

Ephraim Moravian Messenger

News from the Open Door

"In Essentials, Unity; In Non-Essentials, Liberty; In All Things, Love"

Congregational Watchword for 2014

"May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ." Romans 15: 5-6

January 2015

Pastor's Page:

"Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances...hold fast to what is good." 1 Thessalonians 5: 16 - 18a, 21b

I spoke with great conviction one Sunday that Light conquers darkness. My theme was, "Light is just around the corner". I gave examples from my own life of hope in the midst of darkness. Just two days after my impassioned sermon, incredible darkness descended on our world. Terrorists had stormed a school in Pakistan, killing over 100 people, most of them children. The photographs depicted the faces of parents and survivors etched in pain and anguish. One Pastor friend posted on Facebook. "I have no words of my own as I reflect on the events of last night," as she quoted the text from the prophet Jeremiah, "A voice is heard in Ramah, mourning and great weeping, Rachel weeping for her children and refusing to be comforted, because they are no more." No one commented on her post. None of us have words. How do we continue to bear witness to the Light?

I believe we must, especially in dark times, act on the Apostle Paul's advice, "Hold fast to what is good." To 'hold fast' is to have a vise-like grip (like parents holding onto their kids in a crowd!) When we have a vise-like grip on what is Good, it does certain things for us:

1. It keeps us from slipping into despair. We are reminded that there are moments of grace and light in this world.
2. It keeps us from vengeance, attempting to combat evil with evil.
3. It keeps us focused on being God's agents of Change - loving our neighbors, advocating for the weak, visiting the sick and imprisoned, speaking out for justice, encouraging those in despair.

I urge us, to hold on, with a vise-like grip, to the Good things that God has created. I urge us, to hold on, with a vise-like grip to compassion, grace, love and joy. I urge us, to hold on, with a vise-like grip to mercy and forgiveness. I urge us, to hold on, with a vise-like grip to Peace. May we light the way to God, for all those in darkness. Amen

Ephraim Moravian Church Office Hours

| | | |
|--------------|---------------|--|
| PASTOR: | TUES - FRI | 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. |
| SECRETARY: | MONDAY | Pastor's Day Off |
| | WED. - THURS. | 9:30 a.m.—4:30 p.m. |
| CELL NUMBER: | 920-421-4042 | The Church Phone does NOT ring in the parsonage. <u>Please keep the Pastor's Cell Phone handy for after hours.</u> |



Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper February 17

Join us for a great pancake supper!

There will be a free-will offering to assist Sadie Nelson. Sadie has been accepted into a program to study abroad for her junior year.

At the beginning of the new year, she will be told which country she will call home for the 2015-16 school year. She worked extra hours this summer to raise the funds necessary. She's about 1/2 way to her goal of \$6,500. We hope to raise enough for her to realize her dream. All checks for her scholarship should be made out to the church, with Sadie's name in the memo portion of the check.



YOUR BOARD MEMBERS

TRUSTEES

Funds: Investment Committee

Building Interior and Trustee

President:

Hugh Mulliken 854-2336

Building Exterior:

Paul Burton 854-9506

Grounds:

Kay Wilson 854-4612

Cemetery:

Linda Carey 854-9253

Marilyn Cushing 854-5230

ELDERS

Pastor Dawn Volpe, Chair

Paul Flottman, Vice Chair

854-4780

Shelley Cox 854-2548

Ellie McCullin 854-3398

Cici Mulliken 854-2018

Doug Schultz 854-2153

Elder for the month of:
January....Paul Flottman

Sacristan for January

Services in January

December 31 - 11:15 p.m. Watchnight service. Come for an inspiring message, to pick your individual watchword for 2015, and share in a great breakfast at midnight.

January 4 - 9 a.m. Sunday School, 10 a.m. Worship Service with communion.

January 11 - 9 a.m. Sunday School, 10 a.m. Worship Service. Hear Pastor Dawn's sermon on our church's 2015 Watchword! Also Joyful Noise offering.

January 18 - 9 a.m. Sunday School, 10 a.m. Worship Service.

January 25 - 9 a.m. Sunday School, 10 a.m. Worship Service.

T

hank you

.....to those who offered Fellowship after church in December:
Marilyn Cushing, Hedy Heise, Diane Jacobson, Susie Samson,
Betty Chomeau

.....to those who ushered in December and served as sacristan.

Holy Conversations regarding Human Sexuality

The discussions continue in January. Our purpose is to be able to engage in respectful dialog, seeking to understand each other and to affirm what we agree on, rather than our disagreements.

Lunch will be provided. Bishop Kay Ward will be moderating our discussion - we have 2 possible dates: **Friday, Jan. 9 or Saturday, Jan. 17.**

Once we confirm with Kay, we will let the church know. We will need RSVP's for lunch. All are invited, regardless of membership status!

*If you are interested in attending ,
please email us at:
worship@ephraimmoravian.org
or call the church at 854-2804.*



We say goodbye to **Monica Curiel**, who has been our custodian here the last few years. She and her family have moved to Illinois this winter to seek more regular work situations.

Replacing Monica is her sister-in-law, Nora Curiel ! If you see her working around the church, welcome her.



2015 CALENDAR MEETINGS

**January 6 - 5 p.m. Elders
January 7 - 10 a.m. Trustees**

Never forget that God is your friend.

And like all friends,

*He longs to hear what's been happening in your life.
good or bad, whether it's been full of sorrow or anger,
or even when you're questioning
why terrible things have to happen.*

*--Nicholas Sparks, *The Last Song**

Here is George Verheyden's address in the nursing home, for those of you who wish to contact him:

Odd Fellows Nursing Home
1207 S. Jackson St., Rm. 16,
Green Bay, WI 54301

He had been a member of our choir for several years before his health prevented him from coming here.

Samantha Phillips
Luther College
700 College Dr.
SP0 2384,
Decorah, IA 52101

Ainsley Nelson
110 Gilman St., Apt. 4
Madison, WI 53703

Robert Volpe
Coe College GMU # 1278
1220 1st Ave NE
Cedar Rapids, IA 52402

Our College Kids!
Home for
Christmas but
soon to return for
the next semester

Andrea Nelson
2508 Delaware St SE
Apartment 162A
Minneapolis, MN 5414-3469

Kyle Nelson
Student Suite #1504
St. Norbert College
100 Grant Street
DePere, WI 54115

TREA\$URER's REPORT

Member giving through December 14 - \$101,321

Visitor giving through December 14 - \$57,708

Income through November: 2014 Budget of \$148, 250, Actual \$160,225

Expenses through November: 2014 Budget of \$173,444, Actual \$152,381

NEW WAY of doing offering envelopes for 2015

For those who have been consistently giving each week, you will still receive a box of envelopes (not numbered, however, so be sure - if you give cash - to write your name on the outside so you get credited for the offering)

For those who give bi-weekly, you'll pick up a packet of 26, already sorted out

For those who give monthly, there are packets of 12

For those who give sporadically, you can take a bundle of what you feel you may use, or use the pew envelopes when you give.

They are on the pew outside of the sanctuary for you to pick up.

We were finding a lot of waste with all numbered envelopes in packs of 52, so we are trying to be good stewards!

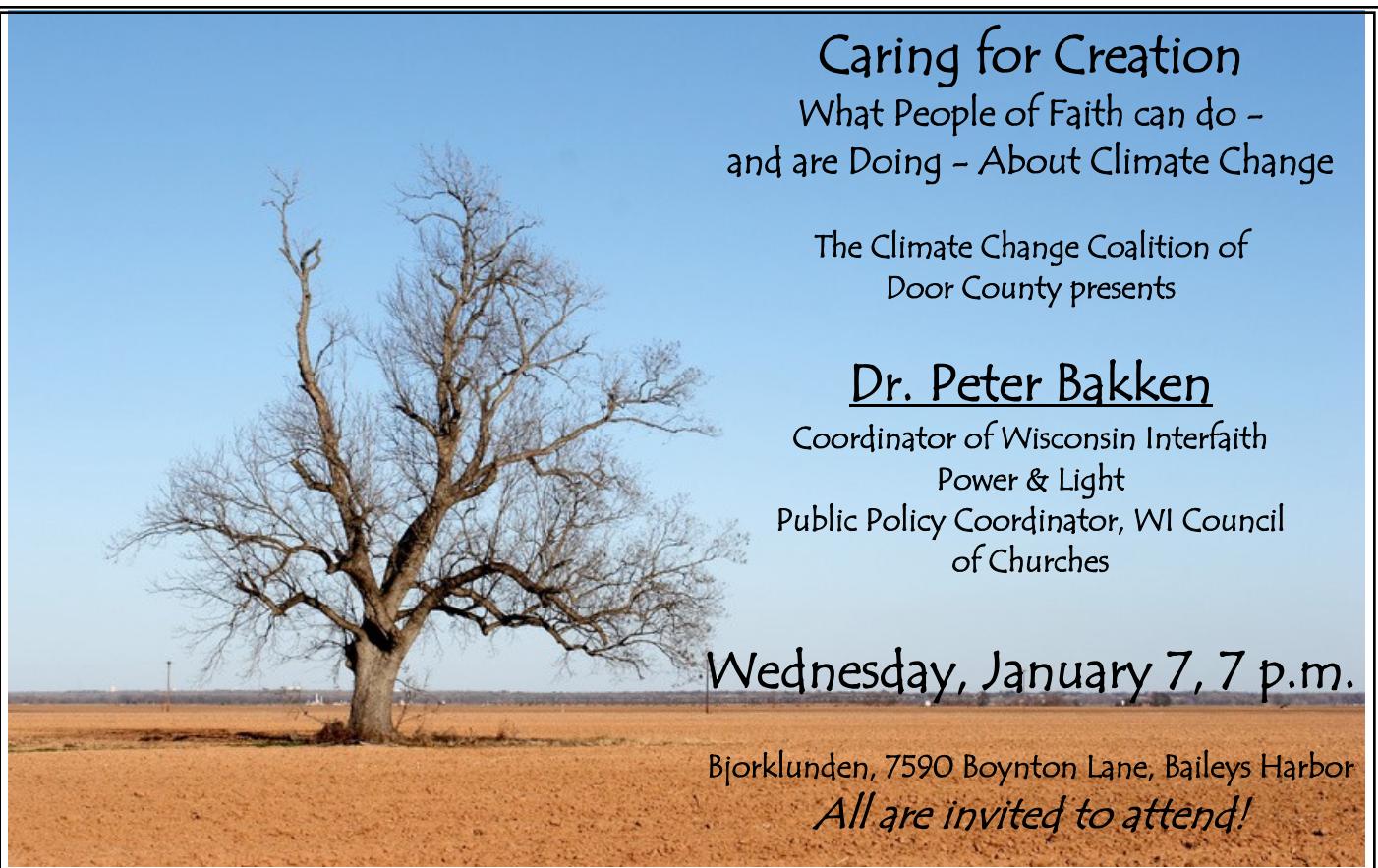
OPEN DOOR LUNCHEONS!!

Sign up in the Fellowship Hall if you can head up one month, help provide food for one month, or help with set-up and clean-up. We usually get about 40 people for each lunch, and it's a wonderful outreach ministry. Get involved!

January 21
March 18

February 18
April 15





Caring for Creation

What People of Faith can do –
and are Doing – About Climate Change

The Climate Change Coalition of
Door County presents

Dr. Peter Bakken

Coordinator of Wisconsin Interfaith
Power & Light
Public Policy Coordinator, WI Council
of Churches

Wednesday, January 7, 7 p.m.

Bjorklunden, 7590 Boynton Lane, Baileys Harbor

All are invited to attend!

January birthdays

Hugh Mulliken...1
Kristin Wilson...2
Bob Volpe...7
Karen Ekberg...14
Malinda Shea...14
John Cox...17
James Nelson...19
Hedy Heise...22



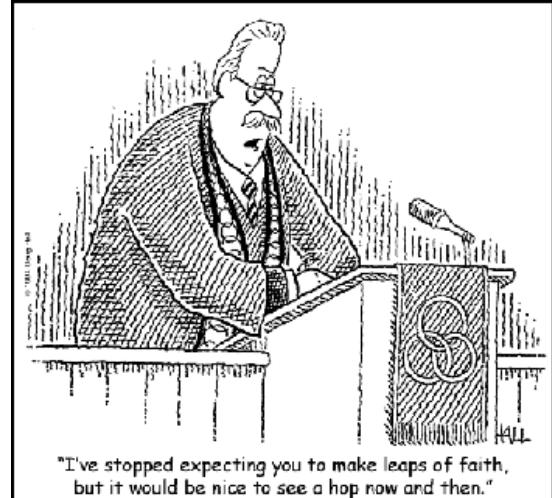
January Anniversaries

Liz and Bob Schroeder – January 12, 1951
Anne and Larry Crowe - January 16, 1988

If your name, or the name of a loved one is not listed in our birthday and anniversary listings, please let us know by email or phone!

“Sometimes I would like to ask God why He allows poverty, suffering, and injustice when He could do something about it. But I’m afraid He would ask me the same question.”

~ Unknown



“I’ve stopped expecting you to make leaps of faith, but it would be nice to see a hop now and then.”



Bible Study coming up in just a few weeks!

The new Bible Study series begins on Friday, January 16 at 10:00 a.m. The subject is the **Afterlife**, and who doesn't want to know about THAT!! All are invited, and there are refreshments, too.

COMING UP:



Valentine's
Progressive Dinner
Saturday, February 14

There will be four locations for the progressive dinner:

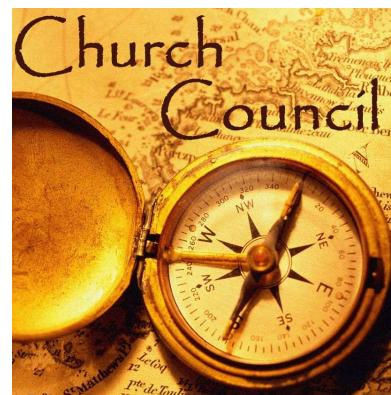
*appetizers
*soup/salad

*main dish
*desserts

Put it on your calendar now - more information to come! Would you like to host a segment, let us know!



Brenda quiets the crowd for her Prelude



Wednesday, January 28, 2015

6 p.m. Potluck
7 p.m. Church Council Meeting

Committee Chairs, Joint Board,
Sunday School, Music, etc.:
Get your annual reports to the
church office no later than
January 16 for the Church
Council packet!

Jon Heise continues to recover from his strokes. His son Eric has written with his address and promises any correspondence will be taken to him in the hospital:

Jon Heise
5171 W. Navajo Mesa Place
Marana, AZ 85658-4176



January 2015

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--|--------|---|---|---|---|----------|
| | | | | 1 New Year's Day AA meeting 7 pm | 2 OA meeting 8:30 a.m. | 3 |
| 4 9 a.m. Sunday School, 10 a.m. Worship, communion | 5 | 6 Loaves & Fishes planning mtg and potluck 6 p.m. at St. Rosalia's Elders 5 p.m. | 7 Trustees 10 a.m. Lunch at Sister Bay noon | 8 AA meeting 7 pm | 9 OA meeting 8:30 a.m. | 10 |
| 11 9 a.m. Sunday School, 10 a.m. Worship, Joyful Noise | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 AA meeting 7 pm | 16 OA meeting 8:30 a.m. 10 a.m. Bible Study | 17 |
| 18 9 a.m. Sunday School, 10 a.m. Worship, | 19 | 20 | 21 Open Door Lunch here! 12 noon | 22 AA meeting 7 pm | 23 OA meeting 8:30 a.m. 10 a.m. Bible Study | 24 |
| 25 9 a.m. Sunday School, 10 a.m. Worship, Unity Service 3 p.m. - Stella Maris | 26 | 27 Loaves & Fishes 5 p.m. St. Rosalia's | 28 6 p.m. Potluck 7 p.m. Church Council | 29 AA meeting 7 pm | 30 OA meeting 8:30 a.m. 10 a.m. Bible Study | 31 |

**Ephraim Moravian Church
P.O. Box 73
Ephraim, Wisconsin 54211**

POSTAL WORKER: Thank you for delivering this to:

January 2015 Newsletter



Ephraim Moravian Church - PO Box 73, 9970 Moravia Street - Ephraim, WI 54211 - 920-854-2804
Website: www.ephraimmoravian.org

General Correspondence: worship@ephraimmoravian.org

Visit us on Facebook!