



Edgeboro Moravian Church's Newsletter

The Envoy

Est. 1943

January 2026, Volume 84, Issue 11

The new year is upon us and I can't help but wonder how that is possible. Where did the past twelve months go? What have I done with all of the time that has passed? Where have I traveled? With whom have I spent time? With whom did I fail to spend time? What did I fail to do? Have I lived my life in such a way that people I come in contact with will know that I am a Christian based on my words and actions? Have I been a good mom and wife? A good pastor and friend? Basically, I find myself wondering if I've done my best to be a good person.

I think I know the answers to these questions, and I have to tell you, I know that I can do better. So, what about you? Have you spent the past twelve months trying your best to be a good person? I'll let you ponder that for a few minutes while you read the rest of this. When I say a good person, I'm not saying perfect, I'm simply saying good. We all have moments of anger, we have moments of frustration, we have moments of wanting to just walk away and to stop trying. We do not always say the nicest things, we insult people, we judge people and we are sometimes just plain mean to people. We do not show the love and respect that we want others to show us. We do not offer grace when someone messes up instead, we point out their flaws and errors. We all fall short of being good at one time or another. And as long as our times of being good outweigh our times of not being good, then I think we will all be ok.

So, what can we do to be good people? Dare I even say, better people? What do we have to change about ourselves to improve who we are and how we treat people? Maybe we could learn from some kids around us. When my boys were younger, they watched a show called Daniel Tiger's Neighborhood, it's on PBS and it's sort of a reincarnation of Mr. Rogers' Neighborhood. With the exception of Mr. Rogers himself, and the fact that it's a cartoon, it's basically all of the same characters teaching the same lessons that Mr. Rogers himself tried to teach a few generations of us. There's a song about how to react when you can't get what you want and the way to help yourself feel better is to stomp three times. (I've tried it, maybe not stomping as loud as I would like, but I stomped and it helped) There's an episode about Daniel being angry and when he would get angry he would roar. The song that goes with this episode starts with the words "When you feel so mad that you wanna roar, take a deep breath, and count to 4." I'm not one to roar, but I do get angry. And I will admit, there are still times when I find myself counting to four or often times higher to not respond with anger. (I don't always succeed.)

Another thing that I have noticed my kids doing over the years is telling people when they like something about them. We were in line at some store once and a guy easily a foot taller than me and looking like big football player, had on (according to Ben) "really cool shoes." So I said to him, go tell him you like them. Ben walked over, tapped the guy on the elbow and said excuse me, at first the guy looked a bit annoyed, but once Ben paid him a compliment, a smile came across his face and he said, "thanks little man." Another time there was a young guy with "really cool hair", so Ben again said excuse me to the young man and complimented his hair. I've never seen a sullen looking teenager get such a big smile so quickly before in my life.

So, as we enter a new year, with 365 pages of unwritten history, let us all do so remembering the message of Advent: spread God's Hope, Peace, Joy and Love with everyone you encounter. The miracle of Christmas may just surprise you!

Be Blessed a Be a Blessing!
Pastor Jodie

Sunday Schedule & Volunteers

January 4

9:15am Adult Sunday School
 9:30am Youth Sunday School
 10:30am Worship—*Communion, Joyful Noise*

Elder: Valorie Hoff
Sacristans: Heath & Valorie Hoff
Ushers: Joe & Sue Testa
Nursery: Carole Schachter

January 11

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

Elder: Kyle Borowski
Sacristans: John & Paula Horn
Ushers: Rodney Sargent
Nursery: Lynn Terry

January 18

9:00am Benevolence Breakfast
 9:15am Adult Sunday School
 9:30am Youth Sunday School
 10:30am Worship—
 11:30am Church Council Meeting

Elder: Spencer Smith
Sacristans: Mike & Terri Long
Ushers: Bob & Elley Silfies
Nursery: Jenny Minnich

January 25

9:15am Adult Sunday School
 9:30am Youth Sunday School
 10:30am Worship

Elder: Tim Jones
Sacristans: Thomas & Gilda Pheiffer; Peggy Leith
Ushers: Heath & Valorie Hoff
Nursery: Valorie Hoff

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 Bethlehem Emergency Shelter. Place your offerings in the Joyful Noise can in the sanctuary or make a gift to Edgeboro online, designating your gift for "Joyful Noise."
- **Church Council Reporting**—If you head up a ministry at Edgeboro and would like to include it in the report to Church Council, please submit it to the church office, churchoffice@edgeboromoravian.org, no later than January 12th.
- **Benevolence Breakfast**— Sunday, January 18 9:00am. Stay after for worship at 10:30am and Church Council Meeting after worship ends.
- **Directory Updates**—The church office is continually collecting updates for the directory. If any of your contact information has changed (address, phone, email, etc.), let us know at churchoffice@edgeboromoravian.org.

6 | Worship Attendance (In-Person + Online)

Nov.	2024 in person	2024 online	2025 in person	2025 online	Key: ENS: Ensemble FSA: First Sunday Advent P: Pageant ONLINE Includes: YouTube & Facebook views
Week 1	90 (FSA)	49	100	199	
Week 2	72 (ENS)	53	47 (snow)	266	
Week 3	147 (P)	37	146 (ENS)(P)	249	
Dec 24 3pm	182	258	168	379	
Dec 24 5pm	138	103	101	196	
Dec 24 7 pm	85	97	107	311	
Week 4	51	75	53	311	

Monthly Financial Update

	November	Total Revenue Year to Date	
		Through November 30, 2025	
Monthly Budgeted Revenue	\$25,665		
Total Income	\$19,688	2024	\$195,419
Over (Under) Budget	\$(5,977)	2025	\$184,081
Year to Date Shortfall	\$(28,340)	% Change	-5.8%

- **Make a Gift to Edgeboro Online**—Scan the QR code to 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.



Church News & Events

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

- **Volunteer to help with dinners at Bethlehem Emergency Shelter** The second Monday of each month, Edgeboro provides dinner for the Bethlehem Emergency Shelter. There is an eclectic group of folks who help but new volunteers are always welcome. If you feel called to do this, please contact Blake Messman, the volunteer coordinator for the dinners supplied by Edgeboro Moravian. **Dates of the dinners are: January 12, February 9, March 9, & April 13.**
- **Snow Removal Team** is preparing ahead for the upcoming season. If you can help, please contact Art Sergent. The church owns 2 snowblowers and plenty of shovels. Many hands make light work!
- **Seniors & Friends—West Side Moravian 402 3rd Ave, Thursday January 8th, 11:30am** Bring a Friend & a Sandwich Beverage and Dessert will be Provided! The front door located on 3rd Ave. will be open for easier access to our meetings. Barbara Morgan-Hatley will be instructing us on making our own personalized tote bag with stencils, and fabric paint. Everything will be provided, but if anyone has stencils and wishes to share, bring them with you.
- **Community MLK Day Celebration Sunday, January 18; 2:00-5:00pm, Foy Hall, Moravian University South Campus.** Co-sponsored by Second Baptist Church, Central Moravian, Bethlehem Interfaith Group, Moravian Theological Seminary, and BAM. Beginning at 2:00pm in the lobby of Foy Hall, journey through history while enjoying light refreshments as young members of Second Baptist embody historical figures including Harriet Tubman, Rosa Parks, and Dr. King. At 3:00pm presentations celebrating Dr. King's interfaith legacy will begin in Foy Hall Auditorium with speakers from Jewish and Muslim traditions sharing their insights. Music and dance performances on stage will follow as well as a renowned performer presenting Dr. King's oratory. Parking is available in Moravian University's lot on South Campus and in the Spring Street lot.
- **Moravian Music Foundation Opportunities**
Monday Morning Music: Join Kyle Johnston, at the keyboard, Mondays at 10am on the MMF You Tube Channel as he plays through a variety of hymns from multiple sources. Hear old favorites, discover new favorites, and relax to the sound of classic hymns at home, in your office or on your commute. Recordings are also available.
Monthly Shape-Note Sing: (Lehigh Valley Shape-Note Singers) **6:00-8:00pm Every 4th Tuesday,** Come join Kyle Johnston and the Lehigh valley Shape Note Singers in learning to sing an authentic, historic American style of singing. Singers of all ages and skill levels are welcome. **Godfrey Daniels, 7 E. 4th St. in Bethlehem.** For more information, please contact Corinne Serfass at c.e.serfass@gmail.com
- **Bethlehem Moravian Archives Volunteers Needed** Throughout the years, the Archives has relied on volunteers to help in carrying out our mission of service to the Church and community. Volunteers, staff, our reception area, work with genealogy researchers, assist in the digitization of our print and photo resources, generate searchable typescript documents from our manuscript collections, and remind us daily with their enthusiasm and dedication just what a joy it is to work here. To learn more and apply, visit: moravianarchives.org/volunteers/
- **EHMC Kids Club "BLAST"** East Hills Moravian Church is excited to announce the launch of "B.L.A.S.T. - Fourth Friday Fun Nights". This is a brand new free after school kids' program for children in **1st-5th grade.** It will run **January - June 2026** on the **4th Friday of each month** from **3:45-5:30 pm.** For more information, visit: tinyurl.com/2d6yrs22
- **Community Yoga at West Side Moravian 402 3rd Ave, Bethlehem, Saturdays 9:00am-10:00am \$5 Donation.** Drop in or register online at linktr.ee@jennrehillyoga. Bring a yoga mat and water. Some mats & props are available to borrow **Contact Jen Rehill: 717.903-9663 or jenrehillyoga@gmail.com**
- **Essentials Café** Monday evenings are food prep nights for the café at West Side Moravian Church. If you plan to attend, contact West Side Moravian at: westsidemoravian@gmail.com or **610.865-0256.** The café is always in need of additional volunteers. Visit essentialscafe.org/volunteer to learn more and sign up to volunteer. The café is open Tuesdays through Saturdays, 8:00am-2:00pm. **Pay It Forward Wooden Nickels** - Wooden Nickels offer an opportunity to provide a meal for someone else. Stop by the café and pick up wooden nickels for the suggested price of \$12.00 each. Each wooden nickel can be redeemed for a nourishing meal. There are two ways to provide meals to others: **1.** Place a wooden nickel in our jar, kept on the counter. paying it forward for our guest that may not be able to make a donation for their meal. **2.** Purchase a wooden nickel and give it to a friend in need, or a neighbor who may be working hard and simply too tired to cook, or give it as a gift to someone who gave you a helping hand, sharing with them your experience at Essentials Café.

Item Collections & Drives

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

INDOOR DROP-OFF—Bring all items to the donation room (“Old office”).

OUTDOOR DROP-OFF—Place your items in the donation drop-off shed located at the corner of the building right off the parking lot.

- **ONGOING: Trex Plastic Recycling Program**—Edgeboro is collecting plastic! Since we began the program in February 2020, Edgeboro and the Bethlehem Moravian congregations have recycled **over six tons of plastic!** Accepted plastics include: pallet wrap and stretch film, grocery bags, bread bags, case overwrap, dry cleaning bags, newspaper sleeves, ice bags, wood pellet bags, Ziploc bags, produce bags, bubble wrap and air pillows, salt bags, and cereal bags. (NOTE: All plastic must be clean, dry, and free of food residue.)
Recycling drop off schedule: January 10: Blake Messman; February 14: Jon Terry; March 14: Tom Pheiffer
- **ONGOING: Hygiene Items for Northeast Community Center (NECC)**—In June, NECC is opening a new section of their food pantry for hygiene items. To help get this started, Edgeboro is collecting the following hygiene items: anti-bacterial wipes, hand soap, laundry detergent, menstrual products, mouthwash, and tissues.

Monthly Highlights

Elders

- The Elders last met on Thursday, December 4th. Their next meeting will be on Thursday, January 8th.
- Cards were sent for birthday, thanks and condolences.
- Reports from CEC & Youth, Fellowship, House, Outreach & Collections, Sacristans, Membership, Trustees, & Pastor Jodie were given.
- We have 12 in the confirmation class currently.
- Benevolence breakfast date possibilities were discussed.
- We are seeing volunteers to host the reception for Birthday Sundays.
- Edgeboro sponsored gifts for 50 children through Northeast Community Center. All spots have been filled. Thank you for your generosity for those children during this Christmas season.
- Collections for the Reverse Advent Calendar have started

Trustees

- The Trustees last met on Wednesday, December 18th. The Trustees will meet next on Thursday, January 15th (Hybrid).
- Committee reports were given from CEC & Youth, Elders, Evangelism & Outreach, Fellowship & House, Putz, Finance & Audit, and the Stewardship & Financial Communications Committees, as well as Pastor, Treasurer and Ministry Maintenance & Updates.
- Mike Jones & Jane Martin have agreed to perform the 2025 audit. Mike will be sure to make himself available online while in sunny Florida. They have already started the checklist!
- Joe Testa, Carole Schachter, Peggy Leith, & Ryan Beller have agreed to remain check signers for the 2026 Fiscal Calendar Year.
- Carole Schachter and Jane Martin visited the Archives to research the establishment of the Memorial Trust Fund. It was first mentioned in December 1958. They found that there are no restrictions on how this money can be used, so the trustees agreed to mark the funds as unrestricted.
- The trustees voted to change payroll companies to save approximately \$500 a year with improved services.
- The trustees want to acknowledge Joe Testa, Peggy Leith, and Lacey Bacon for their magnificent representation of the Edgeboro family in their duties to the Board of Trustees over the past six (6) years!
- Giving envelopes are NOT being mailed. They are available in the church for pick-up.

Church Council

- The next meeting will be held Sunday, January 18, 2026 after the worship service. Please do your best to attend.

Fellowship

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



A BLAST FROM THE PAST

Spicy Nut Candy

Mrs. Robert Englebrecht

2 Tbsp. Cold water

3/4 tsp. cinnamon

1 egg white, lightly beaten

3/4 tsp. ginger

1/2 c. sugar

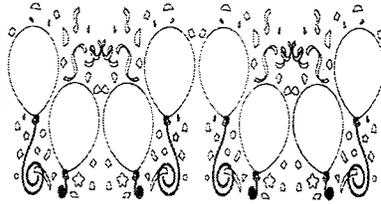
1/4 tsp. Cloves

1/2 tsp. salt

2 c. nuts, walnuts & pecans

Add water to egg white. Combine sugar with salt and spices. Add to egg white and water and mix until sugar is dissolved. Add nuts, stirring to coat. Drop by spoonful, arranging nuts flat side down on buttered cookie sheets. Bake in 250 degree oven for 45 minutes or until golden brown.

January Birthdays



3) Kayleigh Gross

Sherri Hoff

5) Nancy Duro

Lori Emig

Jace Joff

6) Daniel Bucchin

8) Nancy Bartleman

Elizabeth Bucchin

Tayte Messman

9) James Clause

10) William Horwath

13) Leahanna Gairbekova

Brian Lauderman

14) Allison Hoff

15) Camryn Hoff

Jocelyn Perkins

16) Gayle Justice

Earl Kunsman, Jr.

Treyton Messman

Louis Pagano

Rodney Sergent

17) Sara George

20) Rick Grebs

21) Debra Swanson

22) Sally Abruzzese

Benjamin Courtade

23) Sasha Cheer

Linda Lindemuth

27) Cheryl Baker

Louis Pagano

29) Rachel Rumble

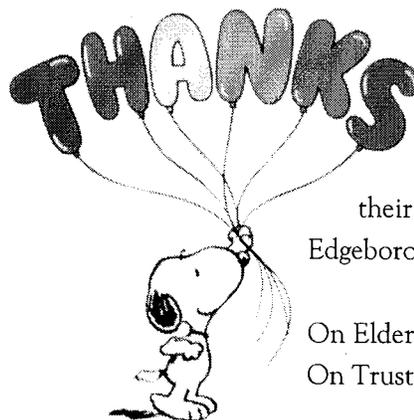
30) Justin Hoff

January Anniversaries

2) Steven & Courney Rohn

20) Nelson & Sherri Hoff

Happy New Year



The Joint Board would like to acknowledge the following people for their magnificent representation serving our Edgeboro Congregation in performing their duties.

On Elders for 3 years: Abiel Solitario

On Trustees for 6 years: Lacey Bacon



we are having Benevolence
Breakfast and Church Council
on January 18th

January Children Birthdays

2) Clarke Ammon

7) Beau Weiller

23) Charlotte Maritch

24) Ella Bannon

Church Directory

UPDATE



Mrs. Katherine Kendall
675 Willow Valley Sq. Room 447
Lancaster PA 17602-4874

Dan & Barb Heimbrook
2641 Terrwood Dr. W.
Macungie PA 18062

January 2026

Edgeboro Moravian Church

Sunday		Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28 9:15am Adult Sunday School 9:30am Youth Sunday School 10:30am Worship	29	30	31	1  Church office closed	2	3	
4 9:15am Adult Sunday School 9:30am Youth Sunday School 10:30am Worship	5 7:00pm Darts vs. Fritz Wesleyan	6 6:00pm Girl Scouts troop 81139 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal	7 6:30pm Girl Scout Troop 8417	8 7:00pm Elders meeting	9	10	
11 9:15am Adult Sunday School 9:30am Youth Sunday School 10:30am Worship 5:00pm Confirmation class	12 9:30am Palette Club Board Meeting 7:00pm Darts @ Bethany UCC	13	14	15 7:00pm Trustees Meeting	16	17	
18 9:00am Benevolence Breakfast 9:15am Adult Sunday School 9:30am Youth Sunday School 10:30am Worship 11:30am Church Council Meeting 1:30pm Palette Club Group	19  7:00pm Darts @ Star of Bethlehem	20 6:00pm Girl Scouts troop 81139 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal	21 6:30pm Girl Scout Troop 8417	22	23	24	
25 9:15am Adult Sunday School 9:30am Youth Sunday School 10:30am Worship 5:00pm Confirmation class	26 7:00pm Darts @ Holy Cross	27	28	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

Pastor: Rev. Jodie Harney

pastorjodie@edgeboromoravian.org

Find us at edgeboromoravian.org or 610.866-8793

Office Administrator: Carole Burkhardt

churchoffice@edgeboromoravian.org

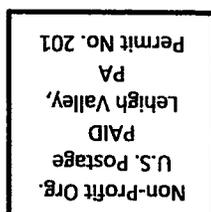
Office Hours: Mon.- Fri. 9:00am-1:00pm

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