



Edwards Editor

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Published Monthly, Vol. 55 No. 10

Articles for next issue due by Noon, Friday, 11/16/07.

November 2007

Thanksgiving Baskets

Sharing Our Blessings - An Edwards' Tradition

To Fill 25 Baskets We Will Need:

Twenty-Five

- ❖ Pumpkin pies
- ❖ Containers of Cool-whip
- ❖ Milk (gal.)
- ❖ Butter (lb.)
- ❖ Rolls (pkg. of 12)
- ❖ Paper towels
- ❖ Napkins

Thirty

- ❖ Gravy (packs or jars)
- ❖ Cranberry sauce
- ❖ Large can sweet potatoes
- ❖ French fried onions
- ❖ Cream of mushroom soup
- ❖ 5 lb. bags of potatoes
- ❖ Laundry baskets

Fifty

- ❖ Canned fruit
- ❖ Canned or bottled juice
- ❖ Canned green beans
- ❖ Canned corn
- ❖ Stuffing (bags or boxes)
- ❖ Large boxes Jell-O

Or...Can you write a check?

- ❖ Stuff a Turkey \$20.00
- ❖ Fill a Cornucopia \$15.00
- ❖ Adopt a Ham \$10.00

Bring non-perishable items to church now through Nov. 16th. Bring perishable items on Nov. 18th. For information, call Susan Chesley 332-2300

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From Our Pastor's Desk. . .

Lately, it seems to me that more and more people are telling me that they feel that their lives are "too busy" - we feel trapped by our "schedules." We don't feel as though we can do the things we WANT to do - we are too busy doing the things we HAVE to do (or the things we THINK we have to do.) It's as true for me as for you.

These days there are so many good opportunities. Our children can choose to be a part of teams that range from soccer to tennis, basketball, softball, golf, football, swimming, wrestling, gymnastics, and lots more. There are music, dance, and theater possibilities. And so much more. It's hard to choose, so we try to do it all.

It is no different for adults. Many of us feel as though it's time to stop, but we don't know what we could let go. The demands of work and family keep us on the treadmill, with little opportunity for rest and recreation.

As we come to the holiday season, the issue of busyness and stress often overshadows our ability to find joy in the true meaning of both Thanksgiving and Christmas.

The scriptures have something to say about all this. The commandment to "honor the Sabbath" is one of the most ancient practices of our faith. It is also one of the ones that we are most overtly resistant to in our culture. We are too busy to set aside a day for rest and renewal. If truth be told, we don't know

how. We associate observing the Sabbath with a rigid understanding of enforced boredom - a day where only the Bible can be read, or when worship services stretch out all day long.

Observing the Sabbath is much more than that. It is really about building rest into the fabric of our lives in a disciplined and regular way. It is about ceasing to produce, in order to just be. What if "Sabbath" was a day - every week - when we did not watch television, or did not go shopping, or did not get on the internet? What if "Sabbath" was a day - every week - when relationships became more important than work - either at the office or at home? What if "Sabbath" was a day - every week - when the disciplines of worship and rest combined to renew our spirits for the work of the coming week?

Life might be just as full, but perhaps we would feel less pressured! The commandment to honor the Sabbath is more than a suggestion! Maybe we should all try it!

November Scriptures

November 4
Habbukuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4
Psalm 119:137-144
2 Thessalonians 1:1-4, 11-12
Luke 19:1-10

November 11
Haggai 1:15b-2:9
Psalm 145:1-5, 17-21
2 Thessalonians 2:1-5, 13-17
Luke 20:27-38

November 18
Isaiah 65:17-25
Psalm 98
2 Thessalonians 3:6-13
Luke 21:5-19

November 25
Jeremiah 23:1-5
Psalm 46
Colossians 1:11-20
Luke 23:33-43

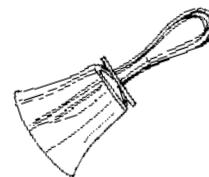
InterFaith Service of Thanksgiving

For more than 65 years, Edwards has been celebrating Thanksgiving with the Unitarian Church and Temple Emmanuel. The service dates back to the days when all three congregations were located within a block of each other - at 10th and Perry. Since then we've all moved, but we continue to get together once a year to celebrate a Thanksgiving worship service.

This year, we will gather on November 18th at the Unitarian Church (3707 Eastern Ave) at 7:00 pm for a service focused on the theme of "Welcoming the Stranger." Join us!

Contemporary Service

Every Sunday evening at 5:30, Friends in Faith Band gathers us in and lifts our spirits. It's a GREAT way to end the weekend, so come join us! In November we will meet on the 4th and the 11th, and then we'll take a break through the holiday season.



Alleluia Ringers

Alleluia Ringers would like you to ring with us during the month of November. We rehearse every Monday 7-8:30 pm. We'll play "Come Christians Join to Sing" on Sunday, Nov. 25.

Chime Choir

Chime Choir meets Wednesdays 7-7:30 pm. We're learning to ring chimes and having fun with rhythm games. Join us if you'd like an intergenerational musical activity.

Special Music In November:

- 4: Youth Ensemble, Suzanne Benson, director
- 11: Liturgical Dancers, Kathy Lafrenz, director
- 18: Brass Ensemble
- 25: Alleluia Ringers, Sandy Reinders, director

Stewardship. . .

You Make it Happen!

Every year we come around to the time for the Stewardship Campaign, and we ask ourselves the question - how much should we give to the church? It's a good question, and there are multiple ways to answer it.

The scriptures invite us to give a tithe. In the Bible, that meant 10% of our income. With all the financial pressures that we live with today, a 5% tithe would be a wonderful gift. But if that isn't possible, find a percentage that "works" in your budget, and consider that your gift to God for the work of God's kingdom on earth.

Another way to answer the question about giving is to ask another question - how much is needed? The needs in our church are growing. We have a high expectation of care and leadership from our staff, but we pay some of our supporting staff VERY poorly. Our Caregiver Coordinator and our Membership Coordinator both practically donate their time. Each year, raises are the last on the list, and the Church Council believes that we must begin the work of providing equitable pay for our staff. Between that challenge, and other normal increases, our Treasurer thinks that we will need \$30,000 more in 2008 than we did in 2007. That's a substantial increase, and it won't happen unless we all pitch in!

Stone Soup

The story of Stone Soup reminds us all that wonderful things happen when everyone brings something to add to the soup. That's the story of Stewardship at Edwards as well. We each bring what we can. Stewardship Sunday will be November 11th. You'll get a pledge card in the mail, which you can either return to the church office by mail or bring with you to worship on November 11.

Why Give?

Recently, the Trustees considered the question of why they give - as individuals to Edwards Church, and their thoughts were powerful.

I can say so many kind and good things about the numerous programs that we have here at Edwards... the way we live and care for others. This is a 'home away from home', 'family', friends....I love this church!
~Margaret Wilber

I give because I care! I care about the people. I care about the programs. I care about the feeling of family and fellowship. ~Michael Fessler

I give because when I look at my daughters I realize that many of the positive aspects of their character are a result of the Edwards Family.
~Tom Kenneke

Why do YOU give to Edwards Church?

"Nobody made a greater mistake, than he who did nothing, because he could do only a little." - Edmund Burke

Cookies, Caroling & Cocoa

The Board of Christian Education will sponsor a Cookie Walk on **Sunday, Dec. 2nd** immediately following worship. Plates of 15 cookies (your choice!) can be purchased for \$5. Our hope is to sell 100 plates - that means we need 1,500 cookies! Difficult, but not impossible! Please bring your cookies and recipe to church no later than Friday, Nov. 30th. If possible, drop a copy of your recipe off earlier in the week so we can include it in the recipe booklet we will distribute during the Cookie Walk.

In addition to the cookie walk we will gather to sing Christmas carols, drink cocoa and welcome the coming of Christmas.

Adult Education

- ◆ **Women's Bible Study** meets the first and third Thursdays of every month from 10:00-11:30 in the church parlor.
- ◆ **Men of Edwards** will be meeting this month Saturday, Nov. 17th from 8 to 9 at the church. Viewing and discussion of the DVD "Living the Questions" is continuing. Come on out to join us for fellowship and dialogue on important issues of faith!
- ◆ **Sunday Morning Adult Study** meets in the church parlor from 9:00-10:00 each week. Currently the group is watching and discussing **Countering Pharaoh's Production-Consumption Society Today**. Study is led by Katherine Mulhern.

Drumming Sunday

Church school kids and youth will gather on Sunday, November 11th at 9am for breakfast followed by the drumming circle. Parents are invited and encouraged to join the circle with their kids.

Breakfast Club

We invite all Middle School & High school youth to join us on Sunday mornings for Breakfast Club at 9am in the TECT room.

T.E.C.T.

Teens Encountering Christ Together is no longer meeting on Sunday nights. We will still have events that will be announced throughout the year. Stay tuned for those announcements.

Our Whole Lives (OWL) Program

OWL for the High School youth is now meeting Sunday nights from 7-9pm. This is a Faith and Sexuality curriculum that focuses on the positive self esteem of teenagers as they mature physically, mentally and emotionally. The group leaders are Sue Harrington, Michael Fessler, Lyle Stratton, & Lisa Whitfield.

The Our Whole Lives Program is offered to youth whose parents have signed a permission form for their child to attend. Please contact Sue Harrington for more information.

Lifestraws

An estimated 1.8 million people die each year from preventable water-borne diseases; one child dies every 15 seconds from water-related disease. Rachael Sedgwich came to church one Wednesday evening last spring with a solution, a smile and a question - *Could Edwards purchase LifeStraws to send to folks who need clean water?* On Sunday, October 14th, the people of Edwards answered, "Yes!" and during potluck over \$500 was donated to this incredible cause. *LifeStraw* is a water purification tool that can be carried around a person's neck and is especially useful in developing countries where clean drinking water is unavailable. One *Lifestraw* costs \$3 and will provide about 2 liters of clean drinking water a day for one year. *Lifestraw* is designed and manufactured by Vestergaard Frandsen, Inc., also the maker of insecticide-treated bed nets for controlling malaria.

Our donations will provide an emergency measure to help stem the spread of cholera in parts of the Democratic Republic of Congo. We will send our donations to Interchurch Medical Assistance World Health, who will purchase and distribute the *Lifestraws* to the DRCongo. The IMA World Health is a highly regarded charity affiliated with Global Ministries and the United Church of Christ. They have received a 5-star rating from MinistryWatch and an "exceptional rating" by Charity Navigator.

Donations are still coming in and Rachael and the children of Edwards are making plans to take their "Lifestraw" message out into the wider community. Let's continue to support this life saving project.

Habitat for Humanity

The next workday for Habitat is November 3. We don't yet know what we'll be doing, but it will be inside. For those of you who can't work on the 3rd but can on the 10th, we can find work for you for that day as well. Call Dave Reinders @ 563-332-2637

Crop Walk Successful

Great News—the Youth raised \$920 for the CROP Walk in October. WOW! Thanks to all of you who supported us in this fundraiser. Congrats to all those who walked the "6" miles. The walkers were Michael, Chris & Michaela Fessler, Dalton Johnson, Blaine Chesley, Amanda Loughead, Alex Sedwick, Emily Kenneke, & Sue Harrington.

What is 'Social Justice'?

Healthcare - Housing - Equity - Reconciliation - Diversity - Peacemaking

Social Justice issues are determined by "discerning the signs of the times." First, we listen to and observe the experiences of those closest to the problem. Second, together with those closest to the problem, we look at the context. What's the history and what are the root causes? Are there political and/or cultural forces at play? Third, we ask, "What action might successfully make this situation more just?" Finally, we take the action and evaluate the results.

Please Join Us - Our Social Justice Board Meets the Second Tuesday of the Month at 6:30 p.m.

Visit Our Social Justice Webpage

<http://www.edwards-ucc.org/justice.htm> For additional information please contact Shirley Johnson, 309-798-2360, uffda@netexpress.net

Shopping With a Conscience

Edwards offers two great ways to change the world through holiday gift giving.

- ★ Fair Trade Gifts: Shop at SERRV table beginning Sunday, Dec. 2nd. All items are made by artisans in developing and third world countries and proceeds go back into their communities.
- ★ Make a donation to one of the many social service agencies. Take an envelope from the Giving Tree and send your donation directly to the agency.

What is the meaning of "neighborhood"?

Please join us during the Adult Forum hour, or in the Contemporary Worship hour, as we answer this question and other questions from the Living the Question series 'Countering Pharaoh's Production-Consumption Society Today'.

The DVD study features Walter Brueggeman, a retired professor from Columbia Seminary, and a UCC minister, who opens the story of the exodus in new ways for us all. "It is a journey from slavery to covenant that we keep making over and over again... [because] Pharaoh has immense power always to draw us back into slavery."

Come and explore what it means to live in God's "neighborhood."

Cash Flow Squeeze Delays OCWM Payment; Forecast for 2007 Shows Small Deficit

In January the congregation approved a 2007 budget that showed a \$16,500 deficit. Based on our success in recent years, we all had faith that the situation would improve during the year. And it has -- most people are current with pledges, there has been another increase in non-pledge giving, the staff continues to be conscientious in their spending, and the congregation has generously given to special projects. This has improved the situation considerably, but we still forecast a deficit of around \$4,000 for the full year of 2007.

We are able to pay most bills despite the deficit. However, we do not have enough cash to make the 3rd quarter OCWM payment.

What do we ask from you?

- * If you are not current on your pledge or make only one payment a year, please pay as soon as you can.
- * If you will not be able to fulfill your pledge for 2007, please inform Clyde Durrah or Elisabeth Norwood as soon as possible.
- * If you are able to contribute above your pledge or regular giving level, please do so.

Keep In Your Prayers

- ★ **Genevieve Bainter**, recovering from a broken ankle.
- ★ **Pat Baxter-Rebal**, recovering from surgery for breast cancer
- ★ **Nancy Bolyard**, home with ongoing health problems
- ★ **Curly Curl**, newly diagnosed with prostate cancer
- ★ **Sally Egy**, home from the hospital
- ★ **John Hakanson**, home from the hospital
- ★ **Bob and Marilyn Hamilton**, in the death of their nephew
- ★ **Gavin King**, born October 3rd and his proud parents Michael & Kathy King, grandparents Bob & Teresa King, great-grandparents John & Hilda Rapp and aunts Melissa King & Sarah Rasler
- ★ **Melissa King**, continuing chemotherapy
- ★ **Gilly and Don Miller**, married October 27th
- ★ **Laurel Ogden**, in the hospital
- ★ **Kristin and Bob Steinich**, married October 6th
- ★ **Carol Stratton**, continuing chemotherapy
- ★ **Marin Tesch**, baptized October 28th
- ★ **Helen West**, home from the hospital

Our members and friends in care facilities:

Gen Bainter, Leona Davis, Rose Marie and Dow Edgerton, Elvira Long, Betty Murray, Virginia Seifert and Phyllis Yike

Happy Birthday!!

Elvira Long is having her 90th birthday on November 16th. Please send her a birthday greeting to celebrate!! Her address is: Friendship Manor, 1209 21st Ave., Rock Island, IL 61201

Women's Night Out

Women's Night Out will meet on November 15th, at 6:00 pm at Mo Brady's Restaurant. Come join us!

Address Update:

Kaela Swarts
Centennial Hall, Rm. 432
1015 S. Mullanix
Kirksville, MO 63501
kes7562@truman.edu

Prayer Shawl Meeting:

The Prayer Shawl Ministry will meet on Nov. 4th at 11:30 in the library. Please come and bring the piece you are working on. It will be a meeting of sharing and working. Come and join us in this important ministry of caring. If you have any questions, please call Dorothy Hammond at 797-2321. Everyone is welcome!!

Flowers ~ Choose a Sunday to honor an event or someone special in your life with flowers for the sanctuary. Sign up in the secretary's office.

Potluck

Potluck Sunday will be November 11th! Bring a dish to share and join us for wonderful food and fellowship.

Thank You, Thank You, Thank You !!

For all the musicians who made October worship so special:

- Thanks to Promised Land & Friends in Faith Band
- Thanks to Mona Terry and Michelle Hukvari
- Thanks to Sandy Reinders & the Alleluia Ringers
- Thank you to those who planned evening services - Cathy Burbank, Brian Dugan, Lyle Stratton, Amber Whitfield and Brad Miller.

Thank you to Dick Werner for recycling and Audrey Dugan for filing music.

Thanks to the Education board and Trustees for helping with the Homecoming picnic.

Thanks to the October Coffee hour hosts:

- ◆ Sam and Elisabeth Norwood
- ◆ Lisa Crawford
- ◆ Cathie Miller
- ◆ Sandy Reinders.

Thanks to Mission and Membership board members who helped with the October potluck.

Thanks to these most efficient Community Kitchen cooks (Ruth Bowers, Chris Fessler, Ollie Gallaher, Dorothy Hammond, Ardia Kasper, Carol Mahan, Nelda Paustian, Evona Petherick, Jean Neavor, Sandy Reinders and Kay Stiles) the stew and bread were finished by 3 pm. That was just in time to share delicious snacks with our new secretary, Kathy and our minister of music, Jean.

Thanks also to Cindy Kuhn for preparing cupcakes and serving the meal with Bob Benson, Clyde Durrah, Brad and Deena Miller, and Woody Perkins.

Thank you to everyone who helped with the Blood Drive and everyone who donated blood. You each make a difference!!

Thank You's Received:

Dear Edwards UCC,
I, Elesa Hodges wanted to take the time to thank everyone that helped work on my soon to be home. It couldn't be done if we didn't have great volunteers such as you. God Bless and thanks again. Elesa ☺
(a Habitat for Humanity Soon-to-be-Homeowner)

I wish to thank the church for the many thoughts, prayers, cards and visits over the past several weeks of my hospitalization. I have felt supported and sustained by your care and concern. God bless you all!
Laurel Ogden



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

	November 4	November 11	November 18	November 25
Preacher	Katherine Mulhern	Katherine Mulhern	Katherine Mulhern	
Greeters	Evona & Paul Petherick, Bonnie & Ned Walling	Chris Medina, Sally Egy, Ruth Bowers, Kay Stiles	Ruth Bowers, Dennise Weyman, Dee Hillyer, Kathy Ramsey	Erica Schroeder, Sue & Curly Curl, Dick Dulaney
Ushers	Russell Dircks, Tim Mandell, Curly Curl, Ned Walling	Olive Gallaher, Barb Bleedorn, Mary Hein, Steve Wildemuth	Pat Sterk, Tom Kenneke, Emily Kenneke, Anne-Marie Gephart	Margaret Wilber, Steve Knoche, Judy Collins, Tim Mandell
Visitor Guides	Membership Board	Membership Board	Membership Board	Membership Board
Nursery 10:15 a.m.	Janet Sedgwick	Chris Zippe	Sara Verdick	Emily & Sarah Kenneke
Coffee Hour Hosts	Marilyn Riedesel	~ Potluck Sunday ~ Set-up: Weekday Clean-up: Pastor Parish	Elisabeth & Sam Norwood	
Caregivers on Call	Evona Petherick, Ruth Bowers	Lois Larew, Jean Neavor	Sharon Wildemuth, Diane Anderson	Carol Bachellor, Evona Petherick
Scripture Reader	Mary Hein	Brian Dugan	Emily Kenneke	Terry Schlabach
Communion Servers	Kathy Lafrenz, Brian Dugan, Chris Zippe			
Chancel Set-Up	Worship Board	Dick Dulaney	Pat Cresap	Brian Dugan
Sound System	Dave VanDerKamp			
Lock-Up	Michael Fessler		Tom Kenneke	Margaret Wilber

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

World Community Day

The Church Women United's *World Community Day* is Fri., Nov. 2 - 1:00 at St. Anthony's Catholic Church located at 4th & Main Streets, Davenport. Call Bonnie Walling at 386-5760 with any questions.

World Community Institute

The World Affairs Council of the World Community Institute is sponsoring a series of lectures throughout the coming year that will highlight a variety of global importance. Tuesday, November 27, at 7 pm on the second floor of the Bettendorf Library, Kristin McHugh and Keith Porter of the Stanley Foundation will present Beyond Fear: America's Role in an Uncertain World. More information can be found at www.worldcommunityinstitute.org or by calling 355-4390.

Scrapbooking Retreat

Need a weekend away? Have a scrapbook you need to work on? Pilgrim Heights Camp and Retreat invites you to a scrapbooking retreat on November 2, 3:00 pm to November 4, 3:00 pm at the Pilgrim Heights Camp and Retreat Center located at 3005 E Ave, Montour, IA. The cost is \$60 for one night / \$120 for two nights and includes lodging in Autumn House, meals, and table space to work on your projects. There will be a vendor available onsite to purchase supplies. Come when you can, stay as long as you like. Share ideas and fellowship. For more information please visit:
www.PilgrimHeights.org/groups/scrapbook.

A Spiritual Progressives Conference

Saturday, November 3rd from 9:30 to 3:30 at First Congregational United Church of Christ in Moline, people from all over the Quad Cities will gather to explore together how progressive values, faith and spirituality can transform our nation and our world.

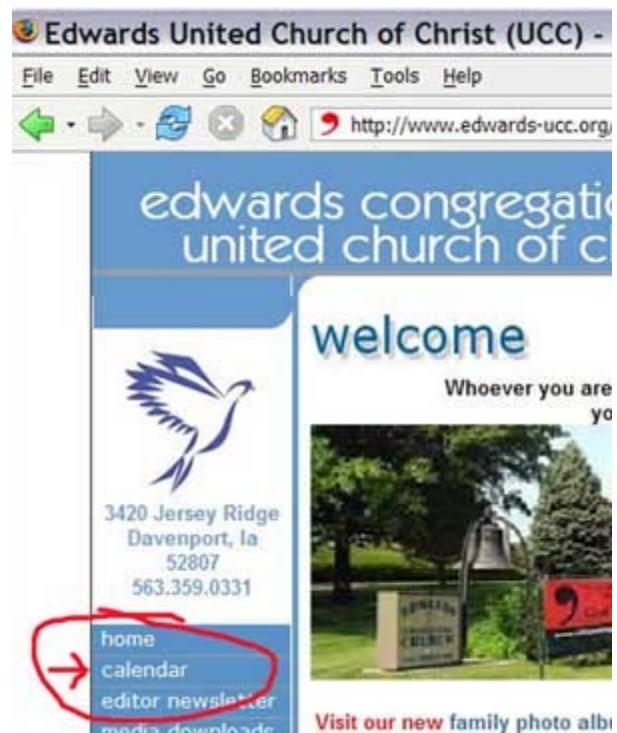
The featured keynote speaker will be Rabbi Michael Lerner, who is the author of "The Left Hand of God: Taking Back Our Country from the Religious Right"

Registration is \$15 per person, lunch is included. To register, call 563-676-7580 or go online - www.qcprogressiveaction.org

Rabbi Lerner will also be the preacher for an Interfaith worship gathering on Friday night, November 2, at 7:00 at the Unitarian Church.

The Fiftieth Year!

As we come to the end of the celebrations for the 50th Anniversary of the founding of the United Church of Christ, join our national staff for a webstreaming event on November 4th at 6 pm. There will be about 20 minutes of reflections and highlights featuring our General Minister and President, Rev. John Thomas. Go to www.ucc.org/50 to join the party!



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

November Birthdays

- | | | | |
|----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|--------------------|
| 1 - Hailey Mandell | 8 - Dow Edgerton | 16 - Elvira Long | 29 - Nancy Stenger |
| 2 - Merlin Bachellor | 8 - Zack Schony | 18 - Chris Medina | 30 - Ron Springer |
| 2 - Isaac Trapkus | 9 - Gavin Verdick | 18 - Becky David | 30 - Keegan Smith |
| 5 - Makayla Revels | 9 - Kade Verdick | 21 - Melissa Randall | 30 - Alexis Azure |
| 6 - Woody Perkins | 10 - Sacha Boon | 23 - Milo Smith | |
| 6 - Rob Fuller | 11 - Tom Fear | 24 - Keith Thess | |
| 6 - Colin McCarrel | 11 - Julie Henke | 24 - Rich Weyman | |
| 7 - Nancy Bolyard | 14 - Noreen Kuhlmann | 25 - Maddie Schony | |
| 7 - Tim Mandell | 14 - Jeanette Pollard | 27 - Ryley Zippe | |
| 7 - Amy Shupy | 15 - Michelle Hukvari | 28 - Robert Williams | |

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



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Reminder:

***Daylight Savings Time Ends
November 4th***

Set your clock back 1 hour on
Saturday Night - Nov. 3rd

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
Kathy Bowerman, Secretary
Tracy Miller, Moderator
Robert Kephart, Custodian

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