



# Edwards Editor

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**August 2007**



**SUMMER FUN! SUMMER PICNIC! SUMMER FUN!  
AUGUST 5<sup>th</sup>! ! AUGUST 5<sup>th</sup>! AUGUST 5<sup>th</sup>!  
SCOTT COUNTY PARK! SCOTT COUNTY PARK!**

Following worship on August 5<sup>th</sup>, join us for an old-fashioned All-Church Picnic at the Buffalo Bill Pavilion at Scott County Park! The Membership Board will provide the meat, all you have to bring is a dish to share, your own table service and beverages. There will be games for all ages and the swimming pool will be available. Sign-up on the tear-off sheet at church, or call the church office (so that we know how much meat to buy)! Dress casually for church and come to the picnic! Don't miss it!

## Table of Contents

Letter from Pastor .....2  
Worship at Edwards .....3  
With Our People .....4

Who, What, When .....5  
Thank You's .....6  
Music at Edwards .....7  
Birthdays & Calendar .....8

Beyond Our Walls .....9  
Youth/CE/Music .....10  
Mission & Social Justice ...11

## From Our Pastor's Desk...

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Long before the days of "Never put a period where God has put a comma" and "God is Still Speaking", the UCC had a bumper sticker that I loved. It simply said "To Believe Is to Care...To Care Is to Do."

Lately, I've been reminded of that by-line as I have watched our church in action. There is a lot of caring...and a lot of doing... going on at Edwards this summer! Items for the Women's Shelters have been steadily coming in. There has been an outpouring of support for our youth who went to work in the homeless shelters and the soup kitchens in Washington DC. The 50<sup>th</sup> Habitat Home is going up and we are helping to make that happen. The Caregivers are quietly at work, bringing the care of the congregation to families who are experiencing illness or crisis.

The plans are in the works for another team of adults to go to Biloxi, Mississippi to work on the reconstruction of that community following Hurricane Katrina. Many, many people are working in the Education Wing of our church every day - getting ready for the beginning of Mother's Day Out and Tiny Tot PreSchool and Sunday School - painting and cleaning out cupboards and scrubbing toys. Musicians drop into the church to rehearse Sunday's Special Music. Row after row, knitters create prayer shawls that remind people of our ongoing care and prayers.

Meals are prepared for hungry people at the Salvation Army and at the East Moline Meal Site each month. Many of you have volunteered to spend whole mornings in the office, answering the phones and tending to the details of running

the office. People stop by to water flowers, to mow the lawn, to repair the pews, to make the bank deposit, to sign checks, and a myriad of other things - week after week.

"To Believe Is to Care...To Care Is to Do" Edwards is a place of deep believing, a place of deep caring, and a place where a lot of people do a lot of things. It is a privilege to be a part of this community, where faith is more than sitting in the pews on Sunday morning. Instead, faith is lived out in action, shared with hungry and hurting people, made real with hammers and nails and sweat.

Believing is strengthened when we act our faith, but it also grows when we pause and reflect together. Our spirits are nurtured in prayer, in reading the scriptures, and as we share the stories of how God is at work in our lives. These are also the ancient practices that deepen our faith and strengthen our caring.

I am often humbled when a member of our church tells me "I pray for you every day". I am touched by the care with which you listen to one another in the prayer concerns on Sunday mornings. The Book Group gathers people each month to reflect together, the Adult Sunday School class spends time each week intertwining our stories with God's story. Potlucks and picnics deepen the bonds of friendship and caring.

"To Believe Is to Care...To Care Is to Do" It's a good reminder! Christianity has never been a spectator sport!

## August Scriptures

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### August 5:

Hosea 11:1-11  
Psalm 107:1-9,43  
Colossians 3:1-11  
Luke 12:13-21

### August 12:

Isaiah 1:1, 10-20  
Psalm 50:1-8,22-23  
Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16  
Luke 12:32-40

### August 19:

Isaiah 5:1-7  
Psalm 80:1-2,8-19  
Hebrews 11:29-12:2  
Luke 12:49-56

### August 26:

Jeremiah 1:4-10  
Psalm 71:1-6  
Hebrews 12:18-29  
Luke 13:10-17

They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.

~Acts 2:42

## August Special Music

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- Aug 5<sup>th</sup>: Susanne Benson and Brian Witte, Violin.  
Aug 12<sup>th</sup>: Martha Jirus, Evangeline Lewis and Carole Woods, vocal trio & Mary Beth Dircks and Brad Miller, piano duet.  
Aug 19<sup>th</sup>: Carolina Warren-Collison, vocal solo and Norma Wren, accompanist and organist  
Aug 26<sup>th</sup>: Molly Taft and Courtney Smith, flute duet, and Angela Elliott, vocal solo.  
Sept 2<sup>nd</sup>: Henry McCarrel, vocal solo and Norma Wren, accompanist and organist.

## Contemporary Worship!

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The once a month evening Contemporary Worship Service with communion and a potluck will be at 5:30 p.m. on the THIRD Sunday of each month August 19 and September 23! We will resume weekly services on October 7.

## Ecclesiastical Council

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Sunday, August 26<sup>th</sup> at 3:00, Edwards will host the Eastern Association for an Ecclesiastical Council for Becky David. Becky has completed her ordination paper and the Committee on Ministry has approved it. Now the Association will gather to interview her and make the final decision. Read her paper! It's available in the church office. Come to support her! Come to be a part of one of the most important things we do - authorizing ministry! And mark your calendar for September 30 - that's her tentative ordination date!

## ***With Our People...***

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### **Keep in Your Prayers**

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- Becky David, preparing for her Ecclesiastical Council on 8/26
- Kerry Fear and Rob DuBay, married 7/21
- Dorothy Fryer, home from the hospital
- Melissa King, continuing chemotherapy
- Randy Kuhlman, recovering from surgery
- Carol Mahan, home from the hospital
- Sam Moore, baptized July 22
- Jean Neavor, who received a new cancer diagnosis
- Lou Wren, recovering from surgery

### **Prayer Shawl Ministry**

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The Prayer Shawl Ministry has gotten off to a great start. Since August 5<sup>th</sup> falls on the day of the Church picnic, we will not meet in August. The monthly meetings will resume September 2<sup>nd</sup>. All are welcome to join us then for fellowship, encouragement and sharing of knowledge. If you have any questions, please contact Dorothy Hammond at (309)797-2321. Hope to see everyone in September. All skill levels are welcome.

### **2007 Financial Update**

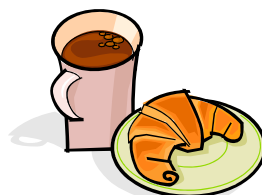
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In January, we adopted a budget that projected a \$16,000 deficit by year-end. To date, our income has matched our expenses - thanks to your generous and timely gifts. So... keep up the good work, and we'll end the year "in the black"!

### **Women's Night Out**

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WOMEN'S NIGHT OUT will meet on August 16, at 6:00 p.m. Potluck Picnic at Ardis Kasper's home: 3026 Windsor Drive, Bettendorf. Come join us!



### **Coffee Hour Hosts**

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We are seeking Coffee hour hosts, for August 12<sup>th</sup> and August 26<sup>th</sup>. It's fairly easy to serve and it's a great way to meet folks. We ask you to make coffee and a cool beverage. Supplies are in the kitchen. If you choose to bring snacks—simple or elaborate—that is up to you. It's easy to volunteer. Sign up on the sheet posted in Baxter Hall between the serving counters, sign up on the bulletin tear-off, call the office or call Sandy Reinders, 332-2637. Directions for making coffee and what to set up are posted in the kitchen.

**August Caregiver Meeting will be a potluck! Gather at 6:00 pm on 8/28 for food, and the meeting will begin at 7:00 pm.**

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

	<i>August 5</i>	<i>August 12</i>	<i>August 19</i>	<i>August 26</i>
<b>Preacher</b>	Katherine Mulhern	Sue Harrington	Becky David	Katherine Mulhern
<b><i>Greeters</i></b>	Gilly Gilbreath, Don Miller, Mila and Milo Smith	Sharon Wildemuth, Sandy Sohr, Bill Kelly	Carol and Don Carroll, Ned and Bonnie Walling	Ron and Carolyn Walters, Erica Schroeder
<b><i>Ushers</i></b>	Mary Hein, Judy Collins, Steve Wildemuth, Anne-Marie Gephart	Margaret Wilber, Russ Dircks, Milo Smith, Joe Hall	Margaret Wilber, Steve Wildemuth, Anne-Marie Gephart, Mike Fleener	Ned and Bonnie Walling, Sally Egy, Tom Kenneke
<b><i>Visitor Guides</i></b>	Sharon Wildemuth	Membership Board	Martha Jirus	Membership Board
<b><i>Nursery 10:15 a.m.</i></b>		Mary Hein		Chris Zippe
<b><i>Coffee Hour Hosts</i></b>	All-Church Picnic!		The Norwood Family	The Crawford Family
<b><i>Caregivers on Call</i></b>	Ruth Bowers, Sandy Reinders	Lois Larew, Diane Anderson	Sharon Wildemuth, Chris Fessler	Rhoda Molleston, Kay Stiles
<b><i>Scripture Reader</i></b>	Becky David	Max Molleston	Tom Kenneke	Bob Riedesel
<b><i>Communion Servers</i></b>				
<b><i>Chancel Set-Up</i></b>	Dick Dulaney	Pat Cresap	Brian Dugan	Chris Zippe
<b><i>Sound System</i></b>	<i>Dave VanDerKamp</i>			
<b><i>Lock-Up</i></b>		Margaret Wilber	Clyde Durrah	Brad Miller

***Where blanks appear, we need your HELP!!! Please call the church office, 359-0331 to sign-up.***

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

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July Special Music Thank You's to: Jay Kyte, vocal solo; The Final Cut Barbershop Quartet with member Harry Swarts; Bonnie Walling, piano solo; Brian Dugan, Lyle Stratton and Alex Slack, Trio; and Colin Young, saxophone solo.

Everyone who helped make the Youth Mission Trip possible, especially the advisors Joel Boon, Sue Harrington, Katherine Mulhern, and Carol Ogletree. Thank you to Woody Perkins who traveled to Washington DC to take pictures, Mila Smith and Dawn Johnson who prepared and organized food, and the Kenneke family who loaned their van.

Office Volunteers: Sarah Kenneke, Angela Elliot, Sandy Reinders, Sally Egy, Sue Curl and Chris Fessler!

July Newsletter Helpers: Sally Egy, Ardis Kasper, Sarah Kenneke and Martha Jirus.

Everyone who has worked to make the church flowers and lawn look so good this summer: Mike Fessler, Cathy Wetzel, Sandy Reinders

All who have helped spruce-up and clean the Education Wing: Mila and Milo Smith, Tom and Emily Kenneke, Mike and Chris Fessler, John and Dorothy Hammond, Vonnie King, Cathy Loughhead, Peggy Olsen, John Chesley, Audrey Dugan, Blaine Chesley, Amber Whitfield, Susan Chesley, Barb Fleener, Sara King Rassler and Mary Hein.

Dick Werner for repairing the pews in the sanctuary.

East Moline Meal Site Volunteers: Katy Strzepak, Molly & Elise Dye, Anne & Melissa Ghergich, Chris & Michaela Fessler and Susan & Blain Chesley.

Dear Edwards Family,  
You may have noticed others conducting the choir and playing the organ this spring. That is because the Personnel Board graciously granted me a month's sick leave when the responsibilities and grief of family and the demands of my various work responsibilities threatened my health. I thank Katherine and the Personnel Board for their wisdom. I have had some much needed rest and healing. I also especially thank Norma Wren for being so willing and able to move to the organ on less than 12 hours' notice, Harry Swarts and Cec Chapman for stepping in to conduct, and Brad Miller for giving up his Wednesday nights to accompany. I thank Cathy Wetzel, Lyle Stratton and Bob Riedesel for leading the band, Sandy Reinders for making other arrangements for the bells, the Edwards staff for picking up my music ministry duties and all of you for your cards and support. Edwards is a wonderful family, and I am humbled and blessed to be in such a caring community. Thank you all very very much. I look forward to September! Jean Norton

To The Caregiving Ministry,  
Thank you for the prayer shawl. Our wedding day was very special and we appreciate you thinking of us. All your thoughts and prayers mean a lot!

Sarah King & Jon Rasler

Thanks to all who donated school supplies during July. Your generosity is appreciated by students and teachers in schools in Davenport and Bettendorf!

## ***Music at Edwards...***

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### **You're Invited...to Make Music**

If you are a musical person, and haven't shared in the music at Edwards, we invite you to check us out! We especially encourage new members to join us. Our year runs from Homecoming Sunday, September 9<sup>th</sup> through at least Pentecost in May or June. Find your spot! Or make a new one!

The Chancel Choir  
The Alleluia Ringers  
The Children's Chimes  
The Friends in Faith Band  
Instrumental Ensembles

### **Join the Annual Music Picnic!!!**

At the END of August, we get our music groove back! If you are one of the OVER 70 musicians who have brought music into worship in the past 12 months, PLEASE JOIN US! We'll meet at 6 pm at Duck Creek Park at one of the shelters. Hot Dogs, buns, condiments, table service and water will be provided...bring a different meat and beverage if you wish, a dish to pass, and re-join your fellow musicians! Families are welcome. We will ENJOY each other's company, CELEBRATE the past year and GEAR UP for the fall! See you there!

**Listen for Edwards' sponsorship on WVIK Radio of "Speaking of Faith" Sundays from 12-1 pm "Speaking of Faith" explores issues and themes which affect 21<sup>st</sup> century faith**

### **Chancel Choir**

We begin rehearsals on Wednesday, September 5! Choir Rehearsals are weekly - Wednesdays 7:00-8:30 pm and Sundays 9:15-10:00 am. On Sunday, September 9<sup>th</sup> we will gather for the Annual Choir Retreat after church (following the Homecoming Dinner) through 4 pm in the sanctuary to run through music for the fall. For more information about the Chancel Choir, contact Jean Norton, 359-0331, ext. 13, or [jean@edwards-ucc.org](mailto:jean@edwards-ucc.org). Looking forward to seeing you in the fall!

### **The Friends in Faith Band**

Tuesday, Sept 11<sup>th</sup> - 5:30 - 6:30 Pizza and Plan.  
Tuesday, Sept 25<sup>th</sup> - 5:30-7:00 pm - Rehearsal  
Sunday, Aug 19<sup>th</sup> and Sept 16<sup>th</sup> - 4:00 Rehearsal  
Sunday, Aug 19<sup>th</sup> and Sept 16<sup>th</sup> - 5:30 Worship  
with communion and potluck  
Sunday, October 7<sup>th</sup> - resume weekly Sunday evening services.

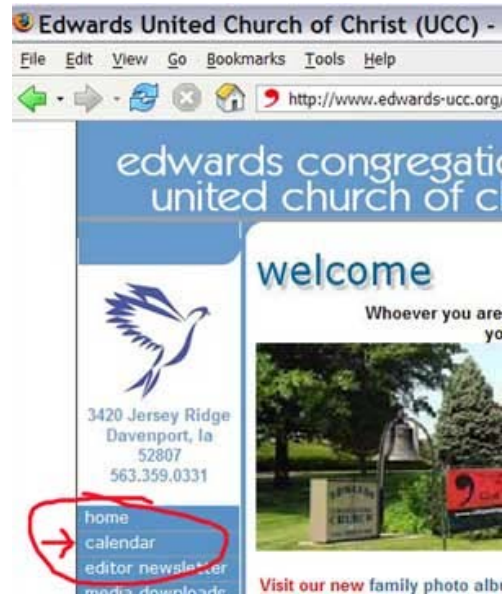
For more information about the Friends in Faith Band, contact Jean Norton, 359-0331, ext. 13, or [jean@edwards-ucc.org](mailto:jean@edwards-ucc.org). Looking forward to seeing you in the fall!

### **The Alleluia Ringers**

The Bells will begin again on Monday, September 17<sup>th</sup> - 7:00-8:30 pm for a first conversation and Rehearsal. They will be ringing in morning services on the fourth Sunday of each month, beginning on September 23<sup>rd</sup>. If you cannot ring monthly or rehearse weekly, consider being on the substitute list! For more information about the Handbells, contact Sandy Reinders, 332-2637, [skreinders@mchsi.com](mailto:skreinders@mchsi.com).



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



## ***August Birthdays***

1 – Amanda Loughead  
2 – Evangeline Lewis  
2 – Kathy Ramsey  
2 – Crystal Miller  
3 – Angi Schertz  
4 - Angela Elliot  
6 – Darrel Hillyer

8 – Billy Hawkinson  
8 – Elyse Dye  
9 – Al Takemoto  
9 – Breanna McCarrel  
10 – James Wetzel  
12 – Amy Van Hoosier  
12 – Abby Weyman

12- Solon Simonsen  
13 –Tim Tullberg  
13 – Sarah Vordtriede  
17 – Kerry Scudder  
18 – Ryan Van Hoosier  
19- Tracy Miller  
20 – Hilda Raap

20 – David Wymore  
21 – Jessica Loughead  
22 – Sarah Kenneke  
23 – Jay Kyte  
24 – Virginia Seifert  
24 – Norma Wren

24 – Sara Verdick  
25 – Bonnie Walling  
25 – Richard Jirus  
25 – Becky Takemoto  
25 – Jake Taft  
29 – Mary Beth Dircks  
30 – Harry Swartz

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



**We Need Your Help!**

Pledge your support for the Adult Mission trip to the UCC Back Bay Mission in Biloxi, Mississippi! The team of 11 people from Edwards will be helping in the ongoing work of rebuilding, following Hurricane Katrina's devastation. Every dollar you pledge to this trip will be matched by another dollar until the cost of the trip is funded. The estimated cost is \$5,000 and \$2500 has already been pledged in matching funds! Please make your donation today! You can make a difference in the lives of displaced families.

**PLEASE RETURN YOUR PLEDGE TODAY!**

**NAME** \_\_\_\_\_

**PLEDGE AMOUNT** \$\_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed

Will make payment by September 15

### Get Ready for Fall!!!

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#### Homecoming Sunday, Sept. 9<sup>th</sup>

Join family and friends for a time of welcome and renewal as we mark the beginning of regular programming at Edwards! The day starts with Church School for all ages at 9:00, followed by Worship at 10:15, and then lunch and fellowship at 11:30 provided by the Board of Christian Education. Watch for more information in your Sept. Editor, but mark your calendars NOW!

#### The Tribal Gatherings Church

**School (PreK-Fifth)** will resume Sept. 9<sup>th</sup>, 9:00-10:00. Throughout the year we will engage the imagination in ways that support and nurture our faith, by recognizing our creative gifts, sharpening our powers of observation and understanding, opening ourselves to joy, and deepening our sense of gratitude.

#### Adult Education:

**Edwards Book Club** will discuss *The Known World* by Edward P. Jones on Thursday, Sept. 25<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 in the Church Parlor. Bring your ideas for future selections to this first meeting.

**Adult Bible Studies** this fall will focus on Bible Basics - an opportunity for us all to take a fresh look at the Bible stories that shape our faith. Watch for more details in September!

*God indeed has been present with these little ones all along, and with just a little encouragement, the children will gladly share that presence with us.*

Gerald May

### HOT - Holy Ongoing Testimony

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Fifteen youth and four adults traveled to Washington DC last month, to work in the soup kitchens, the homeless shelters, transitional housing apartments, and places that serve one of the largest homeless populations in the country. It was HOT (over 100 degrees on a couple of days)! It was also HOLY!

There are LOTS of stories from the week, and you can listen to some of them via our website - click on the sermon for July 22 and you will hear the youth share their stories!

Throughout the week, our youth got to see first-hand the realities of homelessness in our country. They made beds in the shelters. They cleaned kitchens and bathrooms. They washed walls and picked up trash. They cooked meals and served them. They listened to the stories of middle-class folks with college degrees who had lost everything due to a fire or an illness. They played chess and sang songs with folks who live in a cardboard box - just getting to know them. They gave their lunches away and gave away McDonald's cheeseburgers to 25 people in the park.

To all of you who donated at the Auction to help make this trip possible - THANK YOU! To Mila Smith and Dawn Johnson who made and organized food for the trip - THANK YOU! To the Kenneke family who graciously loaned their van to help transport the Edwards crew - THANK YOU! It takes a church to raise a Christian - and Edwards is a great church, raising amazing youth! It was a HOT trip - filled with Holy Ongoing Testimony!

## *Mission and Social Justice....*

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### Tips for a Healthy Summer

Wellness is an antidote to skyrocketing healthcare costs. The Social Justice Board wellness series offers this month's tips on preventing heat-related illness. Normally, the body has ways of keeping itself cool, by letting heat escape through the skin, and by evaporating sweat. If the body does not cool properly, the victim may suffer a heat-related illness.

#### **Preventing Heat-Related Illness**

**Dress for the heat.** Wear lightweight, light-colored clothing. **Drink water.** Carry water or juice and drink continuously even if you do not feel thirsty. Avoid alcohol and caffeine, which dehydrate the body. **Eat small meals and eat more often.** Avoid foods that are high in protein which increase metabolic heat. **Slow down.** Avoid strenuous activity. **Take regular breaks** when engaged in physical activity on warm days.

#### **General Care for Heat Emergencies**

1. **Cool the Body**
2. **Give Fluids**
3. **Minimize Shock**

The signs of the late stage of a heat-related illness (often called **heat stroke**) include-- decreased alertness level or complete loss of consciousness; high body temperature (sometimes as high as 105°F); vomiting; skin may still be moist or the victim may stop sweating and the skin may be red, hot and dry; rapid, weak pulse; rapid, shallow breathing. This late stage of a heat-related illness is life threatening. **Call 9-1-1 or your local EMS number.** Move the person to a cooler place. Quickly cool the body. (Do not use rubbing alcohol because it closes the skin's pores and prevents heat loss.)

### Adult Mission Trip to Biloxi

The adult mission trip to Back Bay Mission in Biloxi, Mississippi is gearing up to leave September 15<sup>th</sup> for a week of home reconstruction in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina. Your gifts make this trip possible. Any money given to the trip will be matched by anonymous donors. Mark your donation "Biloxi" and it will reach the proper place.

### Restocking the Shelters

The boxes are getting full, but we are still gathering supplies for the Family Resources Women's Shelter and Winnie's Place. The Mission Board will be delivering what we have gathered at the end of the month, so don't delay. We would like to take cleaning supplies, toiletries, bedding and anything else you think they might need. These simple things make a difference!

### The 50<sup>th</sup> Habitat House!

Reserve your calendars for Saturday, August 18<sup>th</sup>. This is an important work day! **Edwards gets to be the first work crew to work on the 50<sup>th</sup> home!** And if we can get enough volunteers, we'll be the **ONLY** church working on the house on the first day of construction! If we don't get enough volunteers, we'll have to share the honors with a crew from another church. We'll be framing that day and can use 25 volunteers. We also need a volunteer or two to provide lunch for 25-30 people that day. Anyone interested? Sign up in church or call Dave Reinders 332-2637.

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



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**Susan Chesley**, Minister of Christian Education

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