

The Envoy

Est. 1943

May 2025, Volume 83, Issue 5

Dear Friends at Edgeboro Moravian Church:

A few years back, comedian Dana Carvey had a TV show featuring a variety of his characters and skits. One of these recurring sketches featured him and Steve Carell as two young guys driving around trying to prank people. On one of them, these two pranksters pull their car into a fast-food drive-through and place a huge order. As they do so, they try to suppress their laughter, knowing they are about to pull what they think is a funny prank. After placing their order, they pull around to the window and pay with more cash than is needed. When the attendant goes to retrieve their change, the two look at each other with mischievous smirks and speed away without getting their change or the food they ordered. They think they have pulled a prank when, in fact, they are the ones who have been short-changed.

As funny as I find that sketch, it is sad that we treat Easter similarly. We do so by going through the superficial motions of celebrating Lent, Holy Week, and Easter but then speeding away into our busy lives without receiving their deeper benefits.

While the Easter miracle certainly directly impacts our eternal lives, it also assures us that nothing in life is beyond the redemptive power of God, no matter how desperate the situation might seem. On the first Easter morning, things looked terrible for Jesus' mother, Mary, his good friend Mary Magdalene, and his disciples like Peter, James, and John. But once those women got to the tomb, that desperation turned into bewilderment and then to joy. The message of Easter is dynamically rooted in the sorrow of Good Friday and that same power of new possibilities is alive in our lives today. As we move beyond the Easter egg hunts, family dinners, and busy Lenten, Holy Week, and Easter activities, it is essential we ponder where our lives fit into the Easter miracle. We all have Good Fridays lurking in our souls; so what fear, doubt, or obstacle can you bring to the empty tomb? What in your life, vocation, work, and relationships needs to be renewed by an Easter faith?

On a personal note, I want to thank the Edgeboro Congregation for the opportunity to "fill the pulpit" in the month leading up to Easter and through to May 18. It has been a joy to walk through this sacred time with you all, to renew many old friendships, and make a few new ones. My prayers will be with you as your Joint Boards continue in the call process and work with the Eastern District Executive Board to bring the best possible pastor to do ministry with you into the future. You are a wonderful congregation, and whoever the next pastor is, they will be lucky to work with you.

God bless you all,

Pastor Chris

Sunday Schedule & Volunteers

May 4

9:15am Adult Sunday School
9:30am Youth Sunday School
9:30 am Church Breakfast
10:30am Worship—*Fellowship Hall*

Elder Season Pagano
Sacristans Mike & Terri Long
Ushers Mike & Terri Long
Nursery Val Hoff
Lawn (5.4-10) Blake Messman

May 11

9:15am Adult Sunday School
9:30am Youth Sunday School
10:30am Worship—*Christian Family
Lovefeast & Joyful Noise Offering*

Elder Spencer Smith
Sacristans Thomas & Gilda
Pheiffer; Peggy Leith
Ushers Bob & Elley Silfies
Nursery Jenny Minnich
Lawn (5.11-17) Jon Terry

May 18

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

Elder Tammy Baer
Sacristans Bob & Elley Silfies
Ushers Joe & Sue Testa
Nursery Madison Hoff
Lawn (5.18-24) Tyler Long

May 25

9:15am Adult Sunday School
9:30am Youth Sunday School
10:30am Worship—*Baptism*

Elder Valorie Hoff
Sacristans Jon & Lynn Terry
Ushers Carol Saeger &
Nancy Bartleman
Nursery Carole Schachter
Lawn (5.25-31) Tyler 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.
- **May's Joyful Noise Offering**—This month's Joyful Noise Offering will support Nepal Mission Outreach. 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. Visit edgeboromoravian.org/give for more options and details about giving.



Monthly Financial Update

Monthly Budgeted Revenue		Total Revenue Year to Date Through March 31	
Monthly Budgeted Revenue	\$ 22,424		
March Revenue	\$ 17,301	2024	\$50,640
Monthly Difference	\$ (5, 123)	2025	\$ 50,091
Year to Date Difference	\$ (7,806)	Percent Change	-1.1%

Worship Attendance (In-Person + Online)

April	2024	2025	Includes YouTube & Facebook views C = Communion PS = Palm Sunday E = Easter
Week 1	129	227	
Week 2	153 (C)	298 (PS)	
Week 3	125	274 (E)	
Week 4	94	212	

News from Nepal (our May Joyful Noise recipient)

Shristi Academy Update: We are thankful for the approval of Grade 10 from Kathmandu Education Department. We have been blessed to work with 65+ dedicated staff and serve 201 students and their families. The new school year begins April 26th and we are hopeful for good enrollments. We have signed a 3 year contract with the company *Smarterrr* to supply Smart boards with a built-in Nepali curriculum. We have hired a counselor to support students face various challenges and are encouraged that some students have found it very helpful. Kindergarten had a formal graduation. Some of the Upper Kindergarten Students will continue their journey at Schristi Academy in Grade 1. The Shristi Futsal (Football) field leveling work is finished. Turf was ordered several months ago, but has not yet been delivered. Prayers that it will be installed for the new academic year are requested. Also please pray for setting up the school library, school staff, students, parents, and neighbors.

Church Update: The Moravian Church is going through a transition as they are working towards forming a District Executive board and local Church Executive Board to finally have a District Conference. Church continues its outreach to places where needed. Please pray for believers and their faith to be resilient despite social and cultural challenges as well as the growth and expansion of the church work in Kathmandu and beyond.

Sending our warmest greetings to all our brothers and sisters at Edgeboro Moravian Church, Shanti and Vani Pradhan

Church News & Events

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

- **Lawn Care**—We are looking for individuals who would be willing to help with lawn care at the church and parsonage this season. Please let the office know if you would be willing to be added to the crew's rotation, call: [610.866-8793](tel:610.866-8793) or e-mail: churchoffice@edgeboromoravian.org Even caring for the lawn and trimming one week throughout the time period between April and the end of October would be helpful. Many thanks to our current crew and anyone who feels the calling to assist!
- **Nursery News** —We are hoping to recruit more people, who would be able/willing to help watch children while their parents enjoy worship, for our nursery program. If you are interested, please contact Jenny Minnich at 610-248-9250 or jejm98@gmail.com. ***Your clearances need to be updated in the office if you would like to volunteer. See Carole Schachter for this!!***
- **Parsonage Work Crew Needed** We are looking for people with skills and a willingness to help us spruce up the parsonage! Now is the time to tackle the multiple tasks to prepare the parsonage for its next inhabitants. Some jobs require relatively few skills, such as painting. Other tasks require more specialized skills. If you are ready, willing, and able, please contact Carole Schachter at cdtschachter@gmail.com or call/text at [610-657-7079](tel:610-657-7079). Many hands make light work!
- **Know someone graduating?** Please help us identify members and friends who will be completing High School, College, Military, any Academy, Trade School or an Advanced Degree. We would like to celebrate their achievement and accomplishment in our next Envoy. Please let the church office know of anyone of which you are aware.
- **Seniors and Friends** will be held May 1st, 11:30am West Side Moravian Church 402 3rd Ave BRING a Friend & a Sandwich Beverage and Dessert will be Provided! Presentation by Sharon Jones Zondat, the Northampton Community College Resident Beekeeper Growing up with bees, it wasn't until 2010 that she began pursuing a long desire to keep bees herself. Her "bee education" includes Penn State classes through the Lehigh Valley Beekeepers Association founded in 1921 where she is a lifetime member, the Apprentice Beekeeping program at Cornell University at Dyce Laboratories; both summer and fall, the Introductory Beekeeping winter program offered by LVBA. In addition to continuing experience in the apiary, she is presently in the Master Beekeeping program with the University of Montana having completed the Apprentice and the Journeyman levels of education & training. Her father is in his sixth decade of beekeeping and at 96 continues to be her #1 mentor. Every beekeeper needs one!
- **Unitas Chorale** 27th Season concert With One Accord, will be held Sunday, May 4, 2025, 4:00 pm; Advent Moravian Church, 3730 Jacksonville Rd, Bethlehem. Gwyneth Michel, Director
- **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.
- **Summer Programs at Camp Hope** Registrations are now being accepted for Camp Hope. Visit camphope.org/camp to learn more and sign up. Read the Camp Hope Newsletter at: tinyurl.com/bdhpt35r

2025 Camp Hope Summer Camp Schedule

- June 29- July 5: Musical Theater - for students who have just completed 5th-9th grade
- July 6-12: Primary - for students who have just completed 3rd or 4th grade
- July 13-19: Middler - for students who have just completed 5th or 6th grade
- July 20-26: Junior High - for students who have just completed 7th or 8th grade
- July 27- August 2: Senior High - for students who have just completed 9-12th grade
- August 3-9: Swim - for students who have just completed 3rd-6th grade

- **Camp Hope Help Wanted** Spend an unforgettable summer working and living at camp! Camp Hope is in need of Summer Staff and a Camp Cook. Apply at: <https://www.camphope.org/employment>

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- **MMF NEWS:** Comenius Music Academy is offering courses led by Kyle Johnston, MMF Associate Director. All are free, but registration is required to receive the zoom link. For information and sign ups for any of the classes below, visit: moravianmusic.org/comenius-music-academy/ The May class is online, but the remaining are in-person.
Hymn Writing, May 9, 12:00pm An introduction to hymn writing. Led by Kyle Johnston, MMF Associate Director.
Moravian Chants June 28, 2025 12:00pm
Moravian Chorales-Old & New, July 26, 2025 12:00pm
Moravian Tunebooks August 23, 2025 12:00pm
- **Free Film Screening**—The community is invited to attend a FREE screening of the documentary film, *Recovery City*, on May 14th, Civic Theatre, 527 N 19th Street, Allentown. *Recovery City* explores the raw realities of addiction and recovery in this powerful film set in Worcester, Massachusetts. Through the lives of four resilient women, this documentary reveals the struggles of rebuilding after addiction, the impact of systemic stigma, and the strength of camaraderie. Their stories highlight resilience, grit, and the power of lived experience to inspire hope and change. The evening begins with a **vendor fair** from 5:00-6:00pm to include family recover resources and Narcan information. The **film screening** is 6:00-7:45pm followed by a Q&A with the film's director, Lisa Olivieri until 8:15pm. **Admission is free**, and \$10 snack voucher will be given to the first 100 attendees. This event is presented by the Center for Humanistic Change and funded by Lehigh County Drug & Alcohol. View the Film Trailer: twineasmedia.com/recoverycity Register at: <https://tinyurl.com/2cyzvcyn>
- **Spring Book & Print Sale at the Archives** 41 W. Locust St. New and used books on Moravian Studies, Local Interest, German Language, Music, as well as original prints and reproductions.
Thursday, May 15 9:00am-3:00pm also featuring \$3 sugar cake slices + free cup of Board of World Mission coffee! (proceeds from Sugar Cake to benefit Essentials Cafe)
Friday, May 16, 9:00am-3:00pm Spend \$50 get a free tote bag or "Bridging Bethlehem" glass Vault tours available: Check out our collection of rare books + prints
Saturday, May 17 9:00am - 1:00pm Bag Day! Fill a paper bag for just \$15 * select titles, excludes rare books *
- **MMF Newsletter.** The latest MMF newsletter can be viewed by directing your browser to: tinyurl.com/mutv4mje
- **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, which all are invited to join in playing. (The Museum is open 11am–5pm). Learn more at: historicbethlehem.org.
- **Compassion Statement** The Provincial Elders of the Moravian Church, Northern Province, have been active in joining other full-communion partners & Agencies like Church World Service, in addressing the alarming development of Executive orders which have affected the lives of many immigrants, migrants, & asylum seekers, leaving many in fear as they seek mercy & peace. In doing so they found themselves desiring to make a statement that comes from the heart of our own Moravian faith, history, & the words of prayer we find in our liturgies. As a result, & with much prayer, the Provincial Elders offer this statement in humility and hope for a better day- one guided by the compassion & Love of Christ for all God's children. To see this statement, visit: tinyurl.com/9cw95tvv
- **Vacation Bible School News** There will not be a VBS at Edgeboro, however, Central, Advent and East Hills are partnering together, along with BAM part sponsorship, to have a VBS program June 23-27, 9:00am-12:00pm, for students having just completed 3rd -5th grade, at East Hills Moravian Church, 1830 Butztown Road The theme is *True North: Finding our Way in a World Gone Wild*. The morning sessions are free of charge. **New this year** is an all day option. More information on this new addition will be forthcoming. Contact office@easthillsmc.org, for more information.
- **Bus Trip to Sight & Sound Theater**— Central Moravian Church is sponsoring a bus trip to see NOAH at the Sight & Sound Theater, Thursday, August 14th. Ticket price includes bus transportation, premium theater seating ticket and buffet meal at Hershey Farms. The bus will depart at 8:00am from the Gemeinhaus, (plan to be there about 15 minutes early) with an estimated return to Bethlehem at 6:00pm. Ample parking will be available in Central's upper lot. **Tickets: Age 13 and up: \$125.00 Youth 6-12: \$65.00 Payment due: June 1st.** To reserve your seat, contact Central Moravian Church at: office@centralmoravianchurch.org or 610.866-5661

Item Collections & Drives

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

INDOOR DROP-OFF—The containers for plastics has returned to the Donation Room!

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: May 10 Tom Pheiffer; June 14 Steve Millheim; July 12 Carole Burkhardt
- **ONGOING: Aluminum 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 jar in the collection room, 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.



Edgeboro Pictures!

As you take pictures at church, please remember to share them with us!
Send them to: edgeboropictures@gmail.com.

Monthly Highlights

Elders

- The Elders last met on Thursday, April 10th. Their next meeting will be on Thursday, May 8th.
- The Elders sent out condolences, milestone birthday & anniversary, and get well correspondences.
- Reports and discussions from CEC & Youth, Fellowship, House, Outreach & Collections, Sacristans, and Trustees.
- Discussions about the Congregation & Board Survey, Membership and Synod 2026.
- Worship planning for throughout May.
- Rt. Rev. Chris Giesler's last Sunday with us will be May 18, 2025.
- Joyful Noise recipients for upcoming months were chosen. May: Nepal Mission Outreach, June: Camp Hope, July: Northeast Community Center, August: TBD, September: Valley Youth House. October & November: Moravian Open Door

Trustees

- The Trustees met on April 24th. Their next meeting is Thursday, May 15th.
- Reports from the following committees were given: CEC & Youth, Elders, Evangelism & Outreach, Fellowship & House, Finance & Audit, and Stewardship & Financial Communications, Treasurers.
- Walk through of the parsonage was completed and repairs necessary noted. We are looking for volunteers to help with repairs.
- The new Trex bench is assembled and placed with the others. Thank you Joe Testa!

Joint Board

- The Joint Board last met on April 28th. They are continuing to work with the EDEB through the call process.

Mother's Day

Sunday, May 11, 2025

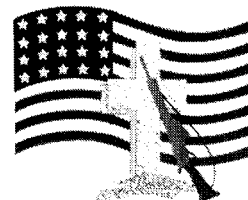


MOMS ARE THE BEST

Memorial Day

Monday May 26, 2025

REMEMBER THOSE WHO SERVED



ALL GAVE SOME, SOME GAVE ALL

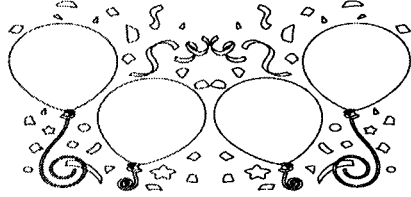
Fellowship

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



May Birthdays

- 1) Shauna Moller
- 2) Nicole Freed
- 4) Andrew Batson
- 5) Donna Henning
- 6) Kyle Sergeant
- 7) Diane Aker-Vought
Kathie Smyser
- 9) Michael Horwath
Joseph Volkert
- 10) Abigail Lovell
- 12) Bradley Williamson
- 13) Thomas Ruhf
- 14) Blake Messman
- 15) Amanda Borowski
Ronald Freyman
- 17) Mary Williamson
- 21) Jayden Eldridge
David Swanson
- 23) Emily Campanella
Allen Frank
- 24) Jeffrey Minnich
- 25) Arohn Testa
- 29) Linda Kunsman
- 30) Cassidy Baer
Steven Rohn
- 31) Sylvia Cusatis



May Anniversaries

- 3) Abiel & Alexandre Solitario
- 4) Robert & Bridget Frank
- 5) John & Laura Bannon
- 10) Heath & Val Hoff
Kyle & Jamie Sergeant
- 13) Kyle & Amanda Borowski
- 14) Stephen & Traci Millheim
- 15) Brent & Nancy Sergeant
- 21) Johanna & Ronald Heft
Bruce & Amy Weikert
- 22) Craig & Laura Neiman
- 25) Thomas & Shannon Balsai
- 26) Deb & Peter Hepler
- 29) Jarrett & Melissa Hoff

Thanks!



Dear members Edgeboro Moravian Church,

On behalf of the Board of Directors of Bethlehem Emergency Sheltering, Inc. our dedicated volunteers, and especially our street neighbors, I would like to express our heartfelt gratitude for your tax-deductible donation of \$95.00, dated March 13, 2025. Your congregation's generosity plays a vital role in providing shelter and a supportive network to restore hope to those experiencing homelessness in Bethlehem.

Your contribution will be directed toward supporting men and women in our community who seek emergency overnight shelter, nutritious evening meals, and essential support services.

Should you have any questions about Bethlehem Emergency Sheltering, Inc. or wish to learn more, please feel free to contact the office at (484)379-6694.

Thank you once again for your kindness and support.

Peace and blessings,
Robert "Bob" T. Rapp, Jr.
Executive Director

Thank You, Steve Henning!

The Board of Trustees would like to express gratitude to Steve Henning for his dedication and years of service on the Board of Trustees. His leadership as the Board Chair was greatly appreciated. Thank you, Steve, for all of your hard work.

A BLAST FROM THE PAST

BEEF BARBECUE

From Mrs. Richard Grebs

- 1lb. Ground beef
- 1/2 c chopped onion
- 1/4 c. chopped celery
- 1/4 c. chopped green peppers
- 1 can tomato paste

- 1 can water
- 1 Tbsp. sugar
- 1 Tbsp. vinegar
- 1/2 c. catsup
- 1 tsp. Worcestershire sauce

salt and pepper

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

May Children's Birthdays

- 6) Brady Rohn
- 7) Mila George
- 12) Daisy Bannon
- 16) Kayla Drust
- 22) Maxwell Beller
- 26) Addison Giesler
- 29) Theodore Maritch
- 30) Michael Giesler

Sunday		Monday		Tuesday		Wednesday		Thursday		Friday		Saturday	
27	9:15am Adult Sunday School 9:30am Youth Sunday School 10:30am Worship	28 6:00pm Girl Scouts 7:00pm Joint Board Meeting	29	29	30 6:30pm Girl Scouts Troop 8417	1	2	3					
4	9:15am Adult Sunday School 9:30am Church Breakfast 9:30am Youth Sunday School 10:30am Worship - Fellowship Hall	5 6:00pm Girl Scouts	6 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal	7 6:30pm Girl Scouts Troop 8417	8 7:00pm Elders meeting	9	10						
11 Mother's Day	9:15am Adult Sunday School 9:30am Benevolence Breakfast 9:30am Youth Sunday School 10:30am Worship - Christian Family Lovefeast/ Joyful Noise	12 9:30am Palette Club Board Meeting 6:00pm Girl Scouts	13	14 6:30pm Girl Scouts Troop 8417	15 7:00pm Trustees Meeting	16	17						
18 Moravian Music Sunday	9:15am Adult Sunday School 9:30am Youth Sunday School 10:30am Worship 1:30pm Palette Club Group	19 6:00pm Girl Scouts	20 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal	21 6:30pm Girl Scouts Troop 8417	22	23	24						
25	9:15am Adult Sunday School 10:30am Worship - Baptism	26 Memorial Day 6:00pm Girl Scouts	27	28 6:30pm Girl Scouts Troop 8417	29	30	31						



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

Find us at edgeboromoravian.org or 610.866-8793

Office Administrator: Carole Burkhardt
churchoffice@edgeboromoravian.org

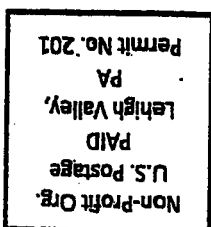
Office Hours: Mon.- Fri. 9:00am-1:00pm

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