



# Edwards Editor

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Submitted items are subject to editing.

## PILGRIM HEIGHTS

*No matter what your age*



*No matter what you love to do*

*There's fun waiting for you at*

## SUMMER CAMP

*Brochures in the narthex, or call the office*

*Deadlines are approaching!*



### Table of Contents

From Our Pastor	2	Edwards Weekday Programs	7	Thank You's	12
New York Times Ad	3	Edwards in the News	8	Who What When Where	13
USA Today Ad	4	With Our People	9	Birthdays	13
Worship at Edwards	5	Your Opportunities to Serve	10	Beyond Our Walls	14
Youth & Christian Ed	6	Our Mission to Serve	11	Calendar	15

## *From Our Pastor's Desk...*

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Much has been said about the controversy involving Rev. Jeremiah Wright, the recently-retired Pastor of Trinity United Church of Christ in Chicago. Many of you continue to receive emails from family or friends which attack him and our denomination, naming us as a "cult" or an arm of the Muslim faith. While most of us see that kind of extremism as inflammatory and inaccurate, we often don't know how to respond when attacked.

The national offices of the UCC, supported by many donations from individuals all over the country, have taken out two newspaper ads that respond to the accusations made against our church. They are reprinted in this Editor. The first appeared in the New York Times and the second one ran in USA Today.

There are, I think, some deep issues running through this controversy. First and foremost is the way that partisan politics in these days "takes no prisoners," attacking opponents in order to destroy them. Instead of thinking carefully about issues, we become reactive, caught up by the fear and the fervor. The attacks on Jeremiah Wright have had a political agenda, taking his words out of context, and exploiting a particular style of hyperbole in preaching that is typical in African American churches but unfamiliar in congregations that are mostly Caucasian. I object when the church is used for anyone's personal gain. And I believe that it is unethical to take anyone's words out of context to further a political agenda.

Another deep issue that is a part of this controversy has to do with the role of prophets in our society. Biblical prophets (including Jesus) were not popular people. They spoke words of truth about how power was used and misused that were difficult for the kings and rulers to hear. They were labeled as "unpatriotic." They were sometimes filled with

anger and bitterness about a society that said one thing about justice for the poor and actually did something quite different. Jeremiah Wright is one of those people who has spoken difficult words about our society. He has been a prophetic pastor, proclaiming the Biblical call for justice. He is deeply loved by his congregation, and he has expressed the pain of the African American experience in the United States. Is he sometimes hard to listen to? Yes. Does his congregation always agree with him? No more than you who sit in the pews here at Edwards always agree with me - or any other preacher.

For me, the most troubling part of all of this is the underlying racism that has been exploited by the controversy. It is ugly and filled with fear. Rev. John Thomas, the General Minister and President of the UCC, has joined with Trinity UCC in asking that every UCC church dedicate time in worship to explore some of the deep racial assumptions that divide us, as we seek anew to ask for God's hand to heal the brokenness and the pain. We will join that effort here at Edwards on May 18 in worship.

As a community of Christ's resurrection, we proclaim the hope and the promise that Christ came for all of God's children. We seek to live - fully and faithfully - the words of the Apostle Paul when he wrote to the church in Galatia *There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female, for all of you are one in Christ Jesus.* We confess that we do not always live as though we believed these words. And yet we continue to try. See you in church!

Advertisement as it appeared in  
The New York Times

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uch has been said about the United Church of Christ in recent weeks, much of it hurtful for many in our country, including members of Trinity UCC in Chicago. That is why we are eager to share the broad and diverse story of the United Church of Christ, one that we celebrate.

With all Christians, we rest in God's amazing grace and hear God's voice in the words of Scripture. Yet, the UCC is unique to some because we do not require uniformity of belief. We are a church of open ideas, extravagant welcome and evangelical courage. Our passion for democracy extends to both government and church, where decision-making rests within each congregation. We support liberty in our pulpits, just as we affirm the individual conscience of our 1.2-million members to agree, disagree and wrestle with life's biggest questions in a spirit of love.

Our story is this nation's story. We are the people of the Mayflower. More than 600 of our 5,700 congregations were formed before 1776. Eleven signers of the Declaration of Independence were members of UCC predecessor bodies.

As early abolitionists, we came to the aid of the Amistad captives and founded hundreds of schools across the South after the Civil War. We were the first mainline church to ordain an African-American (1785), a woman (1853) and an openly gay pastor (1972). We were also the first to form a foreign mission society (1810). Our multi-ethnic membership includes persons from every immigrant group, as well as native peoples and descendants of freed slaves.

Our unity is not dependent upon uniform agreement, but in our shared allegiance to Jesus Christ. Ours is a risk-taking church, because ours is a risk-taking God.

**God is still speaking, °**

Find your church. Find yourself.  
**UCC.ORG**

**UNITED CHURCH  
OF CHRIST**



*"We have an opportunity to make America a better nation."*

— The Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., April 3, 1968

## Let's talk about race.

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ON SUNDAY, MAY 18, many pastors across our church, the United Church of Christ, will be preaching on race in hopes of beginning a sacred conversation, a dialogue that is needed in our pews, our homes and the hallways of power across our country.

Sacred conversations are never easy, especially when honest talk confronts our nation's painful past and speaks directly to the injustices of the present day.

Yet sacred conversations can, and often do, honor the value of diverse life experiences, requiring an openness to hear each others' viewpoints.

Over the coming weeks, as we prepare to speak from our pulpits and organize follow-up conversations with our 1.2-million members, we pray this effort will be an important step toward a holy and reconciling dialogue within our church and for our nation.

We invite all communities of faith to join with us. No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, *your* voice is needed — now.

**God is still speaking,<sup>®</sup>**

Find your church. Find yourself.

**UCC.ORG**

**UNITED CHURCH  
OF CHRIST**



*You are cordially invited to  
the ordination of  
Timoth Scott Sylvia  
to the ministry of Word and  
Sacrament  
Saturday, May 10, 2008  
One o'clock in the afternoon  
A reception will follow the service*

### **Another Ecclesiastical Council!**

Edwards may be going for a record! May 18<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 pm we will - once again - host the Eastern Association of the Iowa Conference for an Ecclesiastical Council for Albert Ghergich. That's the third one in less than a year!

Albert is a chaplain in the US Army, stationed at the Rock Island Arsenal. He is currently ordained in a different denomination, and is in the process of transferring his ordination to the United Church of Christ. He, his wife Ann, and their daughters Destiny and Melissa have been active members of Edwards since they moved here two years ago. Join us as we, again, gather to do the holy work of examining and authorizing ordained ministry in the UCC.

### **The Gathering**

The Contemporary Worship Service will gather on May 18<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 for a very special service. We will be hosting Bruce and Linda Hanson, UCC Missionaries who have served in Honduras for the last 4 years. They will preach during the 5:30 service, and be available for conversation and questions during the potluck that will follow our worship time. Don't miss this opportunity!

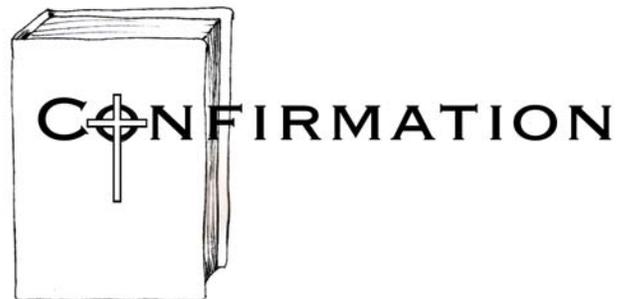
### **Celebrating Graduates**

Don't miss our annual celebration of our High School graduates on May 18<sup>th</sup> in 10:15 worship. This year we celebrate with Emily Kenneke, Austin Langfeldt, and Jessica Vance as they complete their high school years and begin life as college students.



### **Confirmation**

May 4<sup>th</sup> will be a great day of celebration, as we celebrate the tradition of Confirmation together. These days Confirmation is THREE YEARS of study. Every Wednesday night, Grades 6-8 gather together to learn the Bible, to learn prayers, to learn about our church's history, and to practice Christian community. They pray for each other, they laugh together, they serve the church and the world. And then the 8<sup>th</sup> graders are confirmed in membership. This year we will confirm Ben Nabb, who is the first student to complete all three years of the Confirmation program. Congratulations, Ben!



## End-of-Year Fun Day

Saturday, May 17<sup>th</sup>, 9:00 to 4:00: Our day will start with a trip to the *Raptor Project* in Solon, Iowa, where we will see how injured birds of prey are cared for and healed. We will then travel to *Pilgrim Heights Retreat Center* in Tama, Iowa, and enjoy a picnic lunch. Make sure to wear good walking shoes and a hat. A picnic lunch will be provided. Event will be cancelled if rain is predicted. Please RSVP for this day of fun by May 14<sup>th</sup>. Additional information and permission slips will be available at church.



## Youth End-of-the-Year Party

May 4<sup>th</sup> will be the Youth End-of-the-Year party at Camp Abe Lincoln. Jr. and Sr. High Youth are invited. We will leave the church parking lot at 2pm. More information will be sent out later.

## SUMMER CAMP AT PILGRIM HEIGHTS!

Make church camp a part of your children's memories. Whether they are only ready for an overnight away from home or eager for a week of camping, Pilgrim Heights has a program just right for any child. Stop by the Summer Camp display in Baxter Hall for more information. Let this year be your children's year to build Pilgrim Heights memories!



## Free Rice

The **FreeRice** computer game is set up in Baxter Hall each Sunday after church. Players answer vocabulary questions and for every right answer 20 grains of rice are donated to impoverished areas around the world. So far we have donated over 15,000 grains of rice! One cup of rice is about 7,000 grains. Our goal is to reach 100 cups of rice or 700,000 grains by Homecoming Sunday in September! Stop by the **FreeRice** table after worship or play at home (**FreeRice.com**) and bring in your numbers to be counted in our total.

**Last day of Sunday School is May 18<sup>th</sup>.**

## Rainforest Adventure V.B.S.

June 16-20, 5:00-7:30 We are "going green" this year with a tree top trip into the rainforest! Kids will take an adventure into God's Word for a faith-filled week with a stewardship theme that will have them taking care of God's wondrous creation and each other, too! Children ages 3 through 12 are invited, with older kids welcomed to serve as trip guides!



## Family Tutoring Program

Volunteers meet every Monday at the Central Community Circle Community Center from 6:00-7:30 to work with children and families. If you would like to volunteer for this exciting new program, please contact Susan Chesley @332-2300 or leave your name and number in the church office.



Edwards Weekday Programs

# 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Trivia Night

Saturday, May 17<sup>th</sup>

**Come and join us for a fun-filled evening of Trivia!!**

We will have 10 tables with 8 guests per table.

Advance reservations are required - \$10 per person or \$80 per table.

One person can reserve a whole table or individual reservations will be taken to fill tables.

There will be 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> prizes, a 50/50 raffle and fabulous door prizes!

Snacks & beverages will be available for purchase.

Doors open at 6:00 and trivia begins promptly at 6:30.

(For reservations call Meki at 359-3631 or the church office at 359-0331)



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## Spring Tea with Music



Music is in the air! We will be hosting our Spring Music Program on May 6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup> at 11:15 in the sanctuary. Following our program, there will be refreshments in Baxter Hall. This year, the Tiny Tot students will be joining us. Please feel free to stop in and see one of

the many things that 30 years of Edwards Weekday programming is all about and watch one of our missions in action.

## Registration in Progress

We are really looking forward to next year!! We have made a few changes to both programs. Also, tuition assistance will be available through a local program. Our classes offer activities centered around art, music, language, science and math. Open registration is currently in progress. Please spread the word about the wonderful program that Edwards has been offering to our community for over 30 years now!! We need your support to keep this wonderful program going.

### Lay ministries empower church members

Written by Carol Pavlik

April - May 2008 United Church News

Edwards Congregational UCC, located in Davenport, Iowa, draws on the five different communities that make up the Quad Cities flanking the banks of the Mississippi River. It's because of these geographics, explains the Rev. Katherine Mulhern, that the Edwards congregation has to intentionally build community from the inside out. "We have no built-in basis community here," she says of the Quad Cities metropolitan area, with a population upwards of 250,000 people. "Our kids don't all go to the same schools. There aren't as many places of overlap in the community."

Two lay-led care ministries at Edwards has played an integral part of keeping the congregation connected. Lyle Stratton, a National Certified Counselor, serves on staff as the church's Care Giving Coordinator. He primarily leads two groups at Edwards: Caregivers and CareNet.

"Caregivers is a group of 15 volunteers," Stratton explains. "Those 15 individuals do hospital and homebound visits, and also visit nursing homes. They help out with funeral luncheons, and they meet once a month to discuss an in-touch list: people to follow up on a regular basis."

The second group, CareNet, divides the congregation into families, each with a CareNet coordinator. That coordinator is responsible for calling those families every six weeks or so, just to keep in touch.

"People who may not be involved directly in church activities still feel a connection because of the CareNet volunteer," says Stratton. "If the families or the individuals they contact are experiencing any life transition difficulties, then the CareNet volunteer can be involved in coordinating support type of assistance to those individuals, like providing a meal, transportation, or referral to social service resources."

Stratton says the CareNet and Caregiving Ministries have helped over the past few years, since the God is Still Speaking advertising campaign infused some significant growth into the church.

As the church grew, so did the Caregiving Ministry. Stratton says that the Caregiving is a cross-generational focus, including the Christian education children in making get-well cards, and knitters who have started a successful Prayer Shawl ministry.

"[The ministry] helps in terms of reducing the statistical loss, the people who gradually fall away from the church, for whatever reason," says Stratton. "And it spreads the responsibility for caring, so that the staff doesn't get burned out trying to keep up with everything."

"The best part? I think what it does is empowers the lay members of the congregation to really get involved in pastoral care and the joy of pastoral care," says Mulhern. "It makes them much more of a partnership between me and the congregation."

"Everybody's on board," says Stratton. "Everybody's involved in spreading the blessings around."



### Keep In Our Prayers

- ✂ Alice Aronsen-Robinson, recovering from a heart attack.
- ✂ Pat Baxter-Rebal, continuing radiation treatments
- ✂ Joe Hall, recovering from pneumonia and open heart surgery
- ✂ Tom Kenneke, who will walk for 24 hours from 7:00 AM on May 3 to 7:00 AM on May 4, to raise money for the youth trip this summer and the Biloxi trip in the fall
- ✂ Bob Larew, recovering from pneumonia
- ✂ Arden McBride, recovering from stints
- ✂ Chris Medina, home from the hospital
- ✂ Don Miller, recovering from eye surgery
- ✂ Gilly Miller, recovering from hand surgery
- ✂ Sandi Russell, beginning a clinical trial for cancer treatment in Iowa City
- ✂ Erica Schroeder and Pat Schroeder, engaged to be married
- ✂ Carol Stratton, continuing chemotherapy
- ✂ Carolina Warren-Collison, recovering from gall bladder surgery
- ✂ Helen West, continuing medical tests

### Prayer Shawl Ministry

There will be no meetings until November, as I will be out of the country. If you have any questions, please contact Kay Stiles. The need continues so please continue to do your handiwork. The name tags are in Lyle Stratton's office. Please use them. Have an great summer and I will see you in the fall. Dorothy Hammond

### Announcing . . .

#### The Stohbehn Scholarship

Going to college? Looking for help with tuition? Edwards is pleased to announce that Bob Lewis (Bob grew up at Edwards many years ago) and Edie Sanders have established a scholarship fund to honor the memory of Bob's grandparents who were very active in our church during their lives. Application details are available in the church office, but you are eligible for this scholarship if you are a member of Edwards and a student who is (or will be) attending a two or four year accredited college or university. This year's application deadline is June 15.

#### Women's Bible Study

Our last meetings will be Thurs., May 1 and May 15 at 10 am in the Parlor. See you again in the fall!!



#### Men Of Edwards

The next meeting is Saturday, May 17<sup>th</sup> at 8am in the church parlor. Come out and enjoy the men's fellowship as we continue to discuss the DVD "Living the Questions." In addition to talking about faith issues, the men's group is active in service activities for the church. Please feel welcome to join us!

#### WOMEN'S NIGHT OUT

Join us Thursday, May 15<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm at Café Indigo on Utica Ridge Road for food, fun and fellowship!



## CareGivers In Need Of Help!

The church CareGivers group is seeking new volunteers to join in showing Christ's love by visiting and following up with those church members in need. The time commitment is just one meeting per month and being "on call" for one week of the month for visiting by telephone or in person as your time permits. CareGiver volunteers are "blessed to be a blessing" in showing Christ's love. To borrow a favorite quote from Sarah Vortriedt, regarding the power of giving: "One of life's greatest laws is that you cannot hold a torch to light another's path without brightening your own." Come help brighten everyone's path by joining CareGivers! Contact Lyle Stratton, CareGiver Coordinator, at the church Mondays from 9am -12 noon, or call the church and leave a message about your interest and Lyle will contact you.

## Ordination Help Needed

Looking for assistance in the kitchen before, during and after Timoth's Ordination on May 10<sup>th</sup>. Please call Sandy Reinders, 332-2637, to sign up to serve, clean-up or bring goodies. Thanks!

## Meeting Help Needed

Looking for assistance in the kitchen before, during and after Albert's Ecclesiastical council on May 18<sup>th</sup>. We're also looking for folks to donate finger food (cookies, bars, or fruit). Please call Sandy Reinders, 332-2637, to sign up to serve, clean-up or bring goodies. Thanks!



## Notes from Social Board

If you are preparing food at church, please **thoroughly wash the jars, glass or plastic containers** before placing them in the blue bin. The bin can quickly develop an aroma, especially in the warmer months. Please do not replace the lids after washing. Bettendorf and Davenport do NOT recycle lids from cans or bottles. Another option is to take the containers home to recycle. Thanks for assisting the Social Board in keeping the kitchen clean and sanitary.

A reminder: If you bring food or beverages to church please **date it and write your name on the container**. Or, take the left-over food home or throw it out.



## Still Calling All Musicians!!!

Special Music begins Memorial Day weekend. Details were in the April newsletter...and we need you! Please sign up in the announcement sheet on Sunday mornings or call the church office. Giving our weekly musicians a rest is important. Hearing from all ages with different musical styles and instruments gives a delightful surprise for the Spirit to work in us each week. Help us out...SIGN UP TODAY!!



# Our Mission to Serve

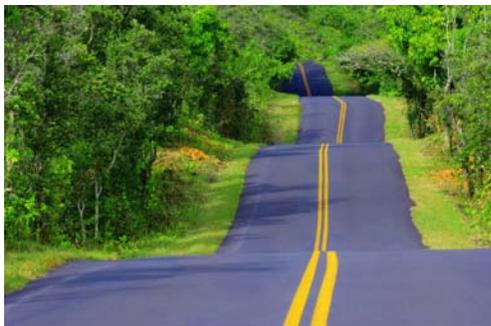
## **A Special Offering to STRENGTHEN THE CHURCH!**

On Sunday, May 11 - Pentecost AND Mother's Day! - we will be receiving the Strengthen the Church special mission offering of the United Church of Christ. If you think that the UCC is one of the best-kept secrets of our time, if you love the UCC and support an open-minded Christian faith, if you want to help others come to know our denomination....then this offering is for you! Strengthen the Church funds new congregations and it helps to renew existing ones. It supports programs for youth and young adults, and it nurtures current and future leaders of our church. And this year, for the first time, it will aid the God is Still Speaking Ministry. Your gifts will help to spread the word, share the love, and build up our church! Your generosity makes a difference in the world.



## **Adopt-a-Highway**

Our next day is Saturday, May 17<sup>th</sup> from 10 am to Noon. We need at least 7 people to help out. If you are interested, please call the church office or sign-up on the Announcement tear-off in the Bulletin on Sundays.



## **Hosting Missionaries: A Global Perspective**

Sunday, May 18<sup>th</sup>, Edwards will host Bruce and Linda Hanson at the 5:30 worship service. Bruce and Linda serve the UCC as missionaries in Honduras, where Linda is the dean of the Theological Seminary of Honduras (and also teaches theology). Bruce serves as a nurse with the Christian Development Commission, providing basic health care, health education, and managing a nutrition program for children. The Hansons are native Iowans, and their home church is Belmond UCC, in Belmond IA.

Take this opportunity to learn more about our global ministry, and about what you contribute to making the world a better place - a long way away from Iowa. Take this opportunity to get to know a couple who are bringing Christ's love to life in a place filled with both suffering and hope. It's a potluck, so bring some wonderful dish to share!

## **Annual Garage Sale!!!**

This year's Garage Sale will begin promptly at 8:00 on Saturday, May 3. What a great day it is, as our used "stuff" gets shared with the broader community. This is an amazing event, and WE NEED YOU! Please donate! Please come and help sort and price! Please come to shop and help on Saturday! Help make this year's Garage Sale a grand success. All the proceeds go toward OCWM (Our Church's Wider Mission). You can make all the difference.



## ***Thank You, Thank You, Thank You !!***

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**Wow! Edwards Congregational United Church of Christ, YOU are so awesome!!** You continue to amaze me every time the Youth need your support. This time you responded in a BIG way for the 2008 Mission Trip Auction and Fundraiser. We raised over \$7,500 for the mission trips. Thank you everyone for your time, support and generosity. The Pirate's Party was so much fun and the entertainment was great. Thanks to the Rose N Thorn band for entertaining us again. I would like to thank everyone who donated an item or purchased one or two or three items. Big thanks to Steve Chesley for being our Auctioneer. A special thanks to Dawn Johnson and Chris Kenneke for the wonderful food and Mila Smith for feeding the Youth on Saturday. A huge thank you goes to Carol Olgetree and Michael Fessler for being wonderful Youth Advisors and giving so much support during the prepping of the Pirate's Party. Lastly, but not least, Thank you Youth for putting forth the effort and for being a great group of youth. You're Awesome! Sue Harrington, Youth Minister

To the April Musicians - The Friends in Faith Band for music during morning worship and Timoth Sylvia's ecclesiastical council, the Alleluia Ringers, Sandy Reinders, director.

We would like to thank everyone who sent cards, came to the hospital to visit, sent food to our house, made telephone calls and all of the other kind things you did in our time of need. We are so blessed to have a church family like you. Sincerely, Marti & Joe Hall

Alice Balli, for donating "The Lord's Prayer" cross-stitch. Look for it in the hall between the Narthex and Baxter Hall.

Dick Werner, for hanging the cross-stitch and fixing the piano lamp.

I want to thank everyone who helped to make this blood drive a success. Twenty nine units were collected!!! Many thanks to the donors and to the people who baked all those delicious cookies and brought juice. Thank you Julie Henke, Merlin Bachellor and the Mission Board for all of your work and support. The blood drive would not have been a success without all of your help. Our next blood drive will be December 6th. Dorothy Hammond

Dear Friends: Thank you for your support. Your thoughtfulness helps provide the very basics of life to those in need. Sincerely, Sacred Heart Food Pantry

To April coffee hour hosts Dee Hillyer, Sandy Reinders, Pat Sterk, Katie Strzepek, and the Norwoods. Thanks to the wonderful bakers who brought goodies for Timoth's Ecclesiastical Council: Karen Dixon, Lisa Crawford, Mary Hein, Sharon Wildemuth, Janet Sedgwick, Heather Wren, and Ruth Bowers.

To the April Editor assemblers - Geri Dulaney, Sue & Curly Curl and Dorothy & John Hammond

To our Edwards Family - I would like to thank you all for such a wonderful, Spirit-filled weekend as you hosted my Ecclesiastical Council. It was a wonderful experience for Peter and me to worship with you once again. The entire experience was so relaxing, being in the presence of a family that has supported me and journeyed with me for so many years. Your overwhelming attendance at the Ecclesiastical Council helped largely to create an atmosphere of love and affirmation, allowing me to present to the Council who it is that I have grown to be. I thank you all and look forward to taking another step of the journey together as we celebrate my Ordination Service in May. Blessings, Timoth

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

	May 4	May 11	May 18	May 25
	Confirmation	Mother's Day		
Preacher	Katherine Mulhern	Katherine Mulhern	Katherine Mulhern	Rev. Bob Hamilton
Chancel Set-up	Brad & Deena Miller	Bob Hamilton	Chris Zippe	Audrey Dugan
Scripture Reader	Tim Mandell	Becky David	Dick Dulaney	Bob Anderson
Communion Servers	Ben Nabb, Ned & Bonnie Walling, Anne-Marie Gephart, Sally Egy, Brad Miller			
Visitor Guides	Membership Board	Membership Board	Membership Board	Membership Board
Nursery 10:15 am	Emily Kenneke Marilyn Riedesel	Mary Hein	Cathy & Amanda Loughead	
Coffee Hour Hosts	Tracy Miller Clyde Durrah	No Potluck	Mila Smith	
Greeters	Joyce Paustian Nelda Paustian Kathy Ramsey Sandy Reinders	Marilyn Riedesel Tina Rivera Erica Schroeder Sandy Sohr	Milo Smith Mila Smith Nancy Stenger Pat Sterk	Kay Stiles Joyce Swartz Ned Walling Bonnie Walling
Ushers	Ned Walling Bonnie Walling Anne-Marie Gephart Sally Egy	Margaret Wilber Barb Bleedorn Pat Sterk Tom Kenneke	Clyde Durrah Dave Wymore Pat Rosberg Milo Smith	Mary Hein Judy Collins Steven Wildemuth Tim Mandell
Sound System	Dave VanDerKamp			
Lock-up	Michael Fessler	Margaret Wilber		Tom Kenneke
Special Music				
CareGivers On Call	Lois Larew Diane Anderson	Martha Jirus Kay Stiles	Sharon Wildemuth Ruth Bowers	Joyce Swartz Jean Neavor

**May Birthdays**

2	Evona Petherick	12	Sarah Burton Caldwell	29	Ron Rebal
2	Muskan Kandel	14	Joe Hall, Sr.	29	Kailan Lafrenz
4	Gen Bainter	15	Emily Norwood	31	Randy Kuhlmann
4	Katherine Dircks	17	Don Carroll		
4	Shannon Crawford	19	M. Lee Albertson		
6	Katherine Mulhern	19	Rachel Fuller		
6	Kathy Lafrenz	20	Roger Robinson		
6	Hannah Ohlweiler	25	Pattie Bellman		
7	John Chesley	25	Suzanne Hawkinson		
8	Rhyan French	26	Cathy Loughead		
10	Michael Fessler	27	Marti Dunn-Hall		
11	Carol Bachellor	28	Dee Hillyer		
11	Geri Dulaney	28	Tom Felts		
12	Dessah Huffman	28	Carson Ohlweiler		



### Church Women United

Upcoming Events: *Fri., May 2<sup>nd</sup>* breakfast at 9am at Third Missionary Baptist Church celebrating May Friendship Day and "The Fellowship of the Least Coin". Contact Bonnie Walling (386-5760) for reservations.

*Fri., June 6<sup>th</sup>* Forum at St. John's Methodist Church at 1pm. Topic will be fall prevention by Cindy Bertelath of Generations on Aging.

### Yom Hashoah Worship

This year's community interfaith Yom Hashoah worship service to remember the Holocaust will be held on Sunday, May 4<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm at the Tri City Jewish Center in Rock Island. This year's speaker will be Eva Schloss, who was a childhood friend of Anne Frank. After the war, Eva's mother married Otto Frank, making her Anne's step-sister. Don't miss this powerful witness to both the horrors of the Holocaust and the determination that overcame it.

### Cinema Shoah

Two powerful films will be shown at Temple Emanuel (1115 Mississippi Ave) to help mark this year's remembrance of the Holocaust.

**Varian's War**, starring William Hurt and Julia Ormand, will show on Wednesday April 30 at 7:30 pm. This is the story of Varian Fry, who saved many well-known Jews from the Nazis

**Anne Frank**, starring Ben Kingsley and Hannah Taylor-Gordon, will show on Saturday May 3 at 7:00 pm. This film is being shown in honor of this year's Yom Hashoah speaker, Eva Schloss - Anne's friend and step-sister.



### A Witness Against Torture

Torture is a Moral Issue -- Why Are People of Faith Working to End U.S.-Sponsored Torture? Tens of thousands of people of diverse faith traditions, including evangelical Christians, mainline Protestants, Roman Catholics, Orthodox Christians, Quakers, Unitarians, Muslims, Jews, and Sikhs, as well as representatives of over 130 religious organizations, are working together to end U.S.-sponsored torture. These groups share a basic understanding and affirmation of the inherent dignity of each individual which includes a conviction that all individuals are created in the image of God and therefore are endowed with a basic dignity. Each of these traditions also share ethical principles that people of faith are called to practice:

**Compassion** - to not only care when people are degraded or hurt but to take action: to stand for, and with, those who are abused, oppressed, and among the most vulnerable.

**Justice** - to assure that all people are treated fairly - as Martin Luther King once noted, "Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere."

**Faithfulness** - to be constant in their defense of each individual's dignity, humanity, and honor.

**Hospitality** - to welcome those who are marginalized, ostracized, and perceived as "Other".

**Peacemaking** - to facilitate reconciliation and to create a culture of peace.

Religious institutions are called to embody these values and to engage in these tasks because of the authority they bring to issues of morality. Religious traditions emphasize ethical behavior as a demonstration of faith in action. They also provide leadership in secular society, playing an important role in influencing issues of morality at the national, state, and local levels. [www.tortureisamoralissue.org](http://www.tortureisamoralissue.org)

## MAY 2008

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>27</b> Garage Sale Donations Accepted 9:00 AM Church School 9:15 AM Chancel Choir Rehearsal 10:15 AM Food Pantry Sunday at Worship 10:15 AM <b>Worship</b> 11:30 AM Walk in the Shoes of Poverty Lunch-and-Learn 11:45 AM Liturgical Dance Rehearsal 4:00 PM Friends in Faith Band 7:00 PM OWL	<b>28</b> Garage Sale Donations Accepted 6:00 PM Tutoring Program 6:30 PM Alleluia Ringers	<b>29</b> Garage Sale Donations Accepted	<b>30</b> Garage Sale Donations Accepted 6:00 PM Last Confirmation 6:00 PM Last TouchStones	<b>1</b> Garage Sale Donations Accepted	<b>2</b> Garage Sale Donations Accepted	<b>3</b> Church Garage Sale
<b>4</b> 9:00 AM Church School 9:15 AM Chancel Choir Rehearsal 10:15 AM Confirmation 10:15 AM <b>Worship</b> 1:30 PM Violin Recital 2:00 PM Youth End-of-the-Year Party	<b>5</b> 6:00 PM Tutoring Program	<b>6</b> 11:15 AM Weekday Program Spring Music Program	<b>7</b> 11:15 AM Weekday Program Spring Music Program	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> 1:00 PM Timothy Sylvia's Ordination
<b>11</b> MOTHER'S DAY Strengthen the Church Special Mission Offering 9:00 AM Church School 9:15 AM Chancel Choir Rehearsal 10:15 AM <b>Worship</b>	<b>12</b> 6:00 PM Tutoring Program	<b>13</b> 6:30 PM All-Boards 7:30 PM Council Meeting	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> 10:00 AM Women's Bible Study 6:00 PM Women's Night Out	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> 8:00 AM Men of Edwards 9:00 AM Trip to Raptor Project 10:00 AM Adopt-a-Highway 6:00 PM Weekday Board 2nd Annual Trivia Night!!
<b>18</b> 9:00 AM Last Church School 9:15 AM Last Chancel Choir Rehearsal 10:15 AM <b>Worship</b> 2:00 PM Albert Ghergich's Ecclesiastical Council 5:30 PM Worship and visiting missionaries	<b>19</b> NOON - NEWSLETTER ITEMS DUE 6:00 PM Tutoring Program	<b>20</b> 7:00 PM Caregivers Meeting	<b>21</b> 10:00 AM Preschool Graduation	<b>22</b> 4:15 PM Kids-in-Mission	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>25</b> 10:15 AM Food Pantry Sunday at Worship 10:15 AM <b>Worship</b>	<b>26</b> Memorial Day OFFICE CLOSED	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>

For the most current up-to-date calendar information go to [www.edwards-ucc.org](http://www.edwards-ucc.org) and click on the calendar link



# **EDWARDS** CONGREGATIONAL **UNITED CHURCH** OF CHRIST



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May 2008

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