



# Ephraim Moravian Messenger

News from the Open Door

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

## Congregational Watchword for 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

April 2023

## From the Pastor's Desk

### THE POWER OF ENCOURAGEMENT- Pastor Dawn



I can't tell you the joy I felt when I was installed as a pastor after 3 long years of Seminary. The first sermon was well-received at the Inaugural service, with many guests in attendance. However, the weeks and months following that grand service were terribly disappointing- not only to me, but I'm sure to the congregation as well. There was little energy for ministry and absolutely no appetite for change. Every Sunday, as I endeavored to make a connection in my sermon... nothing seemed to move anyone. I felt as if my words hit plexiglass and bounced back into my mouth. As a result, my speech became increasingly stilted and flat. I was miserable! After 6 months I wanted to leave the ministry.

Fortunately, Daphne Bispham entered the church that first year and completely changed the trajectory of my ministry. Before I knew her name, I was captivated by her. While I preached she engaged me in an unspoken conversation, nodding, smiling, listening actively. This happened every time she was in church. I said to myself, 'I'm only going to preach to that lady.' And, as I did, energy came back into my voice, passion to my messages. One Sunday in particular, I had preached 'my heart out.' In the receiving line one of my congregants berated me for the lack of youth in the church. I was completely deflated. A few hours after the service, I received a phone call from Daphne, telling me how impactful the sermon was and what a joy it had been to be in church. Her conversation gave me hope and confidence. In a short time, Daphne held leadership positions in our congregation. I could count on her for wisdom, counsel and, most importantly, encouragement. She is the reason I am still preaching!

Like everyone else, Daphne had her own struggles and disappointments to deal with. Until emigrating from Barbados to the US, she was a respected educator. But in our country, she could not find a job in her field, so she worked at a local shop. She told me how humiliated she felt and how she had to deal with her pride. Fortunately, she finally found work in a parochial school. She was such an incredible teacher that other schools, which paid better, wanted to hire her, but she stayed with her school out of a sense of loyalty and gratitude. Her husband, a lovely man named Charles, died in his 60s from Alzheimer's disease. Daphne did not paste a smile on her face or pretend that her life was perfect. What she did was share the benefit of her experiences with others and always offered **encouragement**.

Daphne died a few months ago at the age of 96. Many people paid tribute, and, as I listened to the eulogies, one word was spoken many times... Encouragement.

Dear friends, we can wield a powerful influence when we encourage others. We can save careers, relationships, institutions by our words. 35 years ago, Daphne saved my ministry through her unwavering support. I shall be forever grateful.

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

SECRETARY: Thurs 9:00-4:30  
Church phone: 920-854-2804  
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, President  
Natalie Neddersen  
Carly Mulliken  
Rob Meyer  
Tad Dukehart

#### ELDERS

Pastor Dawn Volpe, Chair  
Cici Mulliken, Vice-Chair  
Karen Ekberg  
Linda Carey, Secretary  
Kathy Zehner  
Penny Schultz

## Trustee Update:

The Trustees are pleased to announce that the solar panels have been installed on the church roof. We are the first church in Door County to add solar panels. The Unitarian Fellowship will be installing theirs in a few weeks.



The Trustees are grateful to Ryan Sherman for working with Quantum to address the livestream issues we've been experiencing. A crew from the company repositioned cameras, and updated software. We are hopeful that the issues will be resolved.

We are in the process of working with a professional surveyor to map out the newer areas of the cemetery (the last survey was done in the 1990's).

The Trustees were presented with a sobering reality of our church funds. Although we have many 'set asides' (funds earmarked for specific purposes), our expenses are outpacing our regular donations. As of the end of February, approximately \$500 was available for everyday expenses - payroll, utilities, etc. We will need to work together with the congregation to close this gap.



<< Liz and Jack Opitz visiting Ultimo Refugio, Kathleen Dukehart's restaurant in Costa Rica—shown here with Kathleen and son Taj, and Coburn Dukehart Horn with daughters River and Quinn.

## LOAVES & FISHES IS BACK!

WHEN? - Thursday, May 11, 4:30 - 6:30 p.m.  
WHERE? - STELLA MARIS, SISTER BAY



WHAT? - Loaves & Fishes is an Ecumenical ministry that has been dormant since 2020. This year, we will hold meals from May - December. Next year, 2024, we will add a month and hold meals from April - Dec.

NEEDED - Volunteers: Cooks, bakers, servers, greeters, dishwashers

SPECIAL THANKS to Kay Wilson, who will be coordinating the first dinner.

If you are interested in volunteering for one month or perhaps multiple months, please contact: Laura McDowell, [laurajmcd@yahoo.com](mailto:laurajmcd@yahoo.com) or call her at 616-481-5274.

TRAINING FOR DISHWASHERS - The parish requires anyone operating the dishwasher to get a brief training. There is one scheduled for April 24 at 1 p.m., Stella Maris Sister Bay. Let Laura know if you can attend.

We are also looking for local talent to provide quiet music during the dinners. If you know of someone, please let Laura know!



## A Fresh Perspective

Join Pastor Dawn Monday through Friday (April 3-7) of Holy Week at 12 noon for a simple lunch of soup & bread, a brief presentation on the meaning of the day's readings, and then all who wish may take a turn reading.

This is designed for all ages. It is an opportunity to learn about a Moravian Custom and be an active participant. Please let Pastor Dawn know what days you will come and if you would like to provide one of the lunches.

(email [worship@ephraimmoravian.org](mailto:worship@ephraimmoravian.org) or call 920-421-4042 to respond)



## SPRING CLEAN UP

We will be meeting on Tuesday, May 9 at 9 a.m. to Spring Clean the Church. The Trustees will provide lunch at 12 noon!

**FLOWERS** - Would you like to have flowers in church to honor or remember someone near a special day like their birthday or anniversary date? The Flower Committee would love to hear from you - call Sherry Moore (847-702-6974) or Mary Wilson (920-854-4277)!

**USHERS/LAY READERS** - Always needed! Sign up sheet in the narthex!

**FELLOWSHIP** - We have weekly fellowship now, so we are always looking for those who would like to host! Sign-up sheet in the narthex.

THANK YOU!

## April 2023 Services

Sunday, April 2 - 9:00 a.m. Sunday School, 10:30 a.m. in person and on Facebook - Joyful Noise Offering - Palm Sunday!

Monday-Friday, April 3-7 - Holy Week Readings, see page four!

Sunday, April 9 - Easter Services! "Sunrise" service at the cemetery at 8 a.m., 10:30 a.m. in church and on Facebook

Sunday, April 16 - 9:00 a.m. Sunday School, 10:30 a.m. in person and on Facebook

Sunday, April 23 - 9:00 a.m. Sunday School, 10:30 a.m. in person and on Facebook

Sunday, April 30 - 9:00 a.m. Sunday School, 10:30 a.m. in person and on Facebook



**COLIN WELFORD'S  
FIRST MUSIC APPRECIATION  
GROUP - MORE TO COME!  
Refreshments by Tea Thyme**



**COLIN & YI-LAN NIU at the MARCH 27**

**VIVALDI "THE FOUR SEASONS" CONCERT**



**YI-LAN, LINDA  
CAREY and  
CYNDY STIEHL**

### April Birthdays

Katharine Koehler Schadrie...7  
Judy Cloninger,,,7  
Andy Dukehart... 8  
Amanda Carlson...12  
Ryan Sherman – 13  
Naomi Carlson - 16  
Glenn Gerdman...19  
Kay Wilson...27  
George Carey...30

### April Anniversaries

Kay and Keith Tschannen - 22, 1967  
Diane and Larry Jacobson – 28, 1979  
Holly Runquist/Dave Stolley – 30, 2016

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

### Prayer Concerns

...Kathy Kirkland  
...Barbara Axelson  
...Maggie Schnackenberg  
...Joel Blahnik

I'm  
praying  
for  
you

### **Treasurer's Report**



#### Member Giving

Through Feb 2023: \$43,179

#### Visitor Giving

Through Mar 2023: \$4,434

**Expected income for 2023 is \$236,000**

**In February: \$23,401**

*(doesn't include memorials)*

**Budgeted expense for 2023 is \$273,425**

**In February: \$28,940**

**Post on your refrigerator!**



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2 <b>Palm Sunday!</b> 9 am Sunday School 10:30 am service & Joyful Noise	3 <b>12 noon light lunch, Holy Week talk and readings</b> AA group evening	4 AA Women 10-noon <b>12 noon light lunch, Holy Week talk and readings</b>	5 <b>12 noon light lunch, Holy Week talk and readings</b>	6 <b>12 noon light lunch, Holy Week talk and readings</b>	7 OA 8:30 am <b>12 noon light lunch, Holy Week talk and readings</b>	8
9 <b>EASTER!</b> Early service at cemetery 8 a.m. 10:30 a.m.	10 AA group evening	11 AA Women 10-noon	12	13	14 OA 8:30 am	15
16 9 am Sunday School 10:30 am Service	17 AA group evening	18 <b>Trustees 10 a.m.</b>  AA Women 10-noon	19 Caring Hands 9:30 am	20	21 OA 8:30 am	22
23 9 am Sunday School 10:30 am Service	24 AA group evening	25 AA Women 10-noon	26	27	28 OA 8:30 am	29
30 9 am Sunday School 10:30 am Service						



**Ephraim Moravian Church**  
**PO Box 73**  
**Ephraim, WI 54211**

Postal Worker - thank you for delivering this to:

**April 2023 Newsletter**



Hope **SPRINGs** eternal!

Ephraim Moravian Church  
worship@ephraimmoravian.org  
Website: [www.ephraimmoravian.org](http://www.ephraimmoravian.org)  
920-854-2804