

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

THE COMMUNITY CONNECTION

Editor: Marjorie DiVece

News for the June edition is due by 5 p.m. Wednesday, May 27, 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

Pastor's Note:

I've begun preaching a series of sermons on the stories told in the book of Genesis, which we'll be exploring throughout the month of May and into June. Genesis is aptly named, it's the very first book in the Bible. And at the very beginning of that first book there is an ancient poem that tells about a God who creates the entire universe, sun, moon, and stars; the movements of seasons; and every nitty gritty detail of life on this planet—with *words*. The God in that ancient poem names things, and in so doing speaks stuff into existence.

If that old poem holds true for us, then we see that all of the wild world—the forests, the pastures, the oceans, the skies—all of it is God-breathed. It's no wonder we look outward for inspiration.

Every time I sit down to write one of these monthly notes for our community newsletter, the first thing I do is I glance out the window. Because thoughts need room to roam, to circle around a bit, before hunkering in and taking a particular shape.

Whenever I'm trying to give shape to thoughts, for whatever reason, I look outward.

I usually look for the big—I look for the wind in the tops of the trees, I look for the shape of the constellations of stars, I look at the horizon and the clouds it carries or the sun that's dipping over its edge. And there's plenty of inspiration to find there, when you look big.

But something I want to learn to do with greater attention and skill and consistency is to also look for the small. After all, the freckles on the wings of ladybugs are every bit as God-breathed as the aurora borealis. I want to learn to love an inch of everyday lichen every bit as much as I do the red rock cliffs of canyon land.

I'm excited to get to practice that form of paying small attention with you at the end of May—if you'd like to join—on Sunday, May 31st after church. We'll be spending some time with Nature Journaling Guide, Lindsay Strout, who will lead us through practices of connecting with wild nature and with the inspiration for personal growth that we find there. Save the date for now, and we'll be sending out more details soon. Meanwhile, if you're interested in joining go ahead and email us to RSVP:edgcomb.church@gmail.com

In service of the still-speaking God,
Pastor Aram

CWS BLANKETS

Wrapped in God's Love. Called to Share.

"These blankets will help keep my children warm through the coldest nights. I see God's love in the kindness of those who gave."

—A CWS Blanket recipient, The Nehemiah Mission, Cleveland, OH

Your gift today helps keep someone warm tonight.

Because of generous donors like you, families near and far have found comfort when they needed it most—like a single mother who received four CWS Blankets to keep her children warm.

As followers of Jesus, we are called to love our neighbors—especially in their time of need. A simple blanket becomes a holy offering: warmth on a cold night, peace after disaster, and a reminder that no one is forgotten by God.

Why Your Gift Matters: When disaster strikes, or a cold night sets in, your gift means everything.

\$10 Provides a CWS Blanket to someone in need.

\$25 Provides a CWS Blanket and a CWS Hygiene Kit, offering warmth and essential supplies.

\$60 Family Bundle! Provides blankets and hygiene kits for an entire family, ensuring that they have what they need during challenging times.



Blanket Sunday

On Sunday, May 24, the Edgcomb Community Church will be taking donations for this annual event to help support Church World Service's Blanket Sunday. These blankets help people worldwide when disaster strikes. For just \$10, you can provide a warm CWS Blanket to someone who desperately needs it.

For \$25, you can give a blanket and a hygiene kit to help someone start fresh. And for \$60 you can provide an entire family bundle of blankets and kits, bringing comfort and care to a whole household.

Your generosity has the power to spread love, share warmth, and deliver hope to people who may feel forgotten.

Today, let's live out the words of Jesus. Let's love our neighbors as ourselves. Together, we can make a real difference—one blanket, one family, one life at a time.

Thank you for your compassion and for being the hands and feet of Christ in this world.

Let's share love, let's share warmth, and let's share hope. Amen.

Please plan to give generously to this worthwhile cause. If you are not able to give in person you may donate at:

cwsblankets.org

UPCOMING EVENTS IN MAY

1. Habitat for Humanity Walk to Build May 3, at 2 p.m. You can make a donation at <https://bit.ly/SWTB2026>
2. ECC Council meeting set for Sunday, May 3, after church.
3. Sunday School begins Sunday, May 3.
4. Community Lunches | 1st and 3rd Tuesdays at noon (May 5th and 19th)
5. Pastor's Cafe at ECC | Drop in to connect with the pastor, 2nd & 4th Tuesdays from 10am-1pm,
6. New Bible Study series: What is the Bible? | begins Wednesday, April 22nd at 6pm
7. Spirit in Nature Gathering | Sunday, May 31, Nature Journaling Workshop at 11:30 am (and the last Sunday of each month going forward, stay tuned for details).
8. Wild Widows meets after church the 3rd Sunday of each month (May 17)
9. Blanket Sunday, May 24—Please give generously to provide blankets when disaster strikes.
10. Busy Hands meets the 4th Wednesday of each month 1-3 p.m. (May 27)
11. And don't forget our Thrift Store & Little Corner Food Pantry open Tuesdays & Saturdays 9-1.

Church Calender

- May 2—Thrift Store open 9-1.
 May 3—5th Sunday of Easter—Worship at 9:30 AM with Pastor Aram Mitchell
 Council Meeting after church
 Habitat Walk to Build 2 p.m.
 Sunday School begins today
 May 5 — Tuesday Lunch at noon
 Thrift Store open 9-1
 CINCO de MAYO
 May 6—Bible Study with Pastor Aram Mitchell 6-7 p.m.
 May 9—Thrift Store open 9-1
 May 10 —6th Sunday of Easter—Worship at 9:30 AM with Pastor Aram Mitchell
 MOTHER'S DAY
 May 12 —Thrift Store open 9-1
 Café Time with Aram 10-1
 May 13—Bible Study with Pastor Aram Mitchell 6-7 p.m.
 May 14—Ascension Day
 May 16—Thrift Store open 9-1
 May 17 —7th Sunday of Easter—Worship at 9:30 AM with guest Rev. Andrew Forsthoefel
 Wild Widows 11 a.m.
 May 19—Tuesday Lunch at noon
 Thrift Store open 9-1
 May 20—Bible Study with Pastor Aram Mitchell 6-7 p.m.
 May 23—Thrift Store open 9-1
 May 24—Pentecost Sunday — Worship at 9:30 AM with Pastor Aram Mitchell
 Pastoral Relations Committee Meeting at noon. Blanket Sunday
 May 25—MEMORIAL DAY
 May 26 — Thrift Store open 9-1
 Café Time with Aram 10-1
 May 27—Busy Hands 1-3 p.m.
 Bible Study with Pastor Aram Mitchell 6-7 p.m.
 May 30—Thrift Store open 9-1
 May 31—Trinity Sunday—Worship at 9:30 AM with Pastor Aram Mitchell

Tuesday Lunch

May 5—Lasagna, Garlic Bread, Cottage Pudding with Lemon Sauce.

May 19—Corn Chowder, Biscuits, Succotash Salad, Whoopie Pies.

Little Corner Food Pantry

Open 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. every Tuesday and Saturday



*Take what you need
and give what you
can.*



May Birthdays

Juniper Mitchell	7
Sue Sikes	15
Beth Soule	21
Silas Wellenius	21
Julie Tryder	24
Carolyn Potter	27

June Birthdays

Susan Greene	9
Bob Zak	10
Jean Krause	17
Shanell Boudin	24
Aaron Graves	24
Henry Boudin	27
Aven Rhodes	27

Because Someone Cared By Gail Boudin

It was a cold dismal late afternoon. A soft thump sounded on the picture window outside in the damp cold. My husband slowly opened the storm door peering outside. The small, limp body of a tiny hummingbird lay on the gray deck. He went over, gently scooping up the pile of warm feathers, carefully carrying it inside. The tiny wings of green and gold fluttered like a faint breath. He gently carried the bird out to the porch, placing it on the hummingbird feeder. By now, eyes open, the creature had woken up and was able to hold onto the red feeder perch.

Over the next hour, the hummingbird held on, occasionally drinking the sweet liquid food. Suddenly two other hummingbirds appeared at the feeder, their wings fluttering at warp speed, taking gentle sips, checking on their friend. Fluttering close and peering at the quiet form. Back and forth from the lilac bush to the feeder they flew. Each time they checked on their friend. After about an hour, the small quiet bird turned upside down on the perch. We gasped, expecting the worst; to see the tiny collection of colored feathers fall to the ground. But no!!!! The two friends arrived, one fluttering in close to the still form. Poking at the quiet friend, fluttering and chirping a language known only to them. The bird righted himself and flew to the heart sun catcher next to the feeder. After resting for a few minutes, the two friends arrived again. Amongst fluttering wings and chirping, all three of them flew to the lilac bush, a favorite resting place.

Over the next hour all three of the birds flew back and forth from the bush to the feeder, drinking their fill of the sweet food. Each time the injured bird rested a moment on the hearth, as if thanking my husband for caring.

This event was a gentle reminder that we all can make a difference; one person, one hummingbird at a time. His bird friends cared and my husband cared. We all just have to care, to stop and help whatever person or creature is (in) need. This is how our world will become a better place. All because someone cared.

The hummingbirds will be arriving soon — usually the 1st or 2nd week of May.



New Member Deb Violette (M) installed on April 26.



Nature Prayer Walk Sunday, April 26, around the bonfire.

Maine Agricultural Fairs 2026

Springfield Fair—June 11-14

Pittston Fair—June 18-21

Monmouth Fair—June 24-27

Ossipee Valley Fair—July 9-12

Houlton Fair—July 10-12

Waterford Fair—July 17-19

Bangor State Fair—July 30-August 8

Union Fair—August 4-9

Topsham Fair—August 11-16

Northern Maine Fair (Presque Isle) - August 5-9

Skowhegan State Fair—August 13-22

Acton Fair—August 27-30

Piscataquis Valley Fair—August 27-30

Washington County Fair—August 29-30

Windsor Fair—August 29—September 7

Blue Hill Fair—September 3-7

Harmony Free Fair—September 4-7

Litchfield Fair—September 10-12

Clinton Lion's Fair—September 10-13

Oxford Fair—September 16-19

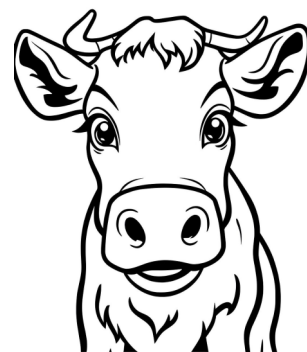
New Portland Lion's Fair—September 18-20

Farmington Fair—September 20-26

Common Ground Fair—September 25-27

Cumberland Fair—September 27—October 2

Fryeburg Fair—October 4-11





HAPPY
Mother's Day

Sunday, May 10

Memorial Day

Monday, May 25

Take the time to remember those who made the ultimate sacrifice to ensure our rights to freedom and the pursuit of happiness. Don't ever take our privileges for granted!



Planting the Seed
Discovery Village Kickoff Social

CENTRAL LINCOLN COUNTY YMCA



Join us for an evening of connection, celebration, and giving to grow the vision of Discovery Village together. Discovery Village will be a nature-based learning center where children connect with the outdoors through hands-on exploration. A generous \$10,000 challenge match will double the impact of gifts made during the evening.

THURSDAY, MAY 21, 4:00-5:30PM
THE CONTENTED SOLE, 32 SOUTHSIDE RD,
NEW HARBOR, ME 04554



Join us for this celebratory fundraising event. Scan the code to RSVP

Tick Season is back!

Tick bites are often harmless and don't cause any symptoms. However, ticks can cause allergic reactions, and some types can pass diseases on to humans and pets. These diseases can be dangerous or even life threatening when not treated promptly.

Ticks are common in the United States. They live outdoors in: grass, trees, shrubs and leaf piles.

Ticks prefer warm, moist areas of the body. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), once a tick gets on your body, it's likely to migrate to the following areas: armpits, groin, hair, back of your knees, inside your belly button, around your waist, inside and around your ears.

- It's important to contact a doctor as soon as possible after a tick bite, even if you don't have symptoms.
- Ticks can remain attached to the skin for up to two weeks. They get bigger and easier to spot as time goes on.
- Ticks typically bite once instead of in clusters or lines. Most harmless tick bites cause no physical signs or symptoms.
- Some cause a red or discolored bump resembling a mosquito bite.
- A Lyme disease bullseye rash can appear anywhere from 3 to 30 days after you've been bitten. You may also see more than one rash. The rash may get larger over several days, reaching 12 inches wide.

Tick bites are usually harmless and may produce no symptoms. But if you're allergic to tick bites, you may experience: pain or swelling at the bite site, a rash, a burning sensation at the bite site, blisters, or shortness of breath, if you have a severe allergy.

Diseases you can get from a tick bite include: Lyme disease, Rocky Mountain spotted fever, Colorado tick fever, tularemia, or ehrlichiosis.

Potential symptoms of tick-borne diseases include: red or discolored spot or rash near the bite site, fever, chills, full body rash, neck stiffness, headache, nausea, weakness, muscle pain or aching, joint pain, or swollen lymph nodes.

Preventing tick bites is the best way to avoid a tick-borne illness. Here are some prevention tips:

- Wear a long-sleeved shirt and pants when walking in the woods or grassy areas where ticks are common.
- Walk in the center of trails.
- Use a tick repellent that's at least 20% DEET.
- Treat clothing and gear with 0.5% permethrin.
- Take a shower or bath within 2 hours of being outdoors.
- Check skin closely after being in tick-prone areas, especially under arms, behind ears, between legs, behind knees, and in hair.

It typically takes more than 24 hours of feeding for a person to get a tick-borne disease. So, the sooner you can identify and remove a tick, the better.

Source: <https://www.healthline.com/health/tick-bites#takeaway>

May 2026

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1	2 Thrift Store open 9-1 Edgecomb School Town Meeting 10 a.m.
3 5th Sunday of Easter Worship at 9:30 AM with Pastor Aram Mitchell Council meeting 11 a.m. Habitat Walk to Build 2 p.m.	4	5 Tuesday Lunch at noon Thrift Store re-opens 9-1 CINCO de MAYO	6 Bible Study 6-7 p.m.	7 Edgecomb Pl. Board 6:30 pm	8	9 Thrift Store open 9-1
10 6th Sunday of Easter Worship at 9:30 AM with Pastor Aram Mitchell 	11	12 Thrift Store open 9-1 Café Time with Aram 10-1 Edgecomb Select Board 6 pm	13 Bible Study 6-7 p.m.	14	15	16 Thrift Store open 9-1 Edgecomb Town Referendum Vote 1 p.m.
17 7th Sunday of Easter Worship at 9:30 AM with guest Rev. Andrew Forsthoefel	18	19 Tuesday Lunch at noon Thrift Store re-opens 9-1	20 Bible Study 6-7 p.m. Schmid Advisory 7 p.m.	21 Edgecomb Pl. Board 6:30 pm	22	23 Thrift Store open 9-1
24 Pentecost Sunday Worship at 9:30 AM with Pastor Aram Mitchell Pastoral Relations Meeting after church	25 Memorial Day 	26 Thrift Store open 9-1 Café Time with Aram 10-1 Edgecomb Se-	27 Busy Hands 1-3 p.m. Bible Study 6-7 p.m. EES Board Meeting 5-6 p.m.	28	29	30 Thrift Store open 9-1
31 Trinity Sunday Worship at 9:30 AM with Pastor Aram Mitchell Natura Journaling Workshop 11:30						