

## **Ephraim Moravian Messenger**

### **News from the Open Door**

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

#### **Congregational Watchword for 2016**

***The Lord your God will make you most prosperous in all the work of your hands. - Deuteronomy 30:9 (NIV)***

***December 2016***

### **FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK**

***‘Do not be afraid, for there are more with us than there are with them.’ – 2 Kings 6:16***

As 2016 comes to a close, I have witnessed (and experienced) a great deal of angst. We are anxious about our nation’s direction, we are anxious concerning our daily existence, we are anxious about the health of our planet. We are heartsick when we see disasters around the globe: the suffering of the children in Aleppo, earthquakes, terrorism, the list seems endless. I’ve noticed that network news programs add one uplifting story to mitigate the awfulness of the majority of what we see.


With our ability to access information from social media and 24 hour news sources, we are bombarded with fearful images, over which we have little or no control. It is no wonder that we live in a perpetual state of anxiety. Fear is part of the human condition. Although we cannot banish fear altogether, we can keep it from paralyzing us. I am reminded of a story from the book of Kings about a lesson in perspective...

A hostile army had surrounded the home of the prophet Elisha. When Elisha’s servant saw that all avenues of escape had been cut off, he cried out in terror. Elisha was completely fearless, telling his servant, ‘Do not be afraid, for there are more with us than there are with them.’ He prayed, not for deliverance, but for his servant’s eyes to be opened. After that prayer, the servant saw clearly- horses and chariots of fire surrounding the prophet’s home. All fear was gone.

What are our ‘Chariots of Fire’? They are the resources of God given to us in times of great anxiety. The God who first called the universe into existence, the God whose first words were, ‘Let there be Light’, is the God who gives us the strength we need when fear overwhelms us. It’s the strength to cope, it’s the strength to see possibility when everyone else sees hopelessness, it’s the strength to continue to live lives of purpose. The chariots of fire enable us to work for justice, to bring hope, to speak words of comfort and assurance, to act mercifully, to reach out to those who are hurting. The chariots of fire give us the passion and drive to live in our present reality. I might not be able to address world-wide crises, but, through my actions here in my tiny corner of the globe, I can bless the people in far off lands with monetary assistance, I can bless people here in Door County with my presence, with my support, with my prayers, with my notes of encouragement, with the resources of mind, body and spirit that God has granted me. The resources of light and joy are at our disposal. There are more ‘with us’ than we can possibly imagine. In this season of Christmas, when we celebrate the coming of Jesus, “God with Us”, may we take hold of the hope He brings with bold and joyful faith.


## *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.



**we THRIVE with REAL FOOD**

**GIVING to Tricklebee Café helps**  
Sherman Park Neighbors  
Local Farmers  
Local Businesses  
**Our Community THRIVE**



We believe that fresh, healthy food is a human right that should be accessible to EVERYONE regardless of ability to pay.  
Help us on our mission and join our giving campaign on #GIVING TUESDAY  
**November 29th, 2016!**

It takes a lot to keep a pay-what-you-can café up and running! From buying toilet paper to utilities to ordering food to paying our small staff, we have quite a cost to cover. Help us out with our 2017 operating costs to keep community and REAL FOOD at our table!  
Go to <http://gofundme.com/tricklebeecafe>  
Or find us on Facebook to donate now!

Black Friday. Cyber Monday.

**#GIVINGTUESDAY™**

**November 29, 2016**



### **YOUR BOARD MEMBERS**

#### **TRUSTEES**

Funds: Investment Committee  
of John Turner, Chuck Mead,  
Pete Classen

Linda Carey 854-9253  
(Trustee President/Cemetery)

Marilyn Cushing 854-5230  
(Church Building and Parsonage Interiors/ Cemetery)

Chuck Mead 854-3357  
(Funds and Building Exterior/ Secretary)

Rob Moore 847-295-6388  
(Building Exterior, Grounds)

Ryan Sherman 920-734-1313  
(Church Building and Parsonage Interiors/Grounds)

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#### **ELDERS**

Pastor Dawn Volpe, Chair  
Cici Mulliken, Vice Ch 854-2018  
Karen Ekberg 421-2553  
Diane Jacobson 854-2871  
Theresa Weborg, Sect'y  
421-0032  
Betty Chomeau 854-2203  
Elder for the month of:  
December...Betty Chomeau

### **Services in December**

**December 4 — 10 a.m. Worship Service, Communion**

**December 11 — 10 a.m. Worship Service, Joyful Noise for Secret Santa**

**December 18 — 10 a.m. Worship Service**

**December 24 — 5 p.m. Candlelight Service**

**December 25 — 10 a.m. Worship Service**

**NOTE: No Watchnight service, since New Year's Day is on a Sunday.**



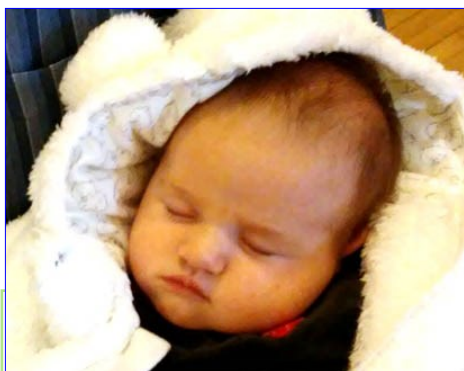


## ADVENT BOOKLET

Last year, the Spiritual Writers Guild (now called "Your Write") compiled an Advent season booklet for study and reflection. Many writers from around Door County – and from varied denominations – shared their thoughts, prayers,

poems. They made the books available and they disappeared quickly!

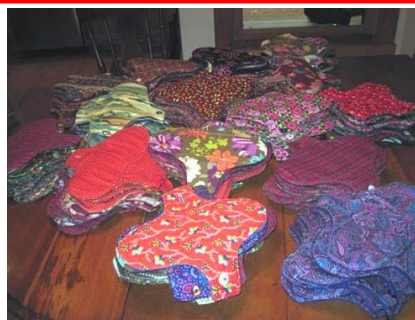
**The booklet is available again this Advent season...** for reading online or for download. It can be reached through the Sister Bay Moravian Church website: ([www.sisterbaymoravianchurch.org](http://www.sisterbaymoravianchurch.org))



**Eleanor  
Holst  
Baby  
Shower  
November  
20, 2016**



Ezra got some big brother gifts, too!



**Book Friends International NFP** is very grateful for the support from people in our church family for their "Pads for School Girls" project. Because

of two fun sewing workshops by Judy Turner's quilting group and other individuals, we sent over 200 pads, as well as dollar support to help cover the expense of shipping a costs for a container of school books was well as the pads to several secondary schools in western Kenya.

Many Thanks,  
Jendean and Barb C.

A very sincere Thank You to everyone who purchased beadwork from Lifebeads Kenya. I have forwarded all the money (\$410) to the workshop where they were made, as well as other charities in Naivasha, Kenya.

Barbara Classen

## Christmas in the Country

**Sister Bay Moravian Church  
Annual Bazaar & Bake Sale**

**Saturday, December 10  
10 am-2 pm**



\*Homemade Chicken  
Soup Lunch

\*Door County Artists &  
Craft Vendors (great  
Christmas gifts!)

\*Handmade Rag Rugs

\*Spectacular Holiday  
Bake Sale



**Help decorate our church!** The flower/decorating committee will be meeting on December 1<sup>st</sup> at 1 p.m. to turn our church into a Christmas wonderland. Guys, there are ladders to climb! Cider and cookies will be served.

**Children's party & Rehearsal:**  
**Saturday, Dec. 10 at 1 p.m.**  
**Children's program during worship:**  
**Sunday, Dec. 11**



## Christmas Day, Sunday



**Dec. 25-** Sweater Day and sweet treats- let's wear our favorite Christmas sweaters to church and bring a sweet treat to share during

our time of fellowship (we'll provide beverages). During our worship service, we will be telling the story of Christmas through our traditional Lessons and Carols.

## Prayers

*..for Jock Whitacre as he continues to recover*

*...for Dick Bierman, recovering from heart bypass surgery*

*...for Jody Thiell and Harry Maher as they recover*

*...for Vicki Schult as she changes treatment and continues to fight cancer*

*...for Jackie and Seth Campbell on the death of Seth's grandfather*

*...prayers of Thanksgiving for the safe delivery of Arthur Lazarus Back, son of Zoe Back and grandson of Chuck and Kathy Zehner*

## WESTERN DISTRICT CONFERENCE

**April 21-23, 2017 (Fri-Sun)**

**Olympia Village, Oconomowoc, WI**

*(half-way between Milwaukee and Madison)*

**Speaker: Tripp Fuller**  
 Pastor, Theologian, Author

**Theme: Our Changing World ... Same God**  
*Equip Christian leaders to talk positively about their faith*

For more information, go to:  
 The Western District conference is on [www.moravian.org](http://www.moravian.org) and search for Western District Spring Conference.

COST: \$175/person, double occupancy

*Talk to Pastor Dawn if you are interested*

## For December's Feed My People

**Suggested Donations  
for this month:**



**Christmas meal staples, including packages of stuffing, pumpkin, cranberry sauce, etc.**

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



**Remember our College Students!**  
**At the start of December they'll be taking final exams!**



**James Heroux**  
53 West Church St #7  
Bethlehem, PA 18018

**Ainsley Nelson**  
535 W Johnson St, #1206  
Madison, WI 53703



**Andrea Nelson**  
900 Washington Ave SE, #205  
Minneapolis, MN 55414



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



**Amy Strauch**  
1106 S Lincoln  
Urbana, IL 61801



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



**Mike Weborg**  
425 Isadore Street  
Baldwin Hall Room, #227  
Stevens Point 54481



## **Unity Prayer Watch**

We are again sharing Unity Prayer Watch with Sister Bay and Sturgeon Bay Moravian churches. Our day is

**Monday, December 26**

Specific half-hour time slots, as well as suggested prayer topics, are in the Fellowship Hall for sign-ups.

*Every day of the year, every hour of the day, a Moravian is in prayer.*

## **Our Open Door Lunch schedule:**

**December 21**

**January 18**

**February 15**

**March 15**

**April 19**



The sign-up sheet is in the Fellowship Hall.



.....to those who offered Fellowship after church in November:  
the Gerdman's, the Moores, Caring Hands, and Anne Glabe and Carol Sandstrom.

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

...to those who will help with the ADVENTURE next Saturday!

...always a big "thank you" to the inside and outside flower and decorating crew: Mary Wilson, Gunilla Wilson, Cici Mulliken, Jody Thiel

## The ADVENTURE is on!



On Saturday, December 3, the Ephraim Moravian Church will again participate in Christmas in the Village with tours of the church, displays and the great *Sweets for the Holidays Bake Sale!* G.G. Paschke and her crew will be assembled to receive your baked goods, gaily decorated.

*Granny's Christmas Attic* will delight you with many old-fashioned and wondrous Christmas decorations to purchase. Vicki Maynard is Granny's helper.

**We hope you will bake up a storm for the bake sale and bring everything to the church by Friday, December 2, by 3 p.m. If you want to mark prices on your own items, please do so!**



**All from 11 a.m.—2 p.m.**  
Tours of the church, candle-wrapping, wreath-making, international crèches, refreshments, sale of Moravian stars!!



## 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

## December Anniversaries

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

*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!*



Dawn and All:

Thank you for your prayers, cards and other support during this “summer of trials.” I have been overwhelmed with the love and strength I have been blessed with, from people I’m just getting to know. I hope to be stronger next time in town and attend worship..

In His name,  
Jock Whitacre

## TREA\$URER's REPORT

**Member giving through Oct: \$76, 171**  
**2015 through Oct: \$87,516**  
**2014 through Oct: \$87,966**

**Visitor giving through Oct: \$44,178**  
**2015 through Oct: \$51,424**  
**2014 through Oct: \$38.783**



**Income**  
**Budget for 2016 is \$157,800**  
**Actual through Oct: \$130,951**

**Expenses**  
**Budget for 2016 is \$193,696**  
**Actual through Oct: \$154,459**

## ELECTRONIC GIVING

If you'd like to give to your church on a regular basis—whether you're able to attend church regularly or not—try electronic giving through your bank! They can transfer on a weekly, monthly, quarterly basis—any dates you'd like—and the only information they need from you is our bank account number (536325) and our routing number (075902104). Our bank statement will show your donations, and you can change amounts or dates with your bank any time! Right now there are seven members and friends of the church who donate this way. It's easy to budget, convenient, and gives the church predictable income.







# December 2016

| Sunday                                                               | Monday                  | Tuesday | Wednesday                          | Thursday               | Friday | Saturday                                                                                    |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|---------|------------------------------------|------------------------|--------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                                                      |                         |         |                                    | 1                      | 2      | 3<br>ADVENTure<br>11 a.m. to<br>2 p.m.                                                      |
| 4<br>9 am<br>Sunday<br>School<br>10 am<br>Service &<br>Communion     | 5                       | 6       | 7                                  | 8<br>10 am<br>Trustees | 9      | 10<br>Sister Bay's<br>Christmas in<br>the Country<br>10-2                                   |
| 11<br>9 am<br>Sunday<br>School<br>10 am<br>Service &<br>Joyful Noise | 12<br>5:30 pm<br>Elders | 13      | 14<br>9:30 am<br>Caring<br>Hands   | 15                     | 16     | 17                                                                                          |
| 18<br>9 am<br>Sunday<br>School<br><br>10 am<br>Service               | 19                      | 20      | 21<br>Open Door<br>Lunch -<br>noon | 22                     | 23     | 24<br>5 p.m.<br>Christmas<br>Eve<br>Service                                                 |
| 25<br>10 am<br>Service<br><br>Christmas                              | 26                      | 27      | 28                                 | 29                     | 30     | 31<br> |



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

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

**December 2016 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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