



NOV. 2018

EDITOR

3420 Jersey Ridge Rd., Davenport, IA 52807-2222

www.edwards-ucc.org

Phone: (563) 359-0331

Published Monthly, Vol. 65 No. 7

In Christ we celebrate a living faith, as we worship, care for one another, and reach out to all.

Church Office Hours

Mon-Friday

10 am - Noon

EDWARDS LEADERSHIP STAFF

Rev. Becky David

Interim Pastor

pastor@edwards-ucc.org

Barb Bleedorn

Moderator

mikebleedorn@hotmail.com

Lyle Stratton

Past-Moderator

strattoncln@msn.com

Brian Foy

Moderator-Elect

brianjane78@gmail.com

Lyle Stratton

Interim Caregiver Coordinator

caregiver@edwards-ucc.org

Terry Duvall

Administrative Secretary

secretary@edwards-ucc.org

Tyson Danner

Music & Choir Director

tyson@edwards-ucc.org

Mary Coker

Organist

Julie Henke

Financial Secretary

juliehenke@aol.com

Ray Ball-Trevor

Bookkeeper

bookkeeper@edwards-ucc.org

Danielle King

Nursery Attendant

bettdanielle@aol.com

It's almost here. Can you feel it? All of this talking, all of these months. I know I have continued to promise that things were coming to fruition and I like to keep my promises.

Beginning in November, while we will continue to have monthly congregational conversations, the feel of those conversations will begin to shift. Over this past year we have wrestled together with our grief and pain over past events, we have practiced having difficult conversations together, we have begun to dream the future together. The constitution and by-laws are being reviewed, a review of the full ministry of the congregation is being designed, the Pastor-Parish Relations committee has had a complete overhaul of function and process. This is all very, very good and necessary. And you will hear more about these in detail in the coming months.

In November our conversations will turn to answering the three basic questions of the interim time - which are the same questions you need to answer for your congregational profile: Who are you, who is your neighbor, and what are you called to do and be in the world? So, let me say this again very clearly. **Your presence is important because what we talk about going forward directly and indirectly impacts the profile.**

The Transition Team is responsible for the development of the profile, with input from the congregation. Shirley Johnson has agreed to lead the team in this process with the support from the Conference Associate Minister, Jonna Jensen. As we speak, demographics and financials are being collected and will be put in front of you soon.

cont'd.

The Transition Team may decide they need more time with the congregation than the monthly conversations allow, so please be prepared to gather more frequently if they need you to do so. Now is the time to show up, speak up, listen and be heard. Your future literally depends on it. This is the most exciting time in the interim process. If you can't already feel it, soon the excitement about what you are creating together will be palpable.

A note about the search committee: the committee will be selected by the Council after the profile is completed.

In order for Edwards to be successful in these months leading up to a formal pastoral search, here is what is required of *you* - all of you...

- **Show up.** Share your dreams and ideas.
- **Pray** for all of those working on the profile. Pray for your next search committee. Pray for your next pastor.
- **Read** - the Editor, the announcement sheet, the website. It is your responsibility to be sure you understand what is happening during this push to the finish line.
- **Be Responsible.** No one can hand feed you the information about what is going on. It is your job to learn what you need to know.
- **Let go.** If you are carrying anything in your heart from the past, now is the time to let it go. Forgive who you need to forgive. Stop ruminating on how you were hurt or disappointed. Commit yourself to a fresh start.
- **Offer the most generous assumption.** This process gets more exciting but not necessarily easier. Give others a break. They love this congregation as much as you do.

Let's get to work! Pr. Becky

FAITH FORMATION NEWS

The times they are a changing and we need to make changes with the times. At this point we have a few that are attending Wednesday Simple Supper and Fellowship. On this All Generations evening we meet for a simple supper, devotions and activities that sometimes involve mission projects. In October we melted crayons into shapes to see at the November Craft Fair. We will use this money to purchase non-food items for the North High School food pantry. In November, we will focus on collecting gifts for the Green Grass Children. All are welcome these evenings.

SUNDAY MORNING CHILDREN'S CHAPEL

Our Sunday morning children's Chapel time will be changing. We will create Family Worship bags for children and families to use during worship and take home projects. These will be updated regularly. We still have nursery attendants for children five and younger. We could use some volunteers for back u for the nursery. If you are interested in helping, please talk with Marilyn Riedesel or Kathy Lafrenz.

We will continue to evaluate how we worship as families as we continue the process of looking for a new pastor.

CONSTITUTION & BY-LAWS REVIEW

Earlier this year the Edwards Church Council recruited a small team of folks to review our Constitution and By-Laws. As we move towards the end of this interim period the Council wants to ensure that our Constitution and By-Laws meet our current and future needs. The team has nearly completed its work and will be bringing its recommendations to Council in the near future. If the Council decides changes are

necessary, those changes will be brought before the congregation at our next annual meeting. If you have any questions, please contact Dave Reinders.

QC SANCTUARY COALITION:

Judy Pavlak and Terry Schlabach represented Edwards at the Sanctuary Coalition meeting held October 13, at the Unitarian Church. The following four items were discussed:

1. What is going on in your organization/congregations that members of the coalition could support or help you with?
2. What can we do to make our meetings more welcoming and comfortable for individuals who are undocumented?
3. What can we do to make more connections with the immigrant community?
4. Do we need a website?

The next meeting will be November 10 at 10:00 am.

THANK YOU'S

- The donations we received for the Blessings in a Backpack program are as follows; the Sept. 23 concert at St. Mark's in Iowa City was \$312, and the Sept. 30 concert at Edwards UCC was \$700, for a total of \$1,012. This generous donation to this program will let us provide at least 11 children with a food pack each weekend for the whole school year. Thank you! ~ *Promised Land*
- We received the following Thank You from our Strohbehn Scholarship recipient; Thank you so much for awarding me with the generous Strohbehn Scholarship! It will benefit me greatly in my college endeavors and ease my financial burden. I am blessed to be a part of such a wonderful church foundation as Edwards UCC. ~ *Sincerely, Elyse Dye*
- We recently received a Thank You (along with a donation of \$100!) from someone who took part in a two-day training here at Edwards. "Thank you for welcoming those who took part in the perinatal loss training over the past two days. It is a gift to see a church act on its mission to welcome all. Thank you to the members who fed us. What a caring gesture! I pray we use this information to minister to those who face this unimaginable loss. Blessings to you. ~ *Linda Stewart*
- Edwards' meal prep and serving teams prepared a meal on October 16 and served it at Churches United's new meal site at Zion Lutheran Church, 1216 West 8th. The team of chefs (Ollie Gallaher, Martha Jirus, Fran Wolfe, Judy Stouffer, Norma Wren, Anita Dietz, Annette Dietz, and Sandy Reinders) prepared a meal that included beef stew and homemade cookies and the team of servers (Jesse Knudsen, Terry Schlabach, Marty Schlabach, Louis Reicks, and Bob Larew) found many hungry recipients. Terry shared the following story with the congregation at worship on October 21 and that story is also shared here:
Feeding the Hungry - On Oct. 16th, we were honored to feed individuals at the new meal site - Zion Lutheran Church at 8th and Marquette. We had planned for 75 but hungry people, including children, kept coming and we ended up serving 92 very thankful people. Despite the high numbers, like the fishes and loaves, we made do and had enough. Thank you to the wonderful cooks and servers but most of all, **thank you to the Edwards congregation** for supporting this community outreach. If you ever have time, please consider helping. It really changes your perspective. One individual said she walked 1-½ miles to this new meal site. She is worried about what she will do when the winter weather comes. ~ *Terry Schlabach*
- Dear Friends, I am thankful to the Edwards Caregivers and our church family for all of your prayers, calls, and cards following my knee replacement surgery. Your prayers for healing and well wishes do help! With appreciation, ~ *Marilyn Hamilton*

- We received an email from the UCC Church thanking the Edwards family for supporting the Neighbors in Need Offering. Our support is appreciated!
- As I noticed Lou Reicks collecting our food bags on Sunday, October 28, 2018, I thought to myself “there really needs to be a “thank you” for all his work in the collection and distribution of our food bags to the locations.” I saw Lou in the Narthex and shared my thoughts and he said “This is my 10th year of doing this, going back to when you and I were on the Mission Board.” And he continued to say, Bob Larew has been his “side kick” for quite some time. So, I believe, as a congregation we owe these gentlemen our thanks and gratitude for delivering special cargo to those in our community who are going hungry....*Thank you, Lou and Bob!* ~ Sharon Wildemuth.
- We received the following Thank You from a group that recently met in Baxter Hall. They were also kind enough to also include a donation of \$99 for Edwards. “Thank you for your generosity and openness.” On a personal note, I have been to around 12 services around the area and Edwards was my first choice when it came to host (his group). The space is wonderful, welcoming, all-inclusive, and comfortable. We had a great seminar and got frequent comments on how nice the space was - thank you. We also passed the basket – a sign of the gratitude for your kindness and generosity. ~ Don

CELEBRATING NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS – Enjoy your day!

11/05 Jesse Knudson, Makayla Revels; 11/06 Max Gehler, Woody Perkins; 11/07 Mike Augspurger; 11/08 Alexandra Holdridge; 11/09 Gain & Kade Verdick; 11/10 Chuck Collins; 11/11 Julie Henke, 11/12 Dick Pavlak, Dave Wilbricht; 11/14 Amelia Reier; 11/17 Jim Van Howe, Fran Wolfe; 11/18 Rev. Becky David, Chris Medina; 11/19 Ray Ball-Trevor; 11/22 Lisa Crawford; 11/24 Rhett Harvey, Rich Weyman; 11/29 Joel Sullivan. *Happy Birthday to all!*

PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Due to privacy issues we no longer publish names on the website version.

If you are hospitalized and would like a visit from a Pastor or Edwards UCC Caregiver, please let Lyle Stratton know, at 563-570-7556. Due to hospital privacy rules and hospital staffing shortages, we don't always hear from the hospitals in a timely manner. Thank you.

UPCOMING EVENTS

EDWARDS CRAFT FAIR & VENDOR SHOW – Saturday, November 3, 8:00 am.

SANCTUARY 102 – Saturday, November 3, 9:00 am – 12:00 pm at the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of the Quad Cities.

Rev. Trey Hager from First Presbyterian Church in Mt. Pleasant, and Madeline Cano of Iowa Citizens for Community Improvement will be their guest speakers. With the Unitarian Congregation being the first sanctuary congregation in the QCA, and with the growing need to protect our undocumented immigrant neighbors, this will be an important program.

SUPPORT THE TRANSGENDER COMMUNITY – Wednesday, November 7, 7:00 pm

The **Metropolitan Community Church** at 2930 W. Locust St. in Davenport will have an event to show support of our Transgender Community. Please make every effort to attend.

SOCIAL JUSTICE MOVIE NIGHT – Friday, November 9 – 6:30 pm

Please join other Edwards' Social Justice member's for a movie regarding Immigration on Friday, November 9, at 6:30 pm in the Edwards UCC Library. There will be drinks



and snacks, maybe some popcorn, and after the movie we will discuss what we watched. Join us!

EDWARDS BLOOD DRIVE – Saturday, November 10 – 7:15 am, in Baxter Fellowship Hall.

QUAD CITIES INTERFAITH FUNDRAISING BREAKFAST

November 8, 7:30 am – 8:30 am in Rogalski Center Ballroom, St. Ambrose University, 518 W. Locust. Registration is at 7 am. This one-hour event will showcase our work as people of faith to transform our world and establish justice. There is no cost to attend the breakfast. Guests will be asked to make a charitable contribution to support Quad Cities Interfaith's mission. Please call 563-322-4910 to reserve a table or seats for this breakfast. We look forward to seeing you!

THANKSGIVING UNITY SERVICE – Sunday, November 18, 6:00pm

"Loving Kindness- A compassionate Thanksgiving Service" - Sunday Evening, **November 18th at 6pm** is the Unity Interfaith Thanksgiving Service that has been celebrated between the Unitarian Universalists, Edwards Congregational UCC and the Jewish Temple for many years. (Our 75th year!) This year we will reflect on loving kindness, thankfulness, and compassion and there will be free will offering for Argrow's House, a safe space where free services are offered daily for women healing from violence and abuse in the QCA. There will be music from our combined choirs. In addition, this year we are again hoping to widen our interfaith embrace and there will also be a presence from the MCC church and the Mosque. Join us for the worship! The service is on November 18th here at Edwards since it is our turn to host this year. Please come for the fellowship and relationship to be renewed and developed in the service and afterward in Baxter Hall over coffee and refreshments!

QUAD CITIES INTERFAITH – TASK FORCE ASSEMBLY – MONDAY, NOVEMBER 19

Join Quad Cities Interfaith and our allies for a time dedicated to taking back our communities and our country. This meeting will take place at **St. Mary's Catholic Parish Center**, 525 Fillmore St., in Davenport on **Monday, November 19, from 6:30 – 8:00 pm**. This is open to all persons committed to seeking true social justice and promoting Immigrant rights, Restorative justice and an end to mass incarceration, discussing living wage and other jobs and labor issues, along with increased voter outreach and engagement.

The first Presbyterian Church in Mt. Pleasant, Iowa has been caring for people affected by the immigration raid. While many household and grocery items are needed, the greatest need right now is funds. Rents are due and utilities need to be paid. For most, it was the breadwinner of the family that has been taken into custody or deported. You may drop off donations at the Unitarian Universalist Congregation at 3707 Eastern Avenue in Davenport. Please call the church before you drop off items as the staff presence varies slightly from day-to-day. For more information, contact Tammy Shull at Iowa WINS (Iowa Welcomes Immigrant Neighbors) at 319-750-0439.

POTLUCK AND CONGREGATIONAL CONVERSATION

The next Edwards Potluck and Conversation will be **November 11, after worship**. We look forward to seeing you!

MISSION OPPORTUNITIES:

THANKSGIVING BASKETS AT EDWARDS

Edwards will be collecting non-perishable food items for the Thanksgiving Food Baskets in November. Funding towards perishable items can be donated at any time. Watch for more information in the Sunday Announcements. If you would like to donate time or muscles, you can volunteer to help pack baskets or, volunteer to help load trucks and deliver the items during. For more information please contact Mike or Ray Ball-Trevor at: theballtrevors@gmail.com or call 563-508-1809. Thank you!

SIoux RESERVATION TOY DRIVE 2018

For the past eight Christmas seasons Edwards has served the Cheyenne River Sioux Reservation by running a Toy Drive for the Green Grass community there. As before we have a list of children identified as boy or girl, with their respective age available for you to consider sponsoring at Christmas. Individual sponsorship slips will be available in the narthex through December 9th. Please consider sponsoring one of these children by

1. purchasing a gift (value approx. \$25),
2. wrapping it, and
3. returning to the church by **December 12th**



To be more "green" and environmentally friendly we are asking that you use newspaper to wrap the presents (the comics are colorful--or use ribbon to add some festivity to the gift package) instead of the un-recyclable gift wrap. Please keep in mind that we must send the gifts by mail so it is preferable that gifts be not heavy, large or bulky. Generally speaking an age appropriate gift you would be purchasing for a boy or girl in our culture would be appropriate for them. If you have any questions, contact Lyle at 563.570.7556. Thank You!!!! ~ *Mitakuye Oyasin* -- All My Relatives/We Are All One!

OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE:

November - Donate to the Thanksgiving baskets

November 25 - Food Pantry Sunday

CAREGIVER COORDINATOR:

Now on my 3rd month as interim Caregiver Coordinator, I am thankful not only for the privilege of serving Edwards in this important ministry but also and more especially thankful for the wonderful Caregiving Volunteer Team who show God's love and grace as they connect with our church members and friends facing the challenges that life presents. As a hospice chaplain I am consistently reminded that each of us are born into this world as individuals, and each of us pass on as individuals. Yet during in between our birth and death, each of us are defined by our relationships- our relationships with God, our neighbors, our families, our community. As Jesus prayed for the disciples and us as we believe in Jesus through the disciples' word-- in John 17: 21, "that they may all be one," may "we all be one" as we live out the Gospel message, as we relate to one another in love!

RONALD MCDONALD HOUSE:

We are collecting the pull tabs off of cans to benefit the Ronald McDonald House. There is a collection basket in the small kitchen by the Caregiver's office. Thank you.

CHURCH NEEDS:

The Edwards' folks that volunteer to keep the snow cleared from our sidewalks and driveways are in need of a **gently used snow blower**. If you have a snow blower that you would like to donate to the church, please contact Dave Reinders at (563) 594-9483.

CALENDAR EVENTS:

NOV 1 & 2 – CRAFT/VENDOR SET UP

NOV 3 – SANCTUARY 102 – 9:00 AM – 12 PM / UCCQC – 3707 Eastern Avenue, Davenport

NOV 3 – EDWARDS ANNUAL VENDOR/CRAFT SHOW – 8:00 AM

NOV 4 – *set your clocks back!*

NOV 4 – CHILDREN BEGIN WORKSHOP WITH FAMILIES AND HOME RESOURCES

NOV 5 – WOMEN’S BREAKFAST GROUP – 10:00 AM

NOV 6 & 20 – DONUTS & HAMMERS – 8:30 AM

NOV 7 – SIMPLE SUPPER – 5:30 PM (*Also Nov 14, and 28*)

**NOV 7 – SUPPORT THE TRANSGENDER COMMUNITY – 7:00 PM / METROPOLITAN
COMMUNITY CHURCH, 2930 W. Locust St, Davenport**

NOV 9 – SOCIAL JUSTICE MOVIE NIGHT AT EDWARDS – 6:30 PM (*Snacks & drinks provided!*)

NOV 8 – QUAD CITIES INTERFAITH BREAKFAST – 7:30 AM ROGALSKI CENTER / ST. AMBROSE

NOV 10 – EDWARDS FALL BLOOD DRIVE 8:00 AM

NOV 13 – BOARD MEETINGS – 6:30 PM / COUNCIL MEETING – 7:30 PM

NOV 15 – STAFF MEETING – 9:00 AM

NOV 15 – DEADLINE FOR THE DECEMBER & JANUARY EDITOR

NOV 15 – NO WOMEN’S NIGHT OUT THIS MONTH

NOV 18 – THANKSGIVING INTERFAITH SERVICE – 6:00 PM @ Edwards

NOV 20 – CAREGIVERS MEETING – 12:00 PM

NOV 22 – HAPPY THANKSGIVING – CHURCH OFFICES WILL BE CLOSED THE 22ND & 23RD

NOV 25 – FOOD PANTRY SUNDAY

MARK YOUR DECEMBER CALENDARS:

DEC 24 – JAN 1 – CHURCH OFFICES ARE CLOSED

Sanctuary 102

Saturday, November 3 at 9 AM to 12:00

Please join us for a presentation by Reverend Trey Hegar, Minister at 1st Presbyterian Church in Mt. Pleasant. Reverend Hegar's church has taken the lead in responding to the ICE raid in his community and supporting the families who were affected by the raid. Please bring a donation for the families in Mt. Pleasant.



The second half of the workshop will feature Madeline Cano from the Iowa Citizens for Community Improvement who will be talking about Civil Disobedience for Volunteers in a Sanctuary Environment.



Located at the Unitarian Universalist
Congregation of the Quad Cities.
3707 Eastern Ave, Davenport, IA 52807
Information at sanctuary@uucqc.org

THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST SAYS

Thank You!

To the members of
Davenport, Edwards Congregational UCC

For your 2017 contribution of
\$7,400.00

For Basic Support of
Our Church's Wider Mission



John C. Dorhauer
General Minister and President
United Church of Christ

Conference Minister

