

THE EBENEZER MESSENGER — June 2020

Monthly newsletter of the Ebenezer Moravian Church
N8095 High Road – Watertown, WI 53094
920-206-0222 - Church



A Steep Learning Curve

As I count down the days until my teaching career hopefully ends, I cannot wait to hear that my kids will actually go to school in the fall. I have no idea if this is true, but I would love to put them on a bus, send them to school and be comfortable knowing they are taken care of for the next 8 hours. I miss that luxury. I miss the luxury of visiting stores whenever I wanted, sitting in coffeeshops, taking vacations and the security of routine. These are all luxuries we have taken for granted that the rest of the world may not afford. Most other countries do not have the freedoms we possess and they are far from the amenities we have. Yet, with all our knowledge and wealth, we too have a far way to go. What have we learned over these past 8 weeks...

We took a lot of things or granted,

Our world can change in an instant

We all affect one another, our choices matter

We can lose it all quite quickly

Never did I ever think a hug would be dangerous

You don't know what you miss until you can't touch it or see it

Essential is not how we would define it

We can survive without professional sports

Fresh air is, thankfully, still safe

Viruses don't discriminate but healthcare access and income directly affects health

There are still other problems like racism and injustice

Information changes daily

When necessary, we can adapt rather quickly

We may all be going through a pandemic, but we are all dealing with it differently, and that is ok...

We continue to pray for the world, the challenges and the new opportunities. We do not know what the future holds and are not in control, perhaps that is our biggest lesson...we were never in control in the first place.

**Monday,
June 15th
for the July
Newsletter**



**OFFICE
HOURS**

Tuesday
10am to 2 pm

Thursday
10am to 2 pm

LOAVES & FISHES

Contact Linda Lippens



In partnership with the Watertown Moravian Church, we provide dinner for our community free of charge. The meal is served every Monday evening, except holidays, from 5:00 to 6:00 p.m. at the Watertown Moravian Church, 510 Cole Street.

Loaves & Fishes will continue to serve until we are not allowed to do so. We are doing a carry-out format and will probably be delivering to the guests outside from now on. We are keeping social distancing at the forefront of our minds.

On the first Monday of carry-out we served 60 including the volunteers. Our numbers have continued to increase weekly and are now over 200. We serve a population in need so we need to do what we can to keep serving. Please pray for friends that need food.

MEAL — June

- 1: Chicken casserole
- 8: Chicken fajitas - beans - Spanish rice
- 15: Pork roast
- 22: Beef tips - **CELEBRATING OUR 10TH ANNIVERSARY**
- 29: Spaghetti

SERVERS — June

- 1: Kwik Trip - Todd
- 8: Boy's Basketball - Eric
- 15: Hope Lutheran
- 22: Carmen Otto - Summit Harvest
- 29: Pick 'n Save

MENU SUBJECT TO CHANGE

PRAYER CHAIN

If you have any prayer requests or want to be included on the Ebenezer Prayer Chain, please contact Pastor Katie at (610) 442-3790 OR pastor.kvdl@gmail.com.

The most important thing to remember is to have permission of the person or family before you request it be included on the Prayer Chain. Also, please be sure to just give facts and don't add any rumors or assumptions. Please use any information you get just for the prayer request.

An Opportunity to Serve!

Last summer, Ebenezer participated in the "Sandwiches in the Park" program by providing bagged lunches in Lincoln Park on Fridays from 11:30-12:30. This Summer, we agreed to do it the whole summer! It is needed now more than ever as Loaves and Fishes is reaching record numbers.

Beginning June 12, we will serve lunches in the Watertown Moravian Church Parking lot from 11:30-12:30. We are not sure of the parks right now, so this is a good alternate location.

We will be emailing a menu each week and asking people to sign up to bring in different items. These can be brought in any time during the week. If you are unable to get in the church, you can call/text Pastor Katie at 610-442-3790 and someone should be able to let you in. We do need all items by Thursday morning at 10am. This allows for a day in case additional items are needed. As always, monetary donations are very helpful.

Last year, we were able to get everything through donations of items and monetary donations and never had to use any funds we set aside for this program. We hope to do the same again this year!

Ways you can help....donate money, sign up and donate items, come at 10am to help pack lunches, come to Watertown Moravian at 11:15 to help distribute lunches, come to Ebenezer at 12:45 to help clean up. We hope to have at least 5-8 volunteers for the packing and distributing. You do not need to sign up for both. We need help for either. So if you can only pack or only distribute, that is so helpful! We will ask that those distributing consider masking. We have not heard if the program is requiring it, but it is a nice gesture if possible. Watch your emails for ways to sign up. If you are not on the internet, call the church office and Pastor Katie can get you on the list or mark down an item you wish to bring.

Thanks again for your help, your prayers and your support!

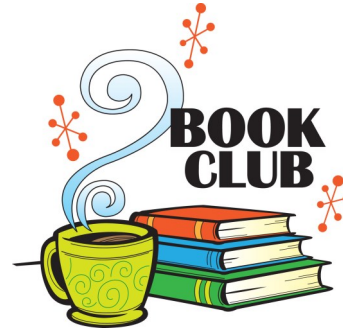


Keep On Keeping On!

The Joint Board of Ebenezer met in May to discuss the next steps of church. We all miss one another so much, miss our sanctuary and hearing one another, miss hugs and greetings, too. We also know that there is just so much we do not know and would hate to have a Covid outbreak at our church.

We have found "Worship on Wheels" to be a good mix. We get to be with one another without being concerned of social distance. We can dress as we wish, bring our own coffee and even bring a pet! As the weather warms, we can bring lawn chairs and see one another even better than through windshields. At the current time, we will continue to "Worship on Wheels."

We want people to use their best judgment, so please stay home and stay safe. We also wish to provide a place for those of us who don't have the internet and/or wish to be in the presence of one another. Please worship as you feel comfortable. If there is one thing we have learned through all of this, we can worship God in so many ways...what a blessing!



Most people are either remodeling their houses, building their gardens or reading an entire library of books it seems!

For book club, we chose a classic "To Kill a Mockingbird" by Harper Lee. This is an American classic dealing with racism and justice in the American south. Written in the 1950s, it has captivated readers for decades.

Currently, the plan is to meet at the Rose Garden for dinner and discussion on Tuesday June 30th at 6pm. With so many unknowns currently, we do have the option of meeting via other ways including online.

Please reach out to Pastor Katie and share your thoughts about how book club should gather. It is vital for everyone to use their best judgment. So please share your thoughts about how the next book club should meet, as we wish to keep community and stay healthy.

PRAYER MINISTRY

"Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God." Philipians 4:6.



If you would like to add a prayer request, please contact one of the Elders. Please submit prayer requests BEFORE Wednesday of each week to Pastor Katie (pastor.kvdl@gmail.com).

CHURCH WOMEN UNITED



Meetings of CWU are currently on hold. They are hoping to resume meeting September. We will keep you updated.

Western District Synod Postponed



Every four years, district synods are held to elect the leadership of the district, report ministries over the years and make decisions to guide our district churches. Originally, the Western District Synod was scheduled at the end of April at Mt. Morris. Our representatives elected at our church council are Theresa Vesper, Joe Walsh and Pastor Katie.

The synod has been postponed until November 19—22. Please be in prayer for the leadership of our district and province. All district synods have been changes, which will definitely cause more challenges and disruptions. We continue to pray for the leadership of our churches on all levels and for all those who continue to support through this difficult time.

WORSHIP ON WHEELS WEEKLY!!

Please join us (rain or shine) in the parking lot for worship on Sundays at 10am. Park your car facing the front entrance and be with others in a different way. Bulletins will be passed out safely and we ask that people stay in their cars if possible. The lower doors will be open if anyone wishes to use the bathroom. We are trying some creative ways to stay connected through this pandemic and appreciate your support in many ways. Please remember it is safer at home. We wish everyone to be safe and use their best judgment. God is with us wherever we are, thankfully. Please check out www.moravian.org for online worship options if you are able. Please keep social distance however you are worshipping, I hope you do it better than my cat, currently sitting on my lap!



To meet our 2020 budget, weekly offerings need to be approximately \$2,400. Thank you for your consideration.

April 26: \$2,671.02



May 3: \$2,718.00



May 10: \$1,121.00



May 17: \$3,326.00



REACHING OUT...

These are members that may not be able to attend church regularly. Please feel free to contact them via mail. If you wish to have your contact information or someone close to you added, please contact Shelly Degrandt at (920)988-6281 or at degrandts@gmail.com.

Leroy Gronert, Sr.

Dycora Nursing Home, Apt. 201
430 Wilcox St.
Fort Atkinson, WI 53538

Joyce Kopp

317 Lauren Lane
Watertown, WI 53094

Carol Schultz

Park Terrace, 1047 Hill Street, Room 2528
Watertown, WI 53098

Todd Hamann #627678

Thompson Correctional Center
434 State Farm Road
Deerfield, WI 53531-9562

ON LINE GIVING

Ebenezer now has online giving enabled through the Moravian Ministries Foundation because we are an investor in the Common Fund. Here's the link: <https://mmfa.info/ebenezer-moravian-church-donation-form/> This is your one-stop, 24/7 online giving destination. You can now give at any time from the convenience of your home.

Online giving can be a way for members, friends and family to support Ebenezer. As an added benefit, it allows giving to Ebenezer from afar. You can make memorial gifts in lieu of flowers, honor a loved one, schedule tithing, and more. Payments will be made to Ebenezer monthly, at no cost to the church.

GIVING

Remember, there are many ways to stay current with your gifts:

- **Auto Bill Pay:** Through your bank or credit union
- **Mail:** Mail check to the church
- **Moravian Ministry Foundation:** See article below

Thank you for your generosity. We will give you a HUGE hug once we are allowed to!



Pastor Katie Van der Linden
(610) 442-3790

IF NOT AVAILABLE CONTACT

Tom Naatz, Vice-Elder Chair
(920) 699-3118
Jon Gehler, Trustee Chair
(920) 342-2945

**SHARED COMMUNITY MISSIONS
GROUP..... food continued!**

Each week throughout the school year, we fill bags for families of kindergarteners in need. This year, we averaged 36 bags. As the schools closed, we were very concerned how the families we serve would get food. Thanks to coordination through the schools and bus company, all of the families we serve received a food bag or grocery gift card weekly.

Thanks to the generosity of our churches, local grocery stores, individuals and community, we received an abundance of donations and were able to alternate bags of food and gift cards. Alternating, families received a bag of food then a gift card, then food, etc. We were even able to provide a fresh item in the food bags.

A small number of volunteers worked for a few hours to load bags of food ready for three different weeks. All of the food we used was nonperishable and stored safely, so the only addition was the fresh item. Through good communication and some virtual meetings, the group was able to finish the school year feeding all of the families.

We have received many thank yous and continue to receive donations. The group is even looking at helping other community ministries like Sandwiches in the Park, who continue to feed our local community.

The next project will be the school supply distribution in August. We are still planning on sharing supplies even if we have to do it in new ways. Watch upcoming newsletters for items needed for this fall ministry!



The choir will be continuing to "stay safe". I am missing our Ebenezer voices/participants!

Glennis

**EBENEZER MORAVIAN CHURCH
2020 SPRING CLEAN UP**

Thank you for supporting Ebenezer by helping with our church spring clean up. Please contact Pastor Katie to arrange a time to complete tasks when able. Check the sign off sheet in Heiser Hall to see what tasks have been completed before beginning.

Sunday School Rooms and Heiser Hall

- * Inspect Sunday School/Heiser Hall windows/leaks?
- * Clean out insects from light fixtures/inspect fixtures
- * Wash all windows including tracks and sills

Kitchen, Piper Room and Other

- * Kitchen Clean-up/Organize/Inspect
- * Tidy-up Closet Storages in Piper Room
- * Flush Hot Water Heater/faucet screens
- * Clean out insects from light fixtures/inspect fixtures
- * Wash all windows

Outside

- * Drainage Culverts check for any blockage
- * Clean leaves from Curb on North side of Church
- * Yard area pick-up twigs and debris
- * Pick-up /Clean/organize Shed if needed

Sanctuary and Narthex

- * Tidy-up behind the Pipe organ and storage closet areas
- * Wipe Woodwork in Sanctuary
- * Polish Cross & Candle Holders
- * Sanctuary Carpet – spots to clean/wax dripings?
- * Inspect Narthex windows/leaks?
- * Hand Rails in Balcony tighten/adjust?
- * Clean Sanctuary fans
- * Bell Tower/Rope Inspect
- * Inspect/Repair outdoor sound system
- * Clean out insects from light fixtures/inspect fixtures
- * Wash all windows

Parsonage

- * Pressure Wash Siding
- * Check Rain Gutters – Gutter Guards
- * Filter/AC-check/install
- * Yard pick-up twigs and debris
- * Clean Septic Filter



- 2 - Francis Orval, Jr.
- 3 - Timothy Brown
- 3 - Reinhold Petig
- 4 - Aaron Van der Linden
- 4 - Jozelle Roberts
- 4 - Paul Schultz, Jr.
- 7 - Scott Beerbohm
- 7 - Jean Walker
- 8 - Bob Meyer
- 8 - John Vesper, Jr.
- 10 - Kristine Schefft
- 11 - Darrin Krueger
- 12 - Stephanie Saxby
- 14 - Pat Counsell
- 17 - Tracey Rein
- 19 - Laura Zubrod
- 24 - Matt Orval
- 25 - Dianne Schuett
- 27 - Rachel Kopp
- 28 - LeRoy Gronert, Jr.



- 2 - Tom & Virginia Naatz
- 3 - Everett Jr. & Judith Strauss
- 10 - Bruce & MaryLou Kopp
- 23 - John & Theresa Vesper
- 26 - Charles & Judith Wesemann
- 28 - Nathan & Angela Baum
- 29 - John & Janet Parmley
- 30 - Don & JoAnn Draheim



BOARD MEMBERS

ELDERS: 2020-2021

- Pastor Katie:** Chair
(610) 442-3790
Pastor.kvdl@gmail.com
- Tom Naatz:** Vice Chair
(920) 699-3118
tanacer@charter.net
- Tammy Meyer:** Secretary
(920) 342-3849
rtmeyer6971@yahoo.com
- Linda Lippens:** Communication
(920) 253-8137
lindalippens@charter.net
- Theresa Vesper:** Musician Liaison
920-342-8021
tlynnr83@gmail.com.
- Trudy Krueger:** Visitation
(920) 220-9626
3djtkrueger@charter.net

TRUSTEES: 2020-21

- John Gehler:** Chair
(920) 342-2945
Gehler.ja2@gmail.com
- John Vesper:** Vice Chair
920-248-6910
johnvesper.jv@gmail.com
- Megan Weihert:** Secretary
(920) 253-8139
lippensm@live.com
- Chuck Wesemann:**
CEF Representative
920-285-9212
chuckwesemann@gmail.com
- Kris Kerr**
(920) 261-1523
4malsmom@gmail.com





MORAVIAN CHURCH WESTERN DISTRICT

221 East Mills Drive, Lake Mills, WI 53551
(920) 253-9030 www.moravian.org

Board Members

Bruce Nelson, President
Judy Anderson

Cindy Kahney, Vice-President
Nancy Chandler

Jason Andersen
Jane Geiler

Megan Struck

May 16, 2020

Dear Colleagues and Friends of the Western District:

I hope you all are staying safe and healthy. I write to you today to share with you the news that the Camping Ministry Committee today made the very difficult decision to cancel our Western District, Western Region summer church camps. Specifically, this would include Minndy, 4-M, Junior Camp, Winmor, and Chetek. Please note that our Mid-States camps (Tar Hollow, Illiana, and Bethany Junior Camp) have not yet made a final decision on their summer camps.

Your Western Region camp directors are working on alternatives for camp this year. These may include, but not be limited to, a virtual gathering of camp aged students and staff, perhaps doing a one-day socially-distanced camp event for families at Mt. Morris, or getting some camp-themed materials through email and/or snail mail. **If you would normally be coming to camp this year, we encourage you to contact your camp director (www.wdcamping.org) and they can let you know what alternative plans they may be working on.**

The decision to cancel our camps at Mt. Morris this year obviously puts a huge financial strain on Mt. Morris Camp and Retreat Center. I would encourage you as a congregation and as individuals to be thinking of ways that you could support Mt. Morris financially (www.mt-morris.org). The Western District has decided to funnel the money that would normally have been used for Western District Western Region camp vouchers to go to Mt. Morris. Perhaps your local church would want to consider money that had been raised for local church camp scholarships to be sent to Mt. Morris so that we can still have our camps there next year. Or, if you have money in an endowment fund that is normally earmarked for camp scholarships perhaps it could go to Mt. Morris. We would encourage whatever governing board responsible for camp oversight to consider this. Even if your congregation does not normally send children to camp, perhaps this is the year you could make a special individual or congregational gift to Mt. Morris.

Please stay tuned as our camp directors share more definitive plans for other opportunities for our children to gather this summer. Please be in prayer for our camping program this summer.

Serving Christ with you,

Rev. Bruce J. Nelson

On behalf of the Western District Executive Board



An Amazing Gift...

(A report from the Joint Board)

In case you were unaware, the Board of Trustees keeps a running list of everything needing fixing, projects for the future and wish lists as we go about the years. We are so thankful when projects get completed, but also know many get postponed because of expense. We would love to upgrade our projection system for the sanctuary, make our bathrooms ADA compliant with helper areas for persons who need assistance, and put some needed repairs to our windows and window frames. These have been on our "wish list" for years, and we check on them every few months, reminding ourselves of the need once we get the ability.

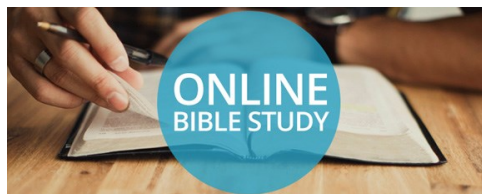
Our boards have always been focused on our ministry, our members, and our obligations as priority, with upgrading projects and repairs done when funds allow. Recently, we were requested to share the list of needs. This list included needed repairs, wish list items and ongoing expenses as we have struggled to meet all our obligations. Through tremendous generosity, we received a check for \$100,000 to cover those needed repairs, wish list items and even a gift for Loaves and Fishes.

We cannot begin to share our gratitude and happy tears as we learned of this amazing gift. We want to serve our members and all the community, so keeping our building up-to-date, welcoming, repaired and meeting the needs of all individuals is a priority. We do not like putting anything off, and this gift will allow us to make sure our building lasts and meets the needs for another hundred years. We are so extremely grateful for this anonymous gift. Words cannot say how grateful we all are. Having funds to cover the needed repairs and wish list items reminds us that we can use our tithes and offerings to continue to meet our ministries and budget.

We have been so blessed by the extreme generosity by everyone during this pandemic. Our building may be empty for now, but the Spirit fills us everyday and we are continued to be amazed by the generosity of so many. We are thankful for all our donations, as every one of them helps us continue doing God's work.

Virtual Bible Study coming....

With so much uncertainty these days, it seems like a great time to try a new format for Bible Study! Monday nights, beginning June 8th, join Pastor Katie and others from the comfort of your own home! Watch your email with information on how to connect to the Bible Study, which will start at 6:30pm. This seems like the perfect time to look at plagues and challenges that killed and destroyed many people, yet taught valuable lessons. If you wish to take part but have limited or no internet, please let Pastor Katie know as alternatives will be available. Mark your calendars for this 4 week study...June 8, 15, 29 and July 6 (no meeting on June 22 due to Pastor Katie's vacation). It seems quite appropriate to end a study on plagues and death on the anniversary of John Hus' death!



STAMP OUT HUNGER FOOD DRIVE

During this time of uncertainty you might be wondering what will be happening in the future for the Food Pantry. As you know, the annual Postal Food Drive normally held the second Saturday in May has been postponed to either August or September.

We know that there are some exciting things in the works relating to this food drive and more information will be forthcoming in the next few months. As we receive more information, we will pass it along to you.



Once a date has been set, we will be seeking volunteers to help. Help will be needed at two locations the post office AND the food pantry. If you wish to help, please get in touch with Dawn @ 920-261-7068 OR wtn.foodpantry@sbcglobal.net.

CEF did not meet in May



Find us on Facebook

REMEMBER: OUR Facebook page is "Ebenezer Moravian".



Board of Elders did not meet in May

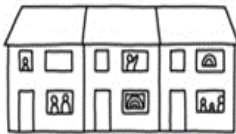
Elder of the month for June — Tom Naatz

Elders Meeting

BEATITUDES

FOR A GLOBAL PANDEMIC

BLESSED ARE THOSE WHO STAY INDOORS



FOR THEY HAVE PROTECTED OTHERS

BLESSED ARE THE UNEMPLOYED AND THE SELF-EMPLOYED



FOR THEIR NEED OF GOD IS GREAT

BLESSED ARE THE CORNER SHOPKEEPERS



FOR THEY ARE THE PURVEYORS OF SCARCE THINGS

BLESSED ARE THE DELIVERY DRIVERS AND THE POSTAL WORKERS



FOR THEY ARE THE BRINGERS OF ESSENTIAL THINGS

BLESSED ARE THE HOSPITAL WORKERS, THE AMBULANCE CREWS, THE DOCTORS, THE NURSES, THE CARE ASSISTANTS, AND THE CLEANERS



FOR THEY STAND BETWEEN US AND THE GRAVE, AND THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN IS SURELY THEIRS

BLESSED ARE THE CHECKOUT WORKERS



FOR THEY HAVE PATIENCE AND FORTITUDE IN THE FACE OF OVERWORK AND FRUSTRATION

BLESSED ARE THE REFUSE COLLECTORS



FOR THEY WILL SEE GOD DESPITE THE MOUNTAINS OF WASTE

BLESSED ARE THE TEACHERS



FOR THEY REMAIN STEADFAST AND CONSTANT IN DISTURBING TIMES

BLESSED ARE THE CHURCH WORKERS; THE DEACONS, PRIESTS AND BISHOPS



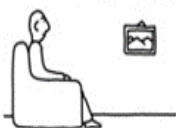
FOR THEY ARE A COMFORTING PRESENCE IN A HURTING WORLD AS THEY CONTINUE TO SIGNPOST TOWARDS GOD

BLESSED ARE THE SINGLE PARENTS.



FOR THEY ARE COPING ALONE WITH THEIR RESPONSIBILITIES AND THERE IS NO RESPITE

BLESSED ARE THOSE WHO ARE ALONE.



FOR THEY ARE CHILDREN OF GOD AND WITH HIM THEY WILL NEVER BE LONELY

BLESSED ARE THE BEREAVED.



FOR WHOM THE WORST HAS ALREADY HAPPENED. THEY SHALL BE COMFORTED

BLESSED ARE THOSE WHO ARE ISOLATED WITH THEIR ABUSERS




FOR ONE DAY - WE PRAY - THEY WILL KNOW SAFETY

BLESSED ARE ALL DURING THIS TIME WHO HAVE PURE HEARTS; ALL WHO STILL HUNGER AND THIRST FOR JUSTICE; ALL WHO WORK FOR PEACE AND WHO MODEL MERCY



MAY YOU KNOW COMFORT. MAY YOU KNOW CALM. AND MAY THE GRACE OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, AND THE LOVE OF GOD, AND THE FELLOWSHIP OF THE HOLY SPIRIT, BE WITH US ALL. AMEN

JUNE

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 5-6pm Loaves & Fishes (carry-out)	2	3	4 6pm Board of Elders	5 BDCleaning	6
7 9am Worship on Wheels NO Sunday School	8 5-6pm Loaves & Fishes (carry-out) 6:30pm On-line Bible Study	9	10	11	12 11:30-12:30am Sandwiches in the Park Place: to be determined	13
14 9am Worship on Wheels NO Sunday School	15 5-6pm Loaves & Fishes (carry-out) 6:30pm On-line Bible Study NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	16 6pm Board of Trustees	17	18	19 11:30-12:30am Sandwiches in the Park Place: to be determined	20
				PASTOR KATIE ON VACATION 18 - 27		
21 9am Worship on Wheels NO Sunday School	22 5-6pm Loaves & Fishes (carry-out)	23	24	25	26 11:30-12:30am Sandwiches in the Park Place: to be determined	27
		PASTOR KATIE ON VACATION 18 - 27				
28 9am Worship on Wheels Drive-thru Communion following worship NO Sunday School	29 6:30pm On-line Bible Study	30 6pm Book Club @ Rose Garden	COMING EVENTS: July 6: 6:30pm On-line Bible Study			
			 You shop. Amazon gives.			

**Ebenezer Moravian Church
N8071 High Road
Watertown, WI 53094**

RETURN ADDRESS REQUESTED

