



# FAITHnews

Monthly Newsletter of Eldridge United Methodist Church

**JANUARY 2024**

**Welcome 2024!!!**

1. What fun was had at our first **NEW YEAR'S EVE (Morning) PARTY** – unfortunately because of my clumsy fall, I missed it at the last minute, but I've heard from numerous folks that a fun, fun time was had by all – not to mention d-e-l-i-c-i-o-u-s food shared by all. Special thanks to Sue and John Cannon for all they did to get this going so well!!! See y'all next year???
2. This Sunday, January 7<sup>th</sup>, will be a very special service centered around Wesley's **COVENANT RENEWAL** as well as HOLY COMMUNION. You should have received a short explanation from Pastor Lee in your email earlier this week. We count on God's promises to us. Can He count on ours?
3. As usual, there will be **NO CHOIR PRACTICE** or anthem this Sunday (communion) but UN-usually, we will also NOT have choir rehearsal Sunday afternoon at 4. Therefore, please come next Sunday morning in plenty of time to start singing right at 8am in order to 'make up for a little lost time'.
4. **FOOD PANTRY** emphasis for the month of JANUARY is Canned Fruit and Pasta/Noodles.
5. I'm not sure how many of you are aware, but our friend and Charter Member, **CAROL KAY**, sold her house and has moved to Ankeny to be close to son Brian and family. Carol did much for our church throughout those many years and we will miss her. Here's what I heard from her this week: *"Slowly getting new place organized, have already met some of the people. We will have a New Year's party tomorrow from 5 to 8, Looking forward to meeting more residents. A wonderful couple finally got my TV and computer working. So will be back on line! Happy, happy. Missy and Brian, and Amy worked hard getting kitchen and bedroom and bath set up, now I just have to work on my other room. Please say hi to everyone and hope to hear all about what you are doing. EUMC will always be my church. Carol"*
6. January is always a 'slow' month around here (thank goodness after two VERY busy previous months!). Here are JANUARY CALENDAR DATES coming up this month:
  - \*Tuesdays / 10am – Bible Study in the Library (re-starting on 1-16)
  - \*Wednesdays / 9am – YOGA in the sanctuary
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> – Office re-opened
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> – Worship Committee monthly meeting / 1pm
  - 10<sup>th</sup> – Worship Committee special planning meeting / 1pm
  - 11<sup>th</sup> – Administrative Council monthly meeting / 6:30pm
  - 14<sup>th</sup> – Choir Rehearsals resume / 8am Sunday mornings
    - Adult Sunday School resumes / 10:15 Sunday mornings
  - 16<sup>th</sup> – Missions/Outreach Committee monthly meeting / 6:00pm ?
  - 17<sup>th</sup>-26<sup>th</sup> – CJ on a 'real' vacation (first time since Pastor Ron! Yippee!!!)

7. Trish would like me to remind you that if you have any questions about your End-of-Year 2023 Financial standing, please don't hesitate to catch her after church or call. She's happy to help out. (Year-End Giving Statements will be coming out in the next few weeks)

8.



**JANUARY**  
*Birthdays and Anniversaries*

Jan 3 John Cannon  
Jan 4 Traci Hardeman  
Jan 7 Ben Apple  
Jan 8 Reese Crain  
Jordan Reickard  
Jan 10 Jackie Berhenke  
Jan 11 Don Doonan  
Jan 14 Debbie Menke  
Joey Petersen  
Jan 17 Kelly Cronkleton  
Regan Greenwood  
Jan 19 Grace Kinney  
Jan 20 Becky Newmeister  
David Smith  
Jan 21 Garrett Schoonover  
Jan 24 **Mark & Nancy Herrin**



**FEBRUARY**  
*Birthdays and Anniversaries*

Feb 1 Pastor Courtney  
Feb 3 Keith Riewerts  
Feb 7 **Randy & Ana Kinney**  
Feb 8 Trish Reisener  
Feb 10 **Pastor Doug & Ethel Reynold**  
Feb 21 Rheta Allen  
Feb 27 Carol Haugland  
Feb 28 **Troy & Andrea Petersen**

9. **BIRTHDAY CLUB:** All good things come to an end and this seems to be one of them so 2023 will be the end of this initiative which was initially started in 2011 when we were definitely in more dire financial circumstances. And it was a GREAT thing -- **\$31,200** worth of 'great!' Thank you to all of you who gave over the years and especially to Laura Reth who kept track for us over the years.

10. **SAVE THE DATE** – Saturday, February 10<sup>th</sup> the Worship Committee is sponsoring another lovely Fellowship Activity. Couples, singles, families – we will celebrate **VALENTINE'S DAY** together (*Valentine's Day falls on Ash Wednesday this year*) with a dinner, music, and 'sweet' times together! More details as the date nears but mark those calendars!!!! (5-8pm)