



**COLLEGE HILL
MORAVIAN CHURCH**

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Office hours: Monday – Friday
9:00 AM – 1:00 PM*

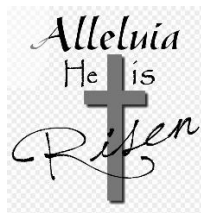
Rev. Christine Johnson
Pastor

Ms. Gwyneth Michel
Minister of Music

Ms. Kelly Schmidt
Office Coordinator

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April 2026



The Mission of College Hill Moravian Church
is to learn, share, live Christ's love!

April 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
29	30	Mar 31	1	2	3	4
PALM SUNDAY 10:00 AM Worship 11:00 AM Fellowship Hour	1:00 PM Holy Week Readings 5:30 PM Narcotics Anonymous	9:00 AM Bethlehem Palette Club 10:30 AM Book Club 1:00 PM Holy Week Readings 5:30 PM Debtors Anonymous	10:00 AM Tai Chi 1:00 PM Holy Week Readings 6:30 PM Elders meeting	MAUNDY THURSDAY 12:00 PM AARP Tax Aide 7:00 PM Maundy Thursday Communion	GOOD FRIDAY 10:00 AM Tai Chi 7:00 PM Good Friday Worship	SACRISTANS' SANCTUARY PREP
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
EASTER SUNDAY 6:00 AM Easter Dawn Service 10:00 AM Easter Sunday Worship	OFFICE CLOSED FOR EASTER MONDAY 10:00 AM Embroiderers Guild 5:30 PM Narcotics Anonymous	9:00 AM Bethlehem Palette Club 5:30 PM Debtors Anonymous 6:30 PM DARTS – RESCHEDULE DATE	10:00 AM Tai Chi 7:00 PM Trustees meeting	NO CHOIR REHEARSAL 12:00 PM AARP Tax Aide 6:15 PM Bell Choir rehearsal	Pastor Chris' Sabbath 10:00 AM Tai Chi	8:00 AM COT making sandwiches for BES 9:00 AM Coffee & Conversation 1:00 PM Joint Board meeting
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
JOYFUL NOISE SUNDAY 10:00 AM Children's Sunday School (during worship) 10:00 AM Worship 11:00 AM Fellowship Hour +3 more	5:30 PM Narcotics Anonymous	9:00 AM Bethlehem Palette Club 5:30 PM Debtors Anonymous	10:00 AM Tai Chi	Moravian Music Foundation Board Retreat		
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
10:00 AM Worship 11:00 AM Fellowship Hour	5:30 PM Narcotics Anonymous 6:00 PM CEC meeting 7:15 PM Discipleship Team meeting	9:00 AM Bethlehem Palette Club 5:30 PM Debtors Anonymous	10:00 AM Tai Chi	4:00 PM Choir rehearsal 6:15 PM Bell Choir rehearsal	Pastor Chris' Sabbath 10:00 AM Tai Chi	SPRING CRAFT SHOW
26	27	28	29	30	May 1	2
HOCK BAPTISM 10:00 AM Children's Sunday School (during worship) 10:00 AM Worship 11:00 AM Fellowship Hour 2:00 PM Unitas rehearsal	MAY BUILDER SUBMISSIONS DUE TO THE OFFICE PASTOR CHRIS ON VACATION 5:30 PM Narcotics Anonymous	PASTOR CHRIS ON VACATION 9:00 AM Bethlehem Palette Club 10:30 AM Book Club 5:30 PM Debtors Anonymous	PASTOR CHRIS ON VACATION 10:00 AM Tai Chi	PASTOR CHRIS ON VACATION 9:00 AM Newsletter Folding Team 4:00 PM Choir rehearsal 6:15 PM Bell Choir rehearsal	Pastor Chris' Sabbath 10:00 AM Tai Chi	
3	4	Notes				
JOYFUL NOISE SUNDAY 10:00 AM Worship 11:00 AM Fellowship Hour	PASTOR CHRIS ON VACATION 10:00 AM Embroiderers Guild 1:00 PM Contra Dance bringing items to CHMC 5:30 PM Narcotics 6:30 PM COT					

The Builder

72 West Laurel Street • Bethlehem, Pennsylvania 18018 • 610-867-8291 • Fax 610-865-3067

www.collegehillmoravian.org • email: church@collegehillmoravian.org

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Don't Hold Your Breath

I was six years old and riding, unstrained, in the way-back compartment of a cavernous station wagon belonging to my best friend Helen's mom. With three other of her sisters in the car with us, we were a giggly gang telling elephant jokes and singing along with the radio at the top of our voices. Until we weren't. The cacophony ceased as soon as the front bumper of the enormous vehicle came even with the edge of a graveyard we were passing by. Everyone but me took a big gulp of air and held it—their cheeks ballooning out like puffer fish—until we reached the other end of the long block, clearing the cemetery. They all exhaled and Mrs. Thomas uttered, “Gracias a Dios.”

Then the four sisters stared at me as though I'd done something wrong. And I stared at them, unsure of what had just happened.

“You didn't hold your breath,” Helen exclaimed, wide-eyed!

I shrugged, ignorant of whatever protocol they were practicing, and asked, “Why did you?”

As she was prone to, Mrs. Thomas muttered, “Ay, caramba!”

Helen answered emphatically, “Everybody knows that you have to hold your breath when you go past a cemetery so you don't accidentally suck up a ghost.”

Well, no. I hadn't been aware of that superstition. In fact, just weeks before, I had stood in the middle of a cemetery, in the cold dark, holding my dad's hand. Our minister talked, a band of older kids played hymns, people sang along, and we watched the sun come up. We all breathed normally. Nothing scary. And then we all went to the church for breakfast. Easter.

And sometimes on summer days, my mom would go to the cemetery just to take a walk. She'd tell me about it being her favorite place when she was a girl, and how she used to pack a picnic, bring along a book, and spend the afternoon under one of the big shade trees. She found it peaceful.

It would be years until I learned the term “God's Acre,” the preferred agricultural nomenclature in Moravian circles, but I innately seemed to grasp at a very young age that the sacred real estate of a burial ground is more blessed than cursed. I've always experienced cemeteries as gentle spaces where hope is cultivated and fear is weeded out. More importantly, I seem to have let that understanding inform my approach to faith. It's what causes me to want to stand out there in the pre-dawn moments of Easter, embracing the freshness of a new day, the renewed sense of spiritual possibilities, and the overwhelming wonder of Jesus Christ, risen like the morning sun. This is Resurrection. There's no need to hold my breath.

Exhaling,

Pastor Chris

APRIL WORSHIP HIGHLIGHTS

HOLY WEEK

Palm Sunday

Sunday, March 29 at 10:00 AM

Sing “The Hosanna!” Wave a palm blade! Listen to the lovely sounds of the handbell and vocal choirs. And in the midst of celebrating Jesus’ arrival in Jerusalem, recognize that he is boldly challenging the system and letting loose the dramatic events to follow.

Readings for Holy Week

Monday, March 30,

Tuesday, March 31

Wednesday, April 1 at 1:00 PM

Making use of the traditional Moravian book, *Readings for Holy Week*, we’ll gather informally in Fellowship Hall, circle up our chairs, and read/sing through the scriptural account containing Jesus’ teachings and the events of Holy Week. Come for one, two, or all three sessions. Volunteer your voice to the telling of the story or simply follow along and listen. **PLEASE NOTE the time change from previous years; and be ready to greet fellow worshippers from West Side and Central Moravian churches!**

Maundy Thursday

Thursday, April 2 at 7:00 PM

Worship and Holy Communion

We remember the loving way Jesus first gathered his people around him in an Upper Room and shared in the tender act of serving The Lord’s Supper on a consequential evening. As Jesus’ contemporary disciples, we too will spend sacred time at The Table communing with Jesus and with one another.

Good Friday

Friday, April 3 at 7:00 PM

Sundown & Shadows Worship

Good Friday is the darkest day of the Church Year—the day on which Jesus was executed. In worship, we will recreate the experience of losing The Light of the World.

Easter

Sunday, April 5

Easter Dawn Service

6:00 AM in the Central Moravian

Church Sanctuary

and continuing at God’s Acre

Greet the sunrise and remember the Sunrise! Since 1732, Moravian Christians have begun Easter Morning with a visit to a cemetery—God’s Acre. In Bethlehem, the tradition dates back to 1743. Worshiping with friend-travelers from other Bethlehem area Moravian Churches and accompanied by the Bethlehem Trombone Choir makes for a touching remembrance of the very first Easter morning.

Celebration Worship

10:00 AM in the College Hill

Moravian Church Sanctuary

Smile! Sing! Worship! And when the minister proclaims, “The Lord is risen,” be ready with your joyful response: “The Lord is risen indeed!” If Good Friday is the darkest day of the Church Year, Easter is the brightest. Hope comes alive on Easter. Join us!

HOLY HUMOR

WORSHIP SERVICE



Sunday, April 12 at 10:00 AM

The joy of Easter cannot be contained in just one Sunday! We will continue the celebration of Jesus’ resurrection with a joy-filled service complete with jokes and laughter. You are encouraged to wear bright colors, silly hats, or your most joyful attire. Join us!

Care of Creation/Earth Day

Sunday, April 19 at 10:00 AM

Celebration of Baptism

for Emilia Hock

Sunday, April 26 at 10:00 AM

UPCOMING EVENTS

SPECIAL MEETING

of the CHURCH COUNCIL

Sunday, April 12, 2026

11:45 AM in person and on Zoom

An unexpected opportunity has presented itself and the Joint Board is enthusiastically recommending it for the congregation’s consideration. A Montessori School currently housed at West Side Moravian Church will soon be displaced due to the repurposing of that church’s building. The school is seeking to relocate within the College Hill Moravian Church building. A task group was established to thoroughly study the advantages and challenges of such an arrangement and has concluded it would be mutually beneficial for both the school and for our congregation.

The sole scope of the Special Church Council meeting will be this matter.

INTERGENERATIONAL

FAITH EVENT

Sunday, May 3 at 11:00 AM

Fellowship Hall

Join us for a relaxed time of connection as we gather across generations for a time of faith, conversation, and fun. Let’s POP into talking about faith with one another as we enjoy a popcorn snack while creating space to share stories, listen deeply, and discover how God is at work in each of our lives.

SPRING CLEANUP DAY

The Trustees ask that you come out on **Saturday, May 9, from 9 AM–noon** for our Spring Church Cleanup Day. There are many chores that need to be undertaken. Helping to tidy, clean and polish our church is important, enabling members and visitors to experience God in a welcoming environment. Our custodian takes care of the week-to-week cleaning and each year we ask for your help to attend to bigger

clean-up tasks. We will be working inside and outside by weeding, trimming, washing, polishing, dusting, etc. Please come out for a few hours on this day. There are many rooms that have not had a good cleaning in several years.

GLORIA REISINGER MEMORIAL SERVICE

A Celebration of Life service for Gloria Reisinger will take place on **Saturday, May 30 at 1:00 PM** at College Hill Moravian Church.



A NOTE FROM MARIE KEIM

My dear friends from College Hill,

Thank you for all of your prayers and lovely cards during my recuperation from my unplanned accident and then my planned surgery. All of you have been so kind to think of me.

– Marie Keim

IN MEMORIAM STEVE HITCHO

Our brother in Christ, Steve Hitcho, entered the Savior's nearer presence on March 18, 2026. Please hold his family in your hearts, especially his wife, Janet; and his children, Stephen P. Hitcho (Susan) and Rebecca E. Fahringer.

A full obituary can be found at <https://www.cantelmifuneralhome.com/obituaries/Stephen-Hitcho?obId=47788371>

In lieu of flowers, memorials can be made in Stephen's memory to St. Luke's Hospice, c/o St. Luke's Hospital Development Center, 801 Ostrum St., Bethlehem, PA 18015.

A NOTE FROM CAROL MESSINA

Many thanks to all who attended the reception for me for my 90th birthday

after the service on March 22. All the good wishes, smiles, hugs, kind words, cards helped make it such a lovely day.

– Carol Messina

SAVE YOUR SHOEBOXES

They will be used as carryout boxes for the coleus flower sale in May. They can be put at the front of the stage. This is a great way to recycle them. Only looking for shoeboxes— not boot boxes (too big) Thank you.

BULLETIN BOARD PHOTOS

You're invited to choose one, two or as many photos as you like!! These photos have been on College Hill's bulletin board and now we would like to share them with you!

As photos are replaced on the bulletin board the ones taken down will be placed on the table closest to the kitchen. Please enjoy these photos as you add to your photo collection.

COFFEE & CONVERSATION

Coffee and Conversation will meet in Fellowship Hall on **Saturday, April 9 from 9 AM-10:30 AM**. If you have any questions, please contact Linda Toggart at 610-217-1971 by phone or text.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Children's Sunday School is held twice a month during the 10 AM Worship service. The children attend the opening moments of worship with their families, and are then dismissed, along with their teachers, to the Sunday School classroom for a lesson, crafts, music and treats.

Sunday School will be held on April 12 & 26 and May 3 & 17

We hope that you will mark your calendars and bring your children, grandchildren, and their friends to share in the fun.

If you are interested in helping with Sunday School, please contact Alan Bosch.

COLLEGE HILL BOOK CLUB

The College Hill book group continues to meet on the last Tuesday of each month at 10:30 AM in Fellowship Hall or Room 4 if the hall is being used.

Tuesday, March 31 *The Berry Pickers* by Amanda Peters

Tuesday, April 28 *The Art of Racing in the Rain* by Garth Stein

All our welcome to join us! Contact Sue Youtz for further updates. 610-751-0654/syoutz@ptd.net

FELLOWSHIP TIME HOSTS NEEDED!

We are in need of hosts for our after-worship fellowship time. Hosting involves making coffee and providing snacks for our weekly fellowship time, and cleaning up afterwards. Coffee, cold beverage mix, and gluten-free snacks are provided (if you wish) by the church. A sign-up page is available on the food table for your convenience. Please sign up for a date that is convenient for you. Feel free to pair up with someone and share the gift of hospitality. The Welcoming Committee members are happy to answer any questions. Thank you very much.

Lorna Rosnagle 610-248-9392
Rosemary Kleintop 610-730-5361

GROCERY GIFT CARD PROGRAM — IMPORTANT REMINDER!

We sell grocery gift cards for both Giant and Weis supermarkets. For each card that we sell, the Church earns .5% of the sale price. This program is the one fundraiser that continues year-round in the life of our Church. The more cards purchased, the more our church budget is supported. We strive to have on hand an ample supply of cards for both stores.

If you have any questions, or would like to purchase cards, please see either Caroline Pietkiewicz or Diane Abeles on Sunday. Happy shopping!

SUMMER PROGRAMS AT CAMP HOPE

Registrations are now being accepted at Camp Hope, our beloved Moravian church camp in New Jersey!

Please know that the College Hill congregation thoroughly supports young people who would like to attend a week of summer church camp programming, as does the Bethlehem Area Moravians (BAM) organization. For the third year in a row, College Hill is offering a pay-what-you-can option for church kids and friends. When registering for camp, simply cover as much of the cost as your family can reasonably handle. Once BAM scholarships are added in, the congregation will pay the amount leftover at the conclusion of the church camping season. Should anyone wish funding for a second session of camp, decisions will be made on availability of funds. If you have questions, please contact Pastor Chris.

Campership funds are made possible through the Joyful Noise Offering, investments like the Lisa Campbell Fund, and supplemented in other ways, including the proceeds of recycled aluminum collected in the "can trailer."

Here is the 2026 Camp Hope schedule:

Musical Theatre Camp: 6/28-7/4

\$585

Completed 5th-9th Grade this year

Limited to 30 campers

Primary Camp: 7/5-7/11

\$555

Completed 3rd or 4th Grade this year

Middler Camp: 7/12-7/18

\$555

Completed 5th or 6th Grade this year

Junior High Camp: 7/19-7/25

\$555

Completed 7th or 8th Grade this year

Senior High Camp: 7/26-8/1

\$555

Completed 9th, 10th, 11th or 12th this year

Junior Park Ranger Camp: 8/2-8/8

\$585

Completed 3rd - 6th Grade this year

Limited to 30 campers

Pre-Primary Camp: 8/2-8/5

\$370

Completed 1st or 2nd Grade this year

For more camping opportunities, visit <https://www.camphope.org/camp> to learn more and sign up.



LENT AND EASTER MUSIC

Our musicians are busily preparing for Holy Week and Easter, the most sacred season of the church year. Come, join us Palm Sunday when voices and handbells will join together to celebrate Christ's joyous entry into Jerusalem. Our worship deepens on Maundy Thursday as we observe the Last Supper and moves into a special service of reflection in word and music Good Friday, mourning the passing of our Lord. Join us again on Easter morning when instruments and voices come together to mark the glorious resurrection of our Savior, the Risen Lamb.



COT HAPPENINGS

William Penn Elementary School

Because of your generosity, we have already reached the goal of needed granola bars! Thank you, thank you,

thank you! Since William Penn doesn't have a lot of storage space, *we cannot collect anymore bars*. We will be labeling them with messages of encouragement and support **during Fellowship Hour on April 12**, and hope you will be able to help with this activity.

Items Requested by William Penn

We are continuing to collect school supplies for William Penn. All items can be placed on the COT table in Fellowship Hall or placed in the bins under the table.

Besides school supplies, the following items have also been requested: outside toys (jump ropes, sidewalk chalk, kickballs, footballs, etc.), tissues, hand sanitizer, and Lysol wipes. Thank you for your generosity in supporting our community school.

West Bethlehem

Emergency Food Pantry

Thank you for so many donated items this holiday season! Our gracious neighbors have helped fill our shelves for early winter. Looking ahead, the West Bethlehem Emergency Food Pantry at Star of Bethlehem Lutheran would love to have more:

- Cereal/oatmeal/pancake mix/granola bars
- Rice
- Peanut butter
- Shelf-stable milk
- Jelly
- Coffee/tea/hot chocolate
- Canned vegetables
- Personal care items
- Toilet paper/paper towels

The Pantry also accepts items that are past the "expired" or "best by" date. Please place your donations on the COT table or in the grocery cart in Fellowship Hall. Any and all donations are greatly appreciated!

Essentials Café

Wooden Nickel Fundraiser

Would you like to honor someone with a gift that has an immediate impact? Consider purchasing a card that states a wooden nickel (or

nickels) has been purchased in their honor. Each nickel costs \$12. The nickels are placed in a jar by the cash register in the cafe and can be used by anyone in need to “pay” for a meal. Our sincere thanks to everyone for helping to feed our neighbors!

Little Free Library

Our library is always in need of books, from board books to chapter books. Our library is geared to the children in the neighborhood, so no adult books please.

Donations can be placed in the baskets located in Fellowship Hall and the Narthex.

If you are interested in helping shelve and/or restock the library, please reach out to any member of the Community Outreach Ministry Team.

EARTH DAY IS APRIL 22

TREX plastic recycling is ongoing!

Earth Day is an annual event on April 22 to demonstrate support for environmental protection. I am proud that I attended the first Earth Day celebration in Fairmount Park in Philadelphia. It was alleged the FBI conducted surveillance at the 1970 demonstrations. I can confirm that they were easy to spot at this very radical event.

On Earth Day 2016, the landmark Paris Agreement was signed by the United States, the United Kingdom, China, and 120 other countries. This signing signified concern for the world through the historic climate protection treaty adopted by consensus of the 195 nations present at the 2015 United Nations Climate Change Conference in Paris.

Now Earth Day celebrations involved over 100 million people around the world, and it is now the world's largest civic observance.

So, the big question is, “Why does this matter?”

Plastic Pollution is a very real and growing threat to human health.

Microplastics in different forms are present in almost all water systems in the world, be they streams, rivers, lakes, or oceans. There is more microplastic in the ocean than there are stars in the Milky Way. And, by 2050 there will be more plastic in the oceans than there are fish (by weight).

How Much

Disposable Plastic Do We Use?

One million plastic bottles are purchased every minute worldwide, while up to five trillion plastic bags are used each year. Americans purchase about 50 billion water bottles per year, averaging about 13 bottles per month for every person in the U.S.! That means by using a reusable water bottle, you could save an average of 156 plastic bottles annually.

Besides that, there are no regulatory limits on the levels of microplastics in bottled water.

Single-Use Plastics

Annual flows of plastic into the ocean could be reduced by 80% by 2040 through reducing our consumption of single-use plastics and adopting eco-friendly alternatives. 79% of plastic that has ever been made still sits in landfills or the natural environment (with the exception of the small amount that has been incinerated or recycled)

What Can I Do?

I began recycling tin cans in 1970 and continue recycling as much as possible. I, personally, choose not to buy bottled water. I take my reusable bags from my car trunk into stores for shopping — not just grocery stores. I refuse bags when offered. And, when possible, I buy products not sold in plastic packaging. And, I choose to use real dishes for cooking, eating, and storing foods. I do this to worship God and care for his world.

Talk with me if you have questions about the College Hill plastic recycling program, or if you would like to help with it.

— Nena Asquith

TREX PLASTIC RECYCLING

There is a very **significant reduction** in our plastic collections!

Thank you! You must be accumulating less plastic. You are using your own bags for your shopping! (Some merchants offer a small credit for using your own bags, or they are no longer using plastic bags.) That's great! It keeps that much more out of our landfills.

OH NO! Is this downturn because you are forgetting to recycle? We need to do better! Until last year, we were collecting about 40+ pounds of plastic each month. Now we are collecting only 10 to 12 pounds.

I am excited about keeping plastic out of the landfills and environment. The reward is the occasional free bench. Whatever the motivation, bring your #2 and #4 plastic bags to church for our recycling program.

TREX has doubled the amount needed to receive a bench to 1,000 pounds. The BAM churches are continuing to work together. We take the #2 and #4 plastic bags that the Recycling Center is unable to take. BAM began this program over 5 years ago. Thus far, the six churches each have received several free benches in exchange for over 22,000 pounds of plastic. And, we have kept that 11 tons of plastic from polluting the waterways and roadways of our world.

Thank you for your continued efforts and plastic contributions. Plastic for our donation needs to be clean and dry. I put my donations in a bag hanging from a hook, then tie it up and drop it at church. The collection point is under the table by the stage in Fellowship Hall that is closest to the kitchen.

Many thanks to all who bring their plastic, the young people who help pack it up, and Kevin Harstine who helps with weighing and transporting the plastic for delivery.

If you would like to help with the actual recycling effort (other than donating plastic), please speak with Nena Asquith.

Guidelines for #2 and #4 plastic collection:

Acceptable plastics:

- ✓ Plastic shopping bags
- ✓ Produce and bread bags
- ✓ Grocery bags
- ✓ Cereal box liners
- ✓ Ice bags
- ✓ Ziploc & other recloseable bags
- ✓ Sandwich bags
- ✓ Newspaper sleeves
- ✓ Plastic e-commerce mailers
- ✓ Dry cleaning bags
- ✓ Bubble wrap & air pillows
- ✓ Case overwrap
- ✓ Salt & wood pellet bags
- ✓ Pallet wrap & stretch film

Plastics that are NOT acceptable:

- ✓ Plastic bottles (water, soda, etc.)
- ✓ Degradable/compostable bags
- ✓ Prewashed salad mix bags
- ✓ Frozen food bags
- ✓ Candy bar wrappers
- ✓ Chip bags
- ✓ Dried fruit & nut bags
- ✓ Produce bags such as used for grapes
- ✓ Six-pack rings
- ✓ Pouch packaging
- ✓ If material is shiny & crinkles or crunches
- ✓ If material does not stretch easily

the BWM annually sponsors several teachers' salaries. We are in regular contact with those teachers, who offer the following brief updates and prayer requests.

A Growing School in a Time of War:

The school currently serves 130 students from kindergarten through high school and will celebrate its first graduating class this year. Even amid war, the school continues to add programs, retreats, and opportunities for students to learn and lead. After nine years in their current space, the school hopes to expand to 220 students and is exploring the purchase of a larger property to continue growing in ministry.

Daily Life in Crisis: War shapes every part of life. Scheduled blackouts leave classrooms without heat or electricity, with temperatures dropping to 50°F. Air raids can last hours, forcing classes into bomb shelters. Many families are directly affected, with loved ones serving on the front lines. Despite this, teachers continue their work with remarkable resilience and faith.

A Place of Faith and Belonging:

Students describe the school as a second home. They pray together during air raids, create cards for soldiers, and grow in faith even in uncertainty. Teachers mentor students as they discern how they might serve Ukraine's future.

Prayer Requests:

- For a just end to the war and comfort for those suffering
- For hope in Christ to grow across Ukraine
- For wisdom and guidance for the first graduating class
- For unity and perseverance among teachers and staff
- For God's provision as the school explores expansion

FIVE WAYS TO GIVE

As a reminder, there are several different ways to provide your offerings:

- 1.** Bring your offering to Sunday worship. Gifts can be offered whether you attend via "Parking Lot Worship" or worship in the pews.
- 2.** Mail your offering to the church office at College Hill Moravian Church, 72 W. Laurel Street, Bethlehem, PA 18018.
- 3.** Use your bank's "bill pay" service. A one-time or recurring payment can be made by a bank on your behalf. Banks that offer this service typically cut a check and mail it to the church at no cost to you. Contact your bank for details.
- 4.** Make an online payment through the **Moravian Giving Portal** at <https://mmfa.info/giving-portal/>. Go to this link, click on our church's name, and follow the instructions to make a one-time gift or a recurring monthly gift. Donations can be made by members and non-members via direct debit of a bank account or by credit card. All donation processing fees for portal gifts are now paid by the Moravian Ministries Foundation, so your full donation will be received by our church.
- 5.** Make an online payment through Realm. Members can direct debit funds monthly from their bank account to the church's bank account.

Realm charges a fee for processing the contribution, so users may wish to add 1% more to their offerings to offset this fee. Check out the Realm page on our church website for a video tutorial and instructions: <http://collegehillmoravian.org/realm/>



**BOARD OF
WORLD MISSION**
of the Moravian Church • North America

MISSION MINUTE:

UPDATES ON PARTNERS IN UKRAINE

Since the 2022 invasion of Ukraine, the BWM has partnered with a Ukrainian Christian school that resettled in the Czech Republic at the invitation of a Moravian congregation. Now that the school is back in Kyiv,

IN OUR COMMUNITY

SENIORS AND FRIENDS

West Side Moravian Church
402 3rd Ave, Bethlehem

April 2, 2026, 11:30 AM

Lane Rundle will be doing a presentation on the fascinating history of Ukrainian Egg Design

Bring a friend and a sandwich—
beverage and dessert
will be provided!

***The front door located on 3rd
Avenue will be open
for easier access to our meetings.***

REV. LINDA WISSER CONSECRATION

On **Sunday, April 19, 2026, at 3:00 PM**, The Rt. Rev. Chris Giesler will officiate the consecration of the Rev. Linda Wisser as a Presbyter in the Moravian Church at East Hills Moravian Church (1830 Butztown Rd, Bethlehem, PA). Rev. Giesler invites all to attend this special occasion. Clergy (and family) are invited to meet at 2:45 PM for a time of prayer with Sister Linda before the service starts. We will then process together into the sanctuary. The service will be followed by a time of fellowship and refreshment.

If you are not able to join us in person, you can join via Zoom at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83858077423?pwd=UFIBRDI3cG5jTHNNaGNTakhU05vzd09>

BOTH ENSLAVED AND FREE: MEN AND WOMEN OF AFRICAN DESCENT IN EARLY BETHLEHEM

Central Moravian Church invites you to learn about our shared history and heritage. More than 50 people of African descent have been documented living in Bethlehem and its surrounding communities between 1740 and 1800.

On this walking tour you will learn how these men and women came to be here, how they were treated, and how those who were enslaved became free. Please join us at the Old Chapel on **Saturday, April 25 at 1:30 PM** for a remarkable and enlightening story. Please register here:

<https://forms.gle/kueLY4G83Vji8HUdZ>

ST. LUKE'S HEALING ARTS

The St. Luke's Healing Arts Program for cancer patients and their caregivers is so excited to have been welcomed by the College Hill Moravian Church.

Studies have shown that whether creating a simple drawing or collage, looking at art or talking about it, the arts can help you:

- * Express thoughts and emotions that can be hard to put into words
- * Lower stress and anxiety
- * Relax and feel calmer and happier
- * Connect with your deeper self, no matter what you are going through
- * Form new connections with others
- * Create something unique that gives you a sense of pleasure and accomplishment

Registration is required; if you would like more information, please see the flyers on the bulletin boards in the office or in Fellowship Hall.

Our next class will be held on **May 6, 2026 from 5:30 PM to 7:00 PM.**

(Please note, there is no class in April.)

CELEBRATION OF THE MINISTRY OF SISTER MARIE COUTS

As the Eastern District continues to give thanks for the faithful ministry of Sister Marie Coutts, we invite you to participate in a **Card Shower of Gratitude** in her honor.

Marie concluded twenty-one years of service as Director of

Christian Education for the Eastern District at the end of 2025. Over more than four decades of ministry, her faithful leadership, encouragement, and creativity have shaped generations of educators, leaders, and congregations across the Moravian Church. We offer the opportunity for everyone to share their good wishes with Marie as she enters this new chapter of service.

We will be presenting Marie with a gift box of cards, letters, notes, emails, and photos that she can open and read over time. To that end, we invite you to:

Mail your card or note in an envelope to:

Sister Marie Coutts
c/o Missy Johnson
Moravian Church Center
1021 Center St.
Bethlehem, PA 18018

Email your message or digital photos to: Eastern@mcnp.org

Please send all items by **June 1, 2026**. Cards, notes, and emails will be collected and presented to Marie as a joyful surprise, a tangible reminder of the many lives she has touched. Photos are welcome and may be included with her gift box.

This is meant to be a special surprise, so **please limit your sharing to communications Marie will not see** in advance.

BAM IRON PIGS GAME

Join the Bethlehem Area Moravians — and friends — for a baseball game on **Friday, June 5 at 7 PM** at the Iron Pigs stadium. Affordable fun for everyone! Tickets are \$10 each, \$3 loaded value. Parking is an extra \$5. All are welcome! Register at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30EOA49A8A823A3F49-63131691-iron> or scan the QR code.



CHURCH OFFICE REMINDERS

NEWSLETTER

DEADLINE: APRIL 27

Please submit articles for the May 2026 edition of *The Builder* by **Monday, April 27, 2026** to church@collegehillmoravian.org. Please submit all Weekly Announcement articles by the Wednesday of that week.

CONTACTING PASTOR CHRIS

Life is unpredictable, and so are office hours. That is why it is best to get in touch before popping in. Pastor Chris is easy to reach, especially if you are willing to **leave a message**. If your need is urgent, please say so!

Text or Call Her Mobile Phone
484-894-9077

Phone the Church Office
610-867-8291

Use EMAIL
moravianpastorchris@gmail.com

Find her on Facebook and Messenger
Christine Sobania Johnson

Flexible Office Hours
9 AM – 11 AM Monday – Thursday
Pastor Chris keeps Sabbath on **Fridays** (Day off)

PAYMENT REMINDER

If you are submitting a payment for something you have ordered, please specify what the payment is for on the memo line of your check (flowers, Daily Text order, etc.).

If you are paying in cash, please use one of the envelopes next to the lockbox and write it on the envelope. This will help the Counters and the Treasurer make sure the payment goes to the correct place. Thank you!



April 25
April 14

April 26

April 29



April 1
April 2
April 3

April 11
April 15
April 17
April 18
April 19
April 21
April 22
April 24
April 27

April 29
April 30

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

Rich & Terri Harney
Ron & Nancy Penrose
Andrew & Sue Gonda
Andrew & Laura Bauer
Bill & Kim Derby

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Daniel Meixell
Cory Thomas
Amy DeLong
Heather Meixell
Amy Roy
Linda Toggart
Jim Gregg
Jamie Hallahan
George Kovalchick
John Green
Christiana Rodriguez
LeRoy Fenner
Beth Williams
Wendy Lukehart
Michael Derby
Robert Hock
George Williams
Vince Hlavinka

PRAYERS

We express concern for dear ones in our church family...

- Marie Keim
- Mike DiMenichi
- Debbie Zechman
- Sherwood Kindred
- Warren Achey (homebound)
- Jane Gottwald (homebound)
- Mike Meixell (homebound)

We pray, as requested, for others...

- Theresa (a neighbor)
- Brandon Stoltz (military)
- Lisa Johnson
- Barry Erb (cousin of Carol Messina)

To receive prayer requests and updates in the most relevant, timely way, consider joining the College Hill Moravian Church Prayer Chain. You may receive notifications by either email or phone. Contact the church office to get connected.



SPRING

CRAFT & VENDOR SHOW

SATURDAY, APRIL 25, 2026

9:00AM - 2:00PM

Indoor and outdoor spaces
available for crafters.

Indoor 9' x 6' space - \$30

Outdoor 10' x 10' space - \$25

Event is rain or shine

College Hill Moravian Church

72 W. Laurel St

Bethlehem, PA 18018

(610) 867-8291

Ramp Access/Handicap Accessible

For More Information Contact

Amy DeLong at

amdelong3@gmail.com

