

Pastor Letter 12/1/2021

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

I have been hearing that some of you are wondering what changes are coming, what is going on with the building, how can we get more people in the church and more. To answer some of those questions begins with sharing that we don't know because we are in a liminal period. A liminal time is the in-between what was done and the changes to come. It is an uncomfortable time for most people because it is living in the unknown. We can't fall back on the way it is always was, but also don't know what the future will be. It causes us to say often to ourselves, "what can I do?" I mean I am only one person, and I am too busy, too tired, too old, the myriad of excuses we tell ourselves to avoid moving into a new thing.

Edward Everett Hale (1822-1909), an American Unitarian minister and writer, who lived and worked in Boston, Massachusetts, and inspired many by his story *Ten Times One Is Ten* said this, "I'm only one, but I am one. I can't do everything, but I can do something. What I can do, I ought to do. And what I ought to do, by the grace of God, I will do." In this liminal time as we continue to discern what the future holds for this church, for the Presbyterian presence in this area, and in the church universal, it is important to remember we may only be one and we can't do everything, but we can do something. We must do what we ought to do and, by the grace of God, we will do it. As we continue figuring out our future, may we remind ourselves of this which will help us live into who God is calling us to be in this new way which has yet to be fully revealed to us. May we each open up ourselves and ask how God is calling us to be in this liminal time and in the future. May we not put God in a box, but open ourselves up to God who is, as Isaiah says, doing a new thing.

In His Peace,

Pastor Nicki

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.

Link to video: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OdPaqt6RY_Q&t=1s