

THE EBENEZER MESSENGER — May 2023

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



FROM THE



PASTOR


WE CAN NOT LIVE IN FEAR

What did Jesus say most often after he arose from the tomb? Do not fear. Actually he says it quite often even before he dies. It is in scripture numerous times, both in the Old and New Testaments. It is said to the women at the tomb, it is said to the disciples, it is said to the prophets, it is said repeatedly.....Do Not Fear. Yet, as I read three recent stories about innocent people being shot for simply knocking on a door or driving in a driveway, I am reminded of why these words mean so much. We do live in fear. It is ingrained in us as children. Fear strangers, fear traffic, fear danger. For our survival, we learn to distrust and fear, to check our surroundings and know our exit strategies. Some of us had air-raid drills, tornado drills, fire drills and now, sadly, active shooter drills in school to work through worst-case scenarios. And with all this fearful knowledge, we go out into the world, only to read and hear about shootings, and robberies, and kidnappings, and more. We are constantly reminded that the world is unsafe and so we “protect” ourselves. This means we learn about what to do in emergencies, have smoke detectors and CO2 detectors to keep us safe. We lock our doors or take shelter when tornado sirens go off. Those are the more simple protective acts. But what about owning a gun? Carrying a gun? Being concerned about a knock on the door or a car in the driveway?

Many of you know that my family hunts and yes, we do have a locked safe with firearms. But they are for hunting. They are not for protection or self-defense. My husband once asked me, do you really think you could shoot someone? Would you want to live with that? I know my answer. I know that I would not ever want to know that I shot anyone, even if they are coming into my house to hurt me. I also know the chance of me missing my target is incredibly high and that others could get hurt in the process. So, I recognize that guns are not the answer to feeling safe. Nothing can “make you” feel safe. It is your state of mind, your energy, your perspective. No one, no object, no external device or equipment can make you feel safe unless you believe you feel safe. Feelings are internal. They are our emotions, our choices, our focus. If you want to feel safer, then you have to consciously work on that. It is not about a bigger barricade, a stronger arsenal or building more lean muscle mass. It is about consciously believing you are safe and knowing that you will react well no matter what the circumstance.

The shootings at Columbine High School happened right after I graduated high school. I remember the stories of the victims and the teacher who went back in and saved kids, dying in this heroic act. And as I have often thought about where I would be had I been there, I hope I would have been that teacher. I hope I would seek safety for others and even if I perished, know that my final act was one of helping, not harming. My family knows I love them. My church family knows I love them. No day is guaranteed and if I die tomorrow, it would be hard. But I will not live today being scared of dying tomorrow. I will live today seeking peace, feeling safe because I choose to remember that everyday billions of people go to work just fine, go to the movies without incident, eat at restaurant and go to gas stations without any complications. The news is a story because it is rare, unique, not the norm. We cannot let those unique instances change us. We cannot live in fear. How we view the world is a choice...will you view it fearfully as the news and media claim so that you continue to be afraid and stay tuned...or will you choose to live knowing that God protects and that we are reminded frequently to not fear? Fear has done a lot of damage, do not let it control you too.

Listen to Jesus: Do Not Fear.



**DEADLINE for
the June
Newsletter is
Wednesday,
May 24th**

(Earlier is always better.)

Pastor Katie Van der Linden
(610) 442-3790

IF NOT AVAILABLE CONTACT

Tom Naatz, Vice-Elder Chair
920-248-1029

Megan Weihert: Trustee Chair
920-253-8139



April 2: \$4,170.00
April 6: \$165.00
(Maundy Thursday)
April 7: \$105.00
(Good Friday)
April 9: \$3,815.00
(Easter)
April 16: \$1,265.00

Thank you.



Among Friends Game Night

On Tuesday evening May 16th CEF is hosting a Sheepshead card game night. We will gather in Heiser Hall at 7m after the trustees meeting.

If you like to play sheepshead or if you would like to learn how to play sheepshead, you are invited to attend. There will be a 10 minute instruction session before we start for those who do not know how to play and or for those who would like a refresher course.

Drinks and snacks will be provided. Mark your calendar for an evening of fun.

MORAVIAN WOMEN

Moravian Women is moving its May meeting to May 10.

It will be held at 10:00 a.m. at the Church.

LOAVES & FISHES

Contact Linda Lippens

The free meal is served every Monday evening, except holidays at the Watertown Moravian Church, 510 Cole Street.

Curbside Pick Up: 4:00 - 4:45 (NO later)
Dining Inside and Carry-out: 4:00 – 5:30

As of January 12, 2023, we have served 95,654 meals!

We anticipate hitting 100,000 this year!
On June 7, 2023, we will be celebrating our 13 YEAR ANNIVERSARY!

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 — May

- 1: Meatloaf and garlic potatoes
- 8: Pork with kraut and mashed potatoes
- 15: Chicken salad sandwich
- 22: Brats and potato salad
- 29: CLOSED — Memorial Day

MENU SUBJECT TO CHANGE

SERVERS — May

- 1: New Hope
- 8: Faithful Friends
- 15: OPEN
- 22: Ebenezer
- 29: CLOSED — Memorial Day

We have had several groups/organizations retire from helping serve meals. If you are in a group/organization, please consider helping.



Please pass the word that we are looking for people to help serve our weekly Loaves & Fishes Meal. We have a yearly rotation and each group serves twice a year.

ACTIVITY GROUP "C"

Co-Leaders

Linda (920-253-8137) & Gregg Lippens
(920-253-8136) HOME: (920-261-2061)

May to July 2023

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 (Buzz cell)

(920) 723-1173 (Kathy cell)

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

Last Month for

Food to Go and Grow

We will be accepting canned soup through Sunday May 28th for our weekend food to go and grow program. We provide this food during the school year and the last day for Watertown schools in June 8th. Our gifts of soup and special items have enabled us to serve hundreds of kids over this past school year.

Thank you for your donations! Feel free to check dates and start stocking up as I am sure we will be doing soup again in the fall!

Summer Sandwiches in the Park

A healthy lunch will be provided four days of the week to families with children, from June 11 to August 20. Four area churches will provide lunches at four different parks, Tuesday through Friday. Lunch is served rain or shine, from 11:30-12:30.

Books will also be available for kids to take home with them.

- ◆ **Tuesday:** St. Paul's Episcopal Church at the Clark Park shelter
- ◆ **Wednesday:** Good Shepherd Lutheran Church at the shelter in Riverside Park
- ◆ **Thursday:** St. Luke's Lutheran Church at the Clark Park shelter
- ◆ **Friday:** Ebenezer at Timothy Johnson Park

Signup sheets for items needed for this program will be sent around as we build our supplies back up and as they are depleted. Thank you in advance for your generosity!

Volunteers are also needed to make sandwiches and to serve the lunches at the park. We meet at Ebenezer at 10am to make the sandwiches, pack the lunch bags with the nonperishable items, and pack everything up to go to the park.



Tuesday
10am to 2 pm
Thursday
10am to 2pm

Please contact Pastor Katie to make arrangements for other times.

2023 Synod

Provincial synod is the highest governing body in our church besides Unity Synod that meets every 9 years. Ebenezer has the opportunity to send the pastor and a lay person, At the Special Council Meeting held on December 4, 2022, Theresa Vesper was elected as our delegate, with Megan Weihert and Paula Harris as alternates.





MAY BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

- 3 - Jeremy Harris
 - 4 - Gracie Hamann
 - 4 - Cliff Schuett
 - 6 - Judith Wesemann
 - 8 - Matthew Meyer
 - 9 - Sherry Bender
 - 10 - Colleen Walsh
 - 11 - Thomas Baum
 - 12 - Elijah Vesper
 - 13 - Seth Brown
 - 20 - Lilliana Katharine Orval
 - 21 - Alexander Caratachea
 - 24 - Donna Flath
 - 24 - Harley Flath
 - 27 - Craig Cahill, Jr.
 - 28 - Ryan Parmley
 - 28 - Dennis Rabbach
 - 31 - Darlene Hain
-
- 18 - Greg & Linda Lippens
 - 18 - Brian & Megan Weihert
 - 12 - Alex & Laura Zubrod
 - 23 - James & Sally Parmley
 - 23 - Joe & Anne Walsh
 - 23 - Matthew & Kari Maass

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 Pastor Katie.

Loretta Zubrod

1405 Prospect Street, Watertown, WI 53098

Bobby Hahn

N8319 Airport Road * Watertown, WI 53094

Janet Parmley

N8352 Airport Road * Watertown, WI 53094

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!**

Thank you for your generosity.

Are You Tuning In?

Want to worship with us without coming to the sanctuary? You can join us each Sunday on Zoom.

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.

Summer Worship!

Beginning in June, we will once again change to 9am worship. We will also be having monthly outdoor worship in our parking lot (weather permitting).

Make sure to adjust your alarm clock and we look forward to seeing you a bit earlier this summer.

Our summer schedule runs June, July and August.

Worship on Wheels... Back for Another Spin!

June 11
July 9 and 30
August 13

Bring your lawn chair, blanket, friends, pets....

If the weather is bad, we will go inside.



May Schedule



May 14: Trudi & Anne



May 14: Tom

LAST DAY OF CLASSES

Classes are held during church service.

Camp Sunday - May 14th

Join us as we welcome Dan from Mt Morris to sing songs and tell stories about our wonderful camp!

We will get updates on the newest construction projects as well as invites to camp, dates, funds available and more. You don't want to miss it!

Campers of all ages are personally invited! You won't want to miss this Sunday!

SPRING CLEANING

Spring cleaning will occur on April 29th starting at 9 am. **All help is appreciated as many hands make light work**, and there will be jobs for all ages. Lunch will be provided. (Rain Date - May 6th).

CHOIR

If anyone interested in getting a choir together, please contact me.



Glennis

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. Please use any information you get just for the prayer request.



WATERTOWN SENIOR CARE FAIR

AN EFFORT TO SUPPORT AREA SENIORS AND CAREGIVERS

Every minute another person is affected by dementia, Alzheimer's, memory issues, and aging challenges. That means another family is thrown into chaos having been given little or no instruction in navigating life and providing care. Families are under stress - they need support and encouragement, and that's what we're here for.

FREE EVENT!

REFRESHMENTS • RESOURCES • DOOR PRIZES

WHEN

Wed, May 10, 2023
3:00 - 7:00 PM

WHERE

Watertown Senior & Community Center
514 S. First St, Watertown, WI 53094

HOSTED BY: Watertown Senior & Community Center, Aging and Disability Resource Centers (ADRC) of Dodge and Jefferson Counties, and The Watertown Clergy Roundtable





ELDERS: 2023-2024

Pastor Katie: Chair

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

Tom Naatz: Vice Elder

920-248-1029 ** tanacer@charter.net

Shelly Degrandt

(920) 988-6281 ** degrandts@gmail.com

Kris Schefft: Secretary

(920) 285-1048 ** kschefft@hotmail.com

Joe Walsh

(262) 894-1652 ** JoeRapide@gmail.com

Glennis Zastrow

920-261-3731 ** glennis.zastrow@yahoo.com

TRUSTEES: 2023-24

Megan Weihert: Chair & Secretary

920-253-8139 ** lippensm@live.com

Chuck Wesemann: Vice Chair

920-285-9212 **

chuckwesemann@gmail.com

Dennis Rabbach AND Linda Rabbach

(920) 699-3781

(920)941-0696 (Linda Cell)

rabbach1950@yahoo.com

Scott Beerbohm AND Jordan Beerbohm

(920) 988-4714 (Scott)

beerbohmswi@gmail.com

(920) 988-3949 (Jordan)

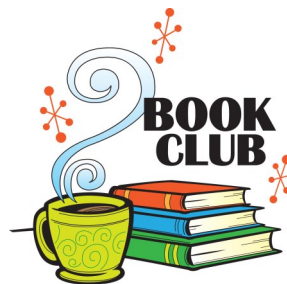
beerbohm.s@hotmail.com

Jean Walker

920 206-1812 (landline)

608 504-8300 (cell)

Jwalker_409@yahoo.com



is trying a new place - Watertown Café

Join us on Thursday May 18 at 6pm for a discussion of the book "*League of Denial: The NFL, Concussions, and the Battle for Truth*" by Mark Fainaru-Wada and Steve Fainaru.

The book covers the stories of decades of players who have battled with chronic brain disease and the NFL's challenge to the connection between disease and football. Read as a doctor exposes the real risks players face and the wish to hide the realities that football trauma takes on players and their families. There is even a movie option. So whether you read or watch, come out and discuss this fascinating book.

2023 CAMP DATES

Chetek: July 16th - 22nd
Completed 9th grade - Age 21

Winmor: July 22nd - 29th
Completed 6th grade - 8th grade

Junior Camp: July 29th - August 3rd
Completed 2nd grade - 5th grade



Visit the church website
(ebenezermoravianchurch.org) for links
to register for camp.

THIS SPELLS
HELP FOR LOTS OF
FAMILIES THIS
YEAR!



**LETTER CARRIERS'
FOOD DRIVE**

SECOND SATURDAY IN MAY

PUT YOUR NON-PERISHABLE DONATION IN A BAG BY YOUR MAILBOX.
WE'LL DELIVER IT TO A LOCAL FOOD BANK.

National Partners



The Watertown Food Pantry is always looking for help during the Annual Letter Carriers' Food Drive. We need help AT the food pantry unloading the boxes from the truck onto carts and bringing the carts down to the food pantry. Last year we collected over 12,000# of food and that amounts to A LOT of boxes to move.

Check your calendars. If you are free on **Saturday, May 13th** please give Dawn Westenberg a call (920-261-7068) and let her know you are willing to help. The day usually begins around 11am and ends at 5pm. Even an hour or two would be greatly appreciated!



**Bike Blessing
May 21st**

We have once again partnered with the Christian Motorcycle Association and B-Cause We Care to have our annual Bike Blessing. We will be hosting this event at 12:30 on Sunday March 21. A Brat Fry to benefit CMA will be going on as well as a free will offering to B-Cause We Care.

Watch for more info and make sure to share this with any biker friends you know.

Each bike and rider are offered prayers and a blessing. We know the roads can be dangerous, so we want to make sure everyone is as safe and protected as they can be.

We look forward to this wonderful ministry and hope you can stay after worship and join us.



**USHER
SCHEDULE**

May 7 & 14

Tom & Virginia Naatz

May 21 & 28

Joe & Anne Walsh

If you are unable to usher, please contact head usher Reine Petig @ 920-261-6892.



Ebenezer offers online giving through the Moravian Ministries Foundation. Here is the link: <https://mmfa.info/ebenezer-moravian-church-donation-form/>.

Elevator/Lift Support

Since their installation, our lifts have been vital in making our worship space accessible for many in need. Unfortunately, they have seen many years of use and parts have become impossible to locate. The only option for ensuring accessibility to worship at Ebenezer is to look at installing new lifts. As one can imagine this is not a small expense. In an effort to not deplete funds we currently have, we will be openly accepting monetary support for this need. We will continue to update the congregation on development through the board of trustees' minutes as we gather bids and evaluate options. As we gather as many bids as necessary as this huge undertaking that will require great scrutiny from a safety and financial standpoint. Seeing as it's been 36 years since we have had an upgrade of this magnitude, we are well overdue for modernization. We as board members need to be able to make the utmost accommodations to meet all the congregation needs as well as to ensure all parishioners are able to attend all such worship services.

BLESSING BOX

The Blessing Box is in need of donations of personal care items such as toothpaste, toilet paper, deodorant, shampoo, etc. Those items cannot be purchased with FoodShare cards.

With the cost of food going up, it leaves less funds available for these other necessities.

Feel free to drop these items off, leave in the Library, or contact Kris Schefft with questions.kschefft@hotmail.com or 920-285-1048. God is Good.....(say it with me) all the time:) Thank you!



RAGNAR IS COMING!

Mark your calendar for super early on Saturday May 13 (like 3am early) as we are a stop on the 200 mile race from Chicago to Madison.

We need 3 people per shift between 3am and noon. In the meantime, save that morning!



BAKE SALE



This year we are offered the opportunity to have a bake sale in collaboration with the Ragnar. That being said, calling all bakers to help! Kris Schefft will help coordinate this effort, with proceeds going to the Camp Scholarship fund. Please have your baked goods to church by 6pm on Friday May 12th. Ideas for the bake sale: Cookies, Bars, Rice Krispie treats, Chex Mix, Raisin/Nut mix. If you can have your items in a zip lock sandwich bag, even better. Anne Walsh will be accepting the cash from the runners and we will have a coffee can for them to put their donations in. Please call/text Kris with any questions 920.285.1048.

We desperately need to update the photographs currently on our website. Please take and send pictures of church activities, ministries, church grounds and church facilities. We are also looking for new group pictures of the church boards and committees.



We desperately need to update the photographs currently on our website. Send pictures (in jpeg format) to Dawn Westenberg at dawn22658@gmail.com.

EASTER SUNRISE BREAKFAST



may

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--|---|---------------------------------------|---|---|--|--|
| | 1 Loaves & Fishes 4:00-4:45pm Curb-side pickup 4:00-5:30pm Inside dining | 2 | 3 10am Moravian Women 7pm Ragnar Volunteer On Line Training | 4 | 5 BDCleaning <div style="background-color: #cccccc; padding: 2px; text-align: center;">May 5-7: Men's Retreat</div> | 6 Rain Date: For Spring Cleanup |
| 7 10am Worship Service Baptism | 8 Loaves & Fishes 4:00-4:45pm Curb-side pickup 4:00-5:30pm Inside dining | 9 | 10 3-7pm Senior Care Fair 6pm CEF Meeting | 11 9am Shared Community Mission Group @ CUMA 6pm Board of Elders | 12 | 13 2am-12pm Ragnar Race Volunteer Stop |
| 14 10am Worship Service Camp Sunday 10am Sunday School (last day) | 15 Loaves & Fishes 4:00-4:45pm Curb-side pickup 4:00-5:30pm Inside dining | 16 5:30pm Board of Trustees | 17 | 18 6pm Book Club @ Watertown Cafe | 19 | 20 |
| 21 10am Worship Service 12:30-2pm Bike Blessing AND Brat Fry | 22 Loaves & Fishes 4:00-4:45pm Curb-side pickup 4:00-5:30pm Inside dining+ EBENEZER SERVES TODAY | 23 | 24 6pm Visioning Meeting | 25 | 26 | 27 |
| 28 10am Worship Service Pentecost with Communion | 29 | 30 | 31 7:30pm Religion Recovery @ Lyons Pub | LOOKING AHEAD TO MT. MORRIS CAMPS: June 2-4: Family Fun Camp July 16-20: Camp Chetek July 22-29: Camp Winmor July 29-August 3: Junior Camp | | |