

Ephraim Moravian Messenger

News from the Open Door

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

Congregational Watchword for 2021: “The Lord said, ‘I will instruct you and teach you the way you should go.’” Psalm 32:8

January 2021

FROM A PASTOR'S DESK

As one year passes to the next we think of Father Time wandering off into oblivion as the new year is ushered in. Newspapers and magazines detail the year past and list those who have shed their mortal veil.

In our Christian tradition we think of time as linear, having its beginning Creation, taking its inexorable march to the end of time with Christ's triumphant return.

Ecclesiastes says, “For everything there is a season and a time for every matter under heaven”. Time has captivated our imagination for centuries. H. G Wells’ book The Time Machine comes to mind, or the movie “Back to the Future”. It is a fact of life that we can either rejoice in the gift of time, feel doomed by it. Keeping precise time is crucial. We measure time in nano seconds and set our clocks according to Universal Coordinated Time, which broadcasts on shortwave radio incessant ticking, ticking, ticking.

Long ago while still working in radio, we signed off the air with a recording of the Lord's prayer. Our final sign off announcement was timed so that the prayer would begin at 11:57 pm. The last note was heard at precisely midnight. Those three minutes were useful for another purpose – it meant the guys had to have their girlfriends back to the dormitory to avoid getting locked out.

Time is not static. It seems to compress or expand depending on the circumstances. There are truisms that say the more boring the class, the slower the clock moves. The longer the checkout line at the grocery store, the longer the minutes seem to last.

On the other hand, the later you are for an appointment, the more rapid time goes. Also, we can manipulate time to suit our purposes. Daylight savings time comes to mind. Time seems to be frozen the most when we are the loneliest, the saddest, the most worried. We torture ourselves with regrets over things long past or words spoken in anger that cannot be taken back. There may be some fracture or past sin that haunts you persistently.

As constrained by time as we are, it is good to be reminded that our Lord God is not inhibited by time or held captive by it. God, in His might, can move about freely and touch those painful moments in our lives and make us whole once again. We know God is nearer to us in our present moment than we are even to ourselves. And God is in the future waiting for us to arrive. Whatever pain, whatever tragedy, whatever hopelessness we experience, we can cling to these words of our Lord spoken over our lives – past, present and future – “Behold I make all things new”.

—Rev. Dan Olson



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.



It is with sadness we reported the passing of Wolfram Fliegel on December 1 at age 92. He was pastor here for 11-1/2 years (1979-1990).

**Condolences can be sent to Faith and the family at
2000—15 Ave SE #103
St. Cloud, MN 56304**

If you don't have a computer, can't watch the Facebook service or find our web page with the audio of the service, we will be more than happy to send you a CD of the services at no charge. Just call 920-854-2804 and leave word that you'd like a CD of each week's service!



Services in January on Facebook *LIVE* STREAMING

If you are on Facebook, search for "Ephraim Moravian Church."

If you are not on Facebook, let Pastor Dawn know and she can add you to the list of those who receive a link to the service and don't need to belong to Facebook.

YOUR BOARD MEMBERS

TRUSTEES

B.D. Thorp	854-7212
Carol Sandstrom	854-9580
Dave Chomeau	854-2203
Brent Bristol	421-3626
Gunilla Wilson	854-5105

ELDERS

Pastor Dawn Volpe, Chair
Lonnie Vitse, Vice-Chair
608-628-7545
Kathleen Harris, Secty 421-2941
Liz Opitz 854-5949
Sherry Moore 854-3046
Tiggy Shields 520-404-7512
(summer Elder)

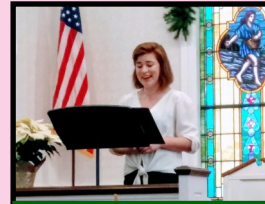
A COVID Christmas



Logan helping get the decorations down from the attic space



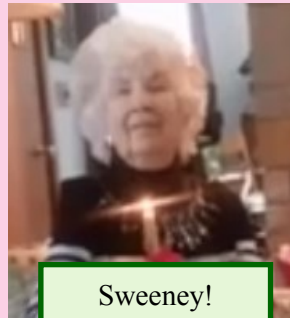
Colin back on the keyboards



Allie Babich at our December 6 service



Cana Mittermann singing during Lessons & Carols



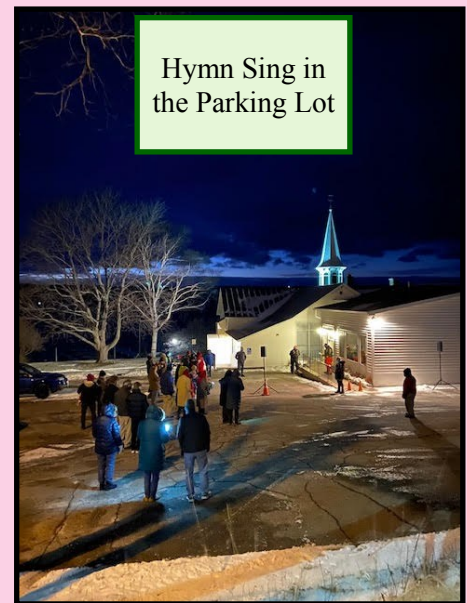
Sweeney!



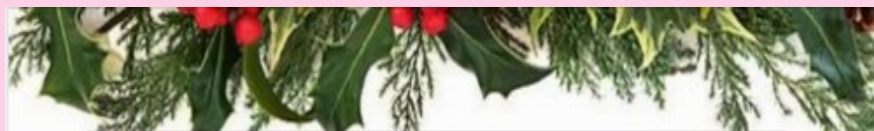
Colin & Molly Rhode rehearsing for the Christmas Eve service



All our kids singing "Morning Star" for the Christmas Eve Service



Hymn Sing in the Parking Lot



January 2021 Church Services



January 3 — 10 a.m.—Worship and Communion—Pastor Dawn, Music Director Colin Welford, Cynthia Stiehl, Allie Babich and Hal Halvorsen



January 10 - 10 a.m. Worship with Pastor Dawn, Music Director Colin Welford

January 17 — 10 a.m.— Worship with Pastor Dawn, Music Director Colin Welford



January 24—10 a.m.— Pastor Dawn Volpe, Music Director Colin Welford



January 31—10 a.m.— Pastor Dawn Volpe, Music Director Colin Welford

WE REMEMBER

In the midst of a pandemic — when so many Americans are grieving the loss of family, friends, and neighbors — it is important that we honor those who have died, reflect on what has been one of the more challenging periods in the nation's history, and renew our commitment to coming together to end the pandemic and rebuild our nation.

The PIC is inviting cities and towns around the country to join Washington, D.C., in illuminating buildings and ringing church bells on January 20 at 5:30 p.m. ET [15 minutes after sunset] in a national moment of unity and remembrance," the committee says.

God make me brave for life, Oh braver than this!
Let me strengthen after pain
As a tree strengthens after the rain, shining
and lovely again.
God make me brave for life, much braver than this!
As the blown grass lifts, let me rise from sorrow
with quiet eyes
Knowing Thy way is wise.
God make me brave – Life brings such blinding
things!
Help me to keep my sight, help me to see aright,
That out of dark – comes light.
by Grace Noll Cromwell

Pastor's note: Due to a rise in Covid-19 numbers here in Door County, I will not be offering Communion during the worship services this month (it necessitates a longer period being 'unmasked'). If this trend continues, I will offer Communion some time later this month, mid-week via live-stream, with an even smaller crew! You will note, also, that lay-readers are absent. We are 'shrinking the circle' during this time. We are hopeful that with diligence, we'll be able to welcome a few more to the circle. Thank you for your support and patience. One day, we'll be together...in person...singing our hearts out!

December Reports from our Elders and Trustees

Elders- The Board spearheaded a 'Parking Lot Advent-ure' this year. We estimate that 50 people participated, including several non-members who saw our ad in the paper. The elders were tasked with finding volunteers for candle-wrapping, sugar-cake baking, wreath making and parking lot attendants. We were able to send wreaths to all our shut-ins. All donations were given to Secret Santa, totaling \$2,010. Many thanks to all who helped make this a rousing success!

The Board also took charge of a Parking Lot Christmas Carol sing on Christmas Eve. We appreciate those that braved the cold to direct traffic and sing their hearts out. We counted 24 cars with multiple people in each! We thank our music director and all those who made our Christmas Services memorable. Our Christmas Eve Door CANcer offering totaled \$1500. We also received funds for Feed My People- \$130. and Tricklebee Café- \$427.

Trustees- A diseased Ash Tree in between the Moravia Street garage and the parsonage was removed. Our PPP loan was fully forgiven this month. We wish to thank our Treasurer and Trustee Chair for their work in securing the funds and dealing with all the paperwork involved. We revisited the Church Council plans and have decided that it would be best to conduct it through 'Go to Meeting', which would give everyone a chance to fully participate (see the article below).



Ephraim Moravian Church Council

Sunday, January 31, 2021

1:00 p.m.

Via: 'Go to Meeting'

This year, our Church Council meeting will be on-line for members of the church, through the Go to Meeting App. For those without computers, you can use your phone in order to access the meeting. Since we're virtual, we urge our members wintering in warmer climes to call/log in.

*In order to make this meeting successful, the boards will be doing a **'practice run' on Jan. 10, 1 p.m.** It would be helpful to have some church members (who are not currently on the board) attend that meeting. If you'd like to participate, either email or call the church office so that we can give you the log-in information.*

Other helpful info: Church Council Booklets will be available for you to pick up before the meeting (if you cannot pick them up at church, please let us know and we'll mail one to you). We ask that you look it over thoroughly and, if questions arise, please submit them to us ahead of time... We will address every question within the church council meeting.

IF YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR A REPORT, PLEASE HAVE IT IN NO LATER THAN SUNDAY, JANUARY 10th.

January Birthdays

Hugh Mulliken...1
Kristin Wilson...2
Bob Volpe...7
Ken Carlson...7 (**80** this year!)
Karen Ekberg...14
John Cox...17
James Nelson...19
Hedy Heise...22
Quinnley Sophia Nelson...24

**Congrats to Richard & Sybil Carlson, who celebrated 60 years of marriage on December 17 !
Sybil's birthday was December 18.**

January Anniversaries

Liz and Bob Schroeder - Jan 12, 1951
Anne and Larry Crowe— Jan 16, 1988



If we have missed you or someone you know in the lists above, please let us know in the church office!

...to those who continue to help with our on-line services on Sunday mornings, especially our Christmas extravaganzas!



...to those who have continued their offerings through the mail or their bank! You can donate (PO Box 73, Ephraim) and through the Moravian Ministries Foundation for donations to EMC:

<https://mmfa.info/ephraim-moravian-church-donation-form/>

And if you'd like to begin electronic giving through your bank, give them information for our bank account, which you can get through the church office.



REPORT FROM BOARD OF WORLD MISSION Hurricanes in Nicaragua and Honduras

"The recent hurricanes in Central America produced winds of 155 mph and 60 inches of rain in less than two weeks.

"In Nicaragua, small towns such as Haulover were destroyed entirely, with scarcely a structure remaining intact. The Moravian Church there was left only with its front facade and steeple still standing.

"In Honduras, over 150 homes were completely destroyed, and more than 800 sustained significant damage. In both areas farms were destroyed, with no rice crops or

bean harvest possible. The Board of World Mission dispensed more than \$115,000 to help with clean water, food, reclamation of farms, etc. We ask for your continued support of the Moravian Disaster Response fund, which allows the BWM to respond to disasters immediately with funds for emergency needs, as well as ongoing rebuilding projects. Donations can be sent to The Board of World Mission, 1021 Center St. Bethlehem, PA 18018."

...MEMBERS OF THE MONTH...



LIZ and BOB SCHROEDER, members of Ephraim Moravian Church since April of 1967. Liz and Bob will celebrate 70 years of marriage this January 12.

Bob was born in Chicago in the Portage park area. He attended Our Saviors English Lutheran Church. He was active in Boy Scouts, and many park activities. He later moved to Florida where he met Liz and had a business called Bob's Milk Bar in Clearwater Florida.

It was in 1961 that we moved to Door County and purchased Wilson's from the original owner at that time. We were able to build a motel on the adjoining property known as the Door Way Motel which we operated until 1983 [that property is now the Village's Harborside Park]. During these years, Bob was Fire Chief for a number of years, and later was voted Chieftain in the annual Fyr Bal Festival in Ephraim.

Liz was born in Flensburg, Germany. In the early nineteen thirties, I arrived in Brooklyn N.Y with my mother and brother. Our father John Herrmann was waiting for us. We soon moved to Baltimore, Maryland where I lived until Bob and I married in St. John/s Evangelical Lutheran Church in 1951. We lived in Chicago for awhile before we ended up in Door County in 1961. We started our life here owning Wilson's. We sold it in 1983 and began our semi-retirement years, and we are very thankful to have made the journey together.

JUDY and JOHN TURNER, members here since March of 1999. They will be celebrating anniversary #65 in 2021. Both were born and grew up in the Chicago area, They met at the University of Illinois, and after graduation got married in June of 1956. John was in the Navy in Jacksonville, FL and Judy taught 2nd Grade. After the Navy, John went back for a degree in Dairy Manufacturing, and worked for Borden's for two years before starting to teach Jr. High School science. Judy worked part-time as a speech therapist in several suburban school districts and then full-time in Wheaton. John took an elementary principalship in Villa Park and stayed there for twenty three years. They both retired in June of 1991.



During WW II (1943-1952), John became very familiar with Door Co., spending most of the summer camping in Peninsula State Park. So during the 1960s the next generation camped in the same park with their children, John and Marie. In 1971, they purchased a cottage on German Rd. (at 20 degrees below zero, staying at Liz and Bob Schroeder's Motel in Ephraim). They spent plenty of summers rebuilding the cottage and working on the property, and the children harvested cherries (John), cleaned cottages (Marie) and started a business making and selling sandcast candles and leather items.

After moving into the cottage, they decided to attend Ephraim Moravian Church. They knew nothing about the Moravians--there was only one Moravian church in the whole state of Illinois, in West Salem. They found out how good it was! The children were involved in youth activities with Pastor Herman Weinlick. The church was quite different at that time. John and Judy joined the church in 1997, and things have changed and continue to change for the very good. They continue to really love and enjoy Door County and Ephraim and Ephraim Moravian Church.



Katie Dahl and Rich Higdon during the Lessons & Carols

Pastor Dawn,
narrating the
Lessons & Carols
stories



Christmas!

Betty Lewis at our
Christmas Eve
morning service



Cyndy Stiehl, who sang on both
Christmas Eve services and on
Lessons and Carols!

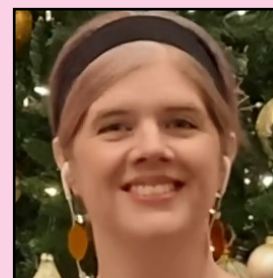


Samantha, Rob and Dawn
singing "Joy to the World"



Steve Koehler

Molly Rhode



PRAYERS FOR...

- Valerie Billington
- Jayden Michael
- Nancy Bontempo
- Kaye Maher
- Rhea Vytlačil
- Our nurses, doctors, grocery workers, pharmacists, postal and delivery people, and all essential workers during this COVID-19 pandemic.
- Jay Bowen
- Marge Hassler
- Betty Chomeau
- Carter Crowe
- The family of Wolfram Fliegel



Treasurer's Report

Member giving

through Nov 2020: \$81,552
2019: \$102,935
2018: \$105,669

Visitor giving

through Nov 2020: \$44,539
2019: \$74,600
2018: \$39,614

Income

Budget for 2020 is: \$ 171,700
Actual thru Nov: \$160,201
(not including memorials)

Expenses

Budget for 2020 is \$ 224,949
Actual thru Nov: \$187,695

We got our PPP loan for salaries and benefits *forgiven* in December, so we are able to count that \$27,000 as income rather than a loan obligation! That helps us out for the year!

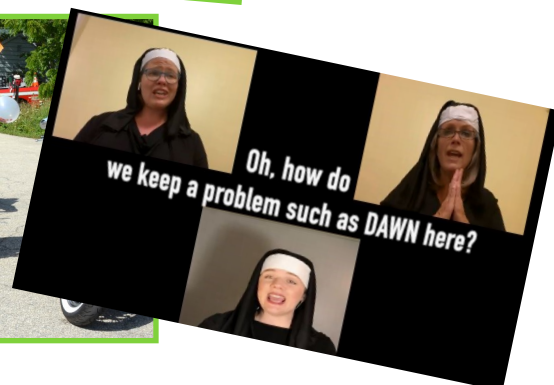
A fond farewell to 2020...



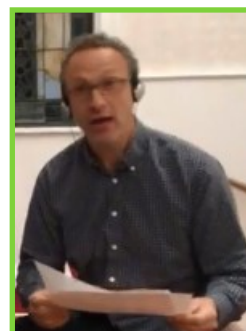
Dawn's Celebrations



Jendean's Retirement



Colin's Mini-Concerts



Christmas 2020







...and a great new year ahead in 2021 !!

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

POSTAL WORKER: Thank you for delivering this to:

January 2021 Newsletter

		<p><i>Watch all our Christmas services...Christmas Eve morning, Christmas Eve night, and our Lessons & Carols service... on our EMC Facebook page!</i></p> <p><i>Many thanks to all who contributed to the spirit of the season in this time of COVID.</i></p>
<p>Jeff</p> <p>Bob</p> 	<p>Pamela</p> 	

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

General Correspondence: worship@ephraimmoravian.org