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June 2006

## An Outdoor Festival!!

On June 25<sup>th</sup>, the Worship Board and the Mission Board are hosting a festival of praise. We will worship outside that day - the Friends in Faith Band will lead our music. And afterwards, the Mission Board will put on a fish fry to raise money to help reduce the debt at the Pilgrim Heights Four Seasons Lodge. Bring your lawn chairs, your beach umbrellas, your enthusiasm and your appetite!

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## Don't Miss... The Country Fair

JUNE 4<sup>th</sup> - right after church - come to Baxter Fellowship Hall for an old fashioned Country Fair. Lunch will be a potato bar, and there will be a real auction - with pies, baked goods, quilts, Carolyn England paintings, Longaberger baskets, and (of course) Nelda's Ukrainian Eggs!

We have a big goal to live up to! Last year we raised over \$6,000, and the proceeds were split between the roof debt and the youth mission trip. This year the proceeds will be split between TWO mission trips! The youth will go to Emmaus Homes in Marthasville Missouri (a residential facility for developmentally disabled adults) where they will help with everything from cleaning to yard work during the day, and they will participate in evening activities with the residents. The adults will be going to Back Bay Mission in Biloxi, Mississippi in October to help with the ongoing work of clean-up following Hurricane Katrina last year. Don't miss this opportunity to have fun and support some good causes.

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

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There are so many amazing things happening in the life of this church! Every day, I am gifted with the joy of serving God at Edwards. New members, new ministry ideas, a youth mission trip, an adult mission trip, creative summer worship services, Vacation Bible School energy, special musicians preparing their gifts.... Everywhere you turn in the life of our church, there is evidence of the Holy Spirit at work - bringing new life and light, energy and vitality. Thanks be to God!

The good news is that we are growing. Forty-five adults and fourteen Confirmands have joined Edwards in membership since January of 2005! The other good news is that we now have the opportunity to get to know one another. And that is an invitation for new folks and long-timers alike. Whether you have been here two months or twenty years, this is the time to get to know someone new.

Next Sunday, I invite you to look around you in the pew. Do you know the people sitting in front of you? What about the ones who sit behind you? If not, make an effort to get to know them. Have coffee together after the service. Find out about their family and their work life. What do they love about Edwards? What do they need from this community? What gifts do they offer in this place?

This coming Sunday, June 4<sup>th</sup>, we will celebrate Pentecost Sunday - the day when we give thanks for the power of the Holy Spirit that created the church as we know it. It is the Spirit that gathers us together in community. It is the Spirit that gives life and passion to our faith. It is the Spirit that calls us to the work of justice and gives us the courage and fortitude to continue its work. Truly, Edwards is a Spirit-filled community! And truly, it is time to stop and give thanks for the work of the Spirit in the midst of our faith community.

One of the ways that the Spirit has moved in our church, and in the United Church of Christ as a whole, I think, is through the God is Still Speaking advertising campaign. The growth that we have seen over the past year and a half is linked - in part - to the work of creative, visionary people in our national offices in Cleveland who have reached out to share our message with the world. In the process, they have brought new life and light into our churches.

This Pentecost, let's remember that the church was founded as tongues of fire settled upon the believers. Today, we know the Spirit's work as churches like Edwards are set on fire with a passion to live out our faith in the world. Thanks be to God!

## Worship at Edwards....

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### June Scriptures

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<b>June 4:</b>	<b>June 11:</b>
Acts 2:1-21	Isaiah 6:1-8
Psalm 104:24-34, 35b	Psalm 29
Romans 8:22-27	Romans 8:12-17
John 15:26-27	John 3:1-17

<b>June 18:</b>	<b>June 25:</b>
I Samuel 15:34-16:13	I Samuel 17:32-49
Psalm 20	Psalm 9:9-20
II Corinthians 5:6-10, (11-13), 14-17	Job 38:1-11
Mark 4:26-34	II Corinthians 6:1-13
	Mark 4:35-41

### Special Summer Music!

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Be on the look out for different styles of music each Sunday, as various members of our congregation, young and old, offer praise to God. Be sure and let people know how much you appreciate their gifts and faithful preparation. Each one makes a difference!

June 4 <sup>th</sup> :	The Chancel Choir
June 11 <sup>th</sup> :	A Women s Trio
June 18 <sup>th</sup> :	Promised Land
June 25 <sup>th</sup> :	Friends in Faith Band

### Contemporary Worship

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The Contemporary Service will continue to meet through the summer ONCE A MONTH on the third Sunday of each month. Join us at 5:30 on June 18<sup>th</sup>, July 16<sup>th</sup> and August 20<sup>th</sup> for worship and a potluck dinner. Its the best food in town (and the best music!).

### Handbell Concert

Plymouth Festival Ringers  
from Plymouth Congregational Church  
Lawrence, Kansas  
Concert at Edwards UCC  
Wednesday, June 21, 7 PM

The ringers will be on their way home from performing at the Kennedy Center in Washington, D. C. Their programs are exciting, varied, entertaining, and show excellent technique and musicality far beyond their years.

Do you have a spare bed for Wednesday night June 21? We are looking for Bed and Breakfast homes for 16 girls (8th grade through high school), 8 boys (8th grade through freshmen in college), and 9 sponsors (1 married couple and 7 other adults.)

If you would like to be a host family, call Sandy Reinders, 332-2637 or Jean Norton, 359-6664 with questions.

### Pentecost Sunday!

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Sunday June 4<sup>th</sup> is Pentecost Sunday. It is the last day that the choir will sing until Labor Day, and it is the day that EVERYONE is invited to **WEAR RED!** Red has traditionally been considered to be the color of the Holy Spirit, and so we would like to **FILL** the sanctuary with red on that day as a reminder that each of us is a living witness to the presence and power of the Holy Spirit at work in the world.

## Keep in Your Prayers

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Our homebound members and friends:  
Gen Bainter, Nancy Bolyard, Leona Davis, Lynn Warren and Laurel Ogden.  
Those baptized in May: Emily Springer and Aidan Kyte  
Paul Vortriede, receiving chemo  
Those received into membership:  
Shirley Johnson, Jennifer Jordening, Don Miller, Greg Moore, and Lisa Whitfield and Ann Kennedy.  
Our Confirmation Class: John Chesley, Mitchell Doll, Rob Fuller, Karen Hawkinson, Dalton Johnson, Emily Kenneke, Elizabeth Knoche, Austin Langfeldt, Amanda Loughead, Casey Nabb, Taylor Schroeder, Alex Sedgwick, Emily Springer, and Jessica Vance.  
Clyde Durrah in the death of his brother.

## More Graduates

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Kim Hein, St. Ambrose University, B.A. Elementary Education  
Cathy Burbank, Massage Therapy

## Women s Day & Night Out

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**Women s Night Out** - Thursday, June 15, 6:00 p.m., Mo Brady s, N. Brady Street

**Women s Day Out** - Thursday, June 22, 8:30 a.m., Princeton, Illinois

## Wanted: Youth Director

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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!

**Mark your calendar! June 25<sup>th</sup> following 10:15 a.m worship service. Watch the Sunday bulletin for more info!**



You are invited... Alice Aronson and Roger Robinson are getting married Saturday, June 17, at 3:00 p.m. in Edwards sanctuary. Reception immediately following at the Knights of Columbus, 1111 West 35<sup>th</sup> Street, Davenport. The couple requests no gifts.

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

	June 4	June 11	June 18	June 25
<b>Preacher</b>	Katherine Mulhern	Worship Board	Katherine Mulhern	Katherine Mulhern
<b>Guest Guides</b>	<b>Membership Board</b>			
<b>Greeters</b>	Bill Kelly Sandy Sohr Sharon Wildemuth	Chris Medina Sally Egy Helen West Sue Curl	Jean Neavor Judy Collins Barb Fleener Ruth Hefferman	Pat Cresap Terry Schlabach Tracy Miller Clyde Durrah
<b>Ushers</b>	Russ Dircks Mary Hein Margaret Wilber Ned Walling	Olive Gallaher Barb Bleedorn Mike Fleener Steve Wildemuth	Steve Hukvari Tom Kenneke Tim Mandell Anne-Marie Gephart	Jim Groenenboom Steve Knoche
<b>Nursery 10:15 a.m.</b>	Anne & Kaela Swarts Chris Zippe	Mary Hein Emily Doll	Blaine Chesley/ Erica Schroeder	Chris Zippe
<b>Caregivers on Call</b>	Ruth Bowers Sandy Reinders	Barb Fleener Lois Larew	Lyle Stratton Jean Neavor Joyce Swartz	Rhoda Molleston Carol Bachellor
<b>Coffee Hour Hosts</b>	Lisa & Eric Crawford			
<b>Scripture Reader</b>	Becky David	Robert Riedesel	Erica Schroeder	Lyle Stratton
<b>Chancel Set-Up</b>	Dick Dulaney Martha Jirus Sarah Kenneke	Tracy Miller	Dick Dulaney	Chris Zippe Pat Rosburg
<b>Sound System</b>	Dave VanDerKamp			
<b>Lock-Up Trustee</b>	Steve Hukvari	Tm Kenneke	Brad Miller	Tom Kenneke

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.

## June Birthdays

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1 - Lisa Potter  
1 - Katie Groenenboom  
1 - Kamryn Becker  
3 - Mindy Billingsley  
4 - Joyce Baustian  
4 - Austin Langfeldt  
7 - Dalton Johnson  
8 - Ed Balli  
8 - Danny Fox

11 - Lisa Takemoto  
12 - Jessica Vance  
12 - Lauren Groenenboom  
14 - Gabe Kranz  
17 - Kristin Vike  
17 - Michaela Fessler  
19 - Alexis Opsal  
20 - Vicki Langfeldt  
21 - Sharon Wildemuth

21 - Brent Billingsley  
23 - Casey Nabb  
24 - Gene Saur  
24 - Kelly Ohlweiler  
24 - Jessie Hultman  
25 - Cathie Miller  
25 - Austin Kerns  
25 - Bryan Langfeldt

26 - Doug Langfeldt  
26 - Chris Fessler  
27 - Joe Diehl  
27 - Mark Johnson  
27 - Peighton Ohlweiler  
30 - Cathy Wetzel

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

## Thank You, Thank You.....

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Garage Sale Helpers: **Evona & Paul Petherick, Dick Werner, Martha & Dick Jirus, Pam Swanson, Mary Beth & Russ Dircks, Joyce Paustian, Geri & Dick Dulaney, Gilly Gilbreath, Don Miller, Dorothy & John Hammond, Suzanne & Robert Benson, Ardis Kasper, Margaret, Bob & Chase Wilber, Ollie & George Gallaher, Dennise Weyman, and everyone else we might have missed!!**

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

May Newsletter Helpers: **Mila Smith, Sue & Curly Curl**

Spring Clean-Up Helpers: (Missed Last month) **Clyde Durrah, Steve Hukvari and Tom Kenneke**

The many musicians who played extra music during May: **Mona Terry, harp and drum, Suzanne Benson, violin, Courtney Smith, flute, Becky David, guitar, Promised Land, and Sandy Reinders, conducting the bells and rehearsals each week.**

**Brad Miller** for transcribing the music for the Liturgical Dancers.

**Bensons** for a new music room filing cabinet and **Dick Werner** for installing it.

The Christian Education and Social Boards for beautiful receptions celebrating the end of the program year, especially **Marilyn Riedesel, Dorothy and John Hammond, Cathy Wetzel, Chris Fessler, Marilyn and Robert Riedesel, Carol Stratton, Katy Strzepek and Dennise Weyman**

To all who worked on the new Habitat for Humanity house start in Rock Island, the Highway Clean-up, the Community Kitchens, or hosting Churches United May meeting.

**Rachel and Kelsey Sedgwick, Blaine and Susan Chesley, and Ryan and Elise Dye** for serving at the East Moline Meal Site in May.

**Cathie Miller, Melissa Randall, Sarah Kenneke, Chris Fessler, and Carol Stratton** for teaching Church School during May.

**Chuck Slack, Woody Perkins, Gilly Gilbreath, Anne-Marie Gephart, Ruth Bowers, John Raap, Dick Dulaney, Pat Cresap, Barb Fleener, Sharon Wildemuth, Dennise Wyman, John & Dorothy Hammond and Laurel Ogden** for their help in welcoming 20 new members in May.

**Cathy Wetzel** for organizing our garden walk at the parking lot entrance and for donating flowers.

**Ardis Kasper** for the two hanging baskets of flowers that grace the west entry.

## **Spring Blood Drive**

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If you read this before the morning of June 3, there is still time to donate blood. Our past donations have strived for, and achieved most times, a goal of 30 pints donated. We are still short of that number of donors for this drive. If you are willing, but haven't signed up, simply show up on Saturday between 7:00 a.m. and 11:00. Walk-ins will be accommodated as readily as possible.

## **Strengthen the Church**

Our Second National UCC Offering

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Through our gifts to Strengthen the Church, we further our commitment to be a multiracial, multicultural denomination, open and affirming, and accessible to all. We strengthen and renew existing congregations. We fund leadership for new congregations. We provide exciting new programs for youth and young adults. We fund leadership development for the whole church. Your generous gifts are used, half by our conference (which is badly in need of strengthening), and half by the Synods Local Church Ministries, for these purposes. Mark your checks for "Strengthen the Church", or use one of the special envelopes. The needs, both at the conference and at the national level, have never been greater. Please join in this vital effort.

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## **Habitat for Humanity**

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(H4H) Construction volunteers meet at Edwards 7:45 a.m. to carpool on June 17, 714 22nd Street, East Moline. Exterior work--studs, roof, walls or siding--possible activities. Please sign-up on the tear-off sheet on Sunday morning, if you plan to work; we can notify Erik at H4H. June 17 we will also serve a meal at the East Moline site.

## **Biloxi Mission Trip**

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We have been in contact with the Back Bay Mission office in Biloxi as well as with our partner church from Tolland, Connecticut. The fund raiser after church on June 4 will be used to support both the youth mission trip to Emmaus House in Marthasville, Mo, and the adult Back Bay Mission trip. All levels of talent will be needed, from cooking and shopping to demolition, reconstruction, and finish work like painting. Let the church office or Dick Werner know of your interest. We will ask for a firm commitment and have you fill out a skills rating profile from Back Bay Mission around Labor Day. In the meantime, schedule to keep the week of October 29-Nov. 5 open, and support the fund raiser!

## **Fair Trade Coffee**

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We have just received a new shipment of Beneficio Coffee, so if you need to stock up now is the time to do it! The proceeds benefit the coffee growers, their communities AND OCWM!



## **Birdies for Charity!!!**

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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.

### **Final Garage Sale Numbers!**

This year's Garage Sale raised 3137.45 for Our Church's Wider Mission, which makes the total Garage Sale OCWM giving \$46,000! Those pennies sure add up! Not too bad for a few Saturdays at church and lots of STUFF recycled! Thanks to all who helped to set up, sell and clean-up afterward. It was a GREAT effort!

## **A Special Thank You**

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To all of you who continue to pay your pledges regularly through the summer....THANK YOU! You make the job of managing our cash flow easier! In this year of tight budget management, the financial team at Edwards is grateful for each of your gifts. Truly, Edwards is filled with generous, joy-filled people.

## **The Promised Land CD Is Here!!!!**

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Remember the Concert for the Carpet this spring? Promised Land, our men's quartet, sang a WONDERFUL evening of gospel music in the sanctuary! With a number of arrangements written by our own Cec Chapman, a few nutty jokes and down home atmosphere, they shared with us the great music they have been singing for the past few years. Those who attended were filled with joy at the music and fun.

Now the live-concert CD is available to preserve the memory, or hear the concert for the first time! All six of the performers: Cec Chapman, Bob Riedesel, Harry Swarts, Dick Werner, Brad Miller and James Wetzel, and recording engineer Dave VanDerKamp have donated their time. The donation you give for the CD will cover the cost of the materials to make them, and then be a direct gift to the new carpet we need. Two thousand and nine dollars was already raised from the offering at the door!

So, sit back, listen to some good gospel music, and lay down the carpet! You will find the CDs at the Edwards Café table on Sundays.

## The Confirmation Class of 2006...

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The Confirmation Class of 2006, the largest in many years, united with Edwards on May 14.

They are:

**JOHN CHESLEY** is the son of Steve & Susan Chesley. He will be a 10<sup>th</sup> grader at Bettendorf High where he is actively involved in track and bowling.

**J. MITCHELL DOLL** is the son of Kathy Vance & Bill Doll. He will be a 10<sup>th</sup> grader at North High where he is actively involved in track, golf, bowling, football, and the Student Senate.

**ROBERT FULLER** is the son of Rich & Rhonda Fuller. He will be a sophomore at Bettendorf High where he is actively involved in football.

**KAREN HAWKINSON** is the daughter of Chip & Suzanne Hawkinson. She will enter the 10<sup>th</sup> grade at Davenport Central where she is actively involved in the Key Club, Environmental Club and orchestra.

**DALTON JOHNSON** is the son of Dawn & Mark Johnson. He will enter the 9<sup>th</sup> grade at Wood where he is actively involved in the football program.

**ELIZABETH KNOCHE** is the daughter of Steve & Kim Knoche. She will be a 9<sup>th</sup> grader at Bettendorf Middle School where she is actively involved in the school orchestra. Elizabeth plays in the Quad-City String Ensemble and Preucil Concert Orchestra.

**AUSTIN LANGFELDT** is the son of Doug & Vicki Langfeldt. He will be a junior at Pleasant Valley High. Austin enjoys football, soccer, and music.

**AMANDA LOUGHEAD** is the daughter of Cathy Loughead. She will be a 9<sup>th</sup> grader at Williams Intermediate. She is actively involved in band, volleyball, softball, basketball, soccer, PA, and does volunteer work.

**CASEY NABB** is the son of Angie Opsal and Tom Nabb. He will be a sophomore at Bettendorf High. He is actively involved in the school football, wrestling, soccer, and band programs; and Boy Scouts.

**TAYLOR SCHROEDER** is the daughter of Erica Schroeder. She will be a 9<sup>th</sup> grader at Davenport Central this fall. Taylor is actively involved in school orchestra and choir, and CHURCH.

**ALEX SEDGWICK** is the son of Rick & Janet Sedgwick and Pat & Lori McGill. He will be a 10<sup>th</sup> grader at Bettendorf High where he is involved in football, track, and after-school lifting.

**EMILY SPRINGER** is the daughter of Ronald and Kathy Springer. She will be a 9<sup>th</sup> grader at Bettendorf Middle School where she is active in volleyball, track, and softball.

**JESSICA VANCE** is the daughter of Kathy Vance. She will be an 11<sup>th</sup> grader at North High where she is active in Student Senate, tennis, swimming, and mock trials.

We WELCOME these young people into our church family as servants of God and members of Edwards.

## Welcome New Members...

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**SHIRLEY JOHNSON** is a Quad-City native and is employed as a surface water hydrologist with the Army Corps of Engineers. She and husband, Carl, a structural engineer, reside on a small farm near the southwest edge of the Illinois Quad-cities. Shirley finds it reassuring and exciting to find communities of faith that are living their liturgy in service to their neighbors, like Edwards. Shirley and Carl reside at 11800 44<sup>th</sup> St. W., Milan, IL 61264 (#798-2360).

**JENNIFER JORDENING** was born and raised in the Quad-cities area and graduated from the Univ. of Iowa with a degree in education. She taught for 10 yrs. in schools at Eldora and Jesup; then another 17 yrs. at a Rock Island church. She has a daughter, Julee, who lives in Denver. She enjoys reading and sharing books with others. Jennifer is already teaching in our Edwards Church School and Vacation Bible School programs. She resides at 2210 E. 38<sup>th</sup> St. Pl., Davenport, 52807 (#359-8240)

**DON MILLER** was born in Burlington, IA. His family moved to Davenport when he was 4. He graduated from Davenport High, served in the Army for 2 yrs, and attended St. Ambrose. Later, he operated a vending machine service and was employed by Thoms Proestler and Hawkeye Wholesale as a Sales Supervisor. His family includes 3 sons and 5 grand-children. Don resides at 1815 Winding Hills Rd, #615, Davenport, 51807 (#386-8668)

**REV. GREG MOORE** is a retired

Presbyterian pastor who was born in Dayton, Ohio. He has lived in several states, but is currently living in Rock Island where he owns and operates Mother Jones Café and Bookstore. Rev. Moore served in the Army, was the first male children's librarian in the 75-yr history of the Louisville Free Public Library, before entering seminary. His greatest joys have been; marrying wife Christine, holding baby Beatrice just minutes after birth, and shaking hands & chatting with Luciano Pavarotti. Rev. Moore is an avid witness for social justice, especially for children and GLBT citizens. He and Christine reside at 11 Hawthorne Rd, Rock Island, IL 61201 (#786-9422)

**LISA WHITFIELD & ANN KENNEDY** are local residents. Lisa has a teaching background in special education. She is currently teaching at the East Moline Correctional Center. Ann graduated from the Univ. of Iowa with a degree in Psychology. She has been employed for the past 14 yrs. as a lab technician for Grain Processing Corp., Muscatine.

Lisa and Ann have a daughter, Amber. They reside at 2934 11<sup>th</sup> Ave. C. Moline, IL 61265 (# 736-1105)

## Vacation Bible School!

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### 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.

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!

**VBS Supper Needs:** As always, the evening VBS offers our children supper and we ask the congregation to help us put food on our tables. Here is a partial list of what we will be needing:

- \* □ Salad bar veggies: lettuce, tomatoes, cucumbers, carrots, black and green olives, cottage cheese, apple sauce, croutons, grated cheese, salad dressings (1,000 and ranch)
- \* □ Beverages: 1 gallon milk/night and 2 gallons juice/night
- \* □ Soft and hard taco shells, taco seasoning packs, taco sauce, grated cheese

## Dreaming of the Fall

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Several members of our congregation have expressed interest in starting a tutoring program at Edwards, possibly during our Wednesday evening programming. We are in the beginning stages of thinking about how this could be accomplished and how strong a need there is within the congregation and community for a program that would offer homework help and tutoring in a variety of subjects. Our church is filled with educators, many of whom have special skills working with children and youth with learning challenges. The Board of Christian Education would like to hear from parents, teachers, and anyone interested creating such a program at Edwards. Watch the Sunday bulletin for more information and opportunities to voice your support or concern.

## Youth Mission Trip!!!!

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Plans are finalizing for the Youth Mission Trip to Emmaus Homes in Marthasville, Missouri. July 23<sup>rd</sup>- July 29<sup>th</sup>. 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.

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## Holy Relationships: A Midwest Conference

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The moral and theological questions concerning the full inclusion of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people in our civil and religious life, as well as questions about sexual ethics for both heterosexual and homosexual people, are hotly contested issues in our world.

This conference seeks to address these issues, naming holy those relationships defined by unconditional love, mutuality, intimacy, trust, boundaries, and accountability.

October 19-21 this conference will gather in Iowa City. Dr. Rita Nakashima Brock, a well-known and inspiring theologian, will be a keynote speaker. Registration information is available in the church office, and the cost is \$100 before June 15. After that, the cost is \$150.

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## In Memoriam...

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The Iowa Conference mourns the death of two former Conference Ministers. **Judson Fiebiger** served the Conference for 24 years, and retired in the early 1970's. He died in Florida on November 10, 2005. **Scott Libbey**, former Iowa Conference Minister and Executive Vice President of the Board for World Ministries, died on March 12, 2006. Scott was recognized throughout the UCC as a leader and a saint in the church. Rev. John Thomas, General Minister and President, said of Scott, He exercised leadership with incredible grace and warmth. May God's peace surround Judson, Scott and their families.

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## Iowa Conference Dollars

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There is sobering news about the financial health of the Iowa Conference to share. The primary support of the Iowa Conference is the OCWM (Our Church's Wider Mission) money that each church gives, which is divided between our Conference and our National offices to fund important work with churches, programs, missions and clergy. Currently, OCWM receipts are \$177,000 behind what was budgeted for 2006.

When the Conference gathers at the Annual Meeting in Grinnell this month, hard decisions will have to be made. These include the proposal to operate Pilgrim Heights only in the summer, downsizing one ordained staff position, and cutting the percentage of OCWM dollars that we pass on to the national church. None of these are good options! But they are realistic.

Edwards support of OCWM was increased by 10% in 2006 to \$19,250, and we will need to consider further increases next year. Our Endowment Fund just contributed \$500 toward reducing the debt at Pilgrim Heights, and hopes to give more at the end of the year. And - of course - the Garage Sale proceeds are over and above our pledge. And our OCWM payments are up to date! Way to go, Edwards!

**Listen for Edwards Radio Ad  
June 1 & 2 and 5 - 9 on  
Star 93, 93.5 FM.**