

Ephraim Moravian Church

PO Box 73 - Ephraim, Wisconsin 54211

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www.ephraimmoravian.org

Seventh Sunday after Pentecost - July 16, 2023

Morning Worship, 8:00 & 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

***10:30 a.m. Service*

****Prelude: 'Impromptu in A Flat' (Op.90, No.4) – by Franz Schubert**

Welcome & Announcements
Watchword for the Week

Hymn #573 "In the Morning When I Rise"

Liturgy, Psalm 145 (Insert)

Scripture Lessons

Old Testament:	Isaiah 55: 10 - 13
New Testament:	Romans 8: 1 – 11
Gospel:	Matthew 13: 1 – 9, 13 – 23

Sermon

****Offertory: 'Prelude and Fugue in Bb Major' – by J.S. Bach**

*Doxology

Prayers of the Church, The Lord's Prayer

Congregational Sung Response: #745

O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer.

When I call answer me. O Lord, hear my prayer.

O Lord, hear my prayer. Come and listen to me. Amen.

Benediction

****Postlude: 'Intermezzo' from 'Pièces de Fantaisie' – by Louis Vierne**

WATCHWORD FOR THE WEEK: There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. – Romans 8:1

TODAY:

Time of Fellowship following Worship

MONDAY:

Pastor's Sabbath

TUESDAY:

6:00 p.m. Kayaking- Bridges

WEDNESDAY:

9:30 a.m. Caring Hands

SUNDAY:

8:00 a.m. Worship Service

10:30 a.m. Worship Service

6:30 p.m. Hymn Sing- Friends Community

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

BRIDGES of Friendship is hosting a kayaking event at the Ellison Bay Community Center at 6 p.m. If you are able, come out and interact with the young people (you don't have to kayak!).

BARS/BROWNIES for the Bridges event may be dropped off by Tuesday morning, 10:00 a.m. If you haven't signed up to bake, there's still time. The sign-up sheet is in the Fellowship Hall.

THANK YOU for your generosity! We reached our goal of \$1500. to Ramp Up Door County. With the match from the trustees, we'll be sending \$3,000 to Habitat for Humanity.

HYMN SING On July 23 from 6:30 - 7:30, Friends Community Church (204 W. Maple, Sturgeon Bay) invites you to attend "Songs, Hymns and Meditations." Gather with other Christians to sing old songs of our faith, discuss their origins, and meditate on their messages. The music is great and your heart will be lifted!

Reflection

“You will indeed listen, but never understand, and you will indeed look, but never perceive.”

**Celebrating 170 years
in 2023**

This verse came to mind on one of my walks. It was one of those spectacular Door County summer days. A cool breeze was blowing, the water sparkled, the moon was still visible against a clear blue sky. As I made my way around the benches at the shore, already beginning to fill with people, I spied a young couple was seated on a bench. They were obviously on vacation, judging by the clothes they were wearing. But instead of being captivated by the beauty around them or each other, both heads were buried in their respective cellphones. I had to wonder what could be so important that all this beauty and their own relationship could be set aside for such banality.

But then I had to wonder about my own lack of focus on the things that are important to my health and well-being, physically, mentally and spiritually. How many times have I not understood or perceived because my attention was elsewhere? There are so many things in modern life that cause us to focus our attention on banality. How many hours are spent in front of the computer? How many hours are spent on trivial things, while the beauty of nature, the solace of friendships, the soul-restoration of prayer and meditation, the joy of learning are set aside? Even on vacation, which is supposed to help us mend our fractured lives, we can fill the time with things that do not heal. Many in this community have not taken vacation yet. This is our 'busy time'. Yet, we have an opportunity that is rare in the working environment. We can look up from the computer screens and see nature's grand display every day! We can get in the car and ride behind a tourist who's meandering through the peninsula and, instead of getting upset, slow down and experience what they are seeing for the first time. There is nothing so urgent that we can't slow down and revel in the goodness, beauty and grace that is all around us. May we 'turn and be healed'!