

# The Messenger

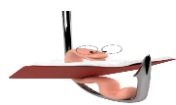
## September 2024



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## Get Hooked on Reading!

We want your help to help our students “Get Hooked on Reading” this year! When children are able to read 20 minutes a day, they will read 1,800,000 words per year! The more they read, the more they know!

We would love to be able to provide one free book a month from the Scholastic Book program to the children we work with. A book would cost \$3 to \$5 each of the nine months of school. Please consider donating to help put books in the hands of children. We have been VERY Thankful for all your donations the past few years and we LOVE seeing the excitement from the students as they pick out their new book! Thank you again!

~Cathy Stewart  
~Carae Oehlerking



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## NEW ACTIVITIES STARTING IN SEPTEMBER

SUNDAY SCHOOL WILL BE STARTING ON SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2024 AT 9:30 A.M. COME JOIN THE FUN AND LEARN SPIRITUAL LESSONS!

CHOIR AND BELL PRACTICES STARTING WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11<sup>TH</sup>

CONFIRMATION CLASSES WILL BE ON SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 15<sup>TH</sup> (12:00 P.M. AT ELMWOOD) AND WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 25<sup>TH</sup> (5:30 P.M. AT MURDOCK).

THE FIRST YOUTH SPIRITUAL TALK WILL BE ON WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18<sup>TH</sup>, 5:30 P.M. AT MURDOCK.

## UPCOMING COMMUNITY EVENTS

### Cass County Food Pantry Distribution

Saturday, September 21, 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.

Starting in September, the Center will begin the Breakfast Buffet that always has a variety of delicious breakfast foods. The September date is Sunday, Sept. 15<sup>th</sup> but the upcoming months will be on the second Sunday of each month. We would like to receive reservations for these meals by the Friday before Sunday serving date.

Also in September, we are starting “Grab and Go” meals on Friday nights. From 4:30 to 6:00 p.m., you can come to the Center and pick up your evening meal (\$6 each) before you go to your Friday night event. First come/first served until the meals are gone. We will not be serving a noon meal on Fridays.

The **Little Free Pantry** is located between Hufstader Chiropractor and Village Hall. There is now a **Free Library** located at the G.A.R. Museum.

## **UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH CORNER**

**The Elmwood and Murdock units of UWF will meet together on Wednesday, September 4, 2024 at 4:00 p.m. at Ebenezer UMC in Murdock.**

**Christ UMC, Lincoln is making sleeping mats from plastic bags. Teena Faubel will provide a demonstration of the loom that makes the plastic sleeping mats.**

**Everyone is invited to learn how to make these sleeping mats between 4-5:00 p.m. at the Murdock church basement. (A chairlift is available for the stairs if needed.)**

**The Elmwood unit of UWF is collecting plastic shopping bags to provide the material to continue making these mats. If you have some bags to donate, just drop them off at the St. Paul church office or call Carol at 402-310-6627.**

### **Thought for the Day**

Every act of faithful service is sacred.



### **September Birthdays-Elmwood**



Michael Krass – September 1  
Caleb Kraeger – September 4  
Layton Bornemeier – Sept. 6  
Bruce Vogt – September 8  
Michael D.L. Vogt – Sept. 8  
Kathy Frahm – September 8  
Emmie Fritz – September 8

Clint Bornemeier – September 14  
Timothy Rorie – September 17  
Coleman Lenz – September 17  
Stella Burrows – September 17  
Austin Hawks – September 18  
Rose Offner – September 18  
Dan Bornemeier – September 19

Brenna Romero – September 19  
Sydney Kunz – September 21  
Kelly Meisinger – September 21  
Jordan Vogt – September 24  
Marthana DeGarmo – Sept. 25  
Gary Vogt – September 29



### **September Birthdays-Murdock**



Betty Burnham – September 8  
Don Mills – September 11  
Ellen Luetchens – September 26

## **Dear Youth (grades 7-12) and Parents,**

UMYF events will be starting soon for 2024-2025. On the 3rd Wednesday of the month, starting September 18th, we have a time of fellowship, supper, and Bible study at Ebenezer UMC. As students finish with practices and activities after school, they can join us at Ebenezer starting around 5:30 (feel free to bring friends). We will try to eat about 6:00 (we will adjust time based on the youth coming to the event). Then we will have a short Bible study, finishing by 7:00. They will be fed and ready to finish school work by 7:00, with some new spiritual learning. Then on the first Sunday of the month (most of the time) we will have our regular fun activity starting October 13th (Yes, this is the only second week of the month date).

Don't forget that youth Sunday School at St. Paul is starting September 8th. Below is the UMYF schedule for the school year.

### **ST. PAUL AND EBENEZER UMC UMYF 2024-2025**

Wednesday, September 18, 5:30-7:00 (Ebenezer) - Scripture Talks

Sunday, October 13, 3:00-6:00 (meet at Oehlerking's 28614 O Street) - Pumpkin carving contest, games, and eats

Wednesday, October 16, 5:30-7:00 (Ebenezer) - Scripture Talks

Sunday, November 3, 2:00-5:00 (Grandpa's Woods or St. Paul) - Golfing at Grandpa's Woods or Waffles and Games at St. Paul (if weather is not good for golfing)

Wednesday, November 20, 5:30-7:00 (Ebenezer) - Scripture Talks

Sunday, December 8, 3:00-5:00 (St. Paul) - Christmas Rice Krispie Treats, games, and bring items (list coming later) for special backpacks over Christmas break

Wednesday December 18, 5:30-7:00 (Ebenezer) - Scripture Talks

Wednesday, January 15, 5:30-7:00 (Ebenezer) - Scripture Talks

Sunday, February 2, 3:00-6:00 (St. Paul) - Make your own pizza and Bunko

Wednesday, February 19, 5:30-7:00 (Ebenezer) - Scripture Talks

Sunday, March 2, 1:00-4:00 (St. Paul) - 2nd Annual Nerf Battle (bring favorite finger food)

Wednesday, March 19, 5:30-7:00 (Ebenezer) - Scripture Talks

Sunday, April 6, 2:00-5:00 (Meet at Dan and Myrna Bornemeier's home 30511 Adams Street) - Cook-out, games, and fishing at Bornemeier's pond

Wednesday, April 16, 5:30-7:00 (Ebenezer) - Scripture Talks

# PASTOR'S PEN



Happy September!

I feel like this year especially, September has really snuck up on me. I mean I have been celebrating the start of school and having a quiet house again while the boys are at school but still it does not seem like we should be here already. The busyness of fall has started and with the boys all playing football this year, it seems we are always on the run. I know that we are not alone in this adventure of life but man, can it be exhausting trying to coordinate schedules, hoping you get it all on the calendar and hoping you didn't forget anything but knowing inevitably you did.

In the church, September is also busy. We are starting choir and bell practice back up in the first week of September as well as Sunday School. Confirmation will begin this month, and I am excited to meet with our confirmands and take a deeper dive into the church, and what it means to commit to God and the church. We will have over a dozen confirmands this year and that is exciting for the future of the church. Youth group also kicks off this month with a monthly Bible Study and activities planned. The church is thriving, and it is exciting to see where it is going next.

Fall is often a time where we think about the end of a cycle. The crops are finished growing and the harvest starts, the days get shorter and cooler; but in the life of the church, it often seems like a beginning to me. With school starting, it means that we are all ready to get back into a routine, one that involves Sunday School, Youth Group and Choir practice. The summer always feels kind of dull to me, although we are busy with the kids being home from school, the church almost takes a rest. It is like a reset, a break so that in the fall we can be up and ready to hit the ground running once again. And the break is okay; there are times where we need to rest and evaluate what comes next but then you have to be ready to get back after it. And so here we are. Fall is here and it is time to kick it all off and show the community that the church is here and ready to serve.

In worship this month we will be doing a sermon series called "Questions We're Afraid to Ask: Facing God, Ourselves and Each Other." I am really looking forward to this series. As followers of God, we are supposed to be digging deep, asking the questions that are sometimes hard to answer or maybe don't have just one answer. It sometimes can be uncomfortable, but it is a necessary part of life and our journey with God. Matthew 7:7-8: "Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you." The path to being a true follower of Christ is not easy. We are told that we will be persecuted, that it will be a struggle but that it is easier when we do it together. So let us face some tough questions together this month, knowing that it is a vital part of the work we are called to do as Christians.

Until Next Time,  
Pastor Michelle



## **CHOIR SINGERS AND BELL RINGERS NEEDED**

Bell practice starts at 6:30 p.m. on

Wednesdays

(except the first Wed. of month)

Choir practice starts at 7:30 p.m. on

Wednesdays

Both at Elmwood St. Paul UMC



# September 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>1</p> <p>9:00am Worship Service – M</p> <p>10:35am Worship Service - E</p>	<p>2</p> <p>Labor Day</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4</p> <p>4:00pm Joint Meeting of Elmwood and Murdock UWF units</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7</p>
<p>8</p> <p>9:00am Worship Service – M</p> <p>9:30am Sunday School - E</p> <p>10:35am Worship Service - E</p>	<p>9</p> <p>7:00pm Church Council – M</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>11</p> <p>6:30pm Bell Practice</p> <p>7:30pm Choir Practice</p>	<p>12</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14</p>
<p>15</p> <p>9:00am Worship Service – M</p> <p>10:35am Worship Service – E</p> <p>12:00pm Confirmation - E</p>	<p>16</p> <p>7:00pm Church Council - E</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18</p> <p>5:30pm Youth Bible Study – M</p> <p>6:30pm Bell Practice</p> <p>7:30pm Choir Practice</p>	<p>19</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21</p> <p>9-11:00am Food Pantry Distribution</p>
<p>22</p> <p>9:00am Worship Service – M</p> <p>10:35am Worship Service - E</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25</p> <p>5:30pm Confirmation – M</p> <p>6:30pm Bell Practice</p> <p>7:30pm Choir Practice</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p>
<p>29</p> <p>9:00am Worship Service – M</p> <p>10:35am Worship Service - E</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>1</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>5</p>

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

Address Service Requested



Monday, September 2, 2024