

# The Messenger

July 2024



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](mailto:stpaulelmwood@gmail.com)

Pastor Michelle Chesnut  
Cell phone: 402-314-7988  
Email: [mchesnut@greatplainsumc.org](mailto:mchesnut@greatplainsumc.org)  
Website: [elmwoodmurdockumc.com](http://elmwoodmurdockumc.com)

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

## VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

JULY 8-12, 2024

6:00 P.M. TO 8:00 P.M.

AT ELMWOOD CHRISTIAN CHURCH  
311 N. 5<sup>TH</sup> STREET, ELMWOOD, NE

CHILDREN: PRE-K TO 6<sup>TH</sup> GRADE

\$15 PER CHILD OR \$20 PER FAMILY

PARENTS ARE INVITED TO COME TO A SPECIAL  
PRESENTATION ON FRIDAY EVENING.

COOPERATIVE EFFORT HOSTED BY ST. PAUL UMC,  
EBENEZER UMC AND ELMWOOD CHRISTIAN  
CHURCHES

## UPCOMING COMMUNITY EVENTS

### Cass County Food Pantry Distribution

Saturday, July 20, 2024, 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 for lunch.

### THANK YOU FROM THE CENTER

We appreciate the support from St. Paul UMC and Ebenezer UMC for assisting with the finances we need to replace the wooden cabinets in our kitchen. Thank you very much!

### Elmwood Pie Rides



These Pie Rides will continue on July 11 and 25, from 5-8:00 p.m. Pizza can be purchased at Elmwood C Store or The Quonset.

Pie and ice cream will be available at Elmwood Community Center on the 11<sup>th</sup> and Aldrich Foundation will be providing the pie on the 25<sup>th</sup>.

## **UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH CORNER**

**The Elmwood St. Paul UWF will meet on Monday, July 1, 2024 at Martha Ann Bornemeier's for a potluck supper at 6:00 p.m.**

**The Murdock UWF will not meet in July or August. Meetings will start again in September.**

### **CHURCH MEMBERS IN ASSISTED LIVING CENTERS**

Marcie Miller, Bailey Point  
7208 Van Dorn St., Lincoln, NE 68506

Steve Henk, Louisville Care Center,  
410 W. 5<sup>th</sup>, Louisville, NE 68037

Joyce Hammons  
Good Samaritan Society, #115  
1622 Walnut Street  
Syracuse, NE 68446



### **July Birthdays-Elmwood**



Ed Blunt – July 1  
Marcie Poteet – July 1  
Michael Vogt – July 4  
Christine Kunz – July 6  
Claire Ernst – July 6  
Sarah Kraeger – July 6  
Thomas Rase – July 7  
Faith Offner – July 7  
Caytlin Anstey – July 7  
Wayne Althouse – July 8

Kirsten Struble – July 8  
Donna Clements – July 9  
Richard Hawks – July 10  
Heath Vogt – July 15  
Suzie Allgayer – July 16  
Sherry Stubbendeck – July 18  
Jacob Stewart – July 18  
Quade Anstey – July 18  
Sidney Brummer – July 19

Bruce Kraeger – July 19  
James Hendrix – July 19  
Walter Oehlerking – July 19  
Marion Wenzel – July 20  
Barbara Miller – July 24  
Spencer Stewart – July 25  
Clint Poteet – July 25  
Barbara Frederickson – July 28  
Jim Kerns – July 29  
Marshall Vogt – July 30



### **July Birthdays-Murdock**



Mike Hanson – July 2  
Jean Baumeister – July 5  
Mel Luetchens – July 5  
Randy Bornemeier – July 10

Mike Koehn – July 14  
Kim Streich – July 20  
Nathan Miller – July 31

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# MIDWEST

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disaster relief • education



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# MISSION

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health • micro business

## SENDING HOPE AND EMPOWERMENT AROUND THE WORLD AND AROUND THE CORNER

**Micro Business** - We take bicycles in all sizes that are in **good working condition**. Transportation is one of the largest barriers people in poverty face, whether in the United States or abroad. Having a bicycle means having a better opportunity for education, health care, and work.

We take all treadle machines & working sewing machines. After a tune up, we send sewing machines to nonprofits around the world who take them and teach women how to sew. After they learn how to sew, they are able to make clothing and needed items for their families, and they are able to make items to sell. In many cases, this prevents them from having to sell their bodies. We shipped 539 sewing machines which includes 60 treadles overseas in 2023 and gave away 360 bikes.

The most requested kits are Personal Dignity and Student and these numbers continue to increase. In 2022, 17,450 Student Kits and 24,050 Personal Dignity Kits were given away. In 2023, the numbers increased to 23,670 Student Kits and 35,701 Personal Dignity Kits. Every kit includes a Prayer card that says “Packaged with love by your brothers and sisters in Christ. We are praying for you.” Personal Dignity Kits have 8 items in a one-gallon resealable plastic bag that is inside a drawstring bag so it’s easy to carry. Each kit costs \$8. Student Kits have 8 items that fit inside a one-handled cloth bag. Each kit costs about \$8. [www.midwestmission.org](http://www.midwestmission.org) has patterns, shows how to assemble all kits, and even has Amazon shopping lists for items. The items can be shipped to Midwest Mission or anywhere kits are being assembled.

In 2022, for every \$1 Midwest Mission spent, we sent out \$7.85 of supplies. In 2023 we sent out \$6.45 million worth of humanitarian aid to 2.7+ million people. This included \$1.7 million worth of medical supplies and 189,577 rice meal bags that fed 1.14 million hungry people.

**The Midwest Mission Process** 1) Partners - all our work is done in partnership with trusted nonprofits such as Food for the Poor, Catholic Charities, Angels of Hope, US Southern Command, North Star Foundation, UMVIM (United Methodist Volunteers In Mission), and many other local, national, and international nonprofits.

2) Donations - We ask our supporters for monetary and in-kind (specific supplies such as tools or medical) donations to fill the needs our partners have shared with us.

3) Volunteers - Volunteers process, revitalize, and assemble the donated items, both at Midwest Mission in IL and around the country. In 2023, there were 45,484 volunteer hours of work.

4) Distributions - Donations are given to trusted nonprofits to distribute to those in need.

5) Follow Up - The nonprofits give us reports about who was impacted and pictures of the distributions. MM notifies you or your group when and where they ship your donated items.

I hope your interest in Midwest Mission is growing and that you will support them. Kelli Brewer

# PASTOR'S PEN



Happy July!

Growing up, the summer days were so wonderful; they were filled with days spent with my Dad and my Grandpa on the farm, or inside with my Grandma playing games. They were filled with days that didn't seem to have a schedule, other than the knowledge that at 4pm we would most likely be eating ice cream. Ice Cream Time has become one of my favorite things; it was something that was so memorable that we still talk and participate in ice cream time when I am with my family. I don't know why 4:00 was the right time for ice cream; I suppose because it was the perfect time after lunch and before dinner. The perfect time to take a break and check in with my Grandma who was homebound to make sure that everything was okay. But still there was just something so special about this particular activity; possibly it was Grandpa using his thumb, the only remaining finger on his right hand to make hole in the top of our ice cream cone to fill with chocolate syrup or maybe it was just the communion that happened around the table as we took some time out of the craziness of farm life to eat ice cream.

I read a memo the other day on Facebook that said that butterflies don't fly during a storm, that they know it is time to rest through the storm. I have been thinking a lot about the idea of rest. What it looks like, what it means and how we do or do not do it. The world often seems to be going so fast. We often feel like we have to fill all of our time. Especially in the United States we have a mentality that if we are not constantly running at 100 miles an hour, we are not going to be successful, that we are not doing what we are supposed to, that we are lazy. We work ourselves up to where we think we are so important that if we don't do every little thing, if we don't have our hands in all things, if our kids aren't in every activity, we are failing. But are we? What good does packing our days, weeks, months so full that we can't even think straight do? What good does it do to just run, run, run and never appreciate where we are? When we are in the middle of a storm, when life is going so crazy and we feel like we have to keep moving, what would it mean if we just stopped and took a break? What would it look like if we were more like the butterfly who knew that we need to just stop, rest and take care of ourselves when the storm is brewing outside? What if we took a break to just eat ice cream, just took a break?

This month we are talking about the patterns of Jesus. When I think about what we as humans do well when we work to emulate Jesus' life, there are a few things; we take care to feed the hungry, to clothe the naked, we even visit the sick and imprisoned okay. One thing that we don't do well that Jesus did do well is rest. Jesus took time away from the craziness of this life. He took a nap on a boat in the middle of a storm. He went off to pray while Judas was betraying him, after being baptized He put his whole life on pause for 40 days to pray in the desert. Why do we think we are above resting? Why do we think that what we need to do when everything feels crazy is to keep going?

Jesus invited those he was with to even rest when things got crazy. The Gospel of Mark says "Then, because so many people were coming and going that they did not even have a chance to eat, he said to them, 'Come with me by yourselves to a quiet place and get some rest.'" May you find some time this month to get rest. Whether it is Ice Cream Time, rest during a storm or a break when life is overwhelming, may you remember that a break is sometimes exactly what God is ordering for us.

Until Next Time,  
Pastor Michelle



# July 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 6:00pm UWF – E	2	3	4 4 <sup>th</sup> of July Celebration – Murdock All Day Events	5	6
7 9:00am Worship Service – M  10:35am Worship Service - E	8 7:00pm Church Council – M  6:00pm -	9 8:00pm	10 VACATION	11 BIBLE	12 SCHOOL	13
14 9:00am Worship Service – M  10:35am Worship Service - E	15 7:00pm Church Council - E	16	17	18	19	20 9-11am Food Pantry Distribution
21 9:00am Worship Service – M  10:35am Worship Service - E	22	23	24	25	26	27
28 9:00am Worship Service – M  10:35am Worship Service - E	29	30	31	1	2	3

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

Address Service Requested



**FOURTH OF JULY**  
*Celebration*

**THURS 04 JULY**  
**Murdock, NE**

**2024 SCHEDULE OF MURDOCK EVENTS**

10:00 AM	Parade Line-Up at the High School
10:00 AM - 1:00 PM	Free Petting Zoo <i>Sponsored by Cass County Creative Cats</i>
10:00 AM - 2:00 PM	Murdock Museum
11:00 AM	Murdock Parade
	Free Watermelon <i>Sponsored by Tomorrow's Producers 4H</i>
	Show & Shine - \$5 Entry Per Vehicle, Prizes for Cars, Trucks, Antique Tractors, and Motorcycles <i>Sponsored by Corn Growers State Bank, DH Construction Inc, Madsen's Murdock Grill</i>
11:00 AM - 1:00 PM	Lions Club Lunch
11:00 AM - 11:00 PM	Madsen's Murdock Grill
12:00 PM - 2:00 PM	Free Kids Games & Activities <i>at Murdock Museum</i>
12:00 PM - 3:00 PM	Pie & Ice Cream Social <i>at United Methodist Church Basement</i>
	Dusk
	Fireworks <i>at Ballfield - Donations Appreciated!</i>

PLEASE SUPPORT THESE EMMA EVENT SPONSORS



Promotional materials funded in part by a grant from Cass County Tourism - [www.visitcasscounty.com](http://www.visitcasscounty.com)  
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