



Ephraim Moravian Messenger

News from the Open Door

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

Congregational Watchword for 2015

“Let us consider how to provoke one another to love and good deeds, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some.” - Hebrews 10:: 24, 25

December 2015

FROM THE PASTOR’S DESK

When I was a teenager, I attended a neighborhood meeting, held at the local Moravian Church (my family were not members). The meeting was to address a difficult issue. In our blue-collar neighborhood, the government was proposing a massive building project to house low income families. At that meeting, everyone was opposed. They argued that the apartment development would devalue properties and promote criminal behavior. The young pastor of the church, who was new to the community (Steve Nicholas), stood up after many had voiced their opinions, and said, “If these apartments are built, then we must be good neighbors to our new residents.” The temperature in the room dropped several degrees. Although no one responded unkindly, Pastor Steve was the talk around many dinner tables, including mine. The general agreement was that this naïve young pastor’s opinions were not welcome.

The apartments were built without adding any school buildings, playgrounds or other services needed for a sizable population. The predictions of that meeting were realized. Home owners fled the neighborhood and it soon became known for criminal activity. The church, however, did not leave. The church income declined reflecting the poverty of the people who attended. And yet, the church flung its doors wide, hosting Vacation Bible Schools, Day Camp, community meals, and the YMCA. The church became a beacon of hope. As an adult, I walked through the doors of that church searching for a spiritual home. It seemed like the air itself was filled with Christ’s presence. The people I met from those notorious apartments were some of the finest human beings I have encountered. My life is rich because of them.

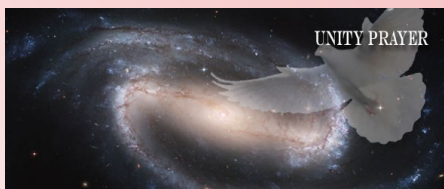
Sometimes the Christian life doesn’t make any sense. We are told to act counter to our basic instincts: welcoming the stranger, losing our life to find it, loving our enemies. And now we are faced with a dilemma. In light of the Paris attacks, there is a natural inclination to seal our own borders and reject the Syrian refugees flooding into Europe. Why risk our own health and well-being? What if there are terrorists among them? Long before the Syrian refugee crisis, a group of people, fleeing certain death, attempted to come to our country. In 1939, 900 Jews from Germany boarded a ship and made the journey, first to Cuba, then to the US and on to Canada. All three countries rejected them. On the heels of the Great Depression, with resources scarce, no one wanted the burden of taking care of these people. In Holland, one Christian family (the Ten Booms) hid Jews in their home. The Jewish people escaped, but the Ten Booms were sent to concentration camps where most died. One survivor, Corrie Ten Boom, is honored in Israel as one of the “Righteous Among the Nations.” We are not guaranteed safety when we follow Christ, but we are guaranteed a life filled with purpose. Following Jesus means rejecting vengeance and welcoming the stranger. As we re-enact the familiar story of the Christ Child, let us never forget the image of a young couple and their helpless infant, fleeing the terror of a murderous king, crossing the border into a foreign land.

- Pastor Dawn

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.

December 6 is our Unity Prayer Watch Day



You can sign up for a half-hour of prayer time any time during the day on a sign-up sheet in the Fellowship Hall.

There are suggested topics of prayer there as well, for the worldwide Moravian unity to each individual province throughout the world and their individual needs, individual prayers for our governmental leaders, our church leaders, and those in our own congregations.

Moravians have been praying around the clock and around the world—the Northern Province is taking over from the Southwest Province of Tanzania, whose prayer month was November. When our month is over, January will go to the Southern Province of the U.S.



YOUR BOARD MEMBERS

TRUSTEES

Funds: Investment Committee
Building Exterior and Trustee

President:

Paul Burton 854-9506

Grounds:

Kay Wilson 854-4612

Cemetery:

Linda Carey 854-9253

Marilyn Cushing 854-5230

Chuck Mead 854-3357

ELDERS

Pastor Dawn Volpe, Chair
 Paul Flottman, Vice Chair

854-4780

Diane Jacobson 854-2871

Cici Mulliken 854-2018

Doug Schultz 854-2153

Theresa Weborg, Sect'y
 421-0032

Elder for the month of:
 December...Doug Schultz

Services in December

Dec. 6 - 9 a.m. Choir and Sunday School, 10 a.m. Worship/
 Communion

Dec. 13 - 9 a.m. Choir and Sunday School, 10 a.m. Worship—
 Joyful Noise Offering for Secret Santa

Dec. 20 - 9 a.m. Choir and Sunday School, 10 a.m. Worship

Dec. 24 - 5 p.m. Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

Dec. 27- 10 a.m. Worship- Lessons & Carols

Dec. 31— Watchnight Service 11:15 p.m. with Pancake Break-
 fast following—pick your Watchword for 2016!



PRICE INCREASE!
Beginning in 2016,
member rates will be
\$500 for a full plot, \$250
for a half plot!

It has been more than a decade since the cost of cemetery plots was raised for members. Now, a full plot (4'x10') plot for members is \$150 and a half plot (4'x5") is \$75. (A full plot accommodates one casket or four cremains; a half plot accommodates two cremains.) Secure your space before the price goes up at the end of the year! (You don't have to place a headstone now.)

Cemetery Superintendent Kathy Kirkland can be reached regarding plots or questions: 920-854-6174. If the call goes to voice mail, leave your name and phone number.



Adorn family headstones with wreaths or garland this season (no artificial plants, please). Adopt someone who no longer has local family and beautify their gravesite. *The church family remembers and honors them!*



From Board of World Mission....

As we study the crisis in Syria, we learn that there are actually some 60 million displaced persons; we are facing the largest refugee crisis since the end of the Second World War. Conflicts, rampant violations of human rights, and gang violence are causing people to leave not only Syria but Afghanistan, Iraq, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and Myanmar, to name a few, as well as areas of Central America that have brought people into the US.

As Moravians we share a history with those who fled violence and persecution, and we have the model of Count Zinzendorf who welcomed a group from Moravia as settlers on his land, facilitating the birth of the Renewed Moravian Church. BWM has sent some initial support to our German brothers and sisters to help with the significant needs they are addressing. They are currently looking at properties that might be able to accommodate refugees. They are encouraging their congregations to build relationships and community with refugees in their area.

The BWM encourages churches to explore ways to help the wider refugee crisis through our ecumenical colleagues such as Episcopal Migration Ministries, Lutheran Refugee and Immigration Services, and Church World Service, all of which have an excellent structure in place to help refugees integrate into their new land.



Joint Choir Christmas Concert!

*Join us on Sunday, December 20 at 1:30 p.m.
Scandia Village- The Meadows Gathering Room*

*Featuring: The Choirs of Sister Bay & Ephraim Moravian Churches
The Bell Choir of Sister Bay Moravian*



For December's Feed My People

*Healthy Snacks for
Kids- Applesauce
(single serve containers), low
sugar juice boxes, gold fish,
canned fruit (no junk food
please)*



Place in any of the "Feed My
People" baskets we have
in the church.

Condolences

To Jock Whitacre and family on the death of
Judy on October 29.

To the family of Betty Ann Knudson, who died
on Nov. 1

To the family of Williard Sundstrom, who died
on Nov. 4

To the family of Sherry Koehler, who died
On Nov. 10 (Bernice Koehler's daughter
-in-law)

Prayers

For Cathie Gelhaar as she battles bone cancer
For Anne Crowe as she continues cancer
treatments

Come in Out of the Cold
Opportunities for Free Lunch & Conversation
1st Wednesdays at noon—Sister Bay Moravian
3rd Wednesdays at noon—Ephraim Moravian

Sign up in the Fellowship Hall to help at one of
our lunches:

December 16 (filled) January 20
February 17 March 16
April 20



Christmas in the Village

The Advent-ure at Ephraim Moravian

*Saturday, December 5
11 am to 2 pm*

During the "Christmas In the Village" celebration throughout Ephraim, we'll be hosting tours of the church, candle-wrapping, Moravian star crafts & refreshments. Learn about Moravian traditions!

Advent-ure "Sweets for the Holidays" Sale

Everything from candies, jams and fudge to cookies, cakes and pies, all gaily wrapped for the season! Proceeds will be sent to the Door of Life Food Pantry We need YOUR help! Please bring your home-made Baked goodies, gaily wrapped To the church parlor Friday Afternoon (Dec. 4)



Come Emmanuel

Sister Bay Moravian Church's Advent Devotional is ready!

It follows the Advent season through Love, Hope, Joy and Peace with daily scriptures and text.

We have a few copies in our Fellowship Hall for those who would like a daily devotional

through the Advent season, but you can also view it and/or download it on our church's website (look under "Current Happenings"), Sister Bay Moravian's website, or at the link below.

<http://issuu.com/sisterbaymoravianchurch/docs/seasonofadvent>

Ring in the New Year!



WATCHNIGHT SERVICE

11:15 p.m.

Followed by a Midnight
Pancake Breakfast

Hear an inspirational
sermon, get your watchword
for 2016!

.....to those who offered Fellowship after church
in November: Rob & Sherry Moore, Diane Kirkland
and Ellie McCullin, Anne Crowe (via a friend), Anne
Glabe, Carol Sandstrom

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

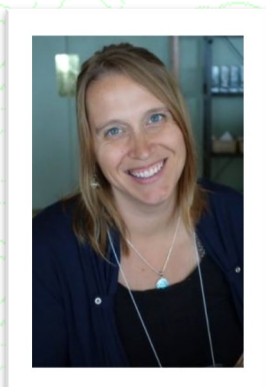
...to those who served or brought food for Betty Ann Knudson's memorial

*Thank
You*



**Congratulations to Eunice
Rutherford, who was honored for
her 20+ years on the
Gibraltar Historical Foundation
Board! She is one of the reasons
that Noble House has flourished.**

**Congratulations to Amanda
Mittermann, named Volunteer
Coordinator for the Door County
Humane Society**



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
Henry Everett Bristol...13
Don Nelson.....15
Andrew Phillips...18
Harry Maher...20
Mary Wilson...23
Joan Fitzpatrick... 27
Linda Carey...27

December anniversaries

Kaye and Harry Maher – Dec. 10, 1955
Joyce and Glenn Gerdman – Dec. 23, 1951
Joan Fitzpatrick & Walt Fisher – Dec. 24
Arts & Pat Horvath – Dec. 30, 1972

*If your name, or the name of a loved one
is not listed in our birthday and anniver-
sary listings, please let us know by email
or phone!*

TREASURER'S REPORT

Member giving through Oct: \$87,516
Visitor giving through Oct: \$51,424

Income

Budget is \$144,900

Actual through Oct.: \$149,361
(103%)

Expenses

Budget is \$182,826

Actual through Oct.: \$171,775
(94%)



From James Heroux:

Greetings from Bethlehem! Things are a little warmer out here, but school has started well. They're going to keep me very busy here! I just wanted to thank you for welcoming me into your church family as well as your busy summer schedule. Your feedback and words of encouragement have gone a long way in making me feel like I'm ready for this journey. I look forward to all the ways I'll be able to follow your example of what a loving church looks like.

I hope we reconnect sometime soon; but until then, keep serving the Lord and His people in all the amazing ways you do. You do it so well.

In all things love,
James the Intern

REMEMBER OUR COLLEGE KIDS

If you'd like to send a note of encouragement (or Christmas cookies), here are their addresses:



Mr. James Heroux (summer intern)
53 West Church Street, Apt. 7
Bethlehem, PA 18018

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

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

Ainsley Nelson
344 W. Dayton St., #211
Madison, WI 53703

Andrea Nelson
900 Washington Ave SE
Apt. 205
Minneapolis, MN 55414

Mike Weborg
347 Smith Hall
Stevens Point, WI 54481

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT
November 29 at
10:00 a.m.
Singing of the Hosanna
Lighting the Advent
Candle - Join Us!



Christmas in the Country

at Sister Bay Moravian Church
Saturday, December 12, 2015
10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

- *Chicken Soup Lunch**
- *Handmade Rag Rugs**
- *Holiday Bake Sale**



NEW this year are Door County artists
and vendors who will be selling their wares.



Update on Tricklebee Café in Milwaukee—they have started construction on the leased building!

From Christie Melby-Gibbons:

“Tricklebee Cafe adheres to the 7 Core Values of an OWEE (One World Everybody Eats) Network Cafe:

- Pay-what-you-can pricing--Each customer sets their own price for their meal. (We may have suggested prices or price ranges.)
- Patrons choose own portion size--We may offer small, medium and large plates, and mindful portion sizes.. This helps eliminate food waste, curb overeating and supports our customers in adhering to their personal budget.
- Healthy, seasonal foods--A commitment to providing local and organic where possible; sustainably grown and harvested.
- Patrons can volunteer in exchange for a meal--This provides a “hand up, not a hand out” opportunity. Be mindful that a properly trained volunteer can lead to future employment in the food service industry.
- Volunteers are used to the greatest extent possible--This is an important key to building community and sustainability. Volunteers can just be working for meals or because they want to support your efforts to curb hunger in our community.
- Paid staff earn a living wage--This varies by region, but \$12-\$15 per hour is a guideline.
- Community Table--Have a larger table where individuals and small groups can sit with others and make a larger group that can cross social, economic and other societal boundaries.”

Tricklebee Café is on GoFundMe.com for donations.

COMMUNITY NEWS.....COMMUNITY NEWS.....COMMUNITY NEWS

Baileys Harbor Thanksgiving Dinner—Thursday, November 26, 3-6 p.m. Baileys Harbor Town Hall.

It’s still free, open to the public, so don’t bother cooking this year! There will be an offering as a fundraiser for Tasha Ustianowski, who is battling a very aggressive type of cancer. As a single mother of her son Dex, grandson of the late Jim Tishler, she is suffering physically as well as financially. There will be raffles, games, and fellowship for a great cause. Raffle items include everything from gift baskets and gift certificates, to Packers tickets or a Deer mount gift certificate. For more information, please call 920-493-4649



December 2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2 12 Noon Sister Bay Moravian Free Lunch	3 7 p.m. AA Mtg	4 8:30 a.m. OA Meeting	5 "Advent-ure" 11 a.m.– 2 p.m. 
6 9 a.m. Sunday School/Choir 10 a.m. Worship Communion	7	8 9 a.m. Joint Board Meeting	9 9:30 a.m. Caring Hands	10 4 p.m. Trustee Meeting 7 p.m. AA Mtg	11 8:30 a.m. OA Meeting	12 Christmas in the Country at Sister Bay Moravian— 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
13 9 a.m. Sunday School/Choir 10 a.m. Worship Joyful Noise for Secret Santa	14	15	16 12 Noon Open Door Lunch	17 7 p.m. AA Mtg	18 8:30 a.m. OA Meeting	19 1 p.m. Choir Rehearsal— Scandia Village— The Meadows
20 9 a.m. Sunday School/Choir 10 a.m. Worship 1:30 p.m. Christmas Concert— The Mead- ows	21	22 5 p.m. Loaves & Fishes— Stella Maris, Sister Bay	23	24 5 p.m. Candelight Service 7 p.m. AA Mtg	25 8:30 a.m. OA Meeting Christmas	26 
27 10 a.m. Lessons & Carols Ser- vice	28	29	30 9	31 7 p.m. AA Mtg 11:15 p.m. Watchnight Service w/ Breakfast		

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

POSTAL WORKER: Thank you for delivering this to:

December 2015 Newsletter



Ephraim Moravian Church - PO Box 73, 9970 Moravia Street - Ephraim, WI 54211 - 920-854-2804
Website: www.ephraimmoravian.org

General Correspondence: worship@ephraimmoravian.org

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