



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

May 2021

From a Pastor's Desk

A good friend of mine, a fellow Lutheran clergyman, told me once that while on summer break from college, he happened to tell his parish pastor that he planned to attend the seminary upon graduation. The Pastor told him, “you’ll never make it.” How encouraging is that? Can you imagine the hurt my friend felt? In fact, his hurt finally turned to anger ... and resolve.



When I informed a pastor of my home church of my intention to enter the ministry he said, “If you can stay out of it don’t go into it.” At first, I was startled at what he said. Was he trying to discourage me? Not really. He was pointing out that if the “call” to ministry couldn’t be ignored, it was best to say “yes.”

My Dad, if he was displeased at something I had done would often bellow out a sharp, terse “What’s the matter with you?” Those words never demolished me, but they certainly got my attention and made me think.

We may tire of the phrase, “words matter”, but it really is the truth. We can’t escape it.

“Lips have no bones, but they have the strength to break hearts”.

Think about that! What words might you have heard that splintered your hopes or self-respect? What words have so discouraged you that you’ve thought of giving up? What words do children or women who are abused hear? What words have been heard that leaves some with the only reply that comes from the barrel of a rifle?

Let’s pray that the words we speak do not shatter hearts and lives, but break open unto a new day. Hear the words of Jesus as he says, “Come Unto me, all who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest.”

Speak a word of life and welcome to your spouse, to your children, to the tourist, to the visitor at church, to the grocery clerk, to the police officer, to the maintenance people. Speak a word of life and welcome ... to yourself!

—Pastor Dan G. Olson

Ephraim Moravian Church Hours

PASTOR: Monday Pastor's Day Off
Tues-Fri 9 a.m. to Noon

SECRETARY: Wed-Thurs 9:30-4:30

Cell Number: 920-421-4042

(Church phone does NOT ring in the parsonage—please keep the Pastor's cell phone number handy for after hours.)



YOUR BOARD MEMBERS

TRUSTEES

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

ELDERS

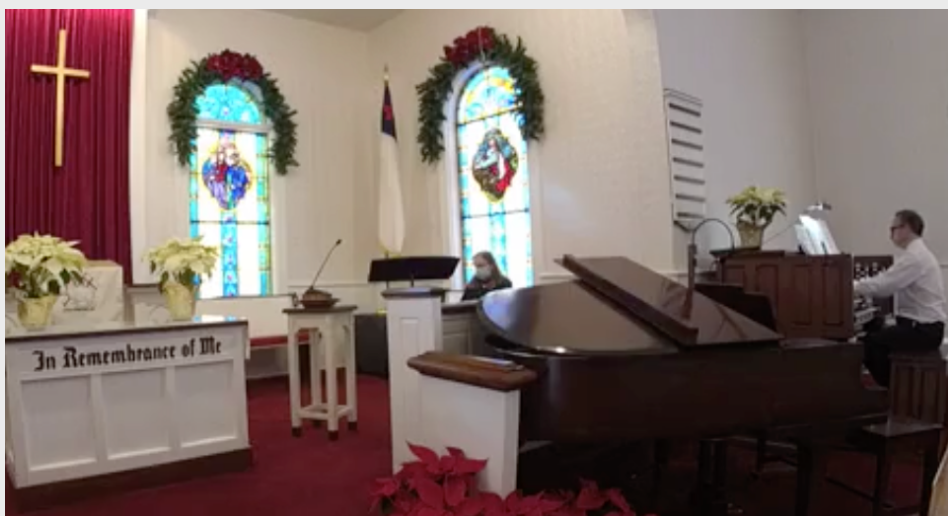
Pastor Dawn Volpe, Chair	
Lonnie Vitse, Vice-Chair	608-628-7545
Kathleen Harris, Sect'y	421-2941
Cici Mulliken	854-2018
Linda Carey	854-9253
Sherry Moore	854-3046
Tiggy Shields	520-404-7512
(Summer Elder)	



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 can 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 May on Facebook, LIVE STREAMING



If you are on Facebook, look 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 (you don't need to belong to Facebook).



Sweeney!

The Dukeharts had a wonderful visit with Lucille Sohns this month. She misses in-person church services and would like to pass on a big HELLO to everyone. She is cheerful and upbeat. Sweeney will be 101 on Aug 12.



He is risen!
He is risen indeed!



8 a.m. Easter Service
at God's Acre

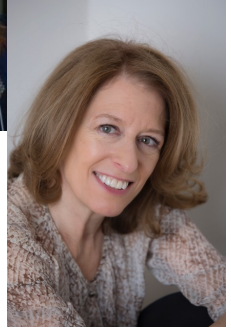
47 hearty souls (13 kids!)
and a dog named Preston





May 2021 Services

Sunday, May 2 - Pastor Dawn Volpe,
Music Director Colin Welford, Betsy
DiFelice, Amanda and Cana
Mittermann



Sunday, May 9 - Pastor Dawn Volpe,
Music Director Colin Welford
and
Katie Dahl -
Mother's Day!



Sunday, May 16 - **Anniversary**
Sunday for our church - Pastor
Dawn Volpe, Music Director Colin
Welford, Cynthia Stiehl

Sunday, May 23 - Pastor Dawn Volpe, Music
Director Colin Welford

Sunday, May 30 - **Memorial Day** - Pastor Dawn
Volpe, Music Director Colin Welford - **9 a.m. service**
in the Cemetery, recorded service on Facebook



MEMORIAL SUNDAY! May 30

Two Opportunities:

9:00 A.M. Outdoor Service: We will conduct a Service on the Cemetery Grounds. Bring your family, let us know if you need seating. It will be an opportunity for us to come together as a church family, surrounded by the 'Church Triumphant'.

Masks Required.

10:00 A.M. Pre-recorded Service (may be accessed anytime on Facebook). Our Music Director, Colin Welford and Pastor Dawn will present a contemplative service featuring stirring, soulful music interwoven with scripture, meditation and prose.

Greeting Church Family: Kris Husby-Nelson here: On behalf of DOOR CANcer Inc. I would like to extend our heartfelt Thanks to each of you who gave your Easter Lily money and more to help DOOR CANcer during this pandemic. People who do not attend a truly family oriented church do not feel the love in their hearts as I do when the church family continually steps up to help those in need. Our Board of Directors knows, because I tell them every time you give us these wonderful donations. COVID 19 stopped a lot of things over the past year unfortunately cancer was not one of them and the need our cancer warriors felt was only heightened by lost wages and the inability to meet their monthly expenses. That need was lessened by many generous donors but right now I am just thankful for YOU at Ephraim Moravian Church. Many Thanks.



Moravian Church, Western District, Justice Team

The purpose of the WD Justice Team is to facilitate and inspire justice ministry in the District. Their work is to point people to resources, equip leaders, provide educational or action events that encourage congregations to develop justice work in their own contexts.

They have been active in working to provide affordable housing, investments in solar energies, forming racial justice teams throughout the District, hosting children's anti-racist worships, and in voting rights and issues of food equity. They invite each of our congregations to explore how we can share in this ministry!

They are hosting an **Open House on Tuesday, June 1, from 5 pm to 6:30 pm via Zoom.** They want to hear what we're working on learn what hopes we have for justice ministry, and how we can help one another. They are looking for the pastor and any members who want to join the meeting to be present! There will be lively discussion and take-away resources for our church.

If you are interested in joining the Open House on June 1, email them at wdjusticeteam@gmail.com to RSVP and they'll give you more details "and some justice SWAG."

Enjoy spending time outside with your friends?

*"We're neither pure, nor wise nor good, We'll do the best we know
We'll build our house and chop our wood, And make our garden grow!"*

So go the lyrics in Leonard Bernstein's opera, "Candide," based on Voltaire's 1759 satire. Whenever I'm not practicing the organ at the church, I've been renovating my house at Green Gables – with plenty of wood-chopping and rock-hauling - and all along, the Green Gables garden has been growing. And growing! In fact, I enlisted the help of two expert gardeners (one of whom was the head gardener at the Chicago Art Institute for 34 years) to help expand the existing award-winning gardens. Together we've designed and built a truly exciting new garden space that can be used in the future for events and private functions, or just for simple pleasure and relaxation....and I particularly hope that church members will make use of it too.

At present it is in need of the help of *volunteers*, primarily to water and weed around the 80 new trees, and I thought that there might be members of our congregation who'd enjoy an outdoor group social activity of this kind on a weekly basis, (while doing me a great favor). Once the new garden gets planted up with several thousand perennials in late May it's going to be a wonderful place to hang out, and I'd be very happy to hear from anyone interested in joining the expanding team of locals and friends who are helping to create this beautiful space that we can all enjoy in the future. No experience necessary. Tools, directions, and encouragement will be provided, as well as coffee and the occasional tasty treat!

Thanks!

Colin (646) 210 7171. colinwelford@mac.com



May Birthdays

Jody Paschke...2
Gunilla Wilson...3
Elli Opitz...6
Jerry Chomeau... 6
Cindy Phillips...11
Dave Chomeau - 11
Arnold Sohns...13
Doug Schultz...14
Mylo Sherman... 17
Pieta Horvath...18
Tiffany Ann Opitz 18
Anne Spooner Crowe.. 19
David Sohns...21
Nicolai Carlson...23
Elaine Jacobson...26
Elizabeth Opitz...30

May Anniversaries

Tim and Kristy Nelson – 6, 1989
Judy and Paul Flottman – 25, 1974
Walt and Tiggy Shields – 28, 1971
Erin and Brent Bristol – 28, 2011



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 especially those who helped at our 8 a.m. Easter service in God's Acre....and our guest musicians!

...to those who have continued their offerings through the mail or their bank. See information on giving through Moravian Ministries Foundation on page 3 of this newsletter. If you'd like to give through electronic donation between your bank and ours, get our bank information from the church office and give it to your bank and set up a giving schedule!

Treasurer's Report

Member Giving _

Through Mar 2021: \$33,226

2020: \$25,679

2019: \$21,323

Visitor Giving _

Through Mar 2021: \$4,831

2020: \$8,834

2019: \$14,386



Expected income for 2021 is \$171,700

Through March: \$55,527

(doesn't include memorials)

Budgeted expense for 2021 is \$224,949

Through March: \$70,271

GOOD STEWARDSHIP! In 2007 we had \$28,647 in our capital improvements fund—today we have \$537,234.47 for major repairs and future projects.

**Moravian Church
Northern Province
2021 Western District Synod
April 22-24, 2021**

Over 100 Moravians gathered virtually to review, discuss and plan the work of the Western District. Sessions included reports, elections, and study/discussions.

Thirty-one congregations (6,000 members) and six boards listed an amazing number and variety of activities that had occurred since the 2016 Synod - many during the pandemic.

The keynote speaker, Rev. Heather Vacek, recently named Dean of the Moravian Theological Seminary, introduced the theme: **"Being the Church: Holy Spirit Empowered."**

She offered her reflections on the role of the Holy Spirit in Moravian beliefs as expressed in The Ground of the Unity. In breakout sessions and "homework" suggestions, delegates were directed to think how the Holy Spirit has, does, and can direct one's work - "work that must be fearless - although often messy."

The closing charge was the challenge to each present: to view the time spent as a beginning - to be the Church: empowered by the Holy Spirit.

As a congregation, how can/will the Holy Spirit direct our work?

- Jody Thiell

COVID-19 UPDATE: The following are quotations from an interview conducted by Andrew Philips and published in the non-profit journal, KNOCK. A link to the full article can be found at: <https://doorcountyknock.com/2021/04/powers-optimistic-about-vaccination-progress-but-urges-caution-as-summer-approaches>

With almost half of Door County's population fully vaccinated against Covid-19, county Public Health officer Susan Powers said last week that she's optimistic the county will be close to meeting its vaccination goals by early summer. But she urged residents to have patience and continue practicing Covid-19 safety measures, cautioning that medium and large gatherings still are not safe for anyone and that relaxing safety measures too early could result in another surge of the disease. Powers said she's heard fatigue from residents and questions about when life can get back to normal. "We're still in the middle of a pandemic," Powers said. "Right now there's no such thing as a risk-free activity." It's important that people continue wearing masks, practicing social distancing and following other safety measures as the county works toward its vaccination goals, Powers said. "My biggest concern at this point is that we're all getting impatient and that people are going to stop doing what we learned at the beginning ... and before we can get the majority of the population vaccinated, we're going to have many more cases," she said.

In looking at Summer activities for Ephraim Moravian Church, we will host outdoor events (masks required), including a service at the Cemetery on May 30, Vespers, Bible Studies and children's events. We will continue to stream our Sunday Services live on Facebook ****If you wish to join us in the Sanctuary as a lay reader or guest musician, please let Pastor Dawn know as soon as possible. We'll be scheduling for the summer lay readers/musicians by Mid- May.**



Reports from the Elders & Trustees

Elders Report: The Board of Elders considered a request from Ephraim Historic Foundation to resume tours over the summer months. The elders voted to post-pone any requests for tours until September. The Board is working on another Outdoor Worship Service in connection with Memorial Day (see separate article).

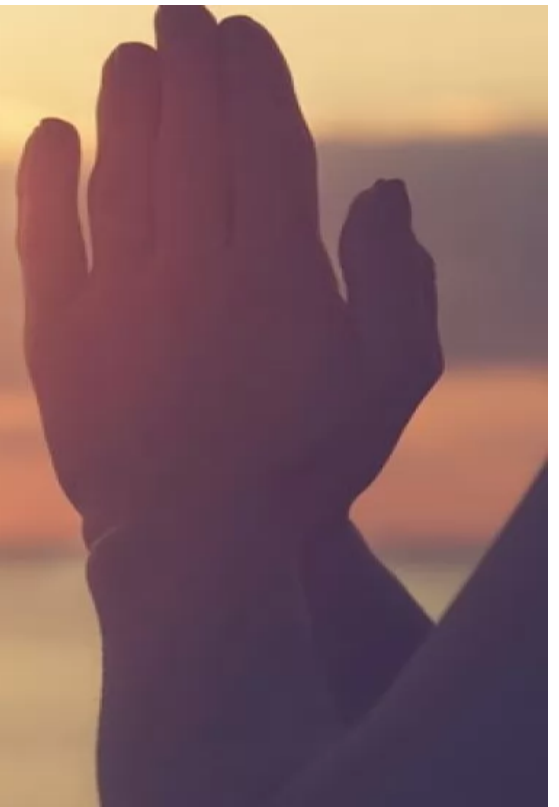
Trustee Report: The Trustees, after much research and consultation with our music director and volunteer musicians, gratefully accepted the donation of a digital piano for the Sanctuary (on order). This was fully funded by a generous donation from the estate of George Veyerhaden. The Chickering piano has been offered to non-profits in our area (with 2 currently interested). We are hopeful it will have many more years of service in the community.



PRAYERS FOR...

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

...Our essential workers during the COVID-19 pandemic, especially medical staff, grocery and delivery people



UPDATE FROM THE UGANDAN MORAVIAN CHURCH—OUR SEMI-ANNUAL PIGGERY PROJECT!

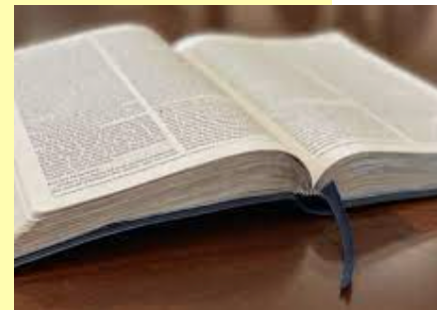
"As part of the proceeds from the piggery project funded by Ephraim Moravian Church through the Board of World Mission and contributions from members of the Moravian Church in Uganda, the church bought its first ever piece of land on July 8th, 2020. This land (Kibanja) measuring 100ft by 50ft is located at Kabubiro Village, Najja Sub – County in Buikwe district.

"In extension of Church land, the Moravian Church in Uganda further bought another piece of land of similar size next to the already acquired land in the same village on December 5th, 2020. With this land, the Moravian Church in Uganda anticipates to construct its national offices, a church structure and implement other development projects.

"In response to the Government requirement for an area of convenience for members during meetings, the Moravian Church in Uganda applied for a grant from Unity Mission and Development Board to construct a four (04) stance Pit Latrine for convenience and also contribute to the prevention of outbreaks and spread of diseases such as cholera due to improved disposal of waste."

BIBLE STUDIES!

Masks will be worn. We will convene outdoors. In case of inclement weather, we will meet in designated pews in the sanctuary (with our HVAC system running). We urge all participants to get vaccinated when the opportunity arises.



THURSDAYS: 8:00 a.m. June 3 – July 29th Coffee & Conversation with Pastor Dawn...Discussions will include Pandemic Challenges & Silver Linings, Sharing our stories, both poignant and crazy from the year's shut downs, discussing how our lives have changed, etc. The pastor will bring in biblical and other sources, but will not provide 'Bible Study Notes'.

FRIDAYS, 1:00 p.m. June 4 – 25 Getting 'Real' with God... The Psalms we don't recite on Sunday morning!

July 2 – 23. Minor Prophets/Major Impact - The voices of the prophets echoing through the centuries

This was shared on Facebook, and while some of it does not apply to us in Door County because we can't donate fresh meat or refrigerated items, there are some great hints in there for what could be donated and appreciated by our food banks! Remember that the church is open daily if you'd like to bring in non-perishables for Feed My People.

Sharing wisdom from a food bank volunteer:

1. Everyone donates Kraft Mac & Cheese in the box. But it needs milk & butter which is hard to get from food banks.
2. Boxed Milk is a treasure. Kids need it for cereal, which they get a lot of.
3. Everyone donates pasta sauce & spaghetti noodles.
4. Canned Foods should be Pop Tops OR donate Can Openers.
5. Oil is a luxury needed for Rice a Roni which they get a lot of.
6. Spices, Salt & Pepper are a real gift.
7. Tea bags & Coffee are caring gifts.
8. Sugar & Flour are treats.
9. Important are fresh produce donated by farmers & grocery stores.
10. Seeds are great in spring & summer because growing can be easy for some.
11. Rarely is there fresh meat.
12. Tuna & Crackers make a good lunch.
13. Hamburger Helper goes nowhere without ground beef.
14. They get lots of peanut butter and jelly but NEED sandwich bread.
15. Butter or Margarine are good.
16. Eggs are a commodity!
17. Cake mix & Frosting makes it possible to make a child's birthday cake.
18. Dishwashing Detergent is very expensive & is always appreciated.
19. Feminine hygiene products are a luxury & women will cry over them.
20. Everyone loves Stove Top Stuffing.

Bonus: CASH makes it possible for the Food Bank to buy what's missing and buy in bulk.

There has been an increase in the number of people using the church drive and parking lot as a shortcut while not conducting business in the church. The traffic includes large landscaping vehicles and other commercial vehicles and has caused safety concerns and much wear and tear on the pavement.

We are still living with COVID restrictions, but nicer weather is coming, so there will be more parking lot activities coming up - Vespers and activities with younger children outside.

This is a private road. Please refrain from using the church parking lot/drive unless conducting church business. The sign that used to grace our upper parking lot for many years is still here (we keep everything) and will be reinstalled to remind people.



Ephraim Moravian Church
PO Box 73
Ephraim, WI 54211

Postal Worker - thank you for delivering this to:

MAY 2021 Newsletter



Vintage post card of our
church!

Not much has changed!

Ephraim Moravian Church
worship@ephraimmoravian.org
Website: www.ephraimmoravian.org
920-854-2804