



Dear Friends:

Susan Beaumont says in her book, *How to Lead When You Don't Know Where You're Going* that leading during liminal times requires a different set of skills than during times of growth or rebuilding. During a transition, one is not yet ready to take on the tasks of building or doing something new, rather it is a time of sitting with anxiety and uncertainty. It is a time to breathe and center oneself. I find these thoughts wonderfully reassuring both for this congregation and for our family as we struggle through Isaac's illness. In moments of anxiety and grief, we breathe in God's goodness, we let go of the need for answers. She also gives four important steps for congregations to pay attention to.

1. Define what is ending and what is not.

With both my and Kathleen's resignations, there will be a change in staff but the congregation holds onto their core values. This faith community will always be a place of welcome for all.

2. Communicate, communicate, communicate - With Isaac, I never know what piece of

information will finally resonate with a doctor in a way that will help diagnose. In the same way, we in the office and among church leadership and working on communicating as quickly and efficiently as possible. Please note the request in the newsletter for your help in updating our mailing list.

3. Susan Beaumont says we must "Mark the Endings". My last Sunday is October 10th. It feels a long way off but will be here in a short time. Will we be back to masks? Will we be able to eat together? Because of Covid we have to be creative with this one.

4. Tell the Story - what is our story? Do we have an agreed upon history or does everyone have their own idea of what our story is? When we can authentically share a story together - with the story being more alike than different - then we can visit our past without getting stuck there.

We breathe in God's goodness, we exhale the need to know at this minute what happens next.

Blessings,
Pastor Lori



Mailing List Update:

Have you been getting the newsletter by email or postal mail? Do you know anyone who has missed receiving the newsletter? When we were worshipping only through Facebook Live and Youtube we sent a weekly bulletin and announcements page to individuals who do not have email. Since we have begun worshipping in the sanctuary we stopped that practice. Help us update our list so we can be sure everyone is getting church information. If you know of anyone who is not receiving mailings please let us know. Thank you for your assistance!

AUGUST CALENDAR OF EVENTS

8/1 - WORSHIP 9:30 A.M.

8/8 - WORSHIP 9:30 A.M.

8/9 - CHURCH COUNCIL 7 P.M.

TRUSTEES - 6:15 P.M.

8/15 - WORSHIP 9:30 A.M.

8/22 - WORSHIP 9:30 A.M.

8/29 - WORSHIP 9:30 A.M.

COVID-19 Update - August 2021

Rock County Guidelines Regarding Masks

The Church Council has not met to revisit the mask policy. At this time, Rock County recommends mask wearing for indoor activities even for vaccinated individuals. At this time, this is a recommendation and not a mandate.

A THANK YOU FROM CONFERENCE MINISTER

Rev. Franz Rigert, our Conference Minister recently sent a thank you for our OCWM (Our Churchs' Wider Mission) Support. In it he reminded all of us of the power of a covenant and that as a denomination, we are a covenantal people. In quoting Rabbi Lord Sacks he said:

"A contract is a transaction. A covenant is a relationship. A contract is about interests. A covenant is about identity. That is why contracts benefit, but covenants transform."

Franz reminds us that we share a holy covenant.



Edgerton Outreach

serving those in need

106 South Main Street, Edgerton, WI 53534. 608-884-9593 www.edgertonoutreach.org

Thank you to all who have supported Edgerton Outreach's school supply drive this year! **A reminder that tags and items are due back this Sunday, August 8.** You can bring them to worship or arrange to drop them off at the office.



The Peanut Fellowship Committee has met and decided that, tentatively, **peanut processing will begin on Wednesday, September 8.** There is some uncertainty due to possible COVID regulations that are unknown at this time. We believe we will have enough help due to some new volunteers and will welcome anyone who would like to give it a try. We will keep in touch as things develop.

Joan Granger, Sec



**Thank you to all who brought music to our
worship services last month; Isaac Powell
Miller, Lynn Miller, and Karen Grinder!**



From all of us at ECUC...

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

8/2 - Ben Jensen
8/4 - Kim Jensen
8/6 - Lewis Kim
8/6 - Josh Bartz
8/9 - Lynn Miller
8/10 - Zack Smerchek
8/15 - Dave McKaig ★
8/15 - Lucas Norland
8/19 - Robyn Davis
8/20 - Matt Tronnes





CHURCH COUNCIL

Monday June 21, 2021

PRESENT: Rev. Lori, Connie Wiersma, Tracy Tronnes and Mary Lou Behring.

Connie called the meeting to order. Rev. Lori read a devotion followed by a prayer. Minutes from the last meeting were reviewed. Tracy made a motion to approve seconded by Connie. Motion passed.

MINISTERS REPORT: Lori is taking a class for a week on conflict transformation. The class is \$750.00. Tracy stated that there is money set aside to cover the cost. There was talk of a new concept rather than a pull down screen to someday get either a smart TV or a white board for the sanctuary. Rev. Lori has been attending conference meetings on Wednesday's learning about becoming a hybrid church.

NEW BUSINESS: A discussion was held about opening church ideas. Mary Lou stated that people that are vaccinated do not want to wear a mask. A few new guidelines were put into place. 1. A section will be designated for vaccinated people that will not be required to mask, but social distancing will remain in place. 2. Remain seated to sing. 3. During announcements Lori will mention that there is an offering basket in back for your offering rather than passing the plate, and non-attendees may mail into the office if desired. Baccalaureate was discussed. This will be June 27. \$25.00 gift cards were decided upon as a gift for graduates. Communion was once again approached and after a lengthy discussion it was decided upon to finalize the plan at the August meeting. Peanut processing was brought up. They are working on finding church members to hold the kitchen positions. Tobacco Days was brought up. Mary Lou stated she would not be interested in holding the lunch wagon. There was talk of selling/handing out water during the parade. Tracy made a motion to purchase a new banner for the front of the church due to the old one being very faded. The motion was approved. Rev. Lori will order one. Volunteers are needed for weeding and for technical support on Sundays. Connie expressed an interest in bringing back the installations of

officers. She feels it's important for congregants to know who the representatives are for each team. July 19th Lorraine will be here from the conference office for a meeting about improving communication. Tracy asked who would put an agenda in place. Lori will find out.

DIACONATE: Mary Lou mentioned that Richard Hartzell is now a resident at the Edgerton Care Center. Joan Lynts is also there for rehab. Rev. Lori said she would visit them both.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION: The team is working on Fall Sunday school curriculum.

TREASURERS REPORT: Tracy stated that the second PPP loan has been quite helpful. There has been an uptick in plate offerings also. She feels we are in an "OK" spot right now.

Mary Lou made a motion to adjourn, Tracy seconded it. Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Lou Behring