



MAY 2022

The Mustard Seed

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF CHRISTIAN FAITH MORAVIAN CHURCH



Connect with us!

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From Our Pastor

As the weather continues to get nicer, the flowers and trees start to bloom, and summer is just around the corner, I thought it would be appropriate to talk about Christmas!

I am of a split personality when it comes to Christmas decorations. I love putting them up, but I hate taking them down. There is the finality of it all; my favorite holiday has come and gone. The house just doesn't seem quite the same without the candles in the windows, the wreaths and the garland on all the entryways, and the tree glowing beautifully in the living room. And then there is the tedium of it all; dragging out all those boxes and wrapping everything back up again. I keep trying to convince Amy that we should just put the tree in storage with the ornaments still on it -- no such luck. The unofficial record for longest still-standing Christmas tree in the Andersen household is well into Lent and almost to Easter. Granted, we don't turn the lights on each night. That's a special kind of crazy that makes my decoration procrastination pale in comparison. When I drive by a house that still has its Christmas lights on months after Christmas (not just *up*, mind you, but *on*), I intentionally slow down. You know, as a sign of respect.

A number of years ago when we lived in Appleton, it was well into spring when I finally took the last of the decorations down. One of the last items to go was a Christmas wreath that hung on the front of the garage. As I went to take it down I discovered that a bird had made its nest at the bottom of the wreath. Three little eggs lay gently in the nest. Amy and I decided that since the wreath had stayed up that long, it could stand staying up there a little while longer. No sense punishing the bird and her babies for my feet dragging. The people who drove by our house didn't know the reason behind the wreath staying up; they probably just thought we were lazy or weird. Now, it's no big deal if someone thinks I'm a little odd for still having a Christmas wreath up in May. But what about bigger things?

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Vicky Gouldthorp

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Digital Communication

Each Monday morning, we send out a brief email highlighting some upcoming dates and events, as well as some other fun things. If you would like to receive this weekly email, as well as this monthly newsletter in digital format, please contact the church office (cfmcoffice@gmail.com) to be added to the list.



Pastors Thoughts continued from pg. 1

What about sacrifices and life adjustments that Christ is calling us to make that may call our reputation into question? I would imagine Jesus knew a thing or two about having his reputation called into question based on things he said and people he associated with. That's the thing about making accommodations for others – it might make people think differently of us. Christ calls us to spread and share the Gospel message by being humble servants. “Just as I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you then should wash one another's feet.” (John 13:14) “The greatest in the Kingdom of heaven are the ones who humble themselves and become like a child.” (Matthew 18:4) What would this look like if you put it into practice in your life in a practical manner? What would it look like for you to humble yourself like a child and serve others? And more to the point, how would you deal with what people might say about you?

So the question is this – what is more important to you? Loving God through serving others or people's opinions about you? Who is the master of your life? To whom do you pay ultimate allegiance? “Man looks at outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart.” (1 Samuel 16:7).

Pastor Jason

Fellowship Hour

Fellowship hour follows worship. If you would be willing to host a fellowship hour, please sign up on the clipboard in the narthex. If you have any questions, please contact our Fellowship Hospitality coordinator Shirley Block at 608-235-2789.



April Showers Bring May Flowers

Throughout the month of May we will be collecting unopened toiletries and hygiene products for the DeForest Area Food Pantry.

Items to consider donating:

Body Wash, Loofa, Deodorant, Diapers, Baby Wipes, Toilet Paper, Hand Soap, Toothpaste, Toothbrush, Mouth Wash, Feminine Hygiene Products, Shampoo & Conditioner.

Donations can be dropped off in the food pantry bin in the narthex.



New Worship Series
"Signs of Life"



Pastor Jason will offer a 5-part worship series in May entitled "Signs of Life." We will focus on five different resurrection appearances by Jesus and how he offered hope and purpose to those he met.

Please join us as we consider how Jesus still seeks to move us from death to life today.

Where do you need to see signs of life?

| Date | Signs of Life..... | Resurrection Appearance |
|----------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|
| Sun., May 1 st | ...When We Grieve | Jesus appears to Mary at the Empty Tomb (John 20:10-18) |
| Sun, May 8 th | ...When We're Lost | Jesus appears to the Disciples on the Road to Emmaus (Luke 24:13-32) |
| Sun., May 15 th | ...When We Doubt | Jesus appears to Thomas in the Upper Room (John 20:24-31) |
| Sun., May 22 nd | ...When We Regret Our Past Decisions | Jesus appears to Peter by the Sea of Galilee (John 21:1-17) |
| Sun., May 29 th | ...When We Resist God | Jesus appears to Paul on the Road to Damascus (Acts 9-1-19) |

Pastor Jason at Leadership Group

I will be attending a Moravian Pastor's Leadership Group at Mt. Morris on May 2nd – 5th. We will be sharing case studies with one another, discussing the book Dare to Lead: Brave Work, Tough Conversations, Whole Hearts by Brene Brown, and reflecting on the personal and pastoral challenges we have encountered through the pandemic over the past two years. Part of the cost of my attendance at this event is covered by our Pastoral Continuing Education line item in the congregational budget. Thank you for your support of me as your pastor in this way!

Adult Bible Study

9:00 AM

May 1st -Obadiah

May 8th -Jonah

May 15th -Micah

May 22nd -Nahum

The Sunday Morning Adult Bible Study class is looking at the Minor Prophets of the Old Testament.

May Celebrations

Happy Birthday

5th – Taylor Vanderbloemen

10th – Bev Bisbee

20th – Jeanne Vincent

22nd – Thomas Harke

26th – Dale Sobek

29th – Vicki Herbers; Jean Roelke;

John Scepanski

Happy Anniversary

16th – Gordon & Mary Kanable (52 yrs)

17th – Rich & Laurie Vanderbloemen (25 yrs)

26th – John & Dorothy Dunning (63 yrs);

Doug & Shirley Block (43 yrs)

27th – Jason & Amy Andersen (21yrs)

Baptism

We will celebrate with the Brandon & Emily Ganser family as they bring their daughter Hazel forward for baptism on Sunday, May 29.



Mount Morris Camp & Conference Center

Christian Faith Moravian Church wants to support our youth going to church camp. The Joint Board has approved paying half the cost of kids going to camp once they've registered. That breaks down as follows for each camp.



Registering and Paying for Church Camp

- Go to www.wdcamping.com and then click on the desired camp.
- Register your child. Registration fee is \$35.
(Family Camp – Price for youth varies depending on lodging
Junior Camp -- \$200 (you pay \$100)
Winmor -- \$290 (you pay \$145)
Chetek -- \$290 (you pay \$145)
- Please write your check to Christian Faith Moravian Church with “Youth Camp Fund” in the memo line.
- Christian Faith will then pay the full amount for the all the campers at each camp. This makes it easier on the camp registrar, who then only has to deal with one check.

| Camp | Ages | Dates | Directors |
|--------------------|--------------------------|---|------------------------|
| Family Camp | All ages | June 3 rd – 5 th | Dan Scharnhorst |
| Junior Camp | Completed grades 2-5 | July 31 st – Aug 4 th | James Heroux |
| Winmor Camp | Completed grades 6-8 | July 24 th – 30 th | Jordan Forbes |
| Chetek Camp | Completed grade 9-age 21 | July 17 th – 23 rd | Jason and Amy Andersen |

Notes of Gratitude

- Thank you to Ken Glienke, Kay Kinderman, and Peggy Landgraf for cleaning the church in April.
- Thank you to the Larkins family, the Board of Elders, and the Harke family for hosting fellowship after worship in April.
- Thank you to Jill Stephens for all the extra piano accompaniment and to the Worship Choir for their choral offerings during Holy Week.
- Thank you to Amy and Seth Andersen, Nick & Brittany Blecha, Shirley Block, Kari Caulum, Dorothy Hatfield, Elizabeth Hockett, Peggy Landgraf, Dakota Mayr, Sandi Newell, and John Scepanski for their leadership with the Good Friday Tenebrae Service.
- Thank you to everyone who donated to the Easter Breakfast, to our youth who volunteered as servers, and to Whitney BaDour for coordinating the event.
- Thank you to Doug & Shirley Block, Russ & Marty Karow, Kay Kinderman, Peggy Landgraf, Jerry & Cheryl Mayr, John & Kathryn Scepanski, Bob & Marlene Sobek, and Addison Vanderbloemen for the beautiful lilies that decorated our sanctuary in memory of your loved ones on Easter.
- Thank you to Peggy Landgraf, Jerry Mayr, Rich & Laurie Vanderbloemen, Deb Kappel, Kris and Carson Willan, and Jason, Amy, and Seth Andersen for their help with the church yard clean-up day on April 23.
- Thank you to everyone who donated to and worked at the Spring Salad Luncheon on April 28 and to the Women’s Fellowship for coordinating the event.

Outdoor Worship & NEW Summer Schedule

We will switch to our summer worship time of 9:00 am starting on Sunday, June 5. To kickoff our summer worship time, we will have an Outdoor Worship Service on the church lawn. Please join us as we enjoy a time of worship and fellowship in God’s creation!



Elders Meeting Highlights

The Board of Elders met via Zoom on April 25.

- We opened by reading the Behavioral Covenant and the Moravian Daily Text.
- We approved the March minutes, ministry diary, and pastor's report.
- We reviewed the results we've received so far from the Sunday School survey; Pastor Jason is going to reach out to the parents who haven't filled out a survey yet.
- We reviewed the visioning ideas from the March Joint Board Retreat and discussed possible future plans.
- We reviewed the Holy Week worship services.
- We approved switching to a summer worship schedule of 9 am starting on June 5 with an outdoor worship service.
- We approved resuming nursery care during worship.
- We made tentative plans for July 4.

Our next meeting will be Monday, June 13 at 6:30 pm in person.

Trustees Meeting Highlights

The Board of Trustees met via Zoom on April 19.

- We opened by reading the Behavioral Covenant.
- We approved the Treasurer's Report, the April minutes, and the Pastor's Report.
- We discussed ongoing projects including painting the outside of the church, cemetery tree removal, parsonage leaf guard and storm window replacement.
- The mower and snow blower were taken in to Johnson's for a tune up and have been returned.
- We approved a suggested name to be the new Treasurer and is now pending that person's acceptance.
- We finalized plans for the church yard work day.
- We will do a parsonage walk through in June.

Our next meeting will be Tuesday, May 10 at 6:30 pm in person.

Donate to CFMC through Amazon Smile

The Trustees have set up an account to receive .5% of eligible purchases through the Amazon Smile program. If you do a lot of shopping on Amazon and would like to support CFMC ministries, simply go to <https://smile.amazon.com> and select "Christian Faith Moravian Church" as your organization to support. Then .5% of purchases you make will support the church.

What Does CFMC Mean To You?

On our website (www.cfmoravianchurch.org), if you scroll down you will see a section entitled "Christian Faith Moravian Church Is..." Some of our Joint Board members have answered this question, and we invite you to do the same! In one or two sentences, please tell us what CFMC means to you. You can email your answers to our webmaster, Kari Caulum, at karilee.iluvlucy@gmail.com.

VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE

| | Church Cleaning | Worship Hosts | Call to Worship Leader | Scripture Reader | Fellowship Host |
|----------------------|-----------------|---|--|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| May 1 st | Shirley Block | Bob Hudecek & Jerry Mayr | Amy Andersen Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24 | Sol Andersen John 20:11-18 | Marlene Sobek |
| May 8 th | Shirley Block | Scott & Marie True | Peggy Landgraf Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19 | Megan Vanderbloemen Luke 24:13-32 | Kay Kinderman & Ken Glienke |
| May 15 th | Kristi Thering | Elizabeth Hockett & Megan Vanderbloemen | Marie True Psalm 133 | Terry Miller John 20:24-31 | Host needed |
| May 22 nd | Kristi Thering | Ken Glienke & Terry Miller | Bob Hudeck Psalm 30 | Vicky Gouldthorp John 21:1-17 | Host needed |
| May 29 th | Toni Reigstad | Rich & Laurie Vanderbloemen | Megan Vanderbloemen Psalm 118:14-29 | Doug Block Acts 9:1-19 | Shirley Block |

Christian Faith Moravian Church
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DeForest, WI 53532

stamp

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



Socialize with Us!



New Worship Series
"Signs of Life"

**JOIN US EACH SUNDAY IN MAY
FOR "SIGNS OF LIFE"**

Sunday Worship—10 am

The complex block is enclosed in a thick red rectangular border. On the left side, there is a graphic of a red heart with a white ECG (heart rate) line passing through it. Above the heart, the text "New Worship Series" is written in a black, cursive-style font, and "Signs of Life" is written below it in a red, cursive-style font. To the right of the heart graphic, the text "JOIN US EACH SUNDAY IN MAY FOR 'SIGNS OF LIFE'" is written in a bold, black, sans-serif font. Below this text is a short horizontal black line, and further down, "Sunday Worship—10 am" is written in a bold, black, sans-serif font.
