

MOVILLE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OCTOBER 2025 NEWSLETTER

A background image of several pink tulips in various stages of bloom, set against a light, textured background.

KNOWING JESUS, KNOWING JOY

THE BOOK OF PHILIPPIANS

Philippians Sermon Series

The farmers are busy in the field. Harvest time is here. It brings a sense of Joy. What brings you Joy? In our culture, everybody seems to talk about seeking happiness and wanting to be happier. Numerous books have been written on happiness and its attainment.

Paul argues that joy is better. It is deeper. It is more lasting. Happiness is often self-focused; joy comes from connection and service to others. Happiness is fleeting, but joy is lasting. I am excited to start our sermon series on the book of Philippians.

“Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice!” Philippians 4:4

As Christians, we have the answer that people are looking for, we have the only authentic hope and joy that people need, and that is found in Jesus Christ. Joy flows from knowing Christ. May we experience a deeper Joy in the Lord as we grow together in Christ.

Grace to you, and God bless you.

Joy in Christ,

Pastor Eric Sayonkon

Soup and Pie Homecoming Luncheon

Our Soup and Pie Luncheon was a heartfelt success—thanks to each of you! From the delicious dishes to the joyful fellowship, your presence and support made it truly special.

We're so grateful for the cooks, servers, bakers, and all who came to share in the warmth.



Pictures from Pam Clark.



MOVILLE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Welcomes You to Our Annual Homecoming Event

HOMEcoming

SOUP & PIE LUNCHEON & BAKE SALE



Friday, September 19th 11:00 AM – 1:00 PM

Chili & Chicken Noodle Soup – \$8

Carry-Outs Available

Includes Pie & Beverage

Homemade pies, cookies, bars, and more!

Carry-Outs Available

All proceeds support church missions and community outreach.

Moville United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall

October 2025 Dates and Calendar

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.

Birthday

Anniversary

1 Gage Jensen
2 Pert Degen
Pastor Eric
6 Jill Groetken
Dasher Colyer
13 Irene Clause
20 Blake Stubbs
21 Roger Wilson
Becky Dahna
22 Tam Scheelhaase

12 Barry & Bobbie Wahlberg
14 Chuck & Jodi French



Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

UWiF
Luncheon
Sandy Baker
12:30

9

Ad Council
6PM

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

Food Distribution
KP School in Pierson
10 AM

Girls Night
Out—TBD

19

Charge
Conference

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

29

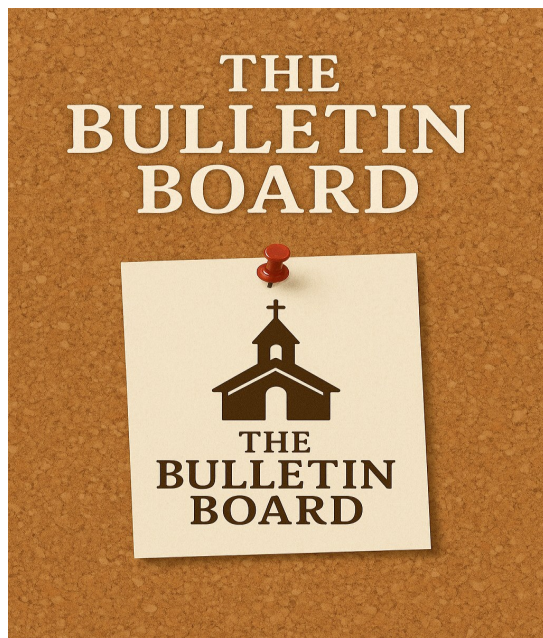
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31

Trick or Treat on
Mainstreet



A Prayer for Harvest and Farmers
 Gracious God,
 We thank You for the bounty of the earth,
 for golden fields, ripened fruit, and the hands that tend them.
 Bless our farmers with strength, safety, and joy in their labor.
 May this harvest season be filled with gratitude, abundance, and peace.
 Let every seed sown and every crop gathered remind us of Your faithful provision.
 Amen.



October 8
 Luncheon at 12:30 PM
 Lunch: Sandy Baker



United
 Women
 in Faith

All women are invited to our luncheon.

"There are different kind of gifts but the same spirit."
1 Corinthians 12:4 (NIV)

Sunday School

It is held during Fellowship Time following Sunday Service.

There will be three separate classrooms:

Diane Weaver will teach P-2

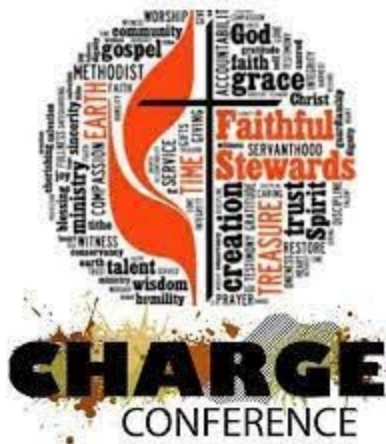
Danielle Jensen will teach grades 3-6

Becky Dahna will teach the Middle School/
 High School Class.

We would love to see your kids there.!



MUMC Girls Night
Out October 16
Details TBD



Church Charge Conference

Sunday, October 19 at the Sioux City Grace UMC @ 6PM

What Is a Charge Conference?

A Charge Conference is the annual gathering of church leaders and members to reflect on our mission, celebrate ministry milestones, and plan faithfully for the year ahead.

Presided over by the District Superintendent, this meeting includes:

- Reviewing the past year's ministry and outreach
- Approving leadership appointments and the church budget
- Setting goals to guide our spiritual and organizational growth

It's a time of discernment, accountability, and hope—ensuring our church continues to serve Christ with purpose and care.



October is Blanket Month!

For over 25 years MUMC has supported the Church World Service (CWS) blanket appeal. During October we will receive monetary donations that will go to the November 1st Ingathering. See the CWS blanket on display at the church. Your support is appreciated.



Join friends old and new and gather together this fall and gather in our mission gifts and giving.

Energize your entire congregation, young and old.

Prepare to be part of this 46-year-old Iowa United Methodist Conference-wide tradition.

Saturday, November 1, 2025

8a-11a

CEDAR FALLS SITE - First United Methodist Church
CHEROKEE SITE - St Paul's United Methodist Church
GREENFIELD SITE - Greenfield United Methodist Church

CHANGE! 1p-4p CHANGE!

FORT DODGE SITE - Trinity United Methodist Church
MOUNT PLEASANT SITE - First United Methodist Church

NEW!! Friday, October 31, 2025 NEW!!

9a - noon

MIDWEST MISSION IOWA - 219 N Chestnut, Jefferson

All information is available at www.iaumc.org/ingathering

The 2025 remittance form will be there soon.

Kit information and packing instructions at

www.midwestmission.org/kits

Questions? Contact Alaire Willits, Iowa coordinator

alairew@gmail.com

Living Heritage Foundation Scholarship Program

A Letter from Leslie



LIVING HERITAGE FOUNDATION

Dear sponsor,

I send you cordial greetings. I hope you and your loved ones are doing well.

I would like to share with you what has happened to me these past few months.

First, I am in good health, as is my family.

I also want to let you know that there is a subject at school that I am struggling with, but I am doing my best to improve. Although the second bimester is a bit difficult for me, I only have two bimesters left to complete the school year.

I would like to thank you for the help you have given me, because it has helped me continue studying.

May the Virgin and God watch over you and guide you in all your daily activities.

Sincerely,

LESLIE MELISSA XUM JIMENEZ

ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – Thursday, September 11, 2025

PRESENT: Susan Hunting, Mary and Jeff Krejci, Jody and Diane Weaver, Pastor Eric Sayonkon, Janice Schlotman.

Pastor Eric opened the meeting with prayer.

MINUTES

Minutes from the August 14th meeting were reviewed. Motion by Diane to accept the minutes, 2nd by Jeff; motion passed.

TREASURER’S REPORT

August income was down \$2000 from our budgeted amount, but we are still \$6000 ahead of last Year’s year-to-date income.

We paid out the 6 scholarships for the students who had applied this semester. Each was for Fall, 2025 semester in the amount of \$250 per student.

Jeff and Mary met with Robin Beck at Security National Bank and made changes to two of our church bank accounts; the Building Fund and the Youth Fund were changed into Money Market Gold accounts. They must each maintain a \$25,000 minimum. We receive 1.5% on the balance up to \$100,000 and 2% on any balance over \$100,000.

We need to prepare the 2026 budget for Charge Conference. Our charge conference is October 19th at 6:00 p.m. at Sioux City Grace Church. SPRC needs to meet with Correctionville Grace UMC to initiate the discussion and recommendation for the pastor salary and benefits portion of the 2026 budget.

PASTOR’S REPORT

Pastor is just back from Africa and preparing for charge conference. He wants to set goals for the upcoming year and asks us to think about 2-3 goals we have in mind for next year.

Pastor will be involved in the Beloved Community Gathering in Storm Lake on Saturday, October 18th. It is sponsored by the Conference Commission of Religion and Race (CORR). Participants will be working on being intentional about connecting and being with others who are different from us.

We will have our Fall Harvest Potluck on Sunday, November 2nd at 6:00 pm in our fellowship hall. (Side note: it is also the day to set BACK our clocks from Daylight Saving Time - so we'll all be re-freshed after having an extra hour of sleep the previous night!)

Pastor asked for continued prayer for his family as they continue their journey through the grief of losing his sister.

OLD BUSINESS

DAYCARE UPDATE - As most everyone knows, we have received word that the MRHD grant has been approved for our daycare project. All previous bids for the project now must be re-submitted. MCDAI has hired Tyler Manker as the general manager for the project. No start date for the project has yet been set. There will be periodic update meetings for all concerned with the project.

The **annual Halloween Parade** is coming up next month. Please let us know if you are interested in handing out treats to the children.

AD COUNCIL MEETING CONT.

PARSONAGE VOTE UPDATE - Assuming the vote to sell the parsonage goes through, we have a couple of options for investing the proceeds from that. Currently, we have \$289,000 in a 90-day CD at Security National Bank at 4% interest. That will come due on October 10, 2025. We also have received an additional \$52,754 from the insurance company and that has been deposited into our Building Fund at 1.5%. Currently Security National Bank offers a 6 month CD at 4% or a 3 year rate of 3.5%. The United Methodist Foundation has a 1 year rate of 3.75%, a 3 year rate of 4%, and a 5 year rate of 4.25%. Motion was made by Jeff to send this information to the Finance Committee for further investigation and their recommendation on investment. 2nd by Janice; motion passed.

NEW BUSINESS

COMMITTEE REPORTS

FINANCE/MISSIONS - The balance in the fund for the Guatemalan student through September 1st is \$748.97.

Susan is preparing a can for offerings for Ingathering.

MEMBER SUPPORT/EDUCATION - Sunday School will begin September 28th.

Pastor is considering a Confirmation class but needs a firm commitment from anyone interested in this. There will be an announcement regarding this in our bulletin.

Recently, a nurse from Siouxland District Health spoke to members of the Senior Center in regard to personal care needs in our community. This would include hair care, skin care, light housework, cleaning, and assistance with laundry, among other things. Janice has more information on this if you have questions or are interested in this. You must be a resident of Woodbury County to qualify.

SPRC - Met last Sunday and confirmed that we do wish to retain Pastor Eric for another year as our pastor.

TRUSTEES - Tad Maxwell talked to our roofing contractor and will be putting off our flat roof project until next spring and having it rolled into the entire project in order to coordinate with roof-mounted HVAC equipment.

Our next Administrative Council Meeting will be Thursday, October 9th, 2025, 6:00 p.m. All are invited to attend.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Krejci



1. The Empty Chair

An elderly man was gravely ill. A pastor came to visit and noticed an empty chair beside the bed. "Is someone coming?" he asked.

The man smiled weakly. "That chair is for Jesus. Years ago, someone told me I could talk to Him as if He were sitting right there. So I do. Every day."

After the man passed away, the nurse said he was found with his hand resting on the empty chair.

Message: Jesus is always near. Even in silence, He listens.

**SPECIAL CALLED CHURCH CONFERENCE (PARSONAGE SALE VOTE) -
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 2025**

6:00 PM - MOVILLE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

PRESENT: (See attached list of attendees.)

Reverend Dr. Michel Lundula presiding, opened with prayer.

Motion to appoint Mary Krejci as secretary by Pastor Eric Sayonkon, 2nd by Cassie Colyer; motion passed.

Jody Weaver reviewed the timeline of events at the Movable UMC Parsonage, 419 Pearl Street S, Movable, Iowa, 51039. Timeline began April 21, 2025, with fire at the parsonage and continued through August 14, 2025, when the Church Council voted to sell the parsonage and begin the approval process through the Iowa Annual Conference. (See attached Administrative Council Meeting Minutes of August 14, 2025.)

Jeff Krejci discussed the financial side of the parsonage sale. We have two options; repair and rent out the parsonage again or sell it and invest the salvage value and insurance proceeds. (See attached Parsonage Financial Statement.)

A. Repair and Rent - Based on the average annual rent over the last five years of \$11,000, annual expenses of approximately \$7000, we have been receiving a net annual income of around \$4000.

B. Sell and Invest - We have received \$339,432.35 from our insurance carrier. Estimated sale of the property as-is would be \$40,000 - \$60,000, for a total of approximately \$390,000. If invested at 4%, this would provide us with \$15,600 annual interest.

The principal on the funds received can only be used for capital improvements at the church. Interest income can be used for general expenses.

The floor was opened to questions:

Q. Is the money from the sale of the property considered principal, which can only be used for capital projects?

A. Yes

Q. Is the 4% interest guaranteed?

A. Rate of return fluctuates with prevailing interest rates. For example, currently our local bank, Security National Bank (SNB), is offering a 6-month CD rate of 4% and a 3-year CD rate of 3.5%. The United Methodist Foundation (UMF) in Des Moines, where we have our endowment and kitchen remodeling fund, is currently offering a 1-year rate of 3.75%, a 3-year rate of 4% and a 5-year rate of 4.25%. So, 4% looks like a reasonable estimate for analysis. Both SNB and UMF have offered to come out and review other investment options with us in person if we so desire.

Q. How often is interest awarded?

A. Typically, annually, although our contact at Security National Bank said it may be possible to be paid quarterly. Keep in mind though, that every time we receive an interest payment, that money is no longer available to generate additional interest. So, the more frequently we disburse the interest, the less interest that is generated over the course of a year. We will have to strike a balance between using the interest for income to cover operating expenses and maximizing our rate of return.

Comment: We have been reimbursed for uncollected rent since the fire. Our insurance policy covers "lost income" which, in this case, is lost rent as a result of the fire. This money has been added to the general fund and used for operating expenses, just like the rent was doing.

Q. How much would it cost to level the house?

A. Approximately \$20,000.

Q. What is the market value of a house like this?

A. Estimates from various sources range from \$270,000 to \$350,000.

With no further questions or discussion, Rev. Lundula entertained a motion to sell the parsonage.

Motion by Janice Schlotman, 2nd by Barb Carr; motion passed unanimously.

Final prayer by Rev. Lundula.

Motion by Larry Etler to adjourn, 2nd by JoEllen Etler; motion passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Krejci

Name CHURCH CONFERENCE
PARSONAGE SALE VOTE

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 2025 6:00PM
-Sunday: _____

Diane Weaver

John Weaver

Donna Flewelling

Greene Claine

Leslie Degen

John Schlotman

Jarvis Schlotman

Susan Huntig

Larry Etker

Jo Etker

John Neely

Marcia Neely

Harold Werley

Ransom Peterson

Kathy Petersen

Barbara Carr

Daryl Carr

Jerri Koehn

Larry Koehn

Yam Clark

Jeff Krejci

Mary Krejci

Kirk Scheshaue

Shirley Baker

Cussie Colyer

Pastor Eric

Rochelle Wilson

Tom Utesch

Bev Arrin

United Women in Faith

2025 Bible Verses

Proverbs 11: 24-25

One person gives freely, yet gains even more; another withholds unduly, but comes to poverty. A generous person will prosper; whoever refreshes others will be refreshed

Our Mission is to:
PREACH the Gospel of Jesus Christ
TEACH love and forgiveness
REACH out in service
(Matthew 28:19-20)

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

October 2025 Lectionary

October 5

Lamentations 1:1-6
Lamentations 3:19-26 or
Psalm 137
2 Timothy 1:1-14 Luke
17:5-10

October 12

Jeremiah 29:1,
4-7 Psalm 66:1-12
2 Timothy 2:8-15
Luke 17:11-19

October 19

Jeremiah 31:27-34
Psalm 119:97-104
2 Timothy 3:14 – 4:5
Luke 18:1-8

October 26

Joel 2:23-32
Psalm 65
2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18
Luke 18:9-14

Blessed Giggles

Adam's Ribs

At Sunday School they were teaching how God created everything, including human beings. Little Johnny seemed especially intent when they told him how Eve was created out of one of Adam's ribs.

Later in the week, his mother noticed him lying down as though he were ill, and she said, 'Johnny, what is the matter, young boy?'

Little Johnny responded, "I have pain in my side. I think I'm going to have a wife."



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.

Ministry Corner

Giving back to your community



The Community Basket monthly donation request for October will be hats, scarves, mittens. October food distribution will be on the 18th at the K-P School in Pierson,

Midwest Mission

A state of emergency was declared in Milwaukee, WI after the August 9-10 flash flooding. With sewer systems overwhelmed and many basements flooded, there was a great need. Midwest Mission delivered 1,344 Hygiene (PDK) Kits and 864 cleaning kits to the Milwaukee Salvation Army for distribution to residents.

October is Blanket Month!

46th ANNUAL MISSION INGATHERING SATURDAY NOVEMBER 1, 2025

For over 25 years MUMC has supported the Church World Service (CWS) blanket appeal. During October we will receive monetary donations that will go to the November 1st Ingathering. See the CWS blanket on display at the church. Your support is appreciated.

The purpose of Mission Ingathering is to show the love of Christ to the world's people by ministering to their needs." MUMC participates in the Ingathering by preparing Student Kits and Personal Dignity Kits along with monetary donations to Heifer International, CWS blankets, Iowa Hunger Grants and money for processing kits. You are invited to the Cherokee collection site at St. Paul's UMC to see the Ingathering displays and the whole operation in person between 8:00 until 11:00 am.

"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 second quarter of 2025 the approximate interest values for each were: General \$29,800; Building \$5800; Missions \$420; Special Ministries \$250; Education \$2900. Contact the church office if you would like to learn more about the MUMC Endowment Fund."

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.

If we had 30 families to commit \$10.00 a month for six months to the fund we would have enough to cover the request for her education.

Heifer Highlights

Seven year old Samantha and three year old Victoria often went to bed hungry. As hard as their parents worked, the family struggled to survive in rural Honduras. Their father, Ariel, raised cows, but the animals only produced meager amounts of milk. But when Heifer came with the right training, Ariel learned how to properly feed his herd, keep them healthy and manage his pasture. Now the cows produce high quality milk for the children to drink and extra to sell. With this income the family can buy additional food including meat and eggs resulting in better health. Please continue to "feed" Rosie and Heifer International will continue to help people live better.

