



UCC - See What's Up!

Edgerton Congregational United Church
of Christ Official Newsletter

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April 2020

What's Happening This Month

April 5 10:30 a.m. Worship - Facebook Live

April 10 6:30 p.m. Good Friday Service - Facebook Live

April 12 10:30 a.m. Easter Service - Facebook Live

April 13 Christian Education Meeting

Trustees Meeting

Council Meeting

April 19 10:30 a.m. Worship - Facebook Live

April 26 10:30 a.m. Worship - Facebook Live

Newsletter Deadline: Thursday, April 30 at 2 p.m.

A big "Thank You!" to Mary Lou Behring, Holly Gould, and Julie Norland for being our March Liturgists!

Pastor's Notes

Dear Friends:

Grace and Peace to you as we begin Holy Week together. One of my friends recently sent me a meme especially appropriate for today. It said, "This is the Lentiest Lent I have ever Lented". This Lent has been about so much more than giving up chocolate. We have had to be intentional in recognizing God in this wilderness of a global pandemic. Theologically we are called to celebrate life, to preserve life, and to recognize God's presence even when death comes.

Henri Nouwen said it this way. "The resurrection does not solve our problems about dying and death. It is not the happy ending to our life's struggle, nor is it the big surprise that God has kept in store for us. No, the resurrection is the expression of God's faithfulness to Jesus and to all God's children. Through the resurrection, God has said to Jesus, "You are indeed my beloved Son, and my love is everlasting," and to us God has said, "You indeed are my beloved children, and my love is everlasting."

We are God's beloved. We will get through this. We are empowered when we work to preserve life.

We will celebrate Palm Sunday Worship at 10:30 on Facebook Live. Let me know if you are in need of a computer. We have some older ones that we may get you on-line. Facebook is free.

Good Friday worship is at 6:30 also on Facebook Live.

Easter worship is at 10:30 on April 12th also on Facebook Live.

While there is sadness that we cannot be together in person, we had people from three different states worshipping with us last Sunday. Joy! As with many churches, our “attendance” is much higher than usual. We may want to keep Facebook Live after the “safer at home” mandate is over.

I come into the office each week. Please reach out if you need something or even just want to talk. I think I’m fine and then I have a dream that reminds me, these are anxious times. Would you be interested in an on-line class on Contemplative Prayer later this month? We will keep you informed!

Blessings,

Pastor Lori

Important: How are you meeting this month? Even in these strange times, the church is still functioning. Keeping our monthly meetings is an essential part of that. In alignment with the current state regulations, I am asking all members of the Continuing Education Committee, Board of Trustees, and Church Council to communicate amongst each other and set up virtual meetings for April 13. The online platform Zoom is very popular for groups working from home and would be a good resource.



*"April hath put
a spirit of youth
in everything."*

- William Shakespeare

"Stay in Your Car" Easter egg hunt! April 7th - 13th

25 Easter eggs will be stuck to the building. Families who need a brief break from home life are encouraged to drive around our building (and around and around) finding all 25 cardboard eggs.

Then email me and let me know you have found all of them, pastorecucc@gmail.com. Don't forget to look up!

Reminder from your Treasurer:

If you have a church expense to be reimbursed to you, please fill out the reimbursement form in the mailbox in the office hallway, noting

who is to be paid and the type of expense. Once complete, put it in the Treasurer box. If there is a service being performed for the church, please let me know! I check the box each week and want to make sure everyone is paid for all assistance provided in a timely manner.

Thanks for your help!



THANK YOU for donating bedding to Edgerton's Chapter of Sleep in Heavenly Peace! On February 29, SHP built 29 beds and will be making bed deliveries to families throughout March. The families are often surprised that the beds are delivered with bedding and are very thankful. Because of community support, SHP expects to build at least 50 beds in 2020.

Please Note: We are still checking the church mailbox weekly. You are welcome to send your weekly offering safely through the mail.



Thank You to all who ordered Easter flowers to adorn the sanctuary this year! You may arrange a time to pick them up after Easter or they will be lovingly cared for by Pastor Lori until we are able to be together again.

This year's flowers are in memory of: Grace & Charles Behring and Gladys & Louis W. Pike given by Mary Lou and Gary Behring, Cal and Connie Wiersma's parents given by Cal and Connie Wiersma, and David Thompson given by Zoe and Mimi Thompson. They are in honor of Cal and Connie Wiersma's grandchildren from Cal and Connie Wiersma.

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

Happy Birthday

April 1 Lori Powell

April 3 Bruce Morris

April 4 Brecken Smerchek

April 17 Michele Ninmer

April 21 Joyce Morris

Edgerton UCC Council Minutes February 10, 2020

In attendance: Connie Wiersma, Tracy Tronnes, Bruce Morris, Mary Lou Behring, Holly Gould and Pastor Lori

Connie called the meeting to order at 7:10 pm

Pastor Lori opened the meeting in prayer.

Minutes from January were approved (moved by Tracy Tronnes, seconded by Mary Lou)

Vice Moderator has been chosen by council. Holly Gould nominates Tracy Tronnes, seconded by Mary Lou. Tracy Tronnes was selected after unanimous approval.

Pastor's Report

Maryon Range passed away. Service is postponed to a later date, possibly Spring. Worship music—Karen is hoping to play the organ twice a month or one song per service. Continuing to promote congregational participation.

Ash Wednesday is at 6:30 pm Wednesday, February 26th, 2020. It will be family-friendly.

Administrative—when new committees are meeting, remember that everyone should begin with an agenda, that someone should be recording what is talked about (minutes are taken) and sent to the office after the meeting.

Old Business

Discussed how great the windows look however the question to cover them arose. Tracy is getting samples of drapes and blinds if the decision to replace old drapes is made by Trustees. Old drapes would need to be mended if they are to be re-used.

Surveys are still being collected. The feedback is coming in slowly and remains positive. Summary will follow after the due date, this Sunday February 16th.

New Business

Responsibilities of church council need to be shared. Connie secured a copy of the official list and briefly reviewed for the group.

Bruce reminded us that we need to look at the membership list, last vetted in 2017. Pastor Lori will look for an up-to-date list so we can confirm who we should be paying conference our per person fee,

(Southwest Association dues). Mary Lou found a copy from 2018 and gave to Bruce. Pastor Lori will search old computer files (from Diane era) to see if there are 2019 numbers we can update with. A letter will be drafted by the moderator to send out to people who are considered inactive. Tracy Tronnes would like to nominate Bruce Morris to fill the open Trustee position. The nomination was seconded by Mary Lou Behring. Unanimous approval of Bruce taking this role on. Holly was asked to search out possible church daycare workers due to her connection at the high school. Connie proposes a progressive dinner in the near future.

Committee Reports

Diaconate—Tammy has the elements on March 1st. Bruce wonders if wine is something to consider to have as an option on communion Sundays. Pastor Lori says there is no rule about abstaining from alcohol, it is more about your church's tradition. It would be something to consider.

Christian Education—Connie says the valentine's Sunday deliveries were a big hit! Swifhaven was already having a party and the residents of the Care Center were happy to see the kids. Teachers are needed for Sunday School. Lenten Study will meet after church starting March 1st. They will be reading *Searching for Sundays*.

Trustees—Bruce talked about the next phase of window replacement. The order would be office, office, nursery. He talked about a fundraiser which may be as simple as asking for donations. Curtains are also being discussed. He wonders if just going to Menard's might be the cheapest route because the windows are now a standard size making them less custom. The hydration station is in full operation in the kitchen. They are refillable from Woodman's. A second one is expected as a donation for the upstairs level.

Treasurer's Report—Tracy reports that Lori's pension contributions are up to date. The window and labor has been paid for. A donation was made by a church member that paid \$5000 towards the window.

Meeting adjourned at 8:12 pm.

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



Our mailing address is:

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