

# The Messenger

## MARCH 2020



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

Sunday, March 8, 2020, 2:00 a.m.

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)

### WORSHIP HELPERS FOR MARCH

#### ELMWOOD

##### March 1

Greeters: Tyson and Cassie Vogt  
Acolytes: Madden Vogt, Hudson Vogt  
Scripture Reader: Dani Dunker  
Communion Server: Dani Dunker  
Worship Refreshments: Angela Vogt

##### March 8

Greeters: Gerry and Carol Wilhelm  
Ushers: Dan and Myrna Bornemeier  
Scripture Reader: Myrna Bornemeier  
Worship Refreshments: Myrna Bornemeier

##### March 15

Greeters: Merle and Joyce Backemeyer  
Scripture Reader: Barb Minch  
Worship Refreshments: Martha Ann Bornemeier

##### March 22

Greeters: Walter and Carolyn Oehlerking  
Scripture Reader: Laurel McReynolds  
Worship Refreshments: Shirley Bornemeier

##### March 29

Ushers: Dave and Drake Spohr  
Scripture Reader: Lori Spohr  
Worship Refreshments: Fundraiser Dinner

#### MURDOCK

##### March 1

Greeters: Hanson Family  
Ushers: Jeff and Lindsay Backemeyer  
Family  
Scripture Reader: Angie Friesell  
First Sunday Donut Time: Dave and Jean  
Baumeister

##### March 8

Greeters: Ed Bokamper  
Ushers: Gene and Bette Backemeyer  
Scripture Reader: Mark Buell

##### March 15

Greeters: Wayne and Helen Luetchens  
Ushers: Dave and Angie Friesell  
Scripture Reader: Angie Friesell

##### March 22

Greeters: Brad & Heidi Zierott & Girls  
Ushers: OPEN  
Scripture Reader: Lori Rase

##### March 29

Greeters: Marvin and Ramona Oehlerking  
Ushers: Dave and Angie Friesell  
Scripture Reader: Angie Friesell

### CHURCH COUNCIL MEETINGS

The Murdock's Church Council meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 10, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.

The Elmwood's Church Council meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 24, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.

# UPCOMING COMMUNITY EVENTS

## Chicken and Biscuit Dinner

Syracuse UMC, 560 6<sup>th</sup> Street  
Sunday, March 1, 2020, 5-7:00 p.m.

## Shop at Bits and Pieces

Sunday, March 8, 2020, 1-4:00 p.m.  
Proceeds benefit the Downs Syndrome Advocate

## Cass County Food Pantry Distribution

Saturday, March 21, 2020, 9:00–11:00 a.m.  
Elmwood Community Center

## Nutrition Event with Kelly Nuno, Nutritional Therapist,

on Sunday, March 22, 2020, 1-3:00  
p.m. at St. Paul UMC, learn how to slash your  
grocery bill while still buying healthy foods

## Dinner Fundraiser at St. Paul UMC

Sunday, March 29, 2020, 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m.  
Come and have some delicious food and  
welcoming fellowship.

# UMW CORNER

## Next Meeting - Elmwood

Monday, March 2, 2020, 7:00 p.m.  
Location: Joyce Backemeyer  
Lesson: Laurel McReynolds  
Easter Theme

## Next Meeting - Murdock

Wednesday, March 4, 2020, 5:45 p.m.

## Save the Date for

Blue River District UMW Spring Event  
Saturday, April 25, 2020, 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.  
Elmwood St. Paul UMC

## Petals and Purses Salad Luncheon

Elmwood Christian Church Women's Fellowship  
cordially invites all women to a spring salad  
luncheon, followed by a program on purses given  
by Sharon Crosby. RSVP to Carolyn Golden at  
308-293-6678 by March 15<sup>th</sup>.



## March Birthdays-Elmwood



Melissa Wheeler – March 3  
Becky vonRenzell – March 5  
Marissa Oehlerking – March 6  
Lyn Kopf – March 8  
Rebecca Smith – March 9  
Dan Spaulding – March 10  
Shirly Wenzel – March 13

Sharon Stewart – March 13  
Brian Hoffman – March 15  
Tucker Oehlerking – March 16  
Grace Kraeger – March 16  
Haley Kollars – March 16  
Bethany Bornemeier – March 16  
Brianna Poteet – March 20

Marcie Miller – March 22  
Ella and Hudson Vogt – March 23  
Teresa Hawks – March 23  
Jase Blunt – March 27  
Chad Peterson – March 29  
Adam Wenzel – March 29  
Brent Vogt – March 30  
Carol Wilhelm – March 30



## March Birthdays-Murdock



Dave Friesell – March 1  
Kirstie Harvey – March 9  
Kyler Rikli – March 10  
Lawrence Smith – March 16  
Thea Bornemeier – March 20  
Linda Glantz – March 20

Annie Backemeyer – March 22  
Justin Baumeister – March 22  
Drew Backemeyer – March 23  
Isabelle Hartman – March 26  
Benjamin Harvey – March 27  
Charles Schafer – March 27  
Tony Synovec – March 30

# PASTOR'S PEN



Greetings!

We have made it to March and the beginning of Lent. We often treat Lent as a time where we must deprive ourselves of something. As I was growing up, I remember giving up things like candy, chocolate, gum or soda. It was a time where I could not wait to get to Easter so I could gorge myself on whatever it was that I had given up. My friends would also give something up but would count the days and realize that Sundays don't count towards the 40 days of Lent so they would partake in giving something up except for on Sundays, where they were allowed to eat or do whatever it was that they had given up. As I reflect on those times now, I am not sure that it was really what the theologians had in mind when this tradition of depravity was created.

I want to encourage you to approach this Lent maybe differently than you have in the past. Instead of giving up something that you have no intention of giving up for longer than 40 days, what if we used these 40 days to discern, to pray to explore more deeply where we feel that God is calling us as individuals and as a church. We take these 40 days and see where we can make the most impact in our community, in our families and ourselves. It is important to find a space every day to spend in prayer, to have the conversation with God.

The kids learned the 5-finger prayer in February; it is a great base, a place to get started when praying. When looking at your hand, each finger represents a category that is important in prayer. To thank God, to tell God we love him, to say we are sorry for our sins, to ask God to help others, to ask God to help us and then in the end to remember that we are listening for God's responses. We use that as a base and then fill in the gaps to fit the situation we are in. When we really take the time to be in prayer and to listen, we will find ourselves led to do amazing things, to take leaps of faith and know that God will continue to provide.

Psalm 121:1-3 says "I raise my eyes toward the mountains. Where will my help come from? <sup>2</sup>My help comes from the LORD, the maker of heaven and earth. <sup>3</sup>God won't let your foot slip. Your protector won't fall asleep on the job." When we discern and travel the path that God has set out for us God protects us, he provides and he helps us along the way.

I pray that in this time of Lent that you are all able to take the time to pray, discern and are felt led by God to continue to do His work.

Blessings,  
Pastor Michelle

## **SPECIAL MEETING**

*Notice for Elmwood St. Paul:*

*We will have an all church meeting on Sunday March 15th after church at approximately 11:30am. We will provide lunch and will be discussing a new opportunity for community involvement, expansion and acquiring property.*

*Please plan to join us for this important meeting.  
Thanks, St. Paul Trustees*

*Please excuse our mess!*

*We are still doing some renovations at St. Paul in Elmwood, new carpet, paint and rearranging so we have things not in the normal place while we get it all put together. We appreciate your patience as we work on improving our space.*

### LENTEN STUDY

Beginning February 27, 2020, Pastor Michelle Chesnut will be reviewing the book, "The Walk" by Adam Hamilton. "The Walk" focuses on five essential spiritual practices that are rooted in Jesus' own walk with God and taught throughout the New Testament. Each of these practices is a part of our daily walk with Christ and an essential part of growing together in the church.

The first meeting will be held at 7:00 p.m. on February 27<sup>th</sup> and will be an introduction to the book and the study's objectives. You will receive the book at that time or it will be available through the church office. The cost of the book is \$13.99 and \$14.99 for large print. We will meet on Thursday evenings at 7:00 p.m. at Murdock UMC. You may join the study at any time during Lent if you are unable to make the first meeting.

Deepen your walk with Christ as we explore the five essential practices of worship, study, serving, giving and sharing our faith.

## UMYF NEWS

(UMYF is for all 7<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> graders.)



Meet at St. Paul UMC and then we will go bowling and eat out somewhere.

Sunday, March 15, 2020, 1-4:00 p.m.

## SPECIAL BIRTHDAYS

### CARD SHOWER FOR:

Lawrence Smith, 90<sup>th</sup> on March 16<sup>th</sup>  
5700 Fremont St., #337  
Lincoln, NE 68507

Shirley Wenzel, 91<sup>st</sup> on March 13<sup>th</sup>  
Good Samaritan  
1622 Walnut St.  
Syracuse, NE 68446

### UMCOR TRUCK AT ANNUAL CONFERENCE

The UMCOR Salt Lake City Depot needs Cleaning, Hygiene and School Kits. Donations are being collected at the Annual Conference on May 27 and 28<sup>th</sup> in Topeka, KS. They are accepting only completed kits, no individual items. Items for the kits can be found at <http://www.umcor.org/UMCOR/Relief-Supplies>.

### Michael W. Smith Concert

Friday, March 27, 2020, 7:30 p.m.

Rococo Theatre, Lincoln, NE

10% for Groups of 10 or more

[www.awakeningevents.com](http://www.awakeningevents.com) for tickets.

### COMING IN APRIL

"Journey to the Cross", 3B Homestead,  
Murdock, April 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>, 4-7:00 p.m.

Palm Sunday and Joy of Music, Sunday,  
April 5<sup>th</sup>, 6:00 p.m.

Easter Sunrise Service, Sunday, April 12<sup>th</sup>,  
6:30 a.m., location TBA

# March 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 9:00am Worship Service – M 9:30am Sunday School-E 10:35am Worship Service – E 5-7:00pm Dinner at Syracuse UMC	2 7:00pm UMW - E	3	4 5:45pm UMW- M  6:15pm Bell Practice – E 7:30pm Choir Practice - E	5 7:00pm Lenten Study - Murdock	6	7
8 9:00am Worship Service – M 9:30am Sunday School-E 10:35am Worship Service – E 1:00pm Confirmation-E	9 6:30pm Cub Scouts - E	10 7:00pm Church Council - M	11 6:00pm Confirmation – M  6:15pm Bell Practice – E 7:30pm Choir Practice - E	12 7:00pm Lenten Study - Murdock	13	14
15 9:00am Worship Service – M 9:30am Sunday School-E 10:35am Worship Service – E 11:35am All Church Meeting – E 1:30-5:30pm 4-H-E 1-4:00pm UMYF-E	16	17	18 1:30pm Sew 'N Sews – M  6:15pm Bell Practice – E  6:30pm VBS Planning – E 7:30pm Choir Practice - E	19 7:00pm Lenten Study - Murdock	20	21 9-11:00am Food Pantry Distribution  12:00pm Salad Lunch – E. Christian Church
22 9:00am Worship Service – M 9:30am Sunday School-E 10:35am Worship Service – E 1-3:00pm Nutrition Event - E 1:00pm Confirmation - E	23 6:30pm Cub Scouts – E	24 7:00pm Church Council - E	25 6:00pm Confirmation – M  6:15pm Bell Practice – E 7:30pm Choir Practice - E	26 7:00pm Lenten Study - Murdock	27 7:30 pm Michael W. Smith Concert in Lincoln	28
29 9:00am Worship Service – M 9:30am Sunday School-E 10:35am Worship Service – E 11:35am Fundraiser Dinner - Elmwood	30	31				

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

**Address Service Requested**

