	<p>645 Hamilton Ave., Bethlehem, PA 610-866-8793 churchoffice@edgeboromoravian.org edgeboromoravian.org</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>MORAVIAN CHURCH</b>    <b>Edgeboro's Mission</b> is to love God, grow in Christ, and share the Holy Spirit through worship, fellowship, discipleship, ministry, and evangelism. Visit <a href="http://edgeboromoravian.org/communications">edgeboromoravian.org/communications</a> to learn how to receive Edgeboro news and announcements.</p>	

### 10:30 AM WORSHIP

February 23th, 2025    ||    7th Sunday after Epiphany

#### Welcome & Announcement

**Arriving for Worship** (*A moment to center ourselves and listen to the Spirit.*)

#### Watchword for the Week

Jesus said, "Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful" Luke 6:36

#### Prelude & Reflection

\*Hymn                      *Christian Hearts in Love United*                      #673 MBW

\*Liturgy for Christian Unity                      # 122 MBW

**Scripture Readings** – Psalm 37:1-11, 39-40 (pg. 510 Lg. 773)  
Genesis 45:3-11, 15 (pg. 42 Lg. 64)    Luke 6:27-38 (pg. 64 Lg. 90)

\*Hymn                      *What Brought Us Together*                      #675 MBW

#### Message

\*Hymn                      *Sing Praise to God*                      #537 MBW

#### Offering

Offertory                      *Choir Anthem*

\*Doxology & \*Prayer of Dedication                      #817 MBW

#### Congregational Prayers

**\*Hymn**

*I, the Lord of Sea and Sky*

#64I MBW

**\*Benediction & Postlude**

\*Those that are able and comfortable, please stand.  
MBW: *Moravian Book of Worship* || SttL: *Sing to the Lord a New Song*

**Visiting?** If you are looking here for a church home in which to nurture your faith, please speak with the Pastor following the service.

**Young children?** There's a nursery downstairs.

**Need Large Print?** Please speak with an usher.

<b>Guest Preacher</b>	Eric Smith
<b>Organist &amp; Choir Director</b>	Gayle Justice
<b>Elder of the Day</b>	Spencer Smith
<b>Sacristans</b>	John & Paula Horn
<b>Ushers</b>	Heath & Val Hoff
<b>Nursery</b>	Val Hoff
<b>Ministers</b>	YOU!

**Notes:**

February's **Joyful Noise Offering** will support Bethlehem Emergency Shelter. Please place your offerings in the joyful noise can or give online (QR code). Label your gift for "Joyful Noise."



**Make a Gift to Edgeboro Online!** Scan the QR code to make a gift to Edgeboro online using a credit card or bank account.

# In a Word, It's All About Love.

At the center of the Lord's Prayer, we pray, "Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven." In today's Gospel, Jesus gives us the instructions on how to make this happen, and the key word is "love."

In biblical Greek, there are four words that translate into English as "love": *agapē* (unconditional love), *eros* (romantic love), *philia* (neighborly love), and *storgē* (familial love). In Luke 6, *agapē* is used, as Jesus calls us to a radical love given unconditionally.

This is a world where we are called to:

- Love your enemies
- Do good to those who hate you
- Bless those who curse you
- Pray for those who abuse you
- Turn the other cheek
- Give away your coat AND your shirt
- Give to those who beg
- Do to others as you would have them do to you
- Be nonjudgmental
- Cease from condemnation
- Forgive, and you will be forgiven
- Give, and it will be given to you

Jesus is not calling on us to suffer from an abuser, nor is he asking us to give to someone taking advantage of us. Jesus is calling us to move the world closer to God's will: a world without enemies, where we bless rather than curse, and pray for others rather than condemn. This alone would radically transform the world.

Jesus is calling us to radically love others and redraw the lines of who we feel is in and who we think is out. Our calling and mission is to bring the heavenly world to our world as we love, pray for, include, and are gracious to all of God's children.

In a word, it is all about ***agapē***-Love!

*Chris Giesler, bishop and retired pastor, Bethlehem, Pennsylvania*

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## The Moravian Church

Seventh Sunday after the Epiphany

February 23, 2025



# 673 Christian Hearts, in Love United

1 Chris - tian hearts, in love u - nit - ed, seek a - lone in  
 2 Come then, come, O flock of Je - sus, cov - e - nant with  
 3 Grant, Lord, that with thy di - rec - tion, "Love each oth - er,"  
 4 O that such may be our un - ion as thine with the

Je - sus rest; has he not your love ex - cit - ed? Then let love in -  
 him a - new; un - to him, who con - quered for us, pledge we love and  
 we com - ply, aim - ing with un - feigned af - fec - tion thy love to ex -  
 Fa - ther is, and not one of our com - mun - ion e'er for - sake the

spire each breast. Mem - bers - on our Head de - pend - ing,  
 ser - vice true; and should our love's un - ion ho - ly  
 em - pli - fy; let our mu - tual love be glow - ing;  
 path of bliss; may our light break forth with bright - ness,

lights - re - flect - ing him, our Sun, breth - ren - his com -  
 firm - ly linked no more re - main, wait ye at his  
 thus the world will plain - ly see that we, as on  
 from thy light re - flect - ed shine; thus the world will

*Alternate translation, hymn 401*

TEXT: Nicholas Ludwig von Zinzendorf (1723). Tr. Frederick William Foster (1789), alt.  
 TUNE: Herrnhut (c. 1735); J. Thommen (1745); C. Gregor Choralbuch (1784)

8.7.8.7.D. Trochaic  
 CASSEL (167 A)

FELLOWSHIP AND FAMILY LIFE



mands at - tend - ing, we in him, our Lord, are one.  
foot - stool low - ly, till he draw it close a - gain.  
one stem grow - ing, liv - ing branch - es are in thee.  
bear us wit - ness that we, Lord, are tru - ly thine.

# CHRISTIAN UNITY

(Standing)

Almighty God, you are the one who called this universe into being. Out of nothing you created everything that is.

**By your power you hold together all space and time and substance.**

By your hand alone, Creator God, the inanimate elements became alive so that we could live and move and have our being.

**We celebrate life, the precious life you have given us, and we celebrate that unity of mind and emotions, of body and soul, that you want us to enjoy and share with each other.**

We rejoice in the centrality of Jesus Christ in all your works, for he was with you from the very beginning, and is supreme over all creation.

**We praise you that Christ is before all things, and that in him all things hold together, especially our very fragile, vulnerable, and often broken lives.**

DUKE STREET (22 Q)

Lord of all be - ing, throned a - far,  
Lord of all life, be - low, a - bove,

your glo - ry flames from sun and star;  
whose light is truth, whose warmth is love,

cen - ter and soul of ev - 'ry sphere,  
be - fore your ev - er - blaz - ing throne

yet to each lov - ing heart how near!  
we ask no lus - ter of our own.

(Kneeling or sitting)

We know that we will remain less than the whole persons you have called us to be in Christ Jesus until we acknowledge our sins to you, and so we bow before you and pray:

**Almighty God, we confess that we have tried to run away and hide from you. We constantly deceive ourselves into thinking that we can live without you. We have made idols of our own achievements. We have treated other persons as though they did not bear your image. We have failed to enfold and include all persons within the outstretched and open arms of Jesus Christ, our Savior. And we have left undone those deeds of lovingkindness and godly justice that you want us to pursue in your name. Bring your Spirit upon us in a gracious, healing way. Make us agents of reconciliation as we live within your holy presence. Amen.**

(Sitting)

BEECHER

Breathe, O breathe your lov - ing Spir - it in - to ev - 'ry trou - bled breast;

let us all in you in - her - it, let us find the prom - ised rest.

Take a - way the love of sin - ning; Al - pha and O - me - ga be;

end of faith, as its be - gin - ning, set our hearts at lib - er - ty.

We thank you, gracious God, for establishing the church as a single body of interdependent members, each having a place and purpose.

**We know that we need each other and are called to appreciate the great variety of gifts you have given us to use.**

Help us to rejoice with those who are feeling joy and delight.

**Help us to sing with those who are singing your love and praise.**

Help us to taste the agony of those who are hurting.

**Help us to share the burden of those who are in distress.**



Take away jealousy and resentment from our hearts when we see others achieving success.

**Fill us with that spirit of unity in Christ that lets us see and feel and know that we all belong to you through the grace we have received.**

Teach us to know and love the world-wide church called out of all peoples and nations. Make visible the unity that you desire as we express a spirit of reconciliation in all our relationships. Show us that we are part of the one and only body of Jesus Christ, unified by faith, scattered for witness and service. Lead us to appreciate the richness of our diversity and your creative power at work in our various traditions and customs. Make us all one with you by the inspiration and guidance of your Spirit.

**Lead us into lives worthy of our calling in Christ, with all lowliness, meekness, and patience, bearing with one another in love, and eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. We pray for this in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.**

(The liturgist may use one or more of the following or other expressions of worship from our own and other traditions to convey our sense of unity in Christ.)

Let us sing a new hymn.

(As the liturgist directs.)

Let us pause in silence and wait upon God.

Let us stand and greet each other with the right hand of fellowship and say, "The peace of God be with you."

Let us make prayer requests for ourselves and others.

(To be included in a prayer of intercession by the liturgist.)

Let us hear the watchword for the day and reflect upon it.

Let us lift our hands in a prayer of praise.

(The liturgist offers prayer.)

Let us pray together for the grace that we need, saying:

**Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on me, a sinner.**

**Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on me, a sinner.**

**Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on me, a sinner.**

Dear God, as we your people gather in every time and place around this wondrous earth, may we be strengthened by our awareness of one another and united by our mutual prayers.

**Hear us and help us all, we pray.**

May the variety of traditions and customs of your whole church become a multitude of lights to reveal the good news needed by people everywhere. May the variety of our ministries and service convey your redemptive love and bind us ever closer to one another.

**Grant us grace to unite in essentials, to accept diversity in non-essentials, and to love one another in all things.**

(Standing)

GAUDEAMUS PARITER

Join we all with one ac-cord, praise we all our com-mon Lord;  
One the name in which we pray, one our Sav-ior day by day;

for we all have heard his voice, all have made his will our choice.  
with one Cup and with one Bread thus one cov-'nant way we tread.

Part - ners with the saints of old, no more stran - gers in the fold,  
One in spir - it, one in life, one a - mid earth's fre-quent strife,

one the Shep-herd who us sought, one the flock his blood has bought.  
one in faith and one in love, one in hope of heav'n a - bove.

# Psalm 37 NRSVUE

## Exhortation to Patience and Trust Of David.

- <sup>1</sup> Do not fret because of the wicked;  
do not be envious of wrongdoers,  
<sup>2</sup> for they will soon fade like the grass  
and wither like the green herb.
- <sup>3</sup> Trust in the LORD and do good;  
live in the land and enjoy security.
- <sup>4</sup> Take delight in the LORD,  
and he will give you the desires of your heart.
- <sup>5</sup> Commit your way to the LORD;  
trust in him, and he will act.
- <sup>6</sup> He will make your vindication shine like the light  
and the justice of your cause like the noonday.
- <sup>7</sup> Be still before the LORD, and wait patiently for him;  
do not fret over those who prosper in their way,  
over those who carry out evil devices.
- <sup>8</sup> Refrain from anger and forsake wrath.  
Do not fret—it leads only to evil.
- <sup>9</sup> For the wicked shall be cut off,  
but those who wait for the LORD shall inherit the land.
- <sup>10</sup> Yet a little while, and the wicked will be no more;  
though you look diligently for their place, they will not be there.
- <sup>11</sup> But the meek shall inherit the land  
and delight themselves in abundant prosperity.
- <sup>39</sup> The salvation of the righteous is from the LORD;  
he is their refuge in the time of trouble.
- <sup>40</sup> The LORD helps them and rescues them;  
he rescues them from the wicked and saves them  
because they take refuge in him.

## Genesis 45:3-15 NRSVUE

<sup>3</sup> Joseph said to his brothers, "I am Joseph. Is my father still alive?" But his brothers could not answer him, so dismayed were they at his presence.

<sup>4</sup> Then Joseph said to his brothers, "Come closer to me." And they came closer. He said, "I am your brother, Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt. <sup>5</sup> And now do not be distressed or angry with yourselves because you sold me here, for God sent me before you to preserve life. <sup>6</sup> For the famine has been in the land these two years, and there are five more years in which there will be neither plowing nor harvest. <sup>7</sup> God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth and to keep alive for you many survivors. <sup>8</sup> So it was not you who sent me here but God; he has made me a father to Pharaoh and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt. <sup>9</sup> Hurry and go up to my father and say to him, 'Thus says your son Joseph, God has made me lord of all Egypt; come down to me; do not delay. <sup>10</sup> You shall settle in the land of Goshen, and you shall be near me, you and your children and your children's children, as well as your flocks, your herds, and all that you have. <sup>11</sup> I will provide for you there, since there are five more years of famine to come, so that you and your household and all that you have will not come to poverty.'

<sup>15</sup> And he kissed all his brothers and wept upon them, and after that his brothers talked with him.

## **Luke 6:27-38 NRSVUE**

### **Love for Enemies**

<sup>27</sup> "But I say to you who are listening: Love your enemies; do good to those who hate you; <sup>28</sup> bless those who curse you; pray for those who mistreat you. <sup>29</sup> If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also, and from anyone who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt. <sup>30</sup> Give to everyone who asks of you, and if anyone takes away what is yours, do not ask for it back again. <sup>31</sup> Do to others as you would have them do to you.

<sup>32</sup> "If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. <sup>33</sup> If you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. <sup>34</sup> If you lend to those from whom you expect to receive payment, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again. <sup>35</sup> Instead, love your enemies, do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return. Your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High, for he himself is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked. <sup>36</sup> Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.

### **Judging Others**

<sup>37</sup> "Do not judge, and you will not be judged; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven; <sup>38</sup> give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap, for the measure you give will be the measure you get back."

## 675

## What Brought Us Together

1 What brought us to - geth - er, what join - ed our hearts?  
 2 Is this our high call - ing, har - mo - nious to dwell,  
 3 O yes, hav - ing found in the Lord our de - light,

The par - don which Je - sus, our High Priest, im - parts;  
 and thus in sweet con - cert Christ's prais - es to tell,  
 he is our chief ob - ject by day and by night;

'Tis this which ce - ments the dis - ci - ples of Christ,  
 in peace and blessed un - ion our mo - ments to spend  
 this knits us to - geth - er; no long - er we roam;

who are in - to one by the Spir - it bap - tized.  
 and live in com - mun - ion with Je - sus our Friend?  
 we all have one Fa - ther, and heav'n is our home.

Sing Praise to God

1 Sing praise to God who reigns a - bove, the  
 2 What God's al - might - y pow'r has made, in  
 3 The Lord is nev - er far a - way, but  
 4 Thus, all my toil - some way a - long, I

God of all cre - a - tion, the God of pow'r, the  
 mer - cy he is keep - ing; by morn - ing glow or  
 through all grief dis - tress - ing, an ev - er - pres - ent  
 sing a - loud your prais - es, that all may hear the

God of love, the God of our sal - va - tion. My  
 eve - ning shade his eye is nev - er sleep - ing. And  
 help and stay, our peace, and joy, and bless - ing. As  
 grate - ful song my voice un - wea - ried rais - es. Be

soul with com - fort rich he fills, and ev - 'ry grief he  
 where he rules in king - ly might, there all is just and  
 with a moth - er's ten - der hand, he leads his own, his  
 joy - ful in the Lord, my heart, both soul and bod - y

Alternate key, hymn 368

8.7.8.7.8.8.7.

TEXT: Johann Jacob Schütz (1675). Tr. Frances E. Cox (1864), alt.  
 TUNE: Pre-Reformation melody, Bohemian Brethren's *Gesangbuch* (1566), alt.

MIT FREUDEN ZART



gent - ly stills: to God all praise and glo - ry!  
all is right: to God all praise and glo - ry!  
cho - sen band. To God all praise and glo - ry!  
bear your part. To God all praise and glo - ry!





641

I, the Lord of Sea and Sky

The piano introduction consists of two staves in G major and 4/4 time. The right hand plays a simple melody of quarter notes: G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4. The left hand plays a bass line of quarter notes: G2, A2, B2, C3, B2, A2, G2. The piece ends with a piano (p.) dynamic marking.

The vocal line is on a single staff in G major and 4/4 time. It begins with a repeat sign. The lyrics are:
   
1 I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my peo - ple cry.
   
2 I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my peo - ple's pain.
   
3 I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame.

The piano accompaniment for the first three verses consists of two staves in G major and 4/4 time. The right hand plays a melody of quarter notes: G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4. The left hand plays a bass line of quarter notes: G2, A2, B2, C3, B2, A2, G2. The piece ends with a piano (p.) dynamic marking.

The vocal line is on a single staff in G major and 4/4 time. It begins with a repeat sign. The lyrics are:
   
All who dwell in deep - est sin my hand will save.
   
I have wept for love of them, they turn a - way.
   
I will set a feast for them, my hand will save.

The piano accompaniment for the fourth verse consists of two staves in G major and 4/4 time. The right hand plays a melody of quarter notes: G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4. The left hand plays a bass line of quarter notes: G2, A2, B2, C3, B2, A2, G2. The piece ends with a piano (p.) dynamic marking.

The vocal line is on a single staff in G major and 4/4 time. It begins with a repeat sign. The lyrics are:
   
I who made the stars of night, I will make their dark-ness bright.
   
I will break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love a - lone.
   
Fin - est bread I will pro - vide till their hearts be sat - is - fied.

The piano accompaniment for the fifth verse consists of two staves in G major and 4/4 time. The right hand plays a melody of quarter notes: G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4. The left hand plays a bass line of quarter notes: G2, A2, B2, C3, B2, A2, G2. The piece ends with a piano (p.) dynamic marking.

TEXT: Daniel L. Schutte (1981)

TUNE: Daniel L. Schutte (1981)

Text and tune ©1981 by Daniel L. Schutte and New Dawn Music, P.O. Box 13248, Portland, OR 97213

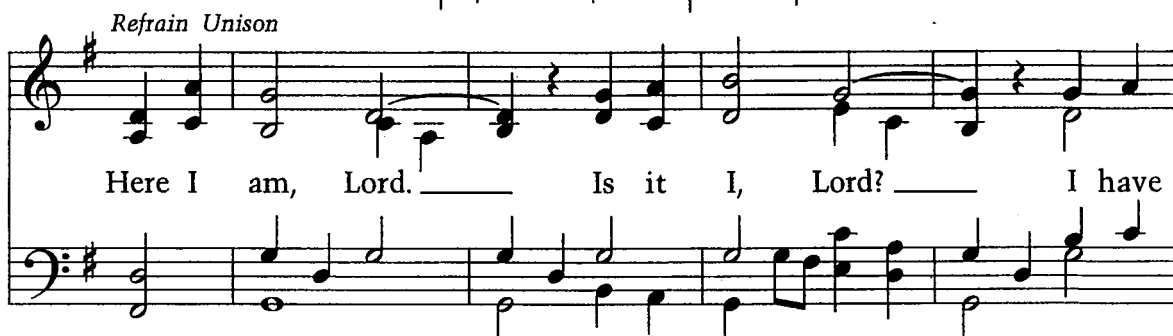
7.7.7.4.D. with Refrain

HERE I AM

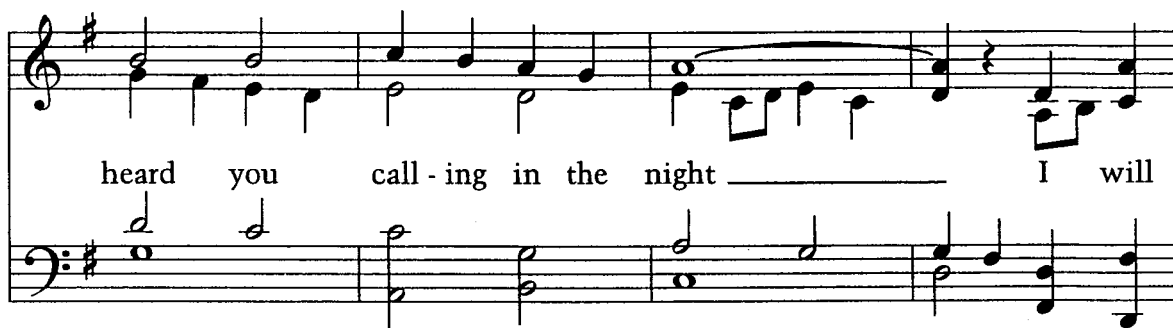


Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send? \_\_\_\_\_  
I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send? \_\_\_\_\_  
I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send? \_\_\_\_\_

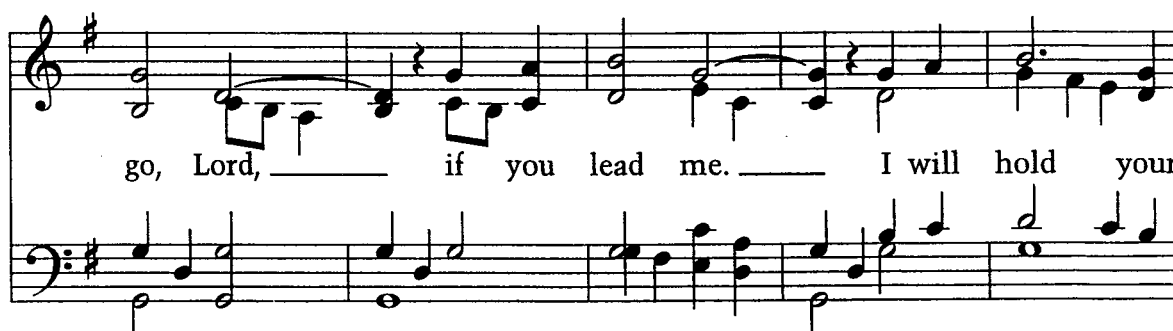
*Refrain Unison*



Here I am, Lord. \_\_\_\_\_ Is it I, Lord? \_\_\_\_\_ I have



heard you call - ing in the night \_\_\_\_\_ I will



go, Lord, \_\_\_\_\_ if you lead me. \_\_\_\_\_ I will hold your

*Fine*



peo - ple in my heart. \_\_\_\_\_

# Announcements

**Edgeboro's 2025 Watchword:** "The Lord is good to all, and his compassion is over all that he has made." (*Psalm 145:9*)

**This Week's Flowers** are given by John & Diane Knox in loving memory of both our parents.

## **Weekly Calendar**

Sunday, February 23      9:15am Adult Sunday School  
   9:30am Youth Sunday School  
   10:30am Worship

Monday, February 24      6:00pm Girl Scouts

Wednesday, February 26 6:30pm Girl Scouts

Friday, February 28      12:00pm Home School group

Sunday, March 2            9:15am Adult Sunday School  
   9:30am Youth Sunday School  
   10:30am Worship

*Elder: Sue Testa*  
*Sacristans: Mike & Terri Long*  
*Ushers: Mike & Terri Long*  
*Nursery: Jenny Minnich*

## **Call Process Congregation Survey**

Please complete this survey by March 9th.

Each church member should complete this survey only once.

You can use the QR code to the right or

this link: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/VVZQY5B>



**Thank you to Eric Smith** for leading us in worship this morning.

**Nursery** We are hoping to recruit some people to restart our nursery program during worship in 2025. If you are interested, please contact Jenny Minnich. You can text her at 610-248-9250 or email at [jejm98@gmail.com](mailto:jejm98@gmail.com) Your clearances need to be updated in the office if you would like to volunteer. \*\*\*See Carole Schachter for this!!\*\*\*

**Seniors and Friends** will be held **March 6th, 11:30am West Side Moravian Church 402 3rd Ave** BRING a Friend & a Sandwich Beverage and Dessert will be Provided! Meet Melissa Sterner, botanical artist and owner of Sterner's Stems, will present. She will guide you through painting your own terracotta pot, allowing your creativity to flourish. Once your masterpiece is complete, she'll help you plant a beautiful succulent & share expert tips on how to care for it, ensuring it thrives in your home. Join Melissa for a fun, hands-on experience where art & nature come together!

**Essentials Café** is open Tuesdays through Saturdays, 8:00am-2:00pm. The cafe is always in need of additional volunteers. Learn more and sign up to volunteer at [essentialscafe.org/take-action](https://essentialscafe.org/take-action).

**College Hill Spring Craft Show** College Hill will be holding a Spring Craft Show on **Saturday, April 26, 2025 from 9:00 AM-2:00 PM**. There are indoor and outdoor spots and we are looking to fill the spots with crafters! If you are a crafter and would like to reserve a spot, please complete and submit an application. If you have any questions, please contact **Amy DeLong** at 610.704-0014 or [amdelong3@gmail.com](mailto:amdelong3@gmail.com).

**The Unitas Chorale 27th Season** concert will be **With One Accord** on **Sunday, May 4, 2025, 4:00 pm; Advent Moravian Church, 3730 Jacksonville Rd, Bethlehem.** Gwyneth Michel, Director

**Camp Hope Website** is up and running Visit it here: <https://www.camphope.org/> to register for events.

## **A MESSAGE FROM THE EASTERN DISTRICT BOARD**

As your congregation enters this period of pastoral transition, we offer this information explaining the process of call for the Moravian Church, Eastern District.

The Moravian call system is neither appointive (the pastor is not assigned by the denomination) nor congregational (that is, elected by the vote of the congregation). Ours is a conferential system in which denominational officials and the local Joint Board confer in order to find the pastor that will meet the needs of the congregation. We believe the leading of the Holy Spirit is clearly part of our call process. Steps in the process are:

1. The District Board is responsible for initiating the call process. Its representatives meet with the Joint Board to help identify the needs of this parish. Through congregational assessment, the District Board will carefully match the needs of this church with the strengths of the ordained women and men who might be available for call. The Joint Board can also suggest names, which the District Board will then review to discern their appropriateness and availability.
2. The next step is for the District President to meet again with the Joint Board in order to present biographical and evaluative material on the recommended clergy decided upon in Step 1.
3. Following in-depth discussion, a secret ballot will be cast. When two-thirds of the total board membership agrees on a potential pastor, and after working out the terms of the call (such as salary, housing, travel expense, continuing education, etc.), the District President issues the call to the pastor in the name of the Moravian Church, Northern Province. Please note that the Joint Board serves as the personnel committee; the congregation does not vote to call a pastor.

It must be noted that the Joint Board and the District Board will keep the choice secret so that the pastor is free of external pressures in seeking the Lord's direction. Members of the congregation must respect the need for secrecy by not pressuring the Joint Board for advance information.

4. Unless the called pastor feels no leading by God to the congregation, a ministry dialogue will take place with the calling Joint Board and the called Pastor. A member of the EDEB will be present.

5. Following the ministry dialogue meeting, the Joint Board will vote to reconfirm (or not) the original call to the Pastor. This also requires a 2/3 vote of the total membership of the Joint Board. The Pastor will be notified of the Joint Board action.

6. Should the call be reaffirmed, a written reply to the call is requested by the District President and the Joint Board will be notified of the response. If the call is accepted, that will be announced to the congregation. If it is declined, the District President and the Joint Board will meet again to pursue the process further, returning to step #2.

Long experience with the call system indicates:

1. That it is democratic in nature.

2. That democracy can move slowly sometimes.

3. That the local church benefits from the help which the denomination can give and a real partnership can develop.

4. Responsibility and choice are shared by the local church, the denomination, and the pastor.

5. That if the pastor who is called declines the call, it does not imply a negative judgment on the congregation but, rather, a sense of no clear leading of the Lord to accept.

6. That the leading of the Holy Spirit has repeatedly been demonstrated to be active in the call process.

## Prayer Requests

Use this prayer list creatively in whatever way that will help you remember these names in prayer. Take it home, Place this list in a certain place. Pray while doing certain things. Pray for a different group of people each day. Download an app on your phone that will help you keep your prayers organized. Do what works for you to remain connected in prayer. Here are those we are praying for now:

### **Healing**

Sharon Bond	Deb Swanson
Kyle Borowski	Joan Swingle
Billy Christman (Sherri Hoff)	Ted Terry (Jon & Lynn Terry)
Judi Delzell (Stephanie Smith's mother)	
Tim Gilman (Robyn Balsai)	Megan Weikert
Jim Grebs (Rick Grebs)	Nancy Zulli (Pat Zulli)
Dorene Helton (Smith Family friend)	
Jeffrey Minnich	Allison (Kathie Klein)
David Nagle	Amanda (Steve & Donna Henning)
Kiera Pheiffer (Tom Pheiffer)	Maria Adela (Carole Schachter)
Pete Raskovic (Anne Hosterman)	Paul (Sally Abruzzese)
Rev. Dick Seigfried (Helene Boyle)	Peter (Rita Gambler)
Scott Sine	Rosie (Nancy Remaly)

### **Homebound**

Ann Amidon (Jessie Bucchin)  
Joyce LeWando

### **Comfort**

Extended Family of Becky Miller on the passing of her Uncle John  
Family of Deb Geiger on her passing.

### **Guidance**

Janice Bourdage  
Jeffrey Boyle (Helene Boyle)  
Gareth Messman (Messmans)  
Ryan Zaun (Sharon Zaun)  
Julie (Marcia)

This list will be refreshed regularly. If you would like a name added or removed from the list, please fill out a blue prayer request card found in the pews or contact the church office.

## New Directors of Faith Formation

As your congregation learns about the search for four new Area Directors of Faith Formation throughout our district, we want to explain the purpose, process, and expectations associated with this role in the Moravian Church, Eastern District. This opportunity reflects our commitment to equipping congregations with resources for spiritual growth and faith formation for all ages. The Area Director of Faith Formation is designed to support congregations in teaching and spiritual development. This role will be implemented in two phases, leading to the title of Accredited Area Director of Faith Formation upon meeting specific training requirements.

### Overview of the Position

The Area Director of Faith Formation will serve part-time (1/2 time) or quarter-time (1/4 time), depending on the needs of each geographic area. This position aims to enhance faith formation efforts by providing guidance and resources.

### How This Process Reflects Our Values

This initiative highlights our commitment to collaborative ministry and leadership development. Similar to our pastor call process, we trust the Holy Spirit to guide us in equipping the right individuals for this role. Key principles include:

- Equipping local congregations with resources for spiritual growth.
- Partnership between the local church and the Eastern District.
- Preparation and spiritual discernment to ensure alignment with Moravian values.
- Shared responsibility among the local church, district, and Area Directors of Faith Formation.



## Moving Forward

We encourage individuals to consider whether you might be called to this important ministry. We also hope that congregations will help identify prospective leaders and encourage them. This position offers an exciting opportunity for the Moravian Church, Eastern District, to strengthen our commitment to faith formation and growth. For questions or additional information please contact the Eastern District office. Let's hold this initiative in prayer, trusting that the Holy Spirit will guide those called to serve in this vital ministry.

Sincerely,

The Eastern District Executive Board

For more information, please visit:

<https://www.moravian.org/northern/2025/02/13/ed-faith-formation/>



# Thank You from The Freezer Ministry and Garden Gatherers Inc.

(Formerly BAM Freezer Ministry )(an Ecumenical / Community Program)

2024 was a great year where we continued to expand our mission. Our Garden Gatherer's Vegetable and Fruit Markets are now at 11 Bethlehem Schools, distributing approximately 60 tons. The Frozen meals program continued its distributions. Combined, both programs provided 116,000 meal or meal equivalents in 2024. The goal for 2025 is 200,000 meals to our communities in need.

This is only possible due to so many good people.

Thanks to:

**Donors** who make all of this great work possible

## **Individuals:**

Those who prepare our meals to be shared - Cooks, choppers, dicers, ladlers, dishwashers and the labeling team.

Those who distributed approximately 20,000 prepared meals in 2024, from 1 to 100 at a time. Thanks for bringing more than food, but caring and friendship each time you deliver.

Everyone who participated, either by helping, gathering orders, purchasing or attending, the Soup Sale in February and our Harvest Dinner in November. These are both very important events.

Those who weathered this year's very cold November and December to host Huts on Main. Who along with our Bethlehem Emergency Sheltering friends shared our mission of fighting homelessness and hunger, and handed out Hot Cider in November or Hot Chocolate in December, along with Cookies, Bars or Chex Mix Snacks to so many local and out of town visitors to Bethlehem during the Christmas season. As well as treats to our furry guests.

Speaking of cookies, bars and Chex mix – a big thank you to our bakers for supplying the Huts with over 6,000 goodies this year. Nothing makes people feel more welcome than a homemade treat.

The Musicians that donated their time and talent to perform at Huts on Main.

Pastors, Leaders and Administrators that help spread the word.

Those that stand up and share the story, promote our mission and vision of a connected community.

Our newly formed Board of Directors for what they have done and are about to do for our mission.

The Transition Team who helped us establish our independent corporation and future 501 (c)(3) organization.

The professionals who have provided assistance in our growth efforts. You have been invaluable.

## **Bethlehem Area Moravian Corporate and Ministries**

### **Churches and Organizations**

#### **Partnerships:**

East Hills Moravian Church for sharing kitchen space for freezers and refrigerators and a place to prepare meals and transition tons of vegetable and fruit prior to delivery, along with a church family that supports the mission. For their help and guidance during our transition that will allow the mission to go forward into the future.

Second Harvest Food Bank for the ability to receive food items at low or no cost and thus reducing the amount required to be purchased.

Bethlehem Downtown Business Association and Chamber of Commerce for providing a Hut on Main for our use.

#### **To Garden Gatherer Program participants and donors:**

The Bethlehem Area School Coordinators, along with administrators, volunteers and the United Way Representative.

The vegetable and fruit pick-up and delivery team. It couldn't work without this.

Individuals who donated vegetables.

Wegmans for many donated cases of broccoli & a great source of bananas

The Restaurant Depot for working with us when we purchased vegetables and fruit.

For anyone that might have been missed in the list, Thanks for participating.

Bob Wingrove

The Freezer Ministry and Garden Gatherers Inc.

Executive Director