



The Messenger

Spreading the Good News since 1866

January 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 the Pastor's Desk:

I am often guilty of complaining about Wisconsin sports. No matter the sport, it seems our teams are notorious for not being able to get over the hump. In recent years, the Bucks, Brewers, and Packers have all taken turns having a high seed in the playoffs but failing to win a championship – almost always in frustrating fashion. It has become so routine that my optimism has to be cautious when watching our teams. It's like I start to assume that they'll blow a lead or find a miraculous way to lose.



That trend is that caused me to worry about Giannis Antetokounmpo not resigning for the Bucks. He has always said he loves Milwaukee; the team is the strongest it's been in decades, and I still had my fears that Giannis would leave for the bright lights of a bigger city. But much to my surprise, he stayed.

After he signed his contract to remain in Milwaukee for a few more years, it dawned on me just how lucky we are as Wisconsin sports fans. Immediately, the years of heartbreaking losses didn't seem so bad. It is unheard of for a two-time MVP to want to stay in a smaller market, but if Giannis defied the odds, he's just the latest to do so. Christian Yelich for the Brewers and Aaron Rodgers for the Packers were both considered to be the best player in their league and instead of jumping ship to play in a bigger city, they chose to stay. What is it about Wisconsin that guys who could shine in the sun of LA or Miami embrace blizzards and below zero temps here?

Well, we have Kwik Trip and Spotted cow. We're "Midwest nice." We look for the bubbler when we need a drink. There are plenty of reasons to love Wisconsin, but there's nothing better than the people you find here. I can only imagine how rewarding it would be to play for fans so loyal, dedicated, and passionate about their teams.

Without being a superstar athlete playing in front of thousands of fans, I can say there's something special about the people here. Since March, our congregation has tackled one challenge after another without skipping a beat. The optimism, the selflessness, and the patience as we operate in this Covid world has been nothing short of remarkable. There certainly is something special about Wisconsin that keeps our favorite players around, and I hope you know that something special is you.

Happy New Year,

Pastor James

Church Council

A message from the Joint Board -

As we head toward what would be church council season, we anticipate not feeling comfortable gathering in person in January. We will schedule a traditional church council when it is safe to gather with all who would like to be involved. In the meantime, we will have a Zoom meeting either on 1/17 or 1/24 (Packers playoff schedule pending). The purpose of this meeting will be to approve the budget and to vote on postponing church council until a later date. Please keep an eye out for the proposed budget for 2021. If you have questions after looking at the budget, you are welcome to bring them to that meeting, and if you are unable to Zoom please make let a Joint Board member know. We thank you in advance for attending the meeting and for your flexibility.



JANUARY ANNIVERSARIES

1 - 4 Dave & Tracy Maass



JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

1/1 Lori Mischnick
1/1 Terrie Carpenter
1/9 Nancy Sibley
1/10 Deb Bernetzke
1/16 Erin Conrad
1/21 Carter Kositzke
1/23 Olivia Micke
1/25 Dustin Muenster
1/29 Doug Lillge
1/31 Darlene Missling

Prayer Chain

A prayer chain is a way for people to gain assistance in prayer for any serious and pressing problem. It is also a way for any person to act on God's command to love one another (*John 13:34-35*). Many people cannot engage directly in ministry but we can all pray. We can all take the time to help others and to make their time and suffering valuable. Jesus teaches us that if we agree on anything and ask in faith it will be granted (*Matthew 18:19*). If you or someone you know is in need of prayer, **please call Pastor James (920)495-5400, or Carol Jens (920)740-7981**. As a courtesy to our prayer chain members, no calls are made in the middle of the night.

Report any address, phone, email changes directly to the office or to

freedomcentraldata@gmail.com

Changes include name, address, phone, email, marriages, births, baptisms & confirmations. Electronic versions of directory available on request!!



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



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FREEDOM MORAVIAN CHURCH

