

MOVILLE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

MARCH 2026 NEWSLETTER

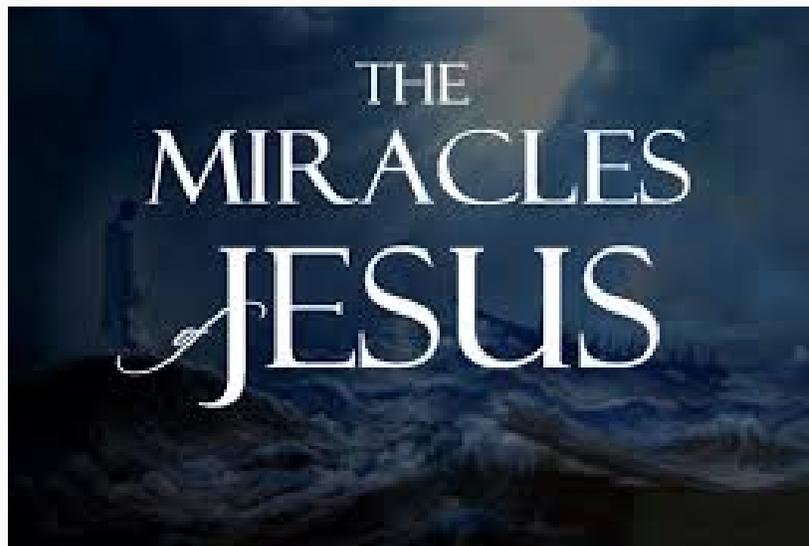
Miracles of Jesus

Have you experienced a miracle from God in your life? Do you believe in miracles? These are extraordinary events that cannot be explained by natural laws—moments when God intervenes in the normal order of life to accomplish the impossible.

Throughout Scripture, we read about Jesus performing miracles. He showed deep compassion as He healed the sick, the paralyzed, the blind, and those who were suffering. His power was so great that even the wind and waves obeyed Him. In Mark 4:39, the Scripture recounts, "Teacher, do you not care that we are perishing?" Jesus awakened and rebuked the wind, saying to the sea, "Peace! Be still!" Then, the wind ceased, and there was a great calm.

These miracles not only demonstrate His power and authority but also serve as invitations to faith, offering tangible ways for people to experience that Jesus is the God who loves us, forgives us, and reconciles us to Him. Throughout the Lenten season, I will explore in depth some of the miracles of Jesus. May God bless you and guide us in the season of Lent.

Grace and Peace,
Pastor Eric Sayonkon



MARCH 2026

CALENDAR

ANNIVERSARIES

- 4 JEFF & MARY KREJCI
- 20 LARRY & TERRI KOEHN
- 23 BRAD & GLORIA KOELE

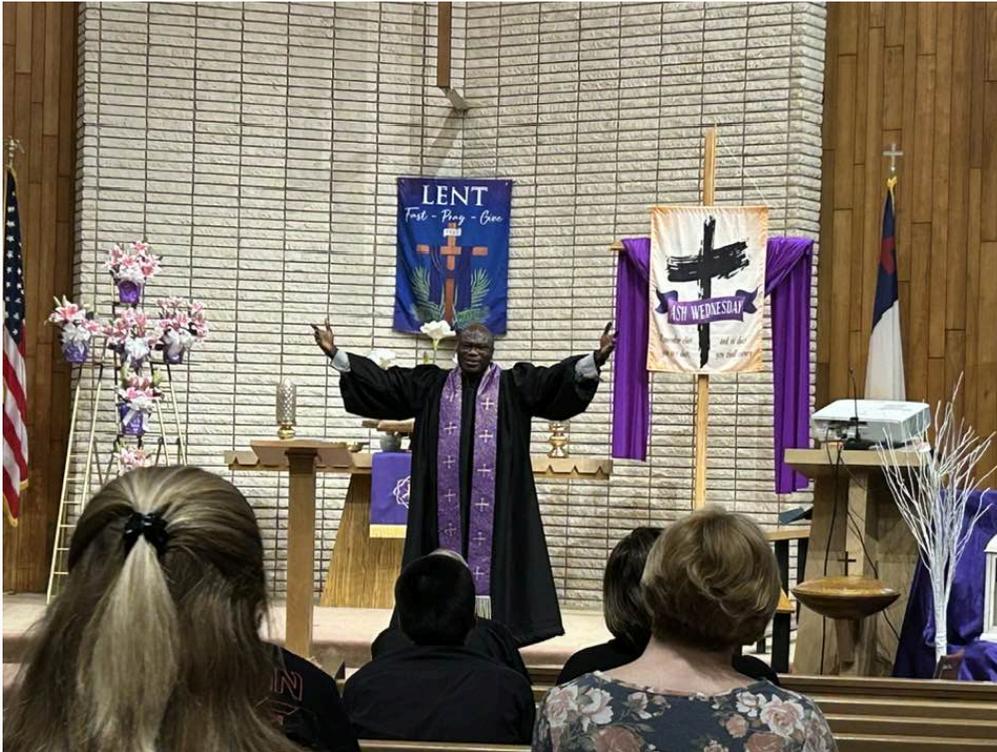


BIRTHDAYS

- 5 SAWYER NIELSEN
- 6 BLAINE BORLAND
- 9 NICOLE JENSEN
- 11 TERRI KOEHN
- 12 ARVIN DANIELS
(HEAVENLY BIRTHDAY)
- 13 KEATON FISH
- 15 AUSTIN FLEWELLING
- 20 CHUCK FRENCH
- 24 LARRY ETLER
WILLA MANKER
- 26 SUSAN HUNTING
LACEY STUBBS
- 28 MADDOX JENSEN
JOSIE SCHEELHAASE
- 31 JAINE STUBBS



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2	3	4 LENTEN BREAKFAST LUTHERAN CHURCH	5	6	7
8 Daylight savings time	9	10	11 Lenten Breakfast Methodist Church UWiF Luncheon	12 COUNCIL MEETING	13	14
15	16 Lily Order Due	17 St Patricks Day	18 LENTEN BREAKFAST CATHOLIC CHURCH	19 GIRLS NIGHT OUT	20 FIRST DAY OF SPRING	21 FOOD DISTRIBUTION
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29 Palm Sunday	30	31				



We had a wonderful turn out for our Ash Wednesday Service. Thank you for the Dual Choir and Instrumental Introduction.

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!

A Note of Gratitude

Thank you to everyone who rallied together to clear out and organize the Sunday School rooms. It truly was a whole-church effort, with so many hands and hearts pitching in.

Your willingness to show up, work side by side, and care for our shared spaces is a beautiful reminder of who we are. We are a family—each one of you an important and irreplaceable part of it.

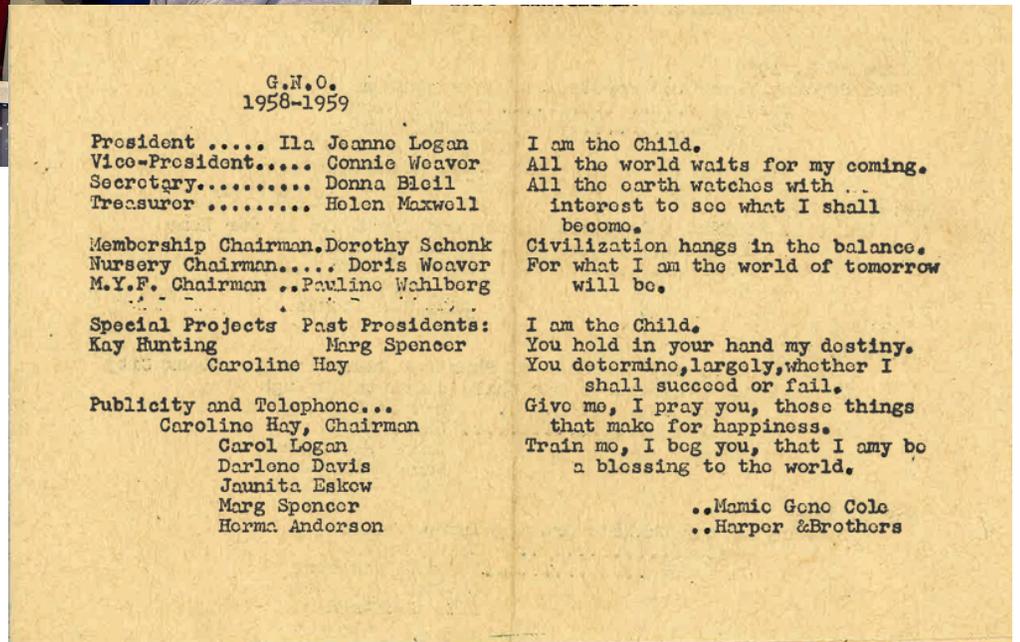
Your kindness, teamwork, and dedication shine brightly.





A LOOK BACK AT GIRLS NIGHT OUT

NOW VS THEN



Moville Ministerial Association

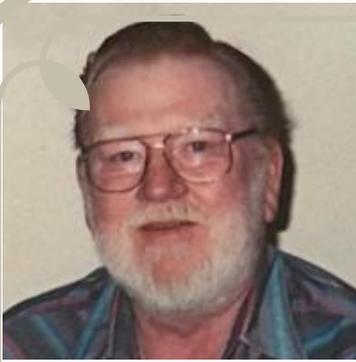
Lenten Breakfast Schedule for 2026

Breakfast will begin at 7:30 A.M. followed by a brief service during this Lenten Season

*March 4th at Trinity Lutheran Church with Fr. Michael

*March 11th United Methodist Church With Pastor Ed

*March 18th at Immaculate Conception with Pastor Eric

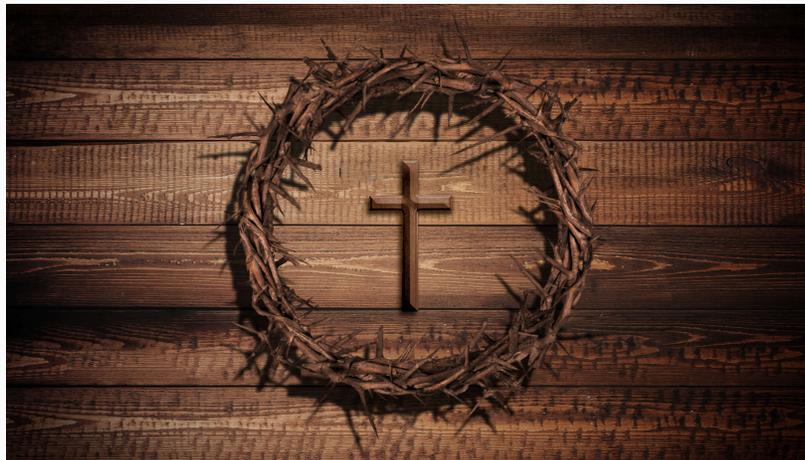


Arvin Daniels, 83, of Merville, Iowa, formerly of Merrill, Iowa, passed away on Wednesday, February 11, 2026, at the Mitchell Hospice House in Sioux City, Iowa.

Holy and Joy-Giving God,
You created us for more than worry and weariness. You breathed life into us with the hope that we would notice beauty, cherish one another, and delight in the gifts You scatter through our days. When our hearts grow heavy, remind us that laughter is also a blessing. Help us to welcome moments of joy without guilt, to smile even in seasons of uncertainty, and to find comfort in the simple goodness that surrounds us.

Teach us to pause long enough to appreciate the warmth of friendship, the wonder of creation, and the small surprises that lighten our spirits. Renew in us a childlike sense of play, curiosity, and gratitude. May Your Spirit lift our burdens, soften our edges, and open our hearts to the healing power of joy. Let our laughter be a sign of hope, our smiles a quiet testimony to Your grace, and our delight a reminder that life is still good and full of Your presence.

In Your loving name we pray. Amen.



Jesus and the Palms

As Jesus and His disciples came near the city of Jerusalem, the streets were already buzzing with excitement. Word had spread that Jesus—the teacher who healed the sick, welcomed children, and spoke of God’s love—was coming. Instead of riding a mighty horse like a king of war, Jesus chose a humble donkey. It was His quiet way of showing that His kingdom would be built on peace, not power.

When the people saw Him coming down the road, their joy overflowed. They ran to meet Him, waving palm branches high in the air. Some spread their cloaks on the ground like a royal carpet. And together they shouted: “Hosanna! Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord!”

In that moment, the whole city seemed to sing. The palms rustled, the children laughed, and hope filled the air. Jesus rode forward gently, knowing that the week ahead would be difficult, yet trusting God’s plan of love. Palm Sunday reminds us that Jesus enters our lives not with force, but with humility and grace. He comes to bring peace to our hearts and to lead us toward the hope of Easter morning.

MARCH 2026 LECTIONARY

2ND SUNDAY IN LENT

1 MARCH

+GENESIS 12: 1-4A +PSALM 121
+ROMANS 4: 1-5, 13-17
+JOHN 3: 1-17 OR MATTHEW 17: 1-9

3RD SUNDAY IN LENT 8 MARCH

+EXODUS 17: 1-7 +PSALM 95
+ROMANS 5: 1-11 +JOHN 4: 5-42

4TH SUNDAY IN LENT 15 MARCH

+1 SAMUEL 16:1-13 +PSALM 23
+EPHESIANS 5: 8-14 +JOHN 9: 1-41

5TH SUNDAY IN LENT 22 MARCH

1ST SUNDAY OF THE PASSION

+EZEKIEL 37: 1-14 + PSALM 130
+ROMANS 8: 6-11 +JOHN 11: 1-5

6TH SUNDAY IN LENT 29 MARCH

2ND SUNDAY OF THE PASSION /

PALM SUNDAY ENTRY INTO JERUSALEM

+MATTHEW 21: 1-11
+PSALM 118: 1-2, 19-29
THE PASSION +ISAIAH 50: 4-9A
+PSALM 31: 9-16 +PHILIPPIANS 2: 5-
11 +MATTHEW 26:14-27:66
OR MATTHEW 27: 11-54

MONDAY IN HOLY WEEK

30 MARCH

+ISAIAH 42: 1-9 +PSALM 36: 5-11
+HEBREWS 9: 11-15 +JOHN 12: 1-11

TUESDAY IN HOLY WEEK

31 MARCH

+ISAIAH 49: 1-7 +PSALM 71: 1-14 1
+CORINTHIANS 1: 18-31 +JOHN 12:
20-36

March 11, 2026

Luncheon at 12:30 PM

Lunch: Mary Krejci

All women are invited to our luncheon.



“There are different kind of gifts but the same spirit.”

1 Corinthians 12:4 (NIV)

MUMC

Girl's Night Out

Thursday March 19

5:30 @ Outlaw Bar and Grill

Come Join us for Companionship,
fellowship and laughs

Everyone is Welcome to Join Us!

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.!

United Women in Faith 2026 Bible Verses

Romans 12:12 (RSV)

“Rejoice in your hope, be
patient in tribulation, be
constant in prayer.”

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.



Ingathering



The 47th Annual Mission Ingathering will be held on Saturday, November 7, 2026. Our purpose is to show the love of Christ to the world's people by ministering to their needs. Our times have changed. The methods and means may change. The work of being in mission continues. We will be collecting donations for the Personal Dignity Shopping Kits from March to May



MIDWEST

disaster relief • education

MISSION

health • micro business

PERSONAL DIGNITY KIT SHOPPING LIST

- 1 hand towel - no kitchen towels
- 1 washcloth - no dishcloths
- 1 Adult toothbrush (no multipacks)
- 1 bar soap - 3-4 oz.
- 1 shampoo -12-19 oz. (secure lid with packing tape)
- 1 deodorant - 2-3 oz. (stick, roll-on, or pump)
- 1 lotion - 8-10 oz. (secure lid with packing tape)
- 1 One-gallon resealable plastic bag

***Place all items in resealable plastic bag including \$2 donation for toothpaste and carrying bag.**

Scan the code to learn how to assemble this kit!

MARCH IN LENT: A SEASON TURNING TOWARD GRACE

MARCH ARRIVES WITH QUIET FOOTSTEPS,
SOFTENING WINTER'S LINGERING HOLD.
THE EARTH BEGINS ITS SLOW REPENTANCE,
TRADING FROST FOR HINTS OF GOLD.
IN THIS LENT-WORN, TENDER SEASON,
WE WALK THE PATH CHRIST WALKED
BEFORE—
A JOURNEY SHAPED BY PRAYER AND MERCY,
A TURNING HEART, AN OPEN DOOR.
BUDS TREMBLE ON THE BARREN
BRANCHES,
HOPE RISING WHERE THE COLD HAS BEEN;
SO TOO OUR SOULS BEGIN TO WAKEN,
STIRRED BY GOD'S RENEWING WIND.
O LORD, PREPARE OUR HEARTS FOR
EASTER—
LET EVERY THAWING, FAITHFUL THING
REMINDE US HOW YOUR LOVE KEEPS
WORKING
IN THE QUIET, PATIENT BIRTH OF SPRING.

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.

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

ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES –

Thursday, February 12, 2026

PRESENT: Susan Hunting, Mary and Jeff Krejci, Jody Weaver, Janice Schlotman, Deb Sitzmann,
Gene Groetken

Susan opened the meeting with prayer.

MINUTES

Minutes from the January 8, 2026, meeting were reviewed. Motion by Janice to accept the minutes, 2nd by Jody; motion passed.

TREASURER'S REPORT

January income was \$1800 under budget; while expenses were very close to budget. We are looking at changing our accounting software. We are currently using Quickbooks and we have found that the price to maintain that software has gone up considerably.

All 2nd semester scholarships have been paid out for our college students.

The first half of tuition for our Guatemalan student has also been paid.

OLD BUSINESS

DAYCARE UPDATE - Construction on the daycare was scheduled to begin last week but was delayed. There were some details regarding the construction contract that had to be resolved.

Those have been settled and we expect work to begin next week. Corey Lloyd did a walk-through with several members of our trustees today.

Thank you to all who have had a part in clearing out the classroom wing. It was a very big job and was accomplished in a rather short period of time with the assistance of many.

LENTEN BREAKFAST UPDATES

There have been a couple of changes to the Lenten Breakfast schedule:

Breakfast on March 11th will be held in our church at 7:30 a.m. with Pastor Pease speaking

Breakfast on March 18th will be held at ICC at 7:30 a.m. with Pastor Eric speaking

COMMITTEE UPDATES - Susan handed out an updated sheet with the names and contact information for all members on our four church committees. A few corrections were noted for her to make.

NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

FINANCE/MISSIONS - Gene is collecting information to determine another mission for our church as our current Guatemalan student will be graduating this year. Please direct any of your ideas to Gene.

MEMBER SUPPORT/EDUCATION - We have pulled out the curtain to divide the sections of our fellowship hall so as to have a little more privacy for the Sunday school classes over the next few months of construction. The teachers report this seems to be working fairly well.

TRUSTEES - We have lost a few sections of the fascia on the southwest corner of the church roof due to recent high winds. Jody has contacted Mullin Siding and they should be out to replace it soon.

Council Minutes Cont.

Deny Stubbs will be contacting Kuchel Plumbing to come out and give us an analysis of our boiler system.

UWIF - Have had good attendance at our meetings lately. We share fellowship and support with each other.

Susan would like to resurrect a Fellowship Hall Stained Glass window project that was initially active 20-30 years ago. It was noted that any future stained glass would actually be a stained glass panel which would overlay the top half of the new windows installed by Mullin Awning and Siding in 2022. She would like to have the guidelines for this in place in the event someone would like to use memorial money to install another stained glass window in our Fellowship Hall. The group discussed patterns provided by Susan for consideration.

Our next Administrative Council Meeting will be Thursday, March 12, 2026. All are invited to attend.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Krejci



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:
Linda Waugh

Trustees Chair:
Jody Weaver
Vice-Chair:
Randy Petersen

UWIF
Janice Schlotman

MINISTRY CORNER

GIVING BACK TO THE COMMUNITY



COMMUNITY BASKET
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! February food distribution will be on the 21th at the Anthon Event Center at 10 AM

Living Heritage Foundation Scholarship Program

Thank you for your generosity in answering the call for support of our student, Leslie, over the last few months. We paid \$745.00 for the first half of Leslie's scholarship. That leaves us with a balance of \$490 towards the second half of her scholarship due in May 2026. So we have to raise \$255 over the next three months, or \$85/month, to complete our commitment to Leslie's education and future!



Heifer Highlights

Rebeka Begum, a farmer and mother of three in northern Bangladesh, transformed her livestock business after receiving training, credit access, and support through a Heifer International women's cooperative project.

With new knowledge, better breeds, and improved tools like a grass-chopping machine and a biogas system, her animals became healthier and more productive, increasing her income. These gains allowed her family to afford nutritious food, household improvements, and consistent school tuition for all their children. Today, Rebeka is financially stable, empowered in her work, and able to support her daughter's dream of becoming a doctor.

OUR MISSION:
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CHRIST
TEACH LOVE AND
FORGIVENESS
REACH OUT IN SERVICE

MIDWEST MISSION

Midwest Mission is inviting our church family to help serve our community from home by collecting items for Personal Dignity Kits from March to May. Information about Ingathering Kits in the Newsletter for your reference or lists are provided on the table in the entrance.

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 FOURTH QUARTER OF 2025 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."