

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

Wishing Won't Help

Another Season of Lent is upon us. Six weeks until Easter Sunday. Lent is a time for growing closer to God through prayer, study, and reflection. We pray for the times we have not lived up to God's expectations, we study the ways God has used people in our world in the past to further His Kingdom, we reflect upon those things we can change in our lives and in our world. Lent used to be the time when people new to Christianity were intensively schooled in the ways of Christ. Six weeks to learn about Christ's teachings. Then they were brought into the Body of Christ. It is difficult to imagine teaching someone so much in so short a time frame. But maybe not having to teach 2,000 years of Christian history, or even 556 years of Moravian Church history would make things a little easier.

We, as members of the Moravian Church love our history. When outside people ask us about the church many are drawn to tell about the history of the church, going back to 1727 in Herrnhut, or even 1415 with Jan Hus. Our history tells us little about what ministry the church is doing today. In the fire service an old description says, "200 years of history unimpeded by progress." The same could be said about the church at times.

The Rev. Dr. Harry Emilius Stocker (1876-1929) writes on page 193 in his 1922 book "A Home Mission History of the Moravian Church in the United States and Canada" about the Lake Mills Congregation:

"At Lake Mills, thirteen miles southwest of Watertown, Brother Kaltenbrunn established a preaching-place soon after he began his labors in Wisconsin. On June 13, 1856, Brother F. John Kilian took charge of the work at that place. On December 21 of the same year he organized a congregation with twenty-three communicants. Soon after a lot was presented to the congregation by Messrs. Atwood and Cook. At that time Lake Mills had about fifteen hundred inhabitants. On October 18, 1857, a yellow-brick church, twenty by thirty-six feet in dimensions, built at the cost of seven hundred dollars, exclusive of the building material, was consecrated. Most of the members of the infant church lived in the county, but within easy reach of the church. Some of the charter-members had formerly belonged to Moravian settlements in Germany."

On page 196 he continues:

"Altho beset by a great many difficulties in the first years of its history, the Lake Mills congregation has flourished greatly for a long time, and now it has the distinction of being not only the largest church in the Moravian northwest, but the third largest in the Northern Province. It has at present one thousand members less two, of which seven hundred and forty are communicants. Much of this remarkable growth took place during the pastorate of Brother Otis E. Reidenbach, who was in charge of the congregation for more than twenty years of the present century."

By the way...the congregation at this time only had one pastor and moved about mostly by horse, and occasionally, a Ford (as all cars were referred to then).

This is our history, or at the very least, part of our history. What does it tell us today? Nothing really. Yes, the congregation has one pastor. Yes, the congregation is beset by a great many difficulties. Yes, we still worship in a part of the building dating back to this time. But really, that is it. No one in our congregation was alive in the early 1920's. Even if there was someone alive, would we wish to minister to people the way they did then? A member of a Moravian congregation in Iowa was removed from membership by the pastor because he had, "joined the Drunken Brethren Society of Brooklyn" (Written in the Brooklyn, IA congregation's Annual Report to the Province in 1908). An older member of Our Savior's congregation in Minnesota told me he remembered when people were expected to leave the church if they got divorced in the 1950's and early 1960's. A denomination used to build a building in a subdivision and all those in the immediate area would attend that church. Very few people within the city blocks that surround our building are members of our congregation.

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Holy Communion



Our next opportunity to gather at Christ's Table will be the first weekend in Lent, February 25/26. We will not have Communion during the month of March as Maundy Thursday falls on April 6, the first week of April.

BOOK CLUB

This month's book is "The Lincoln Highway" by Amor Towles. We will meet at 10 a.m. on Thursday, March 2, in the Gathering Room. All are welcome!

Men's Fellowship

Men's Fellowship met on February 11, with 9 in attendance. On March 4 we will be having our next breakfast together. Call Ken Manske for more information at 920-222-6724.

Mid-Week Lenten Services Soup & Sandwich

Beginning on February 22, Ash Wednesday, and each Wednesday through March 29 we will gather in the Fellowship Hall at 6:00 p.m. for a Soup and Sandwich dinner prior to the 6:45 p.m. Mid-Week Lenten Service. Those groups who will be providing our dinners are:

- February 22, Ash Wednesday: Discipleship Class
- March 1: Moravian Women
- March 8: Christie Melby-Gibbons Circle
- March 15: Trustees
- March 22: CEC and Stewardship/ Outreach
- March 29: Men's Fellowship



**Daylight Saving
Time Begins
March 12**

**Make sure you set your
clocks ahead one hour Saturday night.**

Meeting Our Financial Responsibilities

January 31, 2023 (Actual)

Budget as of January 31: \$28,437.52
 Actual Income as of January 31: \$19,342.43
 Actual Expenses as of January 31: 25,852.19
 Difference (Needed) YTD (\$ 6,509.76)

Mary Bade, Treasurer



FUNERALS: We express our deepest sympathy to the family and friends of Jan Mess, who passed away on Saturday, February 11. Her Celebration of Life was held in our Fellowship Hall on February 25. We express our deepest sympathy to the family and friends of Jim Jacob, who passed away on Saturday, February 11. His funeral service was held at Claussen's Funeral Home on February 17, with Pastor Dave leading the service. Lastly, we express our deepest sympathy to the family and friends of Richard "Dick" Bidgood, who passed away on Sunday, February 12. Per his wishes there was no service.

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 Dakota Sobek for leading worship while Pastor Dave was at Discipleship Retreat. Thank you to Terry Streich for taking time out of his schedule to give us information on the boilers. A special Thank You to the office volunteers for filling in, in the office.

Meals on Wheels

Meals on Wheels went smoothly in January, thanks to the many volunteers. Our next term of service is April 3rd through the 14th. Calls will be made in the last week of March. Anyone interested in volunteering please call Connie Manske at 920-723-7598.



Worship Times
Saturday – 4 p.m.
Sunday – 10 a.m.
Sunday School - 9 a.m.

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We lament the changes. We mourn the losses of what made us happy in the past. But the past is not a hero. We cannot look to the past for what our ministry needs to be in the future. During the Spanish Flu outbreak in 1918, churches could not hold services, including Christmas Eve Services. On Easter Sunday in 2020 during the first months of Covid, almost 100 different households tuned into our Easter Service via Zoom. The Pastor Reidenbach couldn't have even dreamed of being able to do that in 1918.

Wishing the past would return will not move our congregation forward. Relying on what worked in the past to bring people to know Christ will not work today. Throughout history the church has changed to meet the needs of those seeking Christ. Our message has not changed. Our purpose has not changed. Our methods must change. If we are unwilling to embrace it for the sake of our mission no amount of wishing will help.

Pastor Dave Sobek

The Work of Our Boards

The **Board of Trustees** met on Thursday, January 19. Following are highlights of that meeting:

- the following officers were elected for 2023: Carl Kutzke, President; Steve Brockert, Vice President, and Donna Crossman, Secretary.
- the email vote to purchase a new boiler from Richter Heating was affirmed. The boiler has been installed and inspected.
- treasurer Mary Bade informed the board that we ended 2022 with a shortfall of \$31,956.84. The trustees voted to apply the 2021 surplus of \$8,054.31 toward the shortfall; the shortfall will be discussed at Church Council and at future trustee meetings.
- Scrip proceeds in 2023 will again be designated for Mt. Morris' Building Expansion Program.

The **Board of Trustees** also met on Thursday, February 9. Following are highlights of that meeting:

- the treasurer's report was shared and approved.
- several committee reports were given.
- a facility use request from Boy Scout Troop 148 was approved to allow them to use the Matthew Room for twice-monthly meetings.
- the 2022 shortfall was discussed; Carl Kutzke will speak to the congregation about giving an extra contribution toward the shortfall.

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

Moravian Women

The Moravian Women kicked off 2023 with a new board and plans for their budget. They ask that each circle discuss the following and send your ideas to the next board meeting:

- 1) Plans for the fall Market Day: What do you like? What would you like continued? What would you like added or changed?
- 2) A possible spring gathering: Is this something you'd like to see? If so, what ideas do you have?

Our next board meeting is Monday, March 6, at 6:30 p.m. At 7:00 p.m. we ask that each circle send a representative to begin discussions regarding this year's Market Day.

Women who are not associated with a circle are also invited to share your thoughts. Join us on March 6 or email your thoughts to debvano@yahoo.com.

MARCH SERVANTS

DIENERS: Connie & Ken Manske (K) 920-222-6724

SORTERS: Donna Crossman & Carl Kutzke

USHERS		
Date	Service	Ushers
(Usher Teams will also greet until further notice)		
3/5	10:00 A.M.	Dave Wendt
3/12	10:00 A.M.	Stewart Masche
3/19	10:00 A.M.	Paul Crossman
3/26	10:00 A.M.	Jane Berg







LAY READERS		
Date	Service	Readers
(Only reading on Sundays right now)		
3/5	10:00 A.M.	Todd Messmer
3/12	10:00 A.M.	Dakota Sobek
3/19	10:00 A.M.	Kathy Wendt
3/26	10:00 A.M.	Jane Harberg

WORSHIP RECORDING & PRODUCTION			
Date	Service	Recording	YouTube Video
3/5	10:00 A.M.	Dakota Sobek	Dakota Sobek
3/12	10:00 A.M.	Paul Albrecht	Paul Albrecht
3/19	10:00 A.M.	Paul Crossman	Dakota Sobek
3/26	10:00 A.M.	Paul Crossman	Paul Albrecht

NURSERY SCHEDULE

We want to offer the Nursery again. Before we do so, we need volunteers to staff the nursery on Sunday Mornings. If you are interested in joining the nursery staff, please let the church office know or sign up on the bulletin board.

March 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 <p>5 8:45-9:45 AM Adult Study 9:00-9:45 AM Sunday School 10 AM Worship 11:00 AM Coffee & Fellowship Time – Fell. Hall 1:30-4:00 PM Boy Scout Meeting- Matthew Rm</p>	 <p>6 9-11:30 AM Line Dancing 6:30 PM Mor. Women's Board Meeting – "Tim"</p>	<p>Scholarship Applications Available for Pick up</p> <p>7 7:00 PM Dartball: Trinity @ Moravian</p>	<p>8 9 AM- 2:30 PM Reaching Out Respite – "Matt" 1:00 PM Brenda Brent– Gath Rm 3:15-4:30 PM Discipleship 6:00 PM Soup Supper 6:45 PM Lenten Service 7:30 PM: AA</p>	<p>9 1:00 PM E. Appenfeldt Circle – Matthew Room 6:30 PM: Trustees-"Matt."</p>	<p>10 9:30-10:30 AM Line Dancing</p>	<p>11 7:30 AM Men's Breakfast 4 PM Worship <i>(Turn your clocks AHEAD 1 hour tonight)</i> </p>
<p>12 Daylight Saving Time Begins 8:45-9:45 AM Adult Study 9:00-9:45 AM Sunday School 10 AM Worship 11:00 AM Coffee & Fellowship Time – Fell. Hall 1:30-4:00 PM Boy Scout Meeting- Matthew Rm</p>	<p>13 9-11:30 AM Line Dancing</p>	<p>14 9:30 AM Kim Sibert Circle 7 PM E. Raiford Circle – Gathering Room</p>	<p>15 9 AM- 2:30 PM Reaching Out Respite – "Matt" 3:15-4:30 PM Discipleship 6:00 PM Soup Supper 6:45 PM Lenten Service 7:30 PM: AA</p>	<p>16 6:30 PM Elders – "Matt"</p>	<p>17 St. Patrick's Day  9:30-10:30 AM Line Dancing 9:00 AM Dartball Captain's Meeting 10:00 AM -2:00 PM Dartball Round Robin (Lunch Provided) 4 PM Worship</p>	<p>18 9:00 AM Dartball Captain's Meeting 10:00 AM -2:00 PM Dartball Round Robin (Lunch Provided) 4 PM Worship</p>
<p>19 Pretzel Sunday 8:45-9:45 AM Adult Study 9:00-9:45 AM Sunday School 10 AM Worship 11:00 AM Coffee & Fellowship Time – Fell. Hall</p>	<p>20 First Day of Spring  9-11:30 AM Line Dancing</p>	<p>21</p>	<p>22 9 AM- 2:30 PM Reaching Out Respite – "Matt" 3:15-4:30 PM Discipleship 6:00 PM Soup Supper 6:45 PM Lenten Service 7:30 PM: AA</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24 9:30-10:30 AM Line Dancing</p>	<p>25 4 PM Worship</p>
<p>26 8:45-9:45 AM Adult Study 9:00-9:45 AM Sunday School 10 AM Worship 11:00 AM Coffee & Fellowship Time – Fell. Hall</p>	<p>27 9-11:30 AM Line Dancing</p>	<p>28 6:00 PM Dartball Banquet- Azatlan Inn</p>	<p>29 9 AM- 2:30 PM Reaching Out Respite – "Matt" NO Discipleship 6:00 PM Soup Supper 6:45 PM Lenten Service 5:30-6:45 PM District 11 7:30 PM: AA</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>31</p>	



The students are continuing to learn the Beatitudes. The 3-year-olds to 4th grade sang and signed the song "Jesus Loves Me" during the February 12, 2023, worship service and did a fantastic job! On Sunday, March 19, we will be celebrating Pretzel Sunday during our Sunday School time. We will be gathering in Fellowship Hall as a group to make and bake the pretzels. 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 and juice. 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, 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.

We will not hold Sunday School classes on Sunday, March 26, as that is Spring Break for the public school system. Now, as we have entered into the Lenten season, may peace be with you as we continue our journey to the cross.

PIZZA RANCH FUNDRAISER

Thank you to everyone who supported our Pizza Ranch Fundraiser on February 9th. We had a total of 29-online orders and raised \$329 from sales and other donations.

Thank you for blessing our Sunday School program!

AMAZON SMILE

Unfortunately, Amazon has ended its charity donation program as of February 20, 2023. The move to shutter AmazonSmile comes after a series of other cost-cutting measures.

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.

Gather & Craft Registration Deadline March 5th

Are you a crafter? Do you like doing crafts, sewing, scrapbooking, knitting, etc. If you said yes, would you like to devote a day doing what you love in the company of fellow crafters and friends? If so, join us for a...

Gather and Craft Event

Saturday, March 11, 2023 • 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Lake Mills Moravian Church Fellowship Hall
(a light lunch will be provided)

Bring a project you want to start, something you are currently working on or maybe something that you have set aside waiting to be completed. It is a time to come together in community and connect through a shared passion for creativity and crafting.

To register, please contact Dina Sobek by email at dinasobek12@gmail.com or at (920) 728-0937. The following information is needed:

Name: _____

Contact Information:

Email: _____ Phone Number: _____

Project/projects you will be bringing: _____

Will you need an electrical outlet? Yes or No

Would you like to set up on Friday evening, 6:00-7:00 p.m.? Yes or No

Deadline to register is Sunday, March 5, so lunch can be planned and tables set up.

And lastly, in lieu of a registration fee, please bring non-perishable food items to donate to the local food pantry. Looking forward to crafting with you!

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS

Beginning March 1, current college students and graduating High School seniors, if you are interested in applying for a scholarship, please stop in the office and pick up an application.

Congratulations Tricklebee Cafe!

Tricklebee Cafe, a pay-what-you can restaurant in Milwaukee, is a ministry of the Moravian Church in America. At the recent national conference for One World Everybody Eats, Tricklebee Cafe was honored as the Community Cafe of the Year for the second year in a row! In addition, Executive Director, Christie Melby-Gibbons, was awarded the Fred Miller Spirit of Service Award! Needless to say, wonderful things are happening at Tricklebee every day and this is due to your generous prayerful and financial support.

Would YOU like to have lunch at Tricklebee but are not interested in driving there? No problem, members of the Christie Melby-Gibbons Circle would love to be your chauffeur. Please contact Pam Streich at 920-723-7360 and we will make a plan to take small groups to Milwaukee for lunch. It takes approximately 45 minutes to get to the Cafe on North Avenue.

To follow the daily activities of Tricklebee, follow us on Facebook @Tricklebeecafe. For even more information and to donate, check out our website <http://tricklebeecafe.org/>. Or even better, become an ongoing donor of as little as \$5 a month by using the Moravian Giving Portal at <https://www.mmfa.info/tricklebee-cafe-donation-form/>. If you would like to donate items to Tricklebee from the Wishlist, contact Pam Streich at 920-723-7360 and she will make sure it gets delivered. Watch for monthly updates here in the Messenger!

Electronic Giving

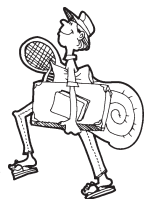


LMMC has been offering electronic giving since 2004. This service helps reduce fluctuations in contributions during the whole year while making it easy and safe for you to donate. On the date you specify and at the interval you specify (one time only, weekly, monthly, etc.), your contributions will electronically transfer from your bank account to the church's account. When the funds have been transferred, the church office is 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 or would like to sign up, please call Cassie in the church office at 920-648-5412 or email her at cassie.lmmc@gmail.com. There is a form to fill out which we can mail or email to you.

SUMMER CAMP DATES at Mt. Morris:

- Family Camp: June 2 - 4
- Chetek: July 15 - 22 (9th Grade – age 21)
- Winmor: July 22 – 29 (6 – 8 Grades)
- Junior: July 29 – August 3 (2 – 5 Grades)

Camp booklets are available with more information and pricing. These are located on the table in the main lobby.



The MESSENGER

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

website: www.lakemillsmoravianchurch.org

Return Service Requested

STAFF

Email: office@lakemillsmoravianchurch.org

Rev. David Sobek - Pastor Office 920-648-5412
 Cassie Richardson - Business Manager Office 920-648-5412
 Nikki Lawson - Administrative Assistant Office 920-648-5412
 Cora Rund - Organist Home 608-520-3815
 Kathy Wendt - Hand Bell Director Home 920-728-1101
 Mary Bade - Church Treasurer Cell 920-988-5349
 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

Hours
Monday - Friday:
9-12 & 1-3



Board Members

Board of Elders

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
 Mike Durant (2025) 920-650-2513
 Linda Kutzke (2025) 920-988-3212

Board of Trustees

Steve Brockert (2023) 920-648-3028
 Sherman Lawson (2023) 920-648-2531
 Dave McFarlane (2023) 920-988-7988
 Donna Crossman (2024) 920-650-0174
 Jeff Levake (2024) 920-988-7567
 Ashley Haberman (2025) 920-342-0292
 Carl Kutzke (2025) 920-988-1973

Coming in April, 2023:

April 2 – Palm Sunday
 April 2 – Sunday School Easter Egg Hunt
 April 3 - 5 – 7 p.m. Reading Services
 April 6 – Maundy Thursday Service
 April 7 – Good Friday
 April 9 – Easter Sunday
 (Sunrise Service & 9 a.m. Worship service)
 April 10 – 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 2023 Messenger
 will be **Tuesday,**
March 21, 2023.

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