

Pastor Letter 7/21/21

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

When I was an elementary student, one of my favorite activities in gym classes was the parachute game, where each student held an edge of a large round colorful piece of cloth and had to work together to keep the ball from bouncing out of the center of the cloth as it was bounced up and down. To keep the game going meant we had to work as a team. What I learned from that silly little game was how much more we could accomplish when we worked together. Ecclesiastes 4:9 reminds us that two are better than one. God created us to live in community, to work together whenever possible. As we continue to discern our way forward in making connections, we also are seeking ways we can connect with our local community, which includes other churches. For all churches are a part of the body and we can spread God's love more when we work together. As the second half of that verse reminds us, the reward will be greater when we work together. So let us always seek to work together, for the good of God.

As you worship this Sunday, I would invite you to reflect on how many other people are gathering in other local churches, worshipping the same God. Pray and give praise for them, as you worship with our beloved Rev. Freeborn, who is also a member of our larger community. Welcome him as you always do, with love as you come together to worship our amazing God. As we continue moving forward in these ever-changing times, may we worship and live in ways that seek to do more by finding ways to work together.

In His Peace,

Pastor Nicki

*If you are worshipping from home, I would encourage you to use the YouTube platform for optimal streaming quality. Additionally, feel free to sign on early no need to wait right until 10am anymore. *

YouTube: live stream and recording can be found at <https://www.espresbyterian.com/worship/> or <https://www.youtube.com/user/ESPresbyterian>

Facebook: click on the link below near the time the service begins at 10:00am to watch the live stream <https://www.facebook.com/espresbyterian/>

Additionally, bulletins and an online hymnal have been put on the website and can be found at <https://www.espresbyterian.com/worship/sunday-bulletin/>

Ways to give- mail or drop of check/cash through no contact mail slot in office window. Drop off envelope in offering plates before or after worship services. Donate on our website by going to the home page at <https://www.espresbyterian.com/> and clicking on the Donate button in the upper right corner. Designate where you would like the money to go by using the note section.