



UCC - See What's Up!

Edgerton Congregational United Church
of Christ Official Newsletter

(608)884-6514

officeeccucc@gmail.com

January 2020

What's Happening This Month

January 5 9:30 a.m. Sunday School

10:30 a.m. Worship

**Communion Sunday*

January 12 9:30 a.m. Sunday School
10:30 a.m. Worship

January 13 6:00 p.m. Christian Education team
6:15 p.m. Trustees Meeting
7:00 p.m. Church Council

January 19 9:30 a.m. Sunday School
10:30 a.m. Worship

January 20 7-9 p.m. Guitar League

January 26 9:30 a.m. Sunday School
10:30 a.m. Worship

After worship: Annual Meeting and Potluck

Deacon Providing Elements: Mary Lou Behring

Newsletter Deadline: January 23, 2 p.m.

A big "Thank You!" to George Lynts, Julie Norland, Norma Thompson, Connie Wiersma and Tracy Tronnes for being our December Liturgists! Also a big thank you to everyone who helped make our Christmas Pageant and pancake breakfast so special.

Pastor's Notes

One of the Christmas traditions I have enjoyed the past few years is giving a charitable gift in someone's name. This year, through Heifer

Confucius credited with the saying, “If your plan is for one year, plant rice. If your plan is for ten years plant trees. If your plan is for one hundred years, educate children”. I decided that I had enough hope for ten years and thus we planted trees. At the beginning of this new year, how much hope do we have as a church community? What does this hope empower us to do?

At the December Council meeting I shared that in 2018 in the United Church of Christ, eighty-five congregations closed their doors. Half of the congregations within the UCC worship with fifty people or less. The larger congregations seem to be holding their own but the fifty or less congregations, without a solid sense of mission are vulnerable. As we talked about this we began to wonder, what exactly is mission? When we purchase items for Gifts for Kids or bring in food for the food pantry at Edgerton Outreach, isn't that mission? Mission is also having a clear sense of worship style. It could be advertising our Sunday school program as welcoming for LGBTQ families. It could be bringing in an immigration lawyer and offering a series on what just immigration practices look like. It could even be putting solar panels on our roof. Mission is the Gospel reaching out for the care of neighbor, creation, and children – or the most vulnerable among us. How we do this at Edgerton Congregational is worthy of several conversations.

We are in a new reformation. In the same way that the church reformed dramatically five hundred years ago, it is reforming today. It will be less institutional, more movement instead of policy. But there

Tradition. Richard Rohr has said that with each rebirth, Christianity becomes more inclusive and universal, as it was always meant to be.

Maybe your New Year's resolution can be attending an Adult Education class or a congregational meeting where can share our different perspectives on mission.

Blessings and Happy New Year!

Pastor Lori



January 26th – After Worship – Annual Meeting and Potluck!

It is time for the Annual Meeting! This is an important time to approve the

budget – which helps clarify our priorities for the coming year. We will also take time to celebrate what has been accomplished and some of our hopes and dreams for the future. The Annual Meeting will take place after worship and will include a pot-luck. Got a recipe book for Christmas? Show us a new favorite. Of course old favorites are good as well.

Sunday School Resumes Jan. 5!



Please take a moment to send our friends and fellow congregation members your best wishes!

Happy Birthday

January 6 Tammy Campbell
January 6 Isaac Powell Miller
January 7 Jennifer Webb
January 8 Mimi Thompson
January 15 Zoe Thompson
January 19 Rachel Rosenbaum
January 20 Derek Nimer
January 21 Mary Lou Behring

January 24 Krista Kim

Happy Anniversary

January 10 – Lukas & Kim Jensen

We received a very nice thank you letter from the family of Don Brown and the Edgerton Hospital Capital Foundation for our gift in his memory.



PLEASE NOTE: Board Reports for the Annual Meeting are due in the Church office on January 16.

Our Communications Coordinator and office assistant will be out of the office this January 8-16.

Pastor Lori will be keeping normal hours.



February 3rd – A Conversation about the Peanut Ministry

It is time for us to hear from you. We need new leadership for the peanut ministry. For so long we have depended on one group of people to lead peanuts. We thank the members of the Peanut Fellowship; Barbara Pierce, Joyce Morris, Lucy Maves and Joan Granger – especially this year with the loss of Gordy and Lucy. Let's begin a conversation about what leadership for Peanut Fellowship can be in the future.



Thank You!!

I was surprised, humbled and incredibly grateful to open my Christmas card from the congregation. Your Christmas gift to me was very generous. I hope it means we are readying ourselves for a grand adventure together in following Christ. Frederick Buechner has said that where the world's greatest need meets our greatest joy, God is calling us there. May the light of Jesus show us the way!

Pastor Lori

Please Note: This month's Council Minutes will be arriving in a separate email next week!

Edgerton Congregational United Church of Christ: No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey - you belong here.

