

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

December 2012

From the Pastor's Desk

PREPARATIONS

"Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight. Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be made low, and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth; and all flesh shall see the salvation of God." Luke 3: 4b-6

When we read these familiar words, we have a tendency to miss the most important line. I know I did. I've often spoken about preparing for Christ's coming. I've given examples of how we can prepare. But the one thing I kept missing was what we were actually preparing for! The 'what' is in the very last line—that all people will experience the Salvation of God. What does that mean? Salvation means deliverance from harm and destruction. In other words, Salvation restores us to Life. Our preparations are to bring Life to those who are on the path of death. So many things lead to destruction—hopelessness, despair, envy, greed, bitterness—the list seems endless. How do we, as Christians, prepare to bring God's Salvation, God's Life to those in death's grip? Someone told me of an experience that I believe, illustrates the importance of life saving preparation:

My friend and an acquaintance of his were eating dinner together at a restaurant. (Both men have been trained to respond to life-threatening situations, like fires, accidents and medical crises. They trained, not because of their 'day jobs', but because they are part of a group of volunteers in Northern Door County that work to keep their neighbors safe. Most of their time is taken up in training. Fortunately, we don't see many disasters up here. We might even wonder why so much training is necessary.). As they were enjoying their meal, they noticed a woman at the next table choking. She could not cry out, no one else noticed including her companion—because they were both blind. My friend called 911 as his partner sprang into action. By this time the woman was not breathing. The food was lodged so firmly that it took all his strength and quick thinking to expel the object. By the time paramedics came, the poor woman was very sore, but alive and well. My friend was amazed at the coincidence—two well-trained people happened to be in a restaurant just at the right time to save a woman's life.

Our preparations involve training for Life. We train by our daily devotions—connecting with the Savior through prayer. We train by studying God's word and applying that word to our lives. We train by gathering in worship and praising the One who created us. We train by visiting and listening to each other's experience of God's grace. All this training makes us ready, when someone is in distress, or on the path of destruction, to speak and model the words of Life. If our faith is 'rusty,' it's awfully hard to be of use to those who are struggling. If we're not current on our training, it's awfully hard to be of use when disaster strikes. We can offer the transforming power of God only as we are transformed daily, by His grace. How is your training for Life coming along? Let us begin today, training for the life giving Spirit of God to give us every grace and wisdom to bring Salvation to those in the grip of death and destruction.



We all know how **Hurricane Sandy** devastated the East Coast. Betsy Miller, our Provincial President, said they lost power at the Church Center and in the process, the server was damaged beyond repair. The IT team has it up and running now.

Staten Island was hit hard. At this time, the four Moravian Churches on Staten Island are working together, assessing the needs and combining resources, with the commitment to serve their members and community. Some needs are immediate. Some will take a long time. "It is our hope and our prayer that with God's help that the hungry will be fed, the tired will find rest, the distraught will find new hope, the weak will have their strength renewed, so that as the storm clouds fade, we will once again see the light and the promise of a new day."

Here is the link to their site for updates and donations:

<http://www.simoravians.org/hurricane-sandy.html>

Checks can also be sent., made out to the United Brethren's Church, Central Elders, and sent to 2205 Richmond Road, Staten Island, NY 10306. the Rev. Maggie Wellert, Pastor of Great Kills Moravian Church, is serving as Chairperson of the Central Elders this year.

Services

**Dec 2 - 9 a.m. Sunday School, 10 a.m. Worship Service - Holy Communion
7 p.m. "Celebration of Carols" Cantata, Sister Bay Moravian**

**Dec 9 - 9 a.m. Sunday School, 10 a.m. Worship Service - *Joyful Noise* for
Community Health Clinic , and bring food for Feed-My-People**

Dec 16 - 9 a.m. Sunday School, 10 a.m. Worship Service & Lovefeast

Dec 23 - 9 a.m. Sunday School, 10 a.m. Worship Service

Christmas Eve - 5 p.m. Candlelight Service

Dec 30 - 10 a.m. Worship Service

**Dec 31 - Watchnight Service, 11:15 p.m. followed by pancakes - draw your
Watchword for 2013!**

Ephraim Moravian Church Office Hours

PASTOR:	TUES - FRI	9 a.m. - 12 p.m.
	MONDAY	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.

Stewardship Corner

--Percentage Living commitment forms - bring in (or send to Box 73, Ephraim) - they will be mailed back to you sealed in 6 months

--Open Door Lunch - sign up to help at one of our Open Door Lunches by bringing a salad, soup, bread or dessert--see upper bulletin board for sign-up

--Fellowship - sign-up sheet is in the Fellowship Hall. Very few slots filled in for December and January so far!



YOUR BOARD MEMBERS

TRUSTEES

<u>Funds</u>	
John Turner	854-5060
<u>Building Interior/Parsonage</u>	
Hugh Mulliken	854-2336
<u>Grounds</u>	
Gunilla Wilson	854-5105
<u>Cemetery</u>	
Natalie Neddersen	854-2121
<u>Building Exterior</u>	
Jim Sokolowski	839-9265

ELDERS

Pastor Dawn Volpe, Chair	
Diane Jacobson, Vice-Chair	854-2871
Eunice Rutherford	868-3373
Karen Ekberg	421-2553
Pete Classen, Co-Secretary	839-2902
George Carey, Co-Secretary	854-9253

Elder for the month of:

December...	Karen Ekberg
January...	Pete Classen



**Unity Prayer Watch for
Ephraim Moravian is set for Monday, December
17. We share the day with Moravian churches
in Sister Bay, West Side Green Bay and
Rudolph.**

Our times for prayer are in half-hour segments:

12 midnight-12:30 a.m.

4 - 4:30 a.m.

5 - 5:30 a.m.

8 - 8:30 a.m.

11 -11:30 a.m.

1 - 1:30 p.m.

4 - 4:30 p.m.

9 - 9:30 p.m.

...sign-up sheet in Fellowship Hall!

Mission News

Many thanks to Rick Nelson and his team for presenting information and slides on November 11 about their recent trip to Honduras. They have made several trips, have rebuilt a school and installed many fresh-water collection barrels for communities there. Each collection barrel saves a woman 16 hours per week of travel time to obtain fresh water downstream from the village. Rick is looking for future volunteers!

Hurricane Sandy had a devastating effect on the Moravian Church in Cap-Haitien in Haiti. The pastor says "All our material and equipment are under the mud. We lost all." Beyond Staten Island, if you wish to make a donation to global partners in the post-Sandy recovery, send a check to Board of World Mission marked for "disaster relief," Box 12454, Bethlehem, PA 27101.

Christmas in the Village

Saturday, December 1

The Ephraim Moravian Church will have our Sweets for the Holidays bake sale as well as traditional Moravian Christmas items and tours of the church, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Family Centers of Door County will again have "Children's Christmas Stores" at the Ephraim Village Hall. They will have four "stores," giving children the opportunity to shop for family Christmas gifts at highly discounted prices.

Open Houses

Eagle Harbor Inn, 1-4 p.m.

Anderson House Shop & Gallery, 11 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Ephraim Guest House, 1-4 p.m.

Julie's Upscale Resale, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Arbor Cottage (10006 Highway 42), 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Santa's reindeer will be outside the Village Hall with Mrs. Claus between 1-4 p.m.

Horse drawn carriage rides outside the Hall from 3:45-4:30 p.m.



In the Library, 11:30 - 12:30, holiday stories and gifts for the young ones with Windsor McCutcheon

In the Village Hall, noon to 3:30, soup and chili; 1-3 p.m. children's crafts, cookie decorating and heritage games; 1-3 p.m. visit with Santa; 1:30-3:30 The Doormen perform, and a Christmas family sing-along

Harborside Park, 4:30 p.m. - 13th annual tree-lighting ceremony



"Pull Together" Campaign!



We have a basket by the lower bulletin board for you to bring in your **pull-tops** from cans of soda, water, etc.

The Ronald McDonald House can turn them into cash to support their care-giving homes for families of cancer patients.



Thank You

...to those who ushered during the month of November.

... to those who hosted Fellowship during November: Sue Sherman, The Moravian Women, Barbara Classen and Diane Jacobson.

Trea\$urer's Report

General Finances - Income through Nov 26:	\$129,725
Expenses through Nov 26:	\$139,750
(propane bills, Province/District assessments, larger WPS bills have us at a deficit right now)	



New members??

Those who would like to become a member of Ephraim Moravian Church, please talk to Pastor Dawn. We want to welcome new members on Sunday, December 23.

† *Christian Sympathies* are extended to Betty Ann Knudson. Betty's husband, Ed, died on Tuesday, November 27. Services will be private, but visitation with the family will be on Saturday, December 1, from 4-6 p.m. at Casperson's Funeral Home.



"Greetings from Moravian Open Door (MOD)! We recently held our 25th Anniversary on September 30, 2012. Many were able to attend the Service of Thanksgiving and Reception. We again express our sincere thanks and appreciation to all of you who have graciously supported this vital ministry over the years.

At our Reception, we showed the following video <http://youtu.be/bQK9XcXPj2Y> which gives you a glimpse of the impact MOD is having each and every day on the clients that reside there. Although you were not able to join us, we thought you would be greatly interested in the opportunity to watch this inspiring video."

--Moravian Open Door, New York City



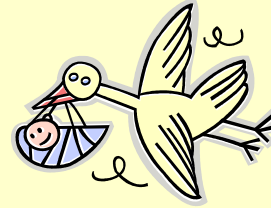
Did you know that our Rogers organ will be 10 years old next year!?

There is a committee afoot to set dates for organ concerts in celebration and outreach in 2013. They are also checking out students from Lawrence University (through Bjorklunden) who may want to use our organ as part of their study and/or for recitals. Val Bartlein, our original contact for purchasing the organ, is working with the committee.



BIBLE STUDY
Fridays at 10 a.m.
Demystifying the Trinity

**Nov 30 & Dec 7- The Role
of the Holy Spirit**



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
Don Nelson.....15
Andrew Phillips...18
Harry Maher...20
Mary Wilson...23
Joan Fitzpatrick... 27
Linda Carey...27

December Anniversaries

Kaye and Harry Maher – 10, 1955
Joyce and Glenn Gerdman – 23, 1951
Joan Fitzpatrick & Walt Fisher – 24
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@ephraimoravian.org)

Thank You from the
Darrell Jacobson family for
all of your prayers, visits,
calls and cards.
--Eileen Jacobson

Fall Clean-Up!

Thanks to all who participated in our fall clean-up! The grounds here at the church and at the cemetery look great.



Ephraim Moravian Women

Christmas Luncheon

December 12, 2012

at 12 noon

White Gull Inn, Fish Creek

All women are invited to come – bring a guest or guests!

RSVP to the church (worship@ephraimmoravian.org or 854-2804) no later than

Wednesday, December 5

\$15 per person inclusive (at the door)

EMC women over 80 years old will be honored at this luncheon



**Sunday, December 2, is the
First Sunday of Advent!**

Do you know where YOUR Moravian Star is? Get it out, dust it off, see if it needs replacement, and hang it up! If you need a replacement - or as a great gift idea - see Jody Thiell. We will have both the small and large stars available.



"A Celebration of Carols"
by Joseph M. Martin



7 p.m.. on Sunday, Dec. 2

Sister Bay Moravian Church 10924 Old Stage Rd. Sister Bay, WI
Performed by the Combined choirs of the Ephraim and

Sister Bay Moravian Churches.

Directed by Sue Raye Hughes and Jendean Olson. A free will collection will be taken to aid the victims of Hurricane Sandy on the East Coast. Please make checks payable to: United Brethren's Church (or send to 2205 Richmond Road, Staten Island, NY 10306). The memo line should read:

Central Elders Sandy Relief
Refreshments after service.



Holiday Fundraiser - Scandia Village

Monday, December 3rd - Friday, December 7th. Beautiful themed stockings filled with a variety of gifts such as bath & body products, assorted coffee & tea, wines & cheese, toys for boys & girls, and much more will be available. Bidding ends at 2:00 p.m. on Friday, December 7th. Crafts hand made by residents & staff will be

available to purchase. A holiday themed silent auction will be taking place all week. This fundraiser will take place daily from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. in the front lobby and conference room. All proceeds will benefit Scandia Village's " Capital Campaign.

You are Invited!
Sunday, January 6,
2013 at
4:00 p.m.

We will be sharing our Moravian Heritage with
Divine Word Pentecost Lutheran Church
5505 West Lloyd Street
Milwaukee, Wisconsin

CALLING ALL MORAVIANS

We have a wonderful opportunity to share in an Epiphany Lovefeast with our Lutheran Brothers and Sisters! We will provide a light lunch after worship and Carpool from Ephraim Moravian Church 11:30 a.m. We will return the same day.

Please mark this on your calendar. If you know someone living in the Milwaukee area, don't hesitate to invite them to this wonderful service!



December 2012

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 <i>ADVENTure and Sweets for the Holi- days sale 11-2</i>
2 <i>9 am Sunday School, 10 am Worship - Communion 1st Sunday of Advent 7 pm Cantata</i>	3	4 <i>5 p.m. Elders</i>	5 <i>Community Luncheon, Sister Bay Moravian 12 noon</i>	6	7 <i>10 a.m. Bible Study The Holy Spirit</i>	8 <i>Christmas in the Country, Sister Bay Moravian 10 am - 2 pm</i>
9 <i>9 am Sunday School 10 am Worship - Joyful Noise/ Feed-People</i>	10	11	12 <i>9:30 a.m. Caring Hands Women's Christmas Luncheon 12 noon</i>	13 <i>5 p.m. Trustees</i>	14	15
16 <i>9 am Sunday School 10 am Worship & Lovefeast</i>	17	18	19 <i>Open Door Luncheon 12 noon - Ephraim</i>	20	21	22
23 <i>9 am Sunday School 10 am Worship - we welcome new members</i>	24 <i>Christmas Eve Service 5 p.m.</i>	25 <i>Christmas Loaves & Fishes, 5 pm</i>	26	27	28	29
30 <i>10 am Worship Lessons & Carols</i>	31 <i>Watchnight Service 11:15 p.m. Pancakes at Midnight</i>					



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!

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

POSTAL WORKER: Thank you for delivering this to:

December 2012 Newsletter