

The Messenger

MAY 2023



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

April/May Mission Project – Bridges of Hope, Pine Ridge Reservation

In honor of Native American Sunday in April, our mission project for April and May will be to collect cash donations to support the Bridges of Hope ministry program on the Pine Ridge Reservation in Allen, SD. Bridges of Hope, led by pastors Tim and Kim Wardell of the Pass Creek Church of God, provides food, clothing, diapers, counseling, home repairs and more to Indian families in need. The mission of Bridges of Hope is to “Help Without Hurting” and the Wardells strive to teach the importance of working and helping others.

The ministry offers a 13-week summer VBS program run by volunteer teams from other churches. They are currently raising funds to build a bunk house for VBS volunteers. Bridges of Hope has a [Lakota Trading Post](#) that sells Native American art and jewelry so local residents can share their talents while earning money and offers another work program providing short term employment to Indian families. Kelli Brewer recommends Bridges of Hope as a program that accomplishes much on Pine Ridge Reservation with the resources and donations they receive. Please consider supporting Bridges of Hope during the months of April and May.



SON-SHINE CHILD CARE CENTER



Kids Enjoying Bubbles

Spring is here, and we have been taking advantage of the warm weather whenever we are blessed with it. We have also been keeping busy with indoor crafts and activities when the weather doesn't cooperate with us. We are looking forward to summer and all the fun we will have together. The daycare kids love walking to the park in town, just going for a walk around town, or going to the library. If you see us out and about give us a wave as we love seeing friends on our “travels”. We have lots of fun activities planned for the summer.

We have a few new faces at Son-shine, Steph Konz from Elmwood is a new toddler teacher. Karley Ridge from Weeping Water is helping wherever she's needed a few days a week while she attends college at Doane and will be here full-time during the summer. We are still looking for some more help for the summer, so please spread the word.

UPCOMING COMMUNITY EVENTS

Cass County Food Pantry Distribution

Saturday, May 20, 2023, 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.

They will have a monthly breakfast buffet on Sunday, May 21, 2023 from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. They request that reservations be made by the Friday, May 19th. Cost: \$10 Adults, Ages 10-3 \$5, Ages 2 & under free

In addition, The Community Center will offer a luncheon on Memorial Day from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. for a free will offering.

Everyone is invited to come.

TWO OPPORTUNITIES TO BUY PLANTS

Elmwood/Murdock Cheer Plant Sale

Saturday, May 6, 2023, 9:00a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Elmwood Fire Hall

Plant Exchange and Sale at Aldrich House

Saturday, May 6, 2023, 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

UWF CORNER

The Elmwood UWF will meet on Monday, May 1, 2023 at 1:30 p.m. at the church. We will meet at Joyce Backemeyer's home.

Murdock UWF will have their next meeting on Wednesday, May 3, 2023 at 5:30 p.m. for their usual meal and meeting at the church.

Workshops at Elmwood Learning Center

221 S. 4th St., Elmwood

Polymer Clay Eggs with Laura Schiller
Saturday, May 6, 2023, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Wool Applique with Barbara Bond
Tuesday, May 23, 2023, 9:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Contact Kris at shrader1957@hotmail.com for more details and to register for the workshops.

Elmwood Farmers Market Opening Day

Saturday, June 3, 2023, 8:00 a.m. to Noon



May Birthdays-Elmwood



Addelyn Vogt – May 4
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
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 Chesnut – May 2
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



May is such a great month. It is a busy one but a great one. I love May for many reasons, the rain storms, the planting of the garden and the twins were born in May. As a kid of course, May was my favorite because it also marked the beginning of summer break from school. As I have gotten older, May continues to be a great month but it also brings the craziness of graduations, kid field trips at school and trying to make a plan for what I am going to do with all of these kids home for the summer.

As I continue to write these monthly letters to you, all I am continually fascinated with is what I find to fill my days and months with. I feel like every month I am discussing the things that keep us busy. I keep thinking there will be a month here shortly where things are slow and I will not have to talk about all the things that are keeping us going. However, in the same aspect our society tells us there is great importance in staying busy. If you are not constantly running around, if you don't always have something to do, if there are not 27,000 things on your to-do list, then you are obviously doing this thing called life all wrong. But is that really true? When did we decide that we could no longer take the time to enjoy what is going on?

I was sitting with my grandparents and my aunt the other day and we were talking about how crazy it is that the twins will be 6. It has gone so quickly; I feel like just yesterday they were little babies. My aunt made the statement that her baby is in his 30s now and that is hard for her to believe because it goes fast. She said she wished she had enjoyed her time with her kids more when they were little. She said she thinks she tried to do that; but she feels like she was so consumed by everything else going on that she often dismissed the time she had when her kids were small to spend time with them. So her advice, like many people I had talked to, told me to enjoy this time when the kids are small. I like to think that I have but at the same time I know there are times where I have gotten too consumed with the outside forces, the phones, meetings, chaos and craziness that is this world and forgotten to appreciate my kids and this life that I am blessed to be living.

When Jesus takes the time to go to the garden to pray, when he takes time to sit with the children, when he breaks bread with the disciples, I think these are times where he is trying to show us the importance of just stopping. Taking time to slow down. Take the time to take in what is going on. I can imagine it would have been very easy for him to get wrapped up in everything that was happening around him, to see how much work there was to get done and to be overwhelmed when the disciples once again missed the mark on what he was trying to tell them. And yet, instead of working nonstop, he showed us there was time to stop, to rest, to pray, to be with God. Jesus falls asleep on a boat in the middle of a storm, if ever there was time to not rest, one would think that is it and yet he rested.

In the middle of the busyness that is this month, amongst the endless graduation parties, and final days of school, I pray that you find time to just stop, to take in what is happening around you, to rest. The work is never done but that also doesn't mean that we have to kill ourselves trying to get it all done. Jesus took time to rest, God took time to rest, what makes us think that we don't need it? Find time to rest this month, take in the beauty of the spring day, enjoy time with your family, just breathe. Psalm 62 says ""Yes, my soul, find rest in God; my hope comes from him. Truly he is my rock and my salvation; he is my fortress. I will not be shaken." May you find rest this May.

Until Next Time,
Pastor Michelle

MEMORIAL DAY SERVICES

Monday
May 29, 2023
10:00 a.m.
Elmwood Cemetery



Rain location –
Elmwood Firehall
Luncheon – Elmwood
Community Center 11 – 1 p.m.

Funded in part by Cass County Tourism
visitcasscounty.com

Guest Speaker

Major General Walt Zink

Army National Guard, Retired

Duty Assignments included
Assistant Adjutant General (Army) for the
Nebraska Army National Guard



American Legion Post 247
American Legion Auxiliary Unit 247
Sons of the American Legion
Squadron 247

For God and Country

May 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 1:30 pm UWF - E	2	3 5:30 pm UWF - E	4	5	6 Two Plant Sales: Fire Hall and Aldrich House
7 9:00 am Worship Service – M 10:35 am Worship Service - E	8 7:00 pm Church Council - M	9	10	11	12	13 E/M High School Graduation
14 Mother's Day 9:00 am Worship Service – M 10:35 am Worship Service- E	15 7:00 pm Church Council - E	16	17 1:30 pm Sew 'N Sews - M	18	19	20 9-11:00 am Food Pantry Distribution
21 9:00 am Worship Service – M 10:35 am Worship Service - E	22	23	24	25	26	27 6:00pm Elmwood Alumni Banquet
28 9:00 am Worship Service – M 10:35 am Worship Service - E	29 Memorial Day 10:00 am Veterans Service at Elmwood Cemetery	30	31	1	2	3 8:00am to 12:00 p.m. Elmwood Farmers Market

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

Address Service Requested



Monday, May 29, 2023