

**EDWARDS**  
 CONGREGATIONAL  
 UNITED CHURCH  
 OF CHRIST

# Edwards Editor

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

[www.edwards-ucc.org](http://www.edwards-ucc.org)

Phone: (563) 359-0331 Fax: (563) 359-8221

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**December 2011**

Articles for next issue due by Noon, Friday, 12/16/11

Submitted items are subject to editing.



## Celebrating Advent

- December 4:** Cookie Walk in Baxter Fellowship Hall immediately following worship
- December 15:** Women's Night Out Christmas Potluck
- December 18:** Children's Christmas Pageant
- December 24:** Christmas Eve Worship at 7:30 pm
- December 25:** Food Pantry Sunday

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

**'Tis the Season . . . for Giving!**

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## *From Our Pastor's Desk...*

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**W**hen you look around our building these days, you are immediately aware that things are different! For one thing, there are cranes and backhoes and bobcats parked in the front lawn, and we are driving in the exit driveway. For another, the walls to the pastor's study are gone and all that is left are a couple of studs. My office has temporarily been relocated into one end of the parlor. The narthex already seems bigger! There are tools and ladders tucked here and there - stored away during those times when there are lots of people in the building. There are "Tuesday Morning Men" putting in sweat equity just about every day of the week these days. The church is a beehive of activity! And in the midst of all the chaos, we are also preparing for Christmas!

I think my favorite moment in the entire church year is that moment in the Christmas Eve service when the whole congregation is silent, and we light our candles - one to another. The busyness has fallen away and everything is quiet. The world is filled with awe and wonder. Christ is born. There is hope in the world. God's dream for the world has come to us as a tiny baby - vulnerable and precious. New life is possible. It takes my breath away and brings tears to my eyes.

For me, the entire season of Advent is a time of preparation for that moment. I begin with the memory and the hope of that moment when all the world is hushed and we can feel the angels' wings stir the air around us. Then I begin to prepare my soul for that moment. For me, it is a daily discipline - opening my soul each morning to receive this gift of a child who will transform the world. It is also a weekly discipline - as Advent Candles are lit week after week. Hope, Peace, Love and Joy - these are the gifts that this child offers

me. Advent is also a yearly discipline. Just because I did this last year doesn't mean I don't have to do it again this year! I come to this season differently this year than I did last year. There are different sorrows, there are new joys, my fears have found a different shape or form. Each year, the Christ Child brings the same Advent gifts, and each year I receive them a little differently.

In the end, Advent is that time when we remember the past and dream our way into the future. We wait with Mary and Joseph for the birth of a tiny baby, and we dream of a time when there will be no more waiting - when peace and justice and love and shalom will reign on earth as it does in heaven.

Each year has its own character. Some years are filled with chaos. Other years are pretty quiet. Some years I seem to need "hope" more than the other seasonal gifts. Other years I need one of the others - "peace" or "love" or "joy". Sometimes we are surrounded by small children - other times we walk through this season with people who are approaching their death. Every year is a little different.

And yet, no matter what is happening in our lives or in our world, the discipline of opening our souls to the gift of Jesus Christ is worth the effort! Each year God meets us in our deepest need with the gifts of Advent - hope, peace, joy and love. This year, may you be blessed as you prepare for the moment when God breaks into your life and takes your breath away and brings a tear to your eye. Happy Advent! Merry Christmas!

## **December Scriptures**

### **December 4**

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



"Then the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together."  
Isaiah 40:5, NRSV

### **December 11**

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

### **December 18**

Luke 1:26-38  
2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16  
Luke 1:47-55 or  
Psalm 89:1-4, 19-26  
Romans 16:25-27



He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High.  
Luke 1:32

### **December 25**

Psalm 98  
Isaiah 52:7-10  
Hebrews 1:1-4, (5-12)  
John 1:1-14

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

## **Special Music in December**

**December 4:** Youth String Ensemble  
**December 11:** Alleluia Ringers,  
Sandy Reinders directing  
**December 18:** The Friends in Faith Band,  
Youth and Children's Choirs,  
Liturgical Dancers  
**December 24:** Mona Terry, harp;  
Robert Riedesel trumpet,  
Chancel Choir and more  
**December 25:** Promised Land

## **Christmas Eve Service**

Join us for worship at 7:30 on Christmas Eve for a time of worship that will highlight the mystery and awe of this season and help us all to celebrate the "reason for the season."

Again this year, we are combining the carols and candles of a late service with the excitement of a child-centered service. Last year was the first time we had done that in a long time - and we learned a few things! This year, we promise that worship will be about an hour, and childcare will be available.

## **Christmas Morning Service**

Christmas falls on Sunday this year, and so we will gather for worship at the regular 10:15 time on December 25<sup>th</sup>. We will gather informally in Baxter Fellowship Hall, with coffee and cocoa and cinnamon rolls. Come in your jeans or your sweats or your PJs to celebrate Christmas morning with your church family!

The Old Testament Scripture for the day comes from the Prophet Isaiah - *How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of the messenger who announces peace, who brings good news, who announces salvation.*

Because this is a day for "gifting", we invite you to bring a gift! Bring a pair of gently used shoes and we will share your gift with the pastors in South Dakota, who will distribute them to folks on the reservation who truly need a good pair of shoes.

Feet ARE beautiful! Let's help make some "happy feet" as we gather together to celebrate Christ's birth on Christmas morning.





### Cookie Walk

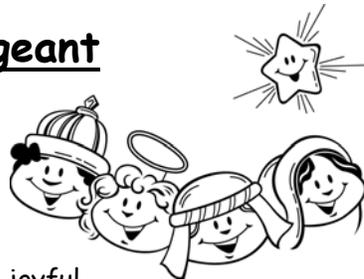
**DON'T GO HOME** on Sunday, December 4<sup>th</sup>! Stay after church for the annual Advent Cookie Walk in Baxter Hall. Plates of 20 cookies (your choice) can be purchased for \$10. In addition to the sweets, the Board of Christian Education will be serving chili, cornbread and cups of cocoa. This is an annual celebration you don't want to miss...and afterwards...**GO HOME!**

### TouchStones

During December our children will continue preparing for this year's Christmas Pageant, and there is a place for everyone in the retelling of the nativity story. **Final practice and dress rehearsal will be on Friday Dec. 16th, from 5:30-7:30.**

### Christmas Pageant

During morning worship, **Sunday, Dec. 18th**, the children will present this year's Christmas Pageant - **Emmanuel, God With Us.** After worship, continue the joyful celebration in Baxter Fellowship Hall with cookies and fellowship.



### The Warming Tree

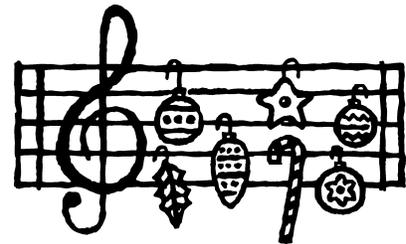
Each year the folks at Edwards decorate the Warming Tree with hats, mittens, gloves, socks, scarves, and underwear, which will be distributed throughout the community. Bring items to church during December and place them on and under the tree in Baxter Hall.



### Family Musicians

#### Home For The Holidays?

We want to hear them! Following the tradition at Edwards musicians who have returned for the holidays are invited to spread Christmas cheer with special music. Solos, ensembles, duets - across and within families are welcome! Be a "tattle tale" and let us know who will be home - or sign yourself up for New Years Day Special Music. Call the church office and leave a message for Jean Norton.



### Christmas Music Gifts

Mona Terry and Jean Norton are recording their second album: *Peace, Hope and Wonder... Christmas.* Familiar carols arranged by Mona and Jean will be played on harp and alto recorder. A portion of the proceeds of this year's CDs will go toward the operating budget of Edwards. Order forms are available in the Music Room and the album will be released in mid-December, in plenty of time for Christmas.

Other Edwards music gifts available are several CDs recorded by the gospel quartet, **Promised Land** with arrangements by Cec Chapman, and the **2001 Christmas Eve Lessons and Carols** service with the chancel choir, Alleluia Ringers and string ensemble. These CDs are available in the narthex and proceeds go to Edwards.

### TouchStones, TECT and Confirmation Christmas Break

There will be **NO** programming December 21<sup>st</sup> thru January 4<sup>th</sup>  
Programming will resume on  
Wednesday, January 11<sup>th</sup>

### **Reimbursements**

If you have any **2011 expenses** that will require reimbursement, they need to be turned into the church office **no later than Tuesday, January 3,**



**2012.**

### **2011 Annual Reports**

**Due Jan. 3<sup>rd</sup>**

The 172<sup>nd</sup> Annual Meeting of Edwards UCC will be Tuesday evening, January 24<sup>th</sup> (snowdate - Thurs., Jan. 26<sup>th</sup>).



**All Board and Committee Chairs and Edwards Staff - Please email your report to [kathy@edwards-ucc.org](mailto:kathy@edwards-ucc.org) by 9:00 am ~ Tuesday, January 3<sup>d</sup>.**

### **Fall Stewardship Campaign**

Congratulations! Edwards UCC is doing it again! There is good news to share. To date, we have received 66 pledges for next year's budget, which total \$152,274. The average pledge is up by 10%! Thank you to each person who has turned in their pledge!

If you haven't yet filled out your pledge card, you can do it anytime! Just mail it to the church office or drop it in the offering plate on Sunday. Each and every gift makes a difference. Your offering strengthens our community and helps to share God's vision with neighbors near and far. Your willingness to pledge makes the whole process of budgeting and financial planning possible as we move from one year to the next. Thank you for tending to this detail of church life!

### **Year-End Financial Update**

Last month, we reported that it was time to "close the gap" between the deficit budget that we adopted in January and the hope of ending 2011 "in the black." Many thanks to those who have made the effort to give and give a little extra! We are well on our way toward meeting our goal, but we still need your attention and effort if we are going to be successful.

As you are planning your year-end giving, know that the church books will close on December 30. Any donation received after that will be booked in 2012.

Whether your gift is large or small, your giving makes Edwards a place of generosity and joy. Thank you for contributing - your time, your talent, your financial resources, your very self. You make a difference!

### **Holiday Office Hours**



The church office will be closed Friday, December 23<sup>rd</sup> through Monday, December 26 for Christmas and Monday, January 2 for New Year's.

**As We Come to the End of  
2011**

**Please Remember Your  
Pledge to**

**SHARING THE VISION**

**Each Gift Makes a**

**Difference and Together**

**We are Doing Great Things!**

### **Caregiving Changes**

Since Sue Harrington is being called to serve as the Pastor of First Congregational UCC in Canton, IL, she will no longer be able to serve as the Caregiving Coordinator here at Edwards! And while we celebrate with her and with First Congregational UCC of Canton, we are very sorry to see her go from our midst. We will combine a "going away" party for Sue with her ordination reception, and we will all express our thanks to her then for the many ways that she has shared her gifts and talents here at Edwards - from Student Pastor, to Youth Minister, to Caregiving Coordinator - Sue Harrington has made a difference in our church! Thank you Sue!

Sue's move gives the Caregivers an opportunity to pause for a bit and do some evaluating and dreaming. At their December meeting (December 20 at 12:00), Rev. Becky David will meet with the Caregivers to begin the work of re-imagining how Caregiving may work differently or better in the future. If you are a Caregiver, please don't miss this opportunity! If you have some thoughts about the way Caregiving happens at Edwards - please share them either with Katherine or Becky. If you are interested in volunteering to be a Caregiver - please let Katherine know (or just come to the meeting!).

Our Caregivers make a HUGE difference in the life of our church. Make a point to say "thank you" to one of them this month!

**The Eastern Association  
of the Iowa Conference  
of the United Church of Christ**

**Invites you to  
share in the Ordination of**

***Sue Harrington***

**December 18<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 pm**

**Edwards Congregational  
United Church of Christ**

**All authorized ministers are invited to  
process and the liturgical color for the  
day is red.**

### **Sound System Changes**

After many years of dedicated service, Dave VanDerKamp is moving on from his work at the sound desk on Sunday mornings. Edwards has been blessed by his expertise and abilities - not many churches are gifted with a professional sound technician on Sunday mornings! Over the years he has helped us to improve our system and imagine new ways of doing things that would not have been possible without his help. Thank you, Dave!

The Media Committee is gathering together people who would like to learn how to run the sound desk, or folks who may have some expertise already, in order that folks in the pews can hear appropriately on Sunday mornings. If you are interested in learning, or if you have expertise to share, please contact Woody Perkins (563.323.3778) woody@perkinn.com

### **Brick by Brick... Building News**

Stop by the church and watch the progress! The "old" Pastor's Study has been taken apart (literally) - the walls are down, the bookshelves and the paneling are being recycled into other projects and places, and Katherine's office is temporarily relocated into one end of the Parlor/Library.

The original septic tank has been removed and the hole has been filled in. The footings for the new wall are underway and we should be pouring concrete soon. It won't be long before the temporary wall in the narthex is constructed - separating the narthex area from the construction area.

We will be seeing big changes during the next month! Watch for them! Meanwhile, thank you for your patience and good humor as we move through this time when everything is getting changed 'round! And thank you to the "Tuesday Morning Men" who are putting in many hours of "sweat equity" in getting our building ready for all the changes. It's hard to measure how much money they are saving us, but 7 or 8 guys have been working many days through the past few weeks. That translates into many dollars, if we had to pay for it! Thank you!

## ***Fellowship Opportunities . . .***

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### **Brunch with Edwards' Women**

A new eating-out opportunity! In addition to Women's Night Out, we are now creating another opportunity for all of the women of Edwards to gather for fun, food and fellowship. Set aside the first Monday of each month for Women's Lunch Out. Next month, on **December 5<sup>th</sup>**, we'll meet at Riefe's Restaurant (1417 West Locust Street, Davenport) at 10:00am for brunch/lunch. Breakfast menus are available until 10:30am. We'll go to different restaurants each month. We hope to see a lot of women there!

### **Women's Night Out Christmas Potluck**

- Who: All Edwards women are cordially invited to attend!
- When: Thursday, December 15, at 6:00 pm
- Where: "The Country Kitchen" area of the Oakwood Building at Ridgecrest Village, 4130 Northwest Blvd. (2<sup>nd</sup> entry on the circle drive)
- Bring: Potluck fare (main dish, salad or vegetable - dessert is provided).

## ***New Members . . .***

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On Sunday, Nov. 20, 4 persons united with Edwards Church. They are:

**LISA GASTON** came to the area 5 yrs. ago from Chicago. She is a chaplain with Trinity Pathway Hospice. Lisa is married to Lee who is employed at the Family Y. They are the proud parents of 3 daughters. In her spare time, she enjoys quilting, singing, and is an advocate of fresh foods. The Gaston family resides at 1 Birchwood Dr., Blue Grass, IA 52726. Phone # 563 /468-1531. Email: LGASTON4@gmail.com.  
Sponsor: Rev. Becky David

**JANICE LEWIS** is the daughter of Evangeline Lewis. She is the oldest of Van's 5 children. Janice is employed as the office manager of H & R Block. She is the proud of mother of 2 daughters and is a recent new grandmother. In her spare time, Janice enjoys music and, especially, her family. Janice resides at 4711 Candlelight Dr., Davenport, IA 52806. Phone # 563 / 386-1441.  
Sponsor: "Proud Mom" Evangeline Lewis.

**BETH PENN** was born and raised in Moline. She now resides in Davenport with husband of 13 yrs, Jeff, 3 stepsons and 3 step-grandchildren. Beth is employed as a hair stylist. In her spare time, she enjoys word puzzles and volunteering. Beth & Jeff reside at 2719 Carriage Hill Dr., Davenport, IA 52807-2442. Phone # 563 / 650-4074. E-mail: ebethmp@gmail.com.  
Sponsor: Judy Collins

**PATRICIA "PAT" HIXON** came to the Quad-Cities approximately 7 months ago to be near her son and his family. She is retired and enjoys spending time with her 3 children and 7 grandchildren. Pat resides at 2618 Esplanade Ave., Davenport, IA 52803. Phone # 843 / 359-3620. Sponsors: Brad, Lisa, & Jewell Hixon

Lisa, Janice, Beth, and Pat . . . "Welcome Home to Edwards. We are very blessed to have you join our family." ~ Membership Board

### Keep In Our Prayers

- ✦ The Molis family, in the death of Dao's father
- ✦ The Rosberg family, grieving Pat's death
- ✦ The Swarts and Zippe families, in the death of Harry's mother

### Congratulations!!

Patricia Hartley graduated from Kaplan University with a Bachelor of Science degree in Criminal Justice. Congratulations Patricia!!

### Another Edwards Candidate for Ministry

On November 15<sup>th</sup> the Committee on Ministry for the Eastern Association of the Iowa Conference of the UCC officially received Crystal McCormick as a "Member in Discernment", beginning her journey toward ordained ministry in the UCC! Meanwhile, Crystal continues her PhD studies at Lutheran School of Theology in Chicago, focusing on Christian-Muslim Relations. Congratulations, Crystal!

### Poinsettias

If you would like to purchase a poinsettia, to be used in decorating our sanctuary for the Advent /Christmas season, order forms are available in the Narthex. Each lovely 6.5" potted poinsettia plant is \$8.00. The deadline to order is - **December 5<sup>th</sup>!!** Please make checks payable to "Edwards UCC" with "Poinsettia" in the memo line. Place your order and payment in the envelope on the table in the Narthex, in an offering plate or in Kathy Bowerman's mailbox outside the office door.



### December Birthdays

- 1 Lyle Stratton
- 1 Will Norwood
- 2 Carol Baggerly
- 4 Carol Carroll
- 4 Bill Edmond
- 5 Dave Reinders
- 6 Joyce Swartz
- 7 Tobias Augsperger
- 7 Molly Dye
- 7 Anne-Marie Gephart
- 8 Kaela Swarts
- 8 Annah Eberhardt
- 10 Sue Wymore
- 11 Bob Benson
- 12 Linda Ripple
- 14 Lisa Azure
- 15 Dennise Weyman
- 16 Pam Edmond
- 18 Henry McCarrel
- 18 Kevin Pollard
- 18 Maggie Dixon
- 19 Robert Riedesel
- 19 Abby Scales
- 19 Alex Slack
- 20 Wendy Shaw-Sullivan
- 21 Lisa Gaston
- 22 Kay Stiles
- 22 Lynn Warren
- 22 Megan Beck
- 23 Elinor Moore
- 26 Mike Ball-Trevor
- 26 Bob Wilber
- 27 Gary Mahan
- 28 Willow Ball-Trevor
- 28 Laurie Funderburk
- 30 Ollie Gallaher
- 30 Mona Terry



Wish These Friends a  
"Happy Birthday!"



### **Mission 1 Update**

Over the past couple of months, you have heard a lot about *Mission 1: 11.1.11 - 11.11.11*. Nationally, UCC churches gave to support worldwide hunger efforts. National goals (food items 1,000,000) were surpassed (1,194,045); the letters to Congress goal was 11,111 and there were over 33,000! The Neighbors in Need offerings were doubled to include Somali famine (\$111,111 for each NIN offering). Edwards, as well, surpassed our goal of food collection (goal of 150; collected: 460!!). Our congregation also sent 72 letters to congressmen, and NIN offerings exceeded \$1,043.00.

### **Community Kitchen**

The final 2011 Mission Board community effort will be the **December 20<sup>th</sup> Churches United Salvation Army meal site**. There will be opportunities to sign up to serve.

### **Blessings in a Backpack**

Both co-chairs of the Mission Board will be transitioning off the Board in 2012. One of the largest, most successful neighborhood mission efforts this year is the *Blessings in a Backpack* program. **Abby Scales** has offered to be the new coordinator for *Blessings*. She will furnish schedules, request shoppers and ask for volunteers to fill backpacks when necessary. Thank you, Abby!

### **Christmas Fund**

The Annual Christmas Fund Special Mission Offering helps provide pension and health premium supplementation to lower-income retired church workers, emergency assistance to clergy families in need and Christmas checks to hundreds of annuitants; administered by the Pension Boards. This year's offering will be on December 18<sup>th</sup>. Envelopes are in the pew racks.

### **Fair Trade at Edwards: 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 Hall throughout December.

### **Winnie's Place Needs**

Egg noodles, boxed potatoes, sugar, broth/bullion, cereal, parmesan cheese, juices, enchilada sauce, soups. Toilet bowl cleaners, butterfly mops, 13-gallon trash bags.

### **Winnie's Christmas Needs**

Sets of pots & pans, kitchen towels, mattress covers, fleece blankets, mixing bowl sets, baking pans. Slippers for women & children, hair products, lotions, devotional books, decorative scarves, and gift cards for grocery stores or hardware stores.

### **Pilgrim Heights Shower House**

In November our efforts to raise money for a new shower house at Pilgrim Heights resulted in a grand total of \$152.14 - we're off to a great start!

In December you'll again have an opportunity to buy "goodies" but **only** on the 18<sup>th</sup>.

To donate baked goods, or to place advance orders, please call Mila Smith at 391-5409 or (Cell) 508-8981.

## Lakota Reservation

### Toy Drive

In the midst of the Advent and Christmas seasons, God calls us to remember the poverty existing in our own country. During the summer of 2009 our youth encountered this poverty when they spent a week serving the small UCC church in Green Grass, SD, where there is an unemployment rate of more than 80%. Our church continues to develop strong relationship with the adults and children now on both the Cheyenne River and Standing Rock Reservations in North and South Dakota.

For the last two years Edwards has served the reservation by running the Green Grass Christmas Toy Drive. This year with many more names gathered in need of Christmas presents we are partnering with other Eastern Iowa UCC congregations for this project. As before we will have a list of children identified as boy or girl and their respective age available for you to consider sponsoring for a gift this year. Individual sponsorship slips will be made available in the narthex on November 27<sup>th</sup> and December 4<sup>th</sup>. Please consider sponsoring one of these children by purchasing a gift (value approx. \$20-25), wrapping it, and returning it to church by December 12<sup>th</sup> so we can make the season a little brighter for our Lakota friends. Mitakuye Oyasin (All My Relatives/We Are All One)

## Native American Partnership

In early November, a second partnership meeting was held between the pastors of the Dakota Association and a leadership team from Edwards in Eagle Butte, South Dakota. Lyle and Janie Stratton, Susan Chesley, Jean Norton and Katherine Mulhern met with Native American pastors from UCC churches in the Dakota Association to continue our conversation about growing a partnership between "us and them".

"Partnership" is an emerging understanding for all of us. In the past, our church and others have gone to the Reservation and spent a week - bringing a Vacation Bible School and doing some work projects. All that is well and good, but it is not "partnership". "Partnership" is working together to strengthen and deepen church life for both "us and them".

Right now, this "partnership" is working in two important areas of church life - Christian Education and Music. Susan is working to develop curriculum with members of the churches there that is both faithful to the Christian story AND culturally relevant and appropriate on the Reservation (no such curriculum exists!). Jean is working with pastors there to help strengthen their music ministry. She is learning the Lakota hymns and then she and the choir will help to teach and lead them in new and creative ways in churches that have few voices and no musical accompaniment.

The pastors in South Dakota were so excited about this that they did not want to wait until spring to meet again, so the next meeting will be in February! Let's hope for warm, sunny weather!

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

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Thank you to **Geri Dulaney, Carol Hart, Miriam Prichard, Sandy Reinders** and **Mila Smith** for covering the office in November while Kathy was on vacation.

Thank you to November Editor assemblers: **Dick & Geri Dulaney, Edith Egli** and **Martha Jirus**.

**WE MADE GOAL!!!** Thank you!!! This is the second time in a row we have made goal, let's keep the streak going. This is only possible because of you being so generous with your time and blood. The community and the hospitals also thank you for this gift. Your generosity has helped up to 84 people. Thank you **Joe Opsal** and **Dick Werner** for setting up the room and having it ready for the blood drive. Thank you **Sue Harrington** for helping reset Baxter Fellowship Hall. And thanks to everyone who donated food and juice to make this drive a success. **Julie Henke, Cathy Wetzel, Dorothy Hammond**

A HUGE thank you to those who assembled and delivered this year's Thanksgiving baskets - **Terry and Marty Schlabach, Carol Hart, Miriam Prichard, Dick Dulaney, Susan** and **John Chesley**, and **Milo Smith**. Thanks also to all who donated food and money...this year's collection was the largest ever!

You may have noticed that **Dave VanDerKamp** hasn't been manning the audio during services recently. Dave has let us know that it was time for us to learn to fly on our own with this; he has professional work calling his name. The Media Committee has taken over this work, with **Steve Chesley** volunteering to take the lead.

Media, and I'm sure all the congregation, wish Dave well and thank him for voluntarily taking on that responsibility for the past few years. Even when it wasn't his 'job', Dave has been there for us for Christmas Eve services and the numerous concerts that we have had over the years. So thanks, Dave, for all your time and service to the sound quality of our worship experience. **Woody Perkins**

This summer and fall many of you helped to organize and participated in a program which provided refugees in the Quad Cities with gift cards for and access to a local farmer's market. We thank you for your gifts of time, resources, and care for refugees. Thank you for partnering with us as we stand for the vulnerable. Blessings, **Lindsey and Amy for World Relief, Moline**.

**To the Wonderful People of Edwards** ~ We are so grateful for all your love, support and prayers during these past few months as we grieve the loss of Sue's father. The cards, food, calls and the help from the yard elves really made a difference in supporting us. It is an amazing testimony to the beauty and love that shines brightly at Edwards. Thank you also to the staff of Edwards, to the Care Givers and to each one of you! The church family of Edwards means so much to us. God Bless! **Sue Harrington and Mona Terry**

**Thank YOU: Elaine Lippert**, for taking on the delights of being the new conductor of the Youth Choir, and helping in Children's Chapel with music, as well as accompanying the chancel choir, **Norma Wren**, organ, and Promised Land (**Cec Chapman, Michelle Hukvari, Robert Riedesel and Dick Werner**) and **Dick Jirus**, for special music November 6<sup>th</sup>; the Edwards Woodwind Ensemble (**Marty Beck, Chuck Collins, Robert Riedesel, and Dick Werner**), for special Thanksgiving music, **Kathy Lafrenz, Cec Chapman** and **Kathy Lafrenz**, for special vocal solos this past month, **Jesse Evans, Caroline Evans, Friends in Faith**, especially soloists **Brady Weller** and **Lyle Stratton**, for special music gifts at the **Interfaith Thanksgiving Service**. Thank you to the weekly volunteers bringing wonderful help to the world of music at Edwards over the past month: **Sandy Reinders**, Director of Alleluia Ringers, **Martha Jirus and Carol Mahan**, Music Librarians, **Kathy Lafrenz**, Director of Liturgical Dancers and **Dave VanDerKamp**, sound engineer.

Thanks to the **Holdridge, Tesch, Crawford, and Fessler** families, **Dee Hillyer, Chris Medina** and **Katie Van Blair** for providing simple suppers and clean-up on Wednesday evenings.

**Thank YOU!** On Tuesday, October 25, **Louis Reicks** delivered 368 food items to the food pantry at Western & 6<sup>th</sup> Streets. As co-chair of the Mission Board, I received a phone call that evening from Pam Laroque, coordinator of the City Center Ministry food pantry. She wanted to thank our congregation for the "*wonderful, generous donation today; we had gone to the Riverbend Food Bank this morning because our shelves were bare.*" She also relayed that the week before, she and her staff prayed that Edwards would be the church donating that week, because "*they are always so generous.*" Your very generous donations on October 23 fed 19 families; you are making a difference in people's lives! **Sharon Wildemuth**, Mission Board

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

	December 4	December 11	December 18	December 25
Preacher	Katherine Mulhern	Katherine Mulhern	Children's Pageant	Katherine Mulhern
Chancel Set-up	Sandy Reinders	Carol Hart	Sandy Reinders	
Altar Flowers				Becky David
Acolytes	Madelyn Tesch Max Tesch	Christopher Molis Lars Meseke-Wren	Madelyn Dye Molly Dye	
Scripture Reader	Herbert Moore	Nikki Keraus	Youth	Katherine Mulhern
Communion Servers	Ann Criswell, John Keraus, Joyce Paustian, Pat Sterk			
Special Music	Youth String Ensemble	Alleluia Ringers	Friends in Faith Band Youth and Children's Choirs Liturgical Dancers	Promised Land
Sound System	Steve Chesley	Steve Chesley	Steve Chesley	Steve Chesley
Nursery	Elyse Dye	Robert Norwood	Emily Norwood	
Ushers	Bev Bergert Brian Dugan Sally Egly Dick Vallandingham	Barb Bleedorn Ryan Dye Dee Hillyer Erica Schroeder	Mary Hein Brad Hixon Paul Petherick Pat Sterk	Steve Chesley Mila Smith Milo Smith Joyce Paustian
Greeters	Sandy Reinders Joel Sullivan Wendy Sullivan Margaret Wilber	Angela Elliott Dick Vallandingham Bonnie Walling Ned Walling	Ruth Bowers Bev Bergert Teresa Caligaris Bill Coker	Judy Collins Edith Egli Chris Fessler Mary Hein
Coffee Hour	Cookie Walk/Lunch: CE Board Clean-up: Membership Board		Nabhan-Warren Family	Richard & Martha Jirus
Lock-up	Ann Criswell	David Reinders	Steve Wildemuth	Brian Dugan

**Where there are blanks, we may need your help!! Please call the church office to sign up.**

**DECEMBER 2011**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>27</b> FOOD PANTRY SUNDAY 9:15 AM Chancel Choir Rehearsal 10:15 AM Worship 10:30 AM Children's Chapel 11:45 AM Liturgical Dance Rehearsal	<b>28</b> 6:30 PM Alleluia Ringers Rehearsal	<b>29</b> 8:30 AM Donuts & Hammers 5:15 PM Zumba	<b>30</b> 5:00 PM Youth Choir 5:30 PM Simple Supper 6:00 PM Confirmation 6:00 PM TECT Team 6:00 PM TouchStones 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal	<b>1</b> 6:30 PM Steps to Serenity Al-Anon Meeting	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> 9:15 AM Zumba
<b>4</b> 9:15 AM Chancel Choir Rehearsal 10:15 AM Worship 10:30 AM Children's Chapel 11:30 AM Cookie Walk 11:45 AM Liturgical Dance Rehearsal	<b>5</b> 9:00 AM Poinsettia Order Due 10:00 AM Women's Lunch Out 6:30 PM Alleluia Ringers Rehearsal	<b>6</b> 5:15 PM Zumba	<b>7</b> 5:00 PM Youth Choir 5:30 PM Simple Supper 6:00 PM Confirmation 6:00 PM TECT Team 6:00 PM TouchStones 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal	<b>8</b> 6:30 PM Steps to Serenity Al-Anon Meeting	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> 9:15 AM Zumba
<b>11</b> 9:15 AM Chancel Choir Rehearsal 10:15 AM Worship 10:30 AM Children's Chapel 11:45 AM Liturgical Dance Rehearsal	<b>12</b> 9:00 AM Toy Drive Gifts Due 6:30 PM Alleluia Ringers Rehearsal	<b>13</b> 8:30 AM Donuts & Hammers 5:15 PM Zumba 6:30 PM Board Meetings 7:30 PM Council Meeting	<b>14</b> 5:00 PM Youth Choir 5:30 PM Simple Supper 6:00 PM Confirmation 6:00 PM TECT Team 6:00 PM TouchStones 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal	<b>15</b> 6:00 PM Women's Night Out Christmas Potluck 6:30 PM Steps to Serenity Al-Anon Meeting	<b>16</b> 5:30 PM Christmas Pageant Rehearsal 7:00 PM TECT Team Lock-in	<b>17</b> 9:15 AM Zumba
<b>18</b> 9:15 AM Chancel Choir Rehearsal 10:15 AM Worship ~ Children's Pageant 11:45 AM Liturgical Dance Rehearsal 3:00 PM Sue Harrington's Ordination	<b>19</b> 9:00 AM NEWSLETTER DEADLINE 6:30 PM Alleluia Ringers Rehearsal	<b>20</b> 12:00 PM CareGivers Meeting 2:00 PM Churches United Meal Site Food Prep 5:15 PM Zumba 5:20 PM Serve at Churches United Meal Site located at Salvation Army	<b>21</b> 6:30 PM Choir Rehearsal	<b>22</b> First Day of Winter 6:30 PM Steps to Serenity Al-Anon Meeting	<b>23</b> OFFICE CLOSED	<b>24</b> 9:15 AM Zumba 7:30 PM Christmas Eve Worship Service
<b>25</b> Christmas Day FOOD PANTRY SUNDAY 9:15 AM Chancel Choir Rehearsal 10:15 AM Christmas Morning Worship Service 10:30 AM Children's Chapel 11:45 AM Liturgical Dance Rehearsal	<b>26</b> OFFICE CLOSED	<b>27</b> 8:30 AM Donuts & Hammers 5:15 PM Zumba	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> 6:30 PM Steps to Serenity Al-Anon Meeting	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b> 9:15 AM Zumba

For the most current up-to-date calendar information, go to [www.edwards-ucc.org](http://www.edwards-ucc.org) and click on the Calendar link in the left column under our address.

# EDWARDS CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST



Non-Profit Organization  
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Permit No. 399

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3420 Jersey Ridge Rd  
Davenport, IA 52807-2222  
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FAX: (563) 359-8221

December 2011

## **SAVE THESE DATES!!**

Jan. 3<sup>rd</sup> Board Reports Due  
Kitchen Remodel Begins  
Jan. 11<sup>th</sup> All Wednesday  
Programming Resumes  
Jan. 24<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting  
(Snowdate Jan. 26<sup>th</sup>)

### **Change of Address**

In order to avoid return postage charges, please notify the church office of any change in your mailing address at 563-359-0331.

### **Food Pantry Sunday** **December 18<sup>th</sup>**

Please bring a bag of groceries for the Food Pantry. Items needed include tuna, soups, stews, peanut butter, breakfast cereal, toiletries, diapers, etc. Whatever your cupboard needs...the Food Pantry needs, too!

### **EDWARDS CHURCH STAFF**

Rev. Katherine A. Mulhern, Pastor  
Rev. Jean Norton, Minister of Music  
Susan Chesley, Minister of Christian Education  
Miriam Prichard, Youth Director  
Geri Dulaney, Membership Coordinator  
Sue Harrington, Interim CareGiver Coordinator  
Kathy Bowerman, Church Secretary  
Cathy Loughead, Bookkeeper  
Bob Riedesel, Moderator  
Joe Opsal, Custodian

katherine@edwards-ucc.org  
jean@edwards-ucc.org  
susan@edwards-ucc.org  
miriam@edwards-ucc.org  
geri@edwards-ucc.org  
sue@edwards-ucc.org  
kathy@edwards-ucc.org  
loughead@mchsi.com  
rmrhome@aol.com