

EDWARDS
CONGREGATIONAL
UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST

Edwards Editor

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Published Monthly, Vol. 56 No. 8

December 2008

Articles for next issue due by Noon, Friday, 12/12/08

Submitted items are subject to editing.



Celebrating Advent

- December 14:** A Cookie Walk in Baxter Fellowship Hall immediately **following** worship
Christmas Caroling with our homebound members after the Cookie Walk
- December 18:** Women's Night Out Christmas Party & Potluck
- December 21:** Children's Christmas Pageant in morning worship
- December 24:** 6:00 pm A Family Service for all ages
9:00 pm Traditional Service with candles & communion
- December 28:** Food Pantry Sunday

Don't forget the Angel Tree, the Mitten Tree, and the SERRV Table.

'Tis the Season . . . for Giving!

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From Our Pastor's Desk...

Advent is here! The trouble with Advent, of course, is that it means that Christmas is just around the corner. This year that seems even more troublesome than ever, as economic woes challenge us all to think carefully about how we will celebrate the season.

To my mind, that may not be a bad thing. For more than 25 years, Christmas celebrations have gotten more and more elaborate, and in the process I believe we have lost touch with its meaning. The seasons of Advent and Christmas may be one of those times when less really is more.

I find myself wondering how the birth of a baby in ancient Israel spawned the shopping spree we now call Christmas. It was 2,000 years ago. He was born into poverty in desperate circumstances. It was half-way across the world in a little backwater town. By all rights, no one should remember Jesus' birthday. Except, of course, that Jesus' birth, his life, and his death changed everything...for the people who knew him then and for the people who know him now.

Many of us have said for years that we would like Christmas celebrations to be simpler, more focused on Christ, but few of us have actually made that happen. It is a sign of the times this year that sales in just about every retail business are down. And while that isn't good news for our economy, it may be good news for us as people of faith. This may be our opportunity to reclaim Christ's birth as a religious holiday rather than a secular shopping spree.

We celebrate Christmas because God gave us the most amazing gift any of us can imagine - the gift of a son who is a savior. We, quite naturally, want to share that joy, to share the gift. So we developed the tradition of gift giving and receiving. But the center of Christmas is (and has always been) the joy that we know because God gave us Jesus. What if that were, once again, the focus of Christmas?

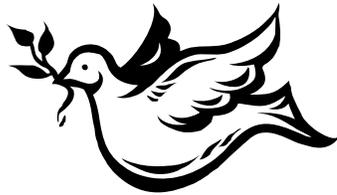
In many households, as people have tried to simplify this season, there are more packages under the tree that benefit others - a gift purchased from SERRV, or a contribution to Habitat for Humanity or Heifer Project or Winnie's Place. There are more promises of time to be spent as a family, wrapped creatively. There are more homemade gifts and limits on the number of gifts. For many families, a few empty spaces under the tree means that there is a little more room for Jesus.

Jesus came to set us free from all that holds us captive - and that includes all those consumer expectations about the Christmas season! God's gift to us in Jesus Christ is more than we know, more than we can imagine, and more than we can ever return. All we can do is share it. Christmas is about sharing the gift of love that we have already been given in Jesus. Isaac Watts had it right when he wrote the words to one of our favorite Christmas Carols - "Joy to the World! The Lord is come!" May that joy fill your hearts and your lives as you prepare for Christmas.

December Scriptures

December 7:

Isaiah 40:1-11
Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13
2 Peter 3:8-15
Mark 1:1-8



December 14:

Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11
Psalm 126
1 Thessalonians 5:16-24
John 1:6-8, 19-28

December 21:

2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16
Luke 1:47-55
Romans 16:25-27
Luke 1:26-38



December 28:

Isaiah 61:10-62:3
Psalm 148
Galatians 4:4-7
Luke 2:22-40

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

Contemporary Worship

Join us on December 21 at 5:30 pm for our monthly Contemporary Worship service in Baxter Fellowship Hall. The Friends in Faith Band will lead us in praise and thanksgiving, we will share communion together, and after worship we'll sit down to a potluck meal! Don't miss it (this is the best kept secret in the church!).

Christmas Eve Worship

Join us on Christmas Eve for worship. The early service, at 6:00, will be a family service in Baxter Fellowship Hall. The later service, at 9:00, will be a simple and traditional service with candles and communion in the sanctuary.



Advent / Christmas Poinsettias

If you would like to purchase a white poinsettia, to be used in decorating our sanctuary for the Advent / Christmas season, order forms are now available in the narthex. Each lovely 6.5" potted poinsettia plant is \$8.00. The deadline to order is December 14! Please make checks payable to "Edwards UCC" with "Poinsettia" in the memo line. Place your order and payment in the envelope on the table or leave it in Kathy Bowerman's mailbox outside the office door.



Cookie Walk

The Board of Christian Education will sponsor a cookie walk on Sunday, December 14th immediately following worship. Plates of 15 cookies (your choice!) can be purchased for \$5. We need plenty of bakers to supply the cookies for this annual event. Please bring your cookies to church no later than 10:00am on Saturday, December 13th. We will also offer chili and cocoa for a light lunch before heading out into the December cold! Don't miss this wonderful time for fellowship and good eating!!



Sunday School

Pageant! Pageant! Pageant! Children and youth who wish to be a part of this year's production need to be in Sunday School every week for preparation and practice. On Pageant Sunday, Dec. 21st, they should be at church by 8:45.

Christmas Pageant

Our children and youth will spend the next few weeks preparing for the pageantry of Christmas! Come hear their voices heralding the Good News of Christmas during our morning worship on Sunday, December 21st. After worship, continue the joyful celebration in Baxter Fellowship Hall with cookies and fellowship.

Church School Christmas Break

There will be **NO CHURCH SCHOOL** on Dec. 28th and Jan. 4th. Church School will begin again on Sunday, January 11th at 9:00.

Wednesday Evening Programming

The *TouchStones* and *Music & Movement* classes **WILL NOT** be held in December or January, but will return on Wednesday, Feb. 4th.

Confirmation class WILL be meeting in January beginning on Wednesday, January 7th at 5:30 with a simple supper.

Parent's Day Out

Need to wrap presents? Need to shop? Need to bake? Just need some time away?

Then bring the kids to
Edwards UCC on
Saturday, December 13th, 2008
Drop off and pick up anytime
from 9am to 4pm
Bring your own lunch.
Drinks and fun provided!



Children of all ages are welcome!
Parents, please RSVP to
Cathy Loughhead at (563) 349-2519

*Babysitting is provided by TECT Team Members.
Donations for babysitting will help be used for
the 2009 Youth Mission Trip.*

***Christmas Pageant
Rehearsal
Will be Friday, December 19th
5:30-7:30***

Family Musicians

Home for the Holidays?



We want to hear them! A new tradition at Edwards on the Sunday between Christmas and New Years, is that musicians who have returned for the holidays spread Christmas cheer with

special music. Solos, ensembles, duets - across and within families are welcome! Let us know who will be home! Call the church office and leave a message for Jean.



Christmas Caroling Delight

After the Cookie Walk, burn some calories and increase your endorphins by Christmas Caroling on Sunday afternoon, December 14th. The only requirements are the love (not skill) of singing Christmas carols, and the desire to share in some Christmas joy. We'll visit Edwards members and return to the church afterwards for fellowship and warm cocoa. Come one, come all - the more the merrier; the younger, the more delight; the older, the more carols we'll know how to sing!



Special Music in December

Throughout Advent:

Lyle Stratton, guitar

Mona Terry, harp

December 14 Alleluia Ringers

December 21: Children's Chimes

Liturgical Dancers

December 28: Home for the Holidays

Special Musicians



Calendars for Choir Robes

Stop by the table in the Narthex and purchase your beautiful 2009 God's Creation calendar. These top quality calendars are only \$10 with proceeds going to the choir robe fund. This calendar is beautiful to look at, as well as useful in helping to plan and organize your life! Each day has ample space to write appointments and special events. Each week has a specially-selected Scripture Verse for memorization or meditation. Makes a great gift for friends, family, parents &

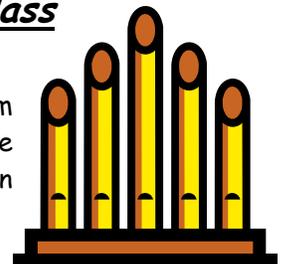


grandparents, teachers, coaches, co-workers, care providers, gift exchanges . . . so buy several!! Thank you for your continued support!!

Master Organ Class

Returns!

Saturday mornings, 9:30 am in December. All are welcome to witness and learn from Ruth Tweeten's amazing skill as a teacher



and organist. See Jean Norton for details.

Keep In Our Prayers

- + Diane Anderson, home from the hospital
- + Merlin Bachellor, recovering from back surgery
- + Ruth Bowers, home from the hospital
- + Cec Chapman, home from the hospital
- + Lorelei Gephart, in Neonatal Intensive Care at the University of Iowa
- + Jason & Anne-Marie Gephart, caring for Grace and Lorelei
- + Marilyn Hamilton, recovering at the Good Samaritan Home from a broken hip.
- + Richard and Martha Jirus, in the death of Richard's sister
- + Charlot King, in rehab at The Masonic Home
- + Gilly Miller, at home
- + Jean Neavor, recovering from surgery
- + Otto, Peggy and Sam Olsen, in the death of Otto's mother and father
- + Dorothy Paulsen, continuing cancer treatment
- + Paul and Evona Petherick, in the death of Paul's sister.
- + Sandi Russell, continuing chemotherapy
- + Pat Schroeder, continuing cancer treatments
- + Helen West, at home
- + In Care Facilities: Gen Bainter, Dow and Rose Marie Edgerton, Elvira Long and Betty Murray.
- + All those who grieve the loss of loved ones in this holiday season.

Year-end Finances

Take Note! The 2008 books will close on Wed., December 31st. All pledges received after that will be posted to 2009.

**2009 Pledges are coming in!
Currently, we have received
92 pledges totaling \$187,637!**

If you have returned your pledge, THANK YOU!
If your pledge is yet to be included, please mail it to the church office as soon as possible.

New Custodian

Joe Opsal, a member here at Edwards, has accepted the position of custodian for our church. Welcome Joe!!

**Birdies for Charity
Final Accounting**

The church has received two checks as our portion of the Birdies For Charity campaign which is part of the John Deere Golf Classic. The first check, for \$856.04 is what Edwards had pledged. The second check for \$85.60 is the bonus we received for being part of this drive. A total of \$941.64 was raised! Thank you!!

Fall Blood Drive

**Don't forget... Edwards Blood Drive is
December 6th - 7 am to 11 am**

Walk-ins are welcome... or call Dorothy Hammond 797-2321 for an appointment. There's no substitute for blood. If people lose blood from surgery or injury or if their bodies can't produce enough, there is only one place to turn -- volunteer blood donors!



Sunday Morning Adult Discussion

Interested in the relevance of Jesus Christ in the third millennium? Come to the Sunday morning adult discussion group. It is meeting in the parlor at 9 a.m. each Sunday. Each session begins with a 20 minute video featuring several of today's leading biblical scholars and theologians.

Come and hear people such as Bernard Brandon Scott, Marcus Borg, John Dominic Crossan, Sister Helen Prejean, Matthew Fox, Hans Kung, Walt Bruggemann, John Shelby Spong, Stephen Patterson, Amy-Jill Levine, James Forbes, and others discussing topics such as:

- + *What Can We Know About Jesus (and How)?*
- + *The World into Which Jesus Was Born*
- + *Jesus' Birth: Incarnation*
- + *Teachings of Jesus: Wisdom Tradition*
- + *Jesus' Program: The Kingdom Of God*
- + *Jesus' Ministry of Compassion*
- + *Killing Jesus, Part One: Who Killed Jesus*
- + *Killing Jesus, Part Two: The Atonement*
- + *The Resurrection of Christ*
- + *Why Jesus Is Worth Saving*

Friday Night Fellowship and Fun - Edwards Game Night

The Membership Board's first family game night was a lot of fun!! The next one is Friday, December 12th - 6:30pm to 8:30pm. Everybody is



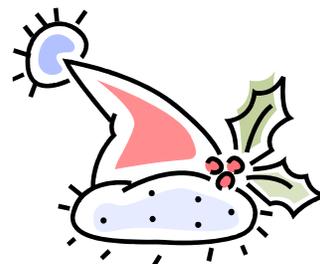
welcome, so bring your favorite game and a snack or beverage to share. We will figure out which games to play that night. Uno? Euchre? Cribbage? Scrabble? Backgammon? Apples to Apples?... No RSVP necessary... Don't know how play a game... we will teach you! Join us!!



Women's Night Out

Christmas Party & Potluck

- Who: All Edward's women are cordially invited to attend!
- When: Thursday, December 18, at 6:00 pm
- Where: The country kitchen area of the Oakwood Building at Ridgecrest Village, 4130 Northwest Blvd. (2nd entry on the circle drive) hosted by Ollie Gallaher
- Bring: Potluck fare and an unwrapped gift. Our gifts will go to Winnie's Place.



Thank You, Thank You, Thank You !!

Thanks to **Mila Smith, Dick Dulaney, Julie Henke, Chris Fessler, John and Dorothy Hammond** and **Susan Chesley** for serving as Central Circle Community Tutors in November.

Thanks to the **Dye** family for providing a Wednesday Simple Supper in November, **Sarah Vordtriede** for help serving supper and to the **Dye** and **Fessler** families for supper clean-up.

Thanks to **Blaine Chesley, Crystal Miller, Anne Swarts, Katy Dye,** and **Pat Bereskin** for serving as Spiritual Companions in Sunday School.

Thanks to **Cathy Wetzel** for serving as a Spiritual Companion in the Wednesday evening TouchStones program.

Thanks to **Sandy Reinders** for leading our children in the Music & Movement program.

Thanks to **Vonnie King, Cathy Wetzel, Marilyn and Robert Riedesel,** and **Chris Fessler** for setting up the Ed wing potluck and to the Mission Board for providing potluck clean-up.

Thanks to **Miriam Prichard** for organizing the Thanksgiving Basket deliveries.

Thanks to **Katy Strzepak** for organizing the Greater Gift/SERRV sale this year.

Thanks to **Pat Cresap, Greg & Pat Bereskin** for the fall decorating in the sanctuary.

Thanks to **Michael Fessler** and **Carol Ogletree** for staying overnight with our youth at their LOCK-IN.

Thank you to the Weekday Board for sponsoring and helping with the Weekday Reception on October 19th. Also to **Sandy Reinders, Elisabeth Norwood, Lisa Crawford** and our Tiny Tot alumni, **Emily & Robert Norwood, Rachel, Kelsey & Parker Sedgwick** and **Shannon & Evan Crawford** for serving refreshments and cleaning up.

Thank you to wonderful musicians morning worship in November: Youth Ensemble: **Taylor Schroeder, Katy and Susan Dircks, Kailan Lafrenz,** and **Courtney Smith,** with **Elizabeth Knoche and Suzanne Benson,** (director) playing an additional offertory; to Promised Land: **Cec Chapman, Harry Swarts, Dick Werner,** and **Robert Riedesel,** who also brought some fabulous trumpet music, and the Alleluia Ringers: **Suzanne and Bob Benson, Keith Thess, Heather Wren, Lynn Warren, Mary Beth Dircks** and **Kailan Lafrenz,** flute and **Sandy Reinders,** pianist/director. Thanks also to the fabulous piano duo of **Mary Beth and Brad.**

Thanks to the great Wind Ensemble: **Carol Carroll, Marty and Laura Beck,** clarinets, **Ben Nabb** and **Alex Slack,** saxophones, **Robert Riedesel,** trumpet, **Amanda Loughead,** baritone, and **Dick Werner,** bass on Thanksgiving Sunday. Special thanks for the extra rehearsals and wonderful massed choir participation of the Chancel Choir and Friends at the Interfaith Annual Thanksgiving Service. And SPECIAL thanks to **Richard** and **Martha Jirus** for *Edwards' Kath-er-ine.* Thank you to **Carol Mahan** and **Audrey Dugan** music librarians who make all the above possible!

Thanks to **Carol Carroll** for music office help and **Dick Werner** and **Richard Jirus** for recycling papers.

Thanks to **John & Dorothy Hammond, Ardis Kasper, Evona Petherick** and **Martha Jirus** for assembling the November *Editor.*

Thanks to **Rev. Becky David** and **Bill Anderson** for preaching.

Thanks to **Sue Harrington** for raking and bagging leaves.

Thanks to **Dick Werner** and **Tom Kenneke** for pew, lighting and restroom repairs.

Thank You, Thank You, Thank You !!

Thanks to **John Chesley, Amanda Loughead, Elizabeth Knoche, Steve Wanda, Carol Ogletree, Michael Fessler, Richard Jirus, George Kovacs, Katherine Mulhern, Sandy Reinders** and **Dick Werner** for helping build a Habitat for Humanity house on November 1st.

Thanks to all who served lunch that same day to more than 45 Habitat folks including our work crew, another house's work crew and the future owners of both houses. Please forgive me if I forgot anyone's name from either list. Dave Reinders, Mission Board

To all Edwards Members, I thank you - Having three major surgeries at the same time was questionable but two excellent surgeons, the hand of God and your many prayers brought me through. I thank you so very much and your cards and phone calls mean so very much for the long road to recovery - prayers work - **Jean Neavor**

THANK YOU to the Weekday Board for the lovely recognition reception honoring 36 years of Tiny Tot PreSchool and 27 years of Mother's Day Out. Both programs served many families in the community - truly an excellent outreach program for the church. Also, thank you to the many dedicated church members that served on the Board and also as our Treasurers. Without your commitment, our programs would not have been as successful. In the very first Tiny Tot preschool class, a Matthew, Mark, Luke and John were enrolled! We (Nancy Ross and I) felt it was a good sign we would be successful! Again, THANK YOU!! Evona Petherick, PreSchool Director / Teacher for 27 years.

Dear Friends,

Edwards is a congregation filled with surprises. On Sunday, November 2, you (once again) surprised me with a party to celebrate our 10 years of ministry together! Thank you! Your words were so lovely, the gifts were beautiful - the quilted wall hanging, the donation to Winnie's Place, the "Bob the Builder" tool belt, the tree planted outside the pastor's office, and the treasure chest filled with gold dollars! Thank you. You are a VERY creative bunch!

Long-term ministries are really partnerships between a congregation and a minister. Over the years the relationship deepens and grows richer. It's important to remember that while none of us is perfect, we have all worked together to make the past 10 years possible. I have made mistakes, and you have been gentle. I have forgotten things, and you have forgiven me. Maybe most importantly, you regularly tell me when I do things right. Thank you. Thank you. Thank you.

I am blessed to serve God in the ministry we share in this church. I am blessed to know each one of you. Ministry is a lot of things, but a lot of ministry is about just showing up. I'll be showing up for a while! I hope you will be too!

Rev. Katherine Mulhern

The Season of Giving

While sharing our gifts is a year-long practice at Edwards, December does bring out the best in our generosity! Here are some of the ways we can share our blessings:

A Greater Gift (SERRV): A Greater Gift is a program of SERRV International, a nonprofit organization that works to build sustainable livelihoods for artisans in developing regions of the world by marketing their products in a just and direct manner. Each year Edwards sponsors a fair trade sale with products from around the world. Your purchase of these goods helps to alleviate poverty and empower low-income people through trade, training and other forms of capacity building as they work to improve their lives. The SERRV table will be open for business in Baxter Fellowship Hall throughout December.

The Warming Tree: Each year the folks at Edwards decorate the tree with hats, mittens, gloves, socks, scarves, and underwear, which will be distributed throughout the community. Let's do the same this year and help bring warmth and comfort to those in need this winter season. Also - bring in slightly used or new toys, books, and games to send as gifts to families in need of support.

Edwards' Angel Tree: This Advent season, our Angel Tree offers you the opportunity to share with those that need a little Christmas cheer. The Membership Board is sponsoring an Angel Tree in the Narthex with anonymous envelopes that each contain a name of a church member who could use some cheering up in his/her life. Please consider sharing the warmth of the Season with others! The tree will be up December 2 and through the Advent Season.

Christmas Fund Offering

(formerly Veterans of the Cross)

Our joy at Christmas is a response to God's promise of new life through the birth of Jesus. It is a joy we are called to share widely, through our witness and gifts, both to loved ones and to distant neighbors. The Christmas Fund Offering (formerly the Christmas Fund for the Veterans of the Cross), one of four Special Mission Offerings of the United Church of Christ (UCC), is an important way of sharing our joy at God's renewing and life-giving grace. The Offering, which is administered by the United Church Board for Ministerial Assistance of the Pension Boards on behalf of the UCC, is an expression of joy and gratitude to, and for, those who serve the church. Gifts to the Christmas Fund help provide pension and health premium supplementation to low-income retirees, emergency assistance to the families of clergy and lay employees and Christmas Gift Checks to hundreds of annuitants. Your gifts are needed more than ever to help the growing number of retirees whose low income annuities make it difficult to meet increasing living costs. This is your opportunity to participate in God's promise of renewal by enabling this ministry of compassion and care.

Habitat for Humanity

Before the Edwards crew got there on November 1st, this house at 1123 Tremont in Davenport was running 3-4 weeks behind schedule. Not only did we get the trusses up, we got most of the roof sheathed. We also assembled the scaffolding on the back of the house so it can be sided. The lunch crew served a hearty meal to keep us going and by the time we ended mid-afternoon, the house was only two weeks behind schedule. Thanks to all for a very successful Saturday! Dave Reinders, Mission Board

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

| | December 7 | December 14 | December 21 | December 24 | December 28 |
|---------------------------|--|--|--|-------------------------------------|--|
| | Communion | Cookie Walk | Children's Pageant | Christmas Eve | |
| Preacher | Katherine Mulhern | Katherine Mulhern | Katherine Mulhern | Katherine Mulhern | Sue Harrington |
| Chancel Set-up | Amanda Loughead Chris Zippe | Brian Dugan | Pat Cresap | Amanda Loughead | Brad & Deena Miller |
| Scripture Reader | Brian Dugan | Russell Dircks | Dick Werner | | Erica Schroeder |
| Communion Servers | Amanda Loughead Chris Zippe | --- | --- | Katherine Mulhern Sue Harrington | --- |
| Visitor Guides | Membership Board | Membership Board | Membership Board | Membership Board | Membership Board |
| Nursery 10:15 am | Janet Sedgwick | | Cathy & Amanda Loughead | | |
| Coffee Hour Hosts - AM | | Cookie Walk | | | |
| Greeters | Deanna Thomas Dennise Weyman Bonnie Walling Ned Walling | Nancy Stenger Lucas Zippe | Ruth Bowers Carol Carroll Bill Coker Judy Collins | | Pat Cresap Clyde Durrah Pam Edmond Edith Egli |
| Ushers | Tim Mandell Terry McGee Steve Knoche Tom Kenneke | Dee Hillyer Mary Hein Joe Hall Olive Gallaher | Sally Egy Pam Edmond Clyde Durrah Dick Dulaney | | Eric Crawford Judy Collins Barb Bleedorn Bob Anderson |
| Sound System | David VanDerKamp | | | | |
| Lock-up | Bob Williams | Michael Fessler | Tom Kenneke | | Margaret Wilber |
| CareGivers On Call | Kay Stiles Evona Petherick | Sharon Wildemuth Lois Larew | Ruth Bowers Miriam Prichard | | |

DECEMBER 2008

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--|--|--|---|--|---|------------------------------|
| 30 Advent First Sunday of Advent FOOD PANTRY SUNDAY 9:15 AM Chancel Choir Rehearsal 10:15 AM Worship 11:30 AM Liturgical Dance Rehearsal | 1 6:30 PM Alleluia Ringers | 2 | 3 6:00 PM Confirmation 7:00 PM Chancel Choir | 4 10:00 AM Women's Bible Study 6:30 PM Steps to Serenity / Al-Anon Meeting | 5 | 6 Fall Blood Drive |
| 7 9:00 AM Church School 9:15 AM Chancel Choir Rehearsal 10:15 AM Worship 11:30 AM Liturgical Dance Rehearsal 6:30 PM TECT Team | 8 6:30 PM Alleluia Ringers | 9 6:30 PM All-Boards 7:30 PM Council Meeting | 10 6:00 PM Confirmation 7:00 PM Chancel Choir | 11 6:30 PM Steps to Serenity / Al-Anon Meeting | 12 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE 6:30 PM Family Fun Night | 13 |
| 14 9:00 AM Church School 9:15 AM Chancel Choir Rehearsal 10:15 AM Worship 11:30 AM Cookie Walk & Caroling 11:30 AM Liturgical Dance Rehearsal 6:30 PM TECT Team | 15 6:30 PM Alleluia Ringers | 16 1:00 PM Community Kitchen Food Prep 5:30 PM Friends in Faith Rehearsal 5:30 PM Serve at Community Kitchen 7:00 PM Caregivers Meeting | 17 7:00 PM Chancel Choir | 18 10:00 AM Women's Bible Study 6:00 PM Women's Night Out 6:30 PM Steps to Serenity / Al-Anon Meeting | 19 | 20 |
| 21 First Day of Winter 9:00 AM Church School 9:15 AM Chancel Choir Rehearsal 10:15 AM Worship and Children's Pageant 11:30 AM Liturgical Dance Rehearsal 4:00 PM Friends in Faith Rehearsal 5:30 PM Evening Worship & Potluck 6:30 PM TECT Team | 22 6:30 PM Alleluia Ringers 7:00 PM Chancel Choir | 23 6:30 PM Edwards Book Club | 24 Office Closed 6:00 PM Family Christmas Service 9:00 PM Traditional Candlelight Service | 25 Christmas Day Office Closed | 26 Office Closed | 27 |
| 28 FOOD PANTRY SUNDAY 10:15 AM Worship | 29 | 30 | 31 | 1 New Year's Day Office Closed | 2 | 3 |

December Birthdays

| | | | |
|--------------------|---------------------|---------------------|----------------------|
| 1 Lyle Stratton | 8 Kaela Swarts | 18 Henry McCarrel | 28 Laurie Funderburk |
| 1 Calvin Young | 8 Annah Eberhardt | 18 Kevin Pollard | 30 Olive Gallaher |
| 1 William Norwood | 10 Sue Wymore | 18 Maggie Dixon | 30 Mona Terry |
| 4 Carol Carroll | 11 Greg Ball | 19 Robert Riedesel | |
| 4 Bill Edmond | 12 Linda Ripple | 19 Christopher Wren | |
| 4 Danell Randall | 12 Lisa Larew | 19 Alex Slack | |
| 5 Dave Reinders | 13 Maureen Goulette | 22 Kay Stiles | |
| 6 Joyce Swartz | 14 Lisa Azure | 22 Lynn Warren | |
| 7 Brandon Ramirez | 15 Dennise Weyman | 22 Megan Beck | |
| 7 Molly Dye | 16 Pam Edmond | 26 J. Robert Wilber | |
| 8 Michelle Mandell | 16 Hannah Mandell | 27 Gary Mahan | |

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 editor newsletter
 Visit our new family photo album

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

EDWARDS CONGREGATIONAL **UNITED CHURCH** OF CHRIST



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December 2008

Food Pantry Sunday **December 28th !**

Non-perishables are greatly needed by the food pantries. Fill a grocery bag to share with hungry families.

EDWARDS CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Katherine A. Mulhern, Pastor
Rev. Jean Norton, Minister of Music
Susan Chesley, Minister of Christian Education
Geri Dulaney, Membership Coordinator
Lyle Stratton, CareGiver Coordinator
Kathy Bowerman, Secretary
Cathy Loughhead, Bookkeeper
Kay Stiles, Moderator
Joe Opsal, Custodian

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