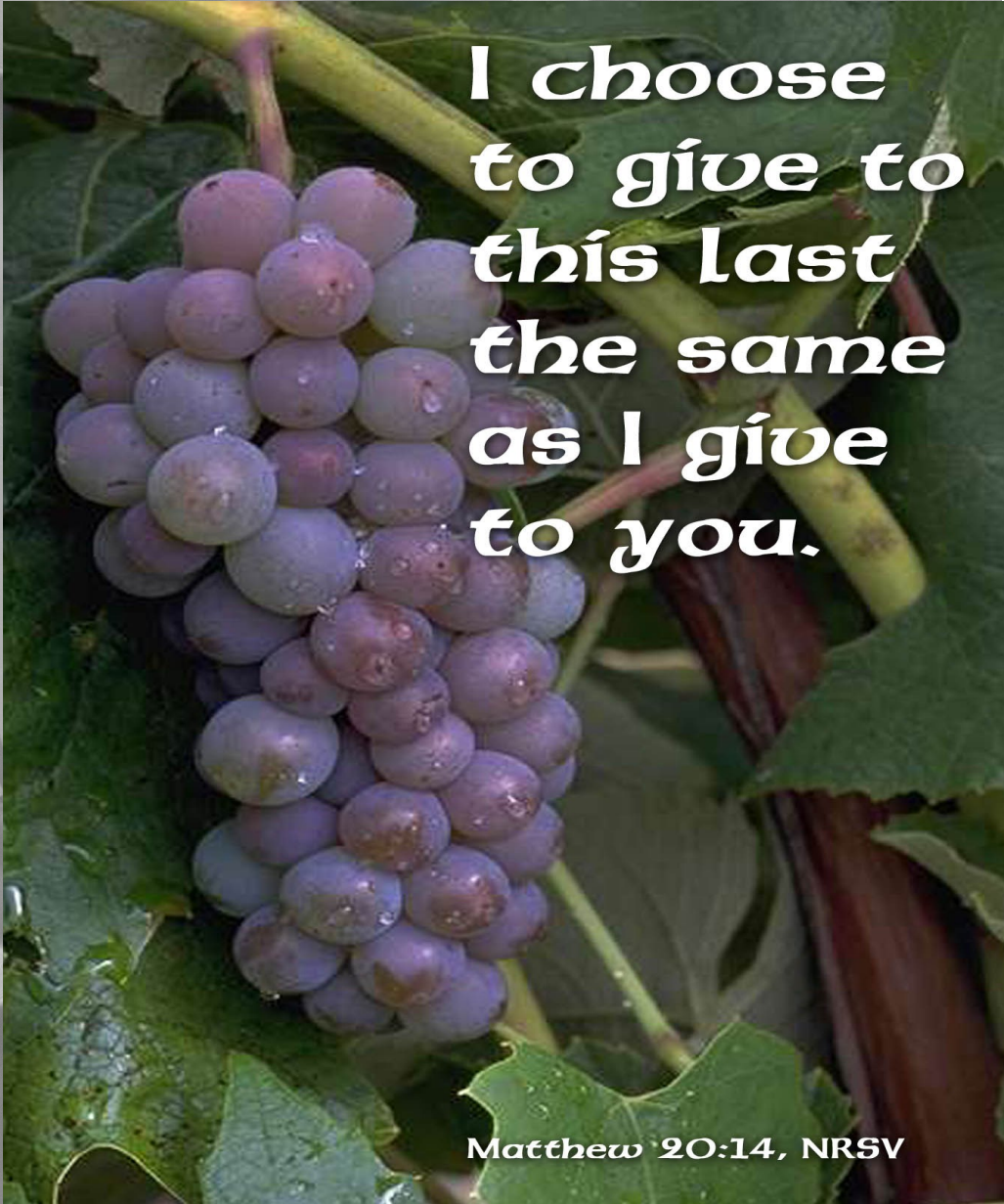


THE BREEZE



**I choose
to give to
this last
the same
as I give
to you.**

Matthew 20:14, NRSV

Our Church's Vision:

*To become a growing, difference-making, enthusiastic,
and faith-filled Christian community.*

Our Church's Mission:

Reach with Christ People Where They Are.

The Gospel Imperatives:

Growing in Love of God and Neighbor

Reaching New People

Healing a Broken World

Our Guiding Principle:

*Do all the good we can, by all the means we can,
in all the ways we can, in all the places we can,
at all the times we can, to all the people we can,
as long as ever we can.*

Check us out:

**Church Website with official multi-month
church calendar: www.MotleyUMC.net**

On Facebook: www.facebook.com/motleyumc



Do Some Good Every Day

The Motley United Methodist Church

Worship Service via Zoom Meeting & in-person

Pastor: Greg Leslie Cell: [\(218\) 731-9302](tel:(218)731-9302) (Call or text)

E-mail: pastorgleslie@gmail.com

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(218) 352-6466 or (612) 221-1111 (preferred, call or text)

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Pastor Greg's September Message:

Good September Friends,

A couple of nights ago, Stephanie and I were sitting in our living room. She looks at me and says, "It has been 13 years since your accident." My response was this: "Thirteen? Really?"

When something dramatic and life-changing happens, like what happened to me, it is always stuck in the back of your mind. The reason for that is because the story becomes a part of your narrative. It becomes a part of your everyday life.

Would life be different for me if the accident never happened?

Would I have answered my call and still went into ministry?

Now I can remember when it happened, but I can't remember the year. I have put the time and date away in the far storage of my brain. Maybe I don't want to live into it. Maybe I don't want to remember the sounds. Maybe I don't want to remember the scenario. All I want to remember is that God was with me that day, which is all that matters.

One thing that I have noticed over those past thirteen years is that people are willing to be there for you in your greatest time of need. The second thing that I noticed is this: that people are NOT ready to be there for you if that need lasts longer than they expect. But I know someone who is there for you whenever you need Him.

I know that there are times when we put a lot of faith into friends and family. When this happens, the return is never known; in other words, maybe the reliability isn't there. But once I fully started putting my life in a loving Christ, something happened: I became happier. I found joy in the little things.

This past week, I met with the District Superintendent. In the conversation we had, I told her this, "If I don't find joy in it, I am not going to do it." Once I started living into that concept of doing what brings me joy, I became much happier in life. I

say this because I believe listening to what Jesus is putting in your heart will bring you joy.

So, this month, I challenge all of you to begin to listen to the joy that Jesus is putting in your hearts. Listen for the spirit moving you because the joy will be there amid it all.

Jesus wants us to be happy.

Jesus wants us to spread love.

Jesus wants us to be joyful in His gracious Kin-dom.

Blessings in the month ahead,

Pastor Greg Leslie

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

September 3–Sunday Worship Celebration & Holy Communion at 10 am; First Sunday Potluck

September 4 – **Labor Day**; Monday Morning Bible Study 10am

September 5 – First day of School at Pillager schools

September 6 – Game Day, 1-3 pm

September 10 – Sunday Worship Celebration at 10 am

September 11 – Monday Morning Bible Study at 10 am;
First day of School at Staples/Motley schools

September 12 – Lincoln Community Church service, 4 pm

September 13 – United Women in Faith Gathering, 1 pm;
Church Council Meeting, 4 pm

September 17 – Sunday Worship Celebration at 10 am

September 18 – Monday Morning Bible Study at 10 am

September 20 – Game Day, 1-3 pm

September 24 – Sunday Worship Celebration at 10 am

September 25 – Monday Morning Bible Study at 10 am

September 29 – Show N Go

September 30 – Community Pancake Breakfast, 9-10:30 am

October 1 – Sunday Worship Celebration & Holy Communion at 10 am; First Sunday Potluck

October 2 – Monday Morning Bible Study at 10 am

Church in-person or on Zoom.

Sunday morning worship at MotleyUMC is at 10 am and can be attended in person at MotleyUMC or via Zoom.

On September 3, we will celebrate worship with the Holy Communion. Please have bread and juice ready if worshipping with us via Zoom on **September 3**.

Where: In person at MotleyUMC and on Zoom.

When: 10 am

MotleyUMC <https://zoom.us/j/973954278>

Meeting ID: **973 954 278** Password: *(Contact Church)*

Monday Morning Study

Monday Morning Bible Study via Zoom

Time: Every week on Monday at 10:00 AM

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86826858534>

Meeting ID: **868 2685 8534**

Password: *(Contact Liz)*

Show N Go

SHOW up at 9:30 Friday, September 29, and **GO** to have a day of adventure in Nisswa for food and fun.

Everyone is welcome. Bring a friend!

*Give every day the chance to become the
"Most Beautiful Day of Your Life"!*

--Mark Twain



COMMUNITY BREAKFAST

September 30, 2023

9:00 - 10:30 am

Motley United Methodist Church

Serving pancakes, scrambled eggs, & sausage

Community Breakfasts at MotleyUMC on the last Saturday of the month. No charge, this is an opportunity for members of the community to come together and share a meal. There will be a donation basket to support other good works.

We will have a Potluck on Sunday, September 3rd, after the church service. Bring a dish to share if you can; stay and enjoy the food either way!

United Women In Faith

UW Faith will meet at the church at 1 pm on Wednesday, September 13 for its monthly gathering. You are invited to join us for an afternoon of learning what our Pledge to Mission contributions fund, fellowship and food.

Bernice Thomson will present the Pledge to Mission program, with devotion prepared by Jomyla Choate, and Janet Greig will treat us to a delicious dessert.

A business meeting will be part of the afternoon's activities.



United
Women
in Faith



Game On!!!!!!

First & Third Wednesday of each month From 1:00 to 3:00 pm.



In September on September 6 and 20.

Cards, Dice, Board Games, Dominos

BOARD GAMES:

Aggravation, Cribbage, Rummikub

CARDS:

UNO, Skipbo, Hand and Foot, 500, Golf, Phase 10

DOMINOS:

Mexican train, Fives

DICE:

Yahtzee, Farkle

EVERYONE IS WELCOME- No Charge

Refreshments will be served

Bring your own favorite game,
and we will play with you!



MotleyUMC Church Council Meeting on Wednesday, September 13, at 4 pm. This is an open meeting and we will be discussing, among other things, the church's fall/winter calendar. Everyone is welcome to attend.



Annual Lincoln Community Church Service

The historic Lincoln Community Church, which is care-taken by the Lincoln Ladies Aid, has an annual church service on the second Tuesday of September. On **Tuesday, September 12, at 1:30 pm**, Pastor Greg will be leading that worship.

Come and enjoy worship in this beautiful, old sanctuary! Off of Morrison County 7 toward Lincoln. Find on Google.



Other Events:

AA is meeting on Monday nights at 8 pm.

Bone Builders is meeting on Tuesday and Friday Mornings.

Haiti Updates

Thank you everyone who participated in the July Noisy Offering – \$258.11 was received. Also, approximately \$1,000 was received by the Partnership participating in coffee & metal art sales at MUMC, another Noisy Offering at First United in Little Falls, the Little Falls Green Fair and Scandia Valley Summerfest. Another \$282 was raised at the Pillager Flea Market on 8/19.

Again, thank you for supporting the projects of the Haiti Partnership.

As of this writing, Haiti is bracing for another hurricane. Please continue to pray for our friends in Haiti, especially the communities of Yvon & Sobier. Once the hurricane passes, there may be more ways the Partnership can help our friends with immediate concerns. I will keep you posted on how we can help.

Recently, Wesnet reached out to the Partnership stating that Luknor, one of our OPB2M members' home burned to the ground. He was asking if the Partnership could help fund the rebuilding of Luknor's house, which we agreed to do. The community has also raised money to help with the rebuild. The house will be a paraseismic (earthquake resistant) house.

Looking ahead please begin to collect your loose change, as our next Noisy Offering is scheduled for Sunday, October 29. The Partnership will also accept checks made payable to Haiti Partnership and placed into the offering plate.

FROM THE
CHURCH
MOUSE



THE STORY OF THE STAINED GLASS WINDOWS

Window 3 of 8: The Sermon on the Mount

Matthew 5: 1-2: *And seeing the multitudes, he went up into a mountain, and when he was set his disciples came unto him. And he opened his mouth and taught them.*

This window is a royal feast of color
for our eyes.

The shades and tones are richly mixed -
the border is a jewel.

The message our Lord is giving
is one of hope for all.

The peacemaker, the pure in heart, the meek,
the merciful.

Blessed are we when we can find ourselves
in the Beatitudes.

Blessed are we that we can pray,
"Thy Kingdom come" with faith .



This window is in memorial to Arthur and Edith Underhill. It was given by the members of their family. The Underhills were loyal members of this church who expressed warm memories of their activities here. The family's appreciation for their parent's Christian influence is recognized in this gift .





SENDING HOPE AND EMPOWERMENT AROUND THE WORLD AND AROUND THE CORNER

Shipment Goes to Maui to Help Victims of the Wildfire



During the second week of August, wildfires sparked around the island of Maui that quickly led to a devastating inferno that destroyed the historic community of Lahaina.

The community of Lahaina was made up of local residents. This was their home — not their week of vacation or temporary living. Many of the people that had to evacuate and who lost everything, *really lost everything*. They lost pieces of their culture, their historic landmarks, and a piece of the island that was their own.

Shortly after the wildfires began, Midwest Mission was in contact with Convoy of Hope, out of Springfield, Missouri. Convoy of Hope was on the ground in Lahaina distributing disaster relief within a week of the fires igniting.

After discussing what we had and what their needs were, it was

decided that we would send Bed Packs (sheet sets and bed pillows), Hygiene Kits, and Rice Meal Bags for Convoy to distribute at their discretion.

On Monday, August 28, a container arrived that would go to one of Convoy of Hope's warehouses in Sacramento, California. Needed items would be flown to Maui.

Midwest Mission's operations team loaded the container, and everyone gathered around to pray for the safety of the shipment and for those who had been impacted by the fire.

What was already a heart-wrenching moment became more personal as NOMAD volunteers, Mary and Mark Grant, shared their personal connection to the disaster.

"Our son Nick and his wife Beth have been in Lahaina for about 8 years now, and they lost everything," Mary shared with the group.

As the fires spread towards their apartment complex, the couple fled on foot to safety. (You can read about their experience in their blog post [here](#).)

"They were good people to lose things because they basically live out of their backpacks. They lived in a furnished apartment they were renting... **but the apartment is gone, the car they were going to buy is gone, both of the dive shops they worked at are gone and all of the dive boats.**

"They don't have jobs and they don't have stuff, *but they don't really care about that.*

"**They care about being a part of that community.** They really feel that Lahaina has become home. They have realized that most of the people who live in Lahaina are the ones who do the work on Maui - the ones who serve all the tourists and fix things and teach the kids. They want to be part of that



community and help them as much as they can through all of this.”

The couple was given a hotel room by their insurance company, but they gave it to someone else in need, and are staying with friends on different parts of the island. Since the fire, they have jumped in to help in the relief process, helping with tarps and gas, and they make supply runs for the community.

We were blessed to be able to hear a personal story about the people who are the recipients of the shipment that was sent off.

We don't know if Mark and Mary's son and daughter-in-law will receive our Hygiene Kits or Bed Packs, or maybe they will be assisting in the distribution of the supplies. But, we do know that needed resources will reach the people of Lahaina, because we serve a good God who is present in the midst of disasters.

May the supplies and the love that was sent with them bring hope in the midst of the crisis, and peace in the chaos.

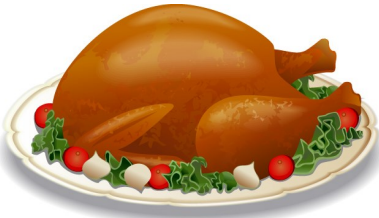
Please be praying for everyone affected, and specifically for Nick and Beth as they seek to serve their community, even within their own devastation.

Prayers to Lift Up

This week, please pray for everyone who has recently experienced a disaster. There were fires in Hawaii, floods in California, and the recent hurricane in Florida. Please pray for comfort and peace in their crisis, and that supplies will reach them quickly.

"Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves receive from God."

2 Corinthians 1:3-4



FALL TURKEY DINNER

OCTOBER 11TH

4:30 - 6:30 pm

A postcard will be mailed out asking for desserts or a donation in late September. We are very, very early in the planning stages. More information will be announced at the Sunday church services and in the October Breeze.

Santa Day



SANTA DAY

Santa Day was a success last year, and we are doing it again this year on December 9th from 10 am – 1 pm.

It's a day that children can shop for their family members. We need gifts in every category, especially gifts that kids will enjoy giving. Gift bags are also needed.

When you are out shopping, look for good deals this fall and pick up a few items that can be used for Santa Day. If you wish, you can make a donation, and someone else will do the shopping.

It is a fun day, and the excitement of children is priceless.

Look for sign-up sheets as the date in December gets closer. Thank you!

***"Be the reason someone smiles.
Be the reason someone feels loved
and believes in the goodness in people."***

— Roy T. Bennett, author

BACK TO SCHOOL PRAYER



Dear Heavenly Father
Please put a hand of
protection this school
year on all the
Children
Teachers
And Staff
Watch over them
Protect them
Love them
We Thank You
God
For all you do
Amen

Always pray to have
eyes that see the
best in people,
A heart that forgives
the worst,
A mind that forgets the bad,
And a soul that NEVER
loses faith in God.

Which animal is
least trustworthy?
Cheetahs.

What kind of tree
could a math teacher
climb?
Geometry

***“Accepting oneself does not preclude an attempt
to become better.”***

— Flannery O'Connor

[Sign Up for Cleaning and Hospitality](#)

There are many openings to sign up for Sunday morning hospitality (on the kitchen ledge) and for weekly cleaning in the church (table by entrance). We are glad for all of the help you give in welcoming people to our church.



The new sign is in!

The power was hooked up on September 1, and we just need to turn it on and program in the first messages. Look for that to happen this week.

Thank you to everyone who helped to make this happen!

BREEZE DEADLINE

In order to get the Breeze published and out in a timely manner, all Breeze articles are due on the 21st of each month. There will be no exceptions!

Sherry

Save the Date: Motley Fall Fest

Saturday, October 14, Motley fair grounds.

Sponsored by the Motley Community Events Organization.

Serving You in September

September 3: Liturgist: Pastor

Greeters/Ushers: Steve & Margie Solem

September 10: Liturgist: Russ Holland

Greeters/Ushers: Russ & Jill Holland

September 17: Liturgist: Greg Townsend

Greeters/Ushers: Greg & Linda Townsend

September 24: Liturgist: Stephanie Leslie

Greeters/Ushers: Les & Elaine Rogers

SUNDAY SCHOOL FUN

Sunday School starts on Sunday, September 10, 2023. We meet right after the Children's Sermon during the message. Children of all ages are encouraged to attend. We will learn about the Bible and enjoy stories for all ages. A fun craft will be tied to the lesson on most Sundays. Please let your children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren know about the fun happening at Sunday School this school year .



*The Kids are heading back to school;
please watch & stop for buses!*

Why did the chicken cross
the playground?

To get to the other slide.

Upper Room Devotional

The September/October Upper Room Devotional is available in the church fellowship hall in both normal & Large Print editions. Stop in on Sunday morning or during the week when open to pick one up.

SEPTEMBER

Birthdays & Anniversaries

September Birthdays

- 6 - Sherry (Miller) Frisk
- 11 - Dawn Swartz
- 12 - Marie Smith
- 14 - Faye Stevens
- 14 - Cyle Westman
- 18 - Carla Scripture
- 18 - Sandi Larson
- 20 - Elaine Rogers
- 22 - Arla Allen
- 22 - Dave Rowe
- 22 - Rebecca Swartz
- 23 - Gwen Adams
- 23 - Edna Hayes
- 25 - Peter Smith

September Birthdays (Continued)

- 25 - Sharla Trutwin
- 26 - Dorothy Halverson
- 26 - Gwen Lumsden
- 28 - Florence Berndt
- 30 - Rick Nadeau
- 30 - Gayle Quinn

September Anniversaries

- 1 - John & Sally Miller
- 6 - Mike & Jeannie Hajek
- 14 - Steve & Alice Sunde
- 15 - Jeremy & Jodi Reeck
- 16 - Brandon & Lindsay Fuller
- 18 - Tom & Linda Michalson

You are encouraged to read and meditate on these scriptures each week as an act of personal devotion. Such a practice promises to pay rich dividends in your spiritual journey and prepare your heart for a more fruitful worship experience.

The appointed Scripture lessons for:

September 3: Exodus 3:1-15; Psalm 105:1-6, 23-26, 45b (UMH 828); Romans 12:9-21; Matthew 16:21-28

September 10: Exodus 12:1-14; Psalm 149 (UMH 861); Romans 13:8-14; Matthew 18:15-20

September 17: Exodus 14:19-31; Exodus 15:1b-11, 20-21; Psalm 114 (UMH 135); Romans 14:1-12; Matthew 18:21-35

September 24: Exodus 16:2-15; Psalm 105:1-6, 37-45 (UMH 828); Philippians 1:21-30; Matthew 20:1-16

Liturgical Color for September: Green