

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

February 2021

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

*"But I say to you that listen, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you.
- Luke 6: 27*



Last Sunday I spoke about mercy. If you remember, I reflected on the story of Jonah and his displeasure at God's mercy toward the enemies of his people, Nineveh. We can certainly relate to Jonah's displeasure. I know I've cut people off for far less provocation than Jonah had with the people of Nineveh. I'd like to share a story from a friend of mine, recalling how her dad, 'the enemy', was treated in World War II.

When I was about 5 months old, my father was deployed as a German soldier in Normandy. He was captured shortly after D-Day and brought to the United States as a prisoner of war. He spent most of his imprisonment in Savannah, Georgia. I was 2 1/2 years old when my father returned.

He was lucky to have been captured by the Allies, because most of the soldiers that were captured by the Russians were not so lucky and most of them did not return. Even though my father was a prisoner of war, he never mentioned that he was mistreated and he formed a relationship with one of the Sergeants at camp, and they stayed in contact. When my parents came to visit me in the US, we located him and he came to visit my father, it was such a joy to see this. I stayed in contact with them for many years. Because my father was treated humanely, he encouraged me to emigrate to the United States. I came here as a young adult, became a citizen and raised a family. This is my home.

We are blessed each day with God's mercy... in abundance. We receive forgiveness for our failures, we are given second chances. May we find it in our hearts to treat those with whom we've had sharp disagreements, with dignity, respect and mercy. - 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.

Many Thanks to out-going Board Members:

**Liz Opitz, Elder
Carol Sandstrom, Trustee**

Their wisdom, support and guidance helped us through an unprecedented year. We are grateful for their leadership!



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!



YOUR BOARD MEMBERS

TRUSTEES

B.D. Thorp	854-7212
Natalie Neddersen	854-2121
Dave Chomeau	854-2203
Brent Bristol	421-3626
Gunilla Wilson	854-5105

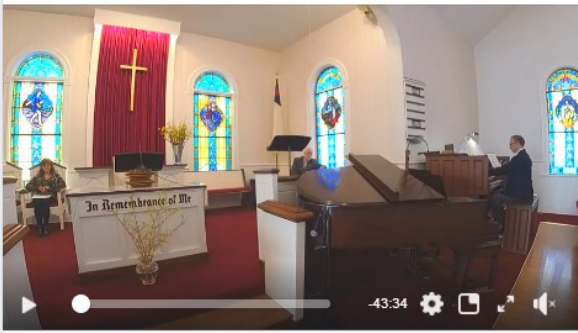
ELDERS

Pastor Dawn Volpe, Chair
Lonnie Vitse, Vice-Chair 608-628-7545
Kathleen Harris, Secty 421-2941
Cici Mulliken 854-2018
Linda Carey 854-9253
Sherry Moore 854-3046
Tiggy Shields 520-404-7512
(summer Elder)

Services in February on Facebook LIVE STREAMING

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

Live from Mevo at Ephraim Moravian Church in Door County, Wisconsin!

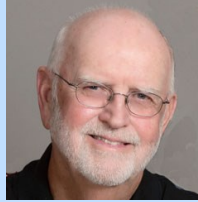


If you are not on Facebook, let Pastor Dawn know and she can add you to the list of those who receive a link to the service and don't need to belong to Facebook.

Congratulations to **Lonnie & Gary Vitse**, new grandparents to Sasha Irene Vitse (Irene Anderson was Lonnie's mom)
Born January 12, 2021



Note from Ken Carlson:



I received so many 80th congrats from you, our Ephraim Moravian Church friends. I felt the hugs and love and look forward to the time we can all be pew partners.
Thank you so much.

Liz and Bob Schroeder
Celebrating Anniversary #70
on January 12!



Ephraim Moravian Church Council
THIS 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. If you have an email, you have been sent the invitation to attend and how to log on to GoToMeeting to join.



A few reminders about the meeting:

If you are calling in on the phone, please identify yourself so we can include your name in the count/minutes.

Please arrive at the meeting on GoToMeeting no later than 10 minutes ahead of the 1 p.m. time so you can meet and greet others (and can figure out how to get the sound and video working). The meeting site will be opened about 12:40 or 12:45. At 1 p.m. when the meeting starts, please mute your audio so we don't have everyone talking at once. You have been asked to submit questions in advance so Pastor Dawn can get them ready to read & answer; please remember to get any questions to her if you have not done so.

When we have a vote--on nominees or to approve the reports--it will be by a visual "thumbs up" or "thumbs down" rather than audio (except you people on the phone will have to speak..)

We'll SEE you Sunday!

February 2021 Church Services



February 7 — 10 a.m.—Worship and Communion—Pastor Dawn, Music Director Colin Welford



February 14 - 10 a.m. Worship with Pastor Dawn, Music Director Colin Welford, Guest Allie Babich



February 21 — 10 a.m.— Worship with Pastor Dawn, Music Director Colin Welford, guests Cynthia Stiehl and Katie Dahl—1st Sunday in Lent



February 28—10 a.m.— Pastor Dawn Volpe, Music Director Colin Welford, guest Angela Sherman



**Easter is
Sunday
April 4, 2021**



PRAYERS FOR...

- | | |
|---------------------|----------------------|
| -Valerie Billington | -Jay Bowen |
| -Jayden Michael | -Marge Hassler |
| -Nancy Bontempo | -Donette Hatch |
| -Kaye Maher | -Jack Opitz |
| -Carter Crowe | -Ray & Kevin Axelson |
| -Rhea Vytlačil | |

-Our nurses, doctors, grocery workers, pharmacists, postal and delivery people, and all essential workers during this COVID-19 pandemic.



February Birthdays

Paul Wilson...2
Chuck Zehner...2
Dale Jacobson...3
Betty Wolf...5
Rob Moore... 5
Diane Jacobson...6
Brie Lapolla... 8
Tim Christofferson... 10
Betty Anderson...15
Keith Tschannen...17
Shelley Cox...18
B. D. Thorp...18
Pat Horvath...20
Natalie Neddersen ...20
Theresa Weborg...26
Marilyn Cushing - 26
Karin Jacobson Tourmo..28
Niles Weborg...29

February Anniversaries

Norma and Roger Larson – Feb 13, 1971



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

....to those who continue to help with our on-line services on Sunday mornings, and thanks to Bernie Sanders, who played our Postlude on January 24 (check our Facebook page).

...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/ephrain-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.

Treasurer's Report

Member giving

through Dec 2020: \$108,421
2019: \$120,653
2018: \$127,440

Visitor giving

through Dec 2020: \$53,964
2019: \$90,565
2018: \$47,101

Income

Budget for 2020 is: \$ 171,700
Actual for the year: \$196,908
(not including memorials but incl.
our first PPP check of \$27,000)

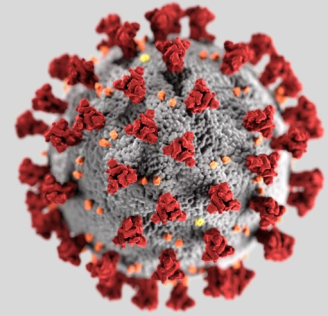
Expenses

Budget for 2020 is \$ 224,949
Actual for the year: \$216,604



We got our second PPP loan for expenses, \$28,300, which we are anticipating will be forgiven as a loan and become "ours" to help pay for expenses in 2021.

COVID-19 UPDATES FOR EPHRAIM MORAVIAN CHURCH



Vaccinations: We urge all of you to get vaccinated when available for your age group. Pastor Dawn & Bob have had their first round and have scheduled their second shots. They report that the process was easy and reactions mild.

Once you're vaccinated... Please Note:

1. Masks and Physical distancing are required.

The vaccine's efficacy continues to be evaluated. There are many unknowns, including whether vaccinated people can still infect others. We must be patient as these variables are studied.

2. In person Church Attendance- currently, the number of infections are too high in Door County to invite people inside our building. Here's what we can expect going forward:

a. When the infection rate is below 5%, Pastor Dawn will once again invite lay readers to participate in the service. If the rate remains lower than the 5% threshold, we'll be able to invite a small group in for Sunday worship (like we did during Advent). We may also be able to put on some in person concerts.

b. If we are still unable to open the doors to the church building by the summer, we will resume summer outdoor services and bible studies (masked & physically distanced)

According to the Wisconsin Council of Churches post on January 14, 2021:

Vaccinations completed in WI: 26,708/5.8 million = 0.45%

Cases/100K population = 59 (7 day average)

Positive COVID tests = 28%

These are far above the threshold for safe gathering. In light of these statistics, and the new, more highly transmissible COVID variant which is now circulating in the US, we recommend that churches abstain from gathering in physical space, indoors OR outdoors, at this time.

It is recommended that gatherings can safely take place when 70 - 85% of the population is vaccinated.

Please Support Our Local Food Pantries

Please help our neighbors in need by donating to your community food pantries today. They need your support year-round, but now more than ever!

CHURCHES WITH FOOD PANTRIES

◇ First Baptist Church of Sister Bay 954 S. Bay Shore Drive: 920-854-2544

◇ Stella Maris Parish 4019 Hwy 42, Fish Creek: Open 24/7

◇ Door of Life, Sister Bay (Open 24/7)

◇ **NOTE:** Door of Life provides **pet food** through donations from Peninsula Pet Pantry. If you'd like to donate toward pet food, the Pantry's address is:

◇ PO Box 577, Fish Creek, WI 54212.

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

POSTAL WORKER: Thank you for delivering this to:

February 2021 Newsletter



Photo by
Tad Dukehart

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

General Correspondence: worship@ephraimmoravian.org