



EDWARDS CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

United Church of Christ

3420 Jersey Ridge Rd., Davenport, IA 52807

www.edwards-ucc.org

Phone: (563) 359-0331

EDWARDS EDITOR Published Monthly

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Calling All Musicians!

SUMMER APPROACHES! And that means we need Special Music for Sunday morning worship, while the weekly and monthly musicians take a much needed break.

Do you have music you have been wanting to hear? Can you play it? Can you sing it? Is there someone with whom you would enjoy making music? We need YOU! Be creative! Find someone new to enjoy - or sing or play a favorite solo. Bring back a group you have played with before. Ask your siblings, parent, grandchild or child to come home to Edwards for a Sunday morning - with some music in tow!

Please sign up on the weekly announcement sheet in church - indicate how many musicians and what instrument and when you cannot be here. Or call the church office and leave a message for Jean at 359-0331 ext 12. The church thanks you for your musical offerings!

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Seminary News!!!!

Becky Klemme, our Seminary Student at Eden Theological Seminary in St. Louis will GRADUATE on May 12th! Please! Share the joy with a card or a note to:

Becky Klemme
47 N. Bompert #26
St. Louis, MO 63119-3253

AND! Edwards now has another Student In Care of the Eastern Association! Becky David has been received by the Association, and is preparing for ordination in the UCC. She has already finished her seminary training - receiving her M.Div. from Loyolla University last spring, and is currently the Manager of the Spiritual Care Department at Genesis Hospital!

CONGRATULATIONS....
BECKY KLEMME AND BECKY DAVID!

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From Our Pastor s Desk. . . .

No matter who you are, no matter where you are on life s journey, you are welcome here. Those are words that I have heard a lot lately. The new UCC television ad speaks them with a moving sincerity. (If you haven t had a chance to see the new ad, go to our website - www.edwards-ucc.org - for a link to the commercial.)

Rev. Michael Kinnamon, who teaches at Eden Seminary, listed his 10 reasons for being a part of the United Church of Christ in the UCC News last month. They are worth considering:

1. Because in an era when communities so often define themselves by whom they exclude, this community joyfully claims an identity as those who welcome the excluded, even as Christ welcomed us.
2. Because in an age of growing fundamentalism, this community joyfully seeks to be a people of the Book , who, at the same time, feel no need to protect the Bible from the modern world.
3. Because in a society where beating the competition is regarded as the highest value, this community joyfully treasures the gifts that God has given to other parts of Christ s one body, and to neighbors of other faiths.
4. Because, instead of focusing only on personal blessedness in another world, this community joyfully focuses on the power of God to make this world a place of shalom for all God s children.
5. Because, in a culture dominated by images of self-fulfillment, this community joyfully celebrates that its members live no longer for themselves, but for Christ, and, thus, for their neighbors, each of whom bears the sacred image of the Creator.
6. Because, resisting the extremes of hierarchical power and do-your-own-thing individualism, this community joyfully attempts to live by covenant of mutual accountability, grounded in God s covenant with us.
7. Because, in an age, of horrifying violence, this community hears the call of the Holy Spirit to be just peacemakers, even when this is a costly thing to be.
8. Because, while it resists bumper-sticker religion, this community joyfully insists on thinking globally and acting locally.
9. Because, at its best, this community is marked by bold humility, precisely because it joyfully confesses that God is God and we aren t.
10. Because, in a culture that is willing to speak of God so long as God is kept safely contained in past traditions, this community joyfully proclaims that the living God is still speaking, and that is very good news.

The United Church of Christ may not be perfect....but it is a GOOD place!

Worship at Edwards...

May Scriptures

May 7:

Acts 4:5-12
Psalm 23
I John 3:16-24
John 10:11-18

May 14

Acts 8:26-40
Psalm 22:25-31
I John 4:7-21
John 15:1-8

May 21:

Acts 10:44-48
Psalm 98
I John 5:1-6
John 15:9-17

May 28:

Acts 1:15-17, 21-26
Psalm 1
I John 5:9-13
John 17:6-19

Handbell Concert

The Plymouth Festival Ringers from Plymouth Congregational Church Lawrence, Kansas will give a Concert at Edwards UCC, Wednesday, June 21. How can you be involved? Provide bed and breakfast for junior high through college age ringers and adult chaperones; help prepare and serve the evening meal before the concert; or invite your neighbors and friends to hear the concert. To volunteer - call Jean Norton, Sandy Reinders or Teresa King

Iowa Conference Choir

Would you like to sing in a mass choir? And understand more about the Iowa Conference of the UCC? The Annual Meeting will be June 16-17 in Grinnell, IA. Rehearsal for choir, will be May 7, 6:30 p.m. at Edwards. Sign-up on the Sunday morning tear-off sheet.

Contemporary Worship

The Contemporary Worship service that meets each Sunday at 5:30 pm will begin its summer schedule on May 7th. On the 7th, Tom Shadonix, the Iowa Conference Choir Director will be here to share his fiddle-playing, and we will have a potluck following worship.

The Contemporary Service will gather once a month through the summer on the third Sunday of the month at 5:30 pm, with a potluck following each service. June 18th, July 16th, and August 20th will be the dates. Mark your calendar NOW!

Confirmation

This year's Confirmation class is an extra-large one, combining students from several classes. On May 7th, we will Confirm 14 youth into membership at Edwards. They have spent this year learning more about the Bible than most of us adults know, and deserve our support and respect. Please let them know how proud we are of their accomplishments!

Congratulations Graduates

We will be recognizing our graduates on May 14. The are: High School: Brian Langfeldt, Pleasant Valley; Jasmine Terry Rankin and Alex Slack, Davenport Central; and Sarah Kenneke and Nolan Stratton, Bettendorf High School
Other: Becky Klemme, Eden Theological Seminary, St. Louis

Keep in Your Prayers

Our seminary Students as they finish the academic year, Sue Harrington, Becky Klemme and Timoth Sylvia, Madelyn Dye, home from the hospital Becky Klemme, graduating from Eden Seminary

Van Lewis, undergoing tests

Kathy Vance, who has announced her engagement to Corey Ramsey

Paul and Ethan Vordtriede baptized on April 30th

Our homebound members and friends: Gen Bainter, Nancy Bolyard, Leona Davis, Lynn Warren and Laurel Ogden.

Help Wanted Youth Director

Would you be interested in a half-time position, working with great youth, as part of a great staff?

Do you know someone who might be interested? Contact Katherine or the church office with any questions or to apply for the job!



Photo Directory Update

With a few glitches worked out, our new directory should be off to Olan Mills this week. Look for the directory soon!



Women s Day & Night Out

Women s Night Out - Thursday, May 18, 6:00 p.m. at Cracker Barrel

Women s Day Out - Thursday, May 25, 8:30 a.m., Princeton, IL

Notes Received

Lois Larew thanks the congregation for all their visits, cards, flowers and food she received during her recuperation.

Laurel Ogden thanks the congregation for the welcome she has received as she joined Edwards.

Wanted: Rocking Chairs

Do you have a rocking chair that you aren t using? The Membership Board is looking for rocking chairs and/or gliders that are in good condition. If you have one you could donate, please contact Geri Dulaney (323-2145) or the Church Office.

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

	May 7	May 14	May 21	May 28
Preacher	Katherine Mulhern	Katherine Mulhern	Katherine Mulhern	Katherine Mulhern
Guest Guides	Membership Board			
Greeters	Erica Schroeder Sue Curl Dick Dulaney	Barb & Mike Fleener Vonnie & Jack King	Amanda Loughead Cathy Loughead Nelda Paustian Joyce Paustian	Carol & Don Carroll Bonnie & Ned Walling
Ushers	Russ Dircks Anne-Marie Gephart Margaret Wilber Jim Groenenboom	Steve Knoche Randy & Noreen Kuhlmann Eric Crawford	Joe Hall Steve Wildemuth Clyde Durrah Pat Rosburg	Mike Fleener Margaret Wilber Dick Dulaney Tom Kenneke
Nursery 10:15 a.m.	Chris & Michael Fessler	Bonnie Walling Mary Hein		Chris Zippe
Caregivers on Call	Martha Jirus Joyce Swartz	Sharon Wildemuth Ruth Bowers	Evona Petherick Chris Fessler	Jean Neavor Carol Bachellor
Coffee Hour Hosts	Katy Strzepek Ryan Dye	Dee Hillyer		
Scripture Reader	Mary Hein	Kathy Lafrenz	Tim Mandell	Rhoda Molleston
Chancel Set- Up	Pat Rosburg Tracy Miller	Tracy Miller	Dick Dulaney	Chris Zippe
Sound System	Dave VanDerKamp			
Lock-Up Trustee	Dave Reinders	Tim Mandell	Dave Wymore	Mike Fessler

Where blanks appear, we need your HELP!!! Please call the church office, 359-0331 to sign-up. Thank you!! If you are not able to fulfill your assignment, please call a replacement or call the church office, 359-0331, ext. 10. Thank you.

May Birthdays

1 - Joe Potter
2 - Evona Petherick
3 - Muskan Kandel
4 - Gen Bainter
4 - Shannon Crawford
4 - Katie Dircks
6 - Katherine Mulhern
6 - Kathy Lafrenz
6 - Hannah Ohlweiler
7 - John Chesley
9 - ShaRee Tinkle
11- Carol BAchellor
11 - Geri Dulaney
12- Dessah Huffman
14 - Joe Hall
14- Angie Wilbricht
15 - Emily Norwood
16 - Julee JOrdening

17 - Don Carroll
19 - Lee Albertson
19 - Rachel Fuller
25 - Patti Bellman
26 - Cathy Loughead
26 - Kevin Raap
17 - Marti Dunn-Hall
28 - Dee Hillyer
28 - Tom Felts
28 - Carson Ohlweiler
29 - Ron Rebal
29 - Kailan Lafrenz
31 - Randy Kuhlmann

If your birthday was
inadvertently omitted or
incorrect, please notify the
church office with the correct
information. Thank you.

Thank You, Thank You. . . .

Becky David and Jean Norton for leading the SABBATH Lenten series with music and reflection on Wednesday evenings.

The Chancel choir and the Friends in Faith Band for weekly Sunday gifts!!!

Mona Terry, Suzanne Benson, Evangeline Lewis, Bonnie Walling, Martha Jirus, Harry Swarts, Robert Riedesel, Sandy Reinders (handbell choir director) Merlin Bachellor and Kathy Lafrenz, Palm Sunday musicians and soloists, plus the children, chancel and handbell choirs

Palm Sunday Liturgical Dancers: Blaine Chesley, Shannon Crawford, Amanda Loughhead, Cathy Wetzel, Kathy Lafrenz, director

The readers from Maundy Thursday: Carol Bachellor, Bill Coker, Shannon Crawford, Becky David, Emily Doll, Dick Dulaney, Ryan Dye, Jennifer Jordening, Dick Lafrenz, Kailan Lafrenz, Amanda Loughhead, Tim Mandell, Nolan Stratton, Katy Strzepek, Cathy Wetzel and Kathy Lafrenz, director

Dick Werner, Matt Randall, Robert Riedesel, Austin Langfeldt, Brent Tunis (Austins friend), Kailan Lafrenz, Kaela Swarts, Alex Slack and Chris Zippe, director, Easter Instrumental Ensemble.

Bonnie Walling for adding wonderful piano to worship and Mary Beth Dircks and Brad Miller for their great piano duet.

Melissa Randall, Sarah and Emily Kenneke, Blaine and John Chesley, Alex Sedgwick, Kailan Lafrenz, Carol Stratton, and Jennifer Jordening for teaching during our Holy Week Rotation.

Marilyn Riedesel for EXTRA special Easter Sunday breakfast and brunch!

Cathy Miller, Steve Chesley, Mike and Chris Fessler, and Janet Heeter for their help with the TGIF Earth Day Celebration.

Sue and Curly Curl, Paul Petherick, Dick Jirus, Woody Perkins and Dick Werner for helping bag and deliver potatoes for Churches United Food Pantries

April Nursery Helpers: Chris Zippe, Mary Hein, Amy Farber, Helene Karp and Erin Weinstein (Friends from Temple Emanuel); Teresa & Melissa King

April Newsletter Helpers: Dorothy Hammond, Joyce Swartz, Jean Neavor and Geri Dulaney

Spring Clean-Up Helpers: Dick Dulaney, Michael Fessler, John & Dorothy Hammond, Dick & Martha Jirus, Cathie Miller, Joyce Paustian, Sandy Reinders, Milo Smith, Sandy Sohr, Pam Swanson and Dick Werner.



Mission at Edwards.....

Blood Drive

Saturday, June 3, blood drive in Baxter Hall from 7:00a.m.- 11:00a.m. Our goal for this drive is 30 units of blood. Only blood donations given in Baxter Hall that day will count toward this goal. You may be eligible to donate blood if you are at least 16 years old, weigh at least 110 lbs., in good health, and have not donated since April 8. You now have four ways to sign up to donate blood for this drive.

1. On the tear-off sheet, in the Sunday bulletin.
2. On one of the appointment sheets on the table in the Narthex.
3. Call Merlin Bachellor (355-7969).
4. Log on, any time, to www.bloodcenter2.org Use the Sponsor code: Edwards, and follow the directions.

Donors need refreshments after giving their blood, so we need your snack or juice donations. Call Merlin Bachellor, 355-7969, or sign-up on the tear-off sheet to donate refreshments. Please label your refreshment donations "Blood Drive".

Mission Trip Fundraiser!

JUNE 4th! Right After Church! In Baxter Hall! Potato Bar! Auction! To Benefit Both the Youth Mission Trip to Missouri and the Adult Mission Trip to Mississippi! Be There!!!!

Our Church's Wider Mission (OCWM)

We received a letter from our new Iowa Conference minister, Rich Pleva, in recognition of our OCWM contributions. Here is an excerpt: "Among the 190 congregations of the Iowa Conference, only 22 support the wider church at a per member rate of at least \$50 per member per year. Your church's contributions to OCWM by that measure (\$61/member) make your church the 16th most generous supporter & Thank you for your generosity &."

Food Pantries

And another thank you note from the Spruce Hills Food Pantry in Bettendorf: "Thank you for the assistance you have given the Spruce Hills Food Pantry. Without donations like yours, the food/ clothing pantry would simply not be able to sustain long-term operation &."

In 2005 our food pantries have helped 4878 individuals through the food pantry - including 1164 families. This is a 22% increase (863 more people served) over the number of persons assisted in 2004. It is through your support that this was made possible, and we hope to maintain this level of community assistance in 2006. THANK YOU!!" Our food pantry contributions, both food and money, are presently being divided between the Spruce Hills Pantry and the Sacred Heart Pantry. We really do make a difference!

Garage Sale

The 17th Annual All-Church Garage Sale is THIS WEEKEND - May 6th from 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM. Its still not too late to bring in your STUFF, and we need your help - both during the week to organize and get ready, and then on Saturday to help sell! All the proceeds go to supplement our OCWM giving.

Highway Clean-Up

May 20th is the day that Edwards folk will join together to clean-up our section of Utica Ridge Rd. We need about six people for about 2 hours. Sign up on the tear-off section of the announcement sheet in worship, or call the church office. Lunch will be provided

Birdies for Charity!!!!

You can now designate Edwards Church as the recipient for your Birdie donation! All the proceeds - plus a bonus comes back to the church, and the Trustees have designated this fundraiser to go toward new carpeting. Flyers are in the narthex.

Strengthen the Church

Watch for this national UCC offering - June 4th - to help strengthen local church ministries around the UCC.

Habitat for Humanity

There are many ways to volunteer for Habitat: committees, construction, lunch providers, site hosts, and office assistance. If you would like to volunteer on your own, call Erik Rogers at Habitat, 359-9066. If you would like to be involved with construction or providing lunch with a group from Edwards, please call Sandy Reinders at 332-26-37 or email her at skreinders@mchsi.com or sign up on the tear-off sheet in the bulletin on Sunday mornings. You must attend an orientation session (May 6th or 16th) to participate in construction.

Currently there are two building sites. Work will begin at the Rock Island site (739 14 ½ St.) on May 13. Work will begin May 20 at the East Moline site (714 22nd St.). A new Davenport site will begin in August.

Back Bay Mission Trip

October 29 through November 4, thirteen people from Edwards will travel to Biloxi Mississippi to work with a UCC church from Connecticut to help repair or replace homes on the Gulf Coast that were damaged or destroyed by Hurricane Katrina. A planning meeting will be held May 7th after church in the library for anyone interested in being a part of this team.

End of the Year Breakfast Celebration

How quickly this year has gone by! Sunday, May 21st, will be the last Sunday School until September and in celebration of all we have learned we will gather for a fancy breakfast at 9:00am. Parents are invited to attend with their children as we put into practice the good manner skills we learned during our last rotation. Bring your appetites and smiles!



Special Dates to Mark on Your Calendars

Sunday, May 7th: Confirmation Sunday

Sunday, May 21st: End of the Church
School Year Celebration Breakfast

Sunday, May 21st: Teacher/Music
Appreciation during worship

Thursday, May 25th: East Moline Meal
Site Meet at church at 4:00 to
prepare supper, return to church by
7:00.

Wednesday Evening

Programming:

The last day for TouchStones was
Wednesday, May 3rd.

DATE CHANGE FOR Vacation Bible School!

We have changed the date of our regular VBS to accommodate more families. Hope this works for everyone!

Preschool VBS for 2-4 yr olds:

June 12th-16th 9:30-11:00 a.m.

Theme: God's Garden: A week of playful discovery of the beauty of God's creation and God's creatures. What's your job in God's Garden? Come find out!

VBS for Kindergarten (5yrs) thru
fifth grade:

June 19th-23rd 5:00-7:30 p.m. (Date change)

Theme: Becoming Butterflies: Who Does God Bless You To Be?: Discover how God's Holy Spirit moves through us and all creation, blessing us to become more than we thought possible!

Youth Mission Trip!!!!

Plans are finalizing for the Youth Mission Trip to Emmaus Homes in Marthasville, Missouri. July 23rd- July 29th. Youth from 8th-12th grade are invited to participate. Our days will include work projects around the campus, and our evenings will include recreation time with the developmentally disabled adults who live at the campus. Don't miss this amazing experience! Call or email Katherine today. We need a final count within the next few weeks.

Iowa Conference Annual Meeting: June 16-17

The Iowa Conference will gather in Grinnell June 16-17, to celebrate and work together. The highlight of the weekend will be the Installation of our new Conference Minister, The Rev. Dr. Richard Pleva on Friday at 4:30. If you are interested in going as a Delegate, please call the church office to register!

Racism - Another Look

Race, Power and Inequality: Confronting the Power of Whiteness will be the theme for this year's St. Ambrose Social Justice Conference on Wednesday May 10th from 9am to noon. This year's speaker is Tim Wise, who is among the most prominent anti-racist writers and activists in the country. He is the author of two books *White, Like Me: Reflections on Race from a Privileged Son* and *Affirmative Action: Racial Preference in Black and White*. Registrations are due by May 8, and is available at the church office.

Take Back the Night! Friday May 5th at 5:30 in the District of Rock Island. Stand with the survivors and victims of sexual violence! Bring a lawn chair!

Living Together Faithfully in the Midst of Disagreements

Dr. Dan Lee, Professor of Ethics at Augustana College will present a program at the Bettendorf Library Thursday May 11 at 6:30 pm.

We live in an era of growing polarization that is tearing away at the social fabric that binds us together. It is not realistic to assume that this polarization can be replaced by consensus, because:

- a) Some of the differences derive from deeply-ingrained beliefs and perceptions that are not likely to change.
- b) The contrasting ultimate values that inform differing views cannot be adjudicated on rational grounds.

This does not mean, however, that it is not possible to live together in community while disagreeing. Dr. Dan Lee will present six mediating principles that are useful reference points.



EDWARDS CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Katherine A. Mulhern, Pastor	katherine@edwards-ucc.org
Rev. Jean Norton, Minister of Music	jean@edwards-ucc.org
Sue Harrington, Student Pastor	doves2eagles@msn.com
Susan Chesley, Dir. of Christian Ed.	susan@edwards-ucc.org
Director of Youth Ministries	Vacant
Geri Dulaney, Membership Coordinator	geri@edwards-ucc.org
Lyle Stratton, Caregiver Coordinator	lyle@edwards-ucc.org
Cathy Loughead, Bookkeeper	loughead@mchsi.com
Teresa King, Secretary	teresa@edwards-ucc.org
Joyce Paustian - Moderator	Paustianj@aol.com
Robert Kephart, Custodian	



Registration VBS

Donation of \$10/week/child or \$25/family is appreciated

God s Garden Preschool VBS June 12th 16th

Name: _____ Age: _____
 Name: _____ Age: _____
 Parents: _____ Phone: _____



Becoming Butterflies VBS June 19th- 23rd

Name: _____ Age: _____
 Name: _____ Age: _____
 Parents: _____ Phone: _____

Can you volunteer?

Name: _____
 Date/Days: _____

