

# 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

**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 27, 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)**

## A Message from pastor Aram Mitchell

Welcome to the season of Advent! This season in the cycle of the Christian calendar (along with what you might notice is happening in the natural world around you) is traditionally (and naturally) a time of waiting.

As Frederick Buechner puts it, in the midst of the holiday bustle "if you concentrate just for an instant, far off in the deeps of you somewhere you can feel the beating of your heart... you can hear the world itself holding its breath."

That pause, that concentration, that holding of breath with anticipation—that is the season of Advent. And the thing on the other side of our active anticipation is, of course, a birth.

The power of Advent feels especially pronounced for me this season. As many of you have heard, Emma and I are in active anticipation of the coming birth of our first child! I say "active" anticipation because, along with the waiting, of course, there comes also a powerful impulse to actively *prepare*.

New life that arrives on the other side of our waiting does not happen independent from our participation. Every year—as we remember the birth of Jesus—we re-await the arrival of God-with-us. Every time the earth cycles and this season arrives, we are invited to make room for the divine to enter our hearts, visit our homes, fill our communities, and renew our world.

What this might look like for us is an ever and always unfolding mystery. But whatever the form of God's arrival in your life and in our community this season, you can be sure that your patient and active participation in it is vital. Because that is how new birth works.

So, as you move through the rhythms of this season, keep these questions close to heart: What new life, new happenings, new creation, new wonders are you preparing for this Advent? How does God want to show up in you and through you in new ways?

With bated breath,  
Pastor Aram

# Church Calendar

- December 1—1st Sunday of Advent.  
Worship service at 9:30 AM with  
Pastor Aram Mitchell
- December 3—Final Tuesday Lunch of the  
year at noon. Thrift Store open 9-1;  
last day open for the year as well
- December 5—Bible Study with Rev. Larry  
Krewson via zoom 10:30 a.m.
- December 8—2nd Sunday in Advent.  
Worship at 9:30 AM with Rev. Dr.  
Janet Peck
- December 12—Bible Study with Rev. Larry  
Krewson via zoom 10:30 a.m.
- December 15 —3rd Sunday of Advent  
Worship at 9:30 AM with Pastor  
Aram Mitchell
- December 19—Bible Study with Rev. Larry  
Krewson via zoom 10:30 a.m.
- December 22—4th Sunday of Advent  
Worship at 9:30 AM with Rev. Dr.  
Janet Peck
- December 24—Christmas Eve Service 5 PM  
with Pastor Aram Mitchell
- December 25—Christmas Day
- December 29— 1st Sunday after Christmas  
Worship at 9:30 AM watching an  
online sermon  
"asermonforeversunday"
- December 31—New Year's Eve



# Tuesday Lunch

*Come and join all your  
friends and neighbors the 1st  
and 3rd Tuesdays of each  
month for a free lunch at noon.  
Donations accepted.*

**December 3**—Chicken Parmesan, Pasta with Marinara Sauce, Tossed Salad, Garlic Bread, Assorted Pies.



*Tuesday Lunches will resume  
in March. 1st and 3rd Tues-  
days the church will be open 10-12 a.m.  
for gathering with friends and access to  
the Little Corner Food Pantry.*

## December Birthdays

Marjorie DiVece	9
Aram Mitchell	9
George Malone	16
Sofia Chase	18
George Greene	22

## January Birthdays

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



# Tuesday Lunch Thanksgiving Meal



was well attended with around 60 guests. Pastor Aram Mitchell helped serve the large crowd which gathered at noon on Tuesday, November 19. Turkey, Stuffing, Gravy, Mashed Potato, Butternut Squash, Peas, Rolls and Pumpkin Pie were served by Chef Marjorie DiVece. A big thank you to all who helped serve and clean up afterwards. The final luncheon of this year will be served on Tuesday, December 3. In January, February and March the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays will

hold two-hour (10 a.m. to noon) open sessions for anyone wishing to avail themselves of the Little Corner Food Pantry and perhaps the Thrift Store as well. Free coffee and tea will be available—so stop by and visit with friends and neighbors this winter.

## Halloween Trunk or Treat



at the Edgecomb Eddy School was held Friday, November 1, in their parking lot. The Edgecomb Community Church offered their support with a festive display of Halloween candy and spooky décor including a real live jailbird (Jeff Sewall, middle of photo). Madeline Olney (left), George Malone and Carol Colby were also onsite to help distribute treats.



## Christmas Activities for Children



The Edgecomb Community Church is planning some special advent events for area children. The first Sunday, December 1, children are invited to decorate a Christmas tree. On December 8, ornaments will be made by the children. December 15, cookies will be frosted and decorated. December 22, there will be some sort of gift-giving activity. Anyone interested in contributing supplies and/or volunteering to help out is encouraged to contact the church at [edgecomb.church@gmail.com](mailto:edgecomb.church@gmail.com). These events will take place each Sunday at 9:30 a.m. and will last around an hour. Of course all are invited to the coffee hours following the 9:30 worship services.

# Gardens Aglow Outing

Seventeen people gathered at the Edgecomb Community Church for a group visit to the Boothbay Botanical Gardens' *Gardens Aglow* event on Saturday, November 16. All arrived for the first showing of the beautiful lights at 4 p.m. and enjoyed a wonderful array of snacks at the Café in the center of the park. Below is a group photo of all who attended. This will hopefully be an annual event for church members and guests.



# Welcome New Members



Sunday, November 17, was New Member Sunday at the Edgecomb Community Church. Pastor Aram Mitchell (left) and Aaron Graves (right) were both welcomed as they joined this small but mighty congregation. Deacon Madeline Olney conducted the ritual and deacon Marjorie DiVece handed out the membership certificates and plants. Pastor Aram also announced that he and his wife Emma are now expecting their first child in May. Congratulations all around to Aram, Emma and Aaron.



*From all of us at the Edgecomb Community Church*

# *Merry Christmas*



# Charlie Brown Christmas Trees Event and Spaghetti Dinner



To culminate Edgecomb's 250th year, the annual Charlie Brown Christmas Trees event will be held on Friday December 13, at the Edgecomb Eddy School. This year, the event will include the lighting of trees followed by a special spaghetti supper for Edgecomb residents. The supper results from combined efforts by the Edgecomb Eddy PTC and Edgecomb's 250th Birthday Committee.

On December 13, eight Charlie Brown trees will be decorated outside at the Edgecomb Eddy School by classroom teachers and their students. Promptly at 5:00 that evening, residents are invited to view the trees with their bright lights and creative ornaments. Immediately following the tree lighting, all are invited to enter the school cafeteria for a spaghetti supper prepared by Chef Lisa McSwain. This joyous event is free, and all Edgecomb residents are invited. Donations will be gratefully accepted.

[WWW.WISCASSETHOLIDAYMARKETFEST.COM](http://WWW.WISCASSETHOLIDAYMARKETFEST.COM)



FRIDAY- SATURDAY- SUNDAY  
DECEMBER 6-7-8 2024



## Wiscasset Holiday Marketfest heralds the gift-giving

season with three days of local shopping and lots of activities for shoppers, families, locals, and visitors to enjoy! In 2024, visit Marketfest on Friday, Dec. 6, Saturday, Dec. 7, and Sunday, Dec. 8, in Wiscasset Village, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. each day and festive family events on Friday and Saturday evenings.

Marketfest features a visit from Santa who arrives via a grand light parade. Kids get treats and cocoa, adults get hot toddies. Sheep for petting and marshmallows for roasting keep the brisk evening

toasty. The weekend's free raffle for dining in every participating storefront entices shoppers to browse while the very popular Christmas Cookie Challenge is an irresistible call to local bakers. Hang around until after the judging for the chance to sample these tasty morsels. Find inspiration in the annual Wreaths Around the Holidays display and be part of the friendly competition for People's Choice.

The historic Nickels-Sortwell House will be decked with holiday greens and open for tours, while the old barn next door will be transformed into a shopping wonderland for unique, one-of-a-kind, artisan-made gifts. A family-friendly Snow Ball is a dance party for all to enjoy!

Ornament workshops, a shopping event just for kids, songs of the season from a female barber-shop quartet, wagon rides, and more bring the joy of the season to all who visit Wiscasset Village during Holiday Marketfest 2024!

For more details, see the Calendar on [www.WiscassetHolidayMarketfest.com](http://www.WiscassetHolidayMarketfest.com). Wiscasset Holiday Marketfest is a partnership between Wiscasset Creative Alliance and Wiscasset Area Chamber of Commerce.

(Story reprinted from Boothbay Register)



# HEALTHY KIDS

Supporting Families  
Strengthening Communities

## Healthy Kids 2024 Holiday Toy Giveaway

This year requests for toys can be made beginning November 21, 2024. This sign up must be fully completed by Wednesday, December 11th to receive gifts. You must give age, gender and interests for each child. Toys can be picked up December 18th or 19th at the Healthy Kids office, 15 Belvedere Rd., Damariscotta between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. For more information call 563-1818.

## HOLIDAY TOY GIVE OUT SIGN UP TO BE A FAMILY ANGEL

Healthy Kids has given toys out to children in Lincoln County during the holidays since 2016. If you would like to donate toys for a family this year, please sign up as a Family Angel. Go to [healthykidsmaine.com](http://healthykidsmaine.com)

Healthy Kids will match you with the number of children, and ages you would most like to support. We will also give you an indication of each child's interests.

All gifts can be dropped off, *unwrapped*, at Healthy Kids office in Damariscotta by 3pm, Monday, December 16th.

## Christmas Eve Service

**All are cordially invited to the annual Christmas Eve Service at the Edgecomb Community Church on Tuesday, December 24, at 5 p.m. A service of Lessons and Carols will be led by the new pastor Aram Mitchell.**

**A story worth remembering, isn't it? Worth regularly re-telling and re-visiting. And we would love to have you join us for this celebration, in song and story, of God's presence—which is born again and again into our messy, imperfect, yet still somehow beautiful world!**

**Please come and bring your family and friends to this special service to welcome the new born child—Jesus the Christ.**



## Thrift Store Holiday Sales and Pie Sale

During the Holiday Sales at the Thrift Store a total of \$2,498 was collected over the three day event. The Thrift Store brought in \$1,028; Busy Hands Crafts \$615; Bake Sale \$165; and Fuel Assistance \$650. Thank you to all who donated items, time and of course all who shopped and supported the church's efforts to provide assistance to those in need in our local communities.

The **Thanksgiving Pie Sale** was a huge success as well by providing around 90 pies of various sizes and prices at both the church and at Ames Dept. Store in Wiscasset on Tuesday, November 26. Around \$800+ was tallied up when it was all over. Any leftover pies were then frozen and/or given away to Edgecomb Green, Tuesday Lunch guests and offered as refreshments during the church's weekly coffee hours that follow Sunday worship. These

funds also are offered up for local assistance projects that present themselves during the year, be it for fuel assistance, aid for a family in need, gifts for Edgecomb Green elderly residents, support for the Recovery Center in Newcastle, Habitat for Humanity, to name just a few. This small church with a big heart continues to be involved in the community. Thank you all for your continued support.



# December 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>1</p> <p>1st Sunday of Advent. Worship at 9:30 AM with Pastor Aram Mitchell Sheepscoot Chorus concert 3 p.m. in BBH.</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3</p> <p>Last Tuesday Lunch at noon Thrift Store open 9-1, <b>closing after today</b> Workshop 4 p.m.</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>5</p> <p>Bible Study 10:30 a.m. Edgecomb Pl. Board 6:30 pm</p>	<p>6</p> <p>Wiscasset Holiday Marketfest 10-5</p>	<p>7</p> <p><b>Thrift Store closed until January</b> Wiscasset Holiday Marketfest 10-5</p>
<p>8</p> <p>2nd Sunday of Advent. Worship at 9:30 AM with Rev. Dr. Janet Peck Wiscasset Holiday Marketfest 10-5</p>	<p>9</p>	<p>10</p> <p>Edgecomb Selectboard 6:00 pm</p>	<p>11</p>	<p>12</p> <p>Bible Study 10:30 a.m.</p>	<p>13</p> <p>Charlie Brown Christmas Tree Event and Edgecomb 250th Spaghetti Supper 5 p.m. at EES</p>	<p>14</p>
<p>15</p> <p>3rd Sunday of Advent. Worship at 9:30 AM with Pastor Aram Mitchell</p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17</p> <p><b>No Tuesday Lunch</b> Soup pick-ups begin in January (1st and 3rd Tuesdays 10-12)</p>	<p>18</p>	<p>19</p> <p>Bible Study 10:30 a.m. Edgecomb Pl. Board 6:30 pm</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21</p>
<p>22</p> <p>4th Sunday of Advent. Worship at 9:30 AM with Rev. Dr. Janet Peck</p>	<p>23</p> <p>Edgecomb Selectboard 6:00 pm</p>	<p>24</p> <p>Christmas Eve Service at 5 p.m. with Pastor Aram Mitchell</p>	<p>25</p> <p><b>Christmas Day</b></p> 	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p>
<p>29</p> <p>1st Sunday after Christmas On-line sermon at 9:30 a.m.</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>31</p>				