

Ephraim Moravian Messenger News from the Open Door

“In Essentials, Unity; In Non-Essentials, Liberty; In All Things, Love”

Congregational Watchword for 2017

“Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God.” - Colossians 3:16

February 2017

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

“Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God.” - Colossians 3:16



Whenever I heard sermons about our new watchword from Colossians 3:16, they were always the same... read your bible, memorize scripture and sing praises. I disparagingly labeled the last part of the verse, ‘Kumbaya moments’. My cynicism began many years ago, during youth retreats and other attempts at making me spiritual. But I believe that this verse has been taken out of context and its rich meaning lost on us. The Colossian church was made up of people on the margins of society. They had no rights, they had no say in their own governance, they had no power to change their circumstances. ‘Church’ was a gathering in homes or caves. They did not have retreat centers. So, what does this verse really mean, in the context of that time?

“Let the word of Christ dwell in you...” The word of Christ is not scripture (since the only scripture they had was the Old Testament). The word of Christ was what Christ embodied, which we are now to embody: Peace, Love, Grace and, most importantly, Life. Jesus said he came to bring us abundant life. If the Word is to ‘dwell in us richly’ it means that all of what we say, all of what we do comes from a place of peace, love, grace and life. We are to be a life-giving presence to the people we meet. When we teach and admonish, our words must be gracious. How will our discourse change if we adopt this way of being within our church life?

“Sing psalms, hymns and spiritual songs”- God gives us a magnificent gift in the songs we sing. They enable us to transcend the grinding pettiness of life. Songs lift us beyond our circumstances- like Paul and Silas, bloodied, imprisoned, legs shackled, singing praises; like the Freedom Riders during the Jim Crow era, drenched by fire hoses, arrested and singing songs of liberty in their prison cells. I recall my mother, with a scratchy, abrasive voice, singing praises at the top of her lungs, getting ready for her day. When we children objected to the cacophony of sound, she would state, ‘even if I sound like a frog with asthma, I shall sing praise to God!’ Her songs took her through discouraging and difficult days.

We, who sometimes feel powerless in the face of large, faceless institutions. We, who sometimes feel powerless in the face of illness and the vicissitudes of aging. We have a choice to make- embodying the life giving spirit of Christ and singing our hearts out during dark times. May we, as a church, bring Christ’s life to all whom we meet and sing out loud, even when we sound ‘like a frog with asthma’.



Western District Spring Conference

April 21-23, 2017

Our Changing World...Same God

Speaker: Tripp Fuller- Pastor, Theologian and Author.

Olympia Resort, Oconomowoc WI

\$175.00 per person double occupancy

(Single: \$275.00; Couple \$350.00; commuter: \$125.00)

Early Bird Discount: \$25.00 if you register and pay by

February 15, 2017. *We have \$75 scholarships to pay toward attendees from our church!*

Register: www.moravian.org/westerndistrict

Tell Pastor Dawn if you are interested in attending!

Fabulous Food

Relaxing Spa

New deadline!!



VOLUNTEER TRICKLEBEE CAFÉ



Volunteer Shifts:

● Every Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday:

9:30-11:30 a.m.

11:30-1:30 p.m.

1:30-3:30 p.m.

--and--

● Every Thursday

5:00-6:00 p.m.

[Shifts may be flexible according to your schedule. Email tricklebeecafe@gmail.com with specific scheduling questions.]

Volunteer Activities Include:

- Food prep
- Serving meals to patrons
- Bussing tables & loading the dishwasher
- Sweeping & mopping

Why volunteer at Tricklebee?

- Support local farmers
- Gain food service/hospitality experience
- Receive a meal for working one or more shifts
- Keep Tricklebee Café open! (We rely on our volunteers.)

HOW TO VOLUNTEER:

Schedule a shift, one-time or recurring, by emailing:

tricklebeecafe@gmail.com (subject line "Volunteer").

Or call (414) 488-2477.

[NOTE: All volunteers must participate in a volunteer orientation before their first shift.]

Now that we're open, we're raising money to cover the operating costs for the coming year. If you'd like to donate, send a check made out to Tricklebee Cafe to the address at the bottom of the page or go to our donation page:

<http://www.gofundme.com/tricklebeecafe>

Every bit helps. Thank you all!

"Anyone who thinks sitting in church can make you a Christian must also think that sitting in a garage can make you a car." — Garrison Keillor

....MISSION NEWS....MISSION NEWS....MISSION NEWS....

The Board of World Mission received a message from the family of Phil Raiford, a missionary partner serving in Mexico. After sending out the urgent call for prayer regarding gun violence in his community, this information follows up on that request and gives the sad details of this ongoing situation. We ask that you pray for Phil and his family (soon expecting a brand new baby daughter!) as well as those who have been wounded and the families of those who have been killed.

Phil says: Right now there are 350 men, women and children who have been run out of their homes by gunfire seeking refuge in our village. They are in need of clothes, as many left their homes at night running for more than 4 hours through the woods without any possessions. Our village is helping to feed the families, inviting them into homes during meal times, but as you can imagine it is hard for already poor families to support other families for a long period of time. The government had promised a delivery of food, but that has not shown up yet. I am in Oaxaca right now collecting clothes to give out, along with some simple toys for the children. Our friends here in Oaxaca have been very helpful and responsive to our petition for clothes. We may have to organize a food drive for the village if the government doesn't come through with their promise to deliver food.

Please hold this family and this community in your prayers.

Prayers

...for Jock Whitacre as he continues to recover

...for Vicki Schult as she continues to fight cancer

...for Vienna, granddaughter of Diane Taillon, as she fights cancer

...for the family of Marvin Staver, who passed away on January 7

...for the family of David Mulliken, who passed away on January 20.

...for Vicki & Wes Maynard as they care for Vicki's mom

Katie Dahl is hosting a community sing-a-long on the first Thursday of every month until May. This is a great opportunity to interact with our neighbors in a joyful, positive way. It is free and open to the public.



“Sit Around Singing”



Where:
Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, 10341 Hwy 42

When:
First Thursdays, 7 p.m.

February 2 April 6
March 2 May 4

For February's Feed My People

Suggested Donations for this month:

Chili, soups, stews and crackers



Place in any of the “Feed My People” baskets we have in the church. Thanks!!

***Our College Students—
remember to drop them an
encouraging card!***

**James Heroux
53 West Church St #7
Bethlehem, PA 18018**

**Ainsley Nelson
535 W Johnson St, #1206
Madison, WI 53703**

**Andrea Nelson
900 Washington Ave SE, #205
Minneapolis, MN 55414**

**Samantha Phillips
Luther College
700 College Drive, SPO 2384
Decorah, IA 52101**

**Amy Strauch
1106 S Lincoln
Urbana, IL 61801**

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

**Mike Weborg
425 Isadore Street
Baldwin Hall Room, #227
Stevens Point 54481**

Our Open Door Lunch schedule:



**February 15
March 15
April 19**

**The sign-up sheet is in the
Fellowship Hall if you can help.**



February Birthdays

Frances Burton...1
Paul Wilson...2
Chuck Zehner...2
Dale Jacobson...3
Betty Wolf...5
Dick Bierman... 5
Rob Moore... 5
Diane Jacobson...6
Tim Christofferson... 10
Betty Anderson...15
Keith Tschannen...17
Shelley Cox...18
B. D. Thorp...18
Pat Horvath...20
Natalie Neddersen ...20
Chris Farmer...21
Lorraine Morton...21
Theresa Weborg...26
Marilyn Cushing - 26
Karin Jacobson...28
Niles Weborg...29



February Anniversaries

**Norma and Roger Larson – Feb 13,
1971**

**If we have missed you or someone you know
in the lists above, please let us know in the
church office!**



Do you know about Door-Tran?

Door-Tran will transport Door County veterans to medical clinics as close as Green Bay and as far as Milwaukee—for free!

For Door County residents who need to travel between Door, Brown and Kewaunee Counties, costs range between –0– to 40 cents a mile based on income

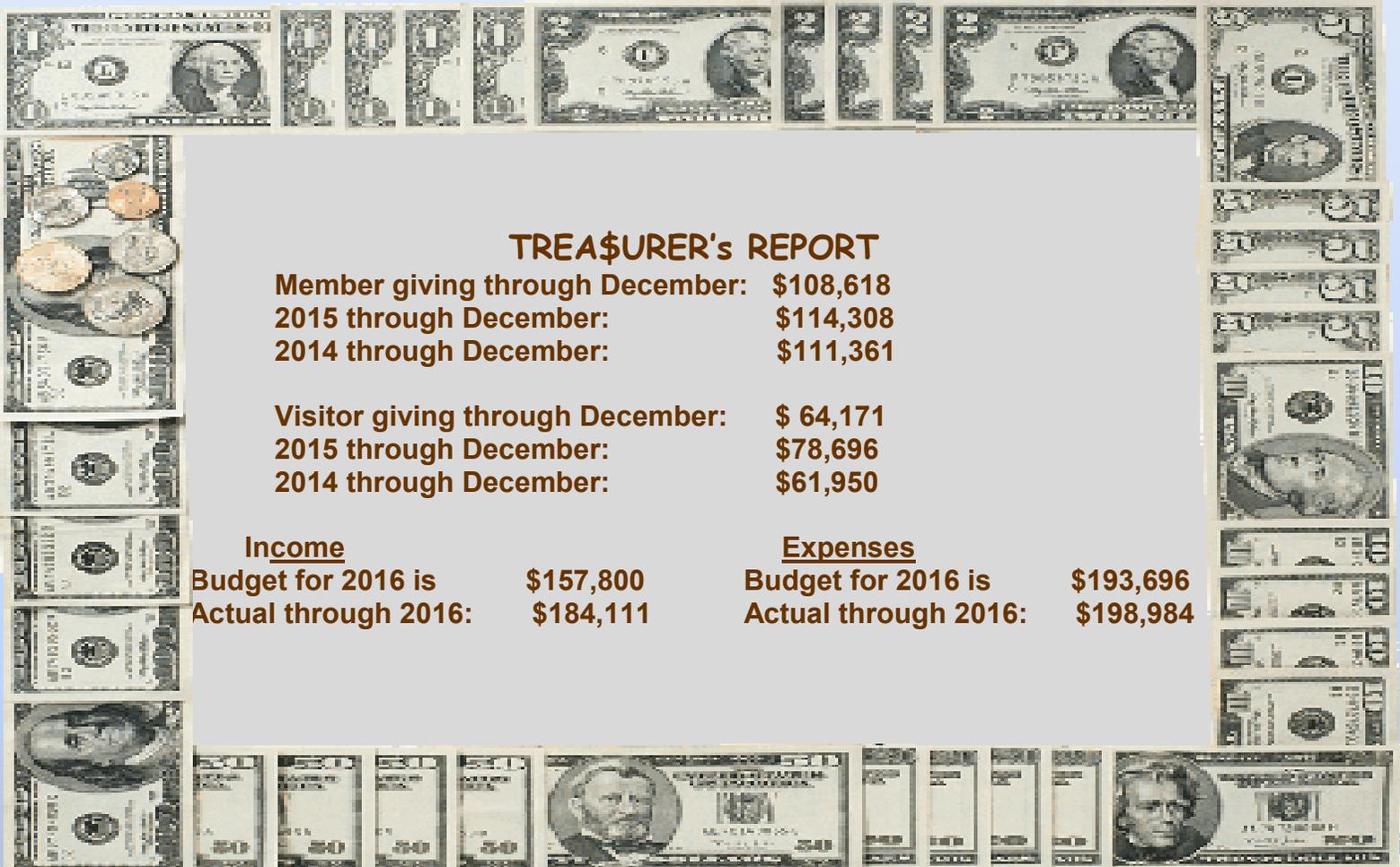
Door-Tran pays 1/2 the cost for a private taxi fare

Door-Tran may pay up to \$100 in fuel costs for employment-related trips

Door-Tran provides 0% interest loans to assist in purchasing or repairing a vehicle for employed Door County residents.

They work closely with Door-2-Door Rides and its connector services provided by the Senior Resource Center and Sunshine House.

Their phone number is 877-330-6333 for more information on all the services they provide.



TREASURER'S REPORT

Member giving through December: \$108,618
2015 through December: \$114,308
2014 through December: \$111,361

Visitor giving through December: \$ 64,171
2015 through December: \$78,696
2014 through December: \$61,950

Income
Budget for 2016 is \$157,800
Actual through 2016: \$184,111

Expenses
Budget for 2016 is \$193,696
Actual through 2016: \$198,984

Many Thanks

.....to those who offered Fellowship after church in January:
People who brought leftover treats for New Year's Day, Kay Wilson,
Mary Wilson

.....to those who ushered or acted as Sacristan in January.

.....to our Open Door Lunch volunteers!



SING WITH THE PENINSULA SINGERS

Do you sing in your church choir? Did you sing in a high school or college chorus? Maybe you're a veteran performer. Whatever your own experience, share your love of music with your Door County neighbors. Sing with The Peninsula Singers.

Join The Peninsula Singers on Monday, February 27 as they begin rehearsing for their annual Spring concerts the second weekend of May. Artistic Director Merle Colburn has chosen music both sacred and secular for the enjoyment of the Singers and the community.

The Peninsula Singers will meet at the Sturgeon Bay United Methodist Church on Monday, February 27, at 6:15 PM, to allow time for signup and socializing before rehearsal begins at 7:00 PM.

Rehearsals will be held each Monday night at the Sturgeon Bay United Methodist Church from February 27 – May 8. Dues are \$25 per season. Dues may be waived for anyone who may have a financial hardship. The music program to be presented and more information may be found at www.thepeninsulasingers.org. Contact Jane Stevenson at jane.stevenson920@gmail.com for further information.

"The only thing better than singing is more singing"

Roses are red,
Violets are blue,
Somebody loves
you,
Here's a clue.

Read John 3:16

Sadie Nelson's Senior Project



Hello! I am knitting hats to ensure that our neighbors stay warm this winter. I am asking for sponsors, so that my work can benefit two charities: Koinonia Kupboard at Sister Bay Baptist will receive the hats to distribute and Peninsula Preschool will receive the cash donations for their scholarship program. If you can help, I am asking for \$25. per hat or whatever you can afford to donate. You can find me assisting in the nursery or talk to me at Fellowship Hall on Sundays.



Thanks for supporting your community!

Booyah Bash!

The second annual Sister Bay Moravian Booyah Bash is on Wednesday, February 22, 4:30–6:30 pm

Chicken Booyah, salad, cornbread muffins, dessert and beverage...eat in or take out: just \$8 adults, \$5 kids ages 6–12, free for kids under 5 yrs.



Proceeds support the Moravian Church Outreach and School in Nepal!

Let's Booyah! at 10924 Old Stage Road, Sister Bay

Report from Church Council



Thank you for serving to our new Elders (Hugh Mulliken and Kathy Kirkland) and our new Trustees (George Carey and Shelley Cox). We have a new Summer Elder, too: Tiggy Shields. Installation of officers will take place on Sunday, February 5.

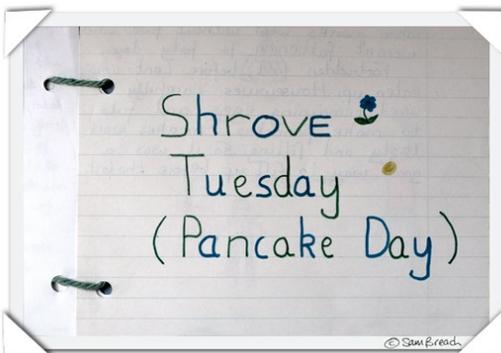
A new AED (automated external defibrillator) will be purchased for the church; Bob Volpe will be setting up a CPR class here for those in our church who want to learn CPR and the use of this new life-saving equipment.

There are extra Church Council books available in the Fellowship Hall for those who didn't receive them or just want to know more about our church year!

Congratulations to Jim and Becky Gelhaar as they begin a new life together!



Congratulations to Olivia Christofferson, daughter of Eric & Joanna, granddaughter of Nancy and Tim, as she is baptized and begins a new life in Christ!



Our **Shrove Tuesday supper** will be on MONDAY this year so that we do not compete with Loaves and Fishes.

So join us for our Pancake supper MONDAY, Feb. 27 from 5 – 7 p.m. This year's supper is in memory of Jane Olson. The proceeds will be used to benefit a ministry that Jane was involved in for many years: Bridges of International Friendship. Our church is a part of this summer ministry.

Dr. Lee Frelich at Bjørklunden, Baileys Harbor

Lee Frelich, Ph.D., an internationally recognized expert in forest ecology and the environment, will present a program titled **“Are These the Last Days for Door County’s 4,000-year-old Boreal Forest?”** Wednesday, Feb. 1, 7:00 p.m. The program is sponsored by the Climate Change Coalition of Door County. It is free and open to the public.





February 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 12 noon Sister Bay FREE Lunch	2 7 p.m. UU Fellowship Katie Dahl "Sit Around Singing"	3 8:30 am OA Mtg 10 a.m. Bible Study	4
5 9 am Sunday School 10 am Worship and communion	6	7 5:30 p.m. Elders	8 9:30 am Caring Hands	9 10 a.m. Trustees	10 8:30 am OA Mtg 10 a.m. Bible Study	11
12 9 am Sunday School 10 am Worship	13	14 <u>Valentine's</u> <u>Day</u> ♥	15 12 noon Open Door Lunch	16	17 8:30 am OA Mtg 10 a.m. Bible Study	18
19 9 am Sunday School 10 am Worship	20 <u>Presidents' Day</u>	21	22	23	24 8:30 am OA Mtg 10 a.m. Bible Study	25
26 9 am Sunday School 10 am Worship	27 5-7 p.m. Shrove "Tuesday" Pancake Supper 	28 5 p.m., Loaves & Fishes	9			

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

POSTAL WORKER: Thank you for delivering this to:

February 2017 Newsletter



Photo by Tad Dukehart

**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!