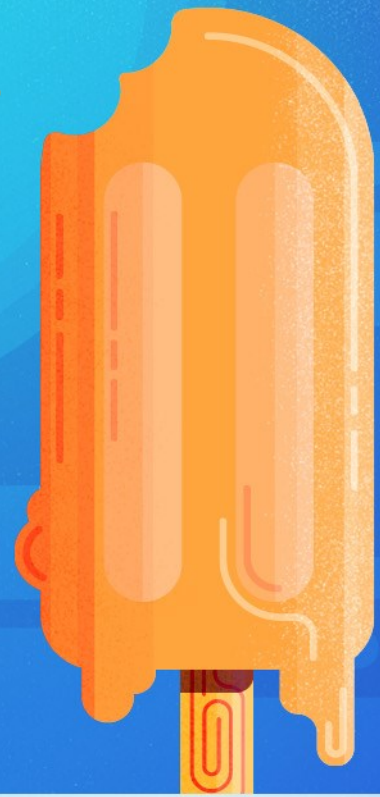


August 2023



Faith *news*

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF
ELDRIDGE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

From the PASTOR'S PEN

Dear Friends who love God,

As this summer is unfolding its beauty, we marvel over the miracles of everyday creation in our world – all the blossoming flowers and plants, the bright sunshine and gentle rains – How awesome it is to see God's creative work all around!

Thinking of the 2023 VBS held last week (July 17-21) at Eldridge, I feel so much blessed with all the love and work of our volunteers, and the lovely kids who participated in VBS make me still smile. Our church was filled with their enthusiasm, excitement, and all energy. It was amazing!

With the help of Debbie Menke and Nancy Herrin, cards were sent out to the kids, saying "Hope to see you all again next year!"—Does that sound ok with you? I am sure we will continue to reach out to these kids and families in our community and see the fruits coming out of our work we do and the love we have for them—it takes time to bear fruits, though.

Thinking ahead about upcoming events and some other plans, I have two things to share with you:

- 1) Youth confirmation will begin in September at McCausland UMC. The list of confirmands will be announced when it is complete. And we will ask you to pray for each one of them as they begin the class.
- 2) New membership class will be held in August at McCausland UMC and in September at Eldridge UMC.

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Pastor's Pen

(continued from page 1)

You guys have been in my heart and prayers, since expressing your desire to join the church. And it is time for us to move on to make that happen. Some of you will just transfer your membership and others who have never held a membership with any local church will have New Membership Class and join the church by professing your faith before the congregation. As the committee works on specific matters, you will be informed shortly.

My prayer goes out in this season of travel and summer activities for the safety and protection of you and your family. Let us enjoy this beautiful season with those we love and be grateful for all of God's blessings in our life.

Love in Christ, *Pastor JaeHee Lee*

John 1:12

I
am
a
CHILD
of
GOD

VBS 2023



august reminders

★ the food pantry

Canned Fruit, Granola Bars & Peanut Butter

...ALSO: *If any gardeners have surplus food and would like to share, that is always welcomed. Items can be delivered to Food Pantry on Tuesdays from 5:30-7pm and Fridays from 9:30-11am at Faith Lutheran Church (must use north ramp).*

★ christmas gift bags

If staying in motels this summer and toiletry items are available, please collect samples for the gift bags handed out at the Churches United meal site in December. A sample of items used in the gift bags will be displayed in the Gathering Area by the bulletin board; this year the bags will be packed in October. This is a project of United Women in Faith (previously called United Methodist Women or UMW).

For questions, call Janalee at 370-0717.

★ chancel choir

Yes, we're on 'summer vacation' but can't wait to sing together again soon. If you'd like to join us this year, mark your calendar to attend the 'kick-off' rehearsal at 4pm on Sunday, September 10th!

★ Annual Ingathering



It is time again to collect items for the Annual Mission Ingathering kits. Information sheets concerning the school, health, and layette kits are available on the Missions table in the Gathering Area or outlined in last month's 'Faithnews'. NOTE: They will only accept items 'as described'. Whole kits and/or items for kits will be collected until Oct.15.

... anniversaries

8/1	Don & Marianne Doonan Clint & Kate Biekert
8/3	Brian & Wendy Popelka
8/8	Larry & Betty Frazee Tim & Linda Reickard
8/9	Quentin & Kathy Coffman
8/10	John & Paula Bryant
8/14	Richard & Glendena Heiman
8/21	Rick & Traci Hardeman
8/30	Ken & Debbie Fordham

... and birthdays

8/5	Janalee Keppy
8/6	Bea Abbas Sara Sack Emmalyn Willey
8/8	Marianne Doonan
8/9	Dave Prochaska
8/10	Boise Schoonover
8/11	Jan Herrington
8/18	Andrea Petersen
8/19	Sally Riewerts
8/22	Kandi Olson Frank Rowley
8/24	Karen Apple Larry Herrington
8/30	Troy Petersen

EUMC Administrative Council — minutes for JULY 13, 2023

Members Present:

Keith Riewerts, Doug Becknell, Linda Tubbs, Don Doonan, Judy Kilzer, Lori Stackhouse, Pastor Lee, Stacy Muhs, C.J. Albertson, Gary Abbas, Bill Tubbs, Becky Esbaum, Joyce Orcutt
C.J. Albertson from the Missions Committee chaired the meeting.

Glory Sightings:

The recent, much needed rain is truly a blessing!

Treasurer's Report

A full report is attached to the minutes.

Gary and Becky are doing a monthly audit of the books to be sure finances stay on track. We have \$150,00 in the bank, so we are in decent shape.

Debbie Menke moved/Gary Abbas seconded that the treasurer's report be approved. Motion carried.

Secretary's Report:

Gary Abbas moved/Don Doonan seconded the June minutes be approved as printed. Motion carried.

Gathering Space Acoustics:

Doug Becknell was present to express his concerns about the acoustics. He has been in contact with D.B. Acoustics in Marion, Iowa and has an appointment on August 1 at 2 p.m. to meet with them in our Gathering Space. The company will evaluate and develop a plan to improve the acoustics. Doug said he would make a substantial donation toward improving the acoustics in the Gathering Space.

Keith suggested that the company also look at the sound system in the sanctuary. John Cannon should be invited to attend the August 1 meeting.

Calendar of Events:

All committees were asked to bring a list of their planned events so they can be placed on one calendar and the church year planned accordingly. C.J. brought the Worship Committee list thru Dec 2023:

- July 30 – Combined worship and Potluck (Taylor missionary presentation during worship)
- August 20 – Blessing of the Backpacks
- September 10 – Outdoor Worship (choir rehearsal at 4 p.m.)
- September 17 – Kick-Off Sunday (choir, Sunday School, etc.)
- October 21 – Outdoor Fall Festival

The committee is planning music, games, face painting, bobbing for apples, pie baking contest, hay wagon rides, movie, etc. Different committees or groups will be asked to be responsible for individual activities. We will invite the neighborhood so it will be a community event.

Needed: cauldron for cooking outside, lots of fall visuals: straw/hay bales, pumpkins, corn stalks, etc.

- October 29 – Combined worship in McCausland
- November – Stewardship Campaign month as well as Time and Talent forms
- November 5 – All Saints' Sunday
- November 19 – Thanksgiving Sunday
- November 26 – Stewardship Sunday
- December 2 – Children's Bazaar
- December 3 – Chrismon Service (1st Sunday in Advent)
- December 10 – Poinsettias displayed
- December 17* – Choir Christmas Program
- December 24* – am. Children's Program during worship (after some discussion, it was decided to switch the Children's program to the 17th with the Choir Program to the morning of the 24th. CJ will double check with Sally.)
- December 24 – p.m. Christmas Eve Candlelight Service at 7 p.m.
- December 31 – Sing Along Carols (a 5th Sunday but not combined)

OTHER EVENTS ADDED DURING THE MEETING

- Veterans' Day to be celebrated on a Friday in November
- Easter basket silent auction
- Rummage Sale
- Ingathering in the Fall

OTHER COMMITTEES NEED TO SUBMIT THEIR DATES TO EITHER THE OFFICE OR TO DEBBIE MENKE. Please do so before the August meeting.

EUMC Administrative Council — minutes for JULY 13, 2023

(CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE)

Pastor's Report:

Discussion on what are the requirements for a couple/s preparation for marriage will be tabled until the August meeting following its revision.

Pastor Lee is planning worship services three months in advance.

Brainstorming Strategic Planning:

- Missing church members
- Outreach to new families
- Small group[for spiritual growth and discipleship
- T.L.C. Group (Donna Eudaley, Sue Cannon, Renee Nestler, Joyce Orcutt) – discussion on how and when to reach out to non—attending members. We need a **PLAN** of who does what.
 - One group could send cards to visitors.
 - One group could contact inactive members.
 - One group could follow up with graduates, wedding couples, families after funerals, baptisms; follow up with these groups for one year.
 - Strategic Planning leader suggestions were Dave Prochaska or Brian Popelka

Committee Reports:

- **Children and Family Ministry:**
 - VBS will be Monday – Friday, July 17 – 21, 11:00 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.
 - Registration will be online or in person.
 - 300 door hangers with VBS information and registration forms have been distributed around the community.
- **Missions:**
 - Janalee Keppy has Ingathering set up for the Fall.
 - There is \$8,819 in the budget under Rummage Sale from past years that has not been earmarked for anything.
 - Debbie Menke moved, and Linda Tubbs seconded that Stacy Muhs, Mission committee chair, go back to the committee to find projects for the Rummage Sale monies. Motion passed.

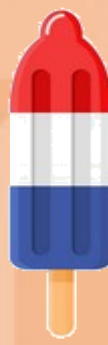
August Ad Council Meeting: There was discussion as to whether to cancel the August meeting, however, there seems to be business that needs to be addressed before the September meeting.

Ad Council's next meeting will be August 10* at 6:30 p.m. (This has since been changed to the 17th) United Women in Faith will chair the meeting.

Missions will chair in September.

Closing Prayer

Respectfully submitted,
Joyce Orcutt, secretary



Annual Mission Ingathering

It is time again to collect items for the Iowa Conference Ingathering Kits. Following lists are for the four kits our church will be collecting. Info will also be available on Missions table in Gathering Area where donations can be placed. Whole kits and/or items for kits will be collected until October 16th.

REQUIREMENTS: All kit items must be NEW. Kits are to contain ONLY the requested items. No handprints, footprints paw prints or camouflage on fabrics, please.

Student Kit

- 3 Notebooks - 1 subject spiral 8"x10 1/2"
- 1 Ruler 12" long with metric
- 6 Pencils – Unsharpened
- 1 Pencil Sharpener
- 1 Eraser - 2" or larger
- 1 Box of 12 Colored Pencils
- 1 Box of 24 Crayons
- 1 Pair of Student Scissors



Layette Kit (all items for 0-6 months)

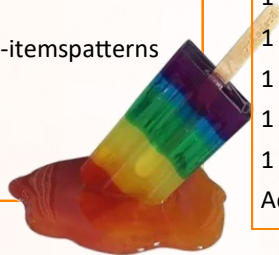
- 6 Cloth Diapers
- 6 Diaper Pins - must have protective plastic closures
- 2 Gowns or Sleepers
- 2 Onesies or Undershirts
- 2 Infant Washcloths - No adult washcloths
- 2 Receiving Blankets -28" x 28" to 32" x 32"
(no fleece or thermal blankets)
- 1 Sweater or Jacket – No ties or buttons
(knitted, crocheted, or sewn with front opening)
- Add \$2 Donation for diaper cream



*Extra information available in the
Gathering Area or see Janalee Keppy.*

"COVER WITH LOVE" QUILTS — collected at Midwest Mission

- * Use your own pattern or find one at:
midwestmission.org/kits-projects-patterns/handmade-itemspatterns
- * Finished size needs to be 42"x60"
- * Use NEW cotton, polycotton or flannel fabric
- * Do NOT use batting or ties.



Personal Dignity Kit

- 1 Bath Hand Towel – No kitchen towels
- 1 Bath Washcloth – No dishcloths
- 1 Adult Toothbrush – No multipacks
- 1 Bar Soap – 3-4 oz.
- 1 Shampoo – 12-19 oz.
- 1 Deodorant – 2-3 oz. stick, roll on, or pump
- Add \$2 Donation for razor and toothpaste



SCHEDULE OF VOLUNTEERS

DATE	HOSTS	ACOLYTE	LITURGIST	PIANIST	TV SCREENS	TREATS	FLOWERS
8/6*	Sondra Bulazo; Norma Neilson	Norma Neilson	Joyce Orcutt	Kathy Dawson	CJ Albertson	Kelly Cronkleton; Betty Frazee	Frazee
8/13	Boise & Daisy Schoonover	Boise Schoonover	Marianne Doonan	Linda Reickard	CJ Albertson	Carol Haugland; Linda Reickard	Wright
8/20	Dee Childers; Mary Thomas	Dietrich Muhs	CJ Albertson	Kathy Dawson	Stacy Muhs	Sondra Bulazo; Christie Nevenhoven	Jacki e Berhenke
8/27	Dave & Stacy Muhs	Dave Muhs	Keith Riewerts	CJ Albertson	Trish Reisener	Rheta Allen; Judy Kilzer	

*Prepare & Serve Communion (6th): Becky & Dan Esbaum

*"The mission of
the Eldridge
United Methodist
Church is to be
a community of
loving disciples
who proclaim and
live love of God
and neighbor."*



...**DONNA EUDALEY** as she enters long-term care at The Summit in Bettendorf.

...insight, patience, flexibility, energy, discernment & faithfulness as **EUMC** works to move strongly forward to a bright future

...**Don Doonan** as he has lymph node surgery in Iowa City this week.

...the ongoing health concerns of **EUMC PARISHIONERS:** Kathy Dawson, Ken Fordham, Phil Johnston, Leona Lightner, Shirley Lucas, Joyce Orcutt, Tim Reickard, Sally & Keith Riewerts, Flo Veldhuis-Kroeze, and Fran Wilson

...peace for the **UKRAINIAN PEOPLE** and restoration of their lives and safety.

...for discernment, patience and peace for the people of the **UNITED STATES** as we work through so many difficult issues facing our country.

LEGAL TOPICS for Older Adults

Please take advantage of this important & informative presentation in which Iowa Legal Aid will offer assistance with questions about legal issues facing older adults (Medicare/Medicaid denial, wills & end-of-life planning, veterans benefits, Social Security, eviction / housing issues, debt collection, etc.). Attendees are invited to stay for lunch following the presentation, but reservations are required.

Wednesday, August 9

11:00 AM

Eldridge Community Center

400 S. 16th Ave

Please R.S.V.P. to Kristen at
(563) 484-3114 or
kmulholland@milestonesaaa.org

AUGUST HAPPENINGS

- Iues 1 Serve neighborhood sack lunches / 11am
- Thu 3 Serve neighborhood sack lunches / 11am
- Fri 4 Worship Committee meeting / 11am
- Sun 6 Worship with COMMUNION / 9am
- Tues 8 Serve neighborhood sack lunches / 11am
- Thu 10 PEACH orders due
 Serve neighborhood sack lunches / 11am
- Sat 12 Men's Breakfast at Tasty Cafe / 7am
- Sun 13 Worship / 9am
 CCT Board Meeting / 4pm
- Tue 15 C.Y.F.M. meeting / 5:30pm
- Thu 17 Administrative Council meeting / 6:30pm
- Sun 20 Worship w/Blessing of Backpacks / 9am
 Mission/Outreach meeting / 10:20am
- Mon 21 Pastor on Vacation (thru 8-28-23)
- Tue 22 Bible Study / 10am
- Wed 23 First day of classes at North Scott
 United Women of Faith mtg. / 3pm
- Sun 27 Worship (Grace Knapper) / 9am
- Tue 29 Bible Study / 10am
- Wed 30 Worship Committee meeting / 11am