

Our Vision:

A people and a community transformed through God's love.

Our Mission:

Transforming lives through:

- Humble Service
- Passionate Worship
- Extravagant Generosity

By growing committed Disciples for God's glory!



Roses & Thorns Reading Group

The Roses and Thorns Reading Group met on Jan. 2 to discuss "Why Women Should Rule the World" by Dee Dee Meyers. The book provided an eye-opening glimpse into life in the White House Press Office and the politics involved at that position. Dee Dee Meyers is a former Press Secretary for President Bill Clinton.



Pilgrimage to Compassion and Resurrection" by Gerald Thomas Straub

April — "Beaded Hope" by Cathy Liggett

May — "I am Nujood, Age 10 and Divorced" by Nujood Ali

June — "A Single Thread" by Marie Bostwick

July — "Laugh Your Way to Grace" by Susan Sparks

We look forward to having you join us for the discussion even if you have not read the book.

The group will next meet on Monday, Feb. 6 at 7 p.m. to discuss "Season of Blessing" by Beverly LaHaye and Terri Blackstock.

Listed below are the books that were selected to be read through July:

March — "Hidden in the Rubble: A Haitian

Women on a Mission

Women on a Mission met on Tuesday, Jan. 17 with 10 members present.

First of all, we want to thank everyone for all the 5x7 rectangles. Two of our members pieced together six lap robes with these pieces. One was given with the fleece blankets and other crocheted or knitted

afghans to Meadowbrook Rehabilitation and Medicalodge (in Gardner) in December. The remaining five will be sent to Wellsville Retirement.

Our 2012 projects will continue with the fleece blankets, lab robes, completed afghans, scarves, and hats. If you want to participate,

please join us on the third Tuesday at 6:30 p.m. in the parsonage. We need to start building our supply again.

If you have any questions, please contact Kathy Hill, Jackie Walker, Carol Shobe, or any member of Women on a Mission.

Edgerton United Methodist Church



Pack well

During Lent, as we focus on Christ's journey to the cross, let's also examine the journey of our lives. The first task when leaving on any adventure is packing. What have you placed in your bag? Are you weighed down with temptations, self-doubt, money worries, relationship troubles? Have you overlooked any important items? Maybe your bag feels too empty for the challenges ahead. Remember to pack mercy, grace, and forgiveness.

Thanks to Easter, we know that our journey in Christ continues, even when the road becomes difficult. So as you prepare for Lent, carry with you the hope made possible by Jesus' sacrifice on our behalf.

— Based on the "Journey to Hope" sermon series, www.rethinkchurch.org/lent

A note about battery recycling:

We only collect **recyclable** batteries in the container at the church. Please dispose of all other types on your own. Thank you!



January Numbers

| Date | Attendance |
|-------|---------------------|
| 01/01 | ER: 49 |
| 01/08 | ER: 34 10:45 AM: 63 |
| 01/15 | ER: 37 10:45 AM: 76 |
| 01/22 | ER: 40 10:45 AM: 66 |

"Good News" Letter

Volume 9, Issue 2

February 2012

Music and Chocolate

Thanks to all who attended our "Chocolate Dinner Party"!

There were around 43 in attendance. Lots of creative chocolate delights were there to feast upon — fondue, gourmet chocolate candies and cakes, and even chocolate-covered bacon! The band played everything from classic jazz tunes to The Beatles to today's hits.

The treats were delectable and the company was outstanding. The Jazz Cigarettes (featuring our own Michael Stephenson) brought the house down.

Several people even cut a rug! Special thanks for the contributions that will allow us to continue our choir scholarship program.



Edgerton UMC Relay for Life Team Honored

On Friday, Jan. 20, Rita Jones was proud to receive recognition at the KC/Western Missouri Leadership Summit on behalf of the Edgerton UMC Relay For Life team. Our team was recognized as the top fundraising team in the KC/Western Missouri Region of the American Cancer Society for the 2011 Relay For Life season. This Region includes 86 Relay For Life events in western Missouri and the Kansas City metro area.



Rita is pictured here with Reuel Johnson, national vice president of Relay For Life.

The Edgerton UMC Relay For Life team once again thanks Shirley Strack's friend, Sandy Husted, who gave a very generous donation of \$25,000 to the American Cancer Society, which was credited to our team.

Edgerton United Methodist Church

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February 2012

Pastor’s Pen

"And now, a message from our sponsor"

by Pastor Bruce Draper

February 2012

Imagine you are on your way to work or school and there are assignments and deadlines running through your head – competing with thoughts and concerns of friends and family, competing with your iPod/CD/radio, competing with those text messages (*not while driving*), competing with those thoughts that persist like "is it worth it" or "am I worth it." Then, inside your head, everything turns completely silent and you hear a calm voice saying – “And now, a word from our sponsor.”



Wouldn't that be wonderful to have your anxieties put on hold for a moment while God had a personal word for you – a word that heals, a word that forgives, a word that teaches, a word that inspires, a word that conquers! Amen? We rarely get that kind

of revelation. Yet, we are continually offered an opportunity to be a part of this authentic faith community that is growing and learning – remembering that we are not perfect but are on that journey. We are part of a community that faces challenges, and through faith's power and inspiration, we press on through one to the next challenge. United we can do more; united with God we will do more.

The apostle Paul prayed for the young church in the city of Ephesus, chapter 3, “¹⁶ I ask that he will strengthen you in your inner selves from the riches of his glory through the Spirit. ¹⁷ I ask that Christ will live in your hearts through faith. As a result of having strong roots in love, ¹⁸ I ask that you'll have the power to grasp love's width and length, height and depth, together with all believers. ¹⁹ I ask that you'll know the love of Christ that is beyond knowledge so that you will be filled entirely with the fullness of God. ²⁰ Glory to God, who is able to do far beyond all that we could ask or imagine by his power at work within us; ²¹ glory to him in the church and in Christ Jesus for all generations, forever and always. Amen.” (CEB)

In that vein of persistent progress, we are excited to wrap up our current

sermon series, “When Christians Get it Wrong,” examining how we can better see ourselves in the light of new generations as we prepare to jointly transform the world in God's love. On Feb. 22, we begin the Lenten season with a brief Ash Wednesday service at 6:30 p.m., which will be followed by an orientation for any who are interested (or just curious) about taking the Disciple I course led by Pastor Bruce and assisted by James Repshire. Feb. 26 will be UMW Sunday, as our strong and committed unit shares their story of faith and mission to women and children in Edgerton and beyond. (There will be a special presentation, so don't miss it!) There will also be a special Lenten study led by Chris Kerr. Being involved in worship, mission, and ministry is who we are at Edgerton United Methodist Church. This is what we mean by our vision statement — “A people and a community transformed through God's love.”

Remember the interruption from our sponsor? I pray that our sponsor will continue to be Jesus Christ — the one who heals, the one who forgives, the one who is our support and our champion before the throne of God. And all God's people say, AMEN!



Youth Group Update

| February Youth Group Schedule | 4 p.m. and last until 5 p.m. Have a ride pick you up at 5:30 p.m. | Sunday, Feb. 26 Regular Youth Group, 4-5:30 p.m. |
|--|---|---|
| Sunday, Feb. 5 Regular Youth Group, 4-5:30 p.m. | Friday, Feb. 17-Saturday, Feb. 18 Spiritual Life Retreat at Camp Chippewa | Please contact Rachel with any questions at 913-548-8426. |
| Sunday, Feb. 12 Mission Trip BINGO Meet at EUMC at 3 p.m. with your baked goods to set up. Desserts will be given as prizes. BINGO will begin at | Meet at EUMC at 5:30 p.m. on Friday. Have a ride pick you up at EUMC at 3:30 p.m. on Saturday | |



United Methodist Women Activities

With an attendance of 17 members, the new year started off right! We were asked for a report on our membership and amount paid for local church and community. We have a total of 32 members, and contributed \$3,094 for the year of 2011 toward the church, Camp Chippewa, various mission trips, school supplies, clothing closet, Upper

Room, “green cups” for church, hams for food pantry, gifts for Breakfast with Santa, and various other local giving. Our local unit also gave an additional \$500 over our Five Rivers UMW Pledge in 2011.

Our mission opportunity and program for February will be Meadowbrook Rehabilitation in Gardner. Our meeting will be Saturday,

Feb. 11 at 8:45 a.m. The theme for our local unit in 2012 will be “Celebrating Diversity in Mission Outreach”. Please join us on Feb. 26 for UMW Sunday, and hear speaker Lorna Moore. The UMW theme will be carried out through our special day, concentrating on the UMW units at Topeka Correctional Facility.

Mission Team Update



Much appreciation and thanks for the donations the Mission Team received for our trip to Louisiana in March. We received \$850 from the three lunch fundraisers that were held. Five members of our church will be going to UMCOR Sager Brown Depot, Baldwin, La., March 11-17.

Thanks also for the participation we had in the Christmas Angel project in December. We were told the family had the best Christmas ever. Your generosity was fantastic!!

We started our Walk to Jerusalem on Jan. 15 with several signing up to walk. You can still put your name on the list and begin walking with us. The Service Squad has volunteered to calculate all of our miles and keep everyone posted as to how we are doing. On April 15 we will combine all of our mileage and send it to the district to be added with the other churches in our district. There is a steps, miles, and exercise converter on the right. This is an estimate; reflect your mileage as to how strenuous or mild your walk or exercise was.

During Lent this year we are going to give each member a bank and calendar that tells you about Heifer International and what donation you owe for that day. This is similar to last year, but not the same. You may pick up your calendar and bank at church on Sunday, Feb. 19, and return on Sunday, April 8 or April 15. After Feb. 19, the calendars and banks will be available in Fellowship

Hall. Lent is six weeks in length, and the calendar is only four weeks. We are suggesting that you reuse the remaining two weeks from one of the previous weeks in the calendar. Obviously, we will be sending your offerings to Heifer International. Somewhere on the calendars it encourages you to fill the Ark; we are asking you to fill the bank as full as possible.

| Steps to Miles Conversion Chart | | | |
|---|---------------|-------|-------------|
| Approximate – based on Shape Up America | | | |
| Steps | Minutes | Miles | |
| 500 | = 5 | = | 1/4 mile |
| 1000 | = 10 | = | 1/2 mile |
| 1500 | = 15 | = | 3/4 mile |
| 2000 | = 20 | = | 1 mile |
| 2500 | = 25 | = | 1 1/4 miles |
| 3000 | = 1/2 hour | = | 1 1/2 miles |
| 3500 | = 35 | = | 1 3/4 miles |
| 4000 | = 40 | = | 2 miles |
| 4500 | = 45 | = | 2 1/4 miles |
| 5000 | = 50 | = | 2 1/2 miles |
| 5500 | = 55 | = | 2 3/4 miles |
| 6000 | = 1 hour | = | 3 miles |
| 6500 | = 65 | = | 3 1/4 miles |
| 7000 | = 70 | = | 3 1/2 miles |
| 7500 | = 75 | = | 3 3/4 miles |
| 8000 | = 80 | = | 4 miles |
| 8500 | = 85 | = | 4 1/4 miles |
| 9000 | = 1 1/2 hours | = | 4 1/2 miles |
| 9500 | = 95 | = | 4 3/4 miles |
| 10000 | = 1 hr 40 min | = | 5 miles |