

**Edgeboro  
Moravian Church**  
645 Hamilton Ave.  
Bethlehem, PA 18017  
(610) 866-8793  
Office Hours:  
Mon.–Fri.  
9:00am–1:00pm  
[edgeboromoravian.org](http://edgeboromoravian.org)

Edgeboro Moravian Church's Newsletter



# The Envoy

Est. 1943

January 2024, Volume 82, Issue 1

## Edgeboro's Mission

To love God, grow in  
Christ, and share the Holy  
Spirit through  
Worship  
Fellowship  
Discipleship  
Ministry  
Evangelism

## Sunday Schedule

9:15am Adult Sun. School  
9:30am Youth Sun. School  
10:30am Worship

## Pastor

Rev. Dan Miller  
[revdanmiller@gmail.com](mailto:revdanmiller@gmail.com)

## Office Administrator

Carole Burkhardt  
[churchoffice@edgeboromoravian.org](mailto:churchoffice@edgeboromoravian.org)

## Organist & Choir Director

Gayle Justice

## Sexton

Greg Clugston

## Want More Edgeboro News?

Visit  
[edgeboromoravian.org/  
communications](http://edgeboromoravian.org/communications) to enroll  
in our weekly email  
announcements and our  
phone blasts.

Access the church calendar  
online.

Join Edgeboro's Facebook  
Group.

Dear Edgeboro Friends & Family,

Happy New Year! Over the last few Januarys, I have noticed that my attention gravitates toward the *Moravian Daily Text*. I think it is a combination of getting a new book to use and having the opportunity to select new watchwords for the year. I find it amazing that for nearly 300 years, the Daily Text has offered guidance to millions with daily verses – verses which are selected in Herrnhut, Germany *well over a year* before the day they are actually assigned. The Daily Text continues to give us new, timely, and unique ways of looking at scripture and applying it to our lives.

A new year is upon us, so let's see what is in store for us on day one: *January 1<sup>st</sup>* – “Take heed, be quiet, do not fear, and do not let your heart be faint.” (*Isaiah 7:4*)

On the surface, these words are comforting. In context, these words are *very* comforting as well as challenging!

These words come just nine verses after Isaiah first became a prophet. The first thing that God has Isaiah do is give a sermon to King Ahaz of Jerusalem, king of Judah. Ahaz is caught up in a complicated political situation. Two other local kings are plotting to attack Jerusalem because Ahaz foolishly went to the Assyrian king for his protection (their mutual enemy—the Assyrian empire would eventually send them all into exile). Ahaz is terrified, so Isaiah tries to comfort him by telling him God is with him. Ahaz seems to be skeptical, so when Isaiah offers to show Ahaz a sign of God's commitment, he doesn't want to see it. Isaiah becomes frustrated, essentially says “too bad!,” and tells him God will send him a sign anyway – “Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son and shall name him Immanuel.” (This should sound familiar!)

In the midst of King Ahaz's fear, foolishness, stubbornness, and the complications of the entire political mess he got himself into, the promise of God's presence is still there! It's just up to him to see it!

A *lot* of comfort can be found in this watchword. In the midst of the fear, foolishness, stubbornness, and complications that we will experience this year (as well as joy, fun, hope, and growth), God has promised to be with us through it all, whether we like it or not. (And I'm going to go out on a limb and say that we do.)

A challenge can be found in this watchword, too. Seeking God and not letting your heart (your faith) grow faint requires effort. It requires prayer, reflection, worship, and service. It will require effort from us once again in 2024. God's presence will be there, it's just up to us to see it!

Thanks be to God for loving us so much!

In this new year, may we continue to seek God and keep the faith in the midst of it all!

Blessings in 2024,  
Pastor Dan



# Worship

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

## January 7

9:15am Adult Sunday School  
 9:30am Youth Sunday School  
 9:30am Pre-School Sun. School  
 10:30am Worship (*Communion, Joint Board Installation*)  
 11:30am Trustees (2023) Meeting

**Elder** Abiel Solitario  
**Sacristans** John & Paul Horn  
**Ushers** Joe & Sue Testa

## January 14

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

**Elder** Sue Testa  
**Sacristans** Michael & Terri Long  
**Ushers** Bob & Elley Silfies

## January 21


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

**Elder** Kyle Borowski  
**Sacristans** Tom & Gilda Pheiffer, Peggy Leith  
**Ushers** Eric Smith & Family

## January 28

9:15am Adult Sunday School  
 9:30am Breakfast  
 10:30am Worship (*In the fellowship hall*)  
 11:30am Church Council Meeting

**Elder** Season Pagano  
**Sacristans** Bob & Elley Silfies  
**Ushers** Art Sergent

- **Worship Online Each Week**—Go to [edgeboromoravian.org](http://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.
- **January's Joyful Noise Offering**—This month's Joyful Noise Offering will support You Belong in Green Bay, WI. 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](http://edgeboromoravian.org/onlinegiving). You can also scan the QR code to give now online using a credit card or bank account.
 
- **Happenings on January 28!**—This particular Sunday will feel a bit different than normal because of all that's going on!
  - ◇ **Breakfast**—Come at 9:30am to the Fellowship Hall to enjoy breakfast at the church! All are welcome to come! There is no cost, but a free will offering will be collected for the church. Youth Sunday School students are welcome to help serve. Please contact Andrew Miller with questions—we are grateful for his breakfast leadership! (Breakfast will end at 10:20am)
  - ◇ **Worship**—Plan to stay after breakfast because worship will take place in the fellowship hall at 10:30am. (If you've been to our Lenten Dinners & Series before, expect something similar but with music.)
  - ◇ **Church Council Meeting**—This will also take place in the Fellowship Hall following worship. The primary focus of this meeting is to discuss and approve the 2024 church budget. All are welcome to attend this meeting. All communicant church members age 18 or older are considered voting members, of which we need 34 for quorum. The 2024 budget, which was presented during the November meeting can be found on [edgeboromoravian.org](http://edgeboromoravian.org). There will be an online option to attend this meeting and information will be given closer to the date.

Worship Attendance (In-Person + Online)		
December	2022	2023
<b>Week 1</b>	117 (A)	139 (A)
<b>Advent Vespers</b>	46 (C)	61 (C)
<b>Week 2</b>	139	125
<b>Week 3</b>	118	184
<b>Week 4</b>	32	—
<b>Dec. 24 (3pm)</b>	245	294
<b>Dec. 24 (5:30pm)</b>	160	172
<b>Dec. 24 (8pm)</b>	114	167
<b>Week 5</b>	—	126

**Key:**  
 A: 1st Sunday in Advent  
 C: Communion

2022: Includes YouTube views  
 2023: Includes YouTube & Facebook views

# Church News & Events

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

- **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**.
- **2024 Moravian Daily Texts**— If you would like a 2024 copy of the *Moravian Daily Texts*, please contact the church office to see if there are left from the Christmas Room or order them online at [store.moravian.org](http://store.moravian.org).
- **2024 Watchwords**— If you would like a 2024 watchword and cannot make it to the church, please call the church office and we will draw one for you!
- **Directory Updates**— A new year is upon us and a new directory is coming soon! If your contact information has changed in the last year, please let the church office know as soon as possible so we can make updates as we make the 2024 directory.
- **Church Offering Envelopes**—Your church offering envelopes were sent out before the end of 2023. If you have not received them, please call the church and let us know. If for some reason you do not receive your envelopes, we would recommend writing your envelope number in the memo line of any checks you give to the church as offering until you receive your new envelopes.
- **Senior High Winter Retreat**—This retreat for those in grades 9-12 will take place at Camp Hope beginning on Friday, January 12th (after dinner) and ending on Sunday, January 14th (midday). Enjoy a time of fun, fellowship, rest, and spiritual renewal. Pastor Dan will be leading a simple program based on “visio divina” (divine/holy seeing). Register online by January 7th at [camphope.org](http://camphope.org). Total cost: \$130. For members and friends of Edgeboro, the church will reimburse \$100/attende. Please contact Pastor Dan to claim this.
- **Essentials Café is now open for business!** - Visit [essentialscafe.org](http://essentialscafe.org) for the location, hours, menu, daily specials, volunteer opportunities and more! Food prep takes place every Monday at 7:00pm in West Side Moravian’s kitchen. Volunteers welcome. Please RSVP to West Side Moravian Church in advance.
- **Seniors and Friends**—The next Seniors and Friends event will take place on **Thursday, January 4, 11:30am at West Side Moravian Church**. Rev. Chris Giesler will be giving a presentation on the Board of World Mission. Bring a sandwich and a friend. Beverage and dessert will be provided.
- **Unitas Chorale** (a performing ensemble of the Moravian Music Foundation) is looking for singers. All voices are welcome. No auditions needed. The theme for the 2024 Season is *In All Things Love*. The first rehearsal is Sunday, January 7th from 3:00-5:00pm in the Fellowship Hall at College Hill Moravian Church 72 W. Laurel Street, Bethlehem. Rehearsals are held January through April on the first and third Sundays of the month. Concert date is April 28th at 4:00pm, location TBD. Contact Gwyneth Michel, director for more information at: [gwynmichel@aol.com](mailto:gwynmichel@aol.com).
- **Moravian House Worship Leadership** — Moravian House is in need of volunteer worship leadership for **Friday morning worship services** at 9:55am. Approximately 30-50 people attend. People are needed to share a brief message to go with the scripture and/or play the piano for choir hymns. You do not need to be clergy or a professional musician! If you are interested in signing up for a service, please contact **Anne Hosterman** at (610) 509-6087.
- **Edgeboro Pictures** — As you take pictures at church, please remember to share them with us! Send them to [edgeboropictures@gmail.com](mailto:edgeboropictures@gmail.com).
- **Lent is less than a month away!**—Ash Wednesday is on February 14th, the first Sunday of Lent is on February 18th, and the first Lenten Dinner is on February 21st. Keep an eye out for further announcement regarding Lenten events, *including Lent*

# 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.)
- **ONGOING: Chips for Esperanza**—Edgeboro is collecting snack-sized bags of chips for *Esperanza* to distribute to local students. Please bring your donated chips to the church and we will make sure they get to *Esperanza*.
- **COMING SOON! Easter Candy for Northeast Community Center**—NECC will host their annual Easter Egg Hunt at the end of March. As you begin to see Easter candy brought out in stores, please have them in mind. We anticipate Edgeboro will collect candy in February or March.

## Monthly Highlights

### Elders

- The Elders last met on Thursday, December 7th. Their next meeting will be on Thursday, January 4th.
- Get well, thank you, congratulations, birthday, condolences and anniversary cards were written to send and signed by the Elders to various church members.
- Discussion and reports from CEC & Youth, Nominating, Outreach & Collections, Personnel, Putz, and Trustees, & Volunteer positions.
- 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.
- Pastor’s report and worship review occurred.
- Christmas Eve kits were assembled for those worshipping online on Christmas Eve. Pick up in advance from the church kitchen.
- The Elders are planning to hold the events of breakfast, worship, and the church council meeting all downstairs in the fellowship hall.
- Joyful Noise recipients through April were chosen.

### Trustees

- The Trustees last met on Thursday, November 30th. The Trustees will meet on January 7th to discuss year-end finances and on January 18th for their regular monthly meeting.
- Committee reports were reviewed from: CEC & Youth, Elders, Evangelism & Outreach, Fellowship & House, Nominating, Putz, Personnel, Stewardship & Financial Communications.
- The MMFA Giving Portal will be implementing new changes that will improve the reporting that the church receives. Once that happens and the church is satisfied with the reporting, then the Trustees will work on migrating members from eGive to the MMFA Giving Portal. (The church could save over \$1,200/year on eGive fees if the MMFA Giving Portal is used exclusively.)
- Suggestions for Ben Courtade’s Eagle Scout project were discussed. A subgroup of Trustees will meet with Ben to continue planning.
- The 2022 Financial Audit report was reviewed and accepted. The Trustees are grateful to Jane Martin and Mike Jones for their work on the audit.

# Fellowship

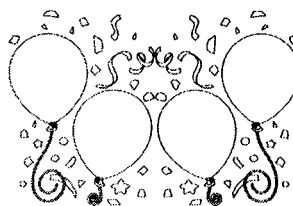
In this section you will find information about fellowship events, correspondence received during the month, and birthday and anniversary dates.

## January Birthdays

- 3) Kayleigh Gross  
    Sherri Hoff
- 5) Nancy Duro  
    Lori Emig
- 6) Daniel Bucchin
- 8) Nancy Bartleman  
    Elizabeth Bucchin  
    Tayte Messman
- 9) James Harry Clause
- 10) William Horwath
- 13) Brian Lauderman  
    Leahanne Sine
- 14) Allison Hoff
- 15) Camryn Hoff  
    Jocelyn Perkins
- 16) Gayle Justice  
    Earl Kunsman, Jr.  
    Treyton Messman  
    Louis Pagano  
    Rodney Sergeant
- 17) Sara George
- 18) Lillie Neiman
- 20) Richard Grebs  
    Debra Swanson
- 22) Sally Abruzzese  
    Benjamin Courtade
- 23) Linda Lindemuth
- 27) Cheryl Baker  
    Louis Pagano
- 30) Justin Hoff
- 31) Sarah Neiman

## January Children's Birthdays

- 2) Clarke Ammon
- 5) Jace Hoff
- 17) Beau Wieller
- 23) Charlotte Maritch
- 24) Ella Bannon



## January Anniversaries

- 2) Steven & Cortneyann Rohn
- 20) Nelson & Sherri Hoff

Dear Friends of NECC,

We were so grateful to have Eeboro sa part of our Thanksgiving Distribution this year! With you unwavering support we were able to give out 2- Thanksgiving meals to our community. Your dedication to NECC and our clients truly makes a difference and we could not do it without supporters like you! Thank you so much, The NECC Staff

Dear Brothers and sisters in Christ,

This Advent season, the Board of World Mission is counting our blessings...and that includes YOU! Every donation made, every mission team sent out into the world, every local service opportunity provided, begins as a drop in the bucket, but as those drops gather and converge, the blessings flow far beyond what any one of us could have initially imagined.

This year the BWM's work included providing occupational & speech therapy for people with disabilities in Palestine; opening a bakery in Honduras; supporting teachers' salaries at a Christian school in Ukraine; the Debt Jubilee Project; Blessings Flow Project in Honduras & so much more.

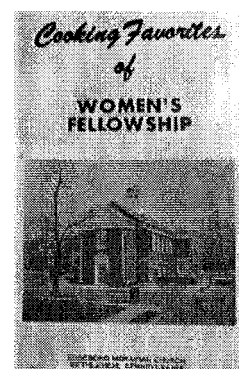
Thanks for all the ways your congregation supports mission. Thanks for doing a filter assembly at the Day of Service. Advent Blessings, Justin Rabbach, Executive Director BWM

## A Blast from the Past! (1966)

Here's a recipe for BEEF BARBECUE shared by Mrs. Richard Grebs

- |                              |                             |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1 lb. ground beef            | 1 can water                 |
| 1/2 c. chopped onion         | 1 Tbsp. sugar               |
| 1/4 c. chopped celery        | 1 Tbsp. vinegar             |
| 1/4 c. chopped green peppers | 1/2 c. catsup               |
| 1 can tomato paste           | 1 tsp. Worcestershire sauce |
| Salt and pepper to taste     |                             |

Saute onions, celery and peppers until clear.  
Brown ground beef and mix with other ingredients.  
Simmer for 1 hour.



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>31</b> 10:30am Worship 4:30pm Silent Communion	<b>1</b> New Year's Day (Office Closed)	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> 6:00pm Girl Scouts 6:30pm Girl Scouts	<b>4</b> 6:00pm Girl Scouts 7:00pm Elders meeting	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>7</b> 9:15am Adult Sunday School 9:30am Pre-School Sunday School 9:30am Youth Sunday School 10:30am Worship - Communion & Joint Board Installation 11:30am Trustees Meeting	<b>8</b> 9:30am Palette Club Board	<b>9</b> 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal	<b>10</b> 6:00pm Girl Scouts 6:30pm Girl Scouts	<b>11</b> 6:00pm Girl Scouts	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>14</b> 9:15am Adult Sunday School 9:30am Youth Sunday School 10:30am Worship 1:30pm Palette Club Group 5:00pm Confirmation Class	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b> 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal	<b>17</b> 6:00pm Girl Scouts 6:30pm Girl Scouts	<b>18</b> 6:00pm Girl Scouts 7:00pm Trustees Meeting	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> 2:00pm Bacon Party (private)
<b>21</b> 9:15am Adult Sunday School 9:30am Pre-School Sunday School 9:30am Youth Sunday School 10:30am Worship 5:00pm Confirmation Class	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal	<b>24</b> 6:00pm Girl Scouts 6:30pm Girl Scouts	<b>25</b> 6:00pm Girl Scouts	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>28</b> 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	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal	<b>31</b> 6:00pm Girl Scouts 6:30pm Girl Scouts	<b>1</b> 6:00pm Girl Scouts 7:00pm Elders meeting	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>