

## Ephraim Moravian Messenger

### News from the Open Door

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

#### Congregational Watchword for 2011

*"Do not be afraid, stand firm, and see the deliverance that the Lord will accomplish for you today." -Exodus 14:13*

**December 2011**

### **From the Pastor's Desk**

I almost missed it. A magnificent sunset was on display outside my window, but I was glued to the computer screen. It was something church related, something important, although I can't remember what it was. Fortunately, someone called me and said, "What are you still doing at the office? Go outside and look at the sunset!" As I turned away from the computer screen, I saw it. It was breathtaking. If I had stayed another 5 minutes at my important task, I would have missed it. And I wouldn't have even known what I had missed!



Christmas time is filled with important things to do. If you have a business, you're planning ways to bring people into your store. If family is far away, you're busy planning trips. We're busy shopping, decorating, baking, getting it all done.

Our busy-ness reminds me of the people so long ago, who were busy doing important things- trying to make a living, dealing with the politics of the day. Such important matters that it was easy to overlook the miracle happening in an innkeepers barn. The Light of the World, the Son of God was born and most missed it.

Isn't it ironic that we, who know the story so well, can still miss Christmas? Oh, we may have all the stuff done, the gifts wrapped, but we miss the beauty, the joy, the peace. Christmas is about God making a home with us by sending Jesus into our world. Christmas is about the hope of new beginnings. Take time to reflect on the beauty and joy of Jesus. Don't miss Christmas this year.

--Pastor Dawn



## **Our Last Fall Clean-Up Date:**

### **Wednesday, November 30, 9 a.m. - Indoor Clean-Up**

Many chores await those who are willing to come with rags and buckets: Edge-vacuuming the church...vacuuming the pews & cushions...washing windows and sills...Windex the pictures...Murphy-ize all wooden furniture...clean all the “white furniture”...clean the shelving and rearrange, ETC.! The chore list is on the upper bulletin board.

As with the outdoor cleaning, you can pick a chore and do it at your leisure, but you'll miss out on the fellowship and lunch that follows on November 30!

**PLEASE NOTE:** The planned power outage for Ephraim (10 a.m. - 1 p.m.) will not affect the church - the pastor called WPS. The church is not on the list for power shut off that day. Work will continue uninterrupted!

### **Saturday, December 10 - “Holy Conversations” Workshop**

**Concerning the ordination of homosexual persons in the Moravian Church  
9 a.m.—11 a.m. - Ephraim's Fellowship Hall**

As many of you know, this issue has been a contentious one for many denominations, including our own. Our Holy Conversations workshop is an attempt to discuss this issue in a way that is respectful of all opinions. Whatever your theological position, we urge you to attend to bring your perspective and to listen to the perspectives of your brothers and sisters.

## **December 2011 Services**

**December 4 - 10 a.m. worship, 2nd Sunday of Advent, Communion**

**December 11 - 10 a.m. worship, Joyful Noise & Feed My People offerings**

**December 18 - 10 a.m. worship, 4th Sunday of Advent**

**December 24 - Christmas Eve candlelight service at 5 p.m.**

**December 25 - Christmas Day 10 a.m. worship / Lessons & Carols**

**December 31 - Watchnight service at 11:15 p.m. Midnight pancake breakfast!  
Come pick your watchword for 2012**

## *Ephraim Moravian Church Office Hours*

PASTOR:                    MON - THURS                    9 a.m. - 12 p.m.  
                                 FRIDAY                            Pastor's Day Off

CELL NUMBER:    920-421-4042 The Church Phone does NOT ring in the parsonage. Please keep the Pastor's Cell Phone handy for after hours. The only time her cell phone is off is during meetings or visiting. Please leave a message so that she can return your call.

SECRETARY:            WED. - THURS.                    9:30 a.m.—2:30 p.m.

**NOTE: The church office will be closed between Christmas and New Year's. Pastor Dawn will still be available if you need counsel during this time.**



### **Trustees Highlights**

\*Trustees reviewed our invested funds and will make recommendations for distribution at the next meeting.

\*Review of the construction for the church--sign has arrived and almost installed, bidding for interior construction, Tim Nelson will do the plumbing work, steel railings for the handicap ramp approved. Construction will begin January 3.

\*Budget for 2012 will be worked on and will be approved for Church Council at a Joint Board meeting.

\*Upcoming: gravel at the cemetery, tower doors, church basement door replacement, indoor workday is November 30, 9 a.m.! Lunch included.

\*The church was power-washed and looks GREAT!

### **CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY** is extended to...

The family of Richard Saulig, who died on November 7

The family of Jeanne Farmer, who died on November 18

The family of Larry Lewis, who died on November 18

**Jeanne Farmer's memorial service** will be  
Saturday, December 17, at 11 a.m.



**SERVICE OF REMEMBRANCE** - Sunday, November 27, 3:00 p.m.  
Door Community Auditorium

A service to remember all those who have passed away this year in Door County. Pastor Dawn and area clergy will be participating. This service is sponsored by Casperson Funeral Home and Good Samaritan Scandia Village.

### **YOUR BOARD MEMBERS**

#### **TRUSTEES**

##### Funds

John Turner                    854-5060

##### Building Interior/Parsonage

Jack Opitz                    854-5949

##### Grounds

Gunilla Wilson              854-5105

##### Cemetery

Karen Ekberg                823-2526

##### Building Exterior

Jim Sokolowski              839-9265

#### **ELDERS**

Pastor Dawn Volpe, Chair

Diane Jacobson              854-2871

Eunice Rutherford           868-3373

Doug Schultz                839-2153

Pete Classen:                839-2902

George Carey:                854-9253

##### Elder for the month of:

December... Pete Classen

January... to be announced

**Come to the ADVENTure at Ephraim Moravian  
on Saturday, December 3, 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.**

**Advent Open House**

Come greet your neighbors and friends from the community and share Moravian Advent traditions. Trim candles, make Moravian stars, tour the church, enjoy refreshments and find gift items!

Hang your Moravian star beginning Sunday, November 27, the first day of Advent! If you need a replacement, you can buy a Moravian Star for yourself or others at the ADVENTure--12" stars are \$30, 22" stars are \$35.

**"Sweets for the Holidays" Sale** - We are looking for sweets for this sale - holiday sweet breads, fudge, candies, peanut brittles, Christmas cookies. Festive holiday fare!

Bring your gaily-wrapped goodies for the sale to the church either Friday afternoon or early Saturday morning. We need everyone's participation to make the sweets sale a big success.

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**Village of Ephraim activities during Christmas in the Village on December 3**

...Special sale and Open House at Anderson House Shop & Gallery... Open houses at Village Green Lodge, Eagle Harbor Inn and Ephraim Guest House... Christmas-themed stories read to the kids in the Ephraim Library ... chili served inside the Hall... creative holiday crafts for kids (frosting holiday cookies, playing old-fashioned games), Santa and his reindeer in front of the Hall, Mayberry Carriage rides--complete schedule is available at all businesses and the Visitors Center.

**Attention all Ephraim Moravian Women**

Christmas get-together at the home of  
Vicki and Wes Maynard

3015 Gibraltar Road, Fish Creek

Thursday, December 8, 12 noon

Luncheon is provided

"No Bake Cookie Sale" - help fill up the jar for a  
needy Door County family!

Please RSVP to Vicki at 847-361-3684 or [tmbers6@aol.com](mailto:tmbers6@aol.com)





### December Birthdays



Carly Mulliken...1  
Timothy Nelson...2  
Paul Burton...7  
Jack Opitz...7  
Barbara Classen...9  
Robert Anderson...10  
Amanda Flottman...12  
Toby Wilson...12  
Susan Wysong...13  
Andrew Phillips...18  
Harry Maher...20  
Mary Wilson...23  
Linda Carey...27

### December Anniversaries

Kaye and Harry Maher – 10, 1955  
Joyce and Glenn Gerdman – 23, 1951  
Arts & Pat Horvath – 30, 1972

We are sorry if we omitted or listed incorrectly someone's name from the list. Please call the church office (854-2804) or email us at ([worship@ephraimmoravian.org](mailto:worship@ephraimmoravian.org))

### Jeanne Farmer's 94th Birthday Party at Scand

1917-2011



**The Sister Bay Moravian Women's Fellowship will sponsor the annual Christmas in the Country Fair on Thursday, December 1, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Come for breakfast rolls or homemade chicken soup and beverage for lunch. Crafts, handmade rag rugs and Christmas bakery will be available.**



***Do you have a pine or spruce tree on your property that would look splendid sitting in the corner of our sanctuary? We are looking for a Christmas tree this year! If you can donate one, cut it and set it up in the church, please call Mary Wilson at 854-4277 before December 10. If we don't get a donor, we'll need to purchase a tree.***

### Never been to a Moravian Synod?

The next Western District Synod is Thursday, April 26 through Sunday, April 29, at the Radisson in Appleton.

Pastor Dawn and one member of our congregation will be attending. If you would be interested in going, tell Pastor Dawn by November 27!



### WINTER BIBLE STUDIES...

The last study for the Book of Revelation is on November 28, 11 a.m.

We will resume our Bible Study again on January 9 at 11:00 a.m.! Stay tuned for the details on the study.

### Marriage Encounter Weekend

Looking for a weekend away, just the two of you? Time to renew your relationship, strengthen communication and promote greater intimacy in your life together. You deserve this! Sponsored by Green Bay Marriage Encounter, the encounter will be held February 10-12 at the Norbertine Center for Spirituality in DePere. Later weekend dates scheduled, as well. Call 920-544-5166 for more information.

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*Can Moravians cook? You bet!*

*Cooks Country Magazine this month features (on the cover!) Moravian Chicken Pie, a recipe from Winston-Salem. There's even a write-up about Jan Hus, and the recipe sounds delicious.*

*Check it out at [www.CooksCountry.com](http://www.CooksCountry.com)*

***Still opportunities to sign up  
as a helper for the....***

**Open Door Lunches  
held the 3rd Wednesday of each month  
through April of 2012**

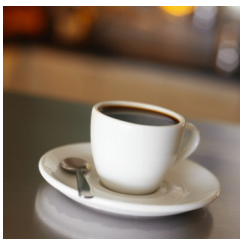


Sister Bay Moravian Church is hosting the 1st Wednesday of each month at noon - two lunches per month for you to enjoy!

***Here at Ephraim:***

**December 21  
January 17  
February 15**

**March 21  
April 18**



***See our sign-up sheet on the upper bulletin board!***



## Thank You...

... to those who served at Fellowship Hour during November: Lucille Sohns, Liz Schroeder, Fran Eckland, Nancy Christofferson, Karen & Bob Ekberg, Joyce Gerdman and Diane Jacobson

...to those who ushered during November, to Hedy Heise for providing special music, to Joy Zakrzewski for her message and all the women who also served on Women's Sunday

...to John & Judy Turner, Jody Thiell, Carol & Jim Sokolowski and Cici Mulliken for sponsoring the Open Door Luncheon

...to our outdoor clean-up crew (20-strong!) who raked and weed-whacked and pruned. The church grounds and cemetery look wonderful



*Dear Friends...*

*Just a little note to thank all of you for "making my birthday" a day never to forget!*

*I think I received about 50 birthday cards from you. And one was as nice as the other.*

*And don't ask me what I'm going to do with them. Read them! I've already gone through them a number of times, and they get better each time.*

*Thanks again... Betty Staver*



*Advent*

## NEEDED

**Hosts & Hostesses to greet our guests  
at our ADVENTure on December 3!**

**Volunteer for an hour. If you can help, call  
Eunice at 868-3373 or  
Jody at 868-3874**



**Atheism is a non-prophet organization**





## STEWARDSHIP REPORT

January 1 - October 31, 2011

We have received \$93,707.91 in income (2011 budget of \$118,260 )

We have spent \$125,320.89 (2011 budget of \$139,885)

*(note the shortfall of \$21,625 between expected income and expected expense)*

## CAPITAL FUNDS PROJECT

As of November 10, we have \$153,014 in pledges and donations. Of that amount, \$134,806.34 has been received in the bank.

### Projects:

New Furnaces

Installed

New Front Doors

Ordered

New Sign

The sign is here and (almost) installed!

Handicapped Ramp:

The plans have been approved by the State. The trustees have found a contractor for the ramp and work will begin soon.

Handicapped bathroom:

Contractor has been contacted, and we are awaiting a visit so that we can start this process on January 3.

## Photos from the Lunch & Sale October 29, 2011







## Taking A Bite Out of the Big Apple Ainsley Nelson

On November 9, 2011, Josie Shabbit, Andrea Nelson, and I all got on a bus in Sturgeon Bay, bound for New York. Just five months earlier, we had been approached at camp Chetek about going on the trip by Jill Kolodziej, from the Sturgeon Bay Moravian Church, who told us that the New York Mission Trip was one they took every year, and that we should join them this year. In

October we heard from her again, “Are you guys still interested?” By the end of the month, the three of us were paid for and sorted into small groups with the twenty-three other kids going on the trip.

After a twenty-two hour bus ride, we finally arrived at the Great Kills Moravian Church on Staten Island, where we stayed during the trip. From there, we went straight to our work-sites. Josie headed to the ferry for her day at the New York Clothing Bank in New York City and Andrea and I were bound for Project Hospitality, which was on Staten Island. Josie and her small group spent the day sorting clothes by type and size in a huge military warehouse. At Project Hospitality, we cleaned out a flooded warehouse so that they would have room for the Christmas donations they received. On Friday, Josie went back to the Clothing Bank, Andrea went to the Grand Central Drop-In Center, and I went to Baby Buggy. Josie’s group sorted clothes again at the clothing bank, and I took inventory of clothes at Baby Buggy. Andrea got the opportunity to work in a soup kitchen near Grand Central Station where they served three meals per day and have a program to help homeless people get back on their feet. When we finished serving, all our groups met at the Jon Hus Moravian Church in Brooklyn to meet their youth group. Says Josie of that experience, “Everyone talks about how hard and abrasive New Yorkers are. But the opposite was true here. Everyone was so welcoming and friendly to us! We made instant connections with people we’d never met before, and that was absolutely amazing. We went on this trip to help other people, yet somehow it felt like we were the ones being taken care of.” We did do some sightseeing, but meeting and befriending all those amazing people made the trip not only something worth remembering, but something worth repeating.



**Fran Eckland's 90th  
White Gull Inn  
November 18, 2011**





## Church Clean-Up November 5



Ephraim Moravian Church - PO Box 73 - Ephraim, WI 54211 - 920-854-2804  
 Pastor Dawn Volpe - Office Hours: Monday-Thursday 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

**Website: [ephraimmoravian.org](http://ephraimmoravian.org)**

Secretarial Office Hours: Wednesday/Thursday 9:30 am to 2:30 pm

General Correspondence: [worship@ephraimmoravian.org](mailto:worship@ephraimmoravian.org)

Organist-Choir Director: Jendean Olson 920-743-9347

***Visit us on Facebook!***

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

*POSTAL WORKER: Thank you for delivering this to:*

**December 2011 issue**



# December 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3 11 - 2 p.m. "ADVENTure" Candle Trim- ming & Sale, giant bake sale
4 10:00 a.m. Worship- 2nd Sun. of Advent Holy Commun- ion	5	6 5 p.m. Elders	7 12 p.m. Community Lunch at Sister Bay Moravian	8 12 noon - Mora- vian Women at Vicki Maynard's 5 p.m. Trustees	9	10 9-11 a.m. Holy Conversa- tions
11 10:00 a.m. Worship-3rd Sunday of Ad- vent Joyful Noise/ Feed My People Offerings	12	13	14 9:30 a.m. Caring Hands	15 Deadline for newsletter submissions	16	17 11 a.m. Jeanne Farmer memorial service
18 10:00 a.m. Worship- 4th Sun. of Advent Lovefeast	19	20	21 12 p.m. Commu- nity Open Door Lunch	22	23	24 5 p.m. Christ- mas Eve Service
25 10:00 a.m. Christmas Day Worship Lessons & Carols	26 	27 5 pm Loaves & Fishes -----	28 --Church --	29 ---Office ---	30 --Closed--	31 11:15 pm Watchnight Service--come pick your watch- word for 2012! <b>Breakfast</b> fol- lows at midnight