



FEBRUARY 2021

# The Mustard Seed

*The Official Newsletter of Christian Faith Moravian Church*

## Digital Communication

### Monday Morning Email

Pastor Jason sends out an 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 our monthly newsletter in digital format, please contact the church office ([cfmcoffice@gmail.com](mailto:cfmcoffice@gmail.com)) to be added to the list.

## Live-Streamed Worship

At our meeting in January, the Joint Board voted to remain worshipping online for the month of February. We have reviewed the numbers from Dane County Public Health and although they are trending in the right direction, we do not feel it is prudent to offer in-person worship just yet. The Joint Board will meet again in February to make a decision about March and beyond.

## Sunday Worship Schedule

### Sunday, February 7<sup>th</sup>

5<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Epiphany  
Holy Communion

**Call to Worship:** Psalm 147:1-11, 20c  
(Doug Block)

**Sermon Text:** 1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 9:16-23  
**Sermon:** "All Things to All People"

### Sunday, February 14<sup>th</sup>

6<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Epiphany

**Call to Worship:** Psalm 50:1-6  
(Amy Andersen)

**Sermon Text:** Mark 9:2-9 and  
2<sup>nd</sup> Corinthians 4:3-6  
**Sermon:** "Veiled Glory"

### Sunday, February 21<sup>st</sup>

1<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Lent

**Call to Worship:** Psalm 25:1-10  
(Terry Miller)

**Sermon Text:** 1<sup>st</sup> Peter 3:18-22  
**Sermon:** "Down and Up"

### Sunday, February 28<sup>th</sup>

2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Lent

**Call to Worship:** Psalm 22:23-31  
(Marie True)

**Sermon Text:** Romans 4:13-25  
**Sermon:** "Righteousness By Faith"

## Ash Wednesday

Pastor Jason will be available in the church parking lot on  
Ash Wednesday, February 17

from 7:00 – 8:00 am and from 4:30 – 5:30 pm  
for a "Drive-Through" imposition of ashes.

Simply pull into the upper parking lot and he will come out to your  
vehicle for the imposition of ashes.

We will also have a live-streamed Ash Wednesday Worship Service on the  
17<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm on our church Facebook page.

### Christian Faith Moravian Church 2021 Watchword

*"The wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord." (Romans 6:23)*

## Contact Information

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**Office Hours**

Monday—Thursday  
8:00—4:00 pm

**Pastor**

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**Treasurer**

Doug Block—608-846-3833  
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**Elders Vice Chair**

TBD at February Meeting

**Trustees Chair**

TBD at February Meeting

## From the Pastor's Desk

As I write this article, we have just dug out of a fresh blanket of about five inches of snow. The temperature the past few days has barely made it into the teens and the lows have been below zero each night. And there is another snowstorm in the forecast for this weekend. We are definitely living through another Wisconsin winter. But this is no ordinary winter to be sure. Although the Covid numbers continue to move in the right direction and I'm hearing about more and more people in our community who are getting vaccinated, we are still dealing with the realities of facemasks, social distancing, and isolation. The cold and the lack of sunlight can take their toll.

I'm reminded of the poem by Christina Rossetti, "In the Bleak Midwinter"

*In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan  
Earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone  
Snow had fallen, snow on snow on snow  
In the bleak midwinter long, long ago  
Angels and Archangels may have traveled there  
Cherubim and Seraphim thronged the air  
But only his Mother in her maiden bliss  
Worshiped the beloved with a kiss  
What can I give him, poor as I am?  
If I were a shepherd, I would give a lamb  
If I were a wise man, I would do my part  
But what I can I give him, give him my heart*

I appreciate how Rossetti reminds us that Christ has entered into the sometimes cold and dreary nature of our hearts, and asks only that we make room for him to come and make his home with us.

Just as January has given way to February, soon winter will give way to spring. New life will bloom forth once more – in the world and in our lives. Easter is not too far on the horizon and though we may find ourselves marking time for now, it won't be much longer until we may find cause for joy and celebration. In the meantime, let us consider God's presence with us not only in a hopeful future, but here and now. With the time and season that is ours to behold this day, what can we do in this present moment to deepen our relationship with God and to bring God our worship through humble service to others?

*Pastor Jason*



## Online Mid-Winter Youth Event

We won't have our annual in-person District Mid-Winter Youth Retreat but we will have an online event on Saturday, February 6 at 7:00 pm. We will have devotions, a brief program, and a fun online mystery game. The program, entitled "Nourishment for the Journey," will be led by Amy Behrend, Caitlyn Forbes, and Sara Valley. Registration is free and you can register by going to: <https://forms.gle/NFKsrg1GpTcQkaLZ6>.

## Watchwords For 2021

At our live-streamed Worship Service on Sunday, January 3, we drew Moravian watchwords for the coming year. Below are the watchwords that were drawn for our various congregational groups, as well as our congregation's watchword. There is a basket of watchwords in the church office if you would like to stop by a draw one for you or a loved one.

Elders	"Jesus Christ will strengthen you to the end." (1 <sup>st</sup> Corinthians 1:8)
Trustees	"All your words shall give thanks to you, O Lord, and all your faithful shall bless you." (Psalm 145:10)
Sunday School and Bible Study	"God was pleased to have all his fullness dwell in him, and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making peace through his blood, shed on the cross." (Colossians 1:19-20)
Men's Fellowship	Enable your servants to speak your word with great boldness. Stretch out your hand to heal and perform signs and wonders through the name of your holy servant Jesus." (Acts 4:29-30)
Women's Fellowship	"Jesus prayed, 'The glory that you have given me I have given them.'" (John 17:22)
Congregation	"The wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord." (Romans 6:23)

## Financial Update



We thank you for your ongoing support of our shared congregational ministries, both to the General Fund and to the Building Fund. If it's been a bit since you've sent in your offering, now is a great time to start! You can mail your check to the church office or you can give electronically. Simply go to [www.cfmoravianchurch.org](http://www.cfmoravianchurch.org) and click on "Giving." You can set up your donation to be one-time or recurring at an amount and frequency you select.

## Thank You!

- To Barb Ross for her donation of a framed Lord's Supper artwork; it will be hung in the Zinzendorf Room.
- To Michael and Jasmine Harke for their donation of a third wheeled cart that will help transport items up and down from the Fellowship Hall.
- To outgoing Board members Whitney BaDour, Marty Karow, and Jill Stephens (Elders) and Bob Hudecek and Daryl Stephens (Trustees). We appreciate your hard work over the past two years!
- To outgoing Financial Secretary Marlene Sobek. We appreciate all you have done for the church over the many years serving in this capacity!

## Let's Go Sledding

All are invited for a Youth Sledding Outing at River's Turn Park in DeForest (by the new Conservancy Commons Bridge) on Sunday, February 14 at 1:00 pm. Bring your tubes



and sleds, Pastor Jason will lead a brief devotional about the beauty of God's creation in winter, and we'll enjoy an afternoon sledding together. Hot chocolate and cookies will be provided.



Pastor Jason will host a Lenten Worship and Study series via Zoom throughout the Wednesdays in Lent at 7:00 pm. The theme will be "Chance Encounters with Christ." It will focus on lesser-known Biblical characters who had a chance meeting with Jesus, and it changed their life. Those in attendance will be invited to think about the chance encounters we have with God throughout our lives.



## Sunshine Committee

Are you aware of a fellow church member who is hurting or going through a difficult time and would appreciate a note of encouragement and support? The Women's Fellowship has a Sunshine Committee that sends cards to people. The current volunteer for the Sunshine Committee is Mary Kanable. Feel free to reach out to Mary if you know of someone who could use a card.

# Weekly Zoom Opportunities



## Wednesday Evening Prayers

You are invited to join us on Wednesday evening, February 3 and February 10 at 7:00 pm for our Evening Prayers via Zoom ([www.zoom.us/j/552369476](http://www.zoom.us/j/552369476)). There will be a time to check-in with one another, share prayer joys and concerns, Pastor Jason will offer a brief devotional, and we will spend some time in prayer. You will not be asked to pray aloud. We will conclude by 7:30 pm.

## Thursday Bible Study

You are invited to join us each Thursday for our Evening Bible Study at 7:00 pm via Zoom ([www.zoom.us/j/422647851](http://www.zoom.us/j/422647851)). Pastor Jason is just finishing up teaching on the Gospel of Mark and then we will begin another Biblical book. You can jump in on the conversation and ask questions, or you are welcome to simply listen along silently, or you can do a bit of both! We will conclude by 8:00 pm.

## Fellowship After Worship

You are invited to join us for a time of fellowship via Zoom ([www.zoom.us/j/85271982960](http://www.zoom.us/j/85271982960)) every Sunday following our live-streamed Worship Service for a time of sharing and conversation and reflection on the worship service. We begin once the service ends (around 10:00 am) and are typically done before 10:30 am.

## At-Home Sunday School

All youth (as well as the young at heart) are invited to join us for a weekly Zoom Sunday School gathering ([www.zoom.us/j/86572573900](http://www.zoom.us/j/86572573900)) on Sundays at 11:00 am. This will be a brief 15-minute check-in time where Pastor Jason will introduce the Bible Story for the week, we can see each other and say hi, and have a prayer together. The at-home Sunday School materials are emailed to youth families to go over at home; they will include crafts, coloring pages, songs, stories, mission projects, and other fun ideas. The curriculum we are using is "Shine At Home" and you can learn more at [www.shinecurriculum.com](http://www.shinecurriculum.com).

## Snow Removal Volunteer



We are still looking for a volunteer for weekday snow removal. Pastor Jason is willing to help out, but if you are can volunteer please contact the church office. You can use the church's snow blower which is located in the parsonage garage (Pastor Jason will give you the code to the garage). The snow blower is only a few years old, works very well, and has an electric start.

## FEBRUARY CELEBRATIONS



### Happy Birthday

2<sup>nd</sup> – Joe Brashi Sr, Daniel Sobek  
 5<sup>th</sup> – Lisa O'Neill  
 6<sup>th</sup> – Dennis Traugott  
 7<sup>th</sup> – Elizabeth Hockett  
 8<sup>th</sup> – Benjamin Parsons  
 9<sup>th</sup> – Dave Karow  
 13<sup>th</sup> – Doug Knudtson, Kay Kinderman  
 15<sup>th</sup> – Jonathan Herbers  
 17<sup>th</sup> – Marlene Sobek, Karen Schultz  
 19<sup>th</sup> – Devan Mayr  
 21<sup>st</sup> – Debbie Holum, Russ Karow  
 24<sup>th</sup> – Samuel Dreyer  
 26<sup>th</sup> – Diane Mayr

### Happy Anniversary

1<sup>st</sup> – Roger and Sherry Statz  
 2<sup>nd</sup> – Doug and Elaine Knudtson (53 yrs)  
 15<sup>th</sup> – Donald and Vicki Gilbertson (44 yrs)  
 24<sup>th</sup> – Bob and Sue Simon (53 yrs)

## Church Council Results

Thank you to everyone who attended the Zoom Church Council meeting on January 24. We had a great turnout! We received reports from 2020, approved the 2021 church budget, and elected the following officers to our Boards:

**Board of Elders:** Shirley Block, Kari Caulum, and Vicky Gouldthorp (2-year terms)

**Board of Trustees:** Jerry Mayr and Mat Stack (2-year terms) and Joel Caulum and Michael Harke (1-year terms)

Having Joel and Michael re-elected for 1-year terms will allow us to stagger our board turnover so that it's a 50% change each year. (At the end of this year, we'll elect 3 new Trustees and 2 new Elders. Next year, we'll elect 2 new Trustees and 3 new Elders. And so on.)

## Board of Elders Meeting Highlights

**The Board of Elders met on January 11 via Zoom.**

We read the Behavioral Covenant and approved the December minutes, ministry diary, pastor's report, and music ministry report.

We reviewed our ongoing core focuses of worship, connection, spiritual care, and missions.

We reviewed our Advent and Christmas activities.

We approved receipt of a piece of artwork of the Lord's Supper from Barb Ross and voted to hang it in the Zinzendorf room.

We reviewed a suggestion from a member about reaching out to those in need and utilizing the Women's Fellowship Sunshine Committee to do that.

We discussed the Pie Auction and Chili Supper and chose not to hold those events this year.

We briefly discussed Lenten Worship plans and agreed that Pastor Jason would offer a series either in-person or online based on the Joint Board's decision at their January meeting.

**Our next meeting will be set after the Church Council meeting.**

## Board of Trustees Meeting Highlights

**The Board of Trustees met on January 12 via Zoom.**

We read the Behavioral Covenant and approved the December Minutes, the Treasurer's Report, and the Pastor's Report.

We met with Chris Spaug from the Moravian Ministries Foundation who offered us some advice and guidance on investing a \$20,000 bond that has come due in our General Fund investments.

We reviewed any last-minute issues for church council on nominations and budget.

We reviewed the Sunday offering counting schedule.

Bob Hudecek fixed the church kitchen garbage disposal. It keeps sticking because it isn't used much.

**Our next meeting will be set after Church Council.**

Christian Faith Moravian Church  
805 E. Holum St.  
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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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### Mission Nutrition Ministry

Pastor Jason has been helping with food distribution over the past few months with Mission Nutrition DeForest, a local non-profit that works with Second Harvest Food Bank. They work out of the old Door Creek church opposite HomeTown Pharmacy in the Pick N Save parking lot. In the new year, they will be holding food distributions Wednesday evenings from 5:00 - 6:30 pm. If you are interested in helping out, contact the church office.



**Worship With Us Online!**  
**ON FACEBOOK LIVE SUNDAYS AT 9AM**  
**ON OUR WEBSITE ANYTIME 24/7**

 Find us on  
**Facebook**