

Ephraim Moravian Messenger

News from the Open Door

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

Congregational Watchword for 2012

"Since we belong to the day, let us be sober, and put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation." 1 Thessalonians 5:8

February 2012

From the Pastor's Desk



Reflections on our Watchword for 2012:

I thought this watchword was very appropriate for the year 2012. It comes from the book of Thessalonians, which was written to deal with people's expectations and fears concerning Christ's return. The group Paul was writing to expected Jesus to return in their lifetime. As a consequence, some quit their jobs and others fretted about the people they loved who had already died. People were focused on leaving rather than living! How interesting that thousands of years later, people are still making predictions about the end of time. It amazes me, that although Jesus himself said he had no knowledge of the "end date," there are people who claim to have the inside information. Even the ancient Mayans have weighed in on the subject. We'll have to wait until December to put that theory to rest.

What I love about Paul's letter is, that although he probably shares their belief that Jesus is coming soon, he re-directs them to consider how they should live until that time. It's good advice for all of us: How do we live, until we die? Here's what Paul tells us to do:

1. Live with our wits about us: "Let us be sober" - which means that we think clearly and deeply about our lives, personally and corporately. We do not leave our brains at the door when we come to worship. Almost every denomination has an institution of higher learning. The Bible teaches us to use our intellects when we approach issues, not given to rash words or judgment, but being willing to stretch our understanding. That's why we engage in Bible Study, continuing education, and seminars. This year, let us do all we can to live soberly--looking for every opportunity to learn.

2. Be "bulletproof" - "Put on the breastplate of faith and love." The breastplate is an ancient defensive shield. A modern day "breastplate" is the bulletproof vest. Faith or trust in God shields us from disappointments. When all of our hopes and dreams are vested in the God of the Universe, how can we be defeated by disappointments? People and institutions are bound to fail us, but God's power and grace is invincible! Coupled with Faith is Love. Sheer force may subdue enemies for a season, but Love conquers all. Let us find ways this year to disarm even the crankiest person with a loving attitude and kindness.

3. Use head-gear - "For a helmet, the Hope of Salvation." Hope is our most powerful resource. It is Hope that gets us through the darkest times. Our faith tells us that each day can bring healing, forgiveness, joy, peace regardless of the circumstances. Let us be a beacon of hope for this church, our families, and our community.

--Pastor Dawn Volpe



Christian Sympathy is extended...

...to Glenn Gerdman and family, on the death of his nephew, Terry Gerdman.
... to Liz Opitz and family on the death of her father



Ephraim Moravian Women
Dessert and Fellowship

VALENTINE MEMORIES

Wednesday, February 8, 1 p.m.
Fellowship Hall

All ladies invited!

February 2012 Services

February 5 - 9 a.m. Sunday School, 10 a.m. worship / Communion

**February 12 - 9 a.m. Sunday School, 10 a.m. worship
Joyful Noise & Feed My People offerings**

February 19 - 9 a.m. Sunday School, 10 a.m. worship

February 22 - Ash Wednesday

February 26 - 9 a.m. Sunday School, 10 a.m. worship - 1st Sunday of Lent

Ephraim Moravian Church Office Hours

PASTOR: MON - THURS 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.
FRIDAY Pastor's Day Off
SECRETARY: WED. - THURS. 9:30 a.m.—2:30 p.m.

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.

Please note the Pastor will be out of the office for several days in February. Please keep her cell phone number handy--if it's off, it means that she is in a meeting. She will return messages!



Trustees Highlights

The Trustees met on January 10 and were given an update on the capital projects.- the awning for the outside ramp, the Fellowship Hall flooring, bids on the steeple. The new front doors are ready at Lampert's. Diane Kirkland was re-appointed Treasurer, with thanks to Hugh Mulliken for his service. Disposition of the old sign and 1,000 lb. safe was discussed. The budget for 2012 was finalized and will be presented at Church Council.

Elders Highlights

The budget was reviewed and approved for Church Council. Doug Schultz agreed to head a committee handling Fellowship Hours. Calendars were updated noting Pastor Dawn's time out of the office for February and March.

FREE small home organ (non-electric)! Transportation provided. If you are interested and want to know the details, call Bob Winn at 854-2947.

Looking for a few good women...

We have a few slots open on the **Women's Monthly Serving Committee** - you sign up for the month in case refreshments or other service is needed for funerals or special occasions in the church.

Anyone here for the summer months, we still need **one for June, three for July, two for September and one for October.**

If you can serve during any of the above months, let Women's President Liz Opitz or the church office know. Thank you!



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:

February ... Diane Jacobson

2012 Stewardship Summit

Saturday, February 18 10 AM – 1 PM
Sister Bay, WI, Moravian Church

The Summit is an annual 3-hour forum of conversation, sharing, learning, building, and planning. It is designed for the pastor and key stewardship leaders...everyone is welcome to attend!

Agenda

- Worship
- Conversation with other churches of the past year in our church
- Developing Steward Leaders--those who model and practice joy and generosity
- Beginning to plan your stewardship ministry for the coming year
- Conversations with other churches about the plan
- Questions about stewardship...seeking mutual guidance, help, and support



If you would like to attend, let Pastor Dawn know!

Community News

✝ **Taize Service** – Stella Maris (St. Rosalia's, Sister Bay) is holding a Taize service at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, January 31. Taize is an ecumenical prayer service that began 60 years ago in Taize, France. It includes icons and candles, melodic chants, scripture readings, prayers and periods of reflective silence. Join Pastor Dawn in this experience!

🚗 **Door2Door Rides** -Do you know about **Door2Door**? It's a wheelchair-accessible public shared ride taxi service available to everyone! It covers Fish Creek/Ephraim/Sister Bay and the southern portion of the Town of Liberty Grove. Rides are \$3 one way for adults or \$1.50 for 60+ or those with disabilities. They operate Monday through Friday from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. Call for more information: 888-337-9485

♥ **Heart-y Breakfast** - Treat your Valentine to a great breakfast and support Habitat for Humanity and summer scholarships for Mt. Morris Camp. Sister Bay Moravian's annual Heart-y Breakfast is Saturday, February 11, from 8 to 10:30 a.m. Pancakes, scrambled eggs, hash browns, corned beef hash, cereal and beverages - Adults \$8, \$4 for kids 6-12.

😊 **Bob Yeoman's Birthday** - Join us at the Scand Chapel/Community Room on Monday, January 30, at 2 p.m. for Bob's 93rd birthday celebration.



February Birthdays

Fran Burton - 1
Paul Wilson - 2
Dale Jacobson - 3
Betty Wolf - 5
Diane Jacobson - 6
Betty Anderson - 15
Shelley Cox - 18
B.D. Thorp - 18
Pat Horvath - 20
Natalie Neddersen - 20
Chris Farmer - 21
Lorraine Morton - 21
Theresa Weborg - 26
Karin Jacobson - 28
Niles Weborg - 29

February Anniversaries

Norma and Roger Larson - Feb 13, 1971

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)

Crèches

We have two crèches that were unclaimed after Christmas time. One is a very small crèche with 14 pieces (including 5 animals); the other is slightly larger, with 9 figures and 3 animals stamped "Italy." If either is yours, it is in the church office for you to take home.

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**SAVE THE DATE!**

**July 6, 2012  
7 p.m.**

**John Hus Festival  
Joint Choir concert**

**...here at Ephraim Moravian**

### **Men's Christian Retreat Mt Morris Camp & Conference Center February 24-26, 2012 With retired pastor Chuck Harberg facilitating**

All men are invited to this weekend retreat, sponsored by the  
Men's Fellowship  
of the Lake Mills congregation!

Friday begins with an evening meal at 6 p.m. and an introductory session. Saturday breakfast and meetings all day, Sunday a.m. closes with worship and communion after breakfast.

***Note that Chuck Harberg is one of OUR former pastors here at Ephraim Moravian!***

There will be teaching, fellowship, music ministry (bring instruments if you like), fireside chats, group discussions, quiet time, and time for walks and a tour of the grounds.

Cost is \$85 (\$25 deposit due by February 18), and includes 5 meals and cabin accommodations. More information, sign-up Information and registration sheets are on the upper bulletin board.





### WINTER BIBLE STUDIES...

We will be studying the Book of Exodus through February 27, so join us on Mondays at 11 a.m.  
Bring a sack lunch  
(dessert and beverage provided)



### JOYFUL NOISE

Ever wonder how our monthly Joyful Noise donations to local charities add up? Each charity chosen at our last Church Council gets 3 offerings during the year. *The amount is substantial!* Here's the rundown from 2011:

Sunshine House - \$443.47  
Loaves & Fishes - \$298.19  
Feed My People - \$284.07  
Ephraim Sunday School - \$381.55  
**Total of \$1,407.28**

We'll be choosing the 2012 charities at the Church Council on January 25.

***Still opportunities to sign up to help at our Open Door Luncheons at Ephraim Moravian, 12 noon on the following dates:***

**February 15** - Cici Mulliken needs two helpers

**March 21 and April 18** - Need people to make the main meal, organize and help serve, as well as two helpers for both dates

Reimbursement for food purchases (or an advance, if you like) is available to anyone providing food.

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



☺ **Thank You...** to those who served at Fellowship Hour during January: Kay Wilson, Joyce Jahn & Kaye Maher, Jim & Carol Sokolowski , Jackie Nelson

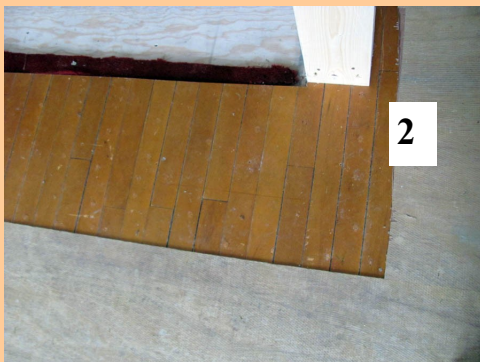
...to those who ushered during January

...to Doug Schultz, Gunilla Wilson, Mary Wilson, Nancy Christofferson, and Kay Wilson for sponsoring and helping at the January Open Door Luncheon

...to Pete Classen, Doug Schultz, Jack Opitz, Jim Sokolowski, Hugh Mulliken, Tom Wilson, Arps Horvath, and Paul Wilson for the back-breaking job of pulling thousands of huge staples out of the Fellowship floor

## *THE RENOVATIONS CONTINUE!*

- (1) A new closet for the carillon and church robes
- (2) The Fellowship Room has a wonderful maple floor under that old carpeting!
- (3) The new handicap-accessible bathroom will be built in the back of this space, with cabinets built up front
- (4) The new ramp will have railings and a Canopy
- (5) The new ramp into the sanctuary



## CAPITAL FUNDS PROJECT

**Handicapped Accessibility** - see the photos on page 7 for our progress!

As of December 22, we have **\$162,962** in pledges and donations for renovations. Of that amount, \$146,847.42 is in the bank (we have paid out \$1,922 so far on the construction).



If you are a member or friend of the church offering cash in your giving envelope, please write your **name** on the envelope even if there's a number on it. It will help our teller to give proper credit.

***We have our wonderful new sign.*** It's so much easier to change the letters inside than the old sign in front of the church. **Ministry comes in many forms - would you like to volunteer to change the letters in our new sign, as needed? If this is something you'd like to commit to do, see Pastor Dawn.**

## Sunday School Project

For many years, our Sunday School has sponsored children through children's organizations around the world. The last of these children has grown up! He's 18 and our sponsorship has finished. Here's the letter he just wrote to our church:



"Dear Sponsor,  
Hello. I am writing for you this letter and it will be the last letter. I am very glad with the period that I spend with you. I pray for you to find another child to be his sponsor.

Thanks a lot for what you have done and your participation to develop my community from the health, educational and economical aspects. I used to tell my friends about you. Now, I am working in a clothes factory and I wish that God fulfills for me what I dream of. All my family members are wishing for you a nice year, better than the last. Hope that you reach all what you dream of. Goodbye.  
Yours, Mahmoud Abdel Hamid" (Egypt)



# *A Romantic Recital*

Free-Will Offering to benefit Nor-Door Adult Day Care

**Sunday, February 12**

**3 p.m.**

**Ephraim Moravian Church  
9970 Moravia Street, Ephraim**



*Beth Chafey-Hon*

*Violinist*

*David Beck*

*Pianist*



Featuring music of  
Vivaldi, Faure, Beethoven, Bartok  
Chopin, Cui, Arabian Belly Dance Music,  
and Jack Fina's Bumble Boogie!

*Chocolate Reception to follow*



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:*

**February 2012 Newsletter**



# February 2012

| Sun                                                                                         | Mon                              | Tue                  | Wed                                                           | Thu               | Fri | Sat                                                                             |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|-----|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                                                                             |                                  |                      | 1<br>12 noon<br>Lunch<br>Sister Bay<br>Moravian               | 2                 | 3   | 4                                                                               |
| 5<br><br>9 am Sunday<br>School<br>10 am<br>Worship                                          | 6<br><br>11 a.m.<br>Bible study  | 7<br> --Pastor out-  | 8<br>--of the-----<br><br>1 pm<br>EMC<br>Women's<br>Gathering | 9<br>office-----  | 10  | 11                                                                              |
| 12<br>9 am Sunday<br>School<br>10 am<br>Worship<br>3 pm concert<br>--Chafey-Hon<br>and Beck | 13<br><br>11 a.m.<br>Bible study | 14<br> --Pastor out- | 15<br>---of the----<br>12 noon<br>Open Door<br>Luncheon       | 16<br>office----- | 17  | 18<br>10 AM - 1 PM<br>Sister Bay<br>Moravian<br>Church<br>Stewardship<br>Summit |
| 19<br>9 am Sunday<br>School<br>10 am<br>Worship                                             | 20<br><br>11 a.m.<br>Bible study | 21                   | 22<br><br>Ash<br>Wednesday<br>6 pm Potluck<br>7 pm<br>Worship | 23                | 24  | 25                                                                              |
| 26<br>1st Sunday<br>in Lent<br>9 am Sunday<br>School<br>10 am<br>Worship                    | 27<br><br>11 a.m.<br>Bible study | 28<br> --Pastor out- | 29<br>of the<br>office-----                                   |                   |     |                                                                                 |