

U-C-C See What's Up

Edgerton Congregational United Church of Christ March – 2015



10:30 AM
Sunday Worship Service
9:30 AM
Sunday School

March 1	10:30 AM Worship Service 9:30 AM Sunday School Communion
March 8	10:30 AM Worship Service 9:30 AM Sunday School
March 15	10:30 AM Worship Service 9:30 AM Sunday School
March 22	10:30 AM Worship Service 9:30 AM Sunday School
March 29	10:30 AM Worship 9:30 AM Sunday School Palm Sunday



*February 1-Church
Cancelled
Snow Storm*
February 8-55
February 15-55
February 22-56



No Anniversaries Listed this month.

Best Wishes!

HAPPY MARCH BIRTHDAYS!



Caroline Laughridge-March 1
Miles Marzofka-Sieracki-March 3
David Kim-March 5
Eric Kim-March 5
Sophia Granger-March 9
Aaron Luchsinger-March 12
Mary Hays-March 12
Ruth Webb-March 19
Cammi Gould-March 22
Paige Ninmer-March 29
Linda Casper-March 29
Nash Foskett-March 30

Have a special day!

UCC ACTIVITIES

Meals on Wheels -It's the church's turn to deliver Meals on Wheels February 9 through March 8. This is important service to deliver meals within the Edgerton community. Volunteering for Meals on Wheels typically takes about an hour, with delivery to approximately ten people. If you are interested in helping, please contact Julie Norland.

March 9th, Monday-Trustees Meeting-6:15 PM

Diacontate Meeting-6:30 PM

Council Meeting-7:00 PM

Please take note: UCC meeting night has been changed back to Mondays. Mark your calendars. Thank you.

Lenten Book Soup & Study

On Wednesday, February 25th we began our Lenten study book, "Give It Up" by Dottie Escobedo-Frank. We will meet each Wednesday through April 1st. This study will not be for the faint of heart as the author takes us through current day distractions and asks us to set each one aside for one week. Chapters include... "Mirror, Mirror"; "Social Butterfly"; "Talk, Talk, Talk!"; "Entertainment by Tube"; "Hello? Anyone There?"; "Deep Silence" and "The Meet-Up." You are invited to come for soup from 6:00pm to 6:30pm, or just to the study from 6:30pm – 7:30pm. Books are \$10 if you buy a copy from the church. The sign-up sheet for the soup/bread/dessert meals is located in the back of the sanctuary.



UCC FAMILY GAME NIGHT

When: Saturday, March 28th, 2015 Time: 4:00 PM

Snacks will be provided. Bring your own beverages.

Everyone is welcome. Fun for all!

2015 MARCH

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 9:30 A.M. Sunday School 10:30 A.M. Worship Service Communion Caroline Laughridge	2	3	4 Lenten Book Soup & Study 6:00 PM-Soup 6:30-7:30 PM- Study	5	6 World Day of Prayer	7
8 9:30 A.M. Sunday School 10:30 A.M. Worship Service	9 Trustees Mtg 6:15 PM Diaconate Mtg 6:30 PM Council Mtg 7:00 PM Please Note: Meeting night back to Mondays Sophia Granger	10	11 Lenten Book Soup & Study 6:00 PM-Soup 6:30PM-7:30PM- Study	12	13	14
15 9:30 A.M. Sunday School 10:30 A.M. Worship Service <i>One Great Hour of Sharing</i>	16	17	18 Lenten Book Soup & Study 6:00 PM-Soup 6:30-7:30 PM- Study	19	20 <i>First Day of Spring</i>	21
22 9:30 A.M. Sunday School 10:30 A.M. Worship Service Cammi Gould	23	24	25 Lenten Book Soup & Study 6:00 PM-Soup 6:30-7:30 PM- Study	26	27	28 UCC Game Night- 4:00 PM Everyone Welcome!
29 9:30 A.M. Sunday School 10:30 A.M. Worship Service Palm Sunday Paige Nimmer Linda Casper	30 Nash Foskett	31				



***"So let us not grow weary in doing what is right, for we will reap at harvest time if we do not give up. Let us work for the good of all, especially in the family of faith."
(Galatians 6:9-10)***

Dear friends in Christ,

It is 5 degrees and blustery, and we are enduring the usual Wisconsin winter trudge. Yet, I have fond memories of my father's mid-winter gardening instincts, reflecting his earthy spirituality. This time of the year he would study the "seed" catalogue and draw up his plan for the summer growing season. Pop tediously calculated and plotted out this garden-to-be and then, in an expression of joyful anticipation, mailed in the annual Burpee Company seed order. In dormant times God calls us to prepare to plant seeds. The Apostle Paul reminds us that if we resist fatigue - if we reject despair, cynicism and endless bemoaning - our energy can point to a new harvest. A re-imagined Church!

Today I share with you a new vision for our Conference Staffing. Four years ago, we made significant cuts in our "field staff" - downsizing from four Association Ministers to two Associate Conference Ministers (North and South). It is abundantly clear to me that this paradigm is unsustainable if we are to prioritize the care, connection and resourcing needs of our clergy and congregations. I have proposed, and the Board of Directors has enthusiastically endorsed, a plan for three Associate Conference Ministers in addition to the fieldwork I plan to take on. Here are some details:

Northwest Association - We will call a new Associate Conference Minister for the Northwest (60 congregations). Additionally, this person will be responsible for the development of small-church ministry models and strategies, as well as spiritual formation resources for the entire Conference.

Southwest Association - I have asked Rev. Joanne Thomson to serve as the Associate Conference Minister in the Southwest (50 congregations). She will also continue to develop and facilitate our *Communities of Practice* program and consult with our staff on issues related to congregational/clergy wellness and growth.

Northeast and Southeast Associations - I am referring to these Associations together as the *Eastern Corridor*. We intend to call a new Associate Conference Minister for this region, which consists of 112 congregations, though is relatively compact in geography. Since this ACM will serve two Associations, he/she will have fewer additional responsibilities, and I will assist this region with congregational care and transitional support as needed.

I'm thrilled to share the news that we have a fine Search Team in place, and we are prepared to launch these nation-wide searches for the Northwest and Eastern Corridor on March 1. We invite any clergy in good UCC standing, with pastoral experience in the local church, to consider submitting a profile. Applications will be received from March 1 to May 1. These Associate Conference Ministers will be expected to live within the region they serve.

Rest assured, we are formalizing a plan of leadership for the important *Church Development and Renewal* work that Joanne Thomson has so diligently guided. We are exploring some new models for carrying out the crucial need for coaching and resourcing local clergy and congregations on organizational leadership, strategic planning and spiritual vitality.

Finally, let me offer a quick word about my Installation. Since we convened as a Conference in November for the purpose of extending the Conference Minister Call, I have proposed to the Board that we fold an Installation Celebration into our Annual Meeting in June. My hope is to share in a wider *Litany of Celebration and Thanksgiving*, recognizing the faithful interim work of Rev. Kent Ulery and Rev. Becky Johnston, and potentially announcing our newly called Associate Conference Ministers. In the meantime - for the "ecclesiastically minded" among us - the Board of Directors and Conference Staff will share in a simple Installation Ceremony and luncheon at the Trost Center on March 2. This will be a wonderful opportunity to engage the Board (responsible for our Mission) and the Staff (responsible for our Ministry) in valuable time together.

Preparing, with you, to sow bountiful seeds of faith!

Blessings,

Franz

March 6, 2015



Most holy God, the source of all good desires, all right judgments, and all just works: Give us, your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, so that our minds may be fixed on the doing of your will, and that we, being delivered from the fear of all enemies, may live in peace and quietness; through the mercies of Christ Jesus our Savior.

Amen.