

Ephraim Moravian Church

PO Box 73 - Ephraim, Wisconsin 54211

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www.ephraimmoravian.org

New Year's Day - January 1, 2023

Morning Worship, 10:30 a.m.

PASTOR:.....The Rev. Dawn E. Volpe
MINISTERS:.....Members of the Congregation
MUSIC DIRECTOR:.....Colin Welford
SECRETARY:.....Diane Kirkland

Serving the Community Since 1853

Prelude: "Andante" from Violin Sonata No. 2 – by J.S. Bach

Welcome & Announcements

Hymn #309 "With Praises and Thanksgiving"

Responsive Reading for the New Year

Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless God's holy name.

Bless the Lord, O my soul, and do not forget all God's benefits.

Who forgives your iniquity, who heals your diseases;

Who satisfies you with good as long as you live, so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.

Lord Jesus Christ, we remember in your presence our losses and griefs, our hopes and treasures which the departing year has carried away, the disappointments we have known, the friends who are no longer with us and whose steps we shall hear no more: Bob Anderson, Kevin Axelson, Delmar Dahl, David Detert, Evelyn Knudson Albrecht, Dean Ekberg, Joan Lewis, Bruce Olson, David Olson, Chick Peterson, Eunice Rutherford, Bob Schroeder, Steve Schuder and Sweeney Sohns. We pray for grace to cherish the spirit which brings good out of evil, and which prevents adversities and sorrows from embittering our hearts. Give us comfort and a deep sense of your goodness in every circumstance of life. And when, despite our good intentions, we fail, be our strength and stay. We embrace the promise that God will supply every need of ours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus.

To our God and Father be glory forever and ever. Amen.

Scripture Lesson: Jeremiah 29: 1 – 14

Meditation

Offertory: Chorale Prelude on "The King of Love my Shepherd Is" – by Robin Milford.

Doxology

Prayers of the Church & The Lord's Prayer

Congregational Sung Response: (p. 68)

*Light of the world, come near and bless your children here below,
Who in your house your name confess on us your grace bestow. Amen*

The Lord's Supper

Hymns for Communion: #754 "When Peace, like a River"
#199 "Bread of Life"

Response: p. 193 – 195

Postlude: Chorale Prelude on "A Sure Foundation Is Our God" – by J.S. Bach

WATCHWORD FOR THE WEEK: "I will recount the gracious deeds of the Lord, the praiseworthy acts of the Lord, because of all that the Lord has done for us." – Isaiah 63:7

TODAY: 2:00 p.m. FREE CONCERT (masks optional)

MONDAY: Pastor's Sabbath

SUNDAY: 9:00 a.m. Sunday School

10:30 a.m. Worship Service

WELCOME to Ephraim Moravian Church. Our Nursery is open for children under the age of 4.

EPHRAIM MORAVIAN CHURCH is the 'Church of the Open Door.' We hope you find our church open to you in every way!

MOTTO OF THE MORAVIAN CHURCH: In Essentials, Unity; In Non-Essentials, Liberty; In All Things, Love.

EPHRAIM MORAVIAN WATCHWORD 2022: The wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without a trace of partiality or hypocrisy. – James 3:17

Happy New Year? – Pastor Dawn Volpe

Every time I prepare to cross over into a new year, I reflect on the year which is coming to a close. Since I have a habit of writing monthly updates in the church diary and notes on my calendar, I usually have a clear picture of what transpired... except for this past year. I found, to my chagrin, that the last diary entry was June 2022! I understand why-time seemed to gallop away as I faced crises, deaths in the congregation, staff transitions, a 'once in a lifetime' trip and a bout with Covid-19. I think that's what sent me over the edge. I was sidelined for a couple of weeks, and I've been trying to reclaim them ever since! I pride myself in sending out gifts to friends and family by December 1st, only to find that I'm still shopping after Christmas has come and gone. Since I'd been rather smug about my impeccable timing in years past, my sister has responded to my discomfiture with uncharacteristic glee.

So to all of us who are entering the new year a bit harried, who are still trying to 'catch up' only to fall further behind... whether we get on top of things or not, whether the new year proves to be the best year ever, or not; the most important things to remember are:

- God loves us, even if we are a hot mess
- God's grace will sustain us in the most difficult circumstances
- We are God's Beloved Children

I pray that we will all hold onto this promise as we enter the new year. *See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are.* – 1 John 3:1

Blessings to you, Dear Friends!



NEW YEAR'S DAY FREE CONCERT

Sunday, January 1, 2023
2:00 p.m.

Colin Welford (organ/piano), with
special guests Scott Ramsay (tenor)
& Grace Alberts (soprano)



*From Bach to Widor,
Bernstein to John Williams*

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