

# MOVILLE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH JULY 2026



**"For no matter how many promises God has made, they are 'Yes' in Christ." 2 Corinthians 1:20**

## STANDING ON THE PROMISES

**I believe many of us know the familiar hymn "Standing on the Promises." Its energetic melody and confident lyrics have inspired generations of Christians to trust God through every season of life. However, the story behind the hymn makes its message even more powerful.**

**The author, Russell Kelso Carter, was a man of remarkable talents. He taught chemistry, mathematics, and engineering at the Pennsylvania Military Academy. Additionally, he was an accomplished athlete, an author, a hymnal editor, and eventually became both a physician and a Methodist minister. Despite his many abilities, Carter faced a crisis that none of his accomplishments could resolve.**

**In his early thirties, he became seriously ill with a heart condition and debilitating fatigue.**

**Doctors could offer no hope. In desperation, Carter turned to God in prayer and made a promise: if God restored his health, he would dedicate the rest of his life to serving Christ.**

**Over the following months, he made a complete recovery. Carter credited God with his healing and dedicated the remainder of his life to fulfilling that promise. From that experience came the hymn "Standing on the Promises."**

**This hymn is not merely about wishful thinking or blind optimism. It is the testimony of a man who had reached the end of his own strength and discovered that God's promises were stronger than his circumstances. Having learned this lesson firsthand, Carter resolved to build his life on the unchanging truth of God's Word. May we remain faithful and build our lives on God's promises, for our God is eternally faithful.**

**God Bless you, and may God bless America as we celebrate 250th years as a nation**

**Pastor Eric Sayonkon**

# Celebrating Life Together

If you would like to volunteer for the Not For Only Kid's story contact the office. (I swear the kids aren't that scary)

## Birthdays

3 Tammy Fowler  
5 Gary Chapman  
9 Jo Etler  
14 Kristy Baier  
Jaeger Scheelhasse  
15 Dallas Jensen  
16 Betty Ann Epling  
23 Delaney Gernhart  
27 Harper Nielsen  
30 Danielle Jensen  
31 Robin Kreisel

## Anniversaries

8 Larry & Jo Etler  
10 Tim & Beth Sitzmann  
22 Glenn & Pam Clark



### Inspiring Birth of a Nation

As the Fourth of July approaches, we remember a moment in history when a fragile collection of colonies dared to speak with one voice. In the summer of 1776, under flickering candlelight and the weight of uncertainty, ordinary men gathered to sign their names to an extraordinary hope. They believed that a people could rise—guided not by kings, but by conviction, courage, and a longing for freedom. Their dream was imperfect, yet powerful enough to ignite a nation.

Today, as fireworks scatter light across the sky, we honor that brave beginning. We give thanks for the generations who carried the torch forward, and we pray that God continues to shape us into a people who seek justice, cherish peace, and care for one another. May the same Spirit who stirred hearts centuries ago inspire us now to build a future marked by compassion, unity, and steadfast hope.

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# July Calendar

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday                              | Thursday                  | Friday | Saturday                                                         |
|--------|--------|---------|----------------------------------------|---------------------------|--------|------------------------------------------------------------------|
|        |        |         | 1                                      | 2                         | 3      | 4<br>4th of July                                                 |
| 5      | 6      | 7       | 8                                      | 9<br>Council Meeting<br>6 | 10     | 11                                                               |
| 12     | 13     | 14      | 15<br>Ribbon Cutting of<br>Daycare 4-6 | 16                        | 17     | 18<br>Food Distribution<br>10 AM<br>Correctionville<br>Com. Cntr |
| 19     | 20     | 21      | 22                                     | 23                        | 24     | 25                                                               |
| 26     | 27     | 28      | 29                                     | 30                        | 31     |                                                                  |

# Joyful Journeys

THANK YOU FOR  
SENDING ME  
TO CAMP.  
I had an amazing  
time and I  
loved my horse.  
From Lily

Thank you for  
sending me to camp  
I love it!   
Bea

A Big Thank You from Bea and Lily for sending them to Wesley Woods in Indianola. They participated in the Horse Camp Session. It was their first time being away from home and family for a whole week.

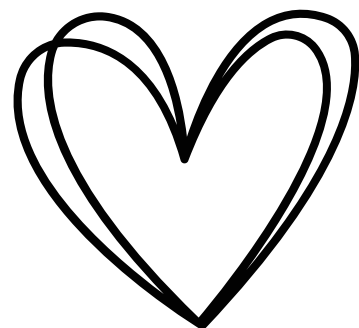
It was a great experience for both of them.

There is a camp scholarship that is available to current members. For more information about the camps available contact the office.

Lily with Okee



Bea with Anita



# A Big Thank You For All Your Donations!

Our church family continues to show such generous hearts, and it's a beautiful sign of God's love moving among us. Every offering—your time, prayers, service, or financial gifts—joins together to create something none of us could accomplish alone. When we give as one, we strengthen ministries, lift each other up, and plant hope throughout our community. Thank you for shining with such kindness; your faithfulness is truly making a difference.



**RAISE THE ROOF**

**WE MET OUR GOAL!**



**LIVING HERITAGE FOUNDATION**

Dear representatives of Moville United Methodist Church,  
We are deeply grateful for your generous gift of \$745.00 to Living Heritage Foundation. Your support will have a direct impact on the lives of Guatemalan students and families who lack access to essential resources. Your contribution will help us provide immediate improvements to their education and well-being. We look forward to sharing updates on the Foundation's impact with you. Once again, we extend our sincerest gratitude for your trust and support. Your generosity is making a tangible difference in the lives of those we serve in Guatemala.

With appreciation,  
Michael Dichiser  
President Living Heritage Foundation

Queridos padrinos:

Esperando se encuentren bien de salud a lado de sus Familiares y labores diarias.

Es un gusto poder escribirles nuevamente por este medio para poder contarles acerca de mi vida.

En lo que es salud gracias a Dios me encuentro bien tanto como mi Familia.

Tambien estoy muy Feliz porque este es mi ultimo año de diversificado ya que el cual ya estoy estudiando y pues estoy orgullosa de si misma porque voy bien en mis estudios ya que es mi ultimo año.

Esperando escribirles nuevamente.

Que Dios y la Virgen Maria los cuide los guarde y protega siempre.

Atentamente: sus ahijada

Leslie Melissa Xoni Jimenez.



## LIVING HERITAGE FOUNDATION

Dear sponsors,

I hope you are doing well surrounded by your family.

I'm glad to have the opportunity to write to you again.

I want to tell you a little bit about what has happened in my life.

My family and I are doing well.

I'm happy because this is my last year of high school. I'm proud of myself because I am doing very well at school.

I hope to write to you again soon.

May God and our Mother Mary always watch over you.

Sincerely,

LESLIE MELISSA XUM JIMENEZ



## LIVING HERITAGE FOUNDATION



## **JULY 2026 LECTIONARY**

**14th Sunday in Ordinary Time 5 July**

**Continuous**

**Genesis 24: 34-38, 42-49, 58-67**

**Psalm 45: 10-17 or Canticle: Song of Solomon 2: 8-13**

**Romans 7: 15-25a Matthew 11: 16-19, 25-30**

**Related**

**Zechariah 9: 9-12 Psalm 145: 8-14**

**Romans 7: 15-25a Matthew 11: 16-19, 25-30**

**15th Sunday in Ordinary Time 12 July**

**Continuous**

**Genesis 25: 19-34 Psalm 119: 105-112**

**Romans 8: 1-11 Matthew 13: 1-9, 18-23**

**Related**

**Isaiah 55: 10-13 Psalm 65: (1-8) 9-13**

**Romans 8: 1-11 Matthew 13: 1-9, 18-23**

**16th Sunday in Ordinary Time 19 July**

**Continuous**

**Genesis 28: 10-19a Psalm 139: 1-12, 23-24**

**Romans 8: 12-25 Matthew 13: 24-30, 36-43**

**Related**

**Wisdom of Solomon 12: 13, 16-19**

**or Isaiah 44: 6-8 Psalm 86: 11-17**

**Romans 8: 12-25 Matthew 13: 24-30, 36-43**

**17th Sunday in Ordinary Time 26 July**

**Continuous**

**Genesis 29: 15-28 Psalm 105: 1-11, 45b**

**or Psalm 128 Romans 8: 26-39 Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52**

**Related**

**1 Kings 3: 5-12 Psalm 119: 129-136**

**Romans 8: 26-39 Matthew 13: 31-33, 44-52**

MUMC

## **Girl's Night Out**

**Is Paused Until Next Fall**

**Come Join us for Companionship,  
fellowship and laughs**

**Everyone is Welcome to Join Us!**

## **United Women in Faith 2026 Bible Verses**

**"For it is God who works in  
you to will and to act in order  
to fulfill his good purpose."**

**Philippians 2:13 (NIV):**



**Luncheon will resume in September**



**"There are different kind of gifts but the  
same spirit."**

**1 Corinthians 12:4 (NIV)**

**If you have any pictures you  
would like to share of this  
and any other event please  
feel free to send them to the  
Church Email!**

# ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES –

ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – Thursday, June 18, 2026

PRESENT: Susan Hunting, Mary and Jeff Krejci, Jody and Diane Weaver, Gene Groetken, Pastor Eric Sayonkon

Susan opened the meeting with prayer.

Gene reported that beginning next month, he will be working 4-day work weeks Tuesday through Friday. We will discuss perhaps shifting our Ad Council meetings to Mondays and/or starting at 7 p.m. Gene will set up a Finance Committee meeting Monday, July 13th, 6:00 p.m. to discuss new mission opportunities for our church. He will be mailing out scholarship information to college students for the next school year.

## MINUTES

Minutes from the May 14, 2026, meeting were reviewed. Motion by Gene to accept the minutes, 2nd by Diane; motion passed.

## TREASURER'S REPORT

Weekly giving for the month of May was \$5200. Budgeted giving for the month was \$7500. We saw a rise in expenses in May due to a number of reasons. We are paying our half of the roofing expense for the Correctionville parsonage. We are making three monthly payments of \$1500 with the balance of \$959 being paid off in month four.

We paid Lansink Tree service \$950 for removal of a tree in the front of our church that was damaged in the windstorm of May 17, 2026.

We also paid Johnson Plumbing \$2303 for boiler work done in December, 2025, and March, 2026. Our "Raise The Roof" campaign has successfully reached its \$20,000 goal. Congratulations and thank you to all who made this happen!

## PASTOR'S REPORT

Pastor reported that Annual Conference went well. During that time, there were three ordinations, several retirements, and the announcement that the conference has filled every pastoral opening for the coming appointment year.

There was discussion and then a vote at Annual Conference to sell the conference building in Des Moines. The majority of conference employees work from their homes so it has become unnecessary to have such a large building to house just a few people. Trustees were given the charge to look for a smaller space for the conference offices.

The Conference theme for this year is to "Love Boldly, Serve Joyfully, and Lead Courageously."



# ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Continued –

## NEW BUSINESS

Crittenton Center will install a new sign next to our current church sign near Hwy 140. Theirs will be a stand-alone sign that is angled toward Hwy 20. Micayla Nyreen is the landscaper on this project. She plans to install plants and mulch along the daycare wing this weekend and will finish up with the area near the road next weekend. Both areas will require regular watering during the initial growing season.

Jeff will gather information regarding additional church signage on the bare wall to the right of the main entrance.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

TRUSTEES - A number of people from our church, Crittenton Center, and MCDAI performed a walk-thru of the daycare today. Many positive comments were heard.

Corey will re-texture the ceilings near each of the smoke alarms.

The dishwasher should be installed in the kitchen next week facing south and the kitchen door near it will be removed.

MCDAI will be covering the cost of a new water heater to be installed soon.

Crittenton will pay the entire water bill for the church and daycare. There will be two gas accounts: we will pay for the boiler usage, Crittenton Center will pay for all other gas charges.

We will receive one electric bill. A sub-meter will be installed to register the amount of electricity used by Crittenton Center and that will be billed to them monthly.

We will continue to mow the church grounds with the exception of the fenced playground area.

Details on snow removal remain to be finalized.

The Daycare will be holding an Open House on Wednesday, July 15th from 4 - 6 p.m. We will plan for light refreshments in our Fellowship Hall after that.

We received two estimates for boiler isolation valves, related piping, and cleaning. Motion by Diane to accept the lower bid of \$3400 from Boiler Room Maintenance Company, 2nd by Jeff; motion passed.

Larry Etler is looking into insurance charges for our church.

Casey Crawford has cleaned the bricks on our building. The church's share of the cost of that cleaning is \$750.

Our next Administrative Council Meeting will be Thursday, July 9th, 2026. All are invited to attend.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Krejci

There are plenty of Upper Room Devotionals in the entryway of the church placed in the magazine rack. If you would like a copy but can't make it to church Janice would be happy to deliver one to you. Please contact her or the church office, 873-5117 if you would like one delivered to you.

**Pastor**  
Reverend  
Dr. Eric Z. Sayonkon

**Office Administrator**  
Cassie Colyer

**Music Director**  
Elizabeth Ross

**Accompanists**  
Rochelle Wilson  
Peggy Hammer

**Lay Leader**

**Treasurers**  
Jeff & Mary Krejci

**Ad Council Chair**  
Susan Hunting

**Finance Chair:**  
Gene Groetken  
**Vice-Chair:**  
Scott Gernhart

**Member Support & Ed**  
**Co-Chair:**  
Diane Weaver  
**Co-Chair:**  
Becky Dahna  
**Co-Chair:**  
Kristy Baier

**SPRC Chair:**  
Deb Sitzmann  
**Vice-Chair:**  
Terri Koehn

**Trustees Chair:**  
Jody Weaver  
**Vice-Chair:**  
Randy Petersen

**UWIF**  
Janice Schlotman

# MINISTRY CORNER

## GIVING BACK TO THE COMMUNITY



### COMMUNITY BASKET

We are collecting Condiments that will be given to the Community Basket. You may bring your donations to church on Sunday's, or you may drop them off at the Community Basket. Thank you for helping those in need! July food distribution will be on the 20<sup>th</sup> at Kingsley Community 18th at the Correctionville Community Center

### PERMANENT ENDOWMENT FUND.

"MUMC has a Permanent Endowment Fund. Your charitable gift will continue to work forever. Gifts can be made outright, can be memorials to family or friends, or bequests within your estate planning. You may designate the gift to a specific fund within the endowment: General, Building, Missions, Special Ministries, or Education. The fund's interest earned may then be used. After the first quarter of 2026 the approximate interest values for each were: General \$32,900; Building \$6300; Missions \$470; Special Ministries \$280; Education \$3400. Contact the church office if you would like to learn more about the MUMC Endowment Fund."

OUR MISSION:  
PREACH THE GOSPEL OF  
CHRIST  
TEACH LOVE AND  
FORGIVENESS  
REACH OUT IN SERVICE



### Heifer Highlights

The Heifer Project works to end hunger and poverty by partnering directly with the communities they serve. Their programs empower entrepreneurs worldwide, creating long-term, ground-up change. Each project begins with a seed investment—such as livestock or agricultural resources—paired with mentorship to help families build sustainable businesses.



### MIDWEST MISSION

#### Midwest Mission

Midwest Mission provides the tools that help set students up for long-term success. As George Washington Carver reminded us, "Education is the key to unlock the golden door of freedom." While many of us learned with sturdy desks, safe classrooms, and all the supplies we needed, students in many parts of the world do not have those same resources. What we often take for granted can become a lifeline for a child's learning." We are currently collecting donations for school kits—lists are available on the table in the entry.