

EDWARDS
 CONGREGATIONAL
UNITED CHURCH
 OF CHRIST

Edwards Editor

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January 2011

Articles for next issue due by 9 am, Tuesday, 1/18/11

Submitted items are subject to editing.

2010 Annual Meeting

When: Tuesday, January 25th at 6:00 PM

Where: Baxter Fellowship Hall

What: Chili Supper / Annual Meeting

Snowdate: Thursday, January 27th



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From Our Pastors Desk. . .

This year promises to be a big one in the life of Edwards Congregational United Church of Christ! On December 12th, we decided to begin a six month Capital Campaign to raise pledges for between \$800,000 and \$1.5 million! Pledges will be spread over a five-year period, and will fund the addition of special needs parking and a new front entrance to the building, as well as upgrades in the kitchen, bathrooms, and the infrastructure throughout the building.

To say the least, this is a big challenge! Two things came out loud and clear last year when we had cottage meetings and began a Long Range Planning process. The first was that people treasure the warm welcome that they receive here at Edwards. And the second was that the building and the layout of the parking was not very welcoming - especially for people who have special needs.

It began as a dream in those cottage meetings - the idea of adding a circle drive and parking in the front of the building. It came to the top of the list of possible projects when we gathered last January to prioritize the many good ideas that had surfaced in the cottage meetings. It began to take shape when we hired an architect to work with us. It jumped off the page when he presented the plans in September, and it came to life when he shared the drawings in November of what the building might actually look like!

Then, on December 12th, our congregation voted overwhelmingly to hire a consultant to help us design and implement a fund-raising campaign that will be taking place from January to June 2011. That way, by the summer we will know how much money we will have available to make this dream come true. (But please do not make a donation to this effort yet! We appreciate

your enthusiasm, but we will not be set up to receive gifts or pledges until March or April!)

So, as we begin this very important new year, here are some possible resolutions that might help make this challenge a bit easier.

- 1) We are all in this together. No one's ideas, gifts, talents or needs are more important than anyone else's. May we be respectful and kind toward one another as we work together to try to make this dream come true!
- 2) Your thoughts can only be included in decision-making if you come to meetings and share openly with the whole congregation as we move forward. May we refrain from "parking lot meetings" where only a small group hears your thoughts. That only serves to split us into factions that divide us.
- 3) When we face disagreement, try turning to wonder. If you find yourself becoming judgmental, cynical or certain about what you know, try turning to wonder. "I wonder what my reaction teaches me about myself?" "I wonder why he thinks that?" "I wonder why she wants that?" These can be helpful sentiments.
- 4) Trust that God's hand will guide us, step by step, through this coming year. Whatever the outcome, we will emerge a stronger congregation for having followed this dream!

Please don't miss our Annual Meeting on January 25th to hear more details as the story of our challenging dream unfolds!

Edwards Worships. . .

January Scriptures

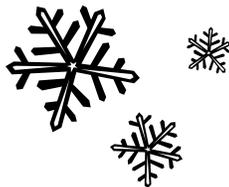
January 2:

Matthew 2:1-12
Isaiah 60:1-6
Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14
Ephesians 3:1-12



January 9:

Matthew 3:13-17
Isaiah 42:1-9
Psalm 29
Acts 10:34-43



January 16:

Isaiah 49:1-7
Psalm 40:1-11
1 Corinthians 1:1-9
John 1:29-42

January 23:

Matthew 4:12-23
Isaiah 9:1-4
Psalm 27:1, 4-9
1 Corinthians 1:10-18



January 30:

Matthew 5:1-12
Micah 6:1-8
Psalm 15
1 Corinthians 1:18-31

They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. ~ Acts 2:42

Music at Edwards. . .



Special Music in January:

Jan. 2: Carolina Warren-Collison, vocal solo
Jan. 9: Chancel Choir resumes
Jan. 16: Elaine Lippert, organist
Alleluia Ringers, Sandy Reinders, director
Jan. 23: Promised Land Quartet
Jan. 30: Friends in Faith Band



Rehearsals

It's a New Year - time to explore the musical groups of the church. Come to a new rehearsal and check us out! Rehearsals resume as follows:

Friends in Faith Band:

January 25th 5-6 pm

Chancel Choir:

Wednesdays, Jan. 5th, 7-8:30 pm

Alleluia Ringers:

Mondays, Jan. 5th, 6:30-8 pm.



Adult Class...on Your Schedule!

We are going to try an experiment! Many of you have expressed frustration that Book Studies and Classes for Adults have been happening at times that do not work for everyone. So... we are going to try an ELECTRONIC book study!

Beginning in February, we will be reading a book by Jim Wallis *Rediscovering Values on Wall Street, Main Street, and Your Street*. Jim Wallace is a bestselling author, renowned speaker and preacher, public theologian and international commentator on religion and public life, faith and politics. He is a frequent guest on the news programs of CBS, NBC, ABC, Fox, CNN, MSNBC and National Public Radio.

Here's how it will work. If you are interested, go ahead and order the book from the church office (by Jan. 18th) or from Amazon or your favorite bookseller. Let Kathy in the office know that you are interested in the book study, and we will send you a schedule for your reading.

Beginning in February, there will be a link on our website to a blog where we will have an ongoing conversation. Katherine will post some comments about each week's readings, and you will be able to post yours...and read what others are saying. Woody is also working on a "livechat" possibility, and if people are interested in a time to sit down face to face, that will be arranged as well.

Let's hear it for the 21st Century!



Nonviolent Communication Skills Training at Edwards

In Matthew 22:37 Jesus says the greatest and first commandment is to love God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your mind and the second is like it: love your neighbor as yourself. Have you found yourself asking: how do we connect with God, with other human beings, and with ourselves? What does that connection look like, what would we be saying, what would we be doing if that love were present in our lives?

By developing awareness of the needs and emotions in ourselves and in others, that love becomes manifest and we can be better able to use our individual gifts to make the world a better place.

Nonviolent Communication (NVC) skills strengthen people's ability to compassionately connect with themselves and others, and helps resolve conflicts peacefully. It is the language and awareness of the heart - we honor our feelings and needs as well as those of others. It was developed by a man named Marshall Rosenberg to provide a framework and a set of skills to address human problems - from intimate relationships to global political conflicts. It is a way to keep our consciousness tuned in moment by moment to the beauty within ourselves and others.

If you are interested in learning about and gaining skills in NVC, come join us for Wednesday night programming. Simple supper is at 5:30 if you would like a bite to eat beforehand. The class will be from 6 to 7:30pm for eight Wednesdays, Jan 12th - Mar. 2nd. Lyle Stratton will lead us through this study.

To be certain we have sufficient class materials, please contact the church secretary, Kathy Bowerman, (359-0331 or kathy@edwards-ucc.org) if you plan on attending, or mark the tear off sheet in the worship bulletin. Information on NVC is available on its website: www.cnvc.org.

From Our Minister of Christian Education . . .

Christmas Pageant Reflections

Each year the children of Edwards bring heart, breath, and voice to the most ancient of stories - God's miraculous walk with humanity through the birth of Jesus. In angel wings, feathers, cotton balls, and well-worn costumes, our children teach us to seek first the possibility of ordinary miracles in our midst and to always remain abundantly grateful for each sunrise and twinkling star. Thank you, children of Edwards!

Throughout the pageant and its preparation are the fingerprints of so many who have guided the children up to the manger. Thanks to **Marilyn Riedesel**, whose many hours spent with needle and thread, repaired and refurbished our pageant costumes. Thanks to **Sarah Kenneke**, whose attention kept our sheep from molting! Thanks to **Kathy Lafrenz**, who found the perfect way for angels to dance Mary into the majesty of her blessed purpose. Thanks to **Michael Fessler**, who tended to dirty dishes and leftovers so everyone else could concentrate on the words and action of our pageant. Thanks to the **Chancel Choir** and the **Friends in Faith Band**,

who joined their voices with the young and who never seem to mind being upstaged by the singing of children. And thank you to **Jean Norton** and her incredible ears, who heard a piece of music that became the guiding light of the pageant.

A special thank you, along with hugs and kisses, to **Cathy Wetzel** who is a constant presence in the faith development of our children and gives their spirits the gentle guidance and praise that allows their very best to blossom in joy and enthusiasm.

And, finally, thanks to all the parents, who drove their kids to and from church, in cold and snow, who herded sheep and doves and angels, who patiently listened to lines and gently corrected pronunciations, who sat through rehearsals and wondered silently how it would all fit together... you are a rock in the foundation of your children's faith and your dedication will be a blessing through the generations!

Peace and Blessings in the New Year,
Susan Chesley

Fellowship Opportunities . . .

Choir Dinner

This month's choir dinner is planned for January 12th at 5:30. We are mixing it up this month by changing our choice of restaurants. We will be meeting at **Kelly's Irish Pub** on 53rd Street, in Davenport. In my humble opinion, they have the best Reuben sandwich in town!! Remember that all musicians and friends are welcome! See you at Kelly's on the 12th!

Women's Night Out

The women of Edwards are all invited and encouraged to join in for great food and wonderful fellowship the third Thursday every month. On January 20th we will be going to a favorite spot - Mo Brady's at 4830 N. Brady St., Davenport. We will gather at 6:00 pm. See you there!!

Keep In Our Prayers

- + Diane Anderson, recovering from surgery
- + Bill Anderson, recovering from surgery
- + The Ball-Trevor Family, as the adoption of Kaidence, Raven and Willow becomes final.
- + Kaidence, Raven, and Willow Ball-Trevor, baptized December 26th
- + Pat Baxter-Rebal, recovering from surgery
- + Nancy Bolyard, health concerns
- + Sue Curl, health concerns
- + Marilyn Hamilton, diagnosed with colon cancer
- + Kailan Lafrenz, engaged to be married
- + Gail McPike, recovering from surgery
- + Chris Medina, recovering from surgery
- + Don & Gilly Miller, health concerns
- + Miriam Prichard, engaged to be married.
- + Frances Sanders, recovering from a stroke
- + Pat Sterk, her mom, Dorothy Clapp, at Clarissa Cook
- + In Care or Assisted Living Facilities: Sandy Carlson, Don Carroll, Rose Marie Edgerton, George Gallaher, Betty Murray, Nelda Paustian and Joyce Swarts

Newcomer's Inquiry Class

Thinking of joining Edwards? If so, then join us on January 16th at 11:30 in the parlor/library for information on joining Edwards Church.



January Birthdays

- 6 Kerry Fear
- 6 Aidan Kyte
- 7 Fay McCarrel
- 8 Sarah Dixon
- 8 Aidan McCormick
- 11 Nolan Stratton
- 12 Pat Cresap
- 12 Sandy Bateman
- 13 Steve Knoche
- 13 Britt Hein
- 13 Molly Taft
- 15 Danny Henderson
- 22 Robert Dean
- 23 Frank Hurtte
- 24 Gilly Miller
- 25 Shirley Wiele
- 27 Diane Anderson
- 28 Brady Weller
- 29 Robert Norwood
- 31 Sam Olsen



Coming Attractions

Do you enjoy movies? Do you have favorites? Plans are in the works for Movie Night Classics at Edwards. The possibilities are endless: "Casablanca", "The Maltese Falcon", "War of The Worlds", "It Happened One Night" and so many more. What is a "classic" to you? Elvis? ET? There might be an afternoon matinee offered showing chick-flicks, too! Hot, buttered popcorn is a must, of course, along with a beverage. Cost? Minimal! Interested? Need your feedback! Contact Pat Cresap at 449-8148 or Cresaptwo@gmail.com with your input.



Step-by-Step Together...

The members of Edwards Church through the long range planning process have together as a congregation voiced its desire to match our building structure to our vision of being welcoming and accessible to all. Therefore, to address the current and future needs of our congregation, the Edwards Church Council unanimously recommended that we conduct a Capital Campaign.

The Resolution for a Capital Campaign with the following parameters was approved by the congregation at the December 12, 2010, congregational meeting:

- A five-year pledge campaign to run from January 1, 2011 through June 30, 2011, with the objective of raising funds to provide accessibility, and to upgrade our church's physical facilities;
- A campaign with a minimum goal of \$800,000, an intermediate goal of \$1,300,000 and a challenge goal of \$1,500,000;
- Retention of the fundraising consulting firm of Havey & Associates, Inc. for a flat fee not to exceed \$40,000;
- Allocation of additional administrative expenses, anticipated to be approximately \$15,000; and
- Per the recommendation of the Task Force for Financial Planning, finance the Capital Campaign through an approved line of credit with our bank.

During the month of January you will be hearing more from the Campaign Steering Committee regarding the progress and planning of the capital campaign. Thank you in advance for your support of this important effort!

Chili Supper & Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 25th at 7:00 following a chili supper at 6:00 pm. We will be looking for volunteers to make chili and other dishes. Check the weekly Announcements for details. (Snowdate is Thursday, January 27th)



**Church Office Closings ~
When Bettendorf or Davenport
Schools are closed due to weather
conditions, the church office is
also closed.**

**Reminder ~ Simple Suppers,
TouchStones, Confirmation
and TECT Team will start
again on January 12th**

Thank You, Thank You, Thank You !!

Dear Edwards members and CareGivers, Thank you with all my heart for your phone calls, kindness, cards and most of all your prayers. Your support has touched me deeply and has been a huge help in getting through my recent knee replacement surgery. You have all made such a wonderful difference in our lives. God Bless you all, **Pat Baxter-Rebal** and **Ron Rebal**

I want to thank all the members of my church family for all the cards, visits, flowers, candy and cookies I've received. A special thank you to my Secret Angel for all the gifts of the last several weeks. Lately it seems that something good happens every day, and I appreciate it very much. I welcome all your visits, and wish you all a healthy and Happy New Year. **Nelda Paustian**

Thank you to **Cindy Kuhn** for providing the desserts when we prepare and serve meals at the Salvation Army community kitchen.

Thanks to **Katy Strzepak** for coordinating the SERRV sale in December.

Thanks to all who contributed to the Green Grass (Cheyenne River Sioux Reservation) Toy Drive either by purchasing a present or contributing to postage - we mailed 88 presents in 7 boxes!

Thanks to all bakers and buyers who made this year's Cookie Walk a huge success. Over \$1,000.00 was raised through the donation of over 170 dozen cookies. Thanks also to the board of Christian Education for sponsoring and organizing the Cookie Walk and lunch, and to the board of Trustees for cleaning up after the festivities.

Many thanks to Advent Special musicians: **Colin Young**, saxophone; **Promised Land Quartet** (**Cec Chapman**, **Robert Riedesel**, **Harry Swarts**, **Dick Werner** with new member **Michelle Hukvari**); the **Alleluia Ringers**, **Sandy Reinders**, director; **Keri Mueller**, oboe; **Elaine Lippert**, organ; **Mona Terry**, harp for the Blue Christmas worship; and the **Liturgical Dancers**, (**Blaine Chesley**, **Molly** and **Elyse Dye**, **Michaela Fessler** and **Kathy Lafrenz**, director) and **The Friends in Faith Band** and **the Children of Edwards** for the children's pageant music. What beautiful music each has made!

Thank you for the extraordinary music provided for the Christmas Eve Service by the **Alleluia Ringers**, **Sandy Reinders** directing, with added support by **Ray Ball-Trevor**, **Susan Chesley**, and **Kathy Lafrenz**; and the **Chancel Choir**, augmented by **Elaine Lippert**, **Kailan Lafrenz**, **Kaela Swarts**, and **Joshua Weiss**. Thank you for the wonderful additional music by **Suzanne Benson**, **Elizabeth Knoche**, **Paul Trapkus**, violins, **Kaela Swarts**, viola, **Isaac Trapkus**, bass, **Mona Terry**, harp, **Elaine Lippert**, organ, **Michelle Hukvari**, piano, and **Bobbi Rudiger**, **Kathy Lafrenz**, **John Chesley** and **Joshua Weiss**, percussion.

Thanks to **Dave VanDerKamp** for making the music sound beautiful each week and especially on Christmas Eve and to **Woody Perkins** for the pictures that make us smile.

Thank you to groups from the **Promised Land Quartet** and **The Friends In Faith Band** for representing Edwards at special events in community churches.

Thanks to **Marilyn Riedesel** and **Steve Wildemuth** who provided more book storage hammocks for the choir loft.

Who . . . What . . . When . . . Where . . .

	January 2	January 9	January 16	January 23	January 30
	Communion Sunday	Potluck	New Member Class		
Preacher	Katherine Mulhern	Katherine Mulhern	Katherine Mulhern	Katherine Mulhern	Katherine Mulhern
Chancel Set-up	Marilyn Riedesel Terry Schlabach	Carol Hart	Sandy Reinders		Terry Schlabach
Scripture Reader	Suzanne Benson	Ray Ball	Elisabeth Norwood	Bobbi Rudiger	Mary Hein
Communion Servers	Marilyn Riedesel, Terry Schlabach, Dick Dulaney				
Special Music	Carolina Warren-Collison	Chancel Choir	Elaine Lippert Alleluia Ringers	Promised Land Quartet	Friends in Faith Band
Sound System	David VanDerKamp	David VanDerKamp	David VanDerKamp	David VanDerKamp	David VanDerKamp
Visitor Guides	Membership Board	Membership Board	Membership Board	Membership Board	Membership Board
Greeters	Ruth Bowers Teresa Caligaris Carol Carroll Bill Coker	Bev Bergert Steve Chesley Judy Collins Pat Cresap	Edith Egli Chris Fessler Michaela Fessler Ollie Gallaher	Angela Elliott Dick Vallandingham Pam Edmond Ruth Hefferman	John Harnung Susan Harnung Ardis Kasper George Kovacs
Ushers	Bev Bergert Barb Bleedorn Steve Chesley Dick Dulaney	Bob Anderson Judy Collins Becky David Ryan Dye	Pam Edmond Sally Egy Angela Elliott Dick Vallandingham	Ollie Gallaher Anne-Marie Gephart John Harnung Susan Harnung	Sue Harrington Mary Hein Dee Hillyer Brad Hixon
Coffee Hour Hosts - AM	Martha and Richard Jirus	Potluck	Starr Perry and Patricia Hartley	Carol Carroll	George and Ann Kovacs
Lock-up	Woody Perkins	George Kovacs	Steve Wildemuth	Ann Criswell	Joyce Paustian
CareGivers On Call	Ann Kovacs Kay Stiles Sarah Kenneke	Fran Wolfe Lois Larew	Kay Stiles Suzanne Benson		

Where there are blanks, we may need your help!! Please call the church office to sign up.

JANUARY 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26 FOOD PANTRY SUNDAY 9:00 AM Chancel Choir Rehearsal 10:15 AM Worship 10:30 AM Children's Chapel	27 Office Closed 6:30 PM Alleluia Ringers Rehearsal	28	29	30 6:30 PM Steps to Serenity Al-Anon Meeting	31 2010 Books Close Office Closed	 New Year's Day
2 10:15 AM Worship 10:30 AM Children's Chapel	3 Office Closed 6:30 PM Alleluia Ringers Rehearsal	4 9:00 AM Board Report Due	5 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal	6 6:30 PM Steps to Serenity Al-Anon Meeting	7	8
9 9:00 AM Chancel Choir Rehearsal 10:15 AM Worship 10:30 AM Children's Chapel 11:30 AM Potluck after Worship	10 6:30 PM Alleluia Ringers Rehearsal	11 6:30 PM Board Meetings 7:30 PM Council Meeting	12 5:30 PM Choir Dinner 5:30 PM Simple Supper 6:00 PM Confirmation Class 6:00 PM TECT Team 6:00 PM TouchStones 7:00 PM Music & Movement	13 6:30 PM Steps to Serenity Al-Anon Meeting	14	15
16 9:00 AM Chancel Choir Rehearsal 10:15 AM Worship 10:30 AM Children's Chapel 11:30 AM Newcomers Inquiry Class	17  Martin L. King, Jr. Day Office Closed 9:00 AM NEWSLETTER DEADLINE 6:30 PM Alleluia Ringers Rehearsal	18 6:30 PM Task Force Meetings	19 5:30 PM Simple Supper 6:00 PM Confirmation Class 6:00 PM TECT Team 6:00 PM TouchStones 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal 7:00 PM Music & Movement	20 6:00 PM Women's Night Out 6:30 PM Steps to Serenity Al-Anon Meeting	21	22
23 FOOD PANTRY SUNDAY 9:00 AM Chancel Choir Rehearsal 10:15 AM Worship 10:30 AM Children's Chapel	24 6:30 PM Alleluia Ringers Rehearsal	25  5:00 PM Friends in Faith Rehearsal 6:00 PM Annual Meeting	26 5:30 PM Simple Supper 6:00 PM Confirmation Class 6:00 PM TECT Team 6:00 PM TouchStones 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal 7:00 PM Music & Movement	27 4:15 PM Kids in Mission 6:00 PM (Annual Meeting Snowdate) 6:30 PM Steps to Serenity Al-Anon Meeting	28	29
30 9:00 AM Chancel Choir Rehearsal 10:15 AM Worship 10:30 AM Children's Chapel	31 6:30 PM Alleluia Ringers Rehearsal	1	2 5:30 PM Simple Supper 6:00 PM Confirmation Class 6:00 PM TECT Team 6:00 PM TouchStones 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal 7:00 PM Music & Movement	3 6:30 PM Steps to Serenity Al-Anon Meeting	4	

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welcome

Whoever you are
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For the most current up-to-date
 calendar information go to
www.edwards-ucc.org
 and click on the calendar link

The Gift That Keeps On Giving

Yet to all who received him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God. John 1:12 (NIV)

Based on John 1:10-18 (NIV)



M Q M W C P F E X C E B E D Y
W E T V V Y N J V C P Z F C B
X O W N W V L Z L H G W A H E
U E R O Q M H E L R P M J I L
U J H D R D Y K R I C K M L I
J P R T O L N I S S X I C D E
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T S B J L B L E S S I N G Y O

CHILDREN
GRACE
GLORY

BELIEVE
BLESSING
CHRIST

DWELLING
JESUS
FLESH

TRUTH
WORD
WORLD

RECEIVE
GOD
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January 2011



The Office will be Closed:

Fri., Dec. 31
Mon., Jan. 3
Mon., Jan. 17

Food Pantry Sunday January 23rd!!

Non-perishables are greatly needed by the food pantries. Fill an Edwards bag to share with hungry families.

EDWARDS CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Katherine A. Mulhern, Pastor
Rev. Jean Norton, Minister of Music
Susan Chesley, Minister of Christian Education
Crystal Silva-McCormick, Youth Director
Geri Dulaney, Membership Coordinator
Bobbi Rudiger, CareGiver Coordinator
Kathy Bowerman, Church Secretary
Cathy Loughead, Bookkeeper
Judy Collins, Moderator
Joe Opsal, Custodian

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