

# The Voice

January 2012



Sharing Christ. Serving People

## Worship for January

### Sunday, January 1 – First Sunday after Christmas

Guest Speaker: Trudy Knipple

Celebrating the Beginning of a New Year with the Drawing of Watchwords and a Lovefeast

### Sunday, January 8 – First Sunday after the Epiphany

Guest Pastor: Rev. Olaf Andersen

Celebration of Holy Communion



### Sunday, January 15 – Second Sunday after the Epiphany

Guest Pastor: Rev. Kenneth Hanson

### Sunday, January 22 – Third Sunday after the Epiphany

Installation of Our Pastor:

Rev. Mary Lou Plummer

### Sunday, January 29 – Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany

## A prayer for the new year

Eternal God, thank you for bringing us once again to the threshold of a new year. Help us dedicate each day of 2012 to following your will for our lives. Guide us, Lord, in all our decisions and actions, day by day and hour by hour. Help us accomplish all that you desire for us to do, until our mission on earth is finished. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

## A word from our new pastor

Happy New Year, Wisconsin Rapids Moravian Church! It seems as though much time has passed since our impending partnership was announced and at this writing, it is right around the corner! If your Joint Board members are reflective of the larger faith community, I am expecting to have a wonderful and fulfilling time in our journey together in faith. So, allow me to introduce myself and my family.



As Bishop Warren Sautebin once commented, "Mary Lou is a slow learner" (he was joking, I'm fairly certain) God lead me to Moravian Theological Seminary at the tender age of 49 years. I was born and raised in Sturgeon Bay and attended the Sturgeon Bay Moravian Church in my early years and confirmed my faith there with Rev. Sautebin officiating (hence his long-term knowledge of me – he really was kidding

when he made that remark). Like most adolescent confirmands, I fell away from the church only to return after I had made a mess of it on my own. God called me back through the choir door and I hesitantly stepped back. Many people at that church and many people connected with the Diaspora movement and Gemeinschaft program revealed the love of Christ to me and I am very, very grateful for their faith which ignited mine. It is only through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ that God has led me to join paths with you.

My husband, Dave, and I have been married for 36 years. Dave is an electrical designer who lives in our home in Sturgeon Bay and commutes to Campbell-Wrapper Inc. in DePere. He's planning on retiring soon and has been saying that for the last four years! (Could I be a slow learner? No, I like to think more in terms of being gullible.) He is very knowledgeable about home repairs and cars and enjoys watching (coaching) the Packers.

We have two adult children – Allison and Nick. Allison lives in Madison and works at ARC – an organization that helps women to adjust to mainstream life after making poor decisions that drove their lives into a temporary ditch. She graduated from UW-Madison with a Masters of Social Work and is presently accumulating practicum hours to become a

certified counselor. Alli is a certified AODA counselor. She is an avid bike rider and has ridden in many organized biking events including “Biking the Rockies.”

Nick works for Veolia Waste Management in the Minneapolis-St. Paul area where he attended UM-Twin Cities and graduated with a chemistry degree. He picks up household and agricultural hazardous wastes and schedules the disposal of the same. Nick loves the Twin Cities and Twins baseball but remains a stalwart, loyal Packer fan. One of Nick’s goals is to visit all of our country’s national parks and has quite a few checked off his list.

In the years ahead, you’ll hear more stories about me and my family. I’m looking forward to hearing your stories as well. I promise that on January 22<sup>nd</sup>, I’ll wear the earrings I purchased at the Central Wisconsin Moravian Churches’ Adopt a Village booth from a few years ago. See, Wisconsin Rapids Moravian Church, God brought us together – God has a plan! Praise God from Whom all blessings flow . . . . - Rev. Mary Lou Plummer

### Installation Sunday

On Sunday, January 22, the Rev. Mary Lou Plummer will be installed as our new pastor. Diane Klawikowski, a member of our congregation who also serves on the District Board, will lead the installation service.



To welcome and introduce Mary Lou to our church family, the Joint Board will host a potluck dinner after the worship service. Please bring your favorite dish to pass. Beverages and dinner rolls will be provided.

### Installation

This is an exciting time for our congregation. Let us come together in worship and celebration.

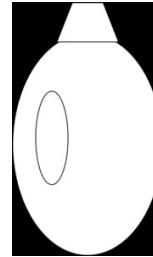
### Annual church council

Our Annual Church Council will convene on Sunday, January 29 after worship. Board and committee chairs are asked to have their reports submitted to the church office by January 9.

### Local missions – January 2012

On behalf of our Christmas family and Hope’s Door, I thank you for providing a very special Christmas to a family that would not have had much of one without your donations. The children received everything on their list and the parents received most of what was listed!

As I look at the heading, it doesn’t seem possible we are heading into 2012 and unfortunately, economically we are not yet out of the woods. There are many agencies out there that need our help and if you know of a specific need, please let me know.



For the month of January, we will again buy laundry detergent for the Family Center, the shelter for abused women. I called this morning to ask if this would be helpful and the woman’s response was “ You have no idea how much that would help us.” So, shop the sales, and know that something so simple is a benefit to so many. I believe last year we ended up with 36 bottles of various sizes. I wonder, can we top that?

-Rosemary Mooney

### From humble beginnings

In 1804, William, a 21-year-old from a poor family, decided to go to New York City to find a job. He told a neighbor his plans, saying he knew how to make soap and might work in a soap factory.

The neighbor said, “Just remember to be a good man, give your heart to Christ and pay the Lord all that belongs to him. Give a dime of every dollar you make, make an honest soap and you will be a happy and wealthy man.”

Sure enough, William found a job making soap. Later, he became part owner and then sole owner of the business. His product line — and giving — expanded greatly. He gave many millions of dollars to the Lord’s work throughout the world, far more than 10 percent of his wealth.

William Colgate died in 1857 at age 74, but his legacy and company, Colgate-Palmolive, still thrive.

-Newsletter newsletter

# Family Game Night



Saturday, January 21

5:00 pm - ??

Bring a dish to pass, games to play and a friend!! Dinner @ 5, games to follow.

## Children write to God

Dear God,  
Did you mean for the giraffe to look like that ... or was it an accident?  
Norma

Dear God,  
Who draws the lines around countries?  
Nan

Dear God,  
If you watch me in church next Sunday, I'll show you my new shoes.  
Mikey

Dear God,  
I didn't think orange went with purple until I saw the sunset.  
Emily  
*-From Children's Letters to God*

## MID WINTER RETREAT 2012

*"God Don't Make No Junk!"*

*Come learn about your true identity in Christ*

**WHO:** All youth currently in 9<sup>th</sup> grade thru Post High age 21

**WHEN:** Fri., February 3<sup>rd</sup> – Sun., February 5<sup>th</sup>, 2012  
→ Arrive Friday Evening  
→ Depart after Sunday morning worship

**WHERE:** Ebenezer Moravian Church  
N8071 High Road  
Watertown, WI 53094

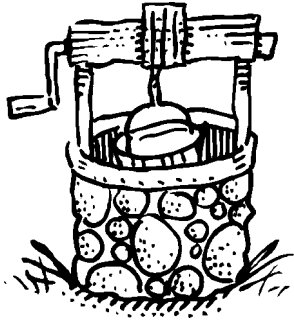
**COST:** \$35 by Friday, January 22<sup>th</sup>, 2012  
\$50 after Friday, January 27<sup>th</sup>, 2012

Registration forms available in the Social Room



## A special invitation

Rick Nelson, a former member of our congregation and a former Moravian missionary in Honduras, will present information to the Adopt-a-Village Committee meeting on Sunday, January 8 at 12:30 p.m. at the Kellner Moravian Church. Members from all the Central Wisconsin Moravian churches are invited to attend this meeting to hear about a mission opportunity in Honduras.



The current project Rick working with is called 'HARVEST OF HOPE'. This multi-year project includes constructing a 2-room school house (to replace a badly deteriorated building) in the village of Kruta and the purchase, transport and installment of plastic Protoplas 2500 liter water tanks in the community of Koko Tingni. The goal is \$30,000. (Rick is specifically going to focus on the water program with us.) This project includes

the Sturgeon Bay Moravian Church coordinating Northern Province Moravian participation; working with Rotary; and working with GOAL who has worked in the eastern part of Honduras since 1998. "GOAL and the Moravian church missionaries will work hand in hand with the community to build their capacity in the design, construction, and maintenance of community projects, starting from the knowledge of the community members." the proposal states. Rick goes on to say 'By involving local residents in the design, planning, and hands on work, Goal and North American Moravians will work to provide a 'hand up' rather than a 'hand out'.

If you are interested and want further information, please plan on attending the meeting on Sunday, January 8 at the Kellner Moravian Church.

## Mission is everywhere

The word "mission" often implies traveling to another country to teach and work. The work done in foreign missions is important, of course, but we can't all make the trip. What we can do, however, is be faithful servants where we live. Mission is about putting the face and name of Jesus in front of those who don't know him. We can do that in many ways — any place and any day.

## Moravian women

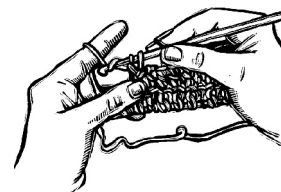
Moravian Women will meet on Thursday, January 12 at 1 p.m. in the lounge. Carol Giesler will be hostess.

Just a reminder -- Moravian Women have dishclothes for sale. The price is \$1.25 each.



## Singspiration

The five area Moravian Churches will gather at the Veedum Moravian Church on Sunday, January 29 at 6:30 p.m. for an evening of inspirational singing.



## Calling all knitters and crocheters!

There are easy patterns for children's hats for both knitters and crocheters. The patterns are in folders on the hassocks in the cozy

circle in the Social Room. Please consider using some of the yarn in the bins - it would be wonderful to use up some of the beautiful yarn that we have been given. There are also pom pom makers in the bins with directions included. If you don't want to do that, we will have a "pom pom Sunday" when I get back in February. These hats work up quickly and we will begin delivering them in February.

*Your knitting sister, Kay*



January 2 & 3  
Riverview Hospital  
Community Blood Bank

Hours: 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.  
Call 715-421-7438 to  
reserve a time.

●A Christian should be an alleluia from his head down to his feet.  
*-St. Augustine*



The **Board of Elders** met on December 5.

- Discussed visitation and nursery.
- Discussed delivery of Christmas cookies to shut-ins
- Approved request for use of facility by District Board and a Joyful Noise offering for Adopt-a-Village.
- Approved Family Game Night in January.
- Discussed plans for Christmas and New Year services.

The **Board of Trustees** met on November 9.

- Received report from Stewardship Committee.
- The Treasurer's Report and payment of bills were approved.
- Approved payment on furnace fund loan.
- Accepted quote from Bohn Trucking for snowplowing.
- Approved purchase of video projector with cost shared by Christian Education Committee, Youth Group and Trustees.
- Continued work on parsonage.

**Election results**  
 District Synod delegates: Beth Sowatzke, Kathy Plante  
 Alternates: Kay Heller, John Gunn

**November statistics**  
 Beginning 2010 Balance= \$0.00  
 Income thru 11/30/2011= \$115,305.07  
 Expenses = \$139,171.66  
 General Fund Balance= -\$23,866.59  
 Ave. Needed/Week = \$3,192.67  
 Ave. For the Year Received=\$2,328.21  
 Ave. Attendance for November = 85

**New mercies**  
 Everyone seems to have at least one resolution that seems impossible to keep. And that can become very discouraging.

The prophet Jeremiah, who had his own reasons to feel down, wrote, "The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases, his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness" (Lamentations 3:22-23, NRSV).

God refuses to give up on us. When we lose hope, when we fail and fall short, his mercy never runs out. Tomorrow is full of promise and our Lord's unceasing love.  
*-Newsletter newsletter*



**Around the community**  
 Happy New Year from all the volunteers at the **Bethesda Thrift Shop**. We pray that the new year will be a blessing for you and for our store. Your support will help. We will continue to have various sale offerings each month beginning with a 50% off sale on yellow-tagged clothing and shoes beginning January 9. We could use some new volunteers as cashiers or as sorters and pricers in the back room. Try to get a group of 3-4 together and volunteer for a 3-4 hour period once or twice a month. Stop by at the store or call Chuck at 421-3477. In January we also begin our Winter Store Hours: 10:00 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. Mon.-Wed. and 10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Thur. and Friday. Saturday remains at 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and we are closed on Sundays.



**Thank you**  
 The South Wood Emergency Pantry Shelf gratefully acknowledges and thanks you for the gift of ten bags of food items delivered in November. We appreciate your concern and faithful support. We have been

purchasing most of the food we give out and so we are thankful that the season of collections and donations has arrived. Our wonderful SWEPS volunteers filled 120 requests for food in September and 163 requests in October. November has also been a very busy month. Each family receives seven days worth of food and hygiene items.

We give thanks for the fall season of harvest and thanksgiving and remember those who are in need. A gift of food is a gift of hope to those who are hungry. On behalf of the families who will receive the benefits of your gift -- thank you.  
*-Judy Steele  
 SWEPS Board*

**My morning prayer**  
 What guidance is God giving  
 For my living of this day?  
 Will I help someone who's needy?  
 Will I have kind words to say?

Will outrageous acts of kindness  
 Be the gifts that I can share?  
 Let YOUR will, God, be mine  
 today,  
 Help me to love and care!

*—Peggy Ferrell,  
 Poems, Prayers and Hymns*

In our church family

**Birthdays**

- 1/2 William Haferman,  
Gregory Behrend
- 1/3 Betty Hoekstra
- 1/4 Gilbert Plantico,  
Michael Barnes
- 1/6 Eric Voight, Mason Narel
- 1/7 Florence Garfield, Marion  
Bailey, Marlene Young,  
Caroline Narel
- 1/10 Lucile Severt
- 1/13 Ethelmae Schulz, Lee  
Fletcher, Hartlee Mlodzik
- 1/14 Orva Schmick
- 1/15 Robert Rinker
- 1/17 Marles Quisler,  
Larry Papineau
- 1/19 Dayne Fellowes
- 1/20 Milo Plante
- 1/22 Nicki Fletcher,  
Dylan Shanahan
- 1/30 Wyatt Mroz
- 1/31 Elizabeth Sowatzke,  
Joseph Williams

**Anniversaries**

- 1/8 Gilbert & Anna Plantico
- 1/9 Larry & Janet Wetzel

**Hospitalized**

Marion Bailey, Bette Lauby

**Funeral**

We express our heartfelt sympathy to the family of Clifford Burgeson who died November 28; his funeral was held on December 3

**Nursing/group home residents**

- Edgewater Haven: Jerry Swiggum,  
Florence Garfield
- Managed Care: Danny Hedin,  
Bette Lauby
- Strawberry Lane: Orrin Ninneman
- Nekoosa Extended Care: Betty  
Bates, Lois Hanson
- Arborwood Lodge: Art Godin,  
George Nimtz
- Our House: Arvilla Zimmerman
- Homebound: Arnold Baltus, Kay  
Doll, Marlene Young, Marles  
Quisler, Jesse Heltsley

**Our servicemen**

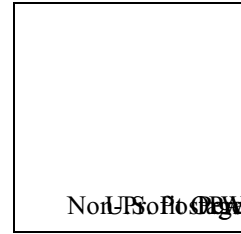
Paul Eklund, David Eklund, Nathan Smith, Jeremy Hyams, Dustin Wesenberg

**Pastoral care**

If you or a loved one is hospitalized, please call the church office. We are not always contacted by the hospital.

**Address change**

Larry Davis  
3930 Heritage Ridge Dr  
Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494



Not a Postcard Wisconsin Rapids WI

