

The Moravian Monthly

Official Newsletter of the Canadian, Eastern, and Western Districts
of the Moravian Church Northern Province.

September 2024

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Please contact
Sylvie Hauser at
sylvie@mcnp.org
or (920)495-8995
with any questions
or concerns about
this newsletter.

World Heritage Inscription for the Moravian Settlements of Bethlehem, Christiansfeld, Gracehill, and Herrnhut

The Rt. Rev. Chris Giesler



On July 26, 2024, the World Heritage Committee of the United Nations voted to inscribe three historic Moravian Settlements as World Heritage Sites. These settlements include Herrnhut, Germany; Bethlehem, PA; and Gracehill, Northern Ireland. They join the settlement in Christiansfeld, Denmark, which had already been inscribed in 2015. These four Moravian settlements now form one World Heritage designation. It is a remarkable affirmation of the Moravian Church's influence worldwide.

It was an honor for me to represent the entire Moravian Unity as the organization met in New Delhi, India, and considered our nomination to be part of this unique international designation. I accepted the invitation to participate in this process with mixed emotions, knowing it came because of my dear brother Hopeton Clennon's passing. Over the years, he and a group of historians and civic leaders from each of these locations had worked for over twenty years to move this process forward. I cannot begin to describe how complicated this process was.

Once our nomination was presented, it was evident that all of that hard work had paid off, as it was unanimously approved by the body. While the nomination primarily focused on the property and buildings, the outstanding universal value is in what happened within these sacred places. For it is within these buildings that community was fostered, equality was held up, education was extended to all, faith was nurtured, voices joined in worship, and disciples of Christ were sent into the world to be the compassion of Christ.

Our commendation emphasized the essential point that today, vital faith communities maintain the properties but, more importantly, continue to carry out the mission. Furthermore, it is important to note that while these four settlements were noted in this nomination, the entire Moravian Unity is a part of this honor, for we all carry forward these same enduring values of compassion for others, equality, education, worship, and service to those in need.

Scan the QR code to learn more about the Moravian Settlements World Heritage designation.



Province-Wide Updates



The 2024 Moravian Day of Service is September 15th. This is a day for congregations to center their worship services around the theme of serving others and raising awareness of the importance of mission work as a response to God's love. The day encourages congregations to ponder ways to make a difference in their community and demonstrate the desire to be the hands and feet of Christ in the world. This can also be a day to celebrate the service that you do throughout the year and encourage others to get involved.

Learn more and find ideas at Moravian.org/DayofService/ or contact the Rt. Rev. Chris Giesler at chris@moravianmission.org with any questions.

The Board of World Mission would love to hear how your congregation celebrates! Please send photos and videos of your Day of Service to sylvie@moravianmission.org or (920)495-8995.



End-of-Year Fundraising Essentials
A Webinar from the Moravian Ministries Foundation
Tuesday, September 17th
12pm ET or 7pm ET



Are you part of a Moravian ministry looking to enhance your fundraising efforts? Join our upcoming webinar where we'll explore a variety of strategies to strengthen your support base. Our expert team will guide you through:

- Analyzing existing fundraising efforts
- Creating a comprehensive development plan
- Training staff and agency leadership on effective fundraising techniques
- Sharing current fundraising trends and best practices
- Providing resources for annual & special appeals, donor stewardship, major gift solicitation, & more

Whether you're on the staff or board of a Moravian agency or a new and emerging ministry, or simply interested in the latest trends and best practices in faith-based non-profit fundraising, this webinar is for you! Don't miss this opportunity to learn and grow with us.

Register today by scanning the QR code above and we will see you online on September 17th!

Do You Have a Minute? (To Get Scammed)

A Message from Mark Santore, Northern Province IT Manager

The Moravian Church is under constant attack by "spear phishing" scammers. In a spear phishing attack, the scammer takes the time to research an organization (such as your congregation) and then forges an e-mail to one member of the organization that appears to be from another member of the organization.

The gift card scam is a very common form of spear phishing attack. The first e-mail sent from the scammer, which appears to be from someone you know, almost always starts out with the phrase "Do you have a minute?" If you reply to the e-mail, the attacker tells you that they can't get to the phone right now, but they need you to order some gift cards for them. Of course the gift cards are a surprise for someone, so don't tell anyone! Once you purchase the cards, they ask you to send a photo of the numbers on the cards. Once you do that, the scammer has successfully stolen your money.

Here are some of the tell-tale signs of an online scam:

- It involves money.
- There is urgency.
- The e-mail is unsolicited and just arrives "out of the blue."
- The e-mail appears to be sent from someone you don't know.
- The e-mail appears to be sent from someone you DO know (spear phishing).
- The sender of the e-mail tells you not to tell anyone.
- The return e-mail address seems odd.
- There are errors in the spelling, punctuation, and grammar in the text of the e-mail.
- You are being asked to "log in" to a web page for whatever reason.

If you think you may be getting scammed, stop and think! In the case of a spear phishing scam, just call the person that supposedly sent you the e-mail. If you somehow end up on the phone with a scammer, the absolute last thing they want is for you to hang up. They want to keep you in an emotional state so you are not thinking clearly. Just hang up and talk to someone you trust.

Please take the time to speak with your senior friends and family. Make sure they understand how these scams work, and the very real possibility of having their money stolen. It happens every day!



CREATIVE WORSHIP
Mondays 6-9pm
Sept. 9 - Oct. 28

CROSSROADS
Lay Leadership Program



**Crossroads Lay Leadership
Program Upcoming Course:
Creative Worship**

Mondays, 6-9pm
September 9 - October 28

Scan the QR code
to learn more
and register.



FREE 2024 Moravian Daily Texts

The IBOC is offering free Moravian Daily Texts to churches, camps, and senior centers beginning September 2nd. Organizations are responsible for shipping. For more details, email Jill Bruckart at jill@mcnp.org or by phone (800) 732-0591 ext. 703.

Moravian Disaster Response: Hurricanes Debby and Beryl

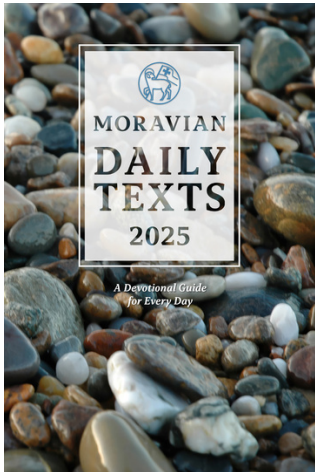
The Board of World Mission is the agency that helps coordinate the North American Moravian response to disasters around the world. They remain in contact with siblings in Jamaica as they continue to recover from Hurricane Beryl in July and with siblings in Florida after Hurricane Debby struck in August. Scan the QR code to read the latest updates.

You can assist us with disaster response efforts at MoravianMission.org/Give/. Please designate your gift to “MDR”. If you wish to mail your donation, please make the check payable to “Board of World Mission” and send it to one of the following:



U.S. Donors: Board of World Mission, 1021 Center Street, Bethlehem, PA 18018

Canadian Donors: Moravian Church in Canada, 600 Acadia Drive SE, Calgary, AB T2J 0B8. Interac e-Transfer donations may be sent to treasurer@moravian.ca. Please include your name and address in the comments section of the transfer to receive tax receipts.



2025 Moravian Daily Texts Preorders

The IBOC is accepting preorders for the 2025 Moravian Daily Texts.

Paperback: \$12.00	Spanish and German: \$12.95
Hardcover: \$17.00	Large Print German: \$12.95
Large Print: \$14.50	French: \$14.00
Journal: \$19.00	



Preorders are accepted online at store.moravian.org or by calling Jill Bruckart at 800.732.0591 ext. 703. Preorders are also accepted for the 2025 Plan Calendar as well as the Directory and Statistics. Items will ship in November.

Did you know you can receive the Moravian Daily Texts free in your inbox every morning? Sign up today at Moravian.org/subscribe-to-the-daily-texts/

Online Classes Offered by the Moravian Music Foundation!!
Spend your lunchtime learning about music on Zoom!



Comenius Music Academy Online: Music History; The Medieval Period

Mondays at noon EST - September 16 - October 7

The medieval period laid the foundation upon which all subsequent music stands. As we delve into this period, we will discuss the invention of music notation, Notre Dame polyphony, and the place of music within its social, political, and cultural contexts.

Comenius Music Academy Online: Music History; The Renaissance

Mondays at noon EST - November 4-25

The Renaissance opened new pathways for music. We will be examining the impact of the printing press, the birth of the Protestant Reformation, and the role of Humanism in shaping how we still think about music today.

“Being a Christian Citizen” Bible Study: A Note from PEC President Dave Bennett

On behalf of the Provincial Elders’ Conference, I write to recommend to you the MCNP Racial Justice Team’s five-part Bible Study on Christian Citizenship entitled, “Being a Christian Citizen: A Bible Study for Our Time.” This Bible Study is commended to you for use this fall in congregations. It may be used in a variety of group settings or even adapted for an accompanying five-part sermon series. The Being A Christian Citizen Bible Study and workbook are available to download, share, and copy on the MCNP website (scan QR code below).

This is an important time for us to review our heritage of being faithful citizens. This Bible Study offers that opportunity, enriched in and through the diversity of Moravian community in discernment of Christ’s leading.

Being a Christian Citizen is designed for ease of use in congregations – all the materials you need are contained in the accompanying workbook. The Racial Justice Team is prepared to assist you with offering the Bible Study in your congregation by answering questions about the Bible Study, providing suggestions or supplementary materials for its use with other resources, meeting with leaders and teachers, providing leadership for the Bible Study via Zoom, and in other ways that would be helpful to you. Please contact the Rev. Sue Koenig, Director of Racial Justice and Healing at suekoenig@mcnp.org or (330) 340-0184 for questions, assistance or additional information.

We believe Being a Christian Citizen is a Bible study for our very challenging time as citizens, that it will ground us in our own understandings about Christian citizenship, and strengthen our ability to be in conversation with, and love, one another and our neighbor.

About Being a Christian Citizen

- Each session includes paragraph(s) from the Moravian Covenant for Christian Living, related scripture text(s), background information for the assigned scriptures, and discussion questions.
- The format is designed for one hour sessions.
- Can be offered in person or on Zoom.

The five session titles are:

- Humility as a Christian Citizen
- We Are Citizens of a Country – What Does That Mean?
- Civil Authority and Responsibility
- Christian Loyalty as a Citizen
- Being A Peacemaker and a Prophet

Find the Bible Study here:



Thank you for considering Being a Christian Citizen – A Bible Study for Our Time for use in your congregation this fall. After using the Bible Study, please share your experience by contacting Sue Koenig at suekoenig@mcnp.org.

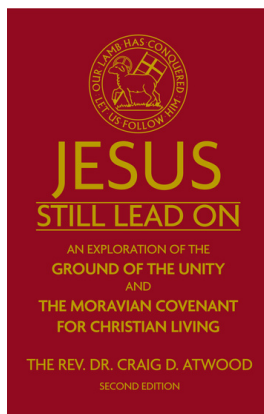
Church World Service Upcoming Webinars for Faith Leaders

Even as our world becomes more polarized, our shared values of love, justice and welcome remain unchanged. During this critical time, we must find common ground and live out the values that our faith demands. Join CWS on September 6 for an interactive virtual summit focused on encouraging people of faith to remain steadfast during this uncertain time, while building a toolbox to tackle political polarization in your congregation.

In the weeks following the welcome summit, you are invited to engage in virtual, hands-on workshops designed to help address political polarization in your congregation. During these workshops, you will gain tools, skills and resources to connect your congregation to broader civic efforts and tackle the national housing crisis.

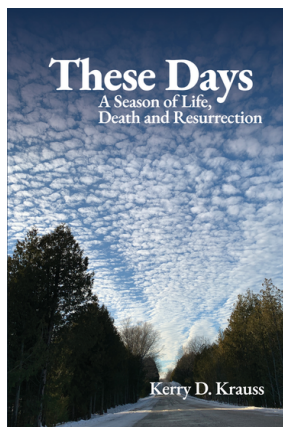


Offerings from the IBOC – Available at store.moravian.org



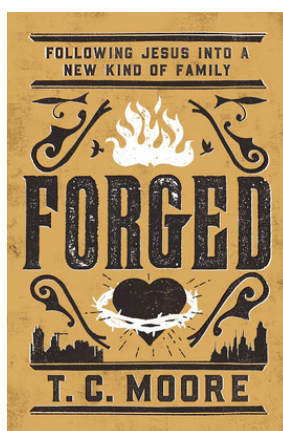
Jesus Still Lead On by Craig Atwood

In its second edition, *Jesus Still Lead On*, by the Rev. Dr. Craig Atwood, is a guide intended to help congregations explore the basic statements of Moravian doctrine and practice. This study book is designed so that groups large or small can learn together. **\$10.00**



These Days... A Season of Life, Death and Resurrection by Kerry D. Krauss

When COVID hit in 2020, Pastor Kerry D. Krauss took to the keyboard and sent daily messages of comfort to his congregation to help them through the uncertainty ahead. Kerry's use of humor and thought-provoking stories made a time of isolation feel a little less lonely as he shared both current and past life experiences. Now you too can be inspired by the musings of Kerry through this entertaining book, now available through the IBOC. Those days may be behind us, but our need for depth, comfort, insight and inspiration are not. **\$16.95**



Forged... Following Jesus into a New Kind of Family by T. C. Moore

Rev. T. C. Moore, pastor of Roots, one of the Moravian Church's newest congregations located in St. Paul, MN, shares his faith journey through this authentic and revealing book. T. C. tells his experience with gangs and childhood abuse and what brought him to his faith. His life has been transformed and T. C. is now inspired to work with court-involved youth and young adults, applying restorative-justice practices. He has developed mentoring programs and planted churches, growing his faith, and allowing Jesus and a new kind of family to be Forged in his life. This book will take readers on a journey that will shock, sadden, and inspire as they peek into the personal life of T. C. Moore. **\$19.88**

Mission Minute: Hispanic Heritage Month

Board of World Mission staff members, as well as several Northern and Southern Province clergy members, are currently completing a six-month program offered by the Centro Latino at Fuller Theological Seminary to equip churches, ministries, and Christian organizations with biblical and theological resources and organizing tools so they can effectively respond to the current reality of the immigrant community in the U.S.

Since April of this year, the group has been meeting once a month to reflect on the coursework and affirm God's call for compassion, justice, and love toward all people, including those affected by the U.S. immigration system. This issue challenges Christians to live out the values of hospitality and mercy, recognizing the dignity of every individual. Addressing immigration issues through this lens emphasizes the importance of humane treatment, protection of the vulnerable, and advocating for policies that reflect the principles of justice and compassion, ensuring that the needs of the marginalized are met in alignment with God's call to love our neighbors.

The Moravian Church in North America is already serving the Hispanic community, including many immigrants, in ministries such as *Estamos Unidos* Moravian Ministry, *Esperanza for Bethlehem*, and many congregations, especially in the Florida-Georgia District. Our goal is to use mission as a framework for understanding the challenges currently facing the immigrant community and utilizing best practices to expand our response to this need through our ministries and congregations.

Clergy Updates

The Rev. John Fritts has been granted permission to retire from the active ministry of the Moravian Church, effective December 31, 2024. Brother Fritts was ordained on August 10, 2014, and has served at the congregations of Redeemer (Philadelphia, PA), Covenant (York, PA), and Advent (Bethlehem, PA), and has served as chaplain at Marquardt Village, Watertown, WI. The Church is grateful to Brother Fritts for his years of service to the Moravian Church.

September Birthdays and Anniversaries

Ordination Anniversaries

- 3 Derek French (29 years)
- 5 Peg Chamberlin (42 years)
- 6 Christie Melby-Gibbons (15 years)
- 7 Vicki Jens-Page (16 years)
- 10 Olaf Andersen (57 years)
- 12 David Glasser (42 years)
Linda Wisser (4 years)
- 14 Jay Petrella (16 years)
- 15 Barry Lehman (50 years)
- 24 Jane Gehler (19 years)
- 25 Duane Ullrich (41 years)
- 29 Sharon Benson (28 years)
Percival Gordon (39 years)

Birthdays

- | | |
|-------------------------|------------------------|
| 1 Ian Edwards | 20 Sherry Gehris |
| 2 Richard Everhart, Jr. | Tracy Pryor |
| 5 Dennis Rohn | 21 Rita Andersen |
| 10 David Danneberger | Joan Daley |
| Mark Breland | 22 Jason Andersen |
| Constance Schulze | 23 Cecile Miller-White |
| 12 Douglas Kleintop | Emily Lippert |
| 13 Marian Boyle Rohloff | 24 Melissa Johnson |
| 15 William Surber | 27 Sharon Benson |
| Mary Ann Pula | Peg Chamberlin |
| James Reifinger | 28 Bruce Weaknecht |
| Kenneth Holmberg | 30 Maria Prochnau |
| 16 Rhonda Robinson | Junie Sahadath |
| 18 Renate Vitt | |

Churches Celebrating Anniversaries

- 10 Daggett, Michigan (113 years)
- 11 Watertown, Wisconsin (170 years)
- 16 New Dawn, Toronto, Ontario (40 years)

Please pray for the following churches who are in the call process or without pastors:

- Battle Hill, Union, New Jersey
- Christ, Calgary, Alberta
- Christian Faith, Deforest, Wisconsin
- Covenant, York, Pennsylvania
- Egg Harbor City, New Jersey
- Faith of the Nation's Capital, Washington, DC
- First, Dover, Ohio
- First, New York, New York
- First, York, Pennsylvania
- Freedom, Appleton, Wisconsin
- Tremont Terrace, Bronx, New York
- Veedum, Pittsville, Wisconsin
- Daggett, Michigan
- Heimtal, Edmonton, Alberta



Moravian Church in Canada

Van Es Camp & Conference Centre

We have completed another successful summer camp season. Over 90 campers and staff had a great time at camp. Thank you to all the summer camp staff and the summer camp committee for making this year a success. A special thank you to Lynne Hennig, our summer camp cook, and her staff for the great meals you prepared. Thank you as well to all our donors. Planning has already begun for the 2025 camp season, which we will expand to 3 weeklong camps.



Donations are being accepted to help us keep the cost to the campers low so that we can make it affordable to everyone. If you wish to donate towards our camper experience (donations over \$25.00 will receive a tax receipt) you can:

- Mail a cheque to: PO Box 57063 Eastgate, Sherwood Park, Alberta, T8A5L7
- Send an E-transfer. Please use our camp email - van-escamp@shaw.ca and note this is a donation to camper experience.
- Credit Card Payment. Please contact Randy Downing at 780-922-2457
- Use the QR code or go to: <https://www.canadahelps.org/en/charities/id/14247>



When it is not camp season, we rent our facilities for church retreats and workshops, weddings, local community group retreats and workshops, local schools and sporting groups. One of favorite rentals with all our clients is our pool parties. A pool party is four hours long and lets you use the Harmony auditorium and campgrounds for all types of games and food. During your time your group gets 1 hour in the pool.

If you are interested in booking an event please contact us through our website www.vanes.ca, email van-escamp@shaw.ca, or call us at 780-922-2457.

The Eastern District

Moravian Church in America
Northern Province



Save the Date: 2025 Eastern District Clergy Retreat

Monday, March 31, 2025 - Wednesday, April 2, 2025
Bon Secours Retreat Center, Marriottsville, MD

Moravian Music Weekend in Lititz
Saturday and Sunday, Sept. 21-22, 2024
Lititz Congregation, 8 Church Square, Lititz, PA



Participate in Choir or Band – Play & Sing / Learn & Share

Moravian Music Weekends are filled with opportunities for musicians of all levels and abilities to come together in harmony and fellowship. You will learn some new music and enjoy some old favorites. Workshops, talks, and local tours will be offered. A concert with the Lititz Moravian Collegium Musicum rounds out this enriching and fulfilling weekend. Register now and make plans to attend a music weekend for choral and instrumental music!

NEW Special rate for Lititz / Lancaster area participants, in appreciation for hosting this event!



**Board of World Mission Benefit Singstunde and
Retirement Celebration for the Rt. Rev. J. Christian Giesler**
Saturday, October 5, 2024 - 6:00-8:00pm
Emmaus Moravian Church - 146 Main Street, Emmaus, PA 18049

You are invited to an evening of song, praise, and Good News to raise funds to provide Moravian Daily Texts books for our siblings in the Labrador Mission Province. Music for the evening will be provided by the Giesler family and friends. Come ready to sing, listen, pray, and contribute to a project that is changing lives in Labrador. Light refreshments and fellowship will follow in the Fellowship Hall. For more information, please contact Sue Adams at (610)867-1732 or sue@moravianmission.org.

Music at the Museum: *First Sundays are Free at the Bethlehem Museum*

Moravian Music Foundation will provide an element of music, different each month, between 1pm and 4pm. (The museum is open 11am-5pm.)



NEW this month: MMF Chat & Chill
Every Thursday, 10am-1pm
Essentials Cafe (September location,
will change month-to-month)

Every Thursday, Associate Director Kyle Johnston will be holding public office hours at a local establishment. Feel free to come by with questions, concerns, suggestions, or simply to chat and learn more about what the Moravian Music Foundation is doing in your area!

The Western District
Moravian Church in America,
Northern Province



The Story of Us...



*Moravians yesterday,
today and tomorrow*

Have you ever wondered what is unique about the Moravian church among other Christian Churches?

On **September 13, 14, and 15**, you are invited to join Marie Coutts, Director of Christian Education for the Eastern District, and the Rev. Denny Rohn, retired Moravian pastor, for a weekend at Mt. Morris where they will lead us in exploring our Moravian identity and how our past impacts what we do today. As this study will reveal, history must not only serve as a reflection of “days gone by,” but always serve as the foundational thread that links past -- to present -- to future.

Sessions will include:

The birth of our theology

Jan Hus, Gregory the Patriarch, Luke of Prague

The growth of our faith

John Amos Comenius, Christian David, Count Zinzendorf

Our faith in action

Community of Herrnhut, Brotherly Agreement, Anthony

A world-wide unity

Missions – then and now

Essentials, Ministerials, Incidentals

How Moravians read and understand scripture

Connecting past with present and future

Why we do what we do – and how the connecting threads of our church run from Hus to here and beyond

**To register, scan
the QR code:**



Registration Deadline: September 3rd

Contact the WDCEC at westerndistrictcec@gmail.com with any questions.