

Edgeboro Moravian Church's Newsletter

The Envoy

Est. 1943

February 2024, Volume 82, Issue 2

Dear Edgeboro Friends & Family,

I had a church member ask me a very specific Bible question out of the blue recently. I could sense this was not meant to be a challenging “stump the pastor” type of question, but rather a genuine one—and those type of questions are ones that I’m always eager to explore. The question was: “When Jesus fed 5,000 people with five loaves and two fish, did he actually multiply the food?”

I wanted to answer instinctually with, “Yes, how else would 5,000 men (plus women and children) be fed?” But I’m glad I didn’t, because there’s more to it than that.

The story of Jesus feeding 5,000 people is included in all four gospels—something that isn’t even true for famous passages like Jesus walking on water, the Sermon on the Mount, or even the Christmas story. In three accounts of this story, it says that Jesus looked up to the heavens, gave thanks, broke the bread, and that the people left full and were satisfied. In John, Jesus did less than that, he only gave thanks. The mind-blowing thing is that none of the gospel accounts actually say anything about Jesus doing anything like multiplying the original food or producing or procuring additional food. No such verb is included here.

I don’t think that means that things *didn’t* happen like that. There’s absolutely room for interpretation that Jesus miraculously multiplied the food. There’s also room for other interpretations—that Jesus’ shared food in a sacramental Communion-like way and that people were spiritually filled, or that the generosity of Jesus and the disciples shown in their willingness to share their own food inspired many others within the huge crowd to also share their food with others who needed it more.

None of the gospel authors included the verb we thought or wish was there, and I ultimately don’t know, but I can’t help but wonder if that was on purpose so that we wouldn’t lose focus on what is clear in this story—the amazing power of generous sharing and breaking of bread.

There’s something about Jesus and food that brings about holy moments—fellowship, generosity, conversation, inclusion, connection, joy, love. We know this. We see it all over the gospels. We witness it firsthand at church breakfasts. (I’m writing this just a day after our most recent breakfast on January 28th.) And we will have more opportunities to witness this during the upcoming season of Lent when we eat together and study scripture together each Wednesday night. Join us, and I look forward to witnessing this with you soon!

Sustained by the Bread of Life with You,
Pastor Dan

Sunday Schedule & Volunteers

February 4

9:15am Adult Sunday School
 9:30am Youth Sunday School
 9:30am Pre-School Sun. School
 10:30am Worship
 (Joyful Noise Offering)
 5:00pm Confirmation Class

Elder Tim Jones
Sacristans Jon & Lynn Terry
Ushers Mike & Terri Long

February 11

9:15am Adult Sunday School
 9:30am Youth Sunday School
 10:30am Worship

Elder Tammy Baer
Sacristans John & Rosie Bauman
Ushers Brent & Kyle Sergent

February 14

7:00pm Worship (Ash Wednesday)

Elder Andrew Miller
Sacristans Ron & Carol Freyman
Ushers Carol Saeger & Nancy Bartleman

February 18

9:15am Adult Sunday School
 9:30am Youth Sunday School
 9:30am Pre-School Sun. School
 10:30am Worship
 (Communion, Baptism)
 5:00pm Confirmation Class

Elder Abby Solitario
Sacristans John & Paula Horn
Ushers Rodney Sergent

February 25

9:15am Adult Sunday School
 9:30am Youth Sunday School
 10:30am Worship

Elder Season Pagano
Sacristans Mike & Terri Long
Ushers Heath & Val Hoff

Worship

In this section you will find information about special offerings, services, and activities for the communal worship of our congregation.

- **Worship Online Each Week**—Go to edgeboromoravian.org to download the week's bulletin and access the livestream of worship on Facebook and YouTube each Sunday. If you cannot join live, recordings of past services can be accessed in the same way.
- **February's Joyful Noise Offering**—This month's Joyful Noise Offering will support Essentials Café. Place your offerings in the joyful noise can in the sanctuary or make a gift to Edgeboro online, designating your gift for "Joyful Noise."
- **Online & Text Giving**—If you would like to explore different methods and rhythms of giving in order to find what works best for you, consider giving to Edgeboro online or by text message. Contact Carole Schachter or another member of the Board of Trustees to learn more, or go to edgeboromoravian.org/onlinegiving. You can also scan the QR code to give now online using a credit card or bank account.
- **Ash Wednesday Worship** will take place on Wednesday, February 14th at 7:00pm (in person and online).
- **Lent begins this month!**—The first Sunday of Lent is on February 18th and our first midweek Lenten gathering will take place on February 21st, Dinner at 6:00pm with a study series from 7:00pm–8:00pm.
 Here's who is providing the Lenten Dinners:
 Feb. 21—Trustees
 Feb. 28—Elders
 Mar. 6—CEC
 Mar. 13—Open to anyone who signs up
 Mar. 20—Sacristans
- **The Winter Church Council Meeting** took place after church on January 28th. There were 52 people in attendance. The 2023 budget was reviewed and the 2024 budget was proposed and approved. Carole Schachter spoke about the importance of prayerfully considering increasing donations and how it can be done through MMFA. Sue Testa added that on-time donations can also be made online if you have funds available. If you would like a copy of the meeting materials, please contact the office.



Worship Attendance (In-Person + Online)			
January	2023	2024	Key: 2023: Includes YouTube views 2024: Includes YouTube & Facebook views
Week 1	66	136	
Week 2	102	125	
Week 3	75	118	
Week 4	111	149	
Week 5	86	—	

Church News & Events

In this section, you will find announcements, information, and updates about Edgeboro and the community.

- **MORAVIAN DAY OF GIVING!**— The Moravian Ministries Foundation in America (MMFA) is hosting their 4th annual Moravian Day of Giving on February 13th. On that day, MMFA is calling all Moravian church members and friends to make an online donation to their Moravian congregation(s) or organization(s) of choice through the MMFA online giving portal (see link below).

To inspire heightened participation, the MMFA will grant \$2,500 to the 5 Moravian organizations (churches, agencies, camps, etc.) with the most unique individual donors. Give to Edgeboro on February 13th at mmfa.info/giving-portal, and you could give Edgeboro a chance at receiving one of these special grants from the MMFA! Thanks in advance for your support! (Please consider making multiple gifts to other Moravian organizations and funds while making your gift to Edgeboro!)

Follow the MMFA on their social media accounts to discover impactful stories featuring grant recipients, generous donors, and other #IGiveMoravian stories. These incredible “why” stories will enlighten and inspire you to participate in this year’s Moravian Day of Giving.

- **Preschool Age Sunday School Class** (3, 4, and 5 year olds) will meet on the first and third Sundays of the month at 9:30am. For more information, contact Lynn Terry, Terri Long, or Myra Jones.
- **Seniors and Friends** — The next Seniors and Friends event will take place on **Thursday, February 1, 11:30am at West Side Moravian Church**. Entertainment will be provided by the Grumpy Old Men. Bring a sandwich and a friend. Beverage and dessert will be provided.
- **BAM Freezer Ministry Soup Sale**—The BAM Freezer Ministry is hosting a soup sale as a fundraiser for the ministry. Selections include: Italian Wedding, Cream of Broccoli, Chicken Noodle, Ham & Bean, Potato Dumpling, Black Bean w/ Smoked Sausage, and Chili. Soups are \$8/quart. Each quart of soup purchased allows the freezer ministry to produce three meals in the future! **Order your soups by February 9** by calling Bob or Kathy Wingrove, (610) 867-0537. Soups then can be picked up on February 16, 3:00-7:00pm at East Hills Moravian Church.
- **Essentials Café Events!** - Essentials Café is open Tuesday through Saturday, 8:00am–2:00pm. In addition to eating there, there are a number of ways to support the café:
 - ◊ **Volunteer Food Prep**—Help get some of the food ready for the week. Each Monday at 7:00pm at West Side Moravian’s kitchen, volunteers are welcomed. Please RSVP to the West Side Moravian Church Office in advance.
 - ◊ **Five Maidens Cider Fundraiser**—Stop in at Five Maidens on Thursday, February 1st from 5:00-10:00pm. 20% of all cider purchases will benefit the café.
 - ◊ **Moravian Sugar Cake Fundraiser**—Order 8” square sugar cakes at \$10 each by calling West Side Moravian Church (610) 865-0256. Pickup is Tuesday, February 13 from 8:00am-2:00pm at Essentials Café.
- **Moravian Music Foundation Open House & Reception**— Please come and enjoy light refreshment and meet the new Associate Director of MMF, Kyle Johnston. **Tuesday, February 13th at 5:30pm** at the **Moravian Archives, 41 W. Locust St, Bethlehem**. The MMF leadership invites and welcomes your questions, ideas and concerns. Come as you are. Floating. No RSVP necessary . For more information, visit: <http://tinyurl.com/yrpcca7>
- **BAM Annual Meeting** —The annual meeting for Bethlehem Area Moravians (BAM) will take place on **Tuesday, February 20th at 6:30pm**. All are welcome to attend in person at Edgeboro Moravian Church or online on Zoom. Zoom link: <http://tinyurl.com/5cjb6c9e> Meeting ID: 816 9914 0837 Passcode: 865948 Phone In: 646.558-8656 All are welcome to attend!

Church News & Events

In this section, you will find announcements, information, and updates about Edgeboro and the community.

- **Edgeboro Ensemble Rehearsals & Worship Service** — Do you have some experience with an instrument? (At least one year of experience is recommended.) Instrument in the closet? Dust it off and come join us! Students, we need you! Adults and students are welcome to play. The Edgeboro Ensemble will rehearse on Sunday, March 10 and Sunday March 17 from 12:00pm–1:00 pm in the choir room (snacks provided) to prepare to play during the worship service on Easter Sunday, March 31st (meet in choir room at 10:00am on March 31). Please contact director Megan Weikert (meggstar@rcn.com; (610) 392-0910) if you plan on playing or if you have questions. See you soon!
- **Christian Education Zoom Open Sharing Forum** — You are invited to explore/discuss with Marie Coutts, Eastern District Director of Christian Education **February 20 or February 22 7:00-8:30pm** (same content each date - register for the date that best fits your schedule) Discussions will include: Easter program/craft ideas, review of Vacation Bible School programs, new ideas / programs are you doing in the area of educational / faith formation ministries, concerns, challenges, and/or needs are you experiencing in your educational / faith formation ministries, and help or resources you need to assist and support you in your educational ministries. Register your name, church, and email address with: **Marie Coutts** at: mcouts@sbcglobal.net After registering, a Zoom link will be emailed to you.
- **Elvis is coming to East Hills Moravian Church** — Join us at East Hills Moravian Church for a FUNraiser on **Saturday, February 24th at 7:00 pm**. Elvis impersonator, Jeff Krick, Jr., will perform an Elvis Gospel Tribute and some popular Elvis songs. Adults \$10. Children under 12 are free. Light refreshments will be available. Contact the office at (610) 868-6481 or office@easthillsmc.org to make reservations. Payment should be sent to the church at 1830 Butztown Rd., Bethlehem, PA 18017.
- **Creativity Club 2024** at College Hill Moravian Church, 72 West Laurel Street, is returning for the new year. Mark your calendars for the following Sunday afternoons (3:00pm-5:00pm) **February 25, March 10, April 14, and May 5**. Pastor Chris will be on hand with art supplies, project suggestions and snacks. Designed for young people in 4th grade and up, Creativity Club welcomes everyone's inner artist to come out to play. There is no fee to join, though cash donations will gladly be accepted to keep the program sustainable. Advance sign-up is appreciated. Contact the College Hill office to register or to receive further information: church@colleghillmoravian.org or 610.867-8291.
- **College Hill Spring Craft/Vendor Show** will be held Saturday, April 20th from 9:00am –2:00pm in the church Fellowship Hall. They are looking for crafters and vendors. There will also be food and a bake sale. If you are interested in participating, applications can be e-mailed to you or picked up in the Fellowship Hall at the church. **General Questions/Crafter/Vendor information**, please contact: **Amy DeLong** at 610.704-0014 or amdelong3@gmail.com

Item Collections & Drives

In this section, you will find information and updates about the different things Edgeboro is collecting.

INDOOR DROP-OFF—Bring all items to the donation room (“Old office”).

OUTDOOR DROP-OFF—Place your items in the donation drop-off shed located at the corner of the building right off the parking lot.

- **ONGOING: Trex Plastic Recycling Program**—Edgeboro is collecting plastic! Since we began the program in February 2020, Edgeboro and the Bethlehem Moravian congregations have recycled **over five tons of plastic!**
Accepted plastics include: pallet wrap and stretch film, grocery bags, bread bags, case overwrap, dry cleaning bags, newspaper sleeves, ice bags, wood pellet bags, Ziploc bags, produce bags, bubble wrap and air pillows, salt bags, and cereal bags. (NOTE: All plastic must be clean, dry, and free of food residue.)
- **STARTING AFTER VALENTINE’S DAY: Easter Candy for Edgeboro & Northeast Community Center**—
As you begin to see Easter candy brought out in stores, please keep Edgeboro and NECC in mind! Both are looking for candy donations to fill Easter eggs. Edgeboro annually hosts an egg hunt on Easter Sunday for the Sunday School students, and NECC will host their annual Easter Egg Hunt on March 23 (All are welcome to attend. They expect over 200 kids age 12 and under). Please bring your candy donations to the church and please avoid candy with peanuts.

Monthly Highlights

Elders

- The Elders last met on Thursday, January 4th. Their next meeting will be on Thursday, February 1st.
- Elders Officers were elected. Vice Chair: Sue Testa, Secretary: Kyle Borowski.
- Get well, thank you, and birthday, cards were written to send and signed by the Elders to various church members.
- Discussion and reports from CEC & Youth, House, Outreach & Collections, Putz, and Trustees.
- A need has arisen for a person to pack and weigh the plastics for the Trex recycling program. If interested in helping, please call the church office.
- The Elders reviewed the Christmas Eve service, specifically about the 3:00pm service which had the highest attendance. The Elders discussed ways to support the Sacristans and volunteer servers during future services with such large numbers.
- The Elders discussed details regarding breakfast, worship, and church council all in the fellowship hall on January 28th. It was also suggested that the Joint Board installation take place on that day after being postponed due to the weather on Jan. 7th.
- Myra and Peggy have concluded their work reconciling the church records between the records book, cards, and online database.
- Pastor Dan and Carole are working on the new Congregational directory.

Trustees

- The Trustees last met on Thursday, January 18th. The Trustees will meet next on Thursday, February 22nd.
- Trustee Officers were elected. Chair: Steve Henning, Vice Chair: Ryan Beller, and Secretary: Carole Schachter.
- Reports from CEC & Youth, Elders, Evangelism & Outreach, Finance & Audit, Putz, Personnel, Stewardship & Financial Communications and the Treasurer were given.
- Congratulations to the Putz volunteers for grossing over \$4000 this season!
- Pastor Dan mentioned highlights from his recent continuing education trip to Nashville & the Sr. High Retreat at Camp Hope. He will be attending the Board of World Mission Meeting in March.
- Lacey Bacon volunteered to take over the responsibility of checking the elevator Pit and Emergency Exit Lights.
- There was discussion about exploring new possibilities to generate interest income from the Memorial Funds. The Trustees will contact the Moravian Ministries Foundation for guidance on this.
- The 2023 Trustees met on January 7 to approve final payments for Edgeboro’s annual ministry obligations. All obligations to New Bethany Ministries, Northeast Community Center, the Eastern District, and the Northern Province were paid in full. Because Edgeboro saw a financial shortfall in 2023, the Trustees elected to use \$14,821 of unrestricted memorial funds to pay all annual obligations.

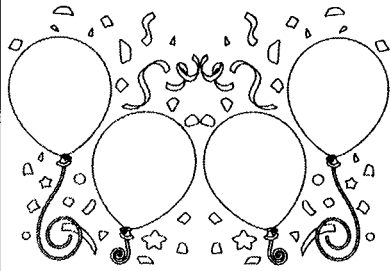
The 2024 Joint Board will meet for the first time on Saturday, February 17th at 9:00am.

Fellowship

In this section you will find information about fellowship events, correspondence received during the month, and birthday and anniversary dates.

February Birthdays

- 1) Rita Gambler
Steven Henning
- 2) Lori Emig
- 4) Andrew Pagano
- 5) Lindsey Breiner
Terry Kunsman
- 7) Ruth Zaun
- 11) Craig Kunsman
Francesca Pagano
- 12) Terri Long
- 13) Carson Groner
Nancy Sargent
- 15) Ryan Schwepfinger
Amy Weikert
- 16) Joseph Snyder
- 18) Pat Zulli
- 21) Makenna Hoff
- 23) Christine Verrastro
- 24) John Bauman
Deborah Sacarakis
Ariel Weiller
- 26) Carol DeAngelis
Haden Eutsler
- 27) Carol Freyman



February Children's Birthdays

- 6) Michael Lieberman
Sophia Lilly
- 23) Ellie Kish
- 24) Charlotte Lieberman

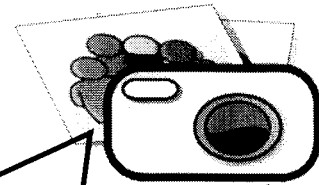
February Anniversaries

- 7) Tim & Fatima Gilman
- 23) Craig & Tammi Baer
- 24) Robert & Wendy Gross

Dear Friends of NECC,

We are beyond thankful for consistent partners like you who support us year after year! Your involvement in our Christmas Gift Distribution made a huge difference in the lives of those in our community! We are so thankful for your generosity all year long, but especially this time of year! Wishing you all a happy and healthy new year!!

Northeast Community Center Staff



Edgeboro Pictures!

As you take pictures at church, please remember to share them with us!

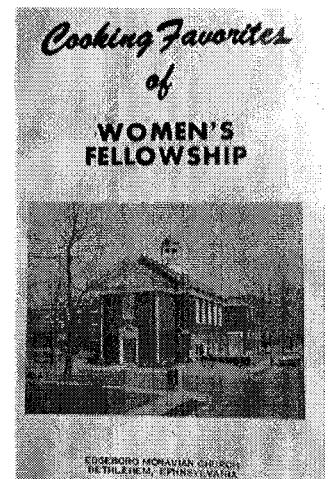
Send them to: edgeboropictures@gmail.com.

A BLAST FROM THE PAST (1966)

Scotch Shortbread recipe shared by Mrs. Robert Stewart

- | | |
|---------------------------------|------------|
| 2 lb. flour | 1 egg |
| 1 lb. Butter (room temperature) | 1 c. sugar |

Cream butter well. Add sugar and cream together with butter.
Add egg and mix well. Gradually add flour until it is all worked in.
Spread mixture out in a jelly roll pan, smoothly.
Roll over top with a rolling pin to take out lumps. Prick with a fork.
Bake in in a 300 degree oven for 30 min on lower rack and then another 30 minutes on top rack to brown.
Once baked, remove from oven and sprinkle with granulated sugar.
Cut into squares or fingers when cooled.



Sunday		Monday		Tuesday		Wednesday		Thursday		Friday		Saturday	
28	9:15am Adult Sunday School 9:30am Breakfast in Fellowship Hall 9:30am Youth Sunday School 10:30am Worship in Fellowship Hall 11:30am Church Council	29		30	7:00pm Choir Rehearsal	31	6:00pm Girl Scouts 6:30pm Girl Scouts	1	6:00pm Girl Scouts 7:00pm Elders meeting	2		3	
4	9:15am Adult Sunday School 9:30am Pre-School Sunday School 9:30am Youth Sunday School 10:30am Worship 5:00pm Confirmation Class	5		6	7:00pm Choir Rehearsal	7	6:00pm Girl Scouts 6:30pm Girl Scouts	8	6:00pm Girl Scouts	9		10	12:00pm Solitario baby shower
11	9:15am Adult Sunday School 9:30am Youth Sunday School 10:30am Worship	12	9:30am Palette Club Board	13	7:00pm Choir Rehearsal	14	6:00pm Girl Scouts 6:30pm Girl Scouts 7:00pm Ash Wednesday service	15	6:00pm Girl Scouts	16		17	9:00am Joint Board Meeting
18	9:15am Adult Sunday School 9:30am Pre-School Sunday School 9:30am Youth Sunday School 10:30am Worship - Communion 1:30pm Palette Club Group 5:00pm Confirmation Class	19		20	6:30pm BAM Annual & General Board Meeting 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal	21	6:00pm Girl Scouts 6:00pm Lenten Service and Soup Supper 6:30pm Girl Scouts	22	6:00pm Girl Scouts 7:00pm Trustees Meeting	23		24	
25	9:15am Adult Sunday School 9:30am Youth Sunday School 10:30am Worship	26		27	7:00pm Choir Rehearsal	28	6:00pm Girl Scouts 6:00pm Lenten Service and Soup Supper 6:30pm Girl Scouts	29	6:00pm Girl Scouts	1		2	