



**COLLEGE HILL
MORAVIAN CHURCH**

72 WEST LAUREL STREET
BETHLEHEM, PA 18018

(610) 867-8291

church@collegehillmoravian.org

www.collegehillmoravian.org

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

Deadline for articles and items
appearing in the newsletter is
due by the 15th of every month!

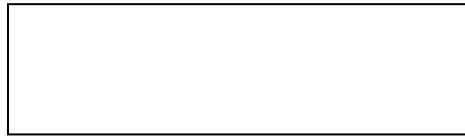
Material should be submitted
to the church office.

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US POSTAGE

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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



August 2025



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

August 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27 10:00 AM Worship 11:00 AM Fellowship Hour 2:30 PM Labyrinth Walk	28 AUG. BUILDER SUBMISSIONS DUE TO THE OFFICE 5:30 PM Narcotics Anonymous	29 10:30 AM Book Club 5:30 PM Debtors Anonymous	30 10:00 AM Tai Chi	Jul 31 9:00 AM August Newsletter Folding Team	1 Pastor Chris' Sabbath 10:00 AM Tai Chi	2
3 BIRTHDAY SUNDAY 10:00 AM Worship 11:00 AM Fellowship Hour	4 10:00 AM Embroiderers Guild 5:30 PM Narcotics Anonymous	5 5:30 PM Debtors Anonymous 6:30 PM Wisdom Drum Circle	6 10:00 AM Tai Chi 6:30 PM Elders meeting	7	8 Pastor Chris' Sabbath 10:00 AM Tai Chi	9 9:00 AM Coffee & Conversation
10 August 13th Festival Communion RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS 10:00 AM Worship 11:00 AM Fellowship Hour - Welcome Reception for	11 5:30 PM Narcotics Anonymous	12 2026 DAILY TEXT PREORDER & PAYMENT DUE TO THE OFFICE 5:30 PM Debtors Anonymous	13 2026 DAILY TEXT PREORDER DUE TO IBOC 10:00 AM Tai Chi 4:30 PM St. Luke's Healing Arts 7:00 PM Trustees meeting	14 3:00 PM MU Seminary Cohort	15 Pastor Chris' Sabbath 10:00 AM Tai Chi	16 10:30 AM Taoism Study Group
17 10:00 AM Worship 11:00 AM Fellowship Hour	18 5:30 PM Narcotics Anonymous 7:00 PM Discipleship Team meeting	19 5:30 PM Debtors Anonymous	20 10:00 AM Tai Chi	21	22 Pastor Chris' Sabbath 10:00 AM Tai Chi	23
24 10:00 AM Worship 11:00 AM Fellowship Hour	25 PASTOR CHRIS ON VACATION SEPTEMBER BUILDER SUBMISSIONS DUE TO THE OFFICE 5:30 PM Narcotics Anonymous	26 NO BOOK CLUB TODAY 5:30 PM Debtors Anonymous	27 10:00 AM Tai Chi	28 9:00 AM September Newsletter Folding Team	29 10:00 AM Tai Chi	30
31 PASTOR CHRIS ON VACATION 10:00 AM Worship 11:00 AM Fellowship Hour	Sep 1 OFFICE CLOSED FOR LABOR DAY 5:30 PM Narcotics Anonymous	Notes				

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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August 2025

Trailside Ponderings

I hear it before I see it—static resonance—a background rumble that grows in volume as I step forward on the trail that tucks between the sandstone wall and the gorge. I look down at my feet and avoid a puddle in the path, and as I round a bend, I look up to discover the impressive source of the sound and the dampness: a plunging waterfall. The white water plummets with force and constancy, its stray droplets misting me—a welcomed sensation on a mid-July day. Upstream, the water meanders peacefully, periodically ruffling into a series of playful cascades. Lightening silver in color, the riffled creek stands out from its vibrant green surroundings—forest canopy, fern groves, moss carpets. Deeply primordial. Ancient Eden of wonder.

And always, the reverberation remains—the persistent ostinato of untamed falling water.

I pause. I pray.

But not for nearly long enough. The throng behind me wants a turn. I am not on a mystical spiritual quest. I am a tourist on vacation with my husband, Darrell. We are traversing the Gorge Trail at Watkins Glen State Park in the Finger Lakes Region of upstate New York. It is ridiculously late in the day to expect solitude. It's already nine o'clock on a summer Tuesday morning! Had we expected a time for private meditation, we should have arrived at the trailhead by sunup. We journey now not only in the presence of God, but in bunched up groupings with some of the other 1,234,805 visitors who populate the park each year.

I'm disappointed, I suppose, to have to share my moment of Zen with a crowd. I pout a little. And yet, it strikes me that there is something I am meant to learn here. My heart softens for the pilgrims around me as I realize they are seeking to be moved by the experience just as much as I am. The serious hikers stepping swiftly with their collapsible, carbon trekking poles; the nostalgic group of friends recreating the day they spent here together in 1978; the young parents toting babies in front carriers and pulling toddlers back from the ledge and the older parents trying to influence the spirited teens who want to break away and keep their own youthful pace—I try to be aware that they are all pursuing something special in their own ways. They are all hoping to be awed.

The muted thunder sound captures my attention once more and a verse comes to mind:

Deep called to deep at the noise of your waterfalls;
all your massive waves surged over me.
By day the Lord commands his faithful love;
by night his song is with me—
a prayer to the God of my life. ~Psalm 42 7-8 (CEB)

The ancient poet discovered soothing relief for a despondent spirit in the sound and surge of falling waters. Contemporary meteorologists find the same to be true. Waterfalls, it turns out, are busy with electrically charged particles that come from water colliding with itself. The droplets break apart, I've heard, into positive and negative ions. Negative ions drift in the air, carrying with them a measurable magic that impacts human beings in positive ways. Exposure to negative ions has positive effects on people—reduced depression, boosted immunity, increased mental energy, optimized wellbeing.

What a beautiful gift—scientifically explainable or not—to hear, to see, to feel something so magnificent, and to realize it is not mine alone to own, but to be showered upon whosoever marvels in wonderment.

Devotionally,

Pastor Chris

WORSHIP HIGHLIGHTS

As August blooms like a sunflower, let your faith life blossom, too! Join us for worship each Sunday morning at 10:00 AM. Come in person or gather online. And if it meets your needs, there is always the opportunity to listen to the service on your car radio from the church parking lot (98.5 FM). Don't forget to meet up in Fellowship Hall after worship for fellowship and refreshments.

August 10th will be a particularly special day as we celebrate the historically significant spiritual re-awakening of the Moravian Church in 1727 with Holy Communion *and* by welcoming new members into the congregation. What a beautiful way to recognize God's blessings not only in the past, but very much in the present.

On **August 31**, the Rev. Charlie McDonald will be the guest preacher. Charlie has recently relocated to Bethlehem and taken up the chaplaincy role at Moravian University and Theological Seminary.

UPCOMING EVENTS

SPECIAL CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING

The Joint Board announces a special meeting of the **CHURCH COUNCIL** to take place immediately after worship on **Sunday, September 7, 2025** for the purpose of selecting personnel to represent our congregation at the Synod of the Moravian Church, Northern Province, being held June 25–26, 2026 in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

Capable, qualified, available, and enthusiastic nominees have been secured: Amy DeLong (delegate) and Cory Dieterly (alternate delegate). The Church Council need only vote to affirm the nominees. The meeting is expected to be very brief.

Please note that this short meeting will be held in-person only. There will not be an opportunity to participate virtually this time.

WORLD HERITAGE IS OUR HERITAGE: A COMMUNITY CELEBRATION OF MORAVIAN CHURCH SETTLEMENTS–BETHLEHEM WORLD HERITAGE INSCRIPTION

On **Saturday, September 6, 2025 (12 PM–7 PM)** we will take time as a community to come together to celebrate the Moravian Church Settlement's new World Heritage Status. We understand that our strength is in our diverse Bethlehem community and our living heritage is best celebrated by our arts and music, community gatherings, and sharing in food and fun.

So come out for a block party on Church Street, with music and programs especially for families on the city's Payrow Plaza, food trucks along Church Street, free activities for families all throughout Central's church green, free Moravian Museum tours and a chance to see inside the Old Chapel, Sanctuary, and other historic buildings, and lots of great music throughout the day both at Payrow Plaza and around Central Moravian Church's green.

The day begins on the lower church green with an **opening ceremony at 12 PM**, followed by an unveiling of a new city mural and World Heritage inscription plaque. The **Johnston Music Festival concert** will be held within Central's Sanctuary at **3 PM**. A **free ice cream social**, sponsored by the Bethlehem Area Moravian churches, will be held from **5 PM–7 PM** on the church green. And if you are a Moravian sugar cake baker, or want to test out a recipe, consider submitting your sugar cake to be judged on September 6 as well! The day will end with a **Community Lovefeast** on the church green at **5:00 PM**.

So come celebrate the history and living presence of the Moravian

Community and our greater Bethlehem Community with us on Saturday, September 6!

SUNDAY SCHOOL RALLY DAY

Children's Sunday School will be held twice a month during the 10 AM Worship service. The children will start in the Sanctuary and then be dismissed to the Sunday School room where they will enjoy a Sunday School lesson, crafts, music, and treats. The schedule for Fall 2025 is as follows:

Sunday School will kick off with Rally Day on **September 21, 2025**. Following worship, the Christian Education Committee will host an ice cream sundae party during Fellowship Hour.

Sunday School will be held again on October 12 & 26, November 9 & 23, and December 14 & 28.

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.

LABYRINTH WALKS FOR PRAYER AND MEDITATION

College Hill Moravian Church and the Lehigh Valley Labyrinth Project invite you to join us for a labyrinth walk at the church, 72 West Laurel Street, Bethlehem, PA 18018.

Walks will take place on the following Sunday dates:

August 24, September 28, October 26, November 26 and a pre-New Year's walk on Sunday, December 28.

In these times of uncertainty, it is beneficial to gather in community to be together for prayer and meditation. While walking the labyrinth is a very personal journey, it is a comfort to gather in community.

All are welcome. Peace to all as we gather. If you have any questions, please call Linda Toggart, Spiritual Director, at 610-217-1971.

2025 FALL CRAFT/ VENDOR SHOW

College Hill will be holding our Fall Craft Show on **Saturday, October 18, 2025 from 9:00 AM–2:00 PM.** We will be offering indoor and outdoor spots for crafters. We will also be serving food and having a bake sale.

HOW CAN YOU HELP???

Interested in being a crafter?

Applications are on the **Craft Show Table** (against the wall under the window) in Fellowship Hall or can be emailed to you.

We are looking for volunteers for Friday, October 17 to help prepare and set up, as well as Saturday, October 18 to help in the kitchen, monitor the bake sale, and be a floater to assist the crafters throughout the day.

We are also looking for homemade baked goods to be sold at the bake sale table.

If interested in volunteering or making a baked good, please add your name to the corresponding signup sheet on the **Craft Show Table** in Fellowship Hall.

All proceeds from the show will go toward the general operating fund.

If you have any questions, please contact Amy DeLong at 610-704-0014 or amdelong3@gmail.com.



GET READY TO WELCOME

A STUDENT PASTOR!

Beginning on September 1 and continuing for two school semesters, **Kayce Fava** will be learning and serving with us at College Hill. A student in the Master of Divinity program at Moravian Theological

Seminary, Kayce is preparing for ministry in the Moravian Church and will be engaging with our congregation as his field placement site. Kayce will be installed as Student Pastor during worship on September 7. We look forward to a faithful and fulfilling partnership.

THANK YOU NOTES

Grateful thanks for the prayers and cards from this loving community. I still have a few more treatments but the reports have been good so far. Thank you again for your love and prayers.

Blessings,
Gloria Reisinger

To the Members and Friends
of College Hill,

A heartfelt THANK YOU for all your loving support of me during my illness—for Healing Prayers, for Get Well Cards & Good Wishes for my 89th birthday, for Welcome Visits & Yummy Cookies and for a comforting Prayer Shawl.

Blessings to you all,
Will Harstine & Family

PREORDER YOUR 2026 MORAVIAN DAILY TEXTS

The Moravian Daily Texts is “the world’s oldest daily devotional... that’s new every morning!” Published in one form or another for more than 280 years, the Moravian Daily Texts provides Old Testament and New Testament verses, hymn texts, and heartfelt prayers written by Moravians across North America—one page for every day of the year.

By **PREORDERING** your **Moravian Daily Texts 2026 now**, you are eligible for a 10% discount, no PA state sales tax, and the assurance of product availability. Please note that we will NOT be maintaining extra inventory at College Hill. Moravian Daily Texts will still be available for purchase in 2026, however, the regular full pricing will apply.

Please return the form included at the back of this newsletter **ALONG WITH YOUR PAYMENT** (cash or a check made out to College Hill Moravian Church) to the church office to place your order. *(This is a change from previous years; payment is due with your order.)*

Orders are due TO THE CHURCH OFFICE no later than Tuesday, August 12, 2025.

(Final orders are due to the IBOC by Wednesday, August 13, so please get your order and payment to the church office by August 12.)

COFFEE & CONVERSATION

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

SUMMER BOOK CLUB MEETINGS

The College Hill Book Group continues to meet on the last Tuesday of each month at 10:30 AM. All are welcome to join us in Room 4 for our discussion and fellowship.

**NO MEETING IN AUGUST
September 30 TBD**

Contact Sue Youtz for further updates.
610-751-0654/syoutz@ptd.net

WORSHIP ASSISTANT SIGNUPS

Pastor Chris continues to schedule worship assistants for the coming months. This time around, **a signup sheet has been posted on her office door**—so check your calendars and sign up for your preferred dates. And if you’ve never assisted and would like to, go ahead and sign up for a Sunday!

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.

Welcoming Committee
Lorna Rossnagle 610-248-9392
Rosemary Kleintop 610-419-8300/
610-730-5361

GROCERY GIFT CARD PROGRAM – IMPORTANT REMINDER!

As you all know, 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. What you may not know is that this program is the one fundraiser that continues year-round in the life of our Church. We strive to have on hand an ample supply of cards for both stores. We are all aware of the budget deficit that we are currently facing. Why not help to offset that deficit by purchasing gift cards for your weekly grocery shopping. If you have any questions, or would like to purchase cards, please see either Caroline Pietkiewicz or Diane Abeles on Sunday. Happy shopping!

ABOUT THE SIGNS IN THE BASEMENT

“PRIVATE” signs have been posted in the north section of the church basement to designate a non-public area in which U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) agents are legally prohibited from entering without a court-ordered, signed, Judicial Warrant.

A STATEMENT ON SANCTUARY AND CARE FOR ALL

Since our Moravian motto ends with “in all things love,” it is who we are and is a call to follow Jesus’s example of caring for the least of these. We are called to welcome the stranger and to help those in need. In that love, we as fellow children of a Loving God, offer sanctuary and care to all who come to our community for help and safety. “In all things love” is more than a motto; it is a call to Peace and Justice as a church and as followers of Christ.

—College Hill Moravian Church
Board of Elders,
approved March 6, 2025

MUSIC NOTES

CALLING ALL SINGERS! CALLING ALL RINGERS!

Our Choir and Handbell Choir members are currently enjoying a well-deserved summer break. Both ensembles will be back this fall when rehearsals begin again on **Thursday, September 11.**

Choir rehearsals are held in the Choir Room (Room 6) **from 4:00 PM–5:30 PM on Thursday afternoons.** If you're interested in singing, please contact Gwyn Michel at gwynmichel@aol.com—or simply show up!

Handbell rehearsals are held in the Bell Room (Room 10) **Thursday evenings from 6:15 PM to 7:30 PM.** If you are interested in joining the handbell choir, please contact Krysti Wallace at k.nappi1221@gmail.com.

Organ Update

Progress is being made! On **July 15** the old organ console was taken out and our new console delivered to the Sanctuary. **Please visit the bulletin board in the hallway** outside Fellowship Hall for pictures.

HELP SUPPORT THESE MINISTRIES

WEST BETHLEHEM EMERGENCY FOOD PANTRY

The Community Outreach Team will be collecting donations for the West Bethlehem Emergency Food Pantry. The Pantry is located at Star of Bethlehem Lutheran Church, a neighbor and friend of Essentials Café on Third Avenue. This will be an ongoing collection of whatever items you would like to donate. Some suggestions include coffee, tea, oatmeal, pancake mix, cereal, rice, canned corn, jams and jellies, paper products, and toiletries (shampoo, soap, toothpaste). The food pantry will be letting us know of especially needed items, so **please check the weekly announcements for updates.**

The Pantry also has a table for 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 and will be delivered to the Pantry monthly. THANK YOU!



Let's Bring Christmas to William Penn!

We received the following from Amanda, the Community School Coordinator: “As a Title I school, many of our students are unable to provide their own school supplies, and each year we greatly appreciate our community for always stepping in to help make sure our students always have what they need! Attached is a wish list of school supplies we are looking for.”
(Please see the following page.)

**SCHOOL SUPPLY
DONATION REQUESTS
FOR 2025 – 2026**

**Brand-specific requested for quality and durability:*

- *Crayola crayons
- *Crayola colored pencils
- *Crayola markers – broad and fine-tip
- *Elmer glue sticks
- *Expo black dry-erase markers

Narrow pencil boxes or pouches
Dry-erase erasers
Pencil-top erasers
Construction paper
Small whiteboards
1" & 1.5" hard binders
Adult-size scissors
Headphones with wires (**NO EARBUDS**)
Backpacks
Individually wrapped snacks
(Goldfish, pretzels, popcorn, etc.)
Tissues
Hand sanitizer
Clorox wipes

FOR RECESS

Kickballs
Soccer balls
Adult-size basketballs
Sidewalk chalk

Yes, it's summer and yes, Christmas is months away, but we are collecting NOW so that everything can be packed up and blessed during our Advent Workshop. Visit the COT table in Fellowship Hall to pick up an ornament (or two or three) and purchase the item(s) attached. A complete list of requested items can be found on the table and all donations can be placed in the bins under the table. Let's make it a meaningful Christmas for the children and the teachers!

Essentials Café

Wooden Nickel Fundraiser:

A jar of wooden nickels sits next to the cash register at the Essentials Café. These nickels may be used by patrons who need help paying for their meal—a nickel that has been gifted to pay for a breakfast or lunch. Our cards sell for \$12 and each one will purchase one nickel for the jar. These gift cards show that you have donated an Essentials Café meal "in honor of" the

recipient. This is an ongoing project, and cards will be available for purchase in Fellowship Hall after church services. Our sincere thanks to everyone for helping to feed our neighbors!

Little Free Library

Our **Little Free Library** needs children's books. Donations can be placed in the baskets in the Narthex and in Fellowship Hall.

If you are interested in helping to shelve or restock books, please contact any member of the Community Outreach Team.

Moravian Day of Service

Plan to come to worship on **Sunday, September 14** when we participate in the Moravian Day of Service. Besides our ongoing collection of supplies for William Penn Elementary School, food items for West Bethlehem Food Pantry, and books for our Little Free Library, we will also be packing and distributing lunches for the Bethlehem Emergency Shelter, making cards for our housebound members, and decorating rocks to be left around the neighborhood. We hope you can join us!

**THANKS FROM THE
WEST BETHLEHEM
EMERGENCY FOOD PANTRY**

Dear Friends:

Thank you for your continued support with a delivery of multiple bags of food items on June 4, 2025. We are so blessed to have you as friends.

This contribution will assist in the daily needs for many families.

On behalf of the West Bethlehem Emergency Food Pantry, the many clients we serve, and the volunteers who staff the food bank, we all thank you.

Sincerely,
Jane Cygan
West Bethlehem
Emergency Food Pantry

**THE FREEZER MINISTRY
AND GARDEN GATHERERS
NEEDS YOUR SUPPORT**

Some say the summer is the hungriest time of the year. What do we mean? Local farms are abundantly producing and our markets are full!

Not so if you are a student who qualifies for school lunches. You go through almost 3 months without breakfast and lunch meals.

The Freezer Ministry & Garden Gatherers School Farmers Market Program serves 11 Bethlehem Community and Title 1 schools. We are in our third year of the program and have already delivered 158 tons or 316,000 pounds of fresh vegetables and fruit **at no cost** to over 700 students and their families. This is done once a month from March to November. Each family receives about 30 pounds of nutritious vegetables and fruit each time.

With fundraising and eligible grant cycles coining up in the later part of the year and aimed at later year and 2026 needs, we have a shortfall.

2025 has been a tough year

Our year-long costs have jumped about \$25,000. Second Harvest shortages have shifted a larger burden of costs onto our program. We now need to purchase approximately 75% of our products. We are also planning a special August purchase of 10,000 pounds of healthy shelf-stable goods from a new partner, to add into our vegetable and fruit delivery that month. This will cost us \$3,700. This is an amazing opportunity at that cost.

Good News and Happenings

We have established a new partnership with Blessing of Hope, a source of low-cost healthy shelf-stable and fresh foods.

A Valley-wide Summer Harvest Food Drive is planned—watch for details!

We will soon be launching our website, produced by the Bethlehem Area Vo-Tech School. (If you or your church, school, organization, or friends can help, please network this request!)

Remember: we are a 100% volunteer organization. We are cost effective and make your donations go far.

Currently donations are made through East Hills Moravian Church either by check or Venmo:

- Make checks payable to the church with a Freezer Ministry footnote.
- Mail to 1830 Butztown Road, Bethlehem, PA 18017
- To donate through Venmo, scan the QR code and personalize your note for the Freezer Ministry.



Thank you for all you do or will do for our community sharing and caring program.

Bob Wingrove
Executive Director
robert.wingrove@rcn.com
610-730-3929



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

MISSION MINUTE:

MORAVIAN YOUTH CONVO 2025

“MIA: Mission in Action” Moravian Youth Convo 2025 in Miami, Florida, was an incredible week of fellowship, learning, worship, and fun with participants and staff from Jamaica, Antigua, Barbados, Trinidad, Florida, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, New York, Maryland, and Wisconsin. Program and worship times were led by the Rev. Dr. Riddick Weber, the Rev. Brian Dixon, Acolyte Monique Richards, and BWM staff members.

We had the blessing to visit both New Hope Moravian Church and Prince of Peace Moravian Church, as well as other local sites, including South Beach, the Everglades, and the Marlins stadium (for a Miami Marlins vs. Milwaukee Brewers game!). Much of our free time, program time, and worship time was spent sharing songs, activities, and experiences from our home areas, so that participants left with new resources to use as they step into leadership roles.

We are deeply grateful to everyone who supported this event by assisting with the planning, traveling to be on staff, and welcoming us as we arrived in Florida.

THERE WAS NO ROOM AT THE INN...

Since 1987, MORAVIAN OPEN DOOR (MOD) has provided a temporary home for homeless adults in Manhattan, NYC.

This ministry provides safe and affordable transitional housing for 40 homeless adults. MOD provides a healthful breakfast and supportive social services to rebuild our residents’ lives. MOD helps them to obtain jobs and benefits, with the goal of finding permanent affordable housing and learning the life skills to maintain it.

Residents at Moravian Open Door pay a small monthly fee for their room and services (often much of their limited income); this covers only about 50% of the operating costs for the facility and its full-time staff of three.

Moravian Open Door receives no government funds. Donations from individuals, congregations, and other private sources must cover the rest of operating expenses.

Your gift can help the vital ministry of MOD, the only transitional housing ministry of the Northern Province of the Moravian Church. Please consider a generous financial gift to MOD.

Moravian Open Door
347 E. 18th Street
New York, NY 10003

Gifts may also be made on the MOD website www.moravianhouse.org, or online via the Moravian Ministries Foundation in America Giving Portal <https://mmfa.info/giving-portal/>. On the MMFA Portal, scroll to the section GIVE NOW to a Specific organization or Ministry where Moravian Open Door has a tab. MMFA will absorb any fees for the donation.

FIVE WAYS TO GIVE

The Moravian Ministries Foundation in America has generously agreed to begin paying all processing fees

charged for online gifts made through the Moravian Giving Portal. While the Foundation itself has never charged any kind of fee, the backend processor, Blackbaud Merchant Services, charged a processing fee like others who perform this service. Now, this processing fee will no longer be withheld, so our church will get the full balance of gifts given via the Moravian Giving Portal. 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/>

IN OUR COMMUNITY

BIG MOVIE NIGHT

Bethlehem Interfaith Group (BIG) invites you to a Community Movie Night on **Wednesday, August 13** at Wesley United Methodist Church (2540 Center Street, Bethlehem, PA)! A kosher pizza dinner will kick off at 5:30 PM, followed by DreamWorks Animation's *The Wild Robot* at 6:15 PM. Please RSVP by August 5 at https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScGHoTV_4bFTQBZDCI_KsPbSjVgOSDJ7Fkgs7E5aVAF8Rohfg/viewform

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 is on **Wednesday, August 13** from **5:30 PM–7:00 PM**.

LV PRIDE 2025

Many Moravian congregations throughout the Lehigh Valley will be joining together to provide a joyful presence at Lehigh Valley Pride, which will be on **August 17 from 2 PM – 7 PM** at ArtsQuest in Bethlehem, PA.

Organizers say: "We are excited to invite you all to partner with us for Pride 2025 as we live out our shared call to witness to God's expansive love." The clear intent is to share the message that "no matter who you love or how you identify, you are embraced and affirmed by God's expansive love" with Lehigh Valley Pride attendees through celebration, service, and affirmation."

College Hill will be participating along with other Moravian churches, so we will need volunteers who can walk around and pass out water bottles to the attendees.

Your voice and presence are vital in helping make this message visible and tangible to all who attend!

CALLING ALL MORAVIAN BAND MUSICIANS!

Most Moravians will recognize the name Christian Gregor and his Choralbuch which is where much of the Moravian music tradition is pulled from, but did you know there have been more Moravian tunebooks since then? Peter Wollé in America, and Christian LaTrobe in Britain, both published their own tunebooks, building on Gregor's foundation. For this program at West Side Moravian Church (402 3rd Avenue, Bethlehem, PA) on **Saturday, August 23 from 1:00 PM -3:00 PM**, we will be joined by singers from the Lehigh Valley Shape-Note Singers, who will help us in singing from these tunebooks in the American Tunebook style. Come and experience Moravian music in a new way! Music will be provided. Register [here](#).

WEST SIDE MORAVIAN BLOCK PARTY

Come out to West Side Moravian on **Saturday, August 30 from 1PM–3 PM** for their annual block party with Star of Bethlehem Lutheran on 3rd Avenue in Bethlehem. Enjoy free food, a free school supplies giveaway, a bounce house, and face painting—and stop by to meet Rapture, a quarter-horse, and his pony friends! We hope to see you there!

CHURCH OFFICE REMINDERS

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)

NEWSLETTER

DEADLINE: AUGUST 25

Please submit articles for the September 2025 edition of *The Builder* by **Monday, August 25, 2025** to church@collegehillmoravian.org. Please submit all Weekly Announcement articles by the Wednesday of that week.

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!



HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

- August 3 Warren & Faye Achey
George & Kathy Kovalchick
- August 4 Alyson & Keith Thomas



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

- August 1 Nancy Harstine
- August 3 Scott Meixell
- August 5 Mary Fluck
- August 6 Gwyn Michel
Jerry Yob
- August 7 Michael Weiner
- August 8 Sierra Meder Clark
Tyler Pietkiewicz
- August 10 Sue Gonda
- August 13 David Sheriff
- August 14 Ashleigh Casassa
Alma Deutsch
Steve DiMenichi
- August 17 Bonnie Stoltz
- August 20 Kassandra DeLong
- August 21 Declan Sullivan
- August 22 Donald Furry
Rev. Christine Johnson
David Prosperi
- August 24 Emma Derby
- August 29 Kyla Suess

PRAYERS

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

- Nancy Beitel-Vessels
- Bonnie Stoltz
- Nancy & David Danneberger
- Jerry Yob
- Will Harstine
- Bobbi James
- Gloria Reisinger
- Joe Pietkiewicz
- Tom Markley
- Sherwood Kindred
- Debbie Zechman
- Joan Menges
- Kathy Powers
- Shirley Guth
- Jane Gottwald

- Tyler Pietkiewicz
- Larry Notaro
- Morris Vidaurre
- Sherwood Kindred (homebound)
- Warren Achey (homebound)
- Mike Meixell (homebound)

We pray, as requested, for others...

- Lisa Johnson
- Sharon Bond
- Ben Gehringer (son of Julie Illick)
- Martha Cox Popichak
- Samantha and Emmeileine (granddaughter & great granddaughter of Nancy Beitel-Vessels)
- Mauricio Vidaurre
- Lee Sobania
- Barry Erb (cousin of Carol Messina)
- Lucy (granddaughter of Terri Harney)
- Regina, Cynthia, Victoria, Isabella, Anthony
- Chris Guth
- Gwen (family friend of Rich Harney)
- Caiden Nappi
- Cristin and Ricky Rivera
- Glenn Kranzley
- Doug Bauder
- Jürgen Nees
- Brandon Stoltz (military)

We pray for people in challenging circumstances...

- Those whose personal relationships are in crisis
- Folks impacted by mental health challenges and addictions
- Peace and security for siblings in Christ and nearby neighbors who come under threat: LGBTQ+ persons; immigrants; local Jewish and Muslim sisters and brothers
- Our street neighbors

We pray for people and ministries we support in particular ways...

- Essentials Café—its staff, volunteers, and customers
- Students, staff, and families connected with our neighborhood school, William Penn Elementary
- The ongoing work of racial justice and healing
- The ever-ongoing work of the Moravian Board of World Mission

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.

PREORDER YOUR 2026 MORAVIAN DAILY TEXTS

The Moravian Daily Texts is “the world’s oldest daily devotional...that’s new every morning!” Published in one form or another for more than 280 years, the Moravian Daily Texts provides Old Testament and New Testament verses, hymn texts, and heartfelt prayers written by Moravians across North America—one page for every day of the year.

By **PREORDERING** your **Moravian Daily Texts 2026 now**, you are eligible for a 10% discount, no PA state sales tax, and the assurance of product availability. Please note that we will NOT be maintaining extra inventory at College Hill. Moravian Daily Texts will still be available for purchase in 2026, however, the regular full pricing will apply.

Please return the form included in your bulletin **ALONG WITH YOUR PAYMENT** (cash or a check made out to College Hill Moravian Church) to the church office to place your order. (*This is a change from previous years; payment is due **with** your order.*)

Orders are due TO THE CHURCH OFFICE no later than Tuesday, August 12, 2025. (*Final orders are due to the IBOC by Wednesday, August 13, so please get them to the church office by August 12.*)

Moravian Daily Texts 2026 Pre-order Form

Order before August 13, 2025 and receive a 10% discount!

Important Note:

2026 DAILY TEXTS ORDERS begin shipping in November 2025.

Please use this form to order 2026 Moravian Daily Texts only. Other IBOC items should be ordered separately.

ITEM	PRE-ORDER PRICE (BEFORE 8/13/2025)	REGULAR PRICE (AFTER 8/13/2025)	QUANTITY	TOTAL (PRICE X QUANTITY)
Journal Edition Moravian Daily Text 2026	\$17.10	\$19.00		
Hardcover Edition Moravian Daily Text 2026	\$15.30	\$17.00		
Large Print Edition Moravian Daily Text 2026	\$14.35	\$15.95		
Paperback Edition Moravian Daily Text 2026	\$12.55	\$13.95		
NAME - ADDRESS - PHONE - EMAIL			GRAND TOTAL	
NAME				
ADDRESS				
PHONE				
EMAIL				

Place your order by Tuesday, August 12, 2025

INCLUDE YOUR PAYMENT of cash (EXACT AMOUNT ONLY)

or a check made out to **College Hill Moravian Church.**

Date paid _____ Cash or check # _____



Fall Craft Show

SATURDAY,
OCTOBER 18, 2025
9:00AM - 2:00PM

Come shop all the great
crafters and grab delicious
food and baked goods!

Event is rain or
shine

College Hill Moravian Church

72 W. Laurel St

Bethlehem, PA 18018

(610) 867-8291

**Ramp Access/Handicap
Accessible**