

# APRIL 2022

## Edgerton Congregational UCC

114 N. Henry St.

(608)884-6514

officeecucc@gmail.com

Administrative Office Hours: Thursdays 9 a.m. to 11 a.m.



"Hallelujah, He is Risen" by Wayne Pascall

## It Seems to Me

From the desk of Rev. Kendell Nordstrom

I love Easter baskets! When I was younger, I loved dying the Easter eggs with my mom. Later, I loved helping my kids do the same. I love the crinkly green fake grass. I especially love the sweet goodies that you find hidden in that crinkly, fake green grass. The chocolate cream filled eggs and the brightly colored jellybeans are delights not to be missed.

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## Calendar of Events

4/3 - Worship

Family Communion Sunday

4/6 Adult Education 6:30 p.m.

4/10 - Worship

Sunday School

4/11 - Council Meeting 7 p.m.

4/14 - Maundy Thursday Worship  
6:30 p.m.

4/17 - Easter Sunday  
Sunday School

4/24 - Worship  
Sunday School

\*All worship and Sunday School times  
10:30 a.m.\*

## Liturgist Schedule

4/3 - Mary Lou Behring

4/10 - Tracy Tronnes

4/17 - Krista Kim

4/24 - Connie Wiersma

\*If you cannot make your date, please  
find a substitute and let the office  
know.



We are so happy to resume our Moments with the Children. Here, Max Matson helps Reverend Kendell retell the story of the Prodigal Son.

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What I don't love are those hollow chocolate bunnies. Aren't you disappointed when you find a little chocolate bunny, unwrap it and instead of sinking your teeth into a thick, creamy hunk of chocolatey goodness, you only bite thin air? If I'm going to eat a chocolate bunny, I want it to be solid, rich, and satisfying.

Another reason I love Easter baskets is that is that they come at Easter, and I love Easter. It really is the celebration of the heart of our Christian faith. If it's only about calories and crinkly green grass, then it's empty.

An author by the name of Kory Trinrud writes, "We all need our Easter to be something real, something of substance, something satisfying. A candy-coated, paper-thin chocolate covered Easter won't get us through the Good Friday moments that come in life."

Scripture tells us, "He is not here; he has risen, just as he said. Come and see the place where he lay" (Matthew 28:6).

It seems to me that that is solid. That is rich. That is real.

See you in church this Easter.  
Kendell

# Thank You

Thank you to Jill Sanderson and Mary Lou Behring who so generously donated their time to teaching Sunday School last month. We are so grateful for you both!

We also want to thank Josephine Navarro and her mother, Shauna Navarro for playing special music during worship.

Thank you to Norma Thompson, Tammy Campbell, and George Lynts for being last month's liturgists.



**4/3 - Bruce Morris**

**4/4 - Brecken Smerchek**

**4/4 - Rev. Kendell Nordstrom**

**4/12 - Kathleen Matson**

**4/21 - Joyce Morris**

**4/21 - Eliza Tronnes**

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## Readings and Resources

the Revised Common  
LECTIONARY

### April 3 - Fifth Sunday in Lent

Isaiah 43:16-21

### April 10 - Liturgy of the Palms

Psalms 118:1-2,

### Liturgy of the Passion

Psalms 31: 9-16

### April 11 - Monday of Holy Week

Isaiah 42:1-9

### April 12 - Tuesday of Holy Week

Isaiah 49:1-7

### April 13 - Wednesday of Holy Week

Isaiah 50:4-9a

### April 14 - Maundy Thursday

Exodus 12:1-4, (5-10), 11-14

### April 15 - Good Friday

Isaiah 52:13-53:12

### April 16 - Holy Saturday

Job 14:1-14

### April 17 - Easter

#### Resurrection of the Lord

Isaiah 65:17-25

### April 24 - Second Sunday of Easter

Acts 5: 31-42



"All Creation Sings His Praise" by Jen Norton

## Notes from The Office

Thank you to all who donated to our One Great Hour of Sharing offering!

### Our updated office hours are:

Reverend Kendell - Wednesday afternoons, Thursdays 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Office - Thursday from 9 to 11 a.m.

*Reverend Kendell will be on leave due to a hip replacement after Easter. We will be hosting guest pastors and special music Sundays in his absence.*

We are in the process of planning a children's activity for Easter Sunday as well as an Earth Day community clean up event. Watch your "What's Happening" for updates!

It was brought to our attention our phone was out of order for a short amount of time in March. We were unable to receive calls and messages, but have resolved the issue and apologize for any inconvenience!

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## UCC Featured Devotional: "The All-Important P.S. to John 3:16"

by [Matt Laney](#) | published on Mar 23, 2022

"For God so loved the world that God gave God's beloved Child, so that everyone who believes may not perish but may have eternal life. Indeed, God did not send their Child into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him." – John 3:16-17 (NRSV)

This passage includes one of the most well-known verses in the Bible, John 3:16. "John 3:16" can be found on t-shirts, memes, bumper stickers, signs at sporting events, even on the eye-black of an NFL quarterback. John 3:16 is often used as a litmus test. If you believe in Jesus (which is code for "if you believe what I believe about Jesus"), then you will be saved from eternal damnation. If not, your ultimate destination is bleak. The verse is used and abused as a pretext for condemning people to hell.

I think the writer of John saw that coming as he first penned 3:16, so he included an addendum—a postscript—as a safeguard: "Indeed, God did not send their Child into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him" (John 3:17).

When John talks about the world being saved through Jesus, he's not envisioning a luxurious post-mortem retirement in the clouds for those who "accept Jesus Christ as their personal Lord and Savior," a phrase which occurs exactly zero times in the Bible.

For John, salvation begins now by checking the impulse to condemn, and committing instead to the Jesus way of love, forgiveness, nonviolence, doing justice, showing mercy, walking humbly. In short, to love the world as God loves it.

Jesus did not come to condemn. For that, we should be eternally grateful. Jesus came to love and serve and thereby to save.

### Prayer

World Lover, help me check the impulse to condemn others and to love as Jesus loves.

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## COVID-19 GUIDELINES

Updated March 2022



1. Please self-assess your health before coming to worship or otherwise into the building. If you or any members of your household are experiencing COVID-19 symptoms, please stay home and participate in our online worship services. If you have been in close contact with a positive case, please follow CDC masking recommendations: **The close contact should wear a well-fitting mask when around others for 10 days from the date of the last close contact with someone with COVID-19.**

2. Masks are available for your use.

3. Hand sanitizer is available at all entrances.

4. Doors and windows will be open to allow for cross-ventilation as possible.

5. Bulletins will be available for pickup at the double door entrance to Henry Street.

6. An offering plate has been placed at the back of the sanctuary.

7. The nursery is not open.

8. We will continue to offer a pre-recorded, amended online worship service Sundays at 9 a.m. on our social media channels.

**Please direct any questions or concerns to the office:**

(608)884-6514 - [officecucc@gmail.com](mailto:officecucc@gmail.com) - [facebook.com/edgertoncucc](https://facebook.com/edgertoncucc)

**I play the notes as they are written,  
but it is God who makes the music.**

—  
Johann Sebastian Bach



Edgerton Congregational United Church of Christ



*Save the Date*

## Edgerton Congregational UCC Special Event: Leadership for Congregational Crossroads

Two Session Workshop

*"Where we've been; Where we are; Where we are going"*

**Thursday, May 15th 6 -9 p.m.**

**Sunday, May 19th after worship**

(Catered lunch by the Campbell Boys)

More information to come, please direct any questions to church council or the office.

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## CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES

February 14<sup>th</sup>, 2022 Meeting called to order by Connie Wiersma at 7:10 pm

1. Opened in prayer, the serenity prayer by Pastor Nordstrom
2. Approval of the January 11<sup>th</sup> minutes Tracy moves to approve, seconded by Kathleen, motion approved.
3. Pastor's report: Facebook recorded services going well and feels the response has been positive and increasing. Please refer to the agenda for the details.
4. Lenten Services:
  - \*Ash Wednesday (March 2<sup>nd</sup>) and Maundy Thursday (April 14<sup>th</sup>), although they are not well-attended all feel they are important to continue. 6:30 pm will be start time.
5. Will we be starting Sunday school on the 13<sup>th</sup> of March? We will be involving Jill Sanderson, a frequent attender who is interested in getting this going.
  - \*Some concerns will be Covid numbers still strong in Rock and Dane Counties
  - \* Spring Break is Monday 28 to April 4<sup>th</sup>
  - \* Cross-ventilation could be a good thing for keeping Covid away.
  - \* Maybe a trial run for this by offering a few weeks and get things going for the Fall
  - \* Would putting together some more packets to send out to let the youth know we're thinking about them be a nice thing to do?
6. Confirmation is a bit up in the air...talked about offering it to the families to see if there's interest.
7. Adult Education Wednesday evenings on Zoom will be to talk about the book The Shack. People can pick them up and ask for our reserved copies of the book. Kathleen will look into being a hybrid model for disseminating the discussion points from the book discussion.

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8. Kathleen shares some ideas about special services...all about creating a more robust music program like Special Music Sundays or solo performances.

- \* Thinks surveying the church to see what their likes are or having a listening session about what members and attenders would enjoy and get them to get excited about hearing good music!

- \* Ideas also were shared about Zooming the meeting.

- \* March 13<sup>th</sup> for the listening session. Put the idea into the newsletter to get people thinking about what their answers

- \* She reminds us that our organist, Josephine, shared the idea to bring recitals here.

- \* Josephine may need a separate Gmail name through the church so people can communicate with her directly instead of through her personal email.

.9. Kathleen also shares an idea like raising funds for different charities that we could donate to so that ECUCC gets their name on doing good things. Or to just get out and about doing good work in the community so people may want to be a part of our community. Kathleen suggests that we have a listening session for these ideas too.

10. CTT Committee sent a report entitled Leadership for Congregational Crossroads

- \*Where have we been, where we are and where are we going?

- \*Should involve the congregation in the decisions about where are church should be going.

- \*Discussed possible dates, evenings and after church.

- \*Talked about having it catered by the Campbell brothers across the street in order to get more people to attend.

- \*The purpose of the meetings would be to bring concerns, when they arise, to the right people and in the right way to solve the problem. We would also be looking to improve the communication process.

- \* Possible dates that Connie will give to the organizers Sunday May 15<sup>th</sup> 12:30 -3:30 and Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> 6-9 pm

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## Reports:

**Trustees**— More windows have been ordered to finish the sanctuary. They will be arriving in phases. Bruce proposes that doors be added to the remodeling. Wonders if donations would come in stronger if they were going to certain projects that people feel passionate about? Eric Kim still willing to give substantial discount on labor. Kathleen can put something that Bruce writes up in the newsletter about it and buying them now will save on a coming soon building price hike on windows.

**Treasurer**—Needed to move some monies into account to pay bills. We are moving forward and nothing is coming as a surprise.

Motion to adjourn at 8:13 pm by Tracy Tronnes and seconded by Bruce Morris.

### Edgerton Congregational UCC

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**Music by Josephine Navarro** *musicecucc@gmail.com*

*ECUCC: Where no matter who you are or where you are on your faith journey, you are welcome here.*