



Edwards Editor

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September 2007

Homecoming 2007

Sunday, September 9th

***Back to Basics:
Water, Wind and Fire!***

A Time for Welcome and Renewal

Church School for all ages 9:00
Worship 10:15
Lunch and Fellowship in Baxter Hall
*immediately following worship,
bring nothing but your appetite!*

*May the Water of Faith refresh us
May the Wind of Faith move through our lives
May the Fire of Faith ignite a new dedication to service*

Table of Contents

Letter from Pastor2	Who, What, When5	Beyond Our Walls9
Worship at Edwards3	Thank You's6	Youth/Christian Ed.....10
With Our People4	Music at Edwards7	Mission & Social Justice ...11
	Birthdays & Calendar8	

From Our Pastor's Desk...

It happens every September. Labor Day comes and I have a burst of energy - organizing everything in sight. I think it comes from those days when school didn't start until after Labor Day. And with the beginning of school came a fresh start.

New notebooks, sharp pencils - ones that still had the erasers on them, and a whole new year ahead. Possibilities went on forever, even though it was likely that the coming year would be much like the last one. I've always thought that New Year's should be in September instead of January! And in many ways, September in the church IS a new year.

With Homecoming Sunday comes the start of the Church School year and new opportunities for children and adults. It's a time to "sharpen your pencils" and try something new. Help to teach our children or join in the Adult class! It's a chance to grow friendships and faith. Who knows, some new possibility might emerge in your life as you explore your faith journey.

A second team of workers leaves this month for Back Bay Mission in Biloxi, Mississippi to continue the effort to help clean up the damage done by Hurricane Katrina two years ago. Many of them went the last time, but new folks are joining them in the work. This year we are partnered with a UCC church from Ohio, and they go with our prayers and support. They are an important part of Edwards' mission in the world.

This month we will be the host church for Becky David's ordination ceremony - another new beginning! This is the first ordination at Edwards in anyone's memory, and another reminder that God is at work in our lives bringing new possibilities that we don't always expect. Just ask Becky if she ever thought she would become ordained!

We will also say good-bye this month (sort of) to our secretary of 18 years. Teresa King has been on a family leave of absence this summer and has decided that she continues to be needed at home. So, Teresa will not be returning to her job as secretary this fall and we will be looking for someone new to fill her position. We will continue to see Teresa and her family in the pews each Sunday, and we will continue in our prayers as Melissa continues her fight with breast cancer. We will celebrate Teresa's ministry in our midst on Sunday the 16th after church. Don't miss the chance to say thank you!

There's lots going on - places to find your self and your soul, opportunities to make a difference in the world, and possibilities to explore. Get organized! And get involved! Edwards is truly a place...Where Faith Can Grow!

September Scriptures

September 2:

Jeremiah 2:4 - 13
Psalm 81:1, 10-6
Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16
Luke 14:1, 7-14

September 9:

Jeremiah 18:1-11
Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18
Philemon 1-21
Luke 14:25-33

September 16:

Jeremiah 4:11 - 12, 22-28
Psalm 14
1 Timothy 2:1 - 7
Luke 15:1 - 10

September 23:

Jeremiah 8:18 - 9:1
Psalm 79:1 - 9
1 Timothy 2:1 - 7
Luke 16:1 - 13

September 30:

Jeremiah 32:1 - 3a, 6-15
Psalm 91:1 - 6, 14 - 16
1 Timothy 6:6 - 19
Luke 16:19 - 31

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

~Acts 2:42

Contemporary Worship!

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 the month September 16! We will resume weekly services on October 7. Come as you are, hot and tired from a weekend of summer activities. We promise you will be lifted up in the music and prayers. It's a great way to start the week.

Conference Minister Visits

The Iowa Conference Minister, Rev. Rich Pleva, will be visiting us on September 23rd to preach at our morning worship. Rev. Pleva, will also gather with folks at the 9:00 Sunday School hour, to talk about the work of the conference. Rev. Pleva is a man of wisdom and faith, so don't miss this opportunity to get to know him.

Ordination Invitation

The Eastern Association of the Iowa Conference of the United Church of Christ and Edwards Congregational United Church of Christ invite you to a service of Ordination and Installation for REBECCA DAVID at 3:00 p.m. Sunday, September 30th. Dinner will follow the service. Please RSVP to the church office @ 359-0331. Don't miss this!

We Need Your Help!!!

We will be preparing and serving dinner for the ordination guests on Sept. 30th, and you can help. Donations are appreciated to cover the cost of the dinner and our gift to Becky in celebration of her ordination. We'll also need assistance preparing, serving and cleaning up. Call Sandy Reinders for more information or if you are available to help 563-332-2637. Mark your check "ordination"!

Keep in Your Prayers

- Barb and Mike Bleedorn, in the death of Barb's father
- Ruth Bowers, home from the hospital
- Becky David, preparing for her ordination on September 30
- Dorothy Fryer, home from the hospital
- Melissa King, continuing chemotherapy
- Randy Kuhlman, continuing to recover from surgery
- Jean Neavor, at home
- Virginia Seifert, recovering from a heart attack
- Lou Wren, recovering from surgery
- Going to Biloxi: Julie Henke, Carol Ogletree, Kay Stiles, Audrey & Brian Dugan, Chris & Greg Moore, Paul & Evona Petherick, Tom Kenneke and Dick Werner

Weekday Board: is seeking two new members to serve from the present to 2010. If you are not on a board at this time but would like to be, here is a great opportunity for you. Please call Cathie Miller @ 563-391-7881 for more information.

Newcomer's Inquiry Class

Looking for a church home? Please join us Sunday, September 30th at 11:30 a.m. for our Newcomer's Inquiry Class. Contact Geri Dulaney for further information (563) 359-0331 or (563) 323-2145

Moveable Feasts to begin

in October! Edwards' version of the progressive dinner, the Moveable Feasts will begin in October. Eight to ten people dine in someone's home and with a different group each month. As a different twist, we are recommending that groups dine sometime during the **third weekend** of each month -- Friday or Saturday dinners, or a Sunday brunch. This may alleviate some of the scheduling issues and participants can plan on something the third weekend. Please sign up on the tear-off sheet for (1) participation and (2) willing to host/hostess a meal.

Women's Night Out

WOMEN'S NIGHT OUT will meet on September 20th, at 6:00 p.m. at Red Lobster. Come join us!

Prayer Shawl Ministry

The Prayer Shawl Ministry has gotten off to a great start. The next monthly meeting will be October 7th. All are welcome to join us for fellowship, encouragement and sharing of knowledge. If you have any questions, please contact Dorothy Hammond at (309)797-2321. All skill levels are welcome.

Fall Cleanup Weekend will be held Friday September 7th from 4:00 - 8:00 p.m. and Saturday, September 8th from 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Everyone is welcome, and there will be a wide variety of tasks to be done. Sign up on the tear-off sheet in the Sunday Bulletin. We need everyone!

September... Who... What....

When..... Where.....

	<i>September 2</i>	<i>September 9</i>	<i>September 16</i>	<i>September 23</i>	<i>September 30</i>
Preacher	Rev. Katherine Mulhern	Rev. Katherine Mulhern	Rev. Katherine Mulhern	Rev. Rich Pleva	Rev. Katherine Mulhern
Greeters	Katy Strzepek Ryan Dye Jean Neavor	Pam Edmund Erica Schroeder Sally Egy Chris Medina	Olive Gallaher Sandy Sohr Gilly Gilbreath Don Miller	Nelda & Joyce Paustian Teresa & Melissa King	Bill Coker Dennise Weyman Kathy Ramsey
Ushers	Margaret Wilber Russ Dircks Steve Knoche Joe Hall	Ned & Bonnie Walling Sally Egy Tom Kenneke	Tim Mandell Olive Gallaher Barb Bleedorn Dave Wymore	Joe Hall Curly Curl Eric Crawford Mary Hein	Olive Gallaher Pat Sterk Steve Wildemuth Anne-Marie Gephart
Visitor Guides		Membership Board			Membership Board
Nursery 10:15 a.m.	Deanna Thomas		Mary Hein	Janet Sedgwick	Sara Verdick
Coffee Hour Hosts	Richard & Martha Jirus	Education Board	Dick Dulaney	Crawford Family	Pat Sterk and Dee Hillyar
Caregivers on Call	Diane Anderson & Carol Bachellor	Martha Jirus & Rhoda Molleston	Chris Fessler & Sharon Wildemuth	Lois Larew	To Be Announced
Scripture Reader	Anne-Marie Gephart	Kathy Lafrenz	Bill Coker	Emily Kenneke	Tracy Miller
Communion Servers					
Chancel Set-Up	Dick Dulaney	Chris Zippe	Dick Dulaney	Dick Dulaney	Emily Kenneke
Sound System		Dave VanDerKamp			
Lock-Up	Tom Kenneke	Clyde Durrah	Margaret Wilber	Clyde Durrah	

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

Thank You, Thank You, Thank You !!

A Time to Say Thank You!

Sunday, September 16th right after worship we will gather in Baxter Fellowship Hall to say THANK YOU to Teresa King for 18 years of service to our church as the secretary. We will do some remembering, share some stories, and give thanks for her work among us. We will continue to see Teresa each Sunday in the pews and we will continue to hold her family in our prayers through their many challenges. Come and help us say thanks from our hearts!

August Special Music Thank You's to: Suzanne Benson and Brian Witte, violins, The Trio: Martha Jirus, Evangeline Lewis, and Carole Woods; Carolina Warren-Collison, vocal solo; Norma Wren, accompanist and organist; Courtney Smith on the flute; Angela Elliott, vocal solo; and Henry McCarrel, vocal solo.

Thanks for Kitchen Help: Membership and Worship Boards which hosted the indoor picnic, and to the August Coffee hour hosts: the Reinders, the Norwoods and the Crawfords.

Thanks to all those who made delicious goodies for the Ecclesiastical Council: Dorothy Hammond, Carol Ogletree, Carol Stratton, Vonnie King, Susan Chesley, Chris Medina, Martha Jirus, Kay Stiles, and Sandy Reinders. Thanks to Ardis Kasper, Kay Stiles, and Susan Chesley for kitchen assistance and serving.

Thanks to: Ardis Kasper for hosting the Women's Night Out Potluck and also for washing the Baxter Hall drapes.

For help in the church office: Angela Elliot, Sarah Kenneke, Chris Fessler, Suzanne Benson, Sally Egy, and Sue Curl.

Notes in the Mail....

My nephew had a successful kidney transplant in Indianapolis. Josh received a kidney from his brother Chris on August 10th. Thank you for all your thoughts and prayers.

Mercy, Grace & Peace to you,
Sue Harrington

Dear Edwards Congregation,

We would like to thank everyone who sent their prayers, cards and phone calls to us during Randy's stay in the hospital and after he got home. A special thank you to Katherine and Lyle for their visits to Iowa City.

Thanks so much,
Randy & Noreen Kuhlmann

We wanted to thank Edwards for the beautiful flower for Elise. She is such a delight and has added such joy to our family. Thanks for all the thoughts and prayers.

The Kyte Family

Dear Edwards Church,

Thank you so much for the visits, and calls when I was in the hospital. Katherine and Lyle's prayers and visits have also been much appreciated, as was Jean Norton's music! Edwards is really a special, friendly, outgoing church.

Dorothy Fryer

Dear Edwards,

On behalf of Churches United thank you for your contribution last year to Faith Talks. Our show is becoming more popular, and we continue to explore faith and our public life in many different ways.

Anne Wachal
Program Manager

Fall Rehearsals Begin!

The Chancel Choir: Each Wednesday, beginning Sept. 5th, 7-8:30 p.m. Will sing Homecoming Sunday, 9/9 at the 10:15 am service. Sunday morning 9:15 rehearsal.

The Friends in Faith Band: Every two weeks on Tuesdays:

Tuesday, Sept 11th - 5:30 - 6:30 Pizza & Plan.

Tuesday, Sept 25th - 5:30-7:00 p.m. Will sing Sunday evening. 9/16, (rehearsal at 4 pm) with weekly evening services beginning 10/7.

The Alleluia Ringers: Each Monday, beginning Sept. 17th, 7-8:30 p.m. Will ring fourth Sunday of the month in morning service, beginning 9/23.

The Chime Choir: Each Wednesday, beginning Oct. 3, 7-7:30 p.m. Will ring occasionally in the morning worship.

Instrumental and Youth Ensembles, Special Musicians and Liturgical Dancers: Keep your eyes and ears open for news as the year starts. Check the weekly Announcement Sheets!



Come sing with us!

The **Chancel Choir** sings everything from Bach to gospel, spirituals to contemporary music

each week in the morning service. Most singers read music, but not all, most have sung in groups before, but not all. High school to whatever age!

The **SIXTH ANNUAL CHOIR RETREAT** will be held after the festivities of Homecoming Sunday, September 9th, ending by 4 pm at the latest. We'll get acquainted and read music for the coming fall.

Come ring with us!

Would you like to prevent the early onset of Alzheimer's or increase your eye hand coordination?

Handbells and handchimes - are unique instruments. Ringers are assigned one or two bells or chimes representing a particular note or pitch. When that note appears in the music they ring

Alleluia Ringers ring during worship, usually the fourth Sunday of the month during the morning and some evening services. *A commitment to attend every rehearsal is important for this group.* We ring for special occasions such as Christmas Eve, Palm Sunday, Pentecost and other occasions as requested.

Chime Choir - a ringing group for all ages. If you are just learning to read music or wish to have a shorter rehearsal time come join us as we learn how to ring.

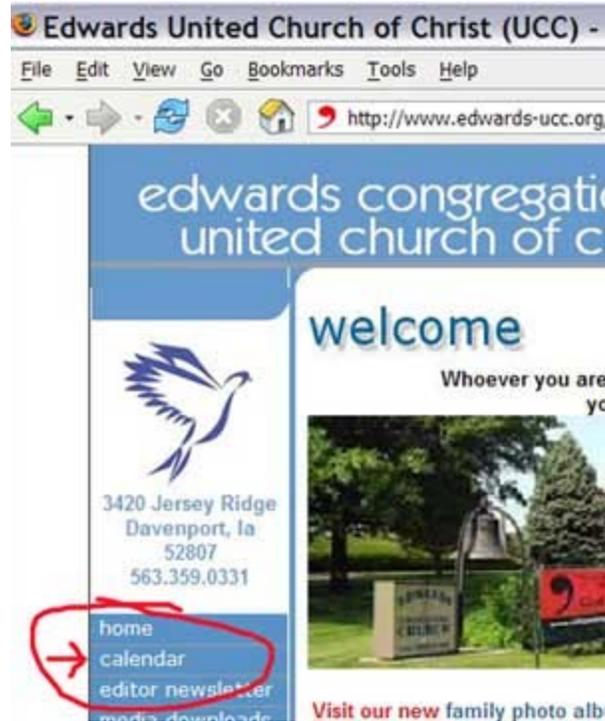
Come play with us!

The **Friends in Faith Band** rocks, rolls and dusts up country, gospel and spirituals. We range from high school to retired ages, with guitars, drums, percussion, bass, piano, and voices. Few of us read music and we sing lots of ad lib harmony.



For More Information...

If you would like more information or have questions about joining a handbell choir or handchime choir please contact Sandy Reinders, 332-2637, skreinders2@msn.com. For the Liturgical Dancers, Kathy Lafrenz, Dancekat1@aol.com, or Jean Norton, & for the Friends in Faith Band, the Chancel Choir, the Instrumental & Youth Ensembles, or Special Musicians, please contact Jean Norton, 359-0331, ext. 13. or jean@edwards-ucc.org.



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

September Birthdays

1 - Max Molleston
 1 - Dick Lafrenz
 1 - Elizabeth Knoche
 1 - Carter Weyman
 2 - Rose Marie Edgerton
 2 - Anne Swarts
 2 - Jeff Kranz
 2 - Elisabeth Norwood
 3 - Mike Fear

6 - Robert Van Dyke
 6 - Marilyn Hamilton
 6 - Tina Rivera
 7 - Joel Boon
 9 - Pabrita Kandel
 9 - Becky Klemme
 9 - Amber Whitfield
 10 - Robert Baustian
 11 - Beverlie Bergert

11 - Sain
 Warren- Collison
 12 - Jasmine Rankin
 15 - Laurel Ogden
 15- Neal Smith
 15 - Heather Wren
 16 - Janet Sedgwick
 20 - Brent Lafrenz
 21 - Eloise Chesley

23 - Rat Rosburg
 26 - Dan Miller
 28 - Jean Clapp
 28 - Jennell Bergwall
 28 - Chloe King
 29 - Mike Bleedorn
 30 - Rachael Sedwick

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

Beyond Our Walls....

Your Help Is Urgently Needed!

Edwards Mother's Day Out is in need of one teacher and one aide to begin this school year. Call Meki Falborg, Director @ 563-359-3631, if you or anyone you know may be interested.

Fall Fellowship Day

Church Women United Fall Fellowship Day, Friday, September 14th, 9:00 a.m. at Christ United Methodist Church 3801 - 7th Street, East Moline. Speaker is Rev. Jerrod Parker, of Greater Antioch Baptist Church, Rock Island. There will be a \$6.00 brunch. Call Eleanor Mooney for more information @ 563-388-3544.

Eastern Association Meeting

The Eastern Association of the Iowa Conference will meet on the afternoon of Sunday, September 23rd at St. John's United Church of Christ in Clarence. The Association Program Committee is putting together a great afternoon program for us, so let the church office know if you would like to be a delegate from Edwards! The workshops will be:

- * *Angels Can Fly Because They Take Themselves Lightly!* -Rev. Jonna Jensen
- * *Wrestling with the Choir* -Rev. Jean Norton
- * *Ringing Bells* -Elda Licht
- * *Women's Coordinating Committee* -Rev. Barb Muhs
- * *Lifestyle Generosity: The Sacred Art of Giving* -Rev. Laird Kever and Rev. David Lorenzen
- * *Wrestling with the Budget* -Rev. Dr. Ken Bickel

Sign Up NOW! In the church office!

Prayers for Peace

The National Council of Churches is inviting people of all faiths to join together on September 21st to lift up our prayers for peace. Look for opportunities to gather with other Christians ecumenically on that day. Spend some time praying for peace privately that day. Peace begins with each of us, as we whisper our prayers and we ask for God's grace. The National Council of Churches USA has offered this prayer:

Safekeeping and Remembering One, be with us at this hour. We come to you in prayer, not because we are so adept at knowing one another's deepest needs, nor so merciful that we can promise to respond, but because we trust in your understanding and generous spirit. Holy are you, God, for bearing our pain, sharing our grief, and weeping with us. Holy are you, God, for entering our suffering. Blessed be your name. Amen.

Take a moment on September 21st to lift your heart in prayer for peace on earth.

Pilgrimage - Retreat, Renewal

Pilgrimage is a series of three retreats to help you discover and deepen your sensitivity to God's presence in your life. In sharing your journey with others, you will strengthen your own faith and your discipleship in the world. Pilgrimage will provide tools to help you along your own spiritual journey and it will help you discover new spiritual disciplines adapted for your personality. The next retreat series will begin November 30-December 1 at the Christian Conference Center in Newton, IA. Sign up now in the church office!

**Mark Your Calendar Now!
CROP Walk will be October 7th!**

Youth and Christian Education...

Homecoming 2007, Sept 9th

Celebrate the restart of programming at Edwards with a little water, wind and fire! The Board of Christian Education invites you to an after worship cook-out in Baxter Hall, with water games for the young at heart and a Bubble Booth for the truly talented! Come share the joy with family and friends!

Church School for All Ages

begins Sept. 9th from 9-10 am.

- PreK-Fifth graders meet in the Ed wing;
- Adult Bible Study meets in the Church Parlor/Library;
- Jr and Senior High meets in Baxter Hall for Breakfast Club.

Kids in Mission: We will provide supper at the East Moline Meal Site on Thurs, Sept 27th. Children are invited to meet at church at 4:15 to prepare supper; we will leave for the site at 5:30. Contact Susan Chesley at church for more details.

Adult Education

Edwards Book Club will discuss *The Known World* by Edward P. Jones on **Thurs, Sept. 27th** at 6:30 in the church parlor. Bring your ideas for future selections to this first meeting.

Aging Well...Living Well: Explore the keys to physical, emotional and spiritual well-being during the "golden years" of life. This three week session begins **Sunday, September 16th** from 9-10 in the church parlor.

Hey Youth! Are You Ready?!

It's time to start a new year of youth activities. We have some exciting events in the planning stages for this year. Homecoming Sunday, September 9, will kick off Breakfast Club at 9am in Baxter Hall. This is a group for Middle and High School youth. It's a time when the youth gather to share a breakfast meal in fellowship. We will also reflect on the presence of God in the world and how our youth impact and reflect God's image in this world. What a Blessing and Gift our youth are to our church and the world.

Teens Encountering Christ

Together (T.E.C.T. Team) will begin on September 16th at 7pm. This group is for High School youth who will meet on Sunday nights from 7-9pm. T.E.C.T. will be engaging in God's work in our community and the world through volunteer work and promoting awareness of social injustice in our society. This is a continuation of our work in Washington D.C. during our youth mission trip. The youth made a great impact in D.C. working with agencies that support the homeless. This year in T.E.C.T., they will continue to share in the work that Jesus Christ calls each one of us as believers to engage in for the transformation of the world.

Come join us for another exciting and fun year of Youth Ministry!! *Let your light shine before all people.* Mt. 5:1-5

Mission and Social Justice....

Community Kitchen

Due to the closing of the John Lewis Coffee Shop, we have been told there will be a 25% increase in need at the Salvation Army Meal Site. Our church supplies a meal. We prepare the meal at Edwards and then deliver and serve it on the third Tuesday of every other month. Our cooks will get the brunt of the extra load so we are looking for more volunteers. Our next opportunity to serve will be October 15th. Please talk to Martha Jirus and look for more information in the Announcements on Sundays.

Adult Mission Trip to Biloxi

The adult mission trip to Back Bay Mission in Biloxi, Mississippi is gearing up to leave September 15th 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.

We also need prayer partners for the folks who are going, so please call the church office NOW if you are able to pray for one of the team members each day while they are gone.

Restocking the Shelters

Thanks to the generosity of Edwards, many, many boxes of cleaning supplies, toiletries and bedding were donated to the Family Resource's Women's Shelter and Winnie's Place. A special thank you to Bob and Marilyn Hamilton for delivering the boxes of donations.

The 50th Habitat House!

We will be working though the fall months on the 50th home, getting it ready for Elesa Hodges and her two children. If you would like to help out and you're not already on the volunteer list, please call or email Dave Reinders at (563)332-2637 or DaveReinders@Q.com

Learn More About Poverty

In the upcoming months the Social Justice Board is planning to provide opportunities for us to learn more about the issues of poverty in the world, the United States and right here in the Quad Cities. It is clear that many of the issues we face in dealing with poverty transcend political, social and racial barriers. With the help of a few local experts and resources we will begin a community discussion to better understand the issues related to poverty and those people in poverty.

"Poverty is a very personal experience." And while people in poverty are excellent problem solvers because they have to be to survive, they do not have the same resources as those in the middle-class. These resources are not just financial. They include emotional, support systems, relationships and role models and a host of others.

It is clear there is much to learn both about the causes of poverty and the barriers that keep people from leaving the grip of poverty. We all need to be part of the ongoing discussion. The Social Justice Board will be hosting poverty forums to share impressions, dialogue and ideas. Whether you participate as part of the discussion or find ways to stop the cycle of poverty by supporting and nurturing youth, each of us can play a part in the long-term solution.

Fall Blood Drive

Our next blood drive in Baxter Hall will be on Saturday, October 27, from 7:00a.m.-11:00a.m. Regular blood donors can donate blood until September 1 and still be eligible to donate for this blood drive. This will be our last blood drive celebrating our 30th year for hosting blood drives at Edwards. With your help we will make this blood drive one of the best we have had. Look for more information about this blood drive in the October Editor.



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EDWARDS CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Katherine A. Mulhern, Pastor
Rev. Jean Norton, Minister of Music
Sue Harrington, Youth Minister
Susan Chesley, Minister of Christian Education
Geri Dulaney, Membership Coordinator
Lyle Stratton, Caregiver Coordinator
Cathy Loughead, Bookkeeper
Teresa King, Secretary
Tracy Miller - Moderator

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