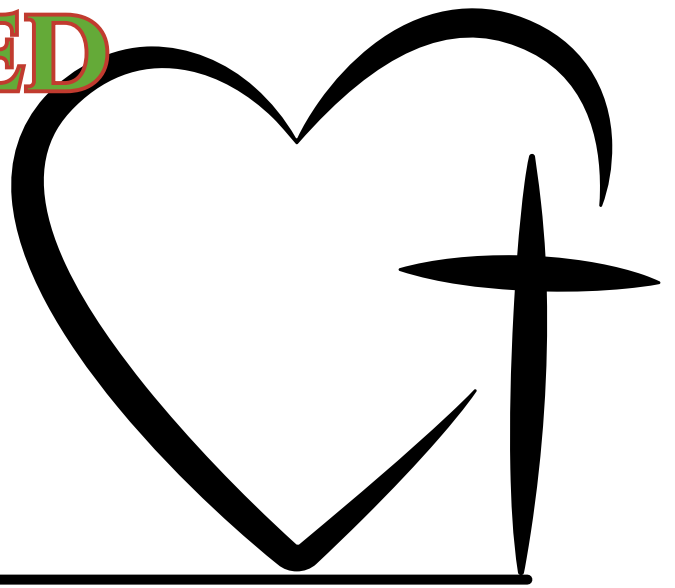


MOVILLE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH SEPTEMBER 2026



God's Word and New Beginnings

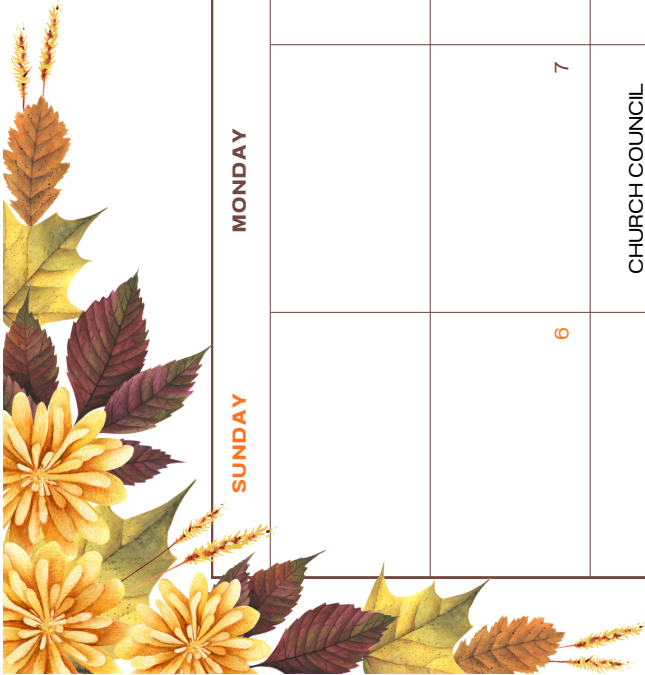
The God of the Bible specializes in beginnings. He opens Scripture by creating the heavens and the earth and closes it by proclaiming, "Behold, I make all things new." The pages in between are filled with fresh starts. Our church calendar seems to renew itself every September. After a break from some routines, we are eager to embrace new schedules, activities, and music. With great anticipation, we look forward to the plans that are being made for the weeks and months ahead here at Movable UMC.

At Movable United Methodist Church, September marks the return of several ministries, including our choir, Sunday School, and Confirmation class. In many ways, this month represents a transition from the busyness of summer to the routines of fall.



New beginnings are God's specialty. In Revelation 21:5, the Lord says, "Behold, I make all things new." Jesus also gave us a new commandment in John 13:34 and established a new covenant in Luke 22:20. One of my favorite verses is 2 Corinthians 5:17: "Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new." May God help us to grow in this season of new beginnings. May God bless you!

Grace and Peace,
Pastor Eric Sayonkon



SEPTEMBER 2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	2	3	4	5
		COMMUNITY PARTNER RECOGNITION 5:30	*UWIF LUNCHEON HOSTED BY DIANE WEAVER *CONFIRMATION 5:30 PM		HOMEcomings SOUP AND PIE 11-1	12
	6	7			11	
		CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING 6PM		GIRLS NIGHT OUT 5:30 OUTLAW	18	FOOD DISTRIBUTION 10 AM MOVILLE COMMUNITY CENTER 19
13	14	15	16	17		
SUNDAY SCHOOL KICKOFF 20	21	22	23	24	25	BELOVED COMMUNITY GATHERING 10 AM 26
27	28	29	30			



Celebrating Life Together

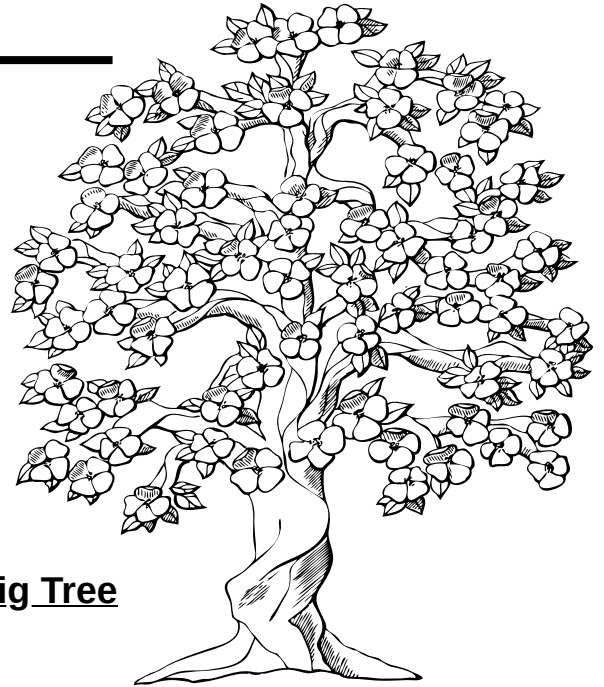
Birthdays

5 Peggy Keizer
6 Lori Watts
10 Sharon Sands
11 Donna Flewelling
13 Chuck Eskov
15 Derl Petersen
16 Tony Jensen
21 Haylie Borland
24 Deb Petersen
25 Bobbie Wahlberg
26 Terry Waugh
27 Tom Utesch
28 Vicki McElrath
29 Diane Weaver
Gene Groetken

Anniversaries

12 Gary & Mary Bruce
22 Fred & Sharon Sands
23 Tom & Shawna Dennison
Joe & Deb Petersen
27 Bill & Becky Dahna
30 Randy & Kathy Petersen

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)



The Parable of the Barren Fig Tree

Luke 13:6–9

Jesus told a story to help people understand God's patience and mercy. A man had a fig tree planted in his garden. Every year he came to the tree, hoping to find sweet figs. But year after year, the tree had no fruit at all. One day the man said to the gardener, "I've looked for fruit on this tree for three years, and still nothing. Cut it down. It's just taking up space." But the gardener gently replied, "Please give it one more year. Let me take care of it— I'll dig around it, loosen the soil, give it water, and add good fertilizer. If it grows fruit next year, wonderful. If not, then you can cut it down." Jesus' story reminds us that God is patient with us, giving us time to grow, change, and bear good fruit in our lives.

HOPE ON THE HORIZON: UPCOMING EVENTS

IMPORTANT

Confirmation Class Will Begin September 9th at 5:30 at the church.

Midwest Mission

Last Month to Donated to Midwest Mission's Student Kit!

- 3 notebooks - 1 subject spiral 8"x10 1/2"
- 1 ruler - 12" long with metric
- 6 pencils - unsharpened
- 1 pencil sharpener
- 1 pencil eraser - 2" or larger
- 1 box 12 colored pencils
- 1 box 24 crayons
- 1 pair student scissors

**GOOD BLESSINGS
FOR A NEW
SCHOOL YEAR!**

*UWiF will be starting again on September 9th - Diane Weaver will be hosting

*WC Homecoming is September 11
Soup and Pie Luncheon 11 AM-1 PM

*Ad Council Meetings are now the second Monday of the month

*Sunday School will be starting in September 20th.

*Girls Night Out be held at Outlaw on September 17 at 5:30 PM.

*The office is asking the congregation to verify their address, birthday, email, phone numbers. Sheets are on front table.

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.

♥ HOPE ON THE HORIZON: UPCOMING EVENTS

☀ Community Partner

Recognition – You're Invited!

Crittenton Center has selected Moville United Methodist Church and MCDAI as their Community Partners of the Month for September.

Christina Eggink-Postma, VP of Community Engagement and Development, shared that this honor is given each month to organizations making a meaningful impact in the community. Because of our incredible partnership in bringing childcare to Moville, Crittenton Center will hold a short recognition event on:

 Tuesday, September 8

 5:30 PM

 Moville United Methodist Church

The gathering will last about 15 minutes and will include a brief presentation, a certificate of appreciation, words of thanks, and photos. All members of the church are warmly invited to attend and celebrate this moment together.



Moville Area Childcare Center is with Moville United Methodist Church.

August 26 at 11:44 AM · 🌐

We would like to take a moment to thank the [Moville United Methodist Church](#).

The support of the congregation allowed us to invest in an existing facility right here in our community. With prime access to Highway 20, we are set up for success in this renovated facility. This partnership showcases the sense of community out here in Rural Northwest Iowa.

We also are sincerely appreciative of their generous donation to the childcare center in giving us the headstart in the construction phase. The Methodist Church supported us in every step along our progress, even helping the committee raise funds by hosting the Hot Beef Luncheon last January.

Our vision truly could not have come to life without the Moville Methodist Church. Thank you for believing in us, investing in our future and helping create a place that will benefit our community for years to come. 🙏🏻



Beloved Community Event by CORR - Northwest District

Beloved Community Gathering

Date: September 26, 2026

Location: Grace UMC, Sioux City - 1735 Morningside Ave, Sioux City, IA 51106-1738

Time: 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM Lunch will be provided

Lunch: Homemade chili, broccoli cheese, and potato soups, with cinnamon rolls and cornbread, along with a few diverse snacks, coffee, water, and tea.

The Beloved Community recognizes and celebrates the beauty and power of God's love and gifts of diversity. We are all wired for authentic relationships and communities. More so, Christians need to be together through the Body of Christ.

We must be intentional about connecting and being with others. This means building relationships with those who are different from us.

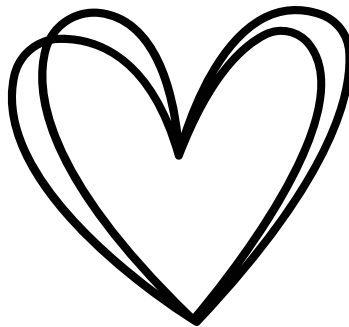


Joyful Journeys

August Brought the Woodbury County Fair

Lots of the kids brought multiple projects and won lots of Awards.

Here are just a few pictures:



YOU ARE INVITED

Love. Serve. Lead

A hands-on mission celebration!

Learn More!



IOWA CONFERENCE of the UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



Ingathering

Saturday, November 7, 2026
8 am - 11 am

Mt. Pleasant UMC | Greenfield UMC | Merville UMC
1st UMC, Cedar Falls | Trinity UMC, Ft. Dodge

New!

Bring your in-kind and monetary gifts — then stay for meaningful fellowship, worship, and a heartfelt time of thanksgiving.
 Visit www.iaumc.org/ingathering.

EARLY DROP OFF

Friday, Nov. 6, 2026,
 from 9:00 a.m. to
 11:00 a.m. only at
 Grace UMC in Glenwood,
 Kanawha UMC,
 Lamoni UMC, and
 Midwest Mission
 in Jefferson.

Boxes must be taped and
 labeled with
 completed paperwork.







✦ **Volunteers Needed for the Iowa Ingathering** ✦

Merville UMC has been invited to help represent CWS Blankets at this year's Iowa Mission Ingathering, and we are seeking one volunteer to serve as our CWS representative. This role is a simple but meaningful way to help congregations understand how their support provides warmth, comfort, and hope to neighbors in need.

CWS will fully equip and support our volunteer by providing:

- ✦ A virtual training session with a CWS staff member
- ✦ A sample CWS Blanket of your choosing
- ✦ A short video and printed materials to use during the event
- ✦ A small gift of appreciation for your time and service

CWS has offered to host the virtual training on October 13 or October 14, with flexible scheduling to fit the volunteer's availability. The training will walk through what a brief Ingathering presentation includes—sharing a video, explaining the impact of the Blankets Program, and describing how Merville UMC participates in Blanket Sunday.

Your help would play an important role in ensuring every Ingathering site has someone who can speak confidently about the ministries supported through this mission effort. CWS's goal is to make sure you feel prepared, appreciated, and encouraged every step of the way.

If you are willing to serve or would like more information, please contact the church office. Your involvement would be a blessing and help strengthen this year's Ingathering.

ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES –

ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – Monday, August 10, 2026

PRESENT: Susan Hunting, Mary and Jeff Krejci, Randy Petersen, Gene Groetken, Larry Koehn

Susan opened the meeting with prayer.

MINUTES

Minutes from the July 9, 2026, meeting were reviewed. Motion by Gene, to accept the minutes, 2nd by Jeff; motion passed.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Monthly giving for July was \$5100, \$2400 less than the \$7500 budgeted weekly giving for July. Last month we did receive \$1900 accrued interest from our parsonage CD.

Next month, on September 11th, the \$50,000 CD from the Youth Account comes due. The current cash balance in that account, after paying out scholarships for college and youth camps this summer, is approximately \$1000. The motion was made by Gene to remove \$7000 from that CD, leaving \$43,000 for the next 6 months at 3.5% interest. Second by Randy; motion carried.

PASTOR'S REPORT

Gene will check with the pastor to find out a convenient meeting day and time.

OLD BUSINESS

CHURCH SIGNAGE UPDATE - Jeff received an estimate from ACE Sign Company for a new sign to be placed on the front of our church where windows were removed, creating a large blank space. They are the company who did the signage for the Daycare. He received an estimate of \$9705 using a metal backing. They lowered the bid to \$3731 if there is no backing used and the letters are formed plastic instead of aluminum. Avery Brothers Sign Company is currently working up an estimate for us. We hope to receive some samples from them shortly. We may have to add some lighting to set off the sign.



ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Continued –

SOUP AND PIE NEEDS - A clipboard will be sent around for people to sign up with their donations of food, time, and/or cash contributions. Crittenton Center has a new refrigerator that will be moved in to take the place of our second refrigerator they are currently using for their food storage. Then our second refrigerator will be returned to the church's fellowship hall or the bride's dressing room area for our use.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

FINANCE/MISSIONS: Three scholarship applications have been completed and checks have been sent out to the colleges. Gene anticipates about four more who must complete the process by the end of August to be eligible to receive scholarship money for this semester. Just a reminder that the applications must be completed in full to be eligible for the scholarship.

TRUSTEES - We received some information from our Brotherhood Mutual insurance agent. They list a number of items to be taken care of. Larry Etler will be assisting us with getting these things taken care of.

The first week of daycare went well. We also had a large funeral in our church and fellowship hall during this time. We are pleased at how well everything went.

Our next Administrative Council Meeting will be Monday, September 14th, 2026, at 6:00 p.m. All are invited to attend.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Krejci



SEPTEMBER 2026 LECTIONARY

Sundays in September 2026

September 6 (Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost / Proper 18)

Old Testament: Exodus 12:1-14

Psalm: Psalm 149

Epistle: Romans 13:9-14

Gospel: Matthew 18:15-20 [1, 2]

September 13 (Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost / Proper 19)

Old Testament (Semi-continuous): Exodus 14:19-31

Old Testament (Complementary): Genesis 50:15-21

Psalm: Psalm 114 or Psalm 103:8-13

Epistle: Romans 14:1-12

Gospel: Matthew 18:21-35 [1, 2, 3, 4]

September 20 (Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost / Proper 20)

Old Testament (Semi-continuous): Exodus 16:2-15

Old Testament (Complementary): Jonah 3:10-4:11

Psalm: Psalm 105:1-6, 37-45 or Psalm 145:1-8

Epistle: Philippians 1:21-30

Gospel: Matthew 20:1-16 [1, 2]

September 27 (Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost / Proper 21)

Old Testament (Semi-continuous): Exodus 17:1-7

Old Testament (Complementary): Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32

Psalm: Psalm 78:1-4, 12-16 or Psalm 25:1-9

Epistle: Philippians 2:1-13

Gospel: Matthew 21:23-32

MUMC

Girl's Night Out

September 17

5:30 @ Outlaw

Come Join us for Companionship,
fellowship and laughs

Everyone is Welcome to Join Us!

United Women in Faith 2026 Bible Verses

Hebrews 11:6 (KJV): "But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him."



September 9, 2026
Hosted by Diane Weaver
Luncheon 12:30



"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!

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 Cleaning Supplies 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! September food distribution will be on the 19th in Merville at the Merville 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 second quarter of 2026 the approximate interest values for each were: General \$38,800; Building \$7300; Missions \$550; Special Ministries \$320; Education \$4300. Contact the church office if you would like to learn more about the MUMC Endowment Fund."



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.

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



Heifer Highlights

Heifer USA helps small and family farmers by investing in the infrastructure they need to earn a stable, dignified living. They train and support socially and economically disadvantaged farmers while building sustainable, regenerative farming businesses. Together, these efforts strengthen rural food systems and help rural communities thrive again.