

THE SANCTUARY

OCTOBER 2025

AN INVITATION

As Pastor Tiff's role as Interim Pastor comes to its end, we extend an invitation to all to join us in celebrating our time with Tiff as our Interim Pastor on **Sunday, December 21**. We will be joined by Reverend Rachel Bauman, Associate Conference Minister with the Wisconsin Conference UCC. We hope you join us in gratitude and joy as we celebrate the many gifts Tiff and his wife Lynn have brought to ECUCC. Enclosed in this newsletter is a special message from Moderator Krista Kim with answers to frequently asked questions regarding Tiff's transition out of his Interim Pastor role.

Looking ahead, we want to remind the congregation that our church is still accepting profiles for clergy and working with the greater Wisconsin Conference to find a settled pastor. In the coming months, we will be welcoming a variety of guest pastors to lead our worship services. These new faces will bring diverse voices to our pulpit to help us grow in faith and understanding, and will offer fresh insights while grounding us in the enduring truth that God is still speaking.

If you ever have questions, concerns, or hopes about the future of our church, we encourage you to share them with us. Your voice matters, and congregational feedback helps us grow together in faith and trust. Please don't hesitate to reach out to our leadership team—we are here to listen, and discern together where God is calling us next. As we move forward, let our welcome be wide, our compassion tangible, and our faith active. We look forward to all that this new program year holds —with you, for you, and through you.

Blessings,

The ECUCC Office

CALENDAR

*Sunday worship begins weekly
at 10 AM. Childcare is available.*

5 - Centering Sunday &
Communion

*Neighbors in Need
special offering

*World Communion Day

12 - Special Guest
Pastor Kathleen
Remund

17 - *Parents Night Out*
5 - 9 PM

10/26 - Special Guest
Speaker Brenda
O'Beirne

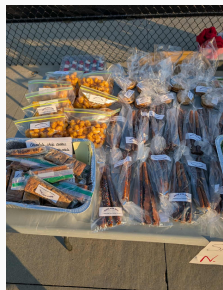
LITURGISTS

5 - Leia Maves
12 - Bavery/Thies
19 - Reilly Family
26 - Krista Kim

STEWARDS

5 - Tammy/Todd
Campbell
12 - Tammy Campbell
19 - Krista Kim
26 - Jim McLouth

*Thank you to all of our
volunteers who do so much!*



MISSION MOMENT

Prayers of gratitude were abundant at last month's Edgerton High School homecoming football game! A bake sale organized by our nursery attendant Yeti Price and in conjunction with the National Honor Society raised more than \$1,000 dollars.

Every dollar raised went directly to Edgerton Community Outreach's veterans housing program to serve local veterans in our community. Thank you to everyone who provided or sold treats, organized, or helped in bake sale preparation. What a sweet reminder that God's love can be shared in every act of service.

Be hospitable to one another without complaining. Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God, serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received.

1 Peter 4: 9-10

TREATS

Thank you to all those who provide treats for after-worship fellowship. Everyone appreciates the treat and time spent together!

Providing treats for October are:

October 5 - Lynn Bates

October 12 - Connie Wiersma

October 19 - Linda Cutting

October 26 ? *Will you sign up ?*

Please find the orange sign up sheet on the table in the back of the sanctuary or email the office to be added to the treat calendar!

Thank you very much.

Lynn Bates

NOTES FROM PASTOR TIFF

It's Almost time for Holiday Music!

Josephine and I would like to make this a very wonderful holiday season with some choir selections and special music.

Our goal is to gather a Holiday Choir to sing during Advent and at the Christmas Eve Service. In addition, we will need singers for the Christmas Play on Sunday December 21st. We would love to have special music as well which could include both vocal and instrumental pieces.

There will be a signup sheet in the back of the sanctuary to express your interest. We would love to have six to eight (OR MORE) singers in the choir. We will begin rehearsals in early November. Day and time yet to be decided. Come and make a joyful noise to lift up our worship experience.

EDUCATION

Parents Night Out
Friday, October 17
5-9 PM

Parents: Take the night off! Drop the kids off at church for a fun evening of crafts, free play, and dinner with a movie!

Childcare will be provided by Jill Sanderson, Tammy Campbell, and Connie Tronnes.

Questions may be directed to Jill Sanderson.

NOTES FROM THE OFFICE

- We are grateful for the work of our Moderator, Krista Kim who has taken on creating the volunteer position of and scheduling our **Sunday Stewards**.

These stewards are the friendly faces who help make worship run smoothly each week; greeting people, handing out bulletins, and helping everyone feel welcome and cared for. Serving as a steward is a simple and meaningful way to give back to our church community - if you would like to sign up in the new year, please contact Krista Kim for more information.

- **Meals on Wheels delivery will be taking place October 20 - November 2.** Meal delivery is a great way to help those in our community who are in need, and it takes under an hour. Please contact Jill Sanderson if you are able to help deliver meals or find the signup sheet in the sanctuary.
- Liturgists and steward volunteer calendars are updated and available digitally and can be found in your weekly announcements. Please contact Lynn Bates or find the signup sheet in the sanctuary to volunteer fellowship treats.
- **Stewardship season will kick off the first Sunday in November.** Please keep an eye on your mailbox; as Time & Talent and Pledge Cards will arrive at the end of October. Pledges will be collected on November 16 and celebrated with a potluck following worship.

A poster for 'Jazz for Joyvilla' featuring a large, stylized saxophone in the background. The text 'Jazz for Joyvilla' is written in a large, white, sans-serif font. Below it, 'Food • Music • Mission' is written in a smaller, white, sans-serif font. The date 'Friday 11.14.25' and time '5-8 PM' are prominently displayed. A small inset photo shows a person playing a saxophone. The poster also includes a QR code and a Zelle logo for donations.

Jazz for Joyvilla
Food • Music • Mission
Friday 11.14.25
5-8 PM

•Free Will Offering•

Join us for a spaghetti dinner and live jazz provided by local musicians! Your participation helps provide tuition at the Jane Adeny Memorial School for our sponsored student, Joyvilla Achieng Dmond.

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PASTORAL TRANSITION FAQ'S:

FROM CHURCH MODERATOR KRISTA KIM

What happens in January when Pastor Tiff ends his interim work with us?

We will approach worship in a similar manner as we have in years passed when we did not have a minister. We will utilize the guest clergy from the “pulpit supply” listed in our conference as well as look to some lay leadership/guest speakers to round out our worship schedule.

Will we see Tiff and Lynn?

YES! We are excited that they will be joining us as members, and we will be celebrating their membership at a date to be announced soon. In addition, Rev. Rachel Bauman will join us for our Christmas Program (Dec 21) and oversee the official release/ending of Tiff's ministry.

Who will provide pastoral care in January?

Tiff has offered to provide pastoral care on an as-needed basis, and he would be compensated for this on an hourly basis. Examples include presiding over a funeral, hospital visits, etc.

Are we still searching for minister?

Yes, our church profile is still open. As we increase training and education opportunities for church members, we will be able to update our church profile to show this. The Search Committee learned that strong church leadership and paid positions that help with program coordination make a church more attractive to clergy who might be searching for a part time position. We will keep our profile open and in June 2026, we have the opportunity to revisit and adjust it as we'd like. Rev. Rachel Bauman will continue to provide valuable insight at the conference level.

Why are there so few ministers looking for jobs?

Across denominations, there are less students in seminary due to the demands of the job paired with (often) inadequate compensation. There are less people in society interested in attending mainstream Christian churches. People are finding alternative ways to fill spiritual needs and/or seek theological education in more individualized formats.

Will worship format change?

Not really. We will still worship together on Sundays at 10:00am. Our bulletin will look the same and we will continue to follow the liturgical calendar and read from the common lectionary. Currently we still plan on having communion the first Sunday of each month.

Will Tiff ever be one of our guest ministers?

Maybe! For the first 6 months of 2026, we will let Tiff enjoy his new role as church member. If Tiff is interested, he might eventually choose to join our pulpit supply list.

CONFIRMATION CLASS CALENDAR

- Nov 9
- Nov 23
- Dec 21

BIRTHDAYS

10/14 - Dave Nelson
10/16 - Eric Lyerla

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THANK YOU

Thank you to our new Sunday Stewards who continue to help our church run smoothly. As always, we are grateful for every person who participates in planning, presence and prayer.

In particular, we would like to recognize Lynn Bates for all her help with the Sunday School children so far this year. We are so blessed to have such a warm, loving presence helping care for the kids - her dedication and patience is a living embodiment of God's love.

PRAYERS

As a reminder, you may use a prayer request slip located in the sanctuary or contact Pastor Tiff if you'd like to request prayers for yourself a loved one.

This month we are praying for a smooth and speedy recovery for Mary Lou Behring as she heals from surgery. We are deeply grateful for Mary Lou's faithful service and steady presence, which have blessed our church in countless ways. May our prayers now return that same care and love to her.

"Pray as though everything depended on God. Work as though everything depended on you."

-St. Augustine

Thank you for reading! If you would like your newsletters delivered to your home address, please reach out to officeecucc@gmail.com

CHURCH LEADERSHIP

Moderator: Krista Kim - rigertkim@gmail.com
Interim Pastor: Tiff Bates - revtiffbates@gmail.com
Ministry/Education: Jill Sanderson - jillesanderson@gmail.com
Vice-Moderator/Treasurer: Tracty Tronnes - tntronnes@nylumber.com
Worship Life: Mary Lou Behring - hairchair@yahoo.com
Trustees: Bruce Morris - brucem929@gmail.com

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CHURCH COUNCIL

Monday, August 11 2025

PRESENT: Rev. Tiff, Krista Kim, Jill Sanderson, Kathleen Matson, Bruce Morris, Tracy Tronnes Mary Lou Behring and Connie Tronnes. Krista called the meeting to order and Rev. Tiff led us in prayer. The minutes from June were reviewed. Tracy made a motion to accept the min, Jill seconded it. Minutes approved.

CONGREGATIONAL TIME: Connie Tronnes expressed concerns for Cheryl Mitchell having some health issues. Rev. Tiff will try to visit her.

MINISTERES REPORT: Tiff gave a special thank you to Connie Tronnes for helping put together the music Sunday as well as the picnic afterwards. A prayer to Kathleen and family as her dad still recuperates. Tiff plans to work more in August due to time off in July. Tiff and Lynn sold their home in Baraboo.

COMMUNICATIONS/OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR: Kathleen stated she is getting done with the Google doc for church membership. She is developing a PDF for the pulpit supply we will be having in the future. Back to regular office hours in Sept.

DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION/MINISTRY: Jill and her education crew have planned themes for the upcoming months. Rally Day will be held Sunday Sept 7th. The subject for Fall will be "Creation" Sept, Oct., Nov. will be "The Expansiveness of God" October we will focus on "Caregivers" and Nov. "Stewardship. Jill and Krista will be studying in the "Lay Academy again this Fall. Polity and History of the UCC will be the classes offered at the conference.

WORSHIP LIFE: Several cards have been sent to congregants that are grieving as well as those recovering from illness. Communion the first Sunday of every month will continue.

TRUSTEES: Trustees are finishing the last few windows being replaced. The parking lot has been sealed and stripped. A new air conditioner has been installed in the sanctuary. A new step ladder has been purchased. The broken window in the fellowship door should be replaced this week. A new/different insurance policy has been reworked for our property coverage at a lower price/Thank you Tracy. Kathleen is making a document for Trustees with all the info for the elevator inspection, fire inspection and boiler inspections.

TREASURER: We are on track! Tiffs contract has been changed to help out with our current budget.

OLD BUSINESS: Krista is working on finding "Stewards/Hosts" (ushers) to be present on Sunday mornings to welcome people in. Krista and Jim plan to hold a class for safety measures.

NEW BUSINESS: Krista asked to borrow some place settings of dishes on Sept. 27th for David's wedding. Approved! A discussion was had as to where the new TV should be placed in the sanctuary. We will try different locations to see what works best. There is talk of creating a prayer group/chain for people interested in being part of it.

Meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully,

Mary Lou Behring