

The Moville United Methodist Church

JULY 2025 Newsletter

Let Freedom Ring!

I hope and pray that your summer is going well. Enjoying the summer sunshine and seeing the growth of the crops everywhere is beautiful. Through the summer weather, we see glimpses of God's creation. We have experienced the blessing of rain and sunshine. In the summer, I will be preaching through the Psalms.

The apostle Paul exhorts us to use our freedom for the sake of service. He writes, **"You, my brothers and sisters, were called to be free. But do not use your freedom to indulge the flesh; rather, serve one another humbly in love. 14 For the entire law is fulfilled in keeping this one command: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' (Galatians 5:13-14).**

Thanks be to God for the men and women who sacrificed for our nation's freedom. Freedom is costly. It costs sacrifice and even lives to win it, and it takes commitment to keep it.

As we celebrate July 4th, let us give thanks for the freedom that our nation's independence brings and the many sacrifices made by those who gave their lives in service to our country. May we never take for granted the freedom we enjoy in America. I pray that freedom will ring all over the land and that the love and justice of God will flow in our land.

The message of the gospel is that we are free indeed because of the work of Christ. Let freedom ring in our land. **"My country tis of thee, sweet land of liberty, of thee I sing; Land where my fathers died, land of the pilgrims' pride, from every mountainside. Let freedom ring!"**

God bless you, and may God bless America.

Pastor Eric

A WORD OF GRATITUDE AND ENCOURAGEMENT

Dear Church Family,

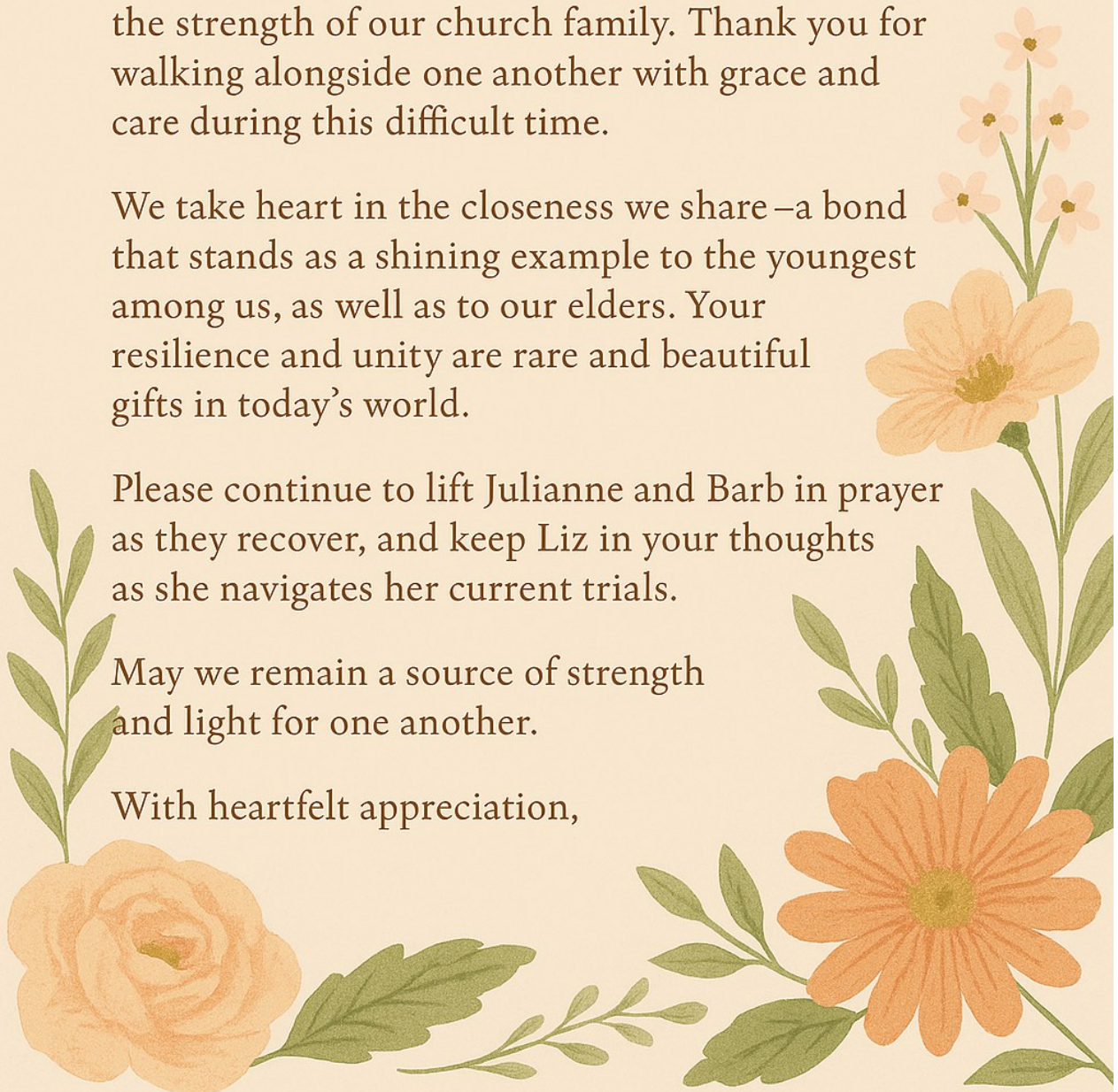
These past few weeks have brought profound challenges to our congregation. Yet, in the midst of hardship, your outpouring of support, compassion, and steadfast love has been a powerful testimony to the strength of our church family. Thank you for walking alongside one another with grace and care during this difficult time.

We take heart in the closeness we share—a bond that stands as a shining example to the youngest among us, as well as to our elders. Your resilience and unity are rare and beautiful gifts in today's world.

Please continue to lift Julianne and Barb in prayer as they recover, and keep Liz in your thoughts as she navigates her current trials.

May we remain a source of strength and light for one another.

With heartfelt appreciation,



July 2025 Dates and Calendar

Birthday

Anniversary

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

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



Offering & Gifts

If you are unable to worship with us in-person we encourage you to continue to mail in your offering and gifts so that we may continue to pay staff, bills, apportionments and take care of the upkeep of the church building. If you would like to contribute through online giving, please contact Cassie in the church office by phone or email. There is a form to be filled out and a voided check will need to be obtained.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	30 Digital Sign	1	2 Secretary Office hours 9-3	3	4 4th of July	5
6	7	8 Secretary Office Hours 9-3	9	10 AD Council 6 PM	11	12
13	14	15 Secretary Office Hours 9-3	16	17 Girls Night Out 5:30	18	19 Food Distribution Correctionville Community Center 10 AM
20 Moville Combined VBS	21 *	22 * Secretary Office Hours 9-3	23 *	24 *End VBS	25	26
27	28	29 Secretary Office Hours 9-3	30	31		

MUMC Girls Night Out

Because of the great success and demand

We will be holding an evening dinner the third Thursday of every month. We will be coming up with a plan for the month of June since Crankshaft unexpectedly closed.

THE BULLETIN BOARD



Pastor's Vow Renewal Ceremony May 2025



Paradoxes of Prayer
I asked for strength,
That I might achieve
I was made weak, that I might learn
Humbly to obey....
I asked for health,
That I might do greater things
I was given infirmity,
That I might do better things....
I asked for riches,
That I might be happy
I was given poverty
That I may be wise....
I asked for power,
That I might have the praise of men
I was given weakness,
That I might feel the need of God...
I asked for all things,
That I might enjoy life
I was given life,
That I might enjoy all things....
I got nothing that I asked for-
But everything I had hoped for
Almost despite myself, my unspoken
Prayers were answered,
I am among all most richly blessed!

JULY

PARABLE OF THE SOWER



MATTHEW 13:1-23

Jesus tells a parable of a sower who scatters seed, which falls on different types of ground—with only the seed on good soil producing grain. The story illustrates the varied responses to the word of God among those who hear it.

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.

❓ Parable of the Sower – Matthew 13:1-23

As we enter the heart of summer, this parable reminds us that just as nature thrives in the sun and good soil, our hearts too must be cultivated for God's Word to take root.

"But the seed falling on good soil refers to someone who hears the word and understands it. This is the one who produces a crop, yielding a hundred, sixty or thirty times what was sown."

— Matthew 13:23

In Jesus' teaching, the seed is the Word of God, and the condition of the soil reflects the readiness of our hearts. July, with its season of growth, invites us to examine:

- Are there thorns crowding out our spiritual focus?
- Are our roots deep enough to endure life's droughts?
- Have we prepared the soil of our hearts to receive His truth?

Let this be a month of reflection, renewal, and readiness—for when we tend our hearts, we grow fruit that blesses not just ourselves, but those around us.

In this season of challenge and reflection, may you feel the embrace of a loving community and the strength that faith so gently provides. Your grace, courage, and quiet endurance do not go unnoticed. Just as the Lord cares for even the smallest sparrow, so too does He hold you close in every moment.

You are deeply loved, continually lifted in prayer, and surrounded by those who walk beside you in spirit and in hope. May comfort find you in unexpected kindnesses, and may joy—however small—bloom like spring after long winter.

**With warmth, prayers, and unshakable encouragement,
*All of the church family***



Attention Parents or Grandparents:

Moville's Combined Churches' VBS will be held Sunday July

20 to Thursday July 24

All Children are welcome to attend!



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:**
Kirk Scheelhaase
Vice-Chair:
Deb Sitzmann

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

UWIF
Janice Schlotman

United Women in Faith 2025 Bible Verses

Ephesians 4:32 "Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ has forgiven you."

July 2025 Lectionary

July 6, 2025

2 Kings 5: 1-14
Psalm 30
Galatians 6: 1-16
Luke 10: 1-11, 16-20

July 13

Amos 7: 7-17
Psalm 82
Colossians 1: 1-14
Luke 10: 25-37

July 20, 2025

Amos 8:1-12
Psalm 52
Colossians 1: 15-28
Luke 10: 38-42

July 27, 2025

Hosea 1: 2-10
Psalm 85
Colossians 2: 6-19
Luke 11: 1-13



If you have any pictures of the church or services you would like to share in the Newsletter, please send them. We would love for you to share. I would also love for you to share your pictures and memories with the congregation.

ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – Thursday, June 12, 2025

PRESENT: Susan Hunting, Mary and Jeff Krejci, Jody and Diane Weaver, Deb Sitzmann, Gene Groetken, Harold Werley

Susan opened the meeting with prayer.

MINUTES Minutes from the May 8th meeting were reviewed. Motion by Diane to accept the minutes, 2nd by Jeff; motion passed.

DAYCARE PROJECT

Jody met with Robin Beck, Becky Thomas, Stee Maxwell, and Mary and Jeff Krejci on Monday, June 9th. We received a copy of the lease for the Daycare wing late today. Robin clarified that the lease is between Movable United Methodist Church (listed as the LANDLORD) and MCDAI (listed on the lease as the TENANT.)

There will be an Operating Agreement between MCDAI and Crittenton Center.

Jody, Mary and Jeff visited the Crittenton Daycare site on Morningside Avenue and received a tour of the facility on May 29th.

PARSONAGE UPDATE Jody reported that our insurance policy on the parsonage will cover lost rent after the fire. Larry Etler made a copy of the parsonage lease and is sending it to the insurance company for action.

We feel there is no need to keep the insurance policy on the parsonage as it is. Motion by Jody to change that policy to just liability on the parsonage, 2nd by Deb; motion passed.

The insurance adjuster was here Monday (June 9th) for another walk-through of the parsonage. \$425,000 is the coverage on the parsonage. A contractor has noted that he is interested in buying the house. It is estimated at a cost of \$20,000 to demolish it and haul it away.

Jeff will check with the conference on ownership of the house and how the proceeds would be handled if we were to sell it.

Harold reported that Sara is in the process of removing her belongings from the parsonage. Rent for October, November, and December 2024, and January, February, and March of 2025 was received from the Sioux City Housing Authority rent assistance program. Sara still owes \$2620 back rent. We are holding a deposit in the amount of \$1250 that will be applied to this amount, leaving an unpaid balance of \$1370. Motion by Jeff to forgive this \$1370, 2nd by Diane; motion passed.

TREASURER'S REPORT/MISSIONS

Income for the month of May, 2025, was \$3000 below budget. Year-to-date income is \$1400 above 2024 Y-T-D for the same period.

We have paid for the last half of tuition for our Guatemalan student and have received a nice letter from her updating us on how she is doing and thanking us for supporting her.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

MEMBER SUPPORT/EDUCATION - VBS will be held July 20th-24th. The theme this year will be True North - Trusting Jesus in a Wild World; It will be held at the Catholic Church.

SPRC - Please keep the Scheelhaase family in your prayers. Cards can be sent to Kirk's address; 1925 Garner Ave., Movable, Iowa 51039.

Our next Administrative Council Meeting will be Thursday, July 10th, 2025, 6:00 p.m. All are invited to attend.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Krejci

Ministry Corner

Giving back to your community



Community Basket JULY

We are collecting **Personal Care Items** 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 July 19th at the Correctionville Community Center at 10 AM.

Ingathering Update

During February, March and April, 16 Personal Dignity (health) Kits were prepared for the Ingathering this November.

The Ingathering Task Force awarded 32 Hunger Grants from funds given at the November 2024 event. The Community Basket received one of the \$410 grants and is sponsored by Menville UMC.

"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 2025 the approximate interest values for each were: General \$25,600; Building \$5100; Missions \$360; Special Ministries \$220; Education \$2300. Contact the church office if you would like to learn more about the MUMC Endowment Fund."

Mission Moment

Living Heritage Foundation Scholarship Program

We provide a scholarship for Leslie Jimenez a student in Western Guatemala. She is in grade 11. Her school year is from February to November and we provide tuition assistance plus funds for her to participate in the Lifting Up My Student program which provides online courses with private tutors to help with subjects at school. Your gifts make a difference in Leslie's life. Leslie's scholarship is totally funded by your donations (no money comes from the church budget). Leslie's scholarship for 2025 is \$1490.00. . A container remains on the table at the back of the sanctuary for your donation. Your help is really appreciated for the 2025 school year.

Heifer Highlights:

Fatuma grows soybeans, sunflower, maize and sesame on a plot of land in northern Uganda and described her life as "hard". She lacked quality seeds and farming equipment and did not know how to improve her crops. Then she became a member of a local Heifer Coop and was trained in new farming techniques which improved her crop yields. She can now afford the fees to send her children to school. Please continue your support of Heifer as it gives a hand up to families like Fatuma's. Remember to feed Rosie the Cow.



Midwest Mission- "Sending hope and empowerment around the world and around the corner"

On May 21, 2024 a violent EF4 tornado tracked across southwest Iowa devastating the city of Greenfield and surrounding areas causing more than 31 million dollars in property damage and killing five people. In response, Menville UMC prepared Personal Dignity Kits and along with those already on hand, 19 Kits were delivered to the Midwest Mission site in Jefferson, Iowa by Pastor Harold Werley. This is the way we as a congregation support the relief work of Midwest Mission.

Gifts through Menville UMC will help Midwest Mission replenish supplies and be ready for the next disaster.