



Phone: 873-5117

Menville United Methodist Church

450 S. 1st ~ P.O. Box 801 ~ Menville, IA 51039

Email: mumchurch@wiatel.net www.menvilleumc.org

Facebook: Menville United Methodist Church

December 2023

Our Mission is to:

PREACH the Gospel of Jesus Christ

TEACH love and forgiveness

REACH out in service

(Matthew 28:19-20)

	ACTUAL	BUDGETED
Y-T-D Expenses Through October	\$56,834	\$71,120
Y-T-D Income through October	\$82,164	\$70,914
November Income Received	\$6244	\$6544
Wkly Ave Inc Rcvd (Last 4 wks)	\$1561	\$1636

CHRISTMAS HOPE

Advent is a season of joyful expectation, waiting, making ready, and anticipating what God is doing in and through our world. We expect the coming of God's promised Messiah. Advent looks back to the first coming of Christ at Bethlehem and looks to the future when Christ will come again.

As the world faces crises of violence, war, injustice, fear, and brokenness, only God's redemptive love and grace can truly bring peace and healing. When we celebrate Christmas, let us remember that Jesus is our hope and Savior. Let us celebrate the joyful news that **"Hope is born again"**

But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see, I am bringing you good news of great joy for all people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior who is the Messiah, the Lord. (Luke 2:11)

God has come to our world to save us from our sins, and that is Good News. As we prepare for Christmas, let us renew our faith in Immanuel, God with us, the one who brings hope, peace, joy, and love to our broken world; let us celebrate with hope. Christmas is one of God's greatest miracles and gifts to us. Grace to you, and God bless you.

May you have a Christ-filled Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Hope in the Lord,

Pastor Eric Sayonkon

Pastor

Reverend Eric Sayonkon

Office Administrator

Holli Countryman

Music Director

Accompanists

Christina Canning

Rochelle Wilson

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:

Kristi Baier

SPRC

Chair:

Kirk Scheelhaase

Vice-Chair:

Deb Sitzmann

Trustees

Chair:

Jody Weaver

Vice-Chair:

Randy Petersen

UWIF

Janice Schlotman



ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 2023

PRESENT: Susan Hunting, Pastor Eric Sayonkon, Diane and Jody Weaver, Gene Groetken, Jeff Krejci

Opening prayer by Pastor Eric.

The October 19, 2023 Ad Council minutes were reviewed: move to accept by Diane, 2nd by Jody; motion passed.

FINANCE REPORT

Giving for October, 2023, was slightly above budget due to five Sundays in the month of October. We received and paid the bill for our church's share of pastor salary, insurance, and pension for August and September. A \$200 donation was received from UWIF for the Guatemalan Student Sponsorship bringing the account balance to \$1110.24.

Jody moved to accept the finance report, Diane 2nd; motion passed.

PASTOR'S REPORT

Pastor Eric attended Charge Conference at Grace Church in Sioux City October 29.

A special annual conference will be held November 18 to bless the remaining conference churches who have opted to disaffiliate.

The stewardship letter from the pastor to all members of the church has been completed and will be arriving in the mail soon.

Pastor Eric will be leading an Advent Study to be held between 4:30 and 5:30 pm, on Thursdays December 7, 14, and 21. Fellowship with a light meal, such as soup, will be held in conjunction with the study.

Liz Ross has accepted the Music Director position. So far, 15 have signed up for choir.

Pastor Eric will be attending a "Facing the Future" conference in Atlanta Tuesday, November 14 through Friday November 17.

OLD BUSINESS

Community Thanksgiving Service will be on Sunday, November 19, at Immaculate Conception Catholic Church at 7 pm.

Christmas Eve Service will be held at 5:00 pm, Sunday, December 24.

NEW BUSINESS

The search continues for the pastor's missing white robe.

Volunteers will be needed following the November 26 church service to help decorate the church for Christmas.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

FINANCE/MISSIONS – Scholarship applications for the second semester will soon be available. Our local Christmas mission will be the "adoption" of a local family in need with three or four kids. A tree of wishes will be set up for us to provide gifts for the children and a Christmas meal.

TRUSTEES – All of the remaining items on the parsonage to-do list have been completed including locks changed, new garbage disposal, new refrigerator shelves, gutters cleaned, and washouts filled in, just to name a few. Thank you to all who have contributed time and talent to do an amazing job rehabilitating the parsonage.

UWIF – The November 8 program was a presentation of local churches by Grace Linden from the Merville Historical Society. The annual Pot Luck will be held Wednesday, December 13. Correctionville Grace and Rock Branch women will also be invited.

There was discussion of the need to minimize meetings that require after-dark driving for our membership while balancing that with normal working and school hours. With that in mind, we are going to try both a new time and day of the week for our December Ad Council meeting. **THE DECEMBER AD COUNCIL MEETING WILL BE HELD TUESDAY, DECEMBER 12, AT 4:00 PM. PLEASE NOTE NEW TIME AND DAY OF THE WEEK.**

Respectfully submitted,
Jeff Krejci

MEMBER CARE

How good it is that God above has never gone on strike. Because God was not treated fair in things God didn't like. If only once, God had given up and said, "That's it, I'm though. I've had enough of those on Earth, so this is what I'll do; I'll give my orders to the sun: Cut off the heat supply! And to the moon — give no more light, and run the oceans dry. Then just to make things really tough and to put the pressure on, turn off the vital oxygen till every breath is gone!" You know, instead, God carries on, supplying you and me, with all the favors of God's grace, and everything for free.

May we remember all out blessing, strengths, and goals as we work in mission together.

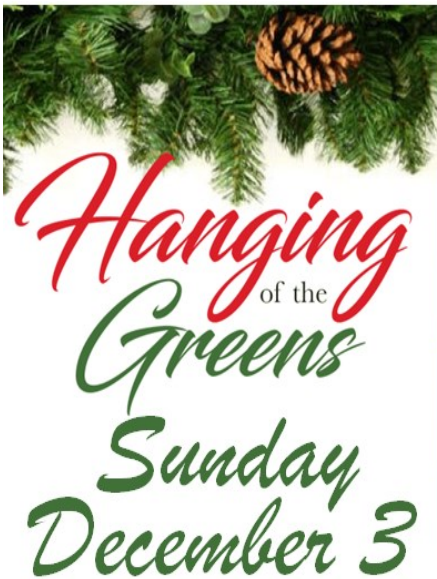
The Warming Shelter

What makes the Warming Shelter different from any other location that supports the homeless is that it welcomes any and all who need shelter. Once an individual comes into the Warming Shelter, there is support to help them get their life on track by providing shelter, food, hope and stability. In 2021, 231 persons were identified as homeless in Sioux City. The Shelter provides compassion, help and direction to those who need it most.

Warming Shelter needs:

Paper or styrofoam plates, cups, bowls
Plastic utensils
Winter gloves
Men's jeans & sweatpants (size 30-38)
All sizes women's underwear
Backpacks & drawstring bags
Bath towels
Travel size shampoo
Men's & women's deodorant

A donation box is in the entryway



Pastor Eric will be holding an Advent Bible Study this month: Thursdays at 4:30 pm. Soup will be served. Everyone is welcome!! Please join us!

Thursday, December 7
Thursday, December 14
Thursday, December 21

WISH TREE



Fill a wish from our tree, gift wrap and return by December 17th.

Cash donations accepted to buy a Christmas meal.

Our Christmas Mission is to provide for one local family!

Email Addresses

The best way for us to stay connected with our members and friends, and for you to receive Sunday worship information/sermons, updates and news, is through our weekly emails. If you are not receiving church emails, please email the church at mumchurch@wiatel.net or call the church office at 712/873-5117.

SEND EMAIL



Community Basket

For the month of December we are collecting cereal 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!



A variety of animals are made available to families seeking a better life. Animals provide adequate and a cash income to struggling families. Support the work of Heifer Project with your quarters. Place them in "Rosie" the Cow on the table in the back of the sanctuary.



United
Women
in Faith

December 13
Luncheon at 12:30 pm

Lunch: Potluck

All women are invited to our luncheon.

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



Poinsettias

They will be delivered Tuesday, December 12th
They will be available to take home
Christmas Eve.

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.

Offering & Gifts

OFFERING
WORSHIP THROUGH GIVING

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 Holli 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.

Mission Moment

Living Heritage Foundation Scholarship Program

Each Sunday you have an opportunity to give a monetary gift to help support Lesly, a student from Guatemala in her education journey.

A container is available at the back of the sanctuary to place your donation in. If you are unable to worship with us, you may mail in your monetary gift to the church office.

Please continue to keep Lesly and her family in your prayers during this time.



A friendly reminder for those of you that send in an end of the year check for your contributions—

please have your checks into the office no later than January 10 or they will be counted on next years contributions.

Thank you!!!



Moville UMC Social Media Sites

For news and updates regarding Moville United Methodist Church, please go to:

You Tube channel: www.youtube.com/MovilleUnitedMethodistChurch

Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/movilleumc>

Website: <http://movilleumc.org> or

Instagram: at movilleumc



Birthday & Anniversary Blessings

Birthdays

4 Jason Manker
 5 Jeff Crick
 Bob Seitzinger
 6 Nic Scheelhaase
 10 Suzy Chapman
 11 Harold Werley
 12 John Schlotman
 15 Jeff Jaacks
 16 Pastor Eboni Sayonkon
 17 Nancy Ferdig
 18 Miah Manker
 19 Larry Epling
 20 Marcia Neely
 26 Scott Gernhart



Anniversaries

22 Mark & Sherri Harris

December Lectionary

December 3

Isaiah 64:1-9
 Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19
 1 Corinthians 1:3-9
 Mark 13:24-37

December 10

Isaiah 40:1-11
 Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13
 2 Peter 3:8-15a
 Mark 1:1-8

December 17

Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11
 Psalm 126
 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24
 John 1:6-8, 19-28

December 24

2 Samuel 7:11, 16
 Luke 1:46b-55
 Romans 16:25-27
 Luke 1:26-38

December 31

Isaiah 61:10-62:3
 Psalm 148
 Galatians 4:4-7
 Luke 2:1-20

December 2023

Worship at 9 am each Sunday/ Sunday School at 10 am

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3 Communion Hanging of the Greens	4	5	6	7 Advent Study 4:30 pm	8	9
10	11	12 Ad Council Mtg 4 pm	13 UMW 12:30 pm	14 Advent Study 4:30 pm	15	16
17	18	19	20 Newsletter Deadline	21 Advent Study 4:30 pm	22	23
24 Candlelight Service 5 pm	25	26 OFFICE CLOSED	27	28	29	30
31	Christmas Day					



LIVING HERITAGE FOUNDATION

Dear Sponsor:

It is a pleasure to great you and I hope you are well with your loved ones and in your daily activities. I want to share with you what I have experienced in these last months through this letter.

I thank God that my family and I are in good health. As for my studies, I am pleased to inform you that I have done very well in this year 2023. I am happy because I am close to the end of my school year and when I do not have pending activities, I dedicate my tie to reading and doing my homework.

Also, I want to express my sincere appreciation for the help you have given me. The resources you provide are very useful for my studies.

I hope to write to you again soon. I wish you God's continued blessings and prosperity in all your activities.

Sincerely,

LESLIE MELISSA XUM JIMENEZ

**21 Avenue 2-18 "A" Zone 3, Quetzaltenango, Guatemala, C.A.
Email: info@herenciaviva.org**