

Over the past few weeks, I have been preaching a sermon series about Ebenezer. In the first week, we learned that people mostly got to Ebenezer either through birth or marriage. They stayed because they met someone, encountered someone, loved someone at the church. They shared names of those who are now with God who welcomed them, checked on them, supported them.

In our second week, we learned that church is not just a place of worship. Yes, we sing and read and respond, but we connect. We spend time asking about one another, checking on each other, caring for each other. The world is full of "fluffy" connections, of those simple questions and answers that do not go very deep. Yet, at church, we ask the questions about the struggles and really want to know how we can help, support, comfort.

The third week (coming up) will be spent talking about how to relate church to everyone else. For those who are not in church or who have fallen away, church is often boring, repetitive, unnecessary. As a matter of fact, any time I have done the group building exercise of who gets kicked out of the bomb shelter first, it is always the clergy person, as we all know that we can communicate directly with God ourselves. Yet, it is not the clergy who makes church, or the music, or the building or pews. It is each other. Church IS the people because that is where we meet Christ.

This world is full of pain, alienation, loneliness. Many of us struggle with so much internally, our external shells never share it. We suffer in silence from hurts of the past, pains of regret or wishes we could change. Some of us wake up with grief every single day. The reality is that time does not heal all wounds, it simply invites us to deal with them, stuff them down, pretend like they are gone or adapt to life in a new way. There are pains that will never go away. The only thing worse than the suffering, is suffering alone. This is where church is absolutely necessary. You don't have to suffer alone in church. You don't have to mask the pain, struggles, difficulties. Church is for those, not to hide from them. So often we feel like burdens if we share or that we "should" have gotten over things. But that is not true. We all deal in many ways and there is no one way to deal with things. Some are able to get it out and move on while others hold onto things and continue to struggle.

No matter how you deal with life, church wants to deal with it with you. We want to sit with your pain, hear your struggles, cry with you and for you. There is no burden too great that the church cannot handle. We don't fix or solve the problems (and we all know church has its own set of challenges) but we do offer a space and people to care, support, struggle together.

This life is not meant to be lived alone, but we need the comfort, care and love of others. Although imperfect, church offers that space. The space to be you, to struggle, to share, to get out the hurts, pains and awfulness of life.

The singing in comforting, scriptures are challenging, readings and sermons are guiding, but the real purpose of church, our true calling, is to be there for one another...no judgments, no expectations, just simply to walk with one another on this crazy journey called life, through the peaks and valleys.





#### DOWNTOWN WINE WALK

The Watertown Chamber of Commerce is hosting a wine walk on Thursday, September 12th.

Some members of Ebenezer have signed up and plan on going together. Theresa Rabbach is working on t-shirts for the event.

If you wish to participate, please go to the chamber of commerce website and reserve your spot (spaces are limited). Then sign up for a t-shirt in the church narthex. This will be a great way to connect to the community and each other!

Even if you are not a wine drinker, this is a great time to check out local businesses and meet new friends!

#### SANDWICHES IN THE PARK

Brothers and Sisters,

As summer comes to a close, I would like to take a moment to talk about the new ministry Ebenezer took part in for the very first time. After a small turn out at Sandwiches in the Park the very first week, I am happy to say that the remaining Friday's, we helped to provide meals to about 45 people. That is amazing! I want to give my most sincere thanks to everyone who made this possible. Whether you donated the food, money, prayers, or your time, each of you played such an important role in making this a success. "Well done, good and faithful servants." I ask that we all prayerfully consider doing this again next year and will welcome any tips into making this as successful as possible. Thank you all again for supporting me in this outreach.

In Christian love and gratitude, Theresa Vesper, Elder



Last month we enjoyed a trip to Culvers to enjoy ice cream and friendship!

Join us this month for a Bible Study, games, snacks and fun. Ideal for kids 6th grade and under.





#### **REACHING OUT...**

This is a list of 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

#### **Douglas Rabbach**

Park Ridge (Zinzendorf) 1148 Bayberry Drive Watertown, WI 53098

#### 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

## GREETERS, LAY READERS & FELLOWSHIP HOSTS



If you are interested in being a greeter or lay reader, or hosting Fellowship Hour after the church service, please sign up.

The Elder on duty each month will pass around the clipboards before worship begins and will collect them at the end of announcements.

If you wish to sign up after the service is over, the clipboards will be in the Narthex.



#### Day of Service Sunday September 15

Sunday September 15th is designated as the Northern Province Day of Service.

Breakfast will be provided at 8:45am. The congregation will gather together for a brief worship at 10am and then get to serving!

There will be opportunities to be in the community and in our church. This is a wonderful chance to "do ministry" and I hope everyone will come and experience serving Christ through our work. There will be options for involvement and tasks for all ages and abilities. No need to wear your "Sunday best," as we may be doing some "dirty" work.

After our varied ministries, we will all gather together at church for lunch provided by the Board of Elders. We have the unique opportunity to experience worship in a new way and discover God working through not only our praise, but our works. Join us.

#### PRAYER MINISTRY



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

If you would like to add a prayer request, please contact one of

the Elders.

For prayer requests to be included in the weekly bulletin, please contact Pastor Katie (pastor.kvdl@gmail.com) BEFORE Wednesday of each week.

#### NOISY OFFERING UPDATES July to September — Mount Morris



July to September, 2018 — \$131.20 to Shared Community Mission October to December, 2018 — \$160.17 went to Watertown Humane Society January to March, 2019 — \$132.27 went to Helping Hands Fund (Ebenezer) April to June, 2019 — \$165.70 went to Jefferson Senior Nutrition

If you have any suggestions for future rotations, please share your idea with one of the Elders.

## WE CAN BE CENSUS TAKERS



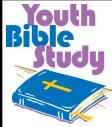
Great pay
Flexible hours
Weekly pay
Paid training

For more information or help applying, please call **1-855-JOB-2020** Federal Relay Service: 1-800-877-8339 TTY/ASCII www.ssa.gov/fedrelay

The U.S. Census Bureau is an Equal Opportunity Employe







"The Game" Night Lock-In is scheduled for Saturday night, October 12th beginning at 6pm. Dinner, snacks and breakfast will be provided.

We will be playing "the game" from camp, watching movies, snacking and having fun. Please invite your friends! Kids ages 7th grade through college are going to have a blast!

Wednesday September 25th, join us for a Young Adult Bible Study and planning meeting from 6-7:30pm. Lots to talk about, plan and create...two exciting events!

#### CHRISTMAS SHOEBOX MINISTRY

In mid-October any interested Ebenezer members will have the opportunity to participate in Samaritan's Purse Christmas shoe box ministry. You may remember this program from previous years. Christmas gift items for children are purchased and packed in shoe boxes to be distributed by a Christian relief organization called Samaritan's Purse. Children around the world receive the shoe box for Christmas. Watch for more details in the October newsletter.





Join us at Fiesta Garibaldi on Tuesday September 24th at 6pm for our Book Club. The book choice is still being determined, watch the bulletin (and emails) for the book

choice. Even if you cannot read the book, join us for a fun night out!

#### **ACTIVITY GROUP "A"**

Leaders Bob (920-342-4304) & Tammy (920-342-3849) Meyer AND JoAnn Draheim - (920) 285-8978 OR (920) 285-9983 November 2019 -- January 2020

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 Scott & Christine Kopp - (920) 253-1919 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) May - July 2019

James & Amanda Baneck - (920) 285-6248 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

Gerald & Paula Harris - (262) 617-6579 (Paula) (920) 723-8587 (Gerald) Yolanda Yahn - (920) 253-6617 Sue Kopp - (920) 699-3504 Darrick Krueger Dalton Krueger - (920) 220-9626 Darrin & Trudy Krueger - (920) 220-9626 Tom & Ginny Naatz - home - (920) 699-3118 Tim & Julie Pattengale - (920) 988-6130 Dennis & Linda Rabbach - (920) 699-3781 Douglas Rabbach Barbara Rich - (920) 421-3133 Jozelle Roberts - (920) 248-9304 Andy Roberts - (920) 285-4723 Marion Schwartz Theresa & John Vesper - (920) 941-0152 Charles & Judy Wesemann - (920) 261-6880 Emma Wegner - (920) 285-1370

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

August - October 2019

Scott & Jill Beerbohm - (920) 988-4714 Janet Butzine - (920) 390-2264 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 Megan Weihert - (920) 253-8139 Bob & Dawn Westenberg - (920) 261-7068 Glennis Zastrow - (920) 261-3731 LAST UPDATE: January 2019

#### **CAMP UPDATE**

The Moravian Church Western District offers many camping opportunities for its youth. Youth and their family pay a \$35 fee at the time of registration; Ebenezer pays the balance of the cost of the camp.

There are five camping programs each summer. One program (Camp Mindyy) is held in Minnesota and is for Minnesota and North Dakota youth. Four camps for youth ranging from completion of first grade through age 21 are held at the Moravian camp Mt. Morris.

Ebenezer sent two campers to Chetek (grades 9 thru age 21), two campers to Winmor (grades 6-8), four campers to Junior Camp (grades 3-5), three campers to 4-M (grades 1-2). Ebenezer also had a number of adults who filled in as staff (Camp Director, program director, kitchen workers, cabin counselors, registrar). One camper did a camper exchange; after attending Chetek she went to Tar Hollow (camp for Mid-States) and attended their camp.

This year Ebenezer was given a gift and challenged to invite friends and neighbors to experience camp at no cost to those campers. In addition to Ebenezer youth, we add one camper attend Winmor, three campers attend Junior, and one camper attend 4-M. Also, a parent and sibling of some of these campers volunteered their time to work in the kitchen and help out in the cabins.

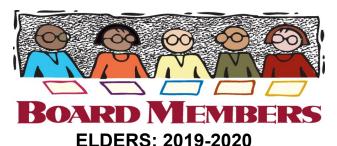
The theme for 2019 camping was "Won't you be my neighbor?". The various camps raised funds and did projects to help our neighbors.

• **WINMOR** collected mission money which is being sent to the Ahuas Hospital in Honduras to fund their Infant Feeding Program.

• JUNIOR CAMP collected items and made packs to be handed out to people in the campers' community.

• **CHETEK** raised funds for Star Mountain in Palestine. Moravians started this mission many years ago to minister to people with special health needs. Since this need no longer existed, it was turned into a place to provide schooling, occupational therapy, and job training to people with developmental needs. In fact, one Moravian pastor offered to shave his hair if enough funds were raised; he is now enjoying the summer with very short hair. These are just a couple of projects done.

The 2020 camp dates and theme will be announced early in the new year. Please watch the newsletter for more information. Since all the funds given to Ebenezer were not used, we will be encouraging members to invite friends and neighbors to attend one of the camps in 2020. For more information on this, please contact the church office.



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

#### **TRUSTEES: 2019-2020**

3djtkrueger@charter.net

John Gehler: Chair (920) 342-2945 Gehler.ja2@gmail.com John Vesper: Vice Chair 920-248-6910 johnvesper.jv@gmail.com Anne Davies-Walsh: Secretary (920) 699-2884 adwcs@tds.net Megan Weihert: CEF Representative (920) 253-8139 lippensm@live.com

#### Kris Kerr

(920) 261-1523 4malsmom@gmail.com



## 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 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. at the Watertown Moravian Church, 510 Cole Street.

#### MEAL

2: **CLOSED** — Labor Day Holiday 9 — Pizza Hot Dish 16 — Tator Tot Casserole 23 — Chicken 30 — Pork Roast

#### SERVERS

2: CLOSED — Labor Day Holiday
 9 — Hope Lutheran
 16 — Kwik Trip — Carrie's Group
 23 — Carmen / Summit Harvest
 30 — Ebenezer Moravian



MENU SUBJECT TO CHANGE



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.

#### **PRAYER CHAIN**

If you have any prayer requests or want to be included on the Ebenezer Prayer Chain, please contact Pastor Katie Van der Linden 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.



September 1: Gerald & Paula Harris Jozelle Roberts & Dalton Krueger

> September 8 & 15: Gregg & Linda Lippens Craig Cahill Trudi Wesemann

September 22 & 29: Eric, Allison & Emmaleigh Rein

(Please contact Head Usher Alex Zubrod at 920-261-8289 if you would like to assist in this ministry.)

In the 2018 Northern Province Synod, the Identity, Purpose and Organization task force presented information about changing the larger church structure. The synod chose to do more research than make any changes just yet. This research included sharing the ideas with the congregations and inviting them to take a survey about structural changes.

In July, members of the Western District Executive Board came to Ebenezer with information about the proposed changes.

On Sunday September 22nd, we will have a brief sharing about the new ideas. These include changes in structure and representation to streamline the provincial and district boards, which have remained unchanged for decades even though the number of church members has dropped drastically. Please know, the changes do not affect our district or provincial assessments. They would invite less face-to-face meetings, but more collaborative meetings between the districts. Currently, the district boards on meet with each other occasionally and there is only one person who is on the western district board and provincial board. This means there is only one representative who shares the information from our area with the larger governing body.

Please come to worship on Sunday, September 22nd to learn about the proposed changes. During fellowship hour, hosted by the Board of Trustees, you will have the opportunity to have your voice heard and even complete a survey for our joint board to reference.



#### CALL TO THE 2020 SYNOD OF THE WESTERN DISTRICT MORAVIAN CHURCH

#### Western District Synod will convene at Mt. Morris Camp & Conference Center Thursday, April 23 to Sunday, April 26, 2020

Registration will be from 3pm to 5:30pm on Thursday. Synod will conclude the following Sunday morning worship. A detailed schedule will be distributed to all delegates as we near the time for Synod.

CONGREGATIONAL REPRESENTATION: Using the 2017 Annual Report, Ebenezer will have 2 representatives.

A special church council meeting will be held November 17<sup>th</sup> to approve the budget and elect the synod representatives.

#### IPO



Do you know what the Apocrypha is? It is a collection of Jewish texts written between about 250 B.C. and A.D. 100, offering what is called a 'bridge between the Old and New Testaments'. The books of the Apocrytha weren't sanctioned as be-

longing to the Bible as we know it and are supposed to be true but have never been proven or verified.

Are you interested in learning more about the Apocrytha and study some of its books? Anyone (post-high) is invited to come to class each Sunday at 8:45 a.m. to learn about, study, and discuss. We will be starting the study of the Apocrytha on October 13th. If you are interested in coming to this special study, let Linda Rabbach know so she can order books. If your Bible doesn't have the Apocypha, we will have printed out copies of the books we will be studying.

Please plan to join us. We have coffee and sometimes treats.

The Adult class will be starting its first study on September 8th; we will be finishing up the "*Encountering Jesus*" book before starting the study of the Apocrytha in October.

You are invited to join the class for a time of study and fellowship.



Anne Davies-Walsh, Trustee



Dear families;

Sunday School is starting September 8th at 10am!!

As we teachers look at our classrooms and redesign them to meet the needs of the congregation, I am writing to update you on how this Sunday school year will look. Tom

Naatz, Shelly Degrandt and I will take turns teaching class for those who are "readers" up through confirmation age. Dawn will work with the younger kids weekly, and we can always readjust the year as needed.

Sunday School will occur during the 10am regular church hour, after the Children's Chat which will happen at the beginning of the service. The curriculum purchased for this year is flexible enough we can adjust to the age span of the children to meet their needs. Our hope is to provide scripture based teaching and get the kids excited about living life as active Christians.

As always we are open to suggestions, and you may certainly email me with your input and I will bring to the teaching team.(ksshefft@hotmail.com).

Prayerfully yours, Dawn, Kris, Shelly and Tom

#### LAY LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

Your Western District Executive Board is planning another lay leadership conference for **November 8th - 10th**. The theme of this year's conference is: "*Answering God's Call.*" Once again we will be able to enjoy the beauty of Mt. Morris and the wonderful meals provided by the Mt. Morris staff.

One of our large group presenters will be **Justin Rabbach** and perhaps other members of the Board of World Mission staff who will speak on doing mission work outside your door and organizing a team to do short term mission work many miles from home.

Our other large group presenter will be **Marie Couts**. Marie will do presentations on discerning our spiritual gifts and joint board leadership.

In addition we are hoping to once again get the Lake Mills praise band to lead much of our music. More information will be forthcoming but we would encourage you to put these dates on your calendar and plan to join us for fun, fellowship, music, learning, and whatever else the Holy Spirit has in store for us that weekend. If you have any questions, speak with Bruce Nelson or any member of your Western District Executive Board.

#### **MORAVIAN WOMEN**



After a couple of months off for the summer, Moravian Women will meet on Wednesday, September 4th. It is our hope to see Carol Schultz and have a visit with her. If you are interested in visiting Carol, we will meet at 9:00 a.m. at the church for all women living outside of Watertown and drive to-

gether. Those in town can come out to Ebenezer or meet at the memory center. While visiting, we will finish up the last chapters of our Bible study and mission books.

In October, Moravian starts its new year. The study book will be "*Sitting at the Table in the Kingdom of God*" by Rev. John Rights. The mission study will be "*The Great Co-Mission: Sharing Together in the World -- Part 2*" compiled by Linda Rabbach (Vice President and Mission Chair of the Provincial Women's Board).

All women and friends of Ebenezer are invited for a time of study, sharing, and fellowship. Meetings are held the first Wednesday of each month at 9:00am in the Piper Room at church.

If you have any questions, please call Linda Rabbach - 699-3781.



Nothing has been decided for choir yet. Please watch the bulletin and October newsletter for more information.

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

#### Member Reconnection Program

It might be a bit of a challenge to get in the routine of signing the pew attendance pad, so thank you to those who have been doing so! Each week, the elder of the month records those who have attended. In a few weeks, the elders will be checking on members to make sure they are OK. We want to make sure members know their importance to our church family. We want to check on everyone, see how we can serve and find ways to connect to one another. We are very excited to check in on everyone and remind you that we care and support you as best we can.

### **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: <u>https://mmfa.info/</u> <u>ebenezer-moravian-church-donation-</u> <u>form/</u>

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.





Lend your support while gearing up for school Shop school essentials at smile.amazon.com and

amazonsmile

If you are an 'on-line buyer' and purchase from Amazon-Smile.com, Ebenezer is now part of their Charity Support Program.

Amazon donates

What this means for you, is that for every purchase you make on AmazonSmile.com, Ebenezer will receive a portion of your order as a donation to the church. It's as simple as that. 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.

Join us for a Weekend of Exploring God's Call to Do Justice

#### OCTOBER 25-27, 2019

Camp Friendship Annandale, MN

Learn more about issues like housing justice, racial equity, economic justice, and the civil rights of immigrants. Attend strategy sessions to help develop these ministries in your own communities.

> If you register by Friday, August 9th total cost per person is \$135. \$150 after August 9th.

MORAVIAN JUSTICE MINISTRY CONFERENCE

## HOW CAN I BE A NEIGHBOR?

Register online here or contact Pastor Marian at 920-499-4433 pastor@wsmoraviangb.org



#### Moravian Justice Ministry Conference: How Can I Be A Neighbor?

Justice is the recognition that all persons are created in God's image and are equal in God's sight. It incorporates the respect and valuing of all persons, seeking fair and equitable opportunity for all, and addressing that which minimizes the fullness that God desires for each of us. As Martin Luther King said: "On the one hand, we are called to play the Good Samaritan on life's road-side, but that will be only an initial act. One day we must come to see that the whole Jericho Road must be transformed so that men and women will not be constantly beaten and robbed as they make their journey on life's highway." (Martin Luther King Jr. "Beyond Vietnam" in *Martin Luther King Jr. and the Global Freedom Struggle*.

The purpose of this conference is to provide space for people to explore what it means to answer God's call to justice in their relationships with their neighbors, grow in their understanding of some specific areas of injustice and how they intersect with each other, and strategize how we as a church might work together to learn about and respond to issues of injustice that we see in our communities and beyond.

Join us in Annandale, MN at Camp Friendship Friday, October 25<sup>th</sup> – Sunday, October 27<sup>th</sup>. The cost is \$135 per person if you register before September 9<sup>th</sup>. After September 9<sup>th</sup> the cost is \$150 per person. Register with Marian Boyle Rohloff at pastor@wsmoraviangb.org or 920-499-4433.

#### SOUTHERN WISCONSIN MORAVIANS FOR MISSION LOVEFEAST

On Sunday, October 6th the annual Southern Wisconsin Moravians for Mission, SWMM, will be

celebrating a Lovefeast where everyone is welcome.

The Ebenezer Moravian Church, located at N8095 High Road in Watertown, will host the Lovefeast which will begin at 2pm.

Retired. Rev. Chris Giesler is the Director of Mission Engagement for the Moravian Board of World Mission and he will speak on the topic of "*The Best Defense is a Good Offense*" taken from Mark 12:13-17.

The southern Moravian churches have all been invited to speak about how their church participated in the Moravian Day of Service in their community.

Plan to stay after the Lovefeast for a luncheon that the Ebenezer Moravian Church will host.

#### PARABLE OF THE LIGHTHOUSE

On a dangerous seacoast notorious for shipwrecks, there was a crude little lifesaving station. Actually, it was merely a hut with only one boat, but the few members kept a constant watch over the turbulent sea. With little thought for themselves, they would go out day & night tirelessly searching for those in danger as well as the lost. Many lives were saved by this brave band who faithfully worked as a team in and out of the lifesaving station. By and by, it became a famous place.

Some of those who had been saved, as well as others along the seacoast, wanted to become associated with this little station. They were willing to give their time, energy and money in support of its objectives. New boats were purchased. New crews were trained. The station, once obscure and crude and virtually insignificant, began to grow. Some of its members were unhappy the hut was so unattractive and poorly equipped. They felt a more comfortable place should be provided. Emergency cots were replaced with lovely furniture. Rough, handmade equipment was discarded and sophisticated, classy systems were installed. The hut, of course, had to be torn down to make room for all the additional equipment, furniture, and systems. By the time of its completion, the lifesaving station had become a popular gathering place, and its objectives had begun to shift. It was now used as a sort of clubhouse, an attractive building for public gathering. Saving lives, feeding the hungry, strengthening the fearful, and calming the disturbed rarely occurred.

Fewer members were interested in braving the sea on lifesaving missions, so they hired professional lifeboat crews to do this work. The original goal of the station wasn't altogether forgotten, however. Lifesaving motifs still prevailed in the club's decorations. There was a liturgical lifeboat preserved in the Room of Sweet Memories with soft, indirect lighting, which helped hide the layer of dust upon the once-used vessel. About this time a large ship was wrecked off the coast and the boat crews brought in loads of cold, wet, half-drowned people. They were dirty, some terribly sick and lonely. Others were "different" from the majority of the club members. The beautiful new club suddenly became messy and cluttered.

A special committee saw to it that a shower house was immediately built outside, away from the club so victims of the shipwreck could be cleaned up before coming inside. At the next meeting there were strong words and angry feelings, which resulted in a division among the members.

Most of the people wanted to stop the club's lifesaving activities and all involvements with shipwreck victims. As you'd expect, some still insisted on saving lives, that this was their primary objective – that their only reason for existence was ministering to anyone needing help regardless of their club's beauty or size or decorations. They were voted down and told if they wanted to save the lives of various kinds of people who were shipwrecked in those waters, they could begin their own lifesaving station down the coast! They did.

As the years passed, the new station experienced the same old changes. It evolved into another club – and yet another lifesaving station was begun. History repeated itself. And if you visit that coast today you'll find a large number of exclusive, impressive clubs along the shoreline owned and operated by slick professionals who have lost all involvement with the saving of lives.

Shipwrecks still occur in those waters, but now most of the victims are not saved. Every day they drown at sea, and so few others seem to care... so very few.

—From "A Parable of Saving Lives" by Chuck Swindoll

If you can use a brand new HP 60 color ink cartridge, contact Karol @ 920-261-7388.

# SEØTENØER

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 8:45am Adult Sunday School 10am Worship 11am Fellowship	2 5-6pm Loaves & Fishes Meal	3	4 <b>9am</b> Moravian Women	5 <b>6pm</b> Board of Elders	6	7
	LABOR DAY					
8 8:45am Adult Sunday School 10am Worship — Communion 10:15am Sunday School 11am Fellowship BDCleaning (instead of 9/13)	9 <b>5-6pm</b> Loaves & Fishes Meal	10	11 6pm CEF	12 8:30am Shared Community Mis- sion @ Christ UMC Wine Walk hosted by Wttn.Chamber of Commerce	13	14
15 8:45am Adult Sunday School 8:45am Breakfast 10:15am Day of Service NO Sunday School Noon Lunch Online Giving presentation	16 <b>5-6pm</b> Loaves & Fishes Meal	17 <b>6pm</b> Board of Trustees Budget Committee Meeting	18 <b>6pm</b> Ebenezer Kids	19	20	21
22 8:45am Adult Sunday School 10am Worship 10:15am Sunday School 11am Fellowship IPO during Fellowship Hour	23 <b>5-6pm</b> Loaves & Fishes Meal	24 <b>6pm</b> Book Club @ Fiesta Garibaldi, Johnson Creek	25 <b>6-7:30pm</b> Young Adult Bible Study	26	27 BDCleaning	28
29 8:45am Adult Sunday School 10am Worship 10:15am Sunday School 11am Fellowship	30 <b>5-6pm</b> Loaves & Fishes Meal	LOOKING AHEAD: Sunday, October 6th — SWMM Lovefeast @ 2pm Saturday, October 12th — "The Game" Night Youth Lock-In @ 6pm Sunday, November 3rd — Daylight Savings Time Ends — turn clocks back 1 hour Friday, November 8th - Sunday, November 10th — Lay Leadership Conference @ Mt. Morris Sunday, November 17th - Church Council meeting to approve budget & select Synod reps. Thursday, April 23rd - Sunday April 26th — Western District Synod @ Mt. Morris				

Ebenezer Moravian Church N8071 High Road Watertown, WI 53094

**RETURN ADDRESS REQUESTED** 

