

## **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.  
MONDAY Pastor's Day Off  
SECRETARY: WED. - THURS. 9:30 a.m.—4:30 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.

### **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](mailto: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

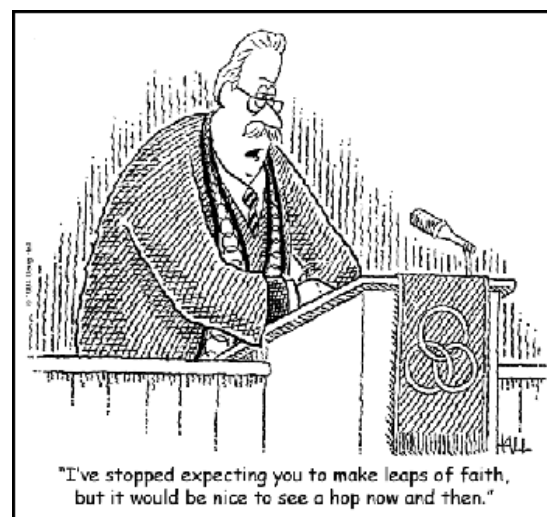
Liz and Bob Schroeder – January 12, 1951

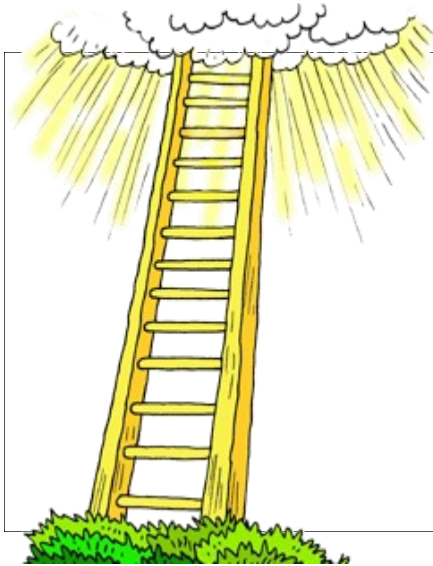
Anne and Larry Crowe - January 16, 1988

*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





## 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 | *main dish |
| *soup/salad | *desserts  |

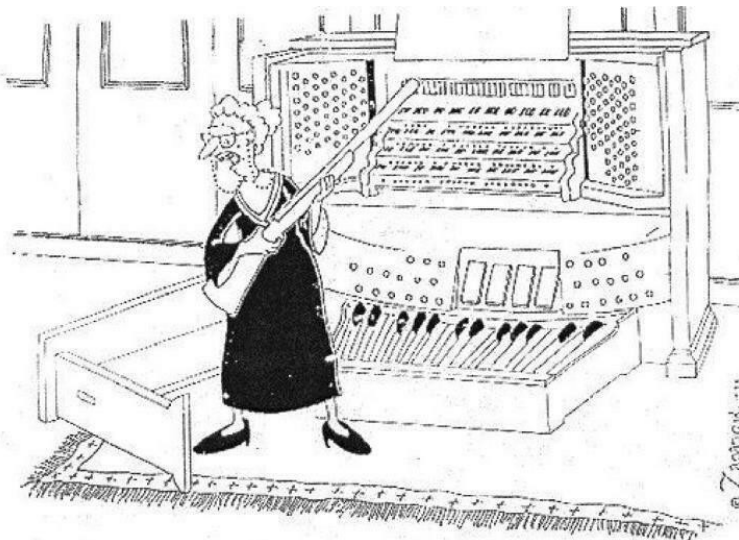
Put it on your calendar *now* - more  
information to come! Would you like to  
host a segment, let us know!



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!**



Brenda quiets the crowd for her Prelude

Jon Heise continues to recover from his  
strokes. His son Eric has written with his  
address and promises any correspon-  
dence 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,  <b>Unity Service 3 p.m. - Stella Maris</b>	26	27 Loaves & Fishes 5 p.m. St. Rosalia's	28  <b>6 p.m. Potluck 7 p.m. Church Council</b>  7	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](http://www.ephraimmoravian.org)**

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

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