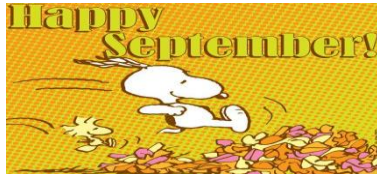


The Messenger

SEPTEMBER 2025



St. Paul United Methodist Church
P.O. Box 130
400 West G St.
Elmwood, NE 68349-0130
Phone: 402-994-6735
Email:



Pastor Michelle Chesnut
Cell phone: 402-314-7988
Email: mchesnut@greatplainsumc.org
Website: elmwoodmurdockumc.com



Ebenezer United Methodist Church
P. O. Box 307
220 Kansas Street
Murdock, NE 68407
Phone: 402-867-3191
Email: murdockumc1@gmail.com



shutterstock.com · 223014331

Reading Will Take You EVERYWHERE!



We want your assistance to help our students go on many adventures this year! When children are able to read 20 minutes a day, they will read 1,800,000 words per year! Reading takes people of all ages to someplace new, even when they do not have a place to go.

We would love to be able to provide one free book a month from the Scholastic Book program to the children we work with. A book would cost \$3 to \$5 each of the nine months of school. Please consider donating to help put books in the hands of children.

We have been VERY thankful for all of your donations the past few years and we LOVE seeing the excitement from the students as they pick out their new book!

Thank you again!

~Cathy Stewart

~Courtney Baer

~Carae Oehlerking

~Topanga Hawks

**SUNDAY SCHOOL STARTS ON
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 2025**

**9:30 a.m. at St. Paul UMC
and
During Worship Service at Ebenezer UMC**

UPCOMING COMMUNITY EVENTS

Cass County Food Pantry Distribution

Saturday, September 20, 2025, 9:00–11:00 a.m.

Location: Old Village Town Hall Building
113 West E Street, Elmwood

Elmwood Community Center

The Center is open for meals at noon or the weekday lunches can be delivered upon request or can be picked up at the center. Call 402-994-2145 to make a request. Grab 'N Go Meals are still happening every Friday during the summer, from 4:30 – 6:00 p.m. Please call to make reservations for these meals.

The Breakfast Buffet will begin again on Sunday, September 14th from 10:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Please make reservations no later than Friday, September 12th by calling the Center.

Activities: Low-Impact Exercises at 10:00 a.m.
Tuesdays and Thursdays

Pitch Card Games, Fridays, 2:00 p.m.

Pinochle Card Game, 3rd Monday of Month, 12:30 p.m.

UPCOMING FCCLA BLOOD DRIVES

12:00 – 6:00 P.M. EACH DATE

Monday, October 20th, Elmwood Fire Hall

Tuesday, December 16th, Elmwood Fire Hall

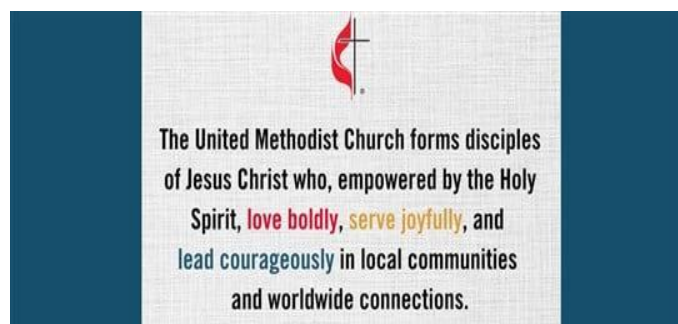
UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH CORNER

The Elmwood UWIF will meet on
Wednesday, September 3rd at 1:30 p.m. at
Laurel McReynolds' home.

The Murdock UWIF will meet on
Wednesday, September 3rd at 5:30 p.m. at the
church for the usual meal and fellowship.

Mat Weaving sessions will begin again on
September 10th and 24th at 1:30 p.m. in
Murdock UMC.

UWIF Annual Conference will be held on
Friday, Sept. 12 and Saturday, Sept. 13th at
the Topeka First UMC, Topeka, KS.
Registrations should be submitted by
September 3rd.



September Birthdays-Elmwood



Michael Krass – September 1
Caleb Kraeger – September 4
Layton Bornemeier – Sept. 6
Bruce Vogt – September 8
Michael D.L. Vogt – Sept. 8
Kathy Frahm – September 8
Emmie Fritz – September 8

Clint Bornemeier – September 14
Timothy Rorie – September 17
Coleman Lenz – September 17
Stella Burrows – September 17
Austin Hawks – September 18
Rose Offner – September 18
Dan Bornemeier – September 19

Breanna Romero – Sept. 19
Sydney Kunz – September 21
Kelly Meisinger – September 21
Jordan Vogt – September 24
Marthena DeGarmo – Sept. 25
Gary Vogt – September 29



September Birthdays-Murdock



Betty Burnham – September 8
Don Mills – September 11
Ellen Luetchens – September 26

Here is a way to help you clean out your garage/storeroom/basement/attic!

Midwest Mission in Illinois has a good list of items they could use when they send needed items to some third world countries. If you have already donated these items from your “collection”, another way to find them is to go to a local auction or thrift store and purchase them for only a little!

Medical Equipment: Foldable Walkers, Wheelchairs, Crutches, Canes

Lawn Tools and Hand Tools: Metal Rakes, Hoes, Shovels, Saws

Sports Equipment: Soccer balls, Soccer Cleats, Volleyballs, Basketballs

Bicycles, Fabric (over 1 yard), Sewing Notions, Sewing Machines.

A group from Nebraska is going to Midwest Mission on October 6-10, 2025 and could take donations with us. They would be happy to take items along when they go. Kelli Brewer is the best contact regarding your contribution.



CHOIR SINGERS AND BELL RINGERS NEEDED

It is that time of year for the vocal and bell choirs to begin again. If you like to sing, all vocal ranges are needed. If you are looking for an excuse not to join, age cannot be one. We range in age from pre-teen to geriatric. We are a multi-generational choir.

And if you would like to be a bell ringer, there is plenty of room. The technique is not hard to learn and if you can count to three, four or six, you are in.

You say you don't have time, well neither do the people already in either choir. When we have more people, it allows the members' schedules to be more flexible and fluid.

Due to conflicting schedules, there is a change in the schedule for both choirs. We will not have any practices on the first Wednesday of all the months. We usually end both choirs in April. The schedule for both choirs will begin September 10, 2025. Bells meet at 6:30 p.m. and vocal choir meets at 7:30 p.m.

Berthold Auerbach said “Music washes away from the soul the dust of everyday life.” So, after a long/hard work day, come and ring/sing or both and wash away the dust.

If you have any questions, please call/text Laurel at 402-440-5675.

See you on September 10th.

PASTOR'S PEN



In the middle of July, the twins were outside playing one morning. I was in the kitchen doing dishes and Easton came in saying that he and Emmett had found a cat. This is not a real unusual occurrence. There are a lot of cats in our neighborhood, most of which are wild and roam wherever they so choose. I am sure that I gave some kind of response like that is nice and continued doing what I was doing. Easton went outside and then came back in telling me I should come see the cat. Begrudgingly I went. I know that makes me sound like a terrible mom but if you are a parent, you know the trials of trying to complete any task while your children are home. They always need you for something that is probably not that significant and in my mind that is where this current cat situation lies. No need to insert that I know that I will one day wish for this time back with my kids, where they need me for things, I already feel that way and it is not a part of this story. 😊 Anyway, I went outside and sure enough the twins found a cat, not just a cat but a cute little black kitten.

Most of you probably don't know this about me but I am not a huge fan of cats. I mean they are alright from afar, or outside, but I kind of hate that indoor cats are all over everything and that they think they need to rub their butts in your face. Seriously, no thank you! Kittens however are sooo cute!!! I love their soft fur, their playful antics and their small little bodies! I know that makes no sense, cats are just kittens larger you say but I refuse to believe this...okay fine I know it is true but it is just how I feel.

Growing up we had cats. We had outdoor cats, and I loved them. I had a female cat named Cindy; she was a wonderful cat and she gave us many kittens. We grew up on a farm and although we had many kittens as many of you probably do know, that does not equal having lots of cats. So, I really don't hate cats, but I do not feel the need to have a cat. Until this little kitten shows up at our door. I didn't expect it to come to us when we found it outside, but it did. Instantly he let us hold him, and the boys convinced me that we should keep him inside.

So, we now have a cat. His name is Shadow and in the little over a month that we have had him, he has brought a lot of laughs, some frustrations and some interesting moments. Having him has allowed me to continue to say things that I never thought I would have to, to my children, like "You cannot fight over the cat, it is a living being and needs to stay in one piece." It has also introduced a new game to the household, called "where is the cat?" Always good times until you are attacked from behind while walking past the couch.

Mostly what this cat has taught me so far is that there are turning points in life that we don't always see coming. They are not always bad, and they are not always major, but they are still turning points. We see examples of turning points in the Bible as well. We are going to spend the month of September looking at a few examples of some big turning points for characters in the Bible. Oftentimes these turning points can also be called invitations. Are you waiting for your invitation? Revelation says this "Here I am! I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in and eat with that person, and they with me." Jesus is here ready with your invitation, are you ready to say yes to your turning point?

Until next time,
Pastor Michelle

Youth Bible Study



Youth Bible Study will again meet on the third Wednesday of each month, starting on September 17th at 5:30 p.m. at Ebenezer United Methodist Church.

September 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 <i>Labor Day</i>	2	3 1:30pm UWIF - E 5:30pm UWIF - M	4	5	6
7 9:00am Worship Service – M 9:30am Sunday School - E 10:35am Worship Service – E	8 7:00pm Church Council – M	9	10 1:30pm Mat Weaving – M 6:30pm Bell Practice - E 7:30pm Choir Practice - E	11	12	13
14 9:00am Worship Service – M 9:30am Sunday School - E 10:35am Worship Service – E	15 7:00pm Church Council - E	16	17 1:30pm Sew ‘N Sews – M 5:30pm Youth Bible Study - M	18	19	20 9-11:00am Food Pantry Distribution
21 9:00am Worship Service – M 9:30am Sunday School - E 10:35am Worship Service – E	22	23	24 1:30pm Mat Weaving - M	25	26	27
28 9:00am Worship Service – M 9:30am Sunday School - E 10:35am Worship Service – E	29	30				

**St. Paul United Methodist Church
P. O. Box 130
400 West "G" Street
Elmwood, NE 68349-0130**

Address Service Requested



MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 2025