

The Messenger

Spreading the Good News since 1866

March, 2021

The Freedom Moravian Church is a Christian Community seeking together to discover Jesus Christ through worship, education, and fellowship; so that all may know they are loved by God and become responsible members of His church.

From Your Pastor's Desk....

Recently, I came across a worst nightmare that I never knew existed. I am typically not one to go get my car washed, but after a few weeks of driving through salt on roads that refused to thaw, I decided to give my car a treat. As the weather warmed up and chunks of snow began to disappear, I headed into town. My suspicion was that I wouldn't be the only person with this grand idea; and I was right. The line was quite long, but I was in no rush so I joined the pileup of cars. I was listening to a good podcast and inching forward. Finally, I was next in line to pay. Then, it happened. The car in the wash dried off and drove away, but the truck in front of me didn't pull in. Minutes went by and it still wouldn't pull in. Apparently, it had an issue with the pay station and, unfortunately, it was an issue that he could not resolve on his own. He put his truck in park, opened his door, and gave those of us in line a helpless shrug as he walked in the store for help. Even after waiting for so long, I was ready to back up and try again another day. This, however, was not an option. So many cars had lined up behind me that we were all stuck in the line that snaked around the gas station. Even with a tremendous amount of communication, I don't think we could have escaped our current stranded-ness. There was simply no way out. In the eternity it took this gentleman to return and crawl through the car wash, I made the decision to pay the extra dollar to get the fancy, technicolored foam to give my car that extra shine. Then, I used up every last one of the 90 seconds given to you under the dryer. By my standards, someone who typically lets rain wash my car, it was a bit of luxury. After almost an hour waiting in line, I'd say I earned it.

I'm sure you are waiting for or looking forward to quite a lot these days – connecting with friends and families, enjoying activities you dearly miss, even piling into the sanctuary so we can sing our hearts out. We are inching forward, but wait indeed does go on. My prescription for you is that you find a way to treat yourself. In any way that you can, give yourself a bonus, a break, or a bit of fun. Give yourself permission to indulge in something that typically might stir up a little guilt in the back of your mind. You have been waiting in line for a long, long time. You've been patient, you've been cautious and safe, you've given up so much, so make sure to reward yourself and give yourself credit for all that you have been doing. You've earned it.

Pastor James



Joint Board Meeting February 9, 2021

In Attendance: Alyssa Seitz, Chelsey Thiel, Sami Petit, Jim Muenster, Michele Remter, Norm Blohm, Rob Sprister, John Merkel, Shari Liesch, and Pastor James

Pastor James opened the meeting by reading the Daily Text.

Elders Update:

Pastor James gave a pastoral care update and mentioned several people in our congregation who we can be keeping in prayer.

Worship continues in a hybrid fashion with steady attendance on YouTube, Zoom, and in the parking lot. Thank you to our scripture readers, to Shari for providing music, and to Norm for his help handing out bulletins and collecting offerings.

Ash Wednesday is 2/17. We will have a recorded service on YouTube that people can watch at their convenience.

On 2/17 at 6pm we will have a parking lot service and at 7pm we will have a live service on Zoom.

Pastor James will be leading a Lent bible study Wednesday nights at 6pm on Zoom. He will also send his notes out for those who can't attend. The study will follow a Lent devotional called, Preparing for Easter by C.S. Lewis.

We also continue to look at Covid cases with the hope to have some outdoor youth group activities as Spring rolls around.

Trustees Update;

Randerson came by to fix the furnace for the social hall as well as the humidifier in the parsonage.

We want to extend a big thank you to all who help remove snow and keep our sidewalks safe.

We also want to thank Mike Mischnick for his continued work in taking care of our building.

*God is Loading More Blessings for
You...Please Wait*



MARCH BIRTHDAYS

3/2: Chris Blohm
3/3: Keith Bernetzke
3/7: Jeanne Sprister
3/25: Lilli Kositzke
3/30: Arden Fiestadt
Karen Muenster
3/31: Andy Ambrosius



*MARY MARTHA CIRCLE IS MEETING ON
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 17 AT 1 P.M.
ALL CHURCH LADIES ARE WELCOME!!*

*COME TO THE CHURCH SOCIAL HALL AND
CATCH UP ON WHAT THE CIRCLE HAS
BEEN AND WILL BE DOING TO BENEFIT
THE CHURCH COFFERS!! THE GROUP IS
COMPRISED OF SPECIAL PEOPLE AND THEY
ARE EXCITED TO WELCOME YOU TO THEIR
RANKS.*

Palm Sunday is March 24.



**Spring ahead on
March 14!!**

MARCH ANNIVERSARIES

None this Month

REMINDER: TENTATIVE ANNUAL MEETING DATE IS MAY 16, 2021

Board Rotations:

2 CEC: Jody Eggert & Darlene Missling both completing second term (CEC)
3 Elders: : Jim Muenster and Michelle Remter completing first terms; vacancy from Fred Ewald
1 Trustee: Marilyn Zimmer completing second term
1 Worship Committee: Cathy Anschutz completing first term

Those who have finished their first terms are certainly welcome to consider continuing their service on their respective boards/committees but it is not an obligation to serve two terms. If your first term is ending, give it some thought and please let your board/committee know how you are planning to proceed so we can have an accurate picture of the seats we will need to fill. Our hope is that our boards will start to function at a more "normal" capacity once we can start to move forward as Covid becomes less restrictive.

In essentials, unity; in non-essentials, liberty; in all things, love.



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FREEDOM MORAVIAN CHURCH

