

# THE EBENEZER MESSENGER — March 2021

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



As I walked into the Y with my iced coffee in hand, I was greeted by the front desk person who was lamenting her last iced coffee. She was giving it up for Lent, sipping the last few drops of her recent, and apparently last, purchase for a while. We chatted a bit about Lent and discussed the idea of giving something up. For her, the iced coffee had become a bit of an obsession and for her health, she decided it was best to let it go for a while.

Honesty, the thought of giving up one more thing just seemed like too much to me. We have given up smiles and hugs, freedoms and closeness. We have given up some of our favorite activities, vacations, time with loved ones, our comfort, our security. We have given up the things we love, including holding loved ones, things we never thought we could live without. We have given and given and given and many of us are at the point of giving up.

So maybe Lent will be a reprieve. Finally, it seems ok to give something up in a season of giving up. Maybe we can find a new appreciation for the season, one which reminds us to prepare. We have been preparing for a year. We have prepared for isolation and safety, for a world we don't know and do not want to accept. We have prepared for worst case scenarios and final farewells. Yet, in all this preparation, we have somehow been spared. We have healthcare in place to deal with the sick, we have many places open and running, some just like they had before. We have people who care and check on us, maybe on the phone instead of our front porch. We have schools open and sports being played. We have family fun nights, movies theaters open, restaurants to eat in and grocery stores stocked with toilet paper. We have an abundance, even in a pandemic.

We have never prepared like this before and I pray we never will again. Yet, when the rubber meets the road, we can do it. We can do what we must for one another. So, as this season continues and we give up or take on, may we know that we are prepared, for anything that may come. It is important to prepare with necessities like bottled water and flashlights, but even more important, we are prepared with a God who can help us through anything. Maybe the Boy Scouts have it right. We may not always be ready, but with God, we are always prepared.



**DEADLINE is**  
**FRIDAY, MARCH 19TH**  
**for the**  
**April Newsletter**

(earlier is ALWAYS better)



**DAY LIGHT SAVINGS**  
**SPRING AHEAD**  
**SUNDAY, MARCH 14th**

Time to  
Spring Ahead



**FIRST DAY OF SPRING**  
**IS SATURDAY MARCH 20th**

## 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 **4:15 to 5:30 p.m.** at the Watertown Moravian Church, 510 Cole Street.

Loaves & Fishes will continue to serve carry-out meals and are keeping social distancing at the forefront of our minds. Our carry-out meal numbers have continued to increase weekly; and we are serving over 275 meals every week. 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 — March

1: Chicken Breast

8: Hot Dogs

15: Taco Hot Dish

22: Swedish Meat Balls

29: Sweet & Sour Chicken

### MENU SUBJECT TO CHANGE

### SERVERS — March

1: Kwik Trip - Carrie

8: Saturday Club

15: Hope Lutheran

22: Carmen Otto - Summit Harvest

29: Clausen

We have had several groups/organizations retire from helping serve meals. If you are in a group/organization, please consider helping. Or if you have friends in an group/organization, please speak with them to see if they are interested in helping. At the same time, if you are an area business and your employees would like to help, please contact us. (emc1853@aol.com)



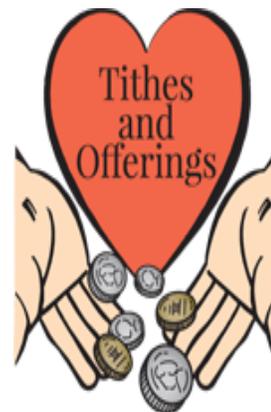
Please pass the word that we are looking for people to help serve our weekly Loaves & Fishes Meal.

## Summer Sandwiches in the Park

With the extreme cold and snow it doesn't seem right to be talking about summer right now. We have decided that we will once again be serving Summer Sandwiches in the Park. I don't have a whole lot of details at the moment, but I do ask that each of you prayerfully consider helping in one way or another.

If you are interested in helping please reach out to Pastor Katie or myself. More details to follow so please watch for updates in the coming weeks.

Serving Christ With You,  
Theresa Vesper, Elder



January 24 —  
\$3,885.75

January 31 —  
\$2,073.34

February 7 —  
\$2,790.00

February 14 —  
\$1,406.00

Thank you.



For all the prayers during our surgery and recovery.

Trudy Krueger  
AND  
Sue Kopp

## HELPING HANDS FUND

The Helping Hands Fund was established to provide assistance to members and friends in need. This fund is separate from other funds as we wish to make sure people can be helped in an emergency. Funds have been used to help with short hotel stays for a member that was homeless, food for a few people who had none and emergency expenses. We never want to say no to our members in need. We do have limits; we can only help a person once in a calendar year. We often refer people in need to other area resources especially the food pantry, personal essentials pantry, Mary's Room, Heroes Café and Hometown Missions (if you live in the City of Watertown). Thankfully our area has some help available, but it is not always enough.

Pastor Katie and others work with persons in need not to just help them once, but to create ways to improve circumstances with budgeting, assistance and options that many are unaware exist. Yet, in the end, the gift of care that people get through our Helping Hands fund often brings people to tears of gratitude. It is so hard to even ask, especially when they know our church is struggling. The amazing blessing is that our church struggle does not stop our generosity or our ministry. We do not often share about this fund as help is kept confidential. However, the people who have been touched often reach out and help others when they can.

The Helping Hands fund has helped many people over the years and it continues to be a light to people in the midst of darkness. It really is a miracle and we are humbled to be responsible for such an amazing ministry gift. Miraculously, there has always been funds available when needed and thankfully your generosity provides this ministry. The first of four special offering envelopes is designated for the Helping Hands Fund. All gifts in the envelopes will go to the Helping Hands Fund to help fund this important Ebenezer ministry.

## 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](mailto:degrandts@gmail.com).

### Joyce Kopp

317 Lauren Lane, Watertown, WI 53094

### Carol Schultz

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



You shop. Amazon gives.

If you are an 'on-line buyer' and purchase from AmazonSmile.com, Ebenezer is now part of their Charity Support Program. For every purchase you make on AmazonSmile.com, Ebenezer will receive a portion of your order as a donation to the church. All you need to do is make sure you are using AmazonSmile.com and not Amazon.com. On your initial purchase you will need to select Ebenezer Moravian Church as the recipient of your donation. We will automatically receive quarterly payments.

If you have any questions on how this works, feel free to contact Dawn.

## Are You Tuning In?

Want to worship with us without coming to the sanctuary?

You can join us each Sunday on google meet.

Watch your email for the address and log in a few minutes early. You will see everything on the screen and have the opportunity to share prayer concerns and announcements. It is a great alternative to coming in person.

Thanks so much to our tech people who are working hard at making all worship experiences possible. We may change formats and are still learning each week, but we are so grateful for the opportunity to gather in a variety of ways.

## EBENEZER MORAVIAN WOMEN

No news on when we will be meeting. Future meetings will be held depending on the pandemic situation.

If you have any questions, please contact Linda Rabbach or Karol Wesemann.



**Tuesday**  
10am to 2 pm

**Thursday**  
10am to 2pm

Please contact Pastor Katie to make arrangements for other times.

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At the present time there are no Adult Sunday School class.



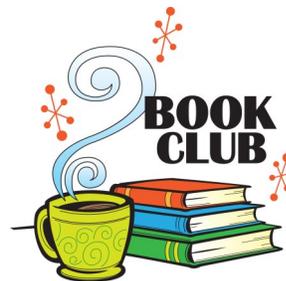
Watch for updates in future newsletters.

## 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.

**YOUR GIVING MATTERS!**



**WHEN:** Monday, April 12th  
**WHERE:** Hering Towne Inn  
Jefferson

**TIME:** 6pm

**BOOK:** Not selected yet.

## THANK YOU FROM MOUNT MORRIS

Please pass along a HUGE thank you to your congregation for the gift of the Lawn Mower via the Endowment Committee.

As posted on Facebook, it's brand new and just arrived a few days ago. It's awesome and will be of great service to us for many many years! And, it was built in Wisconsin...so that makes it extra awesome. Thank you to all at Ebenezer for your support and partnership in the Gospel!

Dan



## 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](mailto: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.

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.

*Lord,  
Hear Our  
Prayer*

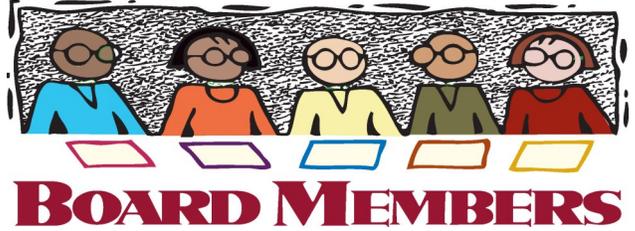


Pastor Katie Van der Linden  
(610) 442-3790

**IF NOT AVAILABLE CONTACT**

Tom Naatz, Vice-Elder Chair  
(920) 699-3118

Jon Gehler, Trustee Chair  
(920) 342-2945



**ELDERS: 2021-2022**

**Pastor Katie:** Chair  
(610) 442-3790  
Pastor.kvdl@gmail.com

**Tom Naatz:**  
(920) 699-3118  
tanacer@charter.net

**Theresa Vesper:**  
(920) 342-8021  
tlynnr83@gmail.com.

**Trudy Krueger:**  
(920) 220-9626  
3djtkrueger@charter.net

**OPEN POSITION**

**TRUSTEES: 2021-22**

**Jon Gehler:** Chair  
(920) 342-2945  
Gehler.ja2@gmail.com

**Chuck Wesemann:** Vice Chair  
920-285-9212  
chuckwesemann@gmail.com

**Megan Weihert:** Secretary  
(920) 253-8139  
lippensm@live.com

**Dennis & Linda Rabbach**  
(920) 699-3781  
rabbach1950@yahoo.com

**OPEN POSITION**



Please help keep our website updated with current pictures of church activities, ministries, church grounds and church facilities.

We are also looking for new group pictures of the church boards and committees.

Send pictures as jpg files to Dawn Westenberg at dawn22658@gmail.com. We desperately need to update the photographs currently on our website.

The choir will continue to "stay safe".  
Looking forward to Spring.  
Everyone "think  
SPRING".....BRRRRRRRRRRRRRRR  
Maybe by then we can get back together.

Glennis



**No bible study ....  
Stay tuned!!**

**No Ebenezer kids ....  
Stay tuned!!**



Since we will not be gathering on Wednesday nights together, here is an option to zoom together with others from around the province on Wednesday nights at 6pm. Katie

Dear church,

Grace and peace to you as journey through the Season of Epiphany. Jesus continues to make God known to us in varied and wondrous ways!

Please see the flyer (on the next page) announcing a Lenten Series on Racial Justice and Healing offered on Wednesday evenings during Lent. You will note that it starts *after* Ash Wednesday and ends *before* Holy Week.

It is another step of the Racial Justice Team to live into the Action Plan approved by the Provincial Elders' Conference last fall.

With profound hope,  
The Rev. Dr. Betsy Miller  
President, Moravian Church Northern Province

## 2021 TENTATIVE Summer Camping Season



Mount Morris has tentatively scheduled their Summer Camping Season. Get ready for a summer of Christ-centered camping – Moravian style! Be prepared for a summer filled with excellent opportunities to learn, serve and celebrate life with Jesus.

### **CHETEK**

WHEN: July 18<sup>th</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup>

CAMPERS INVITED: Completed 9<sup>th</sup> grade through age 21

### **WINMOR**

WHEN: July 25<sup>th</sup> – 31<sup>st</sup>

CAMPERS INVITED: Completed 6<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> grade

### **JUNIOR CAMP**

WHEN: August 1<sup>st</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup>

CAMPERS INVITED: Children grades 3 through 5.

## CORNERSTONE OF GRACE UPDATE

First, I would like to extend an enormous “thank you” to each and every one of you for the overwhelming support given to Cornerstone of Grace’s first family.

I would like to take this opportunity to provide an update regarding them. The mother, Ashley, and her 4 young children came to us in an emergency situation from Iowa. They arrived here with nothing with them but the clothes on their backs. The support they were given from not only Ebenezer, but other people as well, has provided them all clothing, diapers, wipes, personal care items, shoes, jackets, and everything in between and they are set. They have been in our house for almost 4 weeks and there has been considerable improvement in overall behaviors from the children and Ashley has begun therapy. She is determined to push through this and has openly said she desires a more personal relationship with Jesus. This is huge!! She still has a long way to go, but I feel that she was placed in our home at just the right time. God is so good!

Thank you all again for all of the support. It truly warms my heart to see how many people gave to complete strangers at a moment’s notice. Ebenezer, you all continue to show up when it counts and I couldn’t be more proud to be a member. Thank you, thank you, thank you!!

I ask each of you to continue to hold her and her children up in prayer. Pray for healing, both physically and mentally. Pray that Cornerstone of Grace will provide her with all the skills needed to raise her 4 children in the most healthy environment possible.

In Christian Love and Gratitude,  
Theresa Vesper, Elder & Vice-President of  
Cornerstone of Grace





# **A New Way of Being: From Confession to Hope**

**Wednesday Lenten Series  
Featuring Moravian Stories and Racial Justice**

The Provincial Racial Justice Team is pleased to announce a 2021 Lenten Series called "A New Way of Being: From Confession to Hope". This series builds on the Advent material offered last year. Each session will include a reflection on the lectionary texts for the preceding Sunday, conversations among Moravians as they discuss their journey toward a growing awareness of racial justice and healing, and discussion questions.

The series is offered on five Wednesday evenings in Lent, starting after Ash Wednesday and concluding before Holy Week. All sessions begin at 7 pm ET/ 6 pm CT/ 5 pm MT/ 4 pm PT and will be led by:

February 24	Mark Breland and Betsy Miller
March 3	Bevon White and Frank Crouch
March 10	Rhonda and Tracy Robinson
March 17	Amy Gohdes-Luhman and Tim Berry
March 24	Bruce Nelson and Riddick Weber

Participants may participate live, via Zoom, or access the recordings of the material that will be posted at <https://www.moravian.org/northern/category/racial-justice-and-healing/>

Congregations may choose to offer this series in a format and timing that fits their schedule.

The Zoom link for all five sessions is the same:  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85629600721?pwd=VStnYWWhWb1dUNGNYMmUrM2pVNkswQT09>

Meeting ID: 856 2960 0721      Passcode: 734018  
One tap mobile +16465588656,,85629600721# US      +13017158592,,85629600721# US  
+1 646 558 8656 US (New York) +1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)

**ACTIVITY GROUP "A"**

Leaders Bob (920-342-4304) &  
 Tammy (920-342-3849) Meyer  
**May - July 2021**

Karissa Bender - (920) 342-3347  
 Kaylin Bender - (920) 285-6984  
 Shari Bender - (920) 285-6984  
 Pat Counsell - (920) 261-2730  
 Kris Kerr - (920) 261-1523  
 MaryLou Kopp - (920) 261-2096  
 Christine Kopp - (920) 253-1919  
 Scott Kopp - (920) 988-2748  
 Bob & Tammy Meyer - (920) 342-3849  
 Arlene Molly - (920) 699-2133  
 Dorothy Rein - (920) 261-4269  
 Allison Rein - (920) 206-1411  
 Emmaleigh Rein - (920) 206-1411  
 Eric & Tracey Rein - (920) 206-1411  
 Lee & Tracy Saxby - (920) 261-6251  
 Carol Schultz  
 Everett, Jr. & Judith Strauss - (920) 261-2006  
 Ken & Linda Strauss - (920) 262-0094  
 Aaron & Katie Van der Linden - (610) 442-3790  
 Joe & Anne Walsh - (920) 699-2884  
 Donald & Karol Wesemann - (920) 261-7388  
 Trudi Wesemann - (920) 342-4133

**ACTIVITY GROUP "B" — Co-Leaders**

Dennis & Linda Rabbach (920-699-3781)  
 AND  
 Tom & Virginia Naatz (920-699-3118)  
**November 2020 - January 2021**

Nathan & Angela Baum - (920) 988-2230  
 Chris Bender - (920) 342-4218  
 John & Nancy Braatz - (920) 261-4333  
 Carol Britts - (920) 261-9493  
 Seth Brown & Teaya - (920) 220-0166  
 Bohdi Degrandt - (920) 342-5277 OR  
 (920) 988-6281 (Shelly)  
 Joe & Shelly Degrandt - (920) 699-2178  
 Jillian Degrandt - (920) 342-1289  
 Jon Gehler - (920) 342-2945  
 Amanda Harris - (920) 248-9304  
 Paula Harris - (262) 617-6579

Sue Kopp - (920) 699-3504  
 Darrick Krueger  
 Dalton Krueger - (920) 220-9626  
 Darrin & Trudy Krueger - (920) 220-9626  
 Brian & Lynette Mertz - (920) 988-3542 (Brian)  
 (608) 490-3602 (Lynette)  
 Tom & Ginny Naatz - home - (920) 699-3118  
 Tim & Julie Pattengale - (920) 988-6130  
 Dennis & Linda Rabbach - (920) 699-3781  
 Barbara Rich - (920) 421-3133  
 Jozelle Roberts - (920) 248-9304  
 Andy Roberts - (920) 285-4723  
 Yolanda Strombeck - (920) 253-6617  
 Theresa & John Vesper - (920) 941-0152  
 Charles & Judy Wesemann - (920) 261-6880  
 Emma Wegner - (920) 285-1370  
 Alex Zubrod - (920) 261-8289

**ACTIVITY GROUP "C" — Co-Leaders**

Linda (920-253-8137) & Gregg Lippens  
 (920-253-8136) HOME: (920-261-2061)  
 AND  
 Doug (920-285-1045) & Kris (920-285-1048)  
 Schefft  
**February - April 2021**

Scott & Jill Beerbohm - (920) 988-4714  
 Chris Cahill - (920) 699-2867  
 Craig & Melissa Cahill - (920) 699-2867  
 Robert Hahn - (920) 261-5849  
 Bob & Dianne Hamann - (920) 261-6685  
 Todd Hamann  
 Travis & Emily Hamann - (920) 262-8257  
 Joyce Kopp - (920) 261-7972  
 Greg & Linda Lippens - (920) 261-2061  
 Kari & Matt Maass - (920) 253-7297  
 Francis & Kathie Orval - (414) 416-0225  
 Reinhold Petig - (920) 261-6892  
 William Petig - (920) 261-2486  
 Doug & Kris Schefft - (920) 285-1048  
 Clifford & Dianne Schuett - (920) 261-9120  
 Carole Schumacher - (920) 261-2005  
 Diane Tuhy - (920) 253-1481  
 Brian & Megan Weihert - (920) 253-8139  
 Bob & Dawn Westenber - (920) 261-7068  
 Glennis Zastrow - (920) 261-3731



**March 7:**

Douglas & Kristine Schefft  
Mary Kopp  
Scott Kopp

**March 14 & 21:**

Scott & Jill Beerbohm  
Amanda Harris

**March 28:**

Donald & Karol Wesemann  
Bob & Tammy Meyer

*If you are unable to usher, please contact Alex  
Zubrod at 261-8289.*



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.



## MARCH BIRTHDAYS

- 2 - Sharon Prust
- 2 - Cody Saxby
- 3 - Arlene Molly
- 4 - Linda Strauss
- 9 - William Kopp
- 16 - Nicholas Finley
- 23 - Roland Lee
- 25 - Michael Braatz
- 28 - Linda Lippens
- 29 - Trudi Wesemann
- 30 - Joe Walsh



## MARCH ANNIVERSARIES

- 22 - Paul & Pam Jacobson



Find us on  
**Facebook**

**REMEMBER: OUR Facebook  
page is "Ebenezer Moravian".**

## What Will Lent Be?

Can you remember the last time you ate at church? It has been a while. Well it has been since last Lent! If you recall, we stopped our Lenten series in the middle last year as the pandemic hit. This year, without an end yet, the board has decided to not hold our weekly dinner and discussion. It was not an easy decision to make, but we felt it necessary at this time. However, we will be honoring Lent on Sundays. This year, Pastor Katie will be preaching a sermon series during Lent. What is a sermon series? It is several sermons based on the same theme or topic that may tell a story, share an idea or build weekly upon one another. The theme for Lent 2021 is "Called to More: A Lenten Series on Wrestling with Sin."

Are you going through life's motions? Do you feel in control or just going through the same routine? Are you feeling stuck, doomed to a life you can't get out of? Are you holding onto the past, giving yourself a life-long sentence for a misdemeanor sin? Are you really living the life God wants you to live? Throughout the 6 weeks of Lent, we will discuss what an Abundant Life truly is and what holds us back. We will wrestle with forgiveness and letting go, be challenged to step out of our comfortable routine and follow God's calling. If anything, 2020 has showed us that our routines can abruptly change. Now the question lies, can I abruptly change to where God is leading me?



## Valentine Care Packages

Covid-19 might be affecting how college students are attending their classes, but it did not stop us from remembering them this month. The Christian Education and Fellowship Committee continued the tradition of sending Valentine Care Packages to our college students. This year the care packages included various treats (including candy and homemade cookies), health supplies (including hand sanitizer and homemade masks), school supplies, study break items (puzzles & games), and homemade towels.

A special thank you to the people who provided the homemade items and helped deliver the packages.

Please remember our college students, Jillian Degrandt, Allison Rein, William Kopp, and Jozie Roberts as they finish out the spring semester.



# MARCH

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4 6pm Elders	5	6
7 10am Worship	8 4:15-5:30 Loaves & Fishes (Carry Out)	9	10	11 9am Shared Community Missions  6pm CEF	12 BDCleaning	13
14 10am Worship   Time to Spring Ahead	15 4:15-5:30 Loaves & Fishes (Carry Out)	16	17   St. Patrick's Day	18	19 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	20   IT'S SPRING!
21 10am Worship	22 4:15-5:30 Loaves & Fishes (Carry Out)	23	24	25	26	27
28 10am Worship   PALM SUNDAY	29 4:15-5:30 Loaves & Fishes (Carry Out)  HOLY WEEK READINGS	30  HOLY WEEK READINGS	31  HOLY WEEK READINGS	COMING EVENTS: April 1: 7pm Maundy Thursday Service with Communion April 2: 7pm Good Friday Service April 4: 7am Easter Sunrise Service @ cemetery		

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

**RETURN ADDRESS REQUESTED**

