

# U-C-C See What's Up

Edgerton Congregational United Church of Christ  
October – 2020

\*\*\*\*\*



## Worship Service Schedule

### COVID-19 Update

We are conducting all worship services via Facebook Live until further notice.

To join us on Sundays, visit [facebook.com/edgertoncucc](https://www.facebook.com/edgertoncucc) or find our YouTube channel at Edgerton Congregational United Church of Christ.

God is still speaking today. Whoever you are or wherever you are on life's journey, you belong here.

## Pastor's Notes

Dear All,

For the next five weeks we will have to be intentional about seeking out peace and hope as our nation goes through the election process. We will need to hold tightly to God's promises that there is light in the darkness, and water in the desert.

Speaking of hope, on Wednesday September 23rd the leadership of the church; members of Council, members of the Board of Trustees, Board of Education and Deacons met with Rev. Lorraine Cenicerros, Associate Conference Minister for the Wisconsin Conference United Church of Christ. We talked about our hopes for the church as well as our laments. Rev. Cenicerros reminded us that not only are we living in a time of structural change for the church but that Covid-19 has brought unforeseen challenges. These challenges are also opportunities. Members were able to identify and touch some of the congregation's grief including changes the congregation experienced that go back at least seven years. After some discussion Rev. Cenicerros suggested that maybe it is time for us to start over and to do some of the work of a new church start. We have been assigned to think about what we want in a church. What two or three values are important to each of us as we think about church? **At the October 12th Council meeting we will take some time to name these values and see how they might shape our mission statement.**

In many ways this was a very hopeful meeting. Rev. Cenicerros reminded us that change is a constant. How we respond to change will determine how well we are able to identify and live out our ministry in Jesus' name. I have mentioned before that when we are on point, when a church is doing what God has called the church to do, then church meetings are not dull or tedious but rather members feel energized. Rather than dreading

church meetings we look forward to the intersection of our personal lives with the work and activity of God. God remains at our center.

And during this tumultuous political time, God is at our center. That never changes. God's love for us is real and will sustain us.

Blessings,  
Pastor Lori



October  
Birthdays

3<sup>rd</sup> Norma Thompson  
13<sup>th</sup> Ruth Wille  
14<sup>th</sup> Dave Nelson  
16<sup>th</sup> Eric Lyerla  
23<sup>rd</sup> Reece Porter

Please take a moment to wish these people the best on their birthdays.

In the next month or so, as we move towards the end of the year, the Stewardship Committee will be sending out enlistments and pledge material for your consideration. Please give prayerful thought to what you may contribute to our church through your monetary pledge and your time & talent commitments.

## October Announcements

### Our Church's Wider Mission (OCWM)

We received a thank you from the Wisconsin Conference UCC regarding our OCWM contribution for 2020. We gave \$2092 in support. This money supports the leadership of the Conference, as well as practical resources and mission. In turn, we receive support

from the Conference when needed. A good example would be Rev. Cenicerros's visit on September 23rd. The Conference is asking that we commit at the same level for 2021.

### **Worship this Sunday, October 4th to be Inside**

Given the forecast for this Sunday we have decided not to have worship in the parking lot but rather livestream Facebook Live from the sanctuary. The sanctuary can safely hold a few members as long as everyone remains masked and practices physical distance. Please bring communion elements with you as this is World Communion Sunday. If you are planning on participating through Facebook Live, bring your elements to the computer. Children's Sunday school activities will be sent home.

### **Sunday School to Go!**

In the next couple of weeks we will be sending out a Sunday school curriculum on Care of Creation. This is one of the three "loves" as identified by the United Church of Christ. There are five wonderful Bible stories reminding us of the importance of the created world. Family activities will look at ways we can be good stewards. We may be able to put part of this curriculum on-line. More news to come!

### **October 17th Fall Association Meeting and Installation of Rev. Lorraine Cenicerros (whose has been with us for over a year!)**

Please let Pastor Lori know if you are interested in attending the Fall Association Meeting on October 17th. It is from 9:00 to 11:30 AM on Zoom. There will be conversations on "Speaking the Truth in Love" based on Ephesians 4:15-16. We will talk about racial justice and how to honor each person's story or experience.

### **Church Council Meeting August 10, 2020**

Present: Pastor Lori Powell, Connie Wiersma, Tracy Tronnes, Bruce Morris and Mary Lou Behring.

Connie called the meeting to order and Tracy led us in prayer. The minutes from the July meeting were reviewed and a motion was made to accept the minutes as written by Mary Lou and Bruce seconded it. Motion passed.

MINISTERS REPORT: Lori presented a document with three ideas. A. How churches can survive during the pandemic. B. Organizational chart of church responsibilities as practiced. C. Survey/Questions for the Congregation. There are many great ideas on the survey and we plan to implement many of them.

This will be emailed out to the congregation. We will start with a worship service to be held in our parking lot on Sunday Sept. 6th. We will all bring our own communion! There was a short discussion on the expectations of a part time pastor's position.

OLD BUSINESS: Bruce mentioned that we should review the membership list at the next meeting as they are still figuring the total membership so the church can send in our dues to the conference.

NEW BUSINESS: Tammy Campbell has resigned as the custodian. She will be flexible in helping out until we can fill the position but does not want another winter to deal with. Pastor Lori came up with the idea to think about maybe dividing the job for inside/ and outside. Maybe someone would be willing to clean, but does not want to mow/shovel. After a short discussion the council thought it sounded like a possibility. Kathleen will send out e-mail and put it on face book to see if there is someone in the congregation that might be interested first.

TRUSTEES: Bruce stated that the shingles on the roof and steeple that needed repair have been taken care of. The vacuum cleaner will be repaired rather than purchasing new. There will be new window treatments purchased for our newly installed windows. This will include the nursery, offices and the fellowship hall. The next step for new windows is the south side of the sanctuary excluding the stained glass. Monies will once again be accepted to cover the expense. Elevator doors and possibly new front doors are also on the list for replacement.

TREASURES REPORT: Tracy and Connie will finalize all requirements to finish up our PPP loan to take proper measures for forgiveness. People are keeping up with their pledges during this time, but we are missing the plate income.

Tracy moved to adjourn, Bruce seconded it.

Respectfully submitted, Mary Lou Behring