



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. 7

July 2012

Articles for next issue due by 9:00 am, Monday, 7/16/12

Submitted items are subject to editing.



"Get Ready to Give"

Christmas in July

Sunday, July 22nd

Bring in your gifts of school supplies
 and get ready to have some fun!!



Table of Contents

From Our Pastor.....2
 Edwards Worships.....3
 Youth & Music.....4

With Our People.....5
 Missions.....6
 Thank You.....7

Who What When Where 8
 Calendar.....9

From Our Pastor's Desk...

This morning I “Skyped” with our youngest granddaughter who lives in Alaska. This morning I read her one of my favorite books - “Blueberries for Sal” - about a little girl and her mother who get mixed up with a little bear and his mother, while they are all hunting for blueberries on a mountainside in Maine. Kiana sat and ate her apple. I sat and read to her, and showed her the pictures. It was a completely normal time with a three year old. Except that we were 3,000 miles apart!

There are many ways in which I believe our lives are too driven by technology and change. We are too hurried and pressured by instant communications. We are anxiously driven to work more, try harder, perform to a higher standard. But there are also wonderful things about technology! I can visit with my granddaughter - in real time! I can connect with my parents who live on the other coast. The world is getting smaller, and the way we connect with people and information is changing dramatically.

The story we share here at church is one of those age-old stories that will never change. “Jesus loves me, this I know - for the Bible tells me so.” But the WAY we share the message changes with every generation. The sermon illustrations that were relevant 20 years ago...for the most part, they really aren’t anymore. The pictures that we used seem outdated - by more than just the clothing styles. The world changes, and the church has to keep up - or we (and our faith) will get left behind in the dust.

One of those “keeping up” things is a screen in the sanctuary. This month, we will install a screen in the sanctuary,

above the choir loft. A projector will be discreetly hung from the ceiling in front of it, and a screen will hang in the alcove so that the choir can see what’s being projected without having to move.

Here are a few of the reasons we are doing that.

- 1) We are increasingly “visual learners”. Without the capacity to project images in the sanctuary, we limit the ways that our spirits can engage this age-old, life-giving story that we share in the church.
- 2) Increasing numbers of sermon ideas and illustrations are tied to movie clips, YouTube clips or music videos. We limit our creativity when we exclude the possibility of media in worship.
- 3) We have all these wonderful pictures that Woody Perkins and Joyce Paustian take every week. Now we can see them!
- 4) A screen lets us project the names of people who lead worship - as they are doing it. For instance, have you ever wondered the name of a person joining the church? Now their names will be projected!

Together, we will live into this new technology. I have some ideas about what works and what doesn’t, and we will experiment together. You will have some ideas as well. I ask for your patience and your wisdom as we move forward into the 21st Century! Let’s tell this ancient story in a new way!

July Scriptures

July 1

2 Samuel 1:1, 17-27
Psalm 130
2 Corinthians 8:7-15
Mark 5:21-43



July 8

2 Samuel 5:1-5, 9-10
Psalm 48
2 Corinthians 12:2-10
Mark 6:1-13



July 15

2 Samuel 6:1-5, 12b-19
Psalm 24
Ephesians 1:3-14
Mark 6:14-29



July 22

2 Samuel 7:1-14a
Psalm 89:20-37
Ephesians 2:11-22
Mark 6:30-34, 53-56



July 29

2 Samuel 11:1-15
Psalm 14
Ephesians 3:14-21
John 6:1-21

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

Christmas in July

Join us on **July 22nd** for "Get Ready to Give," a celebration of giving and gifting, as we both remember the spiritual gift of Christmas and offer gifts of school supplies for needy Davenport students as they get ready to go back to school. We'll haul out a Christmas tree or two, sing some Christmas Carols, and have a little fun! Don't miss it.



Looking ahead to August... on **August 19th** we will "Get Ready to Work." We'll again have *Kids Against Hunger, Dresses for Haiti* and various other projects. Watch for opportunities to be involved in the life of our church and our world.



Special Music for July

July 1st: Miriam Prichard, ukelele
July 8th: Martha Jirus, Soprano
Kaela Swarts, viola
July 15th: Promised Land, gospel quartet
Elaine Lippert, organ
July 22nd: Robert Riedesel, trumpet
July 29th: Jesse Evans, koto



VBS Highlights

Becoming Butterflies, VBS, was a week of faith stories, giggles, delicious food, water balloons, perfect weather, balancing butterflies, homemade ice cream, caterpillars, guitars, Harriet Tubman and John Newton, Habitat for Humanity, a bee keeper and bee hives, Monarchs and Swallowtails, Skippers, Buckeyes and Zebras, bubbles, and prayer! The children discovered through the stories of others how God's still speaking, transforming presence invites us to unfold our wings and open ourselves into new and powerful creatures with every breathe. And all was accomplished through the dedication, energy, patience and good humor of our teachers, mentors and volunteers. For their leadership in our faith and learning center, we thank **Cathy Wetzels, Dick Vallandingham, Dave Reinders, Jean Norton, Elaine Lippert, Norma Wren, Lisa Hixon, Katy Strzepek, Chris and Michael Fessler, Blaine Chesley and Lyle Stratton**. For serving as spiritual companions to our traveling children, we thank **Jesse Knudson, Terry Schlabach, Elyse Dye, Cassidy Holdridge, Jessica Greenwald, Trisha and Scott Gehler, Pat and Ron Baxter-Rebal, Carol Hart, Jane Simonsen, Mike Augspurger, and Ryan Dye**. For sharing his bee keeping experience, we thank **Marty Schlabach**. For organizing the kitchen and supper, we thank **Marilyn Riedesel** and her "staff", **Pat Cresap, Edith Egli, Martha Jirus, Robert Riedesel, Patricia Hartley, Dee Hillyer, Alice Balli, Pat Baxter-Rebal, and Sandy Reinders**. Thanks also to the parents who brought their children and to the many people who donated food and money to the cause! The VBS children donated enough money each evening to purchase 5 bee hives through Heifer International. Their gift includes a package of bees, the box and hive, plus training in beekeeping.

Kids-in-Mission

Children are invited to help prepare and serve supper at the East Moline Meal site on **Thursday, July 26th**. Meet at church at 4:15 to prepare supper. We will leave church by 5:20 to travel to the meal site. We will arrive back at church by 7:00. Parents are always welcome to serve alongside their kids!

Farewell

When I think of all the words I have ever written, none have been more difficult to find than the ones I need now to say good bye. But how blessed my family and I have been to belong to a church where saying goodbye is so difficult. Edwards has been in many ways our life. Our children were raised with a keen and questioning sense of justice and a belief that love is stronger than fear...thank you, Edwards. Our family traveled to Chicago for Steve and Blaine's kidney surgeries, with the touch of our congregation's hands still warm in our hearts...thank you, Edwards. We were the blessed recipients of casseroles and cards, prayers and visits throughout worry and relief...thank you, Edwards. We gathered for years at Pilgrim Heights for no other purpose than to laugh and relax and watch our children catch frogs and chase life...thank you, Edwards. For 12 years I served a congregation's children in the sacred ministry of bearing witness to God's joy-filled presence in their lives...thank you, Edwards.

And then on Sunday, June 17th, Steve, Blaine and I were overwhelmed with the words, gifts, hugs and kisses we received as we shared our goodbyes. My greatest fear that day was that in the afternoon I would think of a hundred more words of thanks I should have spoken. There were not a hundred...there were a thousand! And the rest of my life will be filled with moments of thanks for all we were given...thank you, Edwards.

I close with the words my son, John, once said to me, "I am so glad I grew up at Edwards, United Church of Christ!" Me, too! May we all have the vision to truly see how we have been blessed! **Susan Chesley**

Coming in September on Wednesday Evenings...

The Live Simply Invitational ~ A Five Session Discussion Course on Voluntary Simplicity. Watch for more information from the Social Justice Board in the August newsletter.

Because of privacy concerns related to information available on the internet, Edwards has chosen to remove the names of those for whom we are praying from our on-line newsletter.

We lift in joy those moments of celebration in our lives – anniversaries, births, birthdays, and marriages. We continue to pray for those in the hospital, those who are home-bound, and those who battle illness. We lift up those who grieve the loss of a loved one and remember those who carry heavy burdens. We trust that as we lift one another in prayer, God's presence brings strength, hope and wholeness to us all. Amen.

Mission in Motion

There is a new collection box in the narthex for contributions for **the Place2Be**, a teen drop-in center in Rock Island. They need gently used sneakers, regular shoes and clothes. The mission board will keep the congregation updated on additional special needs of both the Place2Be and Winnies Place.

Calling all Backyard Gardeners!

If you have excess produce and want to find a place that needs it, the mission board suggests the **Community Circle Center food pantry** at 530 Vine St. (at 6th and Vine). CCC food pantry is one of the 3 pantries Edwards works with throughout the year. They are open 6 days a week (not on Sunday) and would love any of your extra fresh produce. If you need someone to deliver your produce to the food pantry, email or call Julie Henke (juliehenke@aol.com or 563/508-4220) to make arrangements. You can also check out the website www.AmpleHarvest.org to locate additional food pantries looking for fresh produce.

Mission Trip to Biloxi, Mississippi

Biloxi Mission Trip ~ The seventh annual adult mission trip to the UCC's Back Bay Mission in Biloxi, Mississippi, is scheduled for Labor Day week. We will leave the church on the morning of Saturday, September 1st, and return the evening of Saturday, September 8th. This is an earlier return time from previous trips so that we will be back in time for the dedication of our new building addition on September 9th.

For those not familiar with this mission activity, there are many who have made the trip multiple times and would be happy to share their experiences with you. Dick Werner, Julie Henke, Carol Ogletree, Dick Jirus, Tom Kenneke, and Keith Thess are just a few of the people who have participated multiple times in the past.

If you are interested in taking part in this mission trip, notify Dick Werner (DickWerner@aol.com, 441-9730) or the church office.

South Dakota Here We Come!

Once again a team is heading to Eagle Butte, South Dakota to work on our developing partnership with the Dakota Association churches on Standing Rock, Cheyenne River Sioux and Pine Ridge Reservations.

Lyle and Janie Stratton, Rev. Katherine Mulhern, Rev. Jonna Jensen (our Associate Conference Minister), Rev. Jean Norton, and Susan Chesley will leave Davenport on July 16th, meet all day with folks in Eagle Butte on July 17th, and return home on the 18th.

This time, pastors and lay folks will bring children from their churches, and we will share a day of storytelling, teaching teachers, singing, and dreaming about the next step in our ongoing partnership.

This spring, Edwards was awarded a \$500 Mission grant from the Iowa Conference to continue to develop this unique partnership. Our proposal is to use the grant to bring some of them here to visit and share with us later this year. They - of course - may have other ideas, but we'll keep you posted!

(PS - Even though Susan has left our staff, and will not be participating in the life of our church, she will continue this work until Kendra is able to develop a relationship of mutual trust with the pastors of the Dakota Association. This is an attempt to honor the importance of relationship in Native American culture.)

Youth in Mission

On June 17-22nd, our High School youth spent the week "camping out" at the Church of Peace, UCC in Rock Island. They left Edwards at 4:00 on Sunday afternoon, and by 5:30 they were worshipping in Swahili with a group of about 100 African refugees who have relocated to the Quad Cities! Five miles from home, and they had gone half way around the world.

The week was spent, helping to teach and feed refugees who have recently resettled here, as well as cleaning and rehabbing a transitional housing unit for Project NOW.

There was lots of paint, lots of sweat, lots of learning, and lots of fun! Thank you to all who helped to support this effort through the Youth Mission Auction last spring.

Thank You, Thank You, Thank You !!

Thank you to our June mowers and trimmers... **Michael Fessler, John Harnung, Bob Larew, Milo Smith, Dick Werner and Steve Wildemuth.**

Many thanks to **John Harnung, Dick Dulaney and Bob Larew** for volunteering to clean the church during our search for a new custodian.

Thank you to all at Edwards for thoughts and prayers during my surgery and recovery. Your caregiving team is such a blessing with visits from Katherine and Brian in the hospital, receiving a beautiful pink prayer shawl made by Norma Wren and a wonderful meal from Kay Stiles. Even though we've only attended Edwards UCC for a relatively short period of time, I know we have found a wonderful church family to call our own. Thank you! **Trisha Gehler and family**

Thank you for the calls, cards, visits and gifts while I was in the hospital and rehab at Manor Care. They say my new knee is all ok... and it is! **Beth Hakanson**

As a caregiver, I have been caring and giving to others for years. This time, I was on the receiving end, which was very different! Thank you for all the calls, cards, visits and food! It was so special to hear from friends that I usually call on as a caregiver. Edwards is truly a caring and giving community! Thank you, **Evona Petherick**

Dear Friends, Thank you so much for your recent contribution from your Vacation Bible School including taco chips and shells, taco meat, cheese and pasta salad to help us at Café on Vine. We are grateful you thought of us. **Sister Ruth E., Café on Vine.**

Thank you to **Kay Stiles, Elaine Lippert, Ardis Kasper and Carol Bachellor** who have donated vintage punch bowls to the church to replace the large one that was broken beyond repair. Some of them have been used recently and are a welcome addition to our inventory. They make special events more elegant with their use. Thanks again! Social Board

This is a note of deep appreciation to the many people of Edwards who have helped me over the past six months or so. Thanks to those who graciously gave me furniture from their own homes, to the many members who helped move that furniture and my possessions to my new apartment. And to all of you who through your prayers and kind words have helped me during my recent divorce. The family of Edwards is a loving and powerful force. Thank you. - **Woody Perkins**

Katherine, Susan & Members of Edwards UCC, I was blessed this weekend to join you for your good-bye to Susan and celebration of her ministry. I am grieved to lose such a radiant minister, but am blessed to make the journey with you. Peace, **Nicole Havelka**

THANK YOU for the wonderful gifts of special music in worship this past month by **Elaine Lippert**, accompanying the choir, and the **Liturgical Dancers, Kathy Lafrenz**, director: **Molly, Maddie and Elyse Dye, Blaine Chesley, and Cassidy Holdridge**. Thank you to **Mary Beth Dircks and Brad Miller**, piano duet, **Lisa, Genevieve and Eleanor Gaston**, trio, and **VBS Children with Elaine Lippert** director.

Thank you to **Norma Wren, Martha and Richard Jirus, Carol Hart, Linda Dorrance, Kay Anthony and Mary Hein** for doing the end of the year music filing.

Thank you to **Elaine Lippert, Robert Riedesel, Lyle Stratton and John Keraus** for taking a day to travel to Grinnell, representing Edwards and providing wonderful music for the Saturday evening worship at Annual Meeting. Thank you to **Joyce Paustian and Woody Perkins** for also representing our church through many, many hours of wonderful photography at annual meeting.

Thank you to all who supported the Hinsdale, Illinois Allegro Bell Choir Concert at Edwards: **Sandy Reinders**, for coordinating all efforts, **Kay Anthony, Caroline Evans, Carol Hart, Annah Eberhardt, and Jean Norton** for preparing and cleaning up the meal; the **Hixons, Harts, Reinders and Mulhern/Werner** for providing B & B homes, and **Carol Hart, Martha Jirus, Mary Hein, Caroline Evans, Elaine Lippert, Jean Norton and Sandy Reinders** for providing dessert for after the concert. Thanks also to the **Wildemuths, Riedesels and Lipperts** who were prepared to have overnight guests but were not needed this time. Thanks to **Joyce Paustian** for running sound and **Woody Perkins** for snapping pictures.

Pat Hixon expresses her gratitude to the congregation for their prayers and cards during her recovery. While recovery is slow, the attention from her Edwards family has been a true blessing.

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

	July 1	July 8	July 15	July 22	July 29
Preacher	Katherine Mulhern	Katherine Mulhern	Katherine Mulhern	Katherine Mulhern	Katherine Mulhern
Chancel Set-up	Marilyn Riedesel Judy Stouffer	John Keraus	Kay Anthony	Sandy Reinders	John Keraus
Scripture Reader	Norma Wren	Kathy Lafrenz	Rob Tubbs	Dick Dulaney	Richard Jirus
Communion Servers	Beck David, Brian Dugan, Anne-Marie Gephart, Lisa Hixon				
Special Music	Miriam Prichard	Martha Jirus Kaela Swarts	Promised Land Elaine Lippert	Robert Riedesel	Jesse Evans
Sound System					
Nursery	Cathy Wetzel	Miriam Prichard			
Ushers	Becky David Brian Dugan Anne-Marie Gephart Lisa Hixon	Barb Bleedorn Ann Criswell Dee Hillyer Erica Schroeder	Judy Collins Dick Dulaney George Kovacs Fran Wolfe	John Keraus Joyce Paustian Dick Vallandingham Margaret Wilber	Russ Dircks Pat Sterk Bonnie Walling Ned Walling
Greeters	Jack King Vonnie King Joel Sullivan Wendy Shaw-Sullivan	Dick Dulaney George Kovacs Chris Medina	Jeannine Miller Joyce Paustian Evona Petherick Sandy Reinders	Tina Rivera Terry Schlabach Erica Schroeder Janet Sedgwick	Beverly Simpson Sandy Sohr Mila Smith Milo Smith
Coffee Hour	Pat Cresap Carol Hart	Teresa Caligaris Ann Criswell	Martha & Richard Jirus	Joyce Paustian Jessica Greenwald	
Lock-up	John Harnung	David Reinders	Milo Smith	Vince Holdridge	John Harnung
Mower / Trimmer	Steve Wildemuth Milo Smith	Brad Miller	Dick Werner Richard Jirus	Michael Fessler	Dick Dulaney Steve Wildemuth
CareGivers On Call	Caroline Evans Sandy Reinders	Lois Larew	Suzanne Benson Elaine Lippert	Ruth Bowers Fran Wolfe	Carol Bachellor Evona Petherick

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

JULY 2012

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 10:15 AM Worship 11:30 AM Promised Land Rehearsal	2	3	4 Independence Day Office Closed	5 6:30 PM Steps to Serenity Al-Anon Meeting	6	7
8 10:15 AM Worship 11:30 AM Promised Land Rehearsal 12:00 PM Choir Lunch	9	10 8:30 AM Donuts & Hammers 6:30 PM Board Meetings 7:30 PM Council Meeting	11 5:30 PM Building Dedication Meeting	12 6:30 PM Steps to Serenity Al-Anon Meeting	13	14
15 10:15 AM Worship 11:30 AM Promised Land Rehearsal	16 9:00 AM NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	17 12:00 PM CareGivers Meeting	18	19 6:30 PM Steps to Serenity Al-Anon Meeting	20	21
22 Food Pantry Sunday 10:15 AM Worship	23	24 8:30 AM Donuts & Hammers	25	26 4:15 PM Kids in Mission 6:30 PM Steps to Serenity Al-Anon Meeting	27	28
29 10:15 AM Worship	30	31	1	2 6:30 PM Steps to Serenity Al-Anon Meeting	3	4

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

July 2012



Upcoming Office Hours

Closed Wednesday, July 4th

Thursday, July 12th - 9:00 am to Noon

Friday, July 13th - 9:00 am to Noon

Monday, July 16th - 9:00 am to Noon

Tuesday, July 17th - 9:00 am to Noon



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

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.

Food Pantry Sunday

July 22nd!

Please bring a bag of groceries for the Food Pantry. Items needed include tuna, soups, stews, peanut butter, breakfast cereal, toiletries, diapers, etc. Whatever your cupboard needs...the Food Pantry needs, too!

EDWARDS CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Katherine A. Mulhern, Pastor	katherine@edwards-ucc.org
Rev. Jean Norton, Minister of Music	jean@edwards-ucc.org
Kendra Thompson, Minister of Faith Formation	kendra@edwards-ucc.org
Miriam Prichard, Youth Director	miriam@edwards-ucc.org
Geri Dulaney, Membership Coordinator	geri@edwards-ucc.org
Kathy Bowerman, Administrative Assistant	kathy@edwards-ucc.org
Brian Dugan, Caregiver Coordinator	brian@edwards-ucc.org
Cathy Loughhead, Bookkeeper	loughhead@mchsi.com
Julie Henke, Financial Secretary	JulieHenke@aol.com
Shirley Johnson, Moderator	uffda@netexpress.net

SAVE THE DATE!!

Sunday, September 9th
BUILDING DEDICATION

Morning Worship

Old Fashioned
Box Lunch Picnic

1:00 pm Dedication
Service