



# MOVILLE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

## APRIL 2026 NEWSLETTER

### ALIVE IN CHRIST

How can we make Easter a day of surprises, a day of meaning, for people who think they have heard it all before? Easter calls us to be amazed at the power of our loving God and at the incredible gift that God has given us- new life, new hope. With Easter and the arrival of spring, many people's thoughts will turn to other exciting events such as Planting, spring cleaning, camping, and weddings. These occasions bring together many people and are excellent opportunities to share in the joy of God's wonderful gift of grace. How do we live in light of Christ's resurrection?

We need to help people remember and be empowered to be witnesses in the world. Easter allows us to make a difference in this God-blessed world. The scriptures point to the best news of the Christian year: through the resurrection of Christ, we too shall live! In light of this news, we are called to live fully and deeply, and we are called to proclaim our joy.

Then the angel spoke to the women. "Don't be afraid!" he said. "I know you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. 6 He isn't here! He is risen from the dead, just as he said would happen. Come, see where his body was lying. 7 And now, go quickly and tell his disciples that he has risen from the dead, and he is going ahead of you to Galilee. You will see him there. Remember what I have told you."(Matthew 28:5-7).

Christ offers newness—a gift rooted in forgiveness and reconciliation. Embracing these gifts moves us to celebrate new beginnings. As Eugene Peterson writes, "If you celebrate Christ's resurrection only one day of the year, you're missing something big. After the resurrection of Jesus, nothing is the same."

For April, our focus is "Alive in Christ"—a reminder of God's continual newness. Trusting Christ, we affirm: "Because he lives, I can face tomorrow.

Let our lives show gratitude to Christ and reflect hope through service to God's kingdom. Let us move forward, empowered by the resurrection, to shine as witnesses of God's love and continue sharing the hope and new life found in Christ with the world. Take time this month to reach out, serve others, and let your actions speak of the hope and life found in Christ.

# CALENDAR

## ANNIVERSARIES

- 4 T & Holli Countryman
- 15 Kirk & Tam Scheelhaase
- 27 Blaine & Lori Borland
- 29 Russ & Buddie Ann Spotts
- 30 Denis & Jaine Stubbs



## BIRTHDAYS

- 3 John Weaver  
Holli Countryman
- 6 Jane Logan
- 12 Kirk Scheelhaase
- 15 Russ Spotts  
Kaytlin Jensen
- 19 Denis Stubbs  
Bonnie Johnson  
Linda Flewelling
- 22 Buddie Ann Spotts
- 26 Dr. Stee Maxwell  
Keaton Gernhart
- 27 Kennison Countryman  
Tim Nielsen



2026

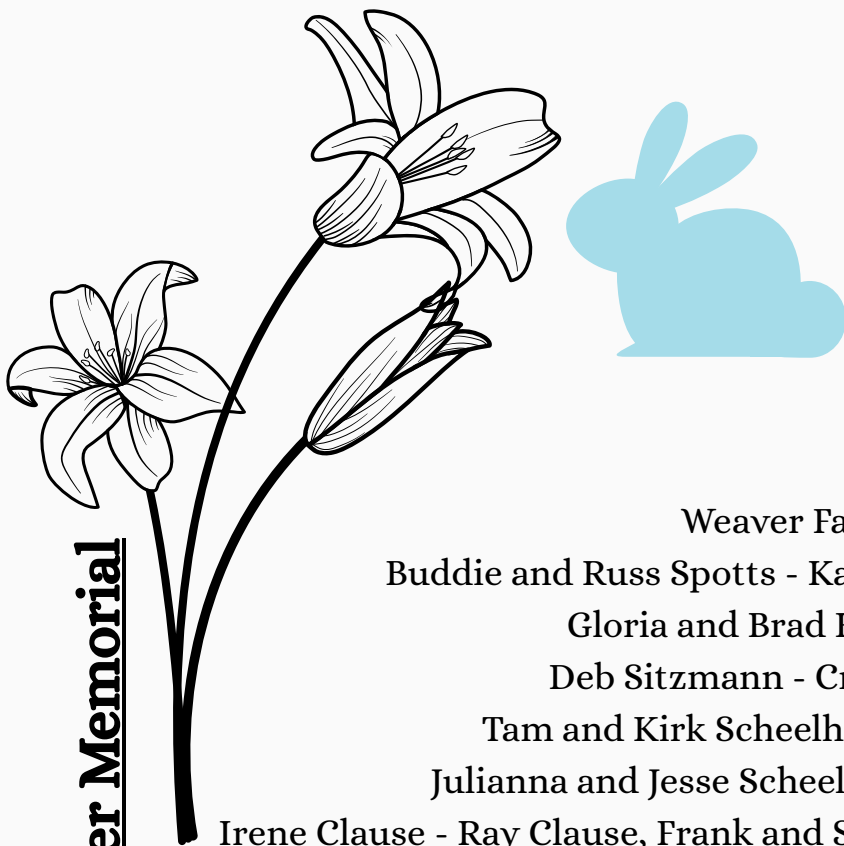
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			<sup>1</sup> Passover	<sup>2</sup> MAUNDY THURSDAY @ GRACE UNITED 7PM	<sup>3</sup> GOOD FRIDAY	4
5 <b>EASTER</b> SANDY'S EASTER BREAKFAST	6	7	8 UWIF LUNCHEON JANICE SCHLOTMAN IRENE CLAUSE	9  COUNCIL MEETING	10	11
12	13	14	15	16  GIRLS NIGHT OUT	17	18  FOOD DISTRIBUTION
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

# LENTEN BREAKFAST 2026



After some issues with the boiler, the Lenten Breakfast was rescheduled. We had a great turn out for our Annual Lenten Breakfast. Thank you for all who came early to help prepare and serve food.

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL  
SINGING "J-E-S-U-S"



**Easter Memorial**

Weaver Family Family

Buddie and Russ Spotts - Kay Chapman and Jeannie Crick

Gloria and Brad Koele - Kelton Boell

Deb Sitzmann - Craig and our Parents

Tam and Kirk Scheelhaase - Sandra Guthridge

Julianna and Jesse Scheelhaase - Norma Scheelhaase

Irene Clause - Ray Clause, Frank and Sally Flewelling, Lewis and Gladys Foster

Rochelle and Roger Wilson - Keith and Fanchon Haddock, Floyd and Earlene Wilson

Donna Flewelling - Marv Flewelling

Randy and Kathy Petersen - Bernedine Petersen, LeRoy, LaVonne, Roger Miller

# Trivia Night at the Community Center

"Brains? Debatable. Photogenic?  
Unquestionable. The Methodist Table  
stays winning."



These 29 chairs are tired of just sitting around. Give them a purpose! Please Adopt us. If interested contact the office or they will be posted online

# COVERING GOD'S HOUSE



We're on a mission... and this time it's raising the roof—literally!

Thanks to the generous support of the Maxwell family, we're already partway there, but we still need to raise \$20,000 to complete our new roof. Now it's our turn to step up in faith and fellowship!

Many hands make light work—and maybe even some fun along the way.

Let's come together, trust God's provision, and build something that will shelter our church family and Daycare kiddos for years to come.

Reach out to the office with your donations—and let's raise the roof together!

More information to come!

## Maybe Some of these wil touch home

Don't let worries get the best of you. Remember  
Moses started out as a basket case.

Many folks want to servce God, but only as  
advisors

God doesn't call the qualified, He qualifies the  
called.

It is easier to preach ten sermons than to live one.

People are funny; they want the front of the bus,  
the middle of the road and the back of the  
church.

Better not gripe about your church; if it were  
perfect, you couldn't belong.

God Himself does not propose to judge a man  
until he is dead. So why should you?

Some minds are like concrete; thoroughly mised  
up and permanetly set.

Why do some people change churches? What  
difference does it make which one you stay home  
from?

A lot of church memebbers who are singing  
*Standing on the Promises* are just sittin on the  
premises.



We were called to be witnesses, not lawyers  
or judges

Be ye fisher of men. You catch them He'll  
clean them

Conincidence is when God chosses to  
remain anonymous.

Don't wait for six strong men to take you to  
church.

Forbidden fruits create many Jams.

God Loves everyone, but probably perfers  
"Fruits of the spirit" over "religious nuts"

If God is your co-piolot- swap seats

In prayer, don't give God instructions, Just  
report for duty!

The task ahead of us is never as great as  
the Power behind us.

The will of God never takes you to where  
the Grace of God will not protect you.

You can tell how big a person is by what it  
takes to discourage him.

People are like Trees,  
they fall the way they lean!

If you think life is full of supprises, wait until  
you die!

The best mathematical equation I have ever  
see: 1 Cross + 3 nails = 4given

## APRIL 2026 LECTIONARY

### **Wednesday in Holy Week 1 April**

Isaiah 50: 4-9a, Psalm 70, Hebrews 12: 1-3, John 13: 21-32

### **Maundy Thursday 2 April**

Exodus 12: 1-4 (5-10) 11-14, Psalm 116: 1-2, 12-19, 1 Corinthians 11: 23-26, John 13: 1-17, 31b-35

### **Good Friday 3 April**

Isaiah 52: 13 – 53: 12, Psalm 22, Hebrews 10: 16-25 or Hebrews 4: 14-16; 5: 7-9, John 18: 1 – 19: 42

### **Holy Saturday 4 April**

Job 14: 1-14 or Lamentations 3: 1-9, 19-24, Psalm 31: 1-4, 15-16, 1 Peter 4: 1-8 Matthew 27: 57-66 or John 19: 38-42

### **Easter Day 5 April**

Acts 10: 34-43 or Jeremiah 31: 1-6, Psalm 118: 1-2, 14-24, Colossians 3: 1-4 or Acts 10: 34-43, John 20: 1-18 or Matthew 28: 1-10

### **2nd Sunday of Easter 12 April**

Acts 2: 14a, 22-32, Psalm 16, 1 Peter 1: 3-9, John 20: 19-31

### **3rd Sunday of Easter 19 April**

Acts 2: 14a, 36-41, Psalm 116: 1-4, 12-19, 1 Peter 1: 17-23, Luke 24: 13-35

### **4th Sunday of Easter 26 April**

Acts 2: 42-47, Psalm 23, 1 Peter 2: 19-25, John 10: 1-10

#### 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.!

April 8, 2026

Luncheon at 12:30 PM

Lunch: Janice Schlotman and  
Irene Clause

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 April 16

5:30 @ Outlaw Bar and Grill

Come Join us for Companionship,  
fellowship and laughs

Everyone is Welcome to Join Us!

## United Women in Faith 2026 Bible Verses

1 Timothy 4:10 (NLT)

"This is why we work hard and  
continue to struggle, for our  
hope is in the living God, who is  
the Savior of all people and  
particularly of all believers."



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!

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## ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES –

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Thursday, March 12, 2026

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

Jody opened the meeting with an update on the church boiler. Ryan Johnson from Johnson Plumbing picked up the pump and has taken it to Novelty Machine in Sioux City. If a rebuild is in order, estimated cost could be \$3300. A new pump for the boiler could approach \$6600. We do have two other pumps that served the classrooms, which are no longer being used. If they can be rigged up to work, we may be able to restore heat to the church at a cost of approximately \$1000. Motion by Deb, 2nd by Diane to have Ryan Johnson put together an estimate on restoring the heat to the church by using one of the existing pumps we have. Motion passed.

Susan opened the meeting with prayer.

Harold appeared representing the Ingathering Task Force. He asked if we would serve as the new collection site for Ingathering beginning this fall on November 7, 2026. They would use our parking lot to load the semi with Ingathering kits. We would have to supply 6-8 volunteers to help with the event. They would like to use Fellowship Hall for displays. Harold has volunteered to be the site coordinator and accept phone calls and field questions about the event. The site would be open from 8:00 a.m. until noon, with the truck being loaded and gone at 11:00 a.m. We would provide coffee and refreshments to the workers. Janice moved and Jeff seconded the motion to accept Harold's invitation to serve as the new site location for Ingathering. Motion passed.

### **MINUTES**

Minutes from the February 12, 2026, meeting were reviewed. Motion by Janice to accept the minutes, 2nd by Deb; motion passed.

### **TREASURER' S REPORT**

Weekly giving for the month of February was almost \$3500 over budget, thanks to a large individual donation. We'd like to take this opportunity to remind people that for those with tax- deferred retirement accounts subject to required minimum distribution (RMD), all or a portion of the RMD should be sent directly to the church to avoid paying income tax on the distribution.

This is known as a Qualified Charitable Contribution (QCD). The IRA custodian must send the funds directly to the charity in order to be a QCD. A required minimum distribution is the

# ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Continued –

smallest amount you must withdraw from your tax-deferred retirement accounts every year after a certain age without facing an IRS penalty.

## OLD BUSINESS

**DAYCARE UPDATE** - Construction on the daycare has begun. The construction crew has been pulling wire through the ceilings to create necessary connections for the fire alarm system that will be installed throughout the entire church and daycare wing. This week they will be moving into plumbing installation. Several church members have been working in the basement to remove materials that have been stored in the tunnels there.

## SEPARATION OF UTILITIES BETWEEN CHURCH AND DAYCARE

Gas and electric usage will be separately metered for billing purposes between the church and daycare. There will be two separate accounts for the gas service. For the electric service, however, due to the cost (in excess of \$20,000) of total separation into two separate accounts, there will remain one electric account to the church with a submeter from which to bill the daycare for their portion of the electric usage.

**FINANCIAL AUDIT** - The annual financial audit was performed by members of the Finance Committee on February 28, 2026. Recommendations from the audit were:

1. Improve the written documentation of financial policies and practices.
2. Take videos/photos of church property for insurance purposes.
3. Semi-annual non-treasurer review of monthly bank reconciliation.

**PARSONAGE INSURANCE CD** - Currently the parsonage insurance (\$339,432.35) is invested in a 6-month CD at Security National Bank (SNB), earning 3.9% and coming due April 10, 2026. The Finance Committee recommends the following investments effective April 10, 2026:

\$100,000.00 United Methodist Foundation Building Fund Trust Certificate - 5 years at 4.0%  
\$100,000.00 SNB 30-month at 3.5% (with 15-month flex)  
\$139,432.35 SNB 6-month at 3.5%  
Motion by Jody, 2nd by Janice: Motion passed.

**MONEY MARKET GOLD SAVINGS ACCOUNTS (MMGS)** - \$25,000 minimum balance at 1.5%  
Finance Committee reviewed two MMGS accounts with the following recommendations:  
Gifford-Corey Account - \$49,209.18 - Leave account unchanged pending boiler outcome  
Youth Fellowship Account - \$58,222.55 - Move \$50,000 into SNB 6-month CD at 3.5%. Remaining \$8,222.55 will be changed to a regular savings account at 0.1% due to balance being under \$25,000. Motion by Jeff, 2nd by Diane; Motion passed

## NEW BUSINESS

Susan will meet with Liz and Cassie to determine any needed changes to our CCLI contract.

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.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**FINANCE/MISSIONS** - We will be paying \$70,000 to MCDAI tomorrow for the new roof on the daycare wing. The roof project was incorporated into the daycare project as matching funds for grants requiring matching funds. This money is made up of a \$25,000 donation from Stee Maxwell, \$25,000 from Tad Maxwell, and \$20,000 from our congregation. We will be introducing a capital campaign called "Raise The Roof"; in order to rebuild our building fund to cover this \$20,000 contribution. Jeff will see what informational resources the conference has for including the church in Estate Planning and required minimum distributions from tax-deferred retirement plans. Motion by Gene, 2nd by Jeff to raise our church credit card limit to \$1000. (It is currently \$500.) Motion passed.

Our copier maintenance contract has aged out. We must decide whether to purchase a new copier with a new contract, or to pay for our own toner and copier repairs when needed on our current copier.

**TRUSTEES** - Mullin has been out to replace the fascia on the church.

**SPRC** - Pastor Eric has been out to visit Mary Livermore and Pam Clark.

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

Respectfully submitted,



**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.

**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!**

**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 Peanut Butter Jelly 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! April food distribution will be on the 18<sup>th</sup> at Menville Community Center at 10AM.

### 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

Dieynaba Ba, a 27-year-old dairy farmer in northern Senegal, saw major improvements after participating in the Meliteji WASU Project's vaccination campaign. Her cows' daily milk production rose from 15 to 25 liters, animal deaths stopped, and the low vaccination cost replaced the higher expenses of treating disease after it occurred. Her experience shows how coordinated public livestock services, supported by market partners, can transform farmers' livelihoods.

OUR MISSION:  
PREACH THE GOSPEL OF  
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."