

## EVENTS

**8/4 - Communion**  
Sunday

**8/12 - Church Council**  
Meeting - 7PM

**8/25 - Worship with**  
Guest Pastor Jessica  
Taft

*Worship with us every  
Sunday at 10 AM!*

## LITURGISTS

**8/4 - Tammy Campbell**

**8/11 - Holly Gould**

**8/18 - Mary Lou**  
Behring

**8/25 - Jim McLouth**

## BIRTHDAYS

**8/5 - Delaney Matson**

**8/6 - Lewis Kim**

**8/6 - Josh Bartz**

**8/10 - Zack Smerchek**

**8/15 - Lucas Norland**

**8/18 - Nora**  
Sanderson-  
Haque

**8/19 - Robin Davis**

**8/20 - Matt Tronnes**

**8/20 - Rachel Dampier**

**8/31 - Max Matson**

*From the desk of Pastor Tiff*

I often get asked which time of the year is the most difficult for a pastor. Most church members assume it is either Advent and Christmas or Holy Week and Easter. And yes, those are busy times in the life of a church but the congregation is ready and willing to participate and perform the needed tasks to prepare for the special services and traditional activities. Although there are many special events, there are plenty of helpers to get the work done. From experience, the toughest time of the year for pastors is the month of August and early September. Over the summer things quiet down at church as many church members are enjoying vacations, family gatherings, children's activities and weekend celebrations. However, especially in larger program churches, church staff are gearing up for the coming fall season and preparing for the transition from quiet to really busy. I liken it to starting an old crank up car that is not quite ready to turn over. For churches, August is the transition month where you move from the beach or lake to school, weekly work, and hopefully worship and church activities. As a pastor, I'm already thinking and preparing for fall worship, a Bible study, and special events. The clock is already ticking.

While transition has to do with changing from one experience to another (High school to college or single to getting married) the word transformation has to do with your inner spirit or how you look at the world. For example, taking a class on Yoga or reading a book about American Native history might change how you look at the world. I know that my understanding about God changed when I went to seminary and reading the Psalms always gives me some new insight about faith. Where transitions tend to be a more physical experience, personal transformations have to do with the inner workings of our personality and spirit. I know that many of the youth who have attended outdoor ministry church camps have told me that the experience changed their lives. I doubt I would be a minister today if I hadn't attended Church Camp at Silver Lake Conference Center in Connecticut. Many of the choices I made later in life were based on lessons I learned those summers at camp.

Managing the transitions of life takes careful thought and wise decision making. Transformations in life take courage, being open to change, and willingness to try new things. One area where many transformations take place is in our spiritual life. God is always doing a new thing in our lives, in our churches and in the larger faith community. God is continually transforming the church to be more faithful, more loving, and more welcoming to new communities. May the Congregational UCC church in Edgerton continue to be a transformational church searching for new ways to live out the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

*-Pastor Tiff*



## Education

Sunday School children are invited to check out books at our Rainbow Spirit Little Library throughout the month!

Sunday School calendars with a special letter from Education Director Jill Sanderson have been sent in the mail. Please keep an eye on your mailboxes!



Jill is on vacation this month and will be back to lead Rally Day September 8.

## Notes From the Office

Kathleen will be out of the office August 4 - August 10. As always, office hours for the month are available upon request. Regular office hours will resume in September.

Fall Calendars will arrive in the mail this month. Please keep an eye on your mailboxes!

Donations for our new exterior doors and sanctuary Bibles are still being accepted; you may send your contribution to the office with the intended fund in the memo line.

Our September theme for worship is Extravagant Welcome. We will be exploring "What does it mean to be Welcoming?" Of course, we are welcoming to each other - but are there ways that we can be even more welcoming to those not just in our pews, but to those in and around our community?

## Church Choir/Music

The second Sunday of each month will be a music Sunday. Please watch your weekly announcements for details on choir/music practice dates and times.

## Thank You

Thank you to Mary Lou and Gary Behring, Connie and Sloane Wiersma, Eric Kim, Tracy Tronnes, Kathleen Matson and Eric Lyerla for delivering Meals on Wheels to our community this month. Delivering meals is a vital community service and takes approximately thirty minutes - if you would like to help deliver for upcoming dates, please contact the office.

Thank you to all liturgists, volunteers and special music contributors who assisted with service last month. Please note: if you are the last person in church after worship, brief instructions on how to close the building are provided in the sanctuary.

## YOUR CHURCH COUNCIL

**Interim Pastor Rev. Tiff Bates** - revtiffbates@gmail.com  
**Moderator - Krista Kim** - rigertkim@gmail.com  
**Treasurer - Tracy Tronnes** - ttronnes@nylumber.com  
**Finance/Trustees - Bruce Morris** - brucem929@gmail.com  
**Worship Life Team - Mary Lou Behring** - hairchair@yahoo.com  
**Education - Jill Sanderson** - jillesanderson@gmail.com

## CONTACT

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## **CHURCH COUNCIL**

June 10, 2024

Present: Krista Kim, Rev. Tiff Bates, Tracy Tronnes, Bruce Morris, Jill Sanderson and Mary Lou Behring.

Krista called the meeting to order. Tiff shared a few verses from Proverbs and Mathew and ended with prayer including all of our prayer concerns from worship. The minutes from the last meeting were reviewed. Bruce made a motion to approve as written. Tracy seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**MINISTERS REPORT:** Tiff stated he will be taking one Sunday a month off. After vacation days are used, he will receive 3/4 of his compensation. The Cotton Patch Gospel movie that was going to be shown in June is now being moved to August or September when people are not quite as busy. Tiff is working with Josephine on a music Sunday for the service on June 16th. All singers are welcome and will practice on Wednesday the 11th.

**OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR/COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR:** Kathleen has filled the Sundays when Tiff is gone. Barbara Wells will be our guest on June 30th and Jessica Taft will fill in on July 28th and Aug. 25th. We will be adding 3 new liturgists to our current list. A revised list is coming soon. Krista will be printing up a sheet with opening and closing the church steps for Sunday mornings. Meals on Wheels will be our obligation again from July 29-Aug. 11th. We all want to applaud the folks that have worked on cleaning out all the extra paper work from the office with Linda Cutting leading the task. A shred day will be coming soon to disperse of the unwanted materials.

**WORSHIP LIFE TEAM:** New team members are doing a great job. We will be sending out cards to several members on our prayer list. Communion will be the first week of the month as usual.

**CHRISTIAN EDUCATION:** Jill stated that Lynn suggested to eliminate the Sunday outings on family Sundays as so many people are so busy. Jill will still have the children's sermon and other special things for the kids during worship. Jill is working on a goggle doc. For the Fall Sunday school programming. She is thinking about a special Patsy Cline concert as a fundraiser in the Fall. Jill stated that she is thinking about having a "Member Spotlight" to learn more about the lives of our members. Our Tuesday night book study "The Listening Path is doing well with 10 people attending!

**TRUSTEES:** The new doors are being installed. Still looking for donations to cover the costs. All doors will be keyed the same and two will have a passcode.

**TREASURERS REPORT:** We are doing ok. Not having to borrow from savings at this point.

**NEW BUSINESS:** Tracy, Krista, Jill and Tiff have been working on creating a new paid position for the church. This position is called: Director of Ministry for Education Coordinator. As Tiff would like to have one Sunday a month off this position makes sense. Tracy made a motion to accept the draft position as Director of Ministry for Education Coordinator as a paid position starting on Sept. 1, 2024/integrating it into our budget and staffing plan and offering it to Jill Sanderson. Mary Lou seconded the motion. The motion was approved. Tracy made a motion for an amendment to the interim minister's contract to reduce the work load and compensation to 75% of the current salary to begin the 1st of July. Mary Lou seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

Meeting adjourned,  
Respectfully submitted,  
Mary Lou Behring