

# The Messenger

## November 2023



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, November 5, 2023, 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)

### SENDING HOPE TO A SCHOOL IN TANZANIA

For the Oct./Nov. mission project, the Elmwood and Murdock churches will be sponsoring students in the Tumaini (Hope) Evangelistic Primary School in Kiruani, Tanzania. This five-building school provides more than 200 young students with transportation, two meals per day and education focused on math, science and reading curriculum led by nine teachers. The school also provides morning worship and a weekly Bible class. Most families cannot afford the cost of education for their children, so the school is supported through Blessed2BlessU Ministries in Fremont, NC (led by a Methodist minister) and through donations from other churches and groups. The cost to sponsor one child for one year at Tumaini school is \$360. We hope to collect enough cash donations through this mission project to support two or three students. Please consider making a donation to support students at Tumaini School in Tanzania.

---

### SPECIAL MUSIC ON SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2023

The Preschool children of Son Shine Day Care will be presenting a short musical program at the St. Paul worship service on November 12, 2023. You won't want to miss this special presentation.

---

#### A PRAYER OF THANKS By Helen Steiner Rice

Thank you, God, for the beauty around me everywhere,  
The gentle rain and glistening dew, the sunshine and the air,  
The joyous gift of feeling the soul's soft, whispering voice  
That speaks to me from deep within and makes my heart rejoice.

## UPCOMING COMMUNITY EVENTS

### Cass County Food Pantry Distribution

Saturday, November 18, 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.

We will not have our Breakfast Buffet this month due to the Fundraiser at the Christian Church the same day.

We will see you on December 17<sup>th</sup>.

### Veterans' Day Pancakes & More!!

Saturday, November 11, 2023, 7 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.  
Elmwood Fire Hall

### Soup and Sandwich Fundraiser

**For Wes Bogenreif and Murray Petersen**  
Sunday, November 19, 2023, 4:30-7:00 p.m.  
Elmwood Christian Church

### Elmwood's Holiday Extravaganza

All Day Events on Saturday, November 25, 2023  
Including Craft Fair, Candy Cane Lane, Soup Supper



### November Birthdays-Elmwood



Harvey Vogt – November 1  
Marilyn Reed – November 3  
Nancy Vogt – November 4  
Megan Tiedeman – November 4  
Brooklynn Romero – Nov. 4  
Ronnie Schwartman – Nov. 6  
Dakota Anstey – November 6

Onalee Schwartman – Nov. 7  
Tegan Stephens – November 11  
Susan Ernst – November 12  
Jayden Kollars – November 13  
Pam Bornemeier – November 15  
Mariann Fleischman – Nov. 16  
Lindsey Hansen – November 16

Susan Rorie – November 20  
Tammy Brummer – November 20  
Dave Spohr – November 22  
Charlotte Fritz – November 25  
Doug Frahm – November 28  
Lou Allgayer – November 28  
Carmen Stephens – November 30



### November Birthdays-Murdock



Diane Mills – November 2  
Marlene Rikli – November 8  
Benjamin Murdoch – Nov. 16  
Dakota Glasshoff – November 17  
Barb Livers – November 23

Earl Chesnut – November 23  
Tiffany Glasshoff – November 24  
Cindy Schmitt – November 27  
Liz Murdoch – November 28

## PASTOR'S PEN



Happy November friends! The days are shorter, the weather is colder and it is so wonderful! You all know how much I love Fall and Winter! You can practically smell the snow in the air. ☺ I feel like as soon as I get one newsletter letter complete, Carol is asking for another. I am not sure how that is possible but somehow here we are at the beginning of a new month.

November is seen as many things: a month of thankfulness, a month where harvest is completed, hunting season, and maybe a month of no shaving. It is also the official beginning of the holiday season. I know I have talked about my great love for Thanksgiving in past newsletters but it is hard to talk about November without my mouth watering. just thinking of the feast that we are rewarded with at the end of the month.

Eight years ago this month on the week of Thanksgiving, I was in the hospital giving birth to our second son. We thought we were prepared for what was to come. I mean we already had one baby boy, and we had kept him alive for almost two years at this point. This had to prove that we knew 100% what we were doing and that we could handle another one. I knew that they say that each child is different but again how different could he be? He is also half me and half Nick just as Emerson is; it will be close enough. Oh, how wrong we were. Earl is a different creature entirely from Emerson. My little Thanksgiving monster has been keeping us on our toes for the last 8 years. It has been an adventure, one that I would not change for the world. However, he also caused me 8 years ago to miss out on a Thanksgiving meal. We were getting out of the hospital on Thanksgiving and we just didn't plan to be anywhere for the grand feast. It was a year with no pumpkin pie, no dressing, no grand family gathering. I thought I was prepared to miss out on the festivities, that I would be fine if I missed it this one time around. Much like we thought we were prepared to have two little boys in our life, I thought I was prepared to not have a big Thanksgiving celebration that year. And much like I was mistaken about my parental preparedness, I was not prepared for the lack of pie, cards, and family.

We so often approach things in life thinking we have it all under control. That we can handle whatever life throws at us, all on our own. Only to realize that there is no way to effectively handle life all on our own. We need others in our life. We need people to walk alongside us, we need Christ to walk alongside us. When we are struck with this reality, it is important to know that there are those that are willing to step up. The longer I am a pastor the more I see a world that is in desperate need for this reminder. To do life alone, is not a sign of strength but rather it is just silliness. To ask and accept help when it is needed is a sign of strength. God knew that we could not handle life on our own, He knew that we would need others. He knew it was going to take a village to raise my kids, especially Earl. ☺ Just as He knows that no matter who you are, you will need others, and so He created communities of followers that are willing to be those people.

I am so thankful for my church community that is always so willing to be there. That is willing to step up when someone is struggling to give a helping hand. I am thankful that I am serving a community that is on the lookout for new ways to continue to reach out, help out and walk alongside each other! Jesus says in the Gospel of John that He will not leave us orphaned; He gave us a community to ensure that is true. Let us reach out to the "orphans" this season!

Until Next Time,  
Pastor Michelle

## CHOIR SINGERS AND BELL RINGERS NEEDED

Bell practice starts at 6:30 p.m.  
on Wednesdays  
Choir practice starts at 7:30  
p.m. on Wednesdays  
Both at Elmwood St. Paul UMC





# save the date! Quarter Auction coming your way!



**Friday, Dec. 1st**

Doors open: 5:30 pm - Auction Starts: 6:30 pm

**At the Quonset**

More details coming soon! Mark your calendars!



We will wave these paddles...

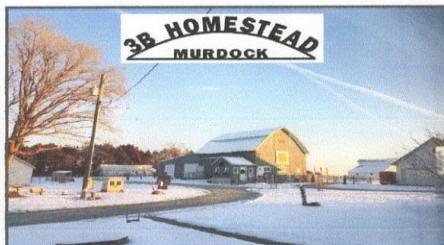
To help the  
Elmwood Rescue  
buy these paddles!



(monitors & defibrillators)



# The Living Nativity 2023



You are invited to  
**The Living Nativity**  
at the 3B Homestead, Murdock, NE. In a fun,  
untraditional and refreshingly educational way, real stable  
animals help tell the beautiful Christmas Story from Luke 2.  
Many families and friends make this event a yearly  
Christmas tradition!

#### Dates and Times:

Open to the public on Saturdays and Sundays.

- Nov. 25, 26 and Dec. 2, 3, 9, 10, 16, 17 anytime from 2:00 - 5:00 pm..

Open for private visits on weekdays between Thanksgiving and Christmas.

(Groups of home schoolers, preschoolers, assisted living folks, 4-H clubs, church groups, friends, etc.)

- Call 402-867-1802 and leave a message to schedule a date and time.

Open as a drive-through tour on December 23 & 24, anytime from 1 to 4:30 pm.

- Stay in your car and listen to a podcast while viewing the animals.

This Christmastime event is not a nativity “scene”, but a unique presentation of the real reason we celebrate Christmas. While there, enjoy the grand 1888 barn, some cocoa, interacting with all the animals, the music, and the gift shop. Plan about 1 1/2 hours for the event. The Living Nativity is a free community outreach of the 3B Homestead, LLC. Donations are accepted to help defray expenses.

Mark and Sondra Buell | The 3B Homestead, LLC | 7603 298th Street, Murdock, NE 68407

Located on Highway 1 between Murdock and Elmwood, Nebraska which is a

35-40 minute drive from both Lincoln and Omaha.

website: [www.3BHhomestead.com](http://www.3BHhomestead.com) | email: [3BHomestead@gmail.com](mailto:3BHomestead@gmail.com) | cell: 402-867-1802



Visit the Facebook page, 3B Homestead, for more information.



@ThreeB-Homestead

## UMYF FOOD SCAVENGER HUNT

The UMYF is going on a scavenger hunt for the Elmwood Food Pantry on Sunday, November 5<sup>th</sup>. If you would like to participate in the scavenger hunt, please let Pastor Michelle (phone 402-314-7988) or Myrna (402-429-1729) know and we will make sure we drop by your home. Any food is appreciated (please check the “use by” dates). If you would like to help with the specific needs for the November distribution, here is the list of needs. We thank you in advance.

Green Beans  
Chicken Broth  
Fried Onions  
Oatmeal and Cereal

Mushroom Soup  
Can Sweet Potatoes  
Pumpkin  
Jelly  
Paper Towels

Dressing  
Marshmallows  
All Kinds of Canned Fruit  
Cranberry Sauce

**St. Paul United Methodist Church**  
will be helping with the **Candy Cane Lane**  
this **Holiday Extravaganza on Saturday Nov. 25, 2023**  
at the **Elmwood Community Center from 9:00am–Noon.**  
All proceeds will be donated to the **Elmwood Cemetery.**

We are asking all members and friends of St. Paul UMC  
to help by bringing homemade candy and cookies to the  
center on the evening of **Friday Nov. 24th at 7pm**  
**or Saturday morning Nov. 25th by 9:00am.**

These items will be displayed individually.

Candy and Cookies are 50 cents each unless specified.  
Please remember the 50 cents price when making  
your items. **If your specialty** is something that  
would be of a bigger size item, you are welcome  
to bring that as well. You would need to have the item  
wrapped or bagged and priced ready to go. Those items  
will be on a special table. We accept all types of donations.

Bring your family and friends to Candy Cane Lane to make  
a container of delicious treats for the holiday season to enjoy.

Thank You for sharing **your talents!**

# November 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 5:30 pm UWF – M  6:30pm Bell Practice - E 7:30pm Choir Practice - E	2	3	4
5 9:00am Worship Service – M 10:35am Worship Service – E All Saints Day 4:00pm UMYF - E	6 1:30pm UWF - E	7	8 6:30pm Bell Practice - E 7:30pm Choir Practice - E	9	10	11 7:00am-12:30pm Veterans Day Pancakes & More – Elmwood Fire Hall
12 9:00am Worship Service – M  10:35am Worship Service – E	13 7:00pm Church Council - M	14	15 1:30pm Sew 'N Sews – M 5:30pm Youth Bible Study – M 6:30pm Bell Practice - E 7:30pm Choir Practice - E	16	17	18 9-11:00am Food Pantry Distribution
19 9:00am Worship Service – M 10:35am Worship Service – E 4:30-7pm Soup Fundraiser	20 7:00pm Church Council - E	21	22 6:30pm Bell Practice - E 7:30pm Choir Practice - E	23 Thanksgiving Day	24	25 All Day Events at Elmwood's Holiday Extravaganza
26 9:00am Worship Service – M 10:35am Worship Service – E	27	28	29 6:30pm Bell Practice - E 7:30pm Choir Practice - E	30	1 5:30pm Quarter Auction – The Quonset	2

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

**Address Service Requested**



**Thursday, November 23, 2023**