomplished.

**CROSS PATTEE** - Our Salvation revealed in the four gospels



**BAPTISMAL CROSS** - Greek Cross and the Greek letter "X", the First letter in the name "Christ", the cross is the symbol regeneration, hence its association with baptism.

**XP** - Chi Rho, The first letters of Christ



**IX** - Monogram of the first letter of "Jesus" and "Christ" combined.



**ALPHA AND OMEGA** - First and last letter of the Greek alphabet, symbol of Christ being called "the First and the Last".



**THE CIRCLE** - Eternity, God as the only eternal one; eternity with God.



**TREFOIL** - Symbol of the Holy Trinity

**THE CROWN** - The Kingship of Christ



**THE CORNERSTONE** - Jesus Christ the chief cornerstone.



**FIVE POINTED STAR** - Epiphany Star

**SIX POINTED STAR** - The Creator's Star referring to the six days of creation.



**ANCHOR CROSS** - Cross of Hope, this child, the Hope of the world.



**FISH** - Ever watchful, the Greek phrase "Jesus Christ Son of God Savior" is "Iesous Christos Theou Yios Soter". The first letter of each of these Greek words put together spell "ichthys" (ixoye) the Greek word for fish.



**KEYS** - The symbol of the Church's power to "bind and loose".



**DOVE** - The dove portrays the Spirit bestowing His gifts.

**STAFF** - Symbolizes Christ the Good Shepherd.



**LAMB** - The symbol of Christ of very ancient origin.

**ROSE** - The nativity of our lord, and also our Lord's human mother.



**IHS** - This is an abbreviation of "IHESUS" the way Christ's name was spelled during the Middle Ages



# December 2023



Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

					1 	2
3 1st Sunday of Advent Worship at 9:30 AM with Rev. Dr. Janet Peck	4	5 Tuesday Lunch at noon PTC Meeting 6-6:30 p.m. 	6	7 Bible Study via zoom 10:30 a.m. Edgecomb Pl. Board 6:30 pm <b>Hanukkah</b> Begins at sun-down	8	9 Edgecomb 250th Committee meeting 9 a.m. at Town Hall
10 2nd Sunday of Advent Worship at 9:30 AM with Rev. Dr. Janet Peck Music with Katie and Jesse	11	12 Edgecomb Selectboard 6:00 pm	13	14 Bible Study via zoom 10:30 a.m.	15 Hanukkah ends at sundown	16
17 3rd Sunday of Advent Worship at 9:30 AM with Rev. Dr. Janet Peck	18	19	20 Schmidt Preserve Meeting 7 p.m	21 Bible Study via zoom 10:30 a.m. First day of Winter Edgecomb Pl. Board 6:30 pm	22	23
24 <b>Christmas Eve</b> Service at 5 PM Music with Katie and Jesse 	25 <b>Christmas Day</b> 	26 <b>Kwanza begins</b>	27	28 No Bible Study	29	30 
31 1st Sunday of Christmas Worship Service at 9:30 AM Online sermon 10:30 Coffee Hr. <b>New Year's Eve</b>						