



EDITOR

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DECEMBER 2017

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

Church Office Hours
Monday - Friday
10 am - Noon

EDWARDS LEADERSHIP STAFF

Rev. Becky David
Interim Pastor
pastor@edwards-ucc.org

Rev. Kendra Thompson
Minister of Faith Formation
kendra@edwards-ucc.org

Lyle Stratton
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Mary Coker
Organist

Julie Henke
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juliehenke@aol.com

Ray Ball-Trevor
Bookkeeper
bookkeeper@edwards-ucc.org

Danielle King
Nursery Attendant
bettddanielle@aol.com

Sunday Worship
December 10 - 10:15 a.m.



Christmas Movies

Are you a fan of Christmas Movies? One of our annual favorites to watch as a family is *A Charlie Brown Christmas*. Who can resist the inquisitive ponderings of an underappreciated underdog? (Plus, the antics of his *actual* dog!) It's hard not to enjoy the critique of the commercialization of Christmas plus the profound proclamation of the gospel (verbatim!) by a thumb-sucker, with his blankie in hand. So, it is no wonder I am excited to announce that this year's Children's Christmas Pageant is an adaptation of this holiday favorite. Join us in worship for *A Charlie Brown Christmas*, on Sunday, December 10. Who else better to remind us of the true meaning of Christmas than the children among us? See you there!

~Pastor Kendra Thompson

Looking for another way to observe Advent? Check out this collaborative, web-based devotional between Pastor Kendra and her friend Rev. Stephanie Haskins: <http://tinyletter.com/tinyadvent2017>

Fellowship Opportunities

DONUTS & HAMMERS Every other Tuesday at 8:30 am in Baxter Hall at the church for donuts, coffee, and fellowship. Dates are; **December 5 & 19**. Please join us!

WOMEN'S NIGHT OUT

All ladies from Edwards are welcome for an evening of food, friendship and a laugh or two. This month we will meet at Lunardi's Restaurant, by NorthPark, on December 21, at 6 pm. Please join us!

Celebrating December Birthdays – Enjoy your day!

12/01-Lyle Stratton, William Norwood; 12/2-Carole Bagerly; 12/5-Dave Reinders; 12/7-Molly Dye, Tobias Augspurger; 12/10-Sue Wymore; 12/11-Bob Benson, Chris Snyder, Elizabeth Holdridge; 12/14-Quinn Reier; 12/15-Robert Riedesel; 12/20- Wendy Shaw-Sullivan; 12/21-Lisa Gaston; 12/22-Lynn Warren, Megan Beck; 12/23-Elinor Moore; 12/26-Mike Ball-Trevor; 12/27-Gary Mahan; 12/28-Willow Ball-Trevor; 12/30-Ollie Gallaher. Happy Birthday!

Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!

Thank you for making this year's fall Blood Drive a big success. Following is a 'Thank You' we received regarding the Edwards Blood Drive. *'Thank you to all the donors and to all of the people who contributed food, and to Julie Henke for opening the building on that cold, rainy, blustery Saturday. Also, for preparing Baxter Fellowship Hall for our drive and for setting up all the tables again to get it ready for Sunday's lunch. The blood center and recipients are very appreciative of our donors – giving blood, gives life. Once again the people of Edwards have proven how wonderful they are. I wish you and your family a wonderful and blessed Thanksgiving'.* – Dorothy Hammond

THANKSGIVING BASKETS AT EDWARDS

Thank you to all who contributed non-perishable items and funds for our Thanksgiving baskets. Also, if you helped pack baskets, used muscle to either load or unload and deliver items to Café Vine – we thank you! We appreciate all your time and efforts to make this event a success and could not have done it without you! - Mike & Ray Ball-Trevor

SHEPHERD'S PANTRY – Emmanuel United Church of Christ

We received the following thank you; 'Dear Edwards, To all the Saints in Jesus Christ: Thank You! Your generous donation to the Shepherd's Pantry was extravagant and unexpected and enough to feed all of our clients for the month. You are a blessing to us.' Peace, Rev. George Miller

Please Keep In Your Prayers:

Due to privacy issues we no longer publish names on the website version. Please contact Brian Dugan with any questions or concerns. If you are hospitalized and would like a visit from an Edwards caregiver, please let Brian Dugan, our Caregiver Coordinator know, at 563-275-8520. Due to hospital privacy rules and hospital staffing shortages, we don't always hear from the hospitals in a timely manner. Thanks

If you are hospitalized and would like a visit from a Pastor or an Edwards UCC caregiver, please let Brian Dugan, our Caregiver Coordinator know, at 563-275-8520. Due to hospital privacy rules and hospital staffing shortages, we don't always hear from the hospitals in a timely manner. Thanks.

Mission & Learning Opportunities:

ADVENT FOR OTHERS

The Social Justice Board invites you to reverse your Advent Calendar this year. The idea is very simple- it is better to give than to receive. A typical advent calendar is used to celebrate the coming of Christmas and help you (and/or your child) count down the days until Christmas. It can often include a small toy/gift for each day. With the *reverse* advent calendar you give to someone *else* and celebrate an **Advent for Others**. Each day you add an item to the box and on Christmas Eve you have a box to donate to a charity. On December 31st bring the **Advent for Others** Box or Bag to church. We will make sure it goes to somebody in need, Winnie's Place or the Food Pantries.

This is the perfect chance to donate the non-expired food you know you won't eat, that pair of gently used or new pants that have never been worn, or that game or toy you never play with anymore.

CAN YOU HELP WITH OUR 2017 BUDGET STATUS?

As you may remember, the congregation passed a deficit budget for 2017 last January, with the hopes that some of that deficit could be made up by yearend. We are still experiencing that deficit, and are currently running very tight on monthly cash flow. We ask for your help in closing the gap if you are at all able. If you are in a position to either pay ahead on your 2017 pledge, or consider an additional operating budget gift this year, it would be especially helpful. Please contact Woody Perkins, Treasurer, if you have any questions. Thank you for ALL your gifts to Edwards, both tangible and intangible!

THE ALL MY RELATIVES AWARD IS RETURNING

The Social Justice Board is Looking for Nominations! Due Date: January 7th, 2018

In 2009, the board established the "***ALL MY RELATIVES***" annual award to be presented to an individual or group of individuals within our church community whose activities embody social justice mission.

"To empower the members of Edwards United Church of Christ to follow the challenge and example of Jesus, proclaiming and implementing justice through education and providing the lens through which we can understand Christian witness in our church, our community, and the world."

The Social Justice Board is interested in honoring activities which advance Jesus' teaching of God's Kingdom here on earth. Nomination forms are available on the Social Justice Bulletin Board, in the Secretary's office or in [the Edwards online Library](#)

Any Questions or concerns please contact the Social Justice Board chairperson, Julie Henke.

SAVE THE DATE - ANNUAL MEETING - JANUARY 28th

Please save the date for the Annual Meeting of Edwards Congregational United Church of Christ. We will have a potluck right after the Sunday morning worship, and the annual meeting will start right after the potluck at 12:15p.m. All are welcome and we hope to see you there!

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God's Love Colors Everything



The United Church Board for Ministerial Assistance presents this certificate with sincere thanksgiving to



Edwards Congregational Church
United Church of Christ
Davenport, Iowa

For its generous and faithful support of the 2016 Christmas Fund
with gifts totaling \$742

Brian R. Bodager
President and CEO
The Pension Boards—United Church of Christ, Inc.

The Rev. Krista L. Betz
Director, Ministerial Assistance
The Pension Boards—United Church of Christ, Inc.