

Ephraim Moravian Church

PO Box 73 - Ephraim, Wisconsin 54211

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www.ephraimmoravian.org

Martin Luther King, Jr. Sunday - January 15, 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: Chorale Prelude on “Melchior Vulpus” – by Healey Willan

Welcome & Announcements

Watchword for the Week

Hymn #707 “Lift Every Voice and Sing”

Liturgy for Peace and Justice, p. 148 - 151

Scripture Lessons: Isaiah 49: 1 – 7; 1 Corinthians 1: 1 – 9

Hymn #739 (v.1- 4) “Dear Lord, and Father of Mankind”

Sermon

Offertory: “Andantino” – by César Franck

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*

Benediction

Postlude: “Finale” from First Organ Sonata – by Florence Price

WATCHWORD FOR THE WEEK: “God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.”

– 1 Corinthians 1:9

MONDAY:		Pastor’s Sabbath
WEDNESDAY:	9:30 a.m.	Caring Hands
THURSDAY:	4:00 p.m.	Trustee Meeting
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 2023: No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us. 1 John 4:12

CHURCH COUNCIL- Our Church Council takes place following the worship service and lunch on January 29.

VASES We have a collection of vases upstairs on the bench by the secretary’s office. Please check to see if one might be your property and remove it from the bin. All vases not claimed will be donated to Bargains Unlimited by the end of February.

Keeping Hope Alive – Pastor Dawn Volpe

After the great Civil Rights gains in the mid-sixties, there was hope that our darkest days were behind us. Jim Crow laws were struck down, the nation seemed to be rising to its better angels. But after Martin Luther King Jr. was assassinated, the future looked much like the past. Except for legal remedies, people still viewed each other with suspicion. I remember two incidents, decades after the 60's, which occurred in my own hometown. A black family bought a house in one of the finer areas of Staten Island. It was fire-bombed before they moved in. On another occasion 1,000 white high school students surrounded the school to harass any black students trying to exit the building. I asked a neighbor why this happened and she said, "because they didn't know their place." Now, in the 21st century, this type of wickedness is still rampant.

How do we not lose hope? How do we continue to proclaim Good News for all? In a sermon entitled, "Shattered Dreams", Martin Luther King Jr. gives us the path forward. I'm sharing just a few snippets of this wonderful sermon. You can read it in its entirety at <https://kinginstitute.stanford.edu/king-papers/documents/draft-chapter-x-shattered-dreams>

We must accept our unwanted and unfortunate circumstance and yet cling to a radiant hope. The answer lies in developing the capacity to accept the finite disappointment and yet cling to the infinite hope. Almost anything that happens to us can be woven into the purposes of God. It may lengthen our cords of sympathy. It may break our self-centered pride. Even the cross, which was willed by wicked men, was woven by God into the redemption of the world. George F. Handel confronted the most difficult and trying circumstances in his life. Says his biographer: "His health and his fortunes had reached the lowest ebb. His right side had become paralyzed, and his money was all gone. His creditors seized him and threatened him with imprisonment. For a brief time he was tempted to give up the fight—but then he rebounded again to compose the greatest of his inspirations, the epic "Messiah." So, the "Hallelujah Chorus" was born...

So dear friends, in the face of setbacks, in the face of intractable wickedness, may we continue to cling to 'radiant hope'!