



The Envoy

Est. 1943

January 2025, Volume 83, Issue 1

Dear Edgeboro Family & Friends,

As many of you now know, I recently announced that I will begin a new chapter of ministry with the Board of World Mission in February, so as far as newsletters go, I only have two more newsletter issues to write. Knowing this, I thought it would be a good opportunity to revisit some of my "greatest hits" of newsletter articles. I wrote the following in September 2022, and I chose to share it again because I remember how fun and meaningful it was for me to write! Even though you'll hear some seasonal references that don't quite make sense in January 2025, the message of God's love for you still holds true!

The fall calendar for the church is filling up quickly, reminding me of pre-pandemic years! In pre-pandemic September issues of *The Envoy*, I often wrote about what was coming up in our fall programming and invited you to be a part of it. In most recent issues, I've adopted a particular writing format that's made up of three distinct sections - a prayer, an upcoming announcement, and something I learned in the last month. I'm very excited to invite you to what's coming this fall at Edgeboro and about what I learned in the last month, so now I want to write about the former by way of the latter.

I'm learning a lot from a book that's making my brain very happy called *Making Numbers Count: The Art of Communicating Numbers* by Chip Heath and Karla Starr. The following is inspired by an example they used to communicate what the chances of one in a million feel like.

A core message from the church to its members that we've all heard before is that each person is unique. Every single one of us is "fearfully and wonderfully made" in the "image of God," each "having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us" which help us be "the body of Christ and individually members of it." (*Psalm 139:14, Genesis 1:27, Romans 12:6, 1 Corinthians 12:27*)

If we are each uniquely made, nurtured, and shaped by God, then we are more than just one in a million - we are one in seven billion people in the world. But what does one in seven billion actually feel like? Buckle up!

Say someone picked up a pew Bible from Edgeboro's sanctuary and wanted to play a game with you. The rules are simple. They would take a Bible and secretly pick out just one word. Then they'd hand the Bible back to you and in order to win the game, you must point to the exact word in the exact place and page on the first try. The chances are *very* slim. On average, there are about 800,000 words in most English translations of the Bible. So your chances of pointing to the correct word in one Bible is one in 800,000 words. To get to one in a seven billion, we would need more Bibles!

In Edgeboro's sanctuary, there are approximately 100 Bibles. Playing this same game with all the Bibles in the sanctuary means that your chances of pointing to the correct word is one in 80 million words.

How many Bibles would we need to reach seven billion words? All of the pew Bibles from all 83 Moravian churches in the entire Northern Province. Every. Single. Bible. The chances of you correctly pointing to a single word chosen from all the pew Bibles from all the sanctuaries in all the Northern Province is one in seven billion.

Remembering that we are uniquely made in the image of God sounds a bit different, doesn't it? It's got the weight of thousands of Bibles behind it now! There is no one else in the world that can do exactly what you do in the time and place that you're in. This is how rare you are - or rather, how *necessary, valued, loved, and cherished* you are to God, your world, your community, and your church. And this is how necessary, valued, loved, and cherished our neighbors are too - the very people that Jesus asks us to love.

It's in this context that I invite you, a cherished person, to be an active part of a faith community of cherished people looking to love and serve a cherished world.

Counting blessings with you,
Pastor Dan

Sunday Schedule & Volunteers

January 5

9:15am Adult Sunday School
 9:30am Youth Sunday School
 10:30am Worship—*Communion, Watchwords, Joyful Noise Offering*
 11:30am Sacristans clean up sanctuary
 11:30am Trustees year-end meeting

Elder Sue Testa
Sacristans John & Paula Horn
Ushers Joe & Sue Testa

January 12

9:15am Adult Sunday School
 9:30am Youth Sunday School
 9:30am Breakfast
 10:30am Worship—*In Fellowship Hall*
 11:30am Church Council
 5:00pm Confirmation Class

Elder Season Pagano
Sacristans Mike & Terri Long
Ushers Brent Sergent

January 19

9:15am Adult Sunday School
 9:30am Youth Sunday School
 10:30am Worship
 1:30pm Palette Club Group

Elder Kyle Borowski
Sacristans Thomas & Gilda Pheiffer; Peggy Leith
Ushers Bob & Elley Silfies

January 26

9:15am Adult Sunday School
 9:30am Youth Sunday School
 10:30am Worship—*Confirmation, Communion*
 11:30am Confirmation Reception

Elder Abby Solitario
Sacristans Bob & Elley Silfies
Ushers Mike & Terri Long

Worship

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

- **Worship Online**—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.
- **January'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."
- **Make a Gift to Edgeboro Online**—Scan the QR code at the right to make a gift to Edgeboro online using a credit card or bank account. Go to edgeboromoravian.org/give for more options and details about giving to Edgeboro.
- **Happenings on January 12!**
 - ◇ **Breakfast**—Come at 9:30am to the Fellowship Hall to enjoy breakfast at the church! All are welcome to come! 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.
 - ◇ **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 2025 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 2025 budget, which was presented during the November meeting can be found on edgeboromoravian.org. There will be an online option to attend this meeting. Information will be given closer to the date.



Monthly Financial Update (Unofficial)

Monthly Budgeted Expenses	\$20,376.33	<i>General Income through Nov. 30</i> 2023: \$173,584.29 2024: \$187,956.79 Percent change: +8.3%
November General Income	\$16,810.72	
Monthly Difference	(\$3,565.61)	
Year to Date Difference	(\$36,182.84)	

Worship Attendance (In-Person + Online)

December	2023	2024	December	2023	2024
Week 1	139 (A)	160 (A)	Dec. 24 (3:00pm)	294	440
Advent Vespers	61 (C)	70 (C)	Dec. 24 (5:30pm)	172	241
Week 2	125	150	Dec. 24 (8:00pm)	167	182
Week 3	184	218	Week 5	126	113
Week 4	—	254			

Key: (A) = 1st Sunday in Advent; (C) = Communion
 Includes Facebook & YouTube views.

Church News & Events

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

- **2025 Moravian Daily Texts**— If you would like a 2025 *Moravian Daily Texts*, please contact the church office or order them online at store.moravian.org.
- **2025 Watchwords**— If you would like a 2025 watchword and cannot make it to the church, please call the church office and we will draw one for you!
- **Directory Updates**—The church office is collecting updates for the 2025 directory. If any of your contact information has changed (address, phone, email, etc.), let us know at churchoffice@edgeboromoravian.org or 610.866-8793.
- **Church Offering Envelopes**—Your church offering envelopes were sent out before the end of 2024. 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.
- **Moravian Group Spiritual Companionship Taste & See Experience** Friday, January 17, 12:00-1:00pm ET on zoom. Join trainer, Marcella Kraybill-Greggo, for a one time, one-hour, offering as an opportunity to deepen your awareness of what Moravian Group Spiritual Companionship involves. This gathering offers participants a 'lived experience', while deepening their understanding of the commitments and graces of Group Spiritual Companionship. Free (paid for by the Moravian Church Northern Province) RSVP to: marcellak2@aol.com
Zoom link: <https://tinyurl.com/4apu6632> Meeting ID: 835 5098 3612. Passcode: Moravian
- **Nursery News** Do you miss the days when you could snuggle a little one, but your little ones are now taller than you are? You're in luck! We are hoping to recruit some people to restart our nursery program during the worship. The list from years ago needs to be updated with people who would be able/willing to help watch children while their parents enjoy worship. **Your clearances need to be updated in the office if you would like to volunteer.** ***See Carole Schachter for this!*** If you are interested, please contact Jenny Minnich at 610-248-9250 or jejm98@gmail.com.
- **The 27th Season of the Unitas Chorale** is announced by the Moravian Music Foundation. Singers are encouraged to join and all voices are welcome! (No audition required!) . Unitas rehearses the **1st, 3rd and 5th Sundays of the month** at 3:00pm at **College Hill Moravian Church**. Come to the **first rehearsal** on **Jan. 5** or contact **Gwyneth Michel, Director**; gwynmichel@aol.com The concert theme will be *One in Faith and One in Love* on **Sunday, May 4, 4:00 pm**; location tbd.
- **Music at the Museum**—**First Sundays** are free at the Bethlehem Museum Historic Bethlehem Museums & Sites. Come explore the rich history of the Kemmerer Museum of Decorative Arts and the Moravian Museum of Bethlehem for FREE! The Moravian Music Foundation will provide an element of music, different each month between 1:00–4:00pm. (The Museum is open 11am–5pm). Learn more at historicbethlehem.org.
- **Moravian Music Foundation's Chat & Chill**—Every Thursday, 10am-1pm. **Essentials Cafe** is the October location (will change month-to-month). Join Associate Director, Kyle Johnston, every Thursday for coffee or brunch. Come with questions, concerns, suggestions, or simply to chat and find out what the Moravian Music Foundation is doing in Bethlehem and beyond. Questions? Contact: Kyle Johnston, kyle@moravianmusic.org or [610.866-3340](tel:610.866.3340).
- **Moravian Newsletters** To view the Moravian Monthly, MMFA Communique, the Board of World Mission's Mission Minute, and past Envoy issues visit the Newsletter Box on our homepage. If you wish to have the Moravian Monthly sent to your e-mail, contact Sylvie Hauser at: sylvie@mcnp.org to begin receiving this newsletter by email.

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- **Volunteers Needed for World Heritage Site Tours**—Love history, our treasured (and now World Heritage) Moravian buildings, and also sharing what the living 21st century Moravian Church is all about? Please volunteer to give tours with Central Moravian Church, which take place **Fridays and Saturdays, 2:00-4:00pm** (Old Chapel or Sanctuary). Now is the perfect time as we start preparing for more guests in November and into December. If you have had any concerns, questions etc., or to receive a brief training, please talk with Pastor Janel Rice (janel@centralmoravianchurch.org) or Central's World Heritage/Tour Committee chair, Betsy Miller (betsy@mcnp.org). We (or another experienced volunteer) would be more than happy to walk you through things at the beginning of a shift. There is a prepared script for you with no expectation of memorizing anything and there are no expectations that you will know all the answers beyond the script! View the **Sign-Up Genius** at tinyurl.com/centraltours (scroll down the page to see sign-up times).
- **Essentials Café**—The cafe is always in need of additional volunteers. Be a greeter, server, cook, caretaker, booster, forager, gardener, and more! Learn more and sign up to volunteer at essentialscafe.org/take-action. Monday evenings are food prep nights for the cafe at West Side Moravian Church. If you plan to attend, contact West Side Moravian at: westsidemoravian@gmail.com or 610.865-0256. The cafe is always in need of additional volunteers. Visit their website to learn more and sign up to volunteer.

Item Collections & Drives

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

INDOOR DROP-OFF—While the Donation Room is still being remodeled, please bring all donations to the fellowship hall.

OUTDOOR DROP-OFF—Place your items in the donation drop-off shed near 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 13,000 lbs. of plastic!**
Accepted plastics: shopping bags, 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.)
Recycling drop off schedule: Dec. 14: Tom Pheiffer
- **ONGOING: Pop Tabs**—All collected pop tabs will be given to Leo's League for Pediatric Cancer, and they will take them to the Ronald McDonald House in Philadelphia. There is a collection jar in the kitchen, so please collect your tabs and bring them to the church to help out with this wonderful cause that helps families with children who are receiving medical care.

Monthly Highlights

Elders

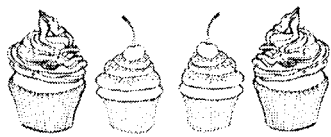
- The Elders last met on Thursday, December 5th. Their next meeting will be on Thursday, January 9th.
- The Elders discussed assembling Christmas Eve kits for those who worship online on Christmas Eve. (These kits were assembled on December 15 and are available for pick-up in the church kitchen.)
- The Elders discussed what worship will look like during Pastor Dan's final weeks. This includes selecting watchwords and partaking in Communion on January 5, hosting "breakfast church" and the church council meeting in the fellowship hall on January 12, celebrating Confirmation and Communion on January 26, and hosting the Joint Board installation on February 2 during Pastor Dan's final Sunday.
- The Elders discussed pulpit supply options for the month of February and created a list of contacts in order to continue finding pulpit supply in the transition period between pastors.

Trustees

- The Trustees last met on November 21st. (See previous *Envoiy* for highlights.) The Trustees will meet again on January 5th (2024 year-end meeting) and January 23rd (regular monthly meeting).

Fellowship

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



Edgeboro Pictures!

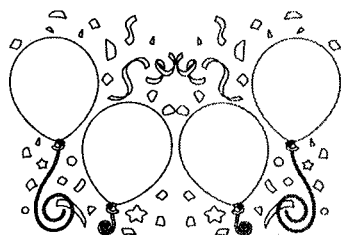
As you take pictures at church, please remember to share them with us!

January Birthdays

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

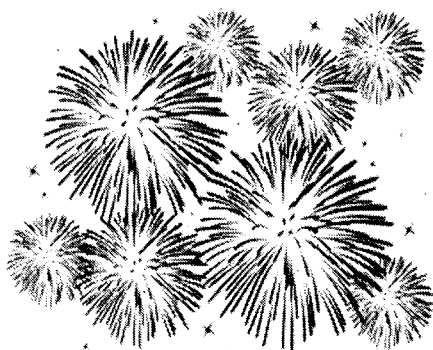
January Children Birthdays

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



January Anniversaries

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



A BLAST FROM THE PAST



Crabmeat Dip

Mrs. Harold Suess

- 1 pkg. (3oz) cream cheese 2Tbsp. prepared horseradish
- 1 7.5oz can crabmeat 2 drops tabasco sauce
- 1 Tbsp. minced onion 1/2 cup dairy sour cream
- 2 Tbsp. chili sauce

Drain & flake crabmeat. Mix all ingredients together. Add more or less sour cream for desired consistency.

Church Directory

UPDATE



Noemi Gonzalez
2757 Red Oak Circle
Bethlehem PA 18017

Pasquale & Nancy Zulli
Country Meadows
4007 Green Pond Road
Bethlehem PA 19020
(more address details coming soon)

Luke DiGiacinto
716 Washington Pl
Apt 810
Baltimore MD 21201-5258

PLEASE call (610.866-8793) or e-mail
(churchoffice@edgeboromoravian.org) the church office,
with any updates you may have
for the new 2025 church directory!!!

		Monday		Tuesday		Wednesday		Thursday		Friday		Saturday	
29	9:15am Adult Sunday School 9:30am Youth Sunday School 10:30am Worship	30 6:00pm Girl Scouts	31	1 6:30pm Girl Scouts Troop 8417	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
5	9:15am Adult Sunday School 9:30am Youth Sunday School 10:30am Worship - Communion, Choose Watchword 11:30am Trustees Year End Meeting	6 6:00pm Girl Scouts 7:00pm Darts vs East Hills	7 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal	8 6:30pm Girl Scouts Troop 8417	9 Elders meeting	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
12	9:15am Adult Sunday School 9:30am Breakfast in Fellowship Hall 9:30am Youth Sunday School 10:30am Worship - in Fellowship Hall 11:30am Winter Church Council Meeting 5:00pm Confirmation class	13 9:30am Palette Club Board Meeting 6:00pm Girl Scouts 7:00pm Darts @ Star of Bethlehem	14	15 6:30pm Girl Scouts Troop 8417	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
19	9:15am Adult Sunday School 9:30am Youth Sunday School 10:30am Worship 1:30pm Palette Club Group	20 6:00pm Girl Scouts 7:00pm Darts vs. College Hill	21 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal	22 6:30pm Girl Scouts Troop 8417	23 7:00pm Trustees Meeting	24	25	26	27	28	29 6:30pm Girl Scouts Troop 8417	30	31
26	9:15am Adult Sunday School 9:30am Youth Sunday School 10:30am Worship - Confirmation, Communion	27 6:00pm Girl Scouts 7:00pm Darts @ Holy Cross	28	29 6:30pm Girl Scouts Troop 8417	30	31	1	2	3	4	5	6	7



Edgeboro Moravian Church's Mission

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

Sunday Schedule

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

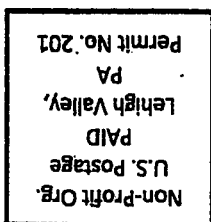
Pastor: Rev. Dan Miller
revdanmiller@gmail.com

Find us at edgeboromoravian.org or (610) 866-8793

Office Administrator: Carole Burkhardt
churchoffice@edgeboromoravian.org
Office Hours: Mon.—Fri. 9:00am—1:00pm
Organist & Choir Director: Gayle Justice
Sexton: Greg Clugston

Want More Edgeboro News?

- Access the church calendar online & worship online at edgeboromoravian.org
Click on the Contact Us dropdown to enroll in weekly email announcements & phone blasts.
- Join Edgeboro's Facebook Group



ELECTRONIC SERVICE REQUESTED

Edgeboro Moravian Church
645 Hamilton Ave.
Bethlehem, PA 18017