



The MESSENGER

To glorify God, we invite all to grow as faithful disciples and to share in the love, grace and ministry of Jesus Christ by serving the church, community and world.

Discussions with Dave

A Day to Love

Today is Valentine's Day, a day for amore, amor, aimer, liebe, upendo (Italian, French, Spanish, German, Swahili), love. While I understand by the time you are reading this, it is well after February 14. But I write about what comes to mind and today the topic is St. Valentine and his association with love.

After some research on the History Channel website, I learned the following about this Catholic Saint. Saint Valentine was a real person who died around A.D. 270. Details of his life are sketchy at best but it is thought he was martyred near Rome by Claudius II with one account saying it was for performing marriages for Christian couples. Unfortunately, the name "Valentinus," from the Latin word for worthy, strong or powerful, was a popular name between the second and eighth centuries A.D. and several martyrs have carried this name. In A.D. 827, there was even a Pope Valentine, but as he was only Pope for 40 days, not much is known about him. St. Valentine is the patron saint of beekeeping, epilepsy, the plague, fainting, traveling, and of engaged couples and happy marriages.

English poet Geoffrey Chaucer often placed his characters into fictitious historical contexts he told as real. No records exist of romantic celebrations on Valentine's Day prior to a poem Chaucer wrote around 1375. In his work "Parliament of Foules," he links a practice of love with the celebration of St. Valentine's feast day. This didn't exist until after his poem received widespread attention. The poem refers to February 14 as the day birds (and humans) come together to find a mate. When Chaucer wrote, "For this was sent on Seynt Valentyne's day / Whan every foul cometh ther to choose his mate," he may have invented the holiday we know today.

The act of giving our Beloved something to cherish goes back a long way. The oldest known valentine is a poem written in A.D. 1415 by Charles, Duke of Orleans, to his wife after he was captured at the Battle of Agincourt and imprisoned in the Tower of London. The writing of a lovely, heartfelt, handwritten poem appears to be the oldest gift. Of course, we have replaced this with Valentine's Day cards featuring pre-written poems. First mass produced in 1840, today's Valentine's greeting card industry brings in \$1 billion of revenue – the highest card-selling holiday after Christmas.

Flowers seem to be a way to show our love, especially roses. Giving flowers might stem from an old custom of sending bouquets to pass on non-verbal messages. The rose may be the flower of choice as it represents love in all its forms and was supposedly the favorite flower of Venus, the Goddess of Love. In the Victorian world, advertisers and chocolate makers saw a way to make money by encouraging the gifting of chocolates showed love for another. The more expensive the chocolate, the more the man loved the woman. The same holds true for giving jewelry as the pricier and more elegant the piece, it "clearly" shows the more affection you have for your love.

We all know the showing of love should be more than one day out of the year. Love is one of the most used words in the Bible, showing up anywhere from 450 to 750 times depending on the translation used. This is due to Hebrew having three different words for love and Greek having four major words and eight words total for love. The usage of any of these words depends on the context in which it is used. We have one word and use it in many different ways, but I am speaking about the love one person has for another and Paul writes it best how we truly show love:

"Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things." (1 Corinthians 13:4-7)

These are somewhat easy to do with those we live with, but what about the person who cuts us off in traffic?

"Just then a lawyer stood up to test Jesus. "Teacher," he said, "what must I do to inherit eternal life?" He said to him, "What is written in the law? What do you read there?" He answered, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbor as yourself." And he said to him, "You have given the right answer; do this, and you will live." (Luke 10:25-28)

Easy to read. Hard to put into practice. Love brings a community together. Love can bind wounds if allowed. Love can be transforming. Love is one of the hallmarks of the Moravian Church.

Holy Communion



Our next opportunity to come to Christ's Table will be the first weekend in Lent, March 5 and 6. We will begin the Season of Lent by cleansing our souls before God. Communion will not be served again until Maundy Thursday, April 14. That means Good Friday is April 15...not quite sure that date is "good."

Ash Wednesday & Mid-Week Lenten Services – 7:00 PM

The forty days of Lent begin on Ash Wednesday, March 2. You might notice some folks walking around with dark marks on their foreheads throughout the day. We will gather at 7:00 p.m. on March 2, and each following Wednesday night during Lent for Mid-Week Services. At this time there is no plan to return to our Soup & Sandwich Supper prior to the services as in years past. I pray we will have the opportunity to do so next year. We do hope to livestream these services.



BOOK CLUB

This month's book is "The Scarecrow" by Michael Connelly. We will meet at 10 a.m. on Thursday, March 3, in the Gathering Room. All are welcome!

Men's Fellowship

Our next breakfast is Saturday, March 12, at 7:30 a.m. All men are welcome.



Daylight Saving Time Begins
March 13
 Make sure you set your clocks ahead one hour Saturday night.



Meeting Our Financial Responsibilities

January 31, 2022(Actual)

2022 Budget: \$323,687.00
 Total Income as of January 31: \$19,798.67
 Total Expenses as of January 31: 23,889.25
 Difference YTD (\$ 4,090.58)

Mary Bade,
Treasurer



BIRTH:

Congratulations to Ben and Stephanie (Miller) Pelc on the birth of their daughter, Abigail Carmen, who was born on February 1, 2022. Proud Grandparents are Mike and Cindy Miller.

FUNERALS:

We would like to extend our deepest sympathy to the family of Patricia Kottwitz, who passed away on January 21, 2022. According to her wishes no formal services were held. We would like to extend our deepest sympathy to the family of Wayne Kasten, who passed away on January 27, 2022. Private family services were held at Claussen's Funeral Home on February 5, 2022, with Pastor Dave officiating. We would also like to extend our deepest sympathy to the family of Ron Sobek, Pastor Dave's uncle, who passed away on February 11.

BIRTHDAY WISHES:

March 9 – Michael Cuthrell;
 March 12 – Martin Haumschild;
 March 13 – Mary Behm-Spiegler;
 March 27 – Sophia Witt;
 March 28 – Kathy Wollin

SPECIAL BIRTHDAY WISHES (80+):

March 1 – Phyllis Strauss; March 20 – Crystal Hafenstein; March 28 – Harold Hafenstein

THANK YOU: Thank you to Richard Wood and Paul Albrecht for working so hard with the recording equipment and working out the audio issues. Thank you to Cora Rund for all of her work on the citations for the services. A Special Thank You to Jane Berg, Teresa Holzhueter, Mary Bade, and Pastor Dave for covering the office and making sure the bulletins were done, while Nikki was out with Covid.

Moravian Women

As we continue on in winter, our board met and thought about possibly having a Spring Tea if we are able to, as the virus seems to keep everyone somewhat apart. We will keep you posted!! We also talked about our Market Day in October. If you or know of anyone who would be willing to help co-chair Market Day this year, please let Teresa Holzhueter know!! Keep warm and enjoy our Wisconsin weather!!

Love can make us remember all people are not perfect. Remembering God's love helps us to understand we are not perfect either. I came across a quote from St. Isaac of Syria (or Niveveh, A.D. 613-700) which I think gives us a clue how to show some love to all.

Let yourself be persecuted, but do not persecute others.

Be crucified, but do not crucify others.

Be slandered, but do not slander others.

Rejoice with those who rejoice, and weep with those who weep: such is the sign of purity.

Suffer with the sick.

Be afflicted with sinners.

Exult with those who repent.

Be the friend of all, but in your spirit remain alone.

Be a partaker of the sufferings of all, but keep your body distant from all.

Rebuke no one, revile no one, not even those who live very wickedly.

Spread your cloak over those who fall into sin, each and every one, and shield them.

And if you cannot take the fault on yourself and accept punishment in their place, do not destroy their character.

In Christ's Love,

Pastor Dave Sobek

The Work of Our Boards

The **Board of Elders** met on Thursday, January 20. They discussed some of the issues we have been having with our live streamed services on Sunday mornings. There is hope these issues will eventually get ironed out. Some things the Pastor had planned for the Christmas Eve Candlelight Service needed to be scrapped due to the Pastor's illness over Christmas.

The Board discussed committee assignments and organized themselves in this way: Budget – Tracy Brandel, CEC – Bill Stilling, Memorial – Erna Kiessling, Nominating – Theresa Palmer, Worship – Jo Stokes, Personnel – Donna Hinzmann, Elder Cards – Donna Hinzmann, Secretary – Jo Stokes, and Vice-Chair of the Board of Elders – Corey Nampel.

Unfortunately, both the District Clergy Retreat and the Discipleship Retreat scheduled for January were cancelled.

The **Board of Elders** February meeting took place after the deadline for this issue. Highlights of that meeting may be found in next month's Messenger.

The **Board of Trustees** met on Thursday, February 10. Following are highlights of that meeting.

- the treasurer's report was reviewed and approved.
- several committee reports were given.
- after Jensen's determined that they were unable to service our commercial heating units, the Trustees contracted with Richter Heating to maintain our boilers, and that work has been done.
- several other maintenance and repair issues were discussed.
- the Trustees discussed whether to resume ordering printed bulletin covers but decided to wait until the next quarter, when we hope to be back closer to "normal."
- vacation requests from Nikki were approved.

MARCH SERVANTS

DIENERS: Tammy & Todd Messmer **Tammy:** 920-285-7077

SORTERS: Steve Brockert and Jeff Levake

USHERS		
Date	Service	Ushers
(Usher Teams will also greet until further notice)		
3/6	10:00 A.M.	Mike Denzin
3/13	10:00 A.M.	Bob Hinzmann
3/20	10:00 A.M.	Ken Manske
3/27	10:00 A.M.	Dave Wendt

LAY READERS		
Date	Service	Readers
(Only reading on Sundays right now)		
3/6	10:00 A.M.	Deb Van Ommeren
3/13	10:00 A.M.	Kathy Wendt
3/20	10:00 A.M.	Dakota Sobek
3/27	10:00 A.M.	Todd Messmer

WORSHIP RECORDING & PRODUCTION			
Date	Service	Recording	YouTube Video
3/6	10:00 A.M.	Paul Albrecht	Paul Albrecht
3/13	10:00 A.M.	Dakota Sobek	Dakota Sobek
3/20	10:00 A.M.	Richard Wood	Paul Albrecht
3/27	10:00 A.M.	Paul Crossman	Dakota Sobek

NURSERY SCHEDULE

For the safety of all,
there will be no nursery
until further notice.

March 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 6 8:45-9:45 AM Adult Study 9:00-9:45 AM Sunday School 10 AM Worship & Holy Communion	 7 9-11:30 AM Line Dancing 6:30 PM Mor. Women's Board Meeting – "Tim"	1 Scholarship Applications sent out	2 Ash Wednesday 9 AM- 2:30 PM Reaching Out Respite – "Matt" 3:15-4:30 PM Discipleship 7 PM Lenten Service 7:30 PM: AA	3 10 AM Book Club 6:30 PM CEC – Zoom	4	5 4 PM Drive-In Worship & Holy Communion
13 Daylight Savings Time Begins 8:45-9:45 AM Adult Study 9:00-9:45 AM Sunday School 10 AM Worship	14 9-11:30 AM Line Dancing	8 9:30 AM Kim Sibert Circle – "Matt" 7 PM E. Raiford Circle – Gathering Room	9 9 AM- 2:30 PM Reaching Out Respite – "Matt" 1 PM Brenda Brent Circle – Old Conf. Room 3:15-4:30 PM Discipleship 7 PM Lenten Service 7:30 PM: AA	10 NO E. Appenfeldt Circle 6:30 PM: Trustees-"Matt."	11	12 7:30 AM Men's Breakfast 4 PM Drive-In Worship <i>(Turn your clocks AHEAD 1 hour tonight)</i> 
20 First Day of Spring Pretzel Sunday 8:45-9:45 AM Adult Study 9:00-9:45 AM Sunday School 10 AM Worship	21 9-11:30 AM Line Dancing	15	16 9 AM- 2:30 PM Reaching Out Respite – "Matt" 3:15-4:30 PM Discipleship 7 PM Lenten Service 7:30 PM: AA	17 St. Patrick's Day  6:30 PM Elders – "Matt"	18	19 11 AM Celebration of Life for Donna Keating 4 PM Drive-In Worship
27 8:45-9:45 AM Adult Study 9:00-9:45 AM Sunday School 10 AM Worship	28 9-11:30 AM Line Dancing	22	23 9 AM- 2:30 PM Reaching Out Respite – "Matt" 3:15-4:30 PM Discipleship 7 PM Lenten Service 7:30 PM: AA	24	25	26 4 PM Drive-In Worship
20 First Day of Spring Pretzel Sunday 8:45-9:45 AM Adult Study 9:00-9:45 AM Sunday School 10 AM Worship	21 9-11:30 AM Line Dancing	29	30 9 AM- 2:30 PM Reaching Out Respite – "Matt" No Discipleship 7 PM Lenten Service 7:30 PM AA	31		



The students are continuing to learn through the Living Branches curriculum. On Sunday, March 20, 2022, we will be celebrating Pretzel Sunday during our Sunday School time. As this is being written, we are planning to have each class make their own pretzels within their classrooms and have them baked in the Fellowship Hall kitchen oven. While the pretzels are baking, the children will hear the story of the pretzel and then share fellowship time while enjoying the fresh baked pretzels within their own classrooms.

Do you know the thoughts on the origin of the pretzel? It has been said the pretzel shape resembles the common prayer position from the early 600's.



The first pretzels were baked as a soft, squishy bread, like the soft pretzels of today. Some say they were originally called "bracellae," the Latin term for "little arms," from which Germans later derived the word "bretzel." According to others, the earliest pretzels were dubbed "pretiolas," meaning "little rewards" and were given by the monks as a reward to young children for learning their prayers. These monks supposedly folded strips of bread dough to resemble the crossed arms of praying children. Whatever they may have been called, the popularity of these twisty treats were a common Lenten food throughout the Middle Ages in Europe and became an all year round snack in its original shape in the 19th century. The three holes in the pretzel are also said to represent the Holy Trinity and seen as a symbol of good luck, prosperity and spiritual fulfillment.

So, as we will be entering into the Lenten season, may peace be with you as we prepare our hearts and minds for the journey to the cross.

Meals on Wheels

Our turn for Meals on Wheels ended on February 18th. We will be in service again on May 2nd thru 13th. I will be calling for volunteers on April 21st and 22nd. If anyone is interested in helping with this service, please call Coordinator, Connie Manske at 920-723-7598. Thanks.



Shelter for the Homeless

The City of Madison and Dane County are stilling looking for a permanent location for the men's homeless shelter. This seems to be the first step in our return to a ministry of helping those in need by serving an evening meal to the guests at the men's shelter. The men's shelter can stay at the current temporary First Street location through next fall.



Those of you who might be staying in motels/hotels on late-winter or spring trips may want to remember the needs of the homeless men at the shelter. They always are in need of small soaps, small shampoos, hand lotions, toothpaste, toothbrushes, shaving lotion, razors, etc. that you might donate to them. Recently a few bags of those kind of toiletry items were found in the Fellowship Hall closet. They were delivered to the shelter to a herald of thank you's and smiles.

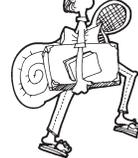
Those toiletry items seem to always be a need at the shelter. We just received an update email that included a list of much needed items for the homeless men. As well as the previously noted toiletry items, the latest list requested winter gloves, undershirts (L - 3XL), cans of ground coffee, first aid type ice packs, gently used wash cloths, bath towels, and hand towels. Thank you for considering the needs of these men.

Investing in Camp

Spring is coming and that means breaking ground at Mt. Morris Camp & Retreat Center for the expanded facility building. Want to help? Mt Morris is selling bonds to fund the project. They've raised over 67% of the necessary funds but need more to reduce the loan required to complete the construction. In February, Mt. Morris will be selling five-year notes at \$5,000 each for 3% interest. Only 60 notes will be sold and must be purchased by March 1. Interest will be paid annually. If you're interested in this investing opportunity, please call or text Cindy Miller (920-988-7303) or Jane Harberg (920-285-9126).



SUMMER CAMP DATES at Mt. Morris:



- Family Camp:** TBD
- Chetek:** July 17-23 (completed 9th Grade – age 21)
- Winmor:** July 24-30 (completed 6th – 8th Grades)
- Junior:** July 31-August 4 (completed 2nd – 5th Grades)



E-Messenger

Would you like to reduce the amount of paper in your household and at the same time help the church reduce the cost of mailing the Messenger? If you would prefer to receive the Messenger by email rather than by snail mail, please let the church office know.

Electronic Giving

The Lake Mills Moravian Church has been offering the congregation electronic giving since 2004. This service helps reduce fluctuations in contributions during the whole year while making it easy and safe for you to donate. On the date you specify, and at the interval you specify (one time only, weekly, monthly, etc.), your contributions will electronically transfer from your account to the church's account. When the funds have been transferred, the church office will be notified. The date and amount transferred will appear on your bank statement, and the information will be included in your annual contribution statement. If you have any questions, please call Mary in the church office at 920-648-5412 or email her at maryb.lmmc@gmail.com. Forms are available in the office for you to fill out.



2021 Contribution Statements

The 2021 contribution statements have been mailed. If you did not receive yours or if you have any questions, please contact Mary in the church office.

The MESSENGER

Lake Mills Moravian Church
301 College Street
Lake Mills, WI 53551
(920) 648-5412

website: www.lakemillsmoravianchurch.org

Return Service Requested

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STAFF

Email: office@lakemillsmoravianchurch.org

Rev. David Sobek - Pastor Office 920-648-5412
Rev. John Baumann - Visitation Pastor Home 920-648-2943
Nikki Lawson - Administrative Assistant Office 920-648-5412
Mary Bade - Financial Administrator Office 920-648-5412
Cora Rund - Organist Home 608-520-3815
Kathy Wendt - Hand Bell Director..... Home 920-728-1101
Lindsey Nampel - Sunday School Co-Superintendent Home 414-702-8644
Kristen Stilling - Sunday School Co-Superintendent ... Home 608-575-8560
Sue Trumpf - Sunday School Secretary Home 920-723-9386
Jo Stokes - Parish Nurse Home 608-513-2335
Mary Bade - Editor..... Home 920-648-3267

Office Hours

Monday - Friday:
9-12 & 1-3



Board Members

Board of Elders

Theresa Palmer (2022)..... 608-843-6749
Bill Stilling (2022) 608-575-8560
Tracy Brandel (2023) 920-285-0083
Donna Hinzmann (2023) 920-988-8824
Joanna Stokes (2023) 608-513-2335
Erna Kiessling (2024) 920-648-2424
Corey Nampel (2024) 414-702-8604

Board of Trustees

Rich Fronek (2022)..... 608-669-0970
Rich Hooper (2022) 920-222-1587
Steve Brockert (2023) 920-648-3028
Sherman Lawson (2023) 920-648-2531
Dave McFarlane (2023) 920-988-7988
Donna Crossman (2024) 920-648-2486
Jeff Levake (2024) 920-988-7567

COMING IN April 2022:

April 6 – 7 p.m. Lenten Service
April 10 – Palm Sunday
April 11-13 – 7 p.m. Reading Services
April 14 – Maundy Thursday
April 15 – Good Friday
April 16 – Great Sabbath – No Worship Service
April 17 – Easter Sunday
Sunrise Service & 9 a.m. Worship Service
April 18 – Office Closed

Our Worship Services may be seen on

Analog Channel 98
or Digital Channel 994

Wednesdays at 7:20 a.m., 12:20 & 5:40 p.m.
Thursdays at 12:20 & 5:40 p.m.

LMMC You Tube Channel
- click on the link:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCffbGgUhqkSC7xxtfHigeFA/>

Deadline for the April 2022 Messenger
will be **Tuesday,**
March 15.

Please email your articles to
Mary Bade, mmbade@charter.net.