





Pastor's Notes

Dear All,

The leaves have been absolutely beautiful this year. Some have said the colors have offered comfort during these unique times. November challenges us to search for beauty in different places as the earth prepares to enter into winter. In November we take the time to pause and give thanks. There will be a Thanksgiving Eve worship service on Wednesday, November 25th. It will be at 7:00. It will be on Facebook Live and uploaded to Youtube shortly afterwards as usual. If you attended camp as a child you might be familiar with the term a Vesper Service or even the more liturgical Compline Service. Both are services done in the evening as a devotional before bedtime. Our Thanksgiving Eve Service will take on the characteristics

of an evening devotional. We will prepare together to give thanks as we imagine what the winter will bring.

Thanksgiving Prayer:
Holy God, we thank you for the blessings in our lives. We are so grateful for shelter, food, and the continuity of a faith community. We cannot pretend that this year is like every other year. We have worries and anxiety as we deal with a virus that invades the peace and comfort of our lives. Move us to care for each other even if it is only by wearing the mask, checking in by cards and phone, and trusting that good days are still ahead. Help us to use our experiences this year to grow our compassion and love for those whose life experience has been very different than our own. We pray as followers of Jesus the Christ. Amen.

Blessings,
Pastor Lori





What Do We Believe?

One of the great gifts of our current leadership process is asking questions about what is important to us and what we believe. I remember as a teenager being very frustrated that the churches my friends attended gave very clear guidelines for behavior. For example, I had a friend whose church said, “no dancing”. This was a disappointing but clear rule. Another church explained why wine should never be used for communion. My church, Metamora Christian Union United Church of Christ gave no easy answers. Even though I was on the Conference Youth Ministry Team, easy answers were not to be had. In the UCC we have a statement of faith that summarizes what we tend to believe – but there is room for personal interpretation. Our beliefs come from studying the Bible with others seeking to know God better. We invite the Holy Spirit to be a part of the conversation. And we remember our own experiences of God’s activity in our lives.

The Roman Catholic Church, Episcopalians and Anglicans are high church. This means they have clear stated beliefs, liturgy and are more creedal in nature. They have traditional rituals that are

important. Low churches are non-creedal (though we have a great respect for ancient creeds), our liturgy and rituals are more fluid. Communion may look different on different Sundays. Low church traditions don’t have a book of instructions to fall back on, just the Bible story. There is a continuum and this very brief explanation may not be very satisfactory but we in the UCC are usually more low church than high church. However, if a congregation came out of the Evangelical and Reformed tradition from the 1957 merger that created the UCC, they might have more “high church” practices. The Congregational Church of Edgerton United Church of Christ is very much congregational in nature.

Below is our statement of faith. The first one written in 1957 did not use inclusive language. This one has been adapted to be more inclusive in describing God.

United Church of Christ Statement of Faith— adapted by Robert V. Moss

We believe in God, the Eternal Spirit, who is made known to us in Jesus our brother, and to whose deeds we testify:

God calls the worlds into being, creates

humankind in the divine image, and sets before us the ways of life and death.

God seeks in holy love to save all people from aimlessness and sin.

God judges all humanity and all nations by that will of righteousness declared through prophets and apostles.

In Jesus Christ, the man of Nazareth, our crucified and risen Lord, God has come to us and shared our common lot, conquering sin and death and reconciling the whole creation to its Creator.

God bestows upon us the Holy Spirit, creating and renewing the church of Jesus Christ, binding in covenant faithful people of all ages, tongues, and races.

God calls us into the church to accept the cost and joy of discipleship, to be servants in the service of the whole human family, to proclaim the gospel to all the world and resist the powers

of evil, to share in Christ's baptism and eat at his table, to join him in his passion and victory.

God promises to all who trust in the gospel forgiveness of sins and fullness of grace, courage in the struggle for justice and peace, the presence of the Holy Spirit in trial and rejoicing, and eternal life in that kingdom which has no end.

Blessing and honor, glory and power be unto God.

Amen.



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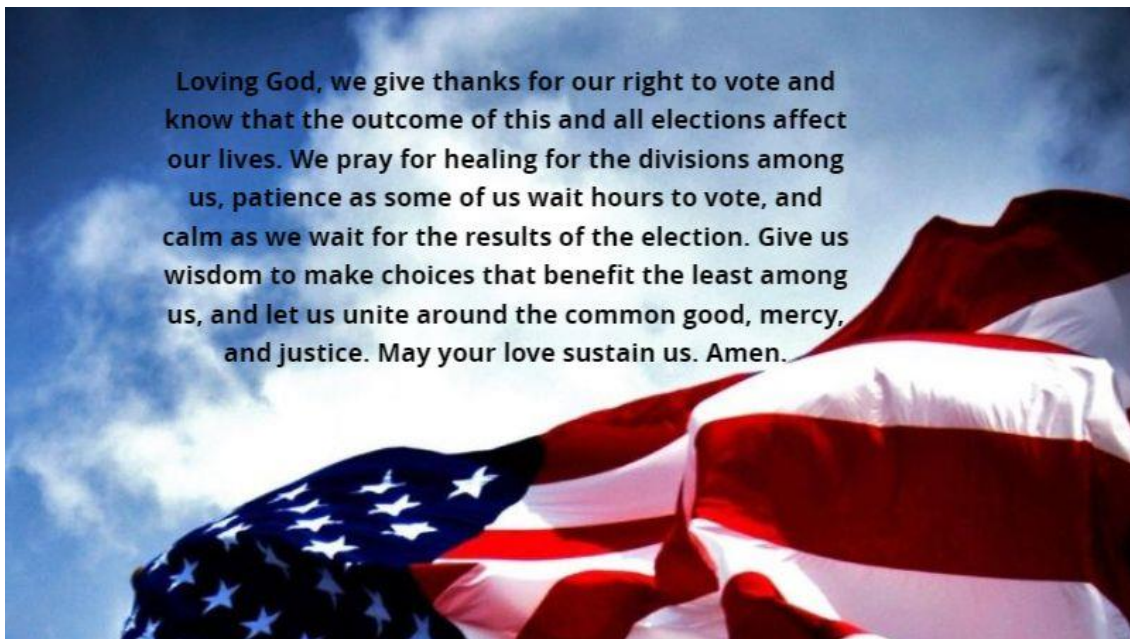
Sign up starts Monday **October 1** end Friday **December 4**
Sign up at Edgerton Outreach by calling: 608-884-9593

DONORS: Due to COVID-19 toy collection bins will be limited & NO "gift tags" will be available.
Monetary donations are being accepted via our website at EdgertonGiftsForKids.org
For the most up to date information "like" EdgertonGiftsForKids on Facebook!

We are happy to continue our support for this wonderful program that provides holiday gifts for kids around our community. Please consider contributing if you are able!



Edgerton Congregational is loving the beautiful creation all around us and inviting families to participate in a five week series on care of creation and developing environmental sustainability practices. We adore this photo of Adley Tronnes and the leaf project she made! You can arrange to pick up the weekly packets in the office, or we'd be happy to schedule a drop-off for you. We hope you join us in this educational opportunity!



Historian Wanted!

Lynn Miller is doing another class with the Wisconsin Conference United Church of Christ and one of the assignments is to look at the history of the church being attended. He has spoken with a few of you but not found all of the information he is seeking. Anyone have knowledge or know where to find knowledge of our start? Life in the 1940's? Lynn can be reached at lynnhmillere2@gmail.com or by calling (608)444-8907. What were the good old days like?



Thank you to Karen Grinder, Connie Tronnes, Krista Kim, Lynn Miller, and Isaac Powell Miller for bringing music to our worship services last month!

From all of us at ECUC...

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

November 1 Rebecca Wyman
November 4 Barbara Pierce
November 7 Richard Hartzell
November 9 Cheryl Mitchell
November 12 Connie Tronnes
November 14 Nadia Kim
November 16 Kathy McKaig
November 17 Gordon Webb
November 17 Tony Powell Miller
November 18 Renee Rosenbaum
November 19 Keira Riley
November 20 Ryan Lyerla
November 28 Neva Granger



Happy Anniversary

11/13 - CAL AND CONNIE
WIERSMA



ECUCC Church Council Meeting September 14, 2020

1. Meeting called to order by Connie Wiersma at 7:08 pm. In attendance: Holly Gould, Connie Wiersma, Tracy Tronnes and Eric Kim (subbing for Bruce) and Lori Powell
2. Pastor Lori led us in prayer.
3. Minutes were amended and approved from August. Holly Gould made the motion, seconded Tracy Tronnes.
4. Pastor Lori gave Pastoral Report
 - a. Administration:
 - i. plans on attending SAWC Fall meeting Oct 17 over Zoom.
 - ii. Plans to be part of the Faith Community in Rock County
 - iii. Reports about meeting with church leaders and following up with members who haven't responded
 - iv. Guitar league to meet over zoom on Sept 17th
 - b. Worship:
 - i. Regrets not preparing for windy weather on Sept 13th for parking lot sermon.
 - ii. Lori re-did the sermon for people to listen to because the wi-fi went out about halfway through the service.
 - iii. Lori proposes that she be re-paid for the microphone she purchased for the outdoor service. Would like to use it again next week, assuming the weather cooperates.
 - c. Pastoral Care: Lori has been glad to have the survey as a talking point for making phone calls.
 - d. Christian Ed:
 - i. Kiera Riley is being asked to lead "Kids in Krafts" over zoom at traditional Sunday school time. She has committed to 4 Sundays.
 - ii. Adult Bible Study idea: Francis Collins to put out videos for why we can believe in the bible by looking at science. Connie reminds us that the church used the book about DNA and the bible about 10-15 years ago.
5. Old Business
 - a. Joint Committee meeting on September 23 with goal to find direction and common thoughts on the following framework from last year's survey.
 - i. Worship, Mission and Outreach, Pastoral Care
 - b. Membership Roll-Call: Reviewed names and noticed that the list we had from July 2nd, 2020 was not the most up to date. We will move inactive people to the letter phase, but will revisit when Bruce returns. Lori brought up a good question about if you are in attendance if you attend Face Book Live services.
 - c. Tracy Tronnes moves to pay for 90 members as billed from Southwest Association, Eric Kim seconded, passed.
 - d. PPP update: the time for applying for loan forgiveness is here. Connie is in touch with Steve Hein at the Bank of Edgerton and looking at online forms.
6. New Business:

None shared
7. Committee Reports:
 - a. Diaconate: nothing
 - b. Christian Ed: talked about earlier in Pastor's report.
 - c. Trustees:
 - i. Organist replacement process—Karen is willing to stay on and will give us time to replace her once
 - ii. Re-opening—still on hold based on Rock County phase we are in to move forward safely.
 - iii. Over budget by a smidge in donations for the windows. Kathleen will be asked to put the

word out to ask for a few more to keep the process of more windows going. All the window treatments are in and paid for. There is a quote requested by Nelson-Young for exterior doors (minus one).

iv. New Janitor pay is unknown and without quorum at Trustees, he regrets they couldn't discuss the posting.

v. Eric asks that Kathleen post the facebook

d. Treasure's Report:

i. Holding our own collection of pledges. There continues to be loss by plate revenue. Expenses are also down, so there is the hope that we will make it through the year without dipping into savings. We all are thankful for this scenario.

Holly moves to adjourn at 7:57 pm, seconded by Eric Kim.

Meeting adjourned at 8:53 pm. Holly Gould made the motion to adjourn, seconded by Mary Lou Behring.