

The Messenger

JUNE 2026



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



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

SNOWBALL MOUNTAIN CHALLENGE



Vacation Bible School 2026

"I can do all things through him who strengthens me." (Philippians 4:13)
God's strength can help us face challenges. Join us for an exciting winter sports event during the summer! We will face new challenges, make friends, and learn that with God's help, we can do more than we ever thought possible!

Monday, July 20-Thursday, July 23, 2026

6:00 PM - 8:00 PM

Elmwood Christian Church

Pre-K4 (potty trained) - 6th grade

\$15 per child or \$20 per family

Join us on July 23rd at 6:00 for the closing program and cookies at the church.

UPCOMING COMMUNITY EVENTS

Cass County Food Pantry Distribution

Saturday, June 20, 2026, 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 of the month from 4:30 – 6:00 p.m. Please call to make reservations for these meals or just stop in.

The Breakfast Buffet will not be offered during the summer months. It will start again in September.

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/Month, 12:30 p.m.

Upcoming Bloodmobile Date

Time is 12:00 to 6:00 p.m.

Thursday, June 25th, Elmwood Fire Hall

Elmwood Garage Sales: June 12 and 13, 2026

Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Saturday, 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH CORNER

The Elmwood UWIF will meet on
Wednesday, June 3, 2026 at 1:30 p.m. We
will be meeting at Donna Clements'
home. Suzie Allgayer will provide the
refreshments and Donna will provide
the lesson that day.

The Murdock UWIF will meet on
Wednesday, May 6, 2026 at 5:30 p.m. at
the church for their usual meal and
lesson.

The starting of the third plastic mat will
begin in September. Have a good
summer and will see you in Sept.

Everyone loves pies made with fresh
fruit. Since St. Paul will sponsoring the Pie
Ride on June 4th and July 16th, our pie makers
would like to receive some delicious fresh
fruit to use in the pies that will be offered to
the partakers of these pies. If you will have
any extra fruit that you can donate for this
activity, Linda Blunt would love to hear from
you.



June Birthdays-Elmwood



Kim Huxhold – June 1
Konrad Huxhold – June 2
Gary Reed – June 4
Elmer Miller – June 5
Tamara Rorie – June 7
Quinton Romero – June 7
Becky Callaway – June 8

Bonnie Brewer – June 9
Jerry Pointer – June 9
April Bacon – June 14
Ashton Ernst – June 17
Katelyn Stewart – June 18
Larry Fleischman – June 19
Lonnie Rorie – June 19

Joel Bornemeier – June 22
Bradley Backemeyer – June 22
David Nielsen – June 23
Jared Blunt – June 25
Daniel Fritz – June 25
Myrna Bornemeier – June 27



June Birthdays-Murdock



Jim Panska – June 1
Trace Hanson – June 3
Phyllis Buell – June 7
Zoe Zierott – June 10

Lori Rase – June 13
June Stock – June 25
Helen Streich – June 26
David Livers – June 28

PASTOR'S PEN



I don't know about you all but I love to listen to music. It is the thing that energizes me, makes me feel all the feels and often causes me to think. When I was in college, making mixed CDs was the thing to do. It was of course the way you let someone know that you liked them/ were thinking of them but it was also just the thing you did for yourself to have all your favorite songs in one spot. This was before the time of Spotify play lists and after the era of mixed cassette tapes. Anyway, the other day I found one of my old mixed CDs; luckily I have a car with a working CD player and I put it in to just spend a moment in the early 2000s. The CD was great! It really took me back to that place and time. As I was basking in the sweet tones of Matchbox 20, I realized all the songs on this CD were kind of sad. Actually not kind of, they were all sad, actually kind of depressing songs of heartbreak and loss.

I want to say that I was not that kid in the early 2000s. One I had never really had a serious boyfriend to where I could experience that kind of heartbreak. However, I was a freshman in college. I had just moved away from home for the first time. I didn't really have any friends yet, my Grandpa had just died,,,so maybe I was that sad and just didn't even realize it. I mean looking back it was not the highlight of my time in college. There was definitely an adjustment period; I had left college after my first day to go back home for my Grandpa's funeral, that was not ideal. Looking back I would say I was definitely in a season of Job. A season where things didn't seem to be going right. You have probably experienced these times as well. Not just a day where things are bad but a whole season where you feel like the hits just keep coming. A period of time where nothing is going right, where it no longer is a surprise when the next person comes to tell you that something else has gone wrong.

Sometimes I am very aware when I am in a season of Job, while I am in it but I think it is possible to not realize you are in or until you make it to the other side. Overall though it is how we handle the season that matters. I can tell you that I did not handle my season of Job in the early 2000s with the most grace. I would tell you that I turned away and ran from God, although I am not sure that is entirely accurate either. I was certainly angry with God, I certainly did not attend church on a regular basis for years, but I also volunteered at a Catholic elementary school and participated in a semi-regular Bible study and worked at church camp during the summer...so maybe I didn't turn away entirely I also leaned heavily on music to help me work through it.

We will undoubtedly find ourselves in a season of Job again. It is the cycle of life I think; the question is are we praising God for his unwavering place in ourselves or are we leaning/running away seeking to find the comfort we need from a different source. I can tell you from experience that although the music was great, it was not the thing that got me through the season, it was God because the music kept me stuck in that place and God helped me through it.

May you walk through whatever season you are in relying on God to help you through.

Until Next Time,
Pastor Michelle

2026 Pie Ride Community Fundraisers

These evenings in the Elmwood Park offer memorable food, entertainment, and fellowship while helping support many organizations in our community.

St. Paul UMC usually starts with 32 pies, but at our last Pie Ride in 2025, we were blessed to have **42 pies** to serve.

The pies just kept coming—and it turned out perfectly, because we kept serving and serving.

By the end of the evening, there wasn't much pie left!

The event showed us how much people look forward to these summer evenings and how much our community truly loves pie.

It was our **best Pie Ride** since this community event began in 2021. Through the years, we have raised funds by serving homemade pies, ice cream, brownies, root beer floats, sundaes, and Rice Krispies bars while enjoying local musical talent.

There will be a sign-up sheet at the back of the church in early May for anyone who would like to help make this year just as successful as previous years. Your support is key to make this event one to remember for everyone.

St. Paul UMC is kicking off the **2026 Pie Ride season on June 4**, with proceeds benefiting the **Elmwood Community Center** as they work toward their goal of new windows and improved frontage.

Below is this year's schedule, including dates, bands, and the organizations serving at each event.

We look forward to another wonderful season of community, music, and pie!

Elmwood Aldrich Park or other locations

Serving pies and desserts from 5pm - 8pm

Bands start playing at 6pm

Thursday June 4, 2026 Greenblatt & Seay.....St. Paul UMC

Thursday June 18, 2026 Slick Fiction.....Catholic Church

Thursday July 2, 2026.....Lighting Bugs.....Christian Church

Thursday July 16, 2026.....McGovern String band...St. Paul UMC

Thursday July 30, 2026.....Paddywhack.....Bess Streeter Aldrich

Thursday August 13, 2026.....Josh Hoyer.....Christian Church

Thursday August 27, 2026.....Daniel Christian.....Community Center



Thank you for your Support!

June 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3 1:30pm UWIF – E 5:30pm UWIF – M	4 5-8:00pm Pie Ride	5	6
7 9:00am Worship Service – M 10:35am Worship Service - E	8 7:00pm Church Council - M	9	10	11	12 Elmwood	13 Garage Sales
14 Flag Day 9:00am Worship Service – M 10:35am Worship Service - E	15 7:00pm Church Council - E	16	17	18 5-8:00pm Pie Ride	19	20 9-11:00am Food Pantry Distribution
21 Father's Day 9:00am Worship Service – M 10:35am Worship Service - E	22	23	24	25 12-6:00pm Bloodmobile – Elmwood Fire Hall	26	27
28 9:00am Worship Service – M 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



SUNDAY, JUNE 21, 2026