

The Messenger

MAY 2022



St. Paul United Methodist Church
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SON-SHINE CHILD CARE CENTER



All the kids and teachers have been enjoying the spring weather we've been having lately! We spent half the day last week at the city park and even had a picnic. All classes did fun activities to celebrate the miracle that is Easter!

We have also expanded the cement slab out back to allow the kids more room to play, and we are planning on expanding the fenced area as well to give the younger kiddos more space as well.



UMYF NEWS

(All 7th-12th graders.)

UMYF will going to a baseball game on May 1st as our last fun event for this year. We will meet at St. Paul at 12:30 p.m. to go to the Storm Chasers game.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

May 1st will be the last day for Sunday School at St. Paul UMC. We will be making May baskets.

May 8th will be the last day for Sunday School at Ebenezer UMC.

The Christian Church will be hosting the Vacation Bible School on July 11-15th.

UPCOMING COMMUNITY EVENTS

Cass County Food Pantry Distribution

Saturday, May 21, 2022, 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.

Memorial Day Service

Will be held at the Elmwood Cemetery on Monday, May 30th at 10:00 a.m.

Elmwood Community Center will be hosting the Memorial Day luncheon from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Free will offering. Everyone is welcome!

The G.A.R. Hall Veterans Museum will be open in the afternoon.

Elmwood Farmers Market

Will begin on Saturday, May 7th through September

UMW CORNER

The Elmwood UMW will meet on Monday, May 2, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. We will meet at Joyce Backemeyer's and Bonnie Drake has the lesson.

Murdock UMW will meet on Wednesday, May 4, 2022 at 5:30 p.m. for our usual meal and meeting.

The Elmwood UMW collects the Best Choice labels and submits them for a small refund. We would appreciate receiving any of these labels that you might have. They can be found on certain food items at Russ's Market and Super Saver grocery stores. Thank you for the donations.

The Elmwood UMW will host the Graduate Recognition for our High School graduates on Sunday, May 8, 2022 at 9:45 a.m. Please join us to wish good luck to all these graduates.



May Birthdays-Elmwood



Tara Zeorian – May 4
Aaron Tummons – May 4
Janet Medcalf – May 7
Jacob Blunt – May 9
Nate Kollars – May 9
Tod Jones – May 11
Susan Russell – May 11

Marcus Kennedy – May 12
Tyler Jones – May 13
Emma Leone – May 14
Dr. James McReynolds – May 19
Mick Bornemeier – May 21
Laurel McReynolds – May 22
Max Wynegar – May 23

Otto Vogt – May 23
Brady Bornemeier – May 25
Nathan Brettmann – May 26
Lori Spohr – May 26
Vicki Fleischman – May 27
Carae Oehlerking – May 31



May Birthdays-Murdock



Easton/Emmett Chesnut – May 2
Gene Backemeyer – May 4
Morgan Mills – May 9
Evon Lowery – May 11
Benjamin Stock – May 15

Dorothy Stock – May 20
Bo Backemeyer – May 21
Tony Snyder – May 22
Jessica Butler – May 25

PASTOR'S PEN



Happy May!

May has always been a month of great excitement for me. Although now that I think about it, I am not sure there is a month that doesn't hold something great in it. But May has always meant the end of the school year and the start of summer. Lazy days with no schedule. Days filled with fun, summer camps, and swimming.

I think that it is fitting that for the church calendar, May sits in the middle of the Easter season. Sometimes we think of Easter as just one weekend. We celebrate the tomb being empty and then move on; but liturgically (church speak for worship/church ritual) Easter Sunday kicks off the season of Easter. For the 40 days following Easter Sunday we are to continue to celebrate the empty tomb as well as the time that Jesus spends on Earth before ascending into Heaven. It is fitting that May and the Easter season go together because to me May is a time of celebrating. A time where we celebrate the accomplishments of our students when they graduate. We celebrate the ending of one chapter and the beginning of another. We celebrate the unofficial start of summer. Just as we should continue to celebrate that the tomb is empty and Jesus continues to walk among us on Earth.

When we treat Easter as a single Sunday, I think we can easily forget the meaning behind it. We can justify not being as dedicated to our faith as we are supposed to be. We can justify not spreading the good news to others the other 50 weeks of the year. We can justify not praying or being generous or not relying on God for all things the way we are told to if we are truly followers of God. When we think that Easter is a one-day occurrence, an ending to the story, we can easily forget that the story is most certainly not finished but rather just starting. If we thought our education was complete the moment we graduated from high school, think of all that we would be missing? No matter what comes next in life, the story is not finished.

When Jesus died and rose from the dead, it was the start of a new chapter in the life of his followers. In fact, Jesus commissions his disciples after he comes back from the dead. Matthew 28:16-20 says "Then the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had told them to go. When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted. Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely, I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

In this Easter season it is our job to go forth, to have faith, to celebrate the empty tomb and the starting of the next chapter in the life of the church. How are we writing the chapter? Are we doing our part to show the light of Christ to others? May you carry on with your Easter celebrations this month and beyond.

Until Next Time,
Pastor Michelle



Tucker J. Oehlerking

2022 Graduate

Join us to celebrate Tucker's Graduation from Elmwood-Murdock High School.

The church family is invited to the Oehlerking Shed (28614 'O' Street) on Friday, May 13th, from 5:00-10:00 PM for a meal and social time.

I want to thank everyone for your continued support throughout my elementary, junior high, and high school years. My faith in God has played a significant role in life and I am blessed to be part of this church.



Thank You!

To family and friends who expressed sympathy for my dad, Donald, through flowers, food, memorials, and cards.

Thank you for your kindness.
Dennis & Margie Nielsen and Families.

MONTHLY MISSION PROJECT



For the mission project in May, we will be collecting funds to add a bench to the Bess Streeter Aldrich House's outdoor garden. The Bess Streeter Aldrich Gardens have been beautifully preserved and updated, featuring twelve garden spaces named after Mrs. Aldrich's books. The gardens are included in Aldrich House tours and are used for events. A bench will add a lovely resting space for visitors enjoying the garden. If funds collected allow, a small patio table and chair set will also be purchased. If you have questions about this mission project or would like to learn more about the Aldrich Foundation, contact Kurk Shrader.

May 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 9:00am Worship Service – M 9:30am Sunday School – E 10:35am Worship Service – E 12:30am UMYF	2 7:00pm UMW- E at Joyce Backemeyer's	3 Letters from the Elms Exhibit Begins, Aldrich House	4 7:00pm UMW-M at the church	5	6	7 Elmwood Farmers Market Begins
8 Mother's Day 9:00am Worship Service – M 9:45am Graduates Recognition -E 10:35am Worship Service – E	9 7:00pm Church Council - M	10 Statewide Primary Election Day	11	12	13	14 3:00pm E/M High School Graduation
15 9:00am Worship Service – M 10:35am Worship Service – E	16 7:00pm Church Council - E	17	18 1:30pm Sew 'N Sews - M	19	20	21 9-11:00am Food Pantry Distribution
22 9:00am Worship Service – M 10:35am Worship Service – E	23	24	25	26	27	28 6:00pm Elmwood Alumni Banquet
29 9:00am Worship Service – M 10:35am Worship Service – E	30 Memorial Day 10:00am Veterans Program at Cemetery 11:30am Luncheon at Community Center	31				

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Address Service Requested



Monday, May 30, 2022