



Edwards Editor

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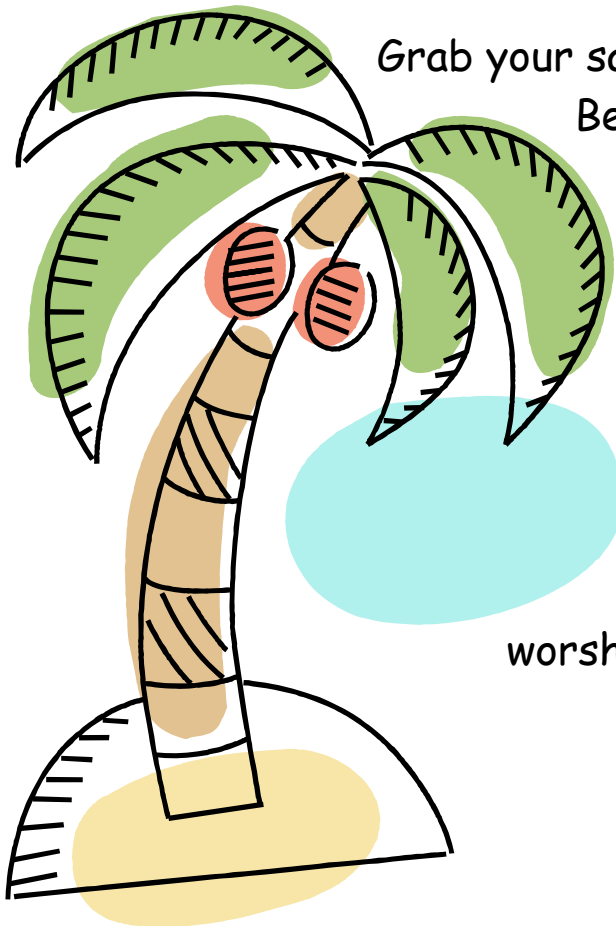
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July 2008

Articles for next issue due by Noon, Friday, 7/11/08

Submitted items are subject to editing.

BAXTER BEACH SUNDAY



Grab your sandals and your beach towel for Baxter Beach Sunday on July 13.

The Worship Board is hosting a beach party during Sunday worship and you're all invited!

No sun-block needed, since we'll be inside, but be prepared for a festive and fun worship service.



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From Our Pastor's Desk...

Lately, I've been reading a book that my mother gave me for my birthday - *Little Heathens: Hard Times and High Spirits on an Iowa Farm during the Great Depression* by Mildred Armstrong Kalish. It's a wonderful, child's eye view of farm life (just outside Garrison, Iowa) in the 1930's.

It is full of the wisdom of that time, as well as the cheerful determination to "make do" in tough times. Thrift is an over-riding quality that comes through in almost every chapter. They re-used everything (paper bags, glass jars, bacon fat and even egg shells). They made their own - most of their clothing and even marshmallows from scratch! They never wasted anything - not even the dishwater used to wash up after meals! While this family never went hungry, they had to find ways to make everything stretch just a little farther than they thought it could. And no one thought it was unusual, because everyone was doing it together.

As I have been reading this charming book, I have also been reflecting on our life today, nearly 80 years later. Since the Depression, we have lived in a time of amazing abundance and affluence. We have expectations for a standard of living that few people share around the world. We consistently buy what we do not need and throw away more than any other nation. We are collectors of "stuff", whatever our "stuff" may be (me? I collect books and fabric - it makes for lots of "stuff" to store).

Today, we face rising prices at the gas pump, at the grocery store, at the mall, and just about everywhere we turn. There is lots of anxiety and fear about what will happen next. Some people say gas prices will continue to climb, others say they will come back down. Some people say we are headed for hard times, others are more optimistic. Who knows?

What I do know is that we can all take some lessons from those farm folk who survived the Great Depression. They relied on each other, establishing and nurturing strong communities. They made everything last as long as possible. They walked instead of driving. They shared what they had with others. They found fun in the simple things like playing cards with the neighbors or sharing a picnic with family. Every little bit made a difference, and everyone pitched in.

For many in those times, faith was the rock that anchored life. Then, and today, our faith teaches us to take the long view, to hold fast, to trust God, to keep on keeping on, and to give thanks with all our hearts.

The flood waters may rise, the economy may struggle, our personal finances may feel shaky, but - in the end - God will continue to be God, and we will continue to be blessed by God's grace and love.

July Scriptures

July 6:

Genesis 24:34-38, 42-49, 59-67
Psalm 45:10-17
Romans 7:15-25a
Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30

July 13:

Genesis 25:10-34
Psalm 119:105-112
Romans 8:1-11
Matthew 13:1-9,18-23

July 20:

Genesis 28:10-19a
Psalm 139:1-12, 23-24
Romans 8:12-25
Matt 13:24-30,36-43

July 27:

Genesis 29:15-28
Psalm 105:1-11, 45b
Romans 8:26-39
Matt 13:31-33,44-52



July Music

July 6th: Kaela Swarts, French horn and
Chris Zippe, alto saxophone
July 13th: Promised Land, men's quartet
July 20th: Bonnie Walling, zither; Jean Norton,
soprano and Lyle Stratton, guitar
July 27th: Carolina Warren-Collison, vocal solo



Contemporary Worship

Join us on July 20th for Contemporary Worship with communion at 5:30, followed by a potluck supper. The band will lead our singing, and we will lift our hearts in prayer and praise. Come and see!



A Circle of Trust

An ongoing conversation about race and racism is continuing on the second Sunday of each month, after worship in the library. Join us on July 13, for an opportunity to speak honestly, to ask the hard questions, and to share experiences and stories, all in a spirit of love and respect. This month we will talk about the stereotypes that divide us, and how we can work to overcome them. Join us for this important and Sacred Conversation.

Communion Server Class

Calling all those interested in serving communion . . . Katherine will be leading a communion server training on Sunday, July 20 directly after church. Along with the Worship Board, you will learn the different ways communion is served and be able to participate in serving others in our church family. If interested, sign up on the tear-off sheet in the bulletin.



You're Invited!

Barbara Ellen Koenig (Byorum) will be ordained to the Christian ministry on July 13th at 3:00 pm at Faith United Church of Christ, 1630 W. 38th St., Davenport. A meal will follow the service. Please call Faith UCC at 391-5726 to RSVP for dinner.



Youth Mission Trip

The summer is here and so too is the 2008 Youth Mission trip. On July 24th, the youth will be joining other youth of the United Church of Christ from all over the country at the National Youth Event at the University of Tennessee in Knoxville, TN. It will be a great time of projects, workshops and just plain fun.

After their return on July 28th, they will begin planning for the August 3rd worship service, which they will be leading. Save this date on your calendar. You don't want to miss our youth sharing their stories of this incredible event.

Summer Camp at Pilgrim Heights!

Make church camp a part of your children's memories. Whether they are only ready for an overnight away from home or eager for a week of camping, Pilgrim Heights has a program just right for any child. Stop by the Summer Camp display in Baxter Hall for more information. Let this year be your children's year to build Pilgrim Heights memories!



Free Rice

The **FreeRice** computer game is set up in Baxter Hall each Sunday after church. Players answer vocabulary questions and for every right answer 20 grains of rice are donated to impoverished areas around the world. So far we have donated over 20,000 grains of rice! One cup of rice is about 7,000 grains. Our goal is to reach 100 cups of rice or 700,000 grains by Homecoming Sunday in September! Stop by the **FreeRice** table after worship or play at home (**FreeRice.com**) and bring in your numbers to be counted in our total.



Kids-in-Mission

Our next East Moline Meal Site supper will be on Thursday, July 24th. Meet at church at 4:15 to prepare supper. We will leave church at 5:20 to travel to the meal site and return to church by 7:00. Parents are welcome to

come with their children. For more information, call Susan Chesley @ 359-0331.



Women's Night Out

Join us Thursday, July 19th at 6:00 pm at The Olive Garden on W. Kimberly Road for fun, food and fellowship!



Book Club



The next meeting will be July 22, 2008 at 6:30 in the NorthPark Mall Food Court. We will be reading "After Long Silence" by Helen Freemont. This book is a true story about a woman who was raised Catholic but discovers after she is grown that her parents were both Jewish and in the Holocaust. Please join us! Any questions call Cathy Wetzel or Ruth Hefferman.

Around Our Church . . .

Financial Update

At the Annual Meeting in January, we adopted a deficit budget, trusting that we would step out in faith and make up the difference. To date, that has happened! The financial reports, as of the beginning of June, show the following good news:

Total Income (Jan-May)	\$113,358
Total Expenses (Jan-May)	109,657
Net Income	3,701

As we enter the summer months, and you are traveling on vacation, please continue to keep your church pledge up to date. Each gift makes a difference, and the expenses of the church continue through the summer months!

A New Use for the Building

Beginning in August, Edwards will become home for a small AI-Anon Meeting. They will meet in the Library/Parlor on Thursday evenings at 6:30. If you are in the building at that time, please be considerate of their need for privacy.



Keys, Keys, Keys



Lately, there have been a number of instances when the church building has been left unlocked overnight, including times when the north door has been left standing wide open. Obviously, this is a deep concern for the staff who come in early in the morning, or who may be here late at night (thinking that the building is locked). Luckily, the only thing that has been found missing is some cash from the Weekday Program office.

Currently a large number of keys have been issued to members of the congregation, who may (or may not) continue to need them, and we do not have a current record of who has a key. So, the Trustees and the Church Council have decided that it is time to re-key the outside doors, which will happen sometime this summer.

If you currently have a key, and would like to be issued a new one when the doors are re-keyed, please let Kathy Bowerman know as soon as possible. Meanwhile, if you are the last person in the building, please check to make sure that all the doors are locked before you leave! Your help is appreciated!

Keep In Our Prayers

- ✘ **Gen Bainter**, grieving the death of her daughter, Mary
- ✘ **Pat Baxter-Rebel**, finishing radiation
- ✘ **Nancy Bolyard**, recovering from surgery
- ✘ **Sacha Boon**, undergoing tests for a seizure disorder
- ✘ **Melissa King**, continuing medical tests
- ✘ **Paul Petherick**, recovering from knee replacement surgery
- ✘ **Sandi Russell**, continuing chemotherapy
- ✘ **Marty Schlabach**, recovering from a head injury
- ✘ **Nancy Stenger**, preparing for heart surgery
- ✘ **Lyle and Nolan Stratton**, grieving Carol's death
- ✘ **Dave VanDerKamp**, recovering from a broken leg
- ✘ **Helen West**, at home with mono
- ✘ In Care Facilities: **Dow and Rose Marie Edgerton, Elvira Long, Betty Murray and Virginia Seifert.**



Carol Stratton ~

A Life Lived With Faith

On June 30th Carol lost her battle with breast cancer. We give thanks for her strength, her courage and her faith through this long struggle. Our prayers are with Lyle and Nolan during this difficult time. Lyle will continue on a leave of absence for the immediate future. Please direct all questions to the church office.

A Change in Staffing

After two years as our Youth Minister, Sue Harrington is stepping down in order to focus on her work with homeless veterans at John Lewis. She will lead our youth as they travel to the National Youth Event at the University of Tennessee this month, and finish her work with us in early August. We will miss her leadership! It takes a special gift to work with youth, and Sue has led them with a grace. Watch for a date early in August when we can throw a party and celebrate her ministry!

IF YOU KNOW OF SOMEONE WHO WOULD BE GOOD FOR OUR YOUTH . . . HAVE THEM CALL KATHERINE! IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO CONSIDER THE POSITION . . . CALL KATHERINE!

Birthday Celebration

This July, Joyce Paustian will be celebrating a milestone birthday and turning 50!! Where did all those years go??? Since she has very little family in this area other than her wonderful Mom Nelda, she would like to invite her Edwards Church family to celebrate with her.

WHEN: Sunday, July 27th, 4 pm to 8 pm
WHERE: Phil & Larry's Saloon
(upstairs party room)
4811 North Brady St
(in Walnut Center), Davenport

Please stop by if you can. There will be food & drinks provided, and of course, cake, but please no gifts. Your friendship over the years has been the best gift of all!



Thank You, Thank You, Thank You !!

Being involved as an interim for several years, I'd not had an opportunity to help with supply preaching at Edwards. When it was announced at a Worship Board meeting that pulpit supply would be needed on May 25, I immediately agreed.

When I got home and was writing the date on our calendar, I realized that it would be the day before the 40th Anniversary of my ordination. I didn't, however, consider that anyone other than Marilyn and I would be aware of that.

It was a very pleasant surprise when Katherine invited everyone to join in celebrating this anniversary. Edwards and the people of Edwards have become very special to Marilyn and me, and I appreciate having this significant time in my life recognized by Edwards. Thank you for the cake and to all who had a part in making this celebration possible. -Bob Hamilton

Thank you to **EVERYONE** who donated food and their time to our Vacation Bible School. Thanks to **YOU** it was a HUGE success!!

Thank you to **Steve Chesley**, and **Brian Dugan** for planning music for the Friends In Faith Band in June.

Thank you for your generous donation of boys clothing, bedding, blankets, shampoo and conditioner. We are always in need of all of these items. Thanks again for your thoughtfulness. The Staff at Winnie's Place.

THANK YOU to the wonderful gifts of music and dance as special anthems in June: **The Liturgical Dancers with Kathy Lafrenz** as director, **Brad Miller and Mary Beth Dircks**, piano duet, **Henry McCarrel**, vocal solo, **The Friends In Faith Band**, and **Ben Nabb**, saxophone solo.

Thank you to **Carol Mahan** and **Audrey Dugan** for very necessary and helpful continuing assistance organizing the music room, and to **Suzanne Benson** for planning music for the fall.

To the June Editor assemblers - **Geri Dulaney**, **Sue & Curly Curl**, **Evona Petherick** and **Joyce Swartz**



Local Mission News . . .

THE WOMEN & CHILDRENS SHELTERS ARE GRATEFUL . . .

For your continued donations which help to provide a new life for QCA women and children in crisis.

Winnie's Place provides meals in a shared dining room and temporary housing for 10 women and their children at a time. Shelter needs include basic food items for meal preparation, bedding, towels, and personal grooming items. Basic furniture and household items are needed to help these women when they are ready to start a new life in a place of their own.

Collection boxes are in the narthex under the name tag board. **Pick-up of furniture or larger items is now available** through the agency. For more

information call Marilyn Hamilton (563) 386-1958 or any member of the Mission Board.

SPECIAL NEEDS this month: Egg Noodles, Zip-Lock Bags (Qt. & Gal.), Sugar, Garbage Bags (13 gal. & 30 gal.), Brown Sugar, Diapers (Sizes 3, 4, & 5), Crushed Pineapple, any Canned Fruit, Vegetable Oil

Wal-Mart, Fareway, and HyVee gift cards can be used for needs such as milk, cheese, waterproof mattress pads, furnace filters, and bus tokens / tickets for IA, IL buses.

Two sets of Farberware cooking pans are requested for meal preparation. This would provide sturdy utensils to withstand the heavy usage in preparing so many meals every day. Farberware is recommended rather than Teflon or lighter weight metals.

Need Health Insurance?

Hawk-I Health Insurance is a program for uninsured children that provides low or no-cost health care coverage to children in working families. A family of four can earn \$50,000 a year and still be eligible for Hawk-I Health! Children must be under 19 years old, uninsured, ineligible for Medicaid, a citizen or a lawfully admitted resident of the state of Iowa, and meet the income guidelines. Applications and information are available at the church office. If you don't need this, perhaps someone you know could benefit from this program.



Hopeful Attention

From "And Indeed It Is Very Good - A Pastoral Letter on Faith and Environment: Living in Community with God's Creation." United Church of Christ theological statement, April 8, 2008, <http://www.ucc.org/earthcare/>

"Sustained by the Spirit filling our lives with gentle strength, our church has a faith and hope to understand why creation cries. We possess a reservoir of resources and creativity to respond with healing practices: socially, economically, environmentally, culturally, and in our ecumenical and interfaith partnerships."

"Why does creation cry? Creation cries because neighborhoods populated by racial minorities and the poor continue to be the resting places for commercial hazardous waste sites, affecting health and quality of life. Creation cries as alarming rates of green house gas emissions in the earth's atmosphere result in global warming and its associated climate changes."

"There are many ways to address eco-social injustices such as environmental racism and climate change. We respond moving forward as good stewards in many ways. We are called as individuals, churches and communities. For some, interests may lie with energy conservation, prompting recycling, buying energy efficient appliances, weatherizing homes (churches or businesses, etc.), carpooling or using mass transportation, decreasing water usage and restoring watersheds, learning about organic and sustainable agriculture, replacing light bulbs with compact fluorescent bulbs, laundering with cold water, unplugging appliances not in use, decreasing thermostat temperature in the winter and increasing it in the summer. We are called to face the environmental challenges with a deep sense of urgency and hopeful attention."

Members and friends of Edwards congregation are responding to eco-injustices with hopeful attention—

- ✓ Re-usable food pantry grocery bags
- ✓ Vacation Bible School Curriculum: "Taking care of God's wondrous creation and each other, too!"
- ✓ Church kitchen 'real plates, cups, glasses' no disposable Styrofoam cups, plates, etc.
- ✓ Replacing incandescent lights with Energy Star compact florescent lights
- ✓ Purchase 'Fair Trade' coffee and SERRV* products. (Available in the Narthex)
*SERRV International is an independent nonprofit alternative trade and development organization which promotes the social and economic progress of people in developing regions of the world by purchasing and marketing their crafts in a just and direct manner.

Living in community with God and Creation — Can We Do More? Throughout the coming months, the Social Justice Board will sponsor opportunities to share additional eco-stewardship ideas and resources as individuals, churches and communities by hosting forums, newsletter articles, and webpage updates.

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

	July 6	July 13	July 20	July 27
Preacher	Becky David	Katherine Mulhern	Katherine Mulhern	
Chancel Set-up	Chris Zippe Amanda Loughead	Deena & Brad Miller	Audrey & Brian Dugan	Pat Cresap
Scripture Reader	Tom Kenneke	Sally Egy	Bob Riedesel	Dick Lafrenz
Visitor Guides	Membership Board	Membership Board	Membership Board	Membership Board
Nursery 10:15 am	Kenneke Family			
Coffee Hour Hosts - AM		Dye/Strzepak Family		
Greeters	Ruth Hefferman Dee Hillyer Ardis Kasper	Dick Dulaney Vonnice King Cathy Loughead Bob King	Chris Kenneke Teresa King Amanda Loughead Chris Medina	Terry McGee Kay McGee Don Miller Gilly Miller
Ushers	Tim Mandell Terry McGee Steve Knocke Tom Kenneke	Mary Hein Sally Egy Pam Edmond Clyde Durrah	Dick Dulaney Curly Curl Judy Collins Olive Gallaher	Eric Crawford Barb Bleedorn Bob Anderson Lucas Zippe
Sound System				
Lock-up	Bob Williams	Michael Fessler	Margaret Wilber	
Special Music	Kaela Swarts Chris Zippe	Promised Land	Bonnie Walling, Jean	Carolina Warren-Collison

JULY 2008						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
29 10:15 AM Food Pantry Sunday at Worship 10:15 AM Worship	30	1	2	3	4 OFFICE CLOSED	5
6 10:15 AM Worship	7	8 6:30 PM All-Boards 7:30 PM Council Meeting	9 9:00 AM Girl Scout Event in Baxter Hall	10	11 12:00 PM NEWSLETTER ITEMS DUE	12
13 10:15 AM Worship	14 9:00 AM Girl Scout Event in Baxter Hall	15 5:30 PM Friends in Faith Rehearsal 7:00 PM Caregivers Meeting	16	17	18 Time TBA - Healing Circle	19 Time TBA - Healing Circle
20 10:15 AM Worship 1:00 PM Amanda Loughhead Presentation 4:00 PM Friends in Faith Rehearsal 5:30 PM Evening Worship & Potluck	21	22	23	24 4:15 PM Kids-in-Mission	25	26 BIX 7
27 10:15 AM Food Pantry Sunday at Worship 10:15 AM Worship	28	29	30	31	1	2

July Birthdays

2	Joyce Paustian	8	Marty Beck	16	Carolina Warren-Collison	25	Curly Curl
2	Troy Moore	9	Jeri Revels	16	Jessica Buzzell	26	Marty Schlabach
3	Mike Fleener	11	Donald Fryer	17	Terry McGee	27	Marin Tesch
5	Chris Kenneke	11	David Lohmann	18	Paul Petherick	28	Jean Neavor
5	Clyde Durrah	11	Cathy Anne Wetzel	19	Bill Revels	28	Brian Dugan
5	Madeline Tesch	13	Mary Hein	20	Don Wiehle		
6	John Kennefick, Jr.	14	Lou Wren	20	Jack King		
6	Evan Crawford	15	Vonnie King	21	James Stuhler		
6	Grace Gephart	15	D Slack	23	Kelsey Sedgwick		
7	Matthew Randall	16	Ned Walling	24	Carolyn Walters		
8	Dick Werner	16	Rhonda Fuller	24	Dick Dulaney		

EDWARDS CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST



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July 2008

REMINDER ~ Food

Pantry Sunday is

July 27th

Need in the QCA is
great - so fill a bag to
ease hunger!



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

EDWARDS CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Katherine A. Mulhern, Pastor
Rev. Jean Norton, Minister of Music
Susan Chesley, Minister of Christian Education
Sue Harrington, Youth Minister
Meki Falborg, Weekday Programs, Director

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