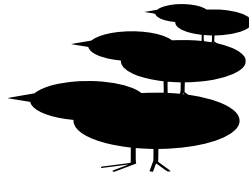


The Messenger

MARCH 2025



Spring
Spring
Spring
Spring



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

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

UNITED METHODIST YOUTH FELLOWSHIP MARCH SCHEDULE

Sunday, March 2, 2025, 1:00-4:00 p.m. UMYF, 2nd Annual Nerf Battle at St. Paul UMC. Please bring an appetizer/finger food to share.

Sunday, March 16, 2025, 12:00 p.m. Confirmation at Elmwood UMC

Wednesday, March 19, 2025, 5:30 p.m. Youth Bible Study at Murdock UMC

Wednesday, March 26, 2025, 5:30 p.m. Confirmation at Murdock UMC



Sunday, May 4, 2025

Save the Date **50th Anniversary** *Save the Date*

St. Paul United Methodist Church





Sketch by Mary Miller, 1980



Please plan to join us for worship service and lunch afterwards as we celebrate 50 years of our church. Watch for more details coming soon.
If you would like to be involved in the planning or have pictures to share, please contact Bonnie Brewer (402) 540-1662, bb45231@windstream.net; or Myrna Bornemeier (402) 429-1729, mbornem@hotmail.com

UPCOMING COMMUNITY EVENTS

Cass County Food Pantry Distribution

Saturday, March 15, 2025, 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.

The Center's Breakfast Buffet will be on Sunday, March 9, 2025. Time is from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. We would like to receive reservations for these meals by the Friday before Sunday serving date.

The "Grab and Go" meals will continue 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.

For people who like to play cards, Pinochle game is played on the third Monday of each month, starting at 12:30 p.m.

A Pitch game is played every Friday afternoon at 2:00 p.m. Come and have some fun and laughter.

UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH CORNER

The Elmwood UWF will meet on Monday, March 3, 2025 at 1:30 p.m. at the Shirley Bornemeier's.

The Murdock UWF will meet on Wednesday, March 5, 2025 at 5:30 p.m. for the usual meal and lesson.

The Elmwood and Murdock Women in Faith groups now have a loom to make plarn sleeping mats which is another Midwest Mission project. Plarn is plastic yarn made out of plastic grocery bags. The mats form a barrier for anyone sleeping on the ground. A volunteer or 2 or 3 are needed to learn the plarn sleeping mat process. We will probably schedule times that we can meet to prepare the plarn and make the mat, probably starting in January. www.midwestmission.org/loom has tutorial videos. Please let Kelli Brewer know if you are interested in helping with this project. We also need donations of grocery bags if you can save some.

We will meet on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of each month at 1:30 p.m. at Ebenezer UMC. March dates are the 12th and 26th.



March Birthdays-Elmwood



Melissa Wheeler – March 3
Marissa Oehlerking – March 6
Lyn Kopf – March 8
Rebecca Smith – March 9
Dan Spaulding – March 10
Sharon Stewart – March 13

Tucker Oehlerking – March 16
Haley Kollars – March 16
Grace Kraeger – March 16
Wynn Anstey – March 18
Marcie Miller – March 22
Ella/Hudson Vogt – March 23

Jase Blunt – March 27
Teresa Hawks – March 28
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
Mason Butler – March 9
Thea Bornemeier – March 20
Linda Glantz – March 20

Annie Backemeyer – March 22
Drew Backemeyer – March 23
Benjamin Harvey – March 27
Charles Schafer – March 27
Tony Synovec – March 30

Thank you!!!



Your generous donations of household items for our Elliott Food Market was so thoughtful!
Thank you for helping our community!

Sincerely,

Elliott Elementary

Michelle Kulas - Principal

Kelsey Middendorf - School Social Worker

Abby Beatty - Counselor

Jordan Siedhoff - Asst. Principal

Brandon Ee - School Psychologist

Mike Satterly - Curriculum Coach

Melissa Fenton - Behavior Coach

Cathy Stewart - 3rd grade teacher/team leader



ASH WEDNESDAY WORSHIP SERVICE



Ash Wednesday
— Lent Begins

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 5, 7:00 P.M.
AT ELMWOOD CHRISTIAN CHURCH
311 N. 5TH STREET
ELMWOOD, NE 68349

A LENTEN STUDY WILL ALSO BE OFFERED AT EBENEZER UMC IN MURDOCK MONDAY EVENINGS, STARTING MARCH 10TH AT 6:30 P.M. PLEASE CALL THE CHURCH OFFICE, 402-994-6735, IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN ATTENDING.

Chicken and Biscuit Dinner

**Syracuse United Methodist Church,
560 6th Street, Syracuse**

Sunday, March 2, 2025, 5:00-6:30 p.m.

**Creamed Chicken and Biscuit Dinner with drinks and homemade desserts
Free Will Offering – All are welcome!**

PASTOR'S PEN



One of my favorite things about Lent growing up was going to the Lutheran Church in our community and having aebleskivers. The Lutheran church served as a community building in many ways in our area. There was a Catholic church in our community as well which of course is where I attended church growing up but the Lutheran church had more space. They had a reception building, a playground and lots of places for parking. When I was in early elementary school, it was the location for our Christmas program at school because it was the only place big enough to hold everyone that wanted to come. We were there last year for a funeral reception for my Dad's best friend and it seems as though the building has shrunk, it wasn't nearly as big as I remember it being.

Anyway, I digress. Aebleskivers, what are they, you ask? They are small Danish pancakes. They have a special pan that you make them with, because they are ball shaped. They are also delicious. None of that of course is the point of this letter but it is the truth. The point is every year, the whole community it seemed would come out for the aebleskiver dinner. The youth would be in charge of making the dinner; it was all you could eat and people would be crammed in this building eating their hearts out. It of course was also a time where neighbors connected with neighbors. It was not a place you went to just eat and run. No, once you were there, you were committed to many hours. I suppose the reason for this has multiple levels: one, aebleskiver pans are small, they make 6-8 small golf ball sized pancakes at a time and no matter how many pans you had, there was only so much stove space in this little kitchen they were using. Two, you often saw people you had not seen for awhile. Like all good Midwesterners, you must stay and visit to catch up on everything you had done since the last time you saw that person and of course once you had, you will inevitably see someone else you had not seen for awhile and so on.

Now, even though I could talk about the amazingness of aebleskivers for longer, the point of this is not the food, although it is important. The point is that it was a time when people came together to connect. After a long winter of being cooped up inside, working on getting everything fixed that had broken over the growing and harvesting months, it was a time to relax and prepare for what was next. Lent is that time. It is a time where we are supposed to relax, reflect, repent and prepare for what happens next. The focus on Lent in the church is to talk about how Jesus did his best to prepare his disciples for what was to come. It should also be looked at as a time when he connected with his disciples, reminded them who they were and who he was. As we enter into the Lenten season, may we use this time to reconnect with ourselves, others but also with Jesus. We will focus on finding our connection with him through music this Lenten season, with the theme of Jesus' steadfast love for us and how we find ways to also show him our love. Whether it is through food, music or conversation, I pray that you are able to find your way to connect with Jesus this Lenten season for the miracle that is performed for us on Easter which is just right around the corner.

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



March 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 9:00am Worship Service – M 9:30am Sunday School – E 10:35am Worship Service – E 1:00pm UMYF -E	3 1:30pm UWIF - E	4	5 5:30pm UWIF – M 7:00pm Ash Wednesday Service Choir practice after the service	6	7	8
9 9:00am Worship Service – M 9:30am Sunday School – E 10:35am Worship Service - E	10 6:30pm Lenten Study – M 7:30pm Church Council - M	11	12 1:30pm Mat Weaving – M 6:30pm Bell Practice – E 7:30pm Choir Practice - E	13	14	15 9-11am Food Pantry Distribution
16 9:00am Worship Service – M 9:30am Sunday School – E 10:35am Worship Service – E 12:00pm Confirmation - E	17 6:30pm Lenten Study – M 7:30pm Church Council - E	18	19 1:30pm Sew ‘N Sews – M 5:30pm Youth Bible Study – M 6:30pm Bell Practice – E 7:30pm Choir Practice - E	20 Spring Begins	21	22
23 9:00am Worship Service – M 9:30am Sunday School – E 10:35am Worship Service - E	24 6:30pm Lenten Study - M	25	26 1:30pm Mat Weaving – M 5:30pm Confirmation – M 6:30pm Bell Practice – E 7:30pm Choir Practice - E	27	28	29
30 9:00am Worship Service – M 9:30am Sunday School – E 10:35am Worship Service – E 12:00pm Confirmation - E	31 6:30pm Lenten Study - M					

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

Address Service Requested



Thursday, March 20, 2025