

EDWARDS
 CONGREGATIONAL
UNITED CHURCH
 OF CHRIST

Edwards Editor

3420 Jersey Ridge Rd., Davenport, IA 52807-2222

www.edwards-ucc.org

Phone: (563) 359-0331 Fax: (563) 359-8221

Published Monthly, Vol. 60 No. 1

January 2012

Articles for next issue due by Noon, Friday, 1/13/12

Submitted items are subject to editing.

2011 Annual Meeting

When: Tuesday, January 31st at 6:00 PM

Where: Education Wing / Sanctuary

What: Chili Supper / Annual Meeting

Snowdate: Thursday, February 2nd

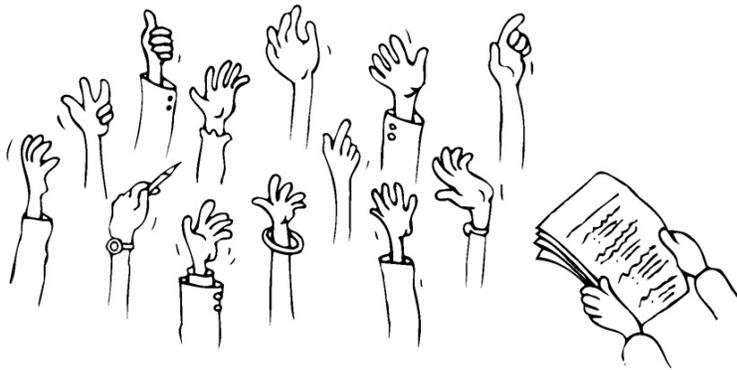


Table of Contents

From Our Pastor	2	With Our People	6	Calendar	10
Edwards Worship	3	Beyond Our Walls	7		
Youth & Music	4	Thank You	8		
Church Business	5	Who What When Where	9		

From Our Pastor's Desk...

At Christmas, we sing the beautiful (haunting, really) carol - *O Little Town of Bethlehem*. The line that always runs through my head is the reminder of the promise that comes with the Christ-child's birth: *the hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight*. It is a beautiful, bittersweet promise - a reminder that there are so many hopes and so many dreams that are unfulfilled - waiting for a savior to make it all new.

As we turn toward the New Year, there is both freshness and a sense of the bittersweet that is hard to adequately name in words. The calendar is blank - waiting for the days to be filled in with appointments and new possibilities - but also filled with the unknown.

Maybe this year will bring a good surprise - a new baby or a degree earned or love rekindled or a long-awaited job offer. Maybe this will be the year when all your hard work will pay off - in a promotion or a new home or a wonderful vacation. *The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight*.

For some, the New Year is a reminder of grief or loss. There may be a hole in your heart as you remember the one who has passed from your presence but not from your life. There may have been a job lost or a dream shattered. It takes time to rebuild a life and find new hope. In this economy, it takes time to find a new job. It is all too easy to live with the fear that your world will never again be right. *The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight*.

In spite of past failure or disappointment there is always the hope that maybe THIS year will be the one when life finally falls into place. THIS is the year when we will _____ (you fill it in!) - lose weight, spend more time with our family, win the lottery...

The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.

As we begin a new year, it is worth pondering - what are the hopes and the fears that converged at the manger so long ago? What is the song that the angels sing? If we listen carefully, the hopes are about justice and peace. They are hopes about dignity for all people - even forgettable refugees like Mary and Joseph. They are dreams about God's kingdom of compassion and care come true on earth. And they are the fears that the Herods of the world will all-too-easily snuff out God's dreams for the world.

At Sue Harrington's ordination, we heard a beautiful reading from St. Teresa of Avila: *Christ has no body but yours, no hands, no feet on earth but yours. Yours are the eyes with which he looks compassion on this world. Yours are the feet with which he walks to do good. Yours are the hands with which he blesses all the world.*

The "hope of all the years" is the dream of justice and peace and harmony and shalom. God's hope for the world now rests in our hands. Christ was born to show us the way, to share God's light, to embody God's love. As we begin a new year, I pray that each of us will find ways to be the fulfillment of God's dream for the world. Find a new way to share compassion with someone less fortunate. Rededicate yourself to a practice of love for people you know and people you don't. Renew your spirit as you practice Sabbath-keeping week by week. In those ways, the spirit of Christmas will live - not just for a few weeks in December - but all year long. Happy New Year!

January Scriptures

January 1, 2012

Isaiah 61:10-62:3

Psalms 148

Galatians 4:4-7

Luke 2:22-40



January 8, 2012

Genesis 1:1-5

Psalms 29

Acts 19:1-7

Mark 1:4-11



January 15, 2012

I Samuel 3: 1-10, (11-20)

Psalms 139:1-6, 13-18

1 Corinthians 6:12-20

John 1:43-51

January 22, 2012

Jonah 3:1-5, 10

Psalms 62:5-12

1 Corinthians 7:29-31

Mark 1:14-20



January 29, 2012

Deuteronomy 18:15-20

Psalms 111

1 Corinthians 8:1-13

Mark 1:21-28

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

Prayer for Christian Unity

This year, the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity is January 18-25, a week when we pray with Christians around the world for unity among all Christians - regardless of the specific positions we may hold on particular theological issues. Every year, Churches United of the Quad Cities Area holds a prayer service and invites all churches in the area to participate.

This year, the Prayer Service for Christian Unity will be held at Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church, 1330-13th St. Moline, at 3:00 on January 22. Rev. Kerrin Kirkpatrick of Asbury United Methodist Church in Bettendorf will be the preacher. Please consider representing Edwards UCC as we pray that we "all may be one."

The Power of ONE

Saturday, January 14 at 6:00 pm at Centennial Hall, Augustana College and the Dr. King Celebration Committee invite members of the community to join their annual tribute to Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Special performers will include the Community Gospel Chorus, The Westbrook Singers, Imani! Dancers, Redeemed Voices, "Celebration", Augustana's Gospel Choir, I AM Productions, LLC and Augustana's Theater Department.

TouchStones begin the new year on **Wednesday, January 11th**. A Simple Supper is served from 5:30-6:00, followed by TouchStones from 6:00-7:00. **TouchStones** is a faith formation program specially designed and written for children Pre-K through 5th grade. The **TouchStones** class runs simultaneous with the Confirmation and TECT programs. For more information, please contact Susan Chesley at church or at home (332-2300).

Children's Choir: Elaine Lippert offers our children an additional opportunity to "stretch" their voices every Wednesday evening from 5:00-5:30 in Children's Choir. While music is an integral part of regular programming for children and youth, Children's Choir provides a more focused and challenging experience for young singers. For more information, please contact Elaine @ 388-2109 or Susan Chesley @ church or at home 332-2300.

Kids in Mission: Children and youth are invited to serve supper at the Churches United meal site located at Mt. Zion Baptist Church in East Moline on **Thursday, January 26th**. Meet at church at 4:15 to prepare supper. We will leave church by 5:20 and return by 7:00. Parents are welcome to serve with their children. For more information, contact Susan Chesley @ 332-2300.

Confirmation: Will begin again on Wednesday, January 11th. Simple supper begins at 5:30, class begins at 6:00 and is finished at 7:30.

SAVE THE DATE

March 25th will be the Annual Concert featuring Promised Land, and possibly the Alleluia Ringers and Friends in Faith Band. Would you like to offer some music as well? It will be a night of a cabaret of music... your talents are needed! Give Jean a call at 359-0331 ext. 13 and sign up for this fun afternoon of music making.

Special Music in January

- January 1:** Rachel Sedgwick, guitar solo
- January 8:** Chancel Choir resumes
- January 15:** Alleluia Ringers
Sandy Reinders, director
- January 22:** 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 on the following dates:

- Chancel Choir:**
Wednesday, Jan. 4th, 6:30 pm
Epiphany Party at Mulhern/Werner's
- Regular Rehearsals Resume
Wednesdays, Jan. 11th, 7 - 8:30 pm
- Alleluia Ringers:**
Mondays, Jan. 9th, 6:30 - 8 pm.
- Friends in Faith Band:**
Friday, January 13th, 5:30 pm
New Year's Supper and Planning

Reminder ~ Simple Suppers, TouchStones, Confirmation and TECT Team will start again on **January 11th**



Building, Building, Building!

The kitchen has been dismantled and is in the process of being rebuilt from the floor up. We expect to be finished by the middle of February - just in time for Lenten Wednesdays! Meanwhile, Sunday morning coffee will be served from a cart, and Wednesday night suppers will be picnic-style! The name of the game this winter is "FLEXIBILITY"!

And when the kitchen's done....we'll start on the bathrooms!

Meanwhile, the mudhole that was the front yard has been graveled over, the block walls are up, the steel supports are next and pretty soon there will be a roof!

Richard Jirus is here every day, working with the contractor to make sure that everything is being done the way we want it done. Dick Werner, too, is helping to check every detail - making sure that we aren't being billed for something that hasn't been finished! The Donuts and Hammers group has been AMAZING - moving things, setting up things, tearing down things!

So... EXCUSE OUR MESS! We are in the process of being re-made! Remember, our projected finish date is May 31st! It'll be here before we know it. Be patient and enjoy the different ways that we are doing things as we adapt to an ever-changing building!

Building Forum

Join us in the library following worship on January 15th for a brief building status update. Building Task Force members will be available to answer any questions you may have. As always, you can direct any questions you may have, anytime, to any one of the staff or a Task Force member. If they don't know the answer, they will get one for you.

Chili Supper & Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 31st 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, February 2nd)



Leadership Coffee

For existing and incoming board members there will be a leadership coffee on February 4th from 9:30 to 11:30 in Baxter Fellowship Hall. Please plan on attending this very informative meeting.

Capital Campaign Updates

We would like to thank **Sue Harrington** for serving as the Capital Campaign Secretary this past year. During the month of January Reverend Sue Harrington will be transitioning the duties of the Capital Campaign Secretary to **Merlyn Lippert**, who has accepted our invitation to serve our church in this capacity.

Thank you for faithfully making you pledge payments on time — and please continue to do so — your pledges are making visible differences!

As of December 20, 2011

Total Funds Pledged: \$1,275,000

Projected... \$255,700

Actual Received... \$251,700

You will receive your year-end Capital Campaign giving statement by January 30, 2012.

Keep In Our Prayers

- + **Bob and Suzanne Benson**, new grandparents to Trevor Noah Joslin born to Emily Benson and Tom Joslin, December 13.
- + **Becky David**, recovering from surgery
- + **Rev. Sue Harrington**, ordained to the Christian Ministry, December 18, and beginning as Pastor and Teacher at First Congregational UCC in Canton, IL on February 1st.
- + **Cindy Kuhn**, grieving the death of her father.
- + **Robert Riedesel**, celebrating retirement
- + **Marty and Terry Schlabach**, new grandparents to Finnley Vaen, born to Erin, December 18.
- + **Lou and Norma Wren**, celebrating their 50th Wedding Anniversary

Help Wanted

The Social Justice Board is looking for a few people to help with our Fair Trade sales of coffee, tea, chocolate, almonds, and cocoa on the third Sunday of each month. If you can come early to help set up the sale table and/or stay after church on that Sunday it would be greatly appreciated. If interested please contact Jess Evans at (309)277-0814.

January Birthdays

- 3 Ella Scales
- 6 Kerry Fear
- 6 Stephanie Kieffer
- 6 Aidan Kyte
- 7 Fay McCarrel
- 8 Sarah Dixon
- 8 Aidan McCormick
- 8 Dao Molis
- 11 Nolan Stratton
- 12 Pat Cresap
- 13 Steve Knoche
- 13 Britt McCoy
- 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



Church & Office Closings ~

When Bettendorf or Davenport Schools are closed due to weather conditions, the church office is also closed.

If school events are cancelled on Wednesday evenings, there will be no church programming.

Caregiver Updates

As **Sue Harrington** moves on to be the Pastor at First Congregational UCC in Canton, Ohio, the Personnel Committee is interviewing to fill the position ASAP!

Last month, we shared with you that the Caregivers - as a team - are getting tired. They have more work than they can handle, and so we are turning to you! Would you be interested in helping with Caregiving at Edwards? We all know how important their work is, and it cannot continue without new people sharing their hands and hearts. As the New Year begins, please consider what you can do. Talk with Katherine. Talk with one of the Caregivers. You could make a big difference for someone.

In addition to needing more people, the Caregivers feel that it is important to outline what we - as a church - can do as we seek to walk with all our members through good times and bad. So, here's the beginning of a "list" that is certainly not all-inclusive, but can serve as a guideline as we move forward.

People who are in the hospital can expect daily visits from the pastoral staff of our church. People in a nursing home can expect that they will be called on by someone from the church at least once a month. They will also receive cards of support and prayer on a regular basis. When you are coming home from the hospital, or facing some other medical or family crisis, Edwards will offer to provide one meal a week.

Pastoral care is central to "who we are" as a church, and it is important to the staff and the Caregivers that we provide the best care possible. Please let Katherine know if you have questions or concerns, or if you would like to schedule a visit from the Caregivers or the Pastor.

Dear Friends, I would like to thank all those who helped with my big move from my house of ten years. I especially want to thank **Julie Henke** who helped me with the overwhelming task of packing and purging prior to the move. And, I want to thank **Julie** again along with **Cathie Miller** and **Mike Fessler** for helping with the move itself. I couldn't have done it without you! Also, I am most grateful for all who helped me after my recent knee surgery, especially **Julie Henke, Cathie Miller** and **Sue Harrington** along with all the others from the **CareGiver ministry** who visited me at home, brought food, and helped with rides. I also want to thank all who prayed for me and called during this time. I am blessed by a great church family!
Sincerely, **Lisa Westbrooks (Whitfield)**

Dearest Friends of Edwards, It is with full heart we write to express our appreciation for your continued support. The Thanksgiving Baskets (and additional hams and turkeys) were greatly appreciated by our neighbors in need at 6th and Vine Street. A special thanks to **Terry** and **Marty Schlabach, Carol Hart, Miriam Prichard, Dick Dulaney, Susan** and **John Chesley** and, always, **Milo Smith**.

Your monetary gifts each quarter have helped to make sure milk and meat are available. Many bless your name when we share "why" we can share milk with them.

Sharon Wildemuth and her team have made sure veggies from the Farmers Market make it to the tables of our clients - many thanks!

We are so blessed to have you in our lives. May God continue to bless your hearts and hands. Always, **Pat Bereskin, Central Community Circle Food Pantry**.

Thank You, Thank You, Thank You !!

Christmas Gratitude:

I am so grateful to the patient guidance and loving attention given to our children and youth by those adults who helped them unfold the story of Christmas in this year's pageant. **Kathy Lafrenz** worked for weeks with the Edwards Liturgical Dancers and their many hours of practice produced an inspirational opening for the pageant. **Elaine Lippert** directed the Children's Choir, gathering their voices in harmony and challenging their expression. **Jean Norton** provided accompaniment, support, humor, wisdom, and centering, inviting even the youngest child to sing from the soul! **Woody Perkins** scanned the children's artwork and made possible what I could only dream. **Steve Chesley** managed the sound board and flipped mics on and off so tiny voices could be carried out to the last pews. **Miriam Prichard and the TECT Youth**, who not only opened worship in song, but worked alongside the children in the messy art of finger paint and the challenge of costume fitting.

And, as always, **Cathy Wetzel** guided the children through lessons in art, music, drama and discovery. Cathy's perennial presence has grounded the TouchStones children's program in a continuity of care that is the symbol of dedication and devotion to children. And thank you to our **parents**, who step forward again and again and again to support all the children of Edwards and insure that the faith expressed in a single moment ripples out through generations to come!

Peace and thanksgiving to all, **Susan Chesley**

Many thanks to Advent special musicians: **The Friends in Faith Band**, **Strings 'R Us**: **Katie Dircks**, viola, **Abby Weyman** and **Susan Dircks**, cello, **Rachel Sedgwick**, guitar, **Mary Beth Dircks**, piano, and **Suzanne Benson**, director; the **Alleluia Ringers**, **Merlyn Lippert**, conducting. Thank you to the **Liturgical Dancers**, **Kathy Lafrenz**, director and **TECT Team**, **Youth and Children of Edwards**, **Elaine Lippert**, director for the children's pageant music. What beautiful music each has made!

Thank you to **Janet Sedgwick** for the lovely floral and crèche arrangement in the chancel during Advent. Thank you to **Suzanne Benson** and **Elaine Lippert** for generous donations of music for the strings and children's programs.

Thank you for the Christmas Eve Service music shared by the **Chancel Choir**, augmented by **Mary Hein**, **Elaine Lippert**, **Kaela Swarts**, **Josh Weiss**, and **Christine Wren** and the wonderful additional music by **Mona Terry**, harp, **Robert Riedesel**, trumpet, and **Michelle Hukvari**, piano accompanist.

Thanks to **Steve Chesley** for making it possible for us to hear even the children in the pageant, and to **Woody Perkins** and **Joyce Paustian** for the pictures that make us smile.

Thanks to all the bakers and buyers who made this year's Cookie Walk a success. We raised \$941.00! Thank you, also, to the Board of Christian Education for sponsoring this event.

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

	January 1	January 8	January 15	January 22	January 29
	Communion Sunday		Food Pantry		
Preacher	Katherine Mulhern	Katherine Mulhern	Katherine Mulhern	Katherine Mulhern	Katherine Mulhern
Chancel Set-up	Sandy Reinders	Carol Hart	Marilyn Riedesel	John Keraus	Kay Anthony
Altar Flowers	Kay Anthony				Dick & Geri Dulaney
Acolytes		Madelyn Dye Molly Dye	Parker Sedgwick Christopher Molis	Isabel Sinksen Paige Sinksen	Cormac Warren Lars Meseske-Wren
Scripture Reader	Mila Smith	Sandy Reinders	Youth	John Keraus	Terry Schlabach
Special Music	Rachael Sedgwick		Alleluia Ringers	Friends in Faith	
Sound System	Steve Chesley	Steve Chesley	Steve Chesley	Steve Chesley	Steve Chesley
Nursery	Robert Norwood	Kassidy Holdridge	Elyse Dye	Kelsey Sedgwick	Chloe Van Blair
Ushers	Anne-Marie Gephart Brad Hixon Lyle Stratton Fran Wolfe	Bev Bergert Barb Bleedorn Brian Dugan Dick Dulaney	Caroline Evans Erica Schroeder Dick Vallandingham Dave Wymore	Bob Anderson Judy Collins George Kovacs Joyce Paustian	Ryan Dye John Harnung Mary Hein Margaret Wilber
Greeters	Bev Bergert Ruth Bowers Chris Medina Jeannine Miller	Teresa Caligaris Bill Coker Joyce Paustian Sandy Reinders	Pat Cresap Ann Criswell Judy Collins Tina Rivera	Pam Edmond Edith Egli Terry Schlabach Erica Schroeder	Chris Fessler Dorothy Hammond Janet Sedgwick Beverly Simpson
Coffee Hour	Richard & Martha Jirus		Edith Egli		
Lock-up	Joyce Paustian	Brian Dugan	Woody Perkins	Steve Wildemuth	John Harnung

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

JANUARY 2012

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 10:15 AM Worship	2 OFFICE CLOSED	3 9:00 AM Board Reports Due 5:15 PM Zumba	4 6:00 PM Choir Epiphany Party	5 6:30 PM Steps to Serenity AI-Anon Meeting	6	7 9:15 AM Zumba
8 9:15 AM Chancel Choir Rehearsal 10:15 AM Worship 10:30 AM Children's Chapel 11:45 AM Liturgical Dance Rehearsal	9 6:30 PM Alleluia Ringers Rehearsal	10 8:30 AM Donuts & Hammers	11 5:00 PM Youth Choir 5:30 PM Simple Supper 6:00 PM Confirmation 6:00 PM TECT Team 6:00 PM TouchStones 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal	12 6:30 PM Steps to Serenity AI-Anon Meeting	13 5:30 PM Friends in Faith Supper & Planning	14 9:15 AM Zumba
15 9:15 AM Chancel Choir Rehearsal 10:15 AM Worship 10:30 AM Children's Chapel 11:45 AM Building Info Update 11:45 AM Liturgical Dance Rehearsal	16 OFFICE CLOSED 6:30 PM Alleluia Ringers Rehearsal	17 12:00 PM CareGivers Meeting	18 5:00 PM Youth Choir 5:30 PM Simple Supper 6:00 PM Confirmation 6:00 PM TECT Team 6:00 PM TouchStones 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal	19 6:30 PM Steps to Serenity AI-Anon Meeting	20	21 9:15 AM Zumba
22 FOOD PANTRY SUNDAY 9:15 AM Chancel Choir Rehearsal 10:15 AM Worship 10:30 AM Children's Chapel 11:45 AM Liturgical Dance Rehearsal	23 9:00 AM NEWSLETTER DEADLINE 6:30 PM Alleluia Ringers Rehearsal	24 8:30 AM Donuts & Hammers	25 5:00 PM Youth Choir 5:30 PM Simple Supper 6:00 PM Confirmation 6:00 PM TECT Team 6:00 PM TouchStones 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal	26 4:15 PM Kids in Mission 6:30 PM Steps to Serenity AI-Anon Meeting	27	28 9:15 AM Zumba
29 9:15 AM Chancel Choir Rehearsal 10:15 AM Worship 10:30 AM Children's Chapel 11:45 AM Liturgical Dance Rehearsal	30 6:30 PM Alleluia Ringers Rehearsal	31 6:00 PM Chili Supper 7:00 PM Annual Meeting	1 5:00 PM Youth Choir 5:30 PM Simple Supper 6:00 PM Confirmation 6:00 PM TECT Team 6:00 PM TouchStones 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal	2 (Annual Meeting Snowdate) 6:30 PM Steps to Serenity AI-Anon Meeting	3	4 9:15 AM Zumba 9:30 AM Leadership Coffee

EDWARDS CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST



Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage PAID
Davenport, IA
Permit No. 399

Address Service Requested

3420 Jersey Ridge Rd
Davenport, IA 52807-2222
Office: (563) 359-0331
FAX: (563) 359-8221

January 2012



Change of Address

In order to avoid return postage charges, please notify the church office of any change in your mailing address at 563-359-0331.



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

SAVE THESE DATES!!

Jan. 11	Wednesday Night Programming resumes
Jan. 15	Food Pantry Sunday
Jan. 15	Building Status Update
Jan. 31	Annual Meeting

EDWARDS CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Katherine A. Mulhern, Pastor
Rev. Jean Norton, Minister of Music
Susan Chesley, Minister of Christian Education
Miriam Prichard, Youth Director
Geri Dulaney, Membership Coordinator
Kathy Bowerman, Church Secretary
Cathy Loughead, Bookkeeper
Bob Riedesel, Moderator
Joe Opsal, Custodian

katherine@edwards-ucc.org
jean@edwards-ucc.org
susan@edwards-ucc.org
miriam@edwards-ucc.org
geri@edwards-ucc.org
kathy@edwards-ucc.org
loughead@mchsi.com
rmrhome@aol.com