



**COLLEGE HILL  
MORAVIAN CHURCH**

72 WEST LAUREL STREET  
BETHLEHEM, PA 18018

(610) 867-8291

[church@collegehillmoravian.org](mailto:church@collegehillmoravian.org)

[www.collegehillmoravian.org](http://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**

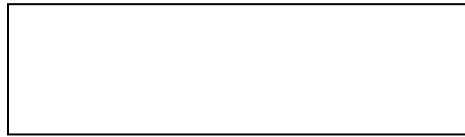
*Office Coordinator*

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.

Non Profit Org.  
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**June - July 2025**



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

# The Builder

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

[www.collegehillmoravian.org](http://www.collegehillmoravian.org) • email: [church@collegehillmoravian.org](mailto:church@collegehillmoravian.org)

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## Clearing the Way for Wonder

Have you ever seen the famous LIFE magazine photo of Albert Einstein's messy desk? First published in 1955, the picture was captured by Ralph Morse on the day the renowned theoretical physicist died. The surface was memorialized in its most authentic condition, being that Professor Einstein, his abdominal aortic aneurism beginning to rupture, did not have an opportunity to tidy up the space on his way to the hospital. (He did manage to scoop up a speech he was preparing at the time and take it with him in case he started feeling better.)

Alas, he never returned to that Princeton office. And even if he had, it's not likely he would have shuffled the strewn paper piles into neat stacks, or organized the professional journals, or put away his tobacco tin and pipe just for the sake of the camera. This was, after all, the man who said, "If a cluttered desk is a sign of a cluttered mind, of what, then, is an empty desk a sign of?"

This quote, you will not be surprised to learn, has been my mantra and my rationalization for decades. I also abide by research "proving" that people who operate in chaotic environments are among the most creative. I wear the badge proudly!

Periodically, though, I imagine even Einstein looked around, ran his fingers through his crazy mop of absent-minded-professor hair, and said to himself, "I have got to do something about this." Sometimes he needed to sweep out the mélange of ideas and untangle the thought threads in his head as much as in his physical space.

Einstein thrived on curiosity and imagination, qualities resulting in creativity. And above all that, he spoke of *wonder*. "The most beautiful thing we can experience is the mysterious. It is the source of all true art and all science. He to whom this emotion is a stranger, who can no longer pause to *wonder* and stand rapt in awe, is as good as dead; his eyes are closed." And he spoke of taking advantage of stepping out of community sometimes to be solitary: "Be a loner. That gives you time to *wonder*, to search for the truth. Have holy curiosity. Make your life worth living."

I don't know that Einstein ever drew inspiration from Jesus directly. Being culturally Jewish, perhaps not. But Jesus practiced similar breakaways and instructed his disciples to do the same. He said, "'Come away to a deserted place all by yourselves and rest a while.' For many were coming and going, and they had no leisure even to eat. And they went away in the boat to a deserted place by themselves." (Mark 6: 31–32 NRSV)

For similar reasons, I am using the month of June to take a short sabbatical leave. The Moravian Church allows for and encourages pastors to take such breaks periodically—as often as once every five years. Blessed to have been carrying out ministry with you at College Hill for 5½ years now, it's the right time for me to catch my breath, clear the mind clutter, and open myself to *wonder* so that, when I return, I can continue serving with renewed curiosity, imagination, and creativity. I'm pretty sure my desk will still be cluttered, but my body, mind, and spirit will have had a fresh reset.

*Pastor Chris*

# June 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
PASTOR CHRIS ON SABBATICAL						
<b>10:00 AM</b> Worship  <b>11:00 AM</b> ANNUAL CHURCH PICNIC	<b>10:00 AM</b> Embroiderers Guild  <b>5:30 PM</b> Narcotics Anonymous	<b>5:30 PM</b> Debtors Anonymous  <b>6:30 PM</b> Wisdom Drum Circle	<b>10:00 AM</b> Tai Chi  <b>4:00 PM</b> Wildcats 4H Club  <b>6:30 PM</b> Elders meeting		<b>8:30 AM</b> Embroiderers Workshop	<b>8:30 AM</b> Embroiderers Workshop
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
PASTOR CHRIS ON SABBATICAL						
<b>10:00 AM</b> Worship  <b>11:00 AM</b> Fellowship Hour	<b>5:30 PM</b> Narcotics Anonymous	<b>5:30 PM</b> Debtors Anonymous	<b>10:00 AM</b> Tai Chi  <b>7:00 PM</b> Trustees meeting	<b>3:00 PM</b> MU Seminary Cohort	<b>10:00 AM</b> Tai Chi	<b>9:00 AM</b> Coffee & Conversation
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
PASTOR CHRIS ON SABBATICAL						
<b>10:00 AM</b> Worship  <b>11:00 AM</b> Fellowship Hour	<b>5:30 PM</b> Narcotics Anonymous  <b>6:30 PM</b> COT meeting	<b>5:30 PM</b> Debtors Anonymous  <b>7:00 PM</b> BAM board meeting	<b>10:00 AM</b> Tai Chi		<b>10:00 AM</b> Tai Chi	<b>10:30 AM</b> Taoism Study Group
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
PASTOR CHRIS ON SABBATICAL						
<b>10:00 AM</b> Worship  <b>11:00 AM</b> Fellowship Hour	<b>5:30 PM</b> Narcotics Anonymous	<b>10:30 AM</b> Book Club  <b>5:30 PM</b> Debtors Anonymous	<b>10:00 AM</b> Tai Chi  <b>4:30 PM</b> St. Luke's Healing Arts		<b>10:00 AM</b> Tai Chi	PASTOR CHRIS AT CAMP HOPE
29	30	Jul 1	2	3	4	5
PASTOR CHRIS AT CAMP HOPE						
<b>10:00 AM</b> Worship  <b>11:00 AM</b> Fellowship Hour  <b>2:30 PM</b> Labyrinth & Prayer Walk	<b>5:30 PM</b> Narcotics Anonymous	<b>5:30 PM</b> Debtors Anonymous  <b>6:30 PM</b> Wisdom Drum Circle	<b>10:00 AM</b> Tai Chi  <b>6:30 PM</b> Elders meeting		<b>10:00 AM</b> Tai Chi	
6	7	Notes				
<b>10:00 AM</b> Worship  <b>11:00 AM</b> Fellowship Hour	PASTOR CHRIS AWAY ON VACATION  <b>10:00 AM</b> Embroiderers Guild  <b>5:30 PM</b> Narcotics Anonymous					

# July 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
29	Jun 30	1	2	3	4	5
PASTOR CHRIS AT CAMP HOPE						
<b>10:00 AM</b> Worship  <b>11:00 AM</b> Fellowship Hour  <b>2:30 PM</b> Labyrinth & Prayer Walk	<b>5:30 PM</b> Narcotics Anonymous	<b>5:30 PM</b> Debtors Anonymous  <b>6:30 PM</b> Wisdom Drum Circle	<b>10:00 AM</b> Tai Chi  <b>6:30 PM</b> Elders meeting		<b>10:00 AM</b> Tai Chi	
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
PASTOR CHRIS AWAY ON VACATION						
<b>10:00 AM</b> Worship  <b>11:00 AM</b> Fellowship Hour	<b>10:00 AM</b> Embroiderers Guild  <b>5:30 PM</b> Narcotics Anonymous	<b>5:30 PM</b> Debtors Anonymous	<b>10:00 AM</b> Tai Chi  <b>7:00 PM</b> Trustees meeting	<b>3:00 PM</b> MU Seminary Cohort	<b>10:00 AM</b> Tai Chi	<b>9:00 AM</b> Coffee & Conversation
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
PASTOR CHRIS AWAY ON VACATION						
<b>10:00 AM</b> Worship  <b>11:00 AM</b> Fellowship Hour	<b>5:30 PM</b> Narcotics Anonymous	<b>5:30 PM</b> Debtors Anonymous	<b>10:00 AM</b> Tai Chi		<b>10:00 AM</b> Tai Chi	<b>10:30 AM</b> Taoism Study Group
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
<b>10:00 AM</b> Worship  <b>11:00 AM</b> Inquirer's information session  <b>11:00 AM</b> Fellowship Hour	<b>5:30 PM</b> Narcotics Anonymous  <b>6:00 PM</b> CEC meeting	<b>5:30 PM</b> Debtors Anonymous	<b>10:00 AM</b> Tai Chi		Pastor Chris' Sabbath  <b>10:00 AM</b> Tai Chi	
27	28	29	30	31	Aug 1	2
<b>10:00 AM</b> Worship  <b>11:00 AM</b> Fellowship Hour  <b>2:30 PM</b> Labyrinth & Prayer Walk	BUILDER SUBMISSIONS DUE TO THE OFFICE  <b>5:30 PM</b> Narcotics Anonymous	<b>10:30 AM</b> Book Club  <b>5:30 PM</b> Debtors Anonymous	<b>10:00 AM</b> Tai Chi	<b>9:00 AM</b> Newsletter folding team	Pastor Chris' Sabbath  <b>10:00 AM</b> Tai Chi	
3	4	Notes				
<b>10:00 AM</b> Worship  <b>11:00 AM</b> Fellowship Hour	<b>10:00 AM</b> Embroiderers Guild  <b>5:30 PM</b> Narcotics Anonymous					

## WORSHIP HIGHLIGHTS

We will be fortunate to have several guest pastors while Pastor Chris is on sabbatical this summer.

### June 1

Dan Miller, Director of Mission Service at the Board of World Mission

### June 8

David Danneberger

### June 15

Melissa Johnson, President of the Eastern District Executive Board

### June 22

Bishop Doug Kleintop

### June 29

Community Outreach Team

### July 13

Bruce Weaknecht

If you have a pastoral emergency during this time, please contact Linda Toggart, Spiritual Director, at 610-217-1971/[latogs@aol.com](mailto:latogs@aol.com).

## UPCOMING EVENTS AT COLLEGE HILL

### LABYRINTH WALK 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 on **Sunday, June 29** and **Sunday, July 27, 2025** from **3 PM–4:30 pm**. This walk will take place at 72 West Laurel Street, Bethlehem, PA 18018.

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.

### EXPLORING CHURCH MEMBERSHIP

If you have been participating as a visitor to College Hill for a while and find yourself feeling comfortable in our church community, perhaps you'd like to consider becoming a member of the congregation. If this is a connection you'd like to explore further, please plan on attending an **Inquirers' Conversation on Sunday, July 20**, following worship. We'll gather in the Parlor and, over a light lunch, learn more about how we carry out our mission to learn, share, and live Christ's love.

So that we can best prepare for the session, please sign up by contacting the church office by the end of day on **Monday, July 14**. If you are interested in exploring membership but are unable to attend the scheduled session, you may make an appointment to meet with Pastor Chris at another time.

It's our hope that we will welcome folks into church membership during worship on Sunday, August 10 when we commemorate spiritual renewal.

## COLLEGE HILL NEWS

### ABOUT THE NEW SIGNS IN THE BASEMENT

Following up on the statement from the Board of Elders first published in last month's newsletter (repeated in the next column), "**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

### 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!

### 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, starting from music and programs especially for families on the city's Payrow Plaza and sharing in 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 outside on the church green at **5:30 PM**.

So come celebrate the history and living presence of the Moravian Community and our greater Bethlehem Community with us on Saturday, September 6!

### **COFFEE & CONVERSATION**

Coffee and Conversation will meet in Fellowship Hall on **Saturday, July 12 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.

### **IN MEMORIAM GRACE TITUS**

**January 8, 1924 – June 2, 2025**

Our sister in Christ, Grace Titus, entered the Savior's nearer presence on Monday, June 2, 2025. Please hold her family in your hearts, especially her daughter, Nancy Pfeffer.

A graveside memorial service took place at Memorial Cemetery on Dewberry Avenue at 11:30 AM on Thursday, June 5, 2025.

## **SUMMER PROGRAMS AT CAMP HOPE**

Registrations are now being accepted at our beloved Moravian church camp in New Jersey, Camp Hope. Visit <https://www.camphope.org/camp> to learn more and sign up.

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 second 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 the BAM scholarship of \$300 per camper is added in, the congregation will pay the amount left over 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 2025 Camp Hope schedule:

**Musical Theatre Camp: 6/29-7/5**  
\$550

Completed 5th-9th Grade this year

**Primary Camp: 7/6-12**  
\$520

Completed 3rd or 4th Grade this year

**Middler Camp: 7/13-7/19**  
\$520

Completed 5th or 6th Grade this year

**Junior High Camp: 7/20-7/26**  
\$520

Completed 7th or 8th Grade this year

**Senior High Camp: 7/27-8/2**  
\$550

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

**Swim Camp: 8/3-8/9**

\$550

Completed 3rd - 6th Grade this year

**Pre-Primary Camp: 8/3-8/6**

\$345

Completed 1st or 2nd Grade this year

## **GOOGLE US! REVIEW US!**

A simple thing you can do to help us raise our congregation's visibility and potentially attract visitors is to give College Hill Moravian Church a 5-star rating and write a positive Google Review. Better yet, share some pictures of our beautiful building and wonderful people! (For safety reasons, please avoid pics of children, though.) A quick media analysis shows we've been neglecting this free and easy way of spreading the news that College Hill Moravian Church is a warm and wonderful place to be. The Board of Trustees challenges us all to work on boosting our algorithmic performance immediately!

## **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

## **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.

**June 24** *West with Giraffes*  
by Lynda Rutledge

**July 29** *The Frozen River*  
by Ariel Lawhon

## NO MEETING IN AUGUST

September 30    TBD

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

## TREX PLASTIC COLLECTION

It is time for a reminder about our TREX project. College Hill, along with the BAM churches, continues to support the environment through our Plastic Collections. Collect your clean and dry acceptable plastic in one of the bags you are recycling. Tie it up when it is full. Place it in one of the several large collection bags in Fellowship Hall under the table by the stage. The display of “YES” and “NO” plastics is for you to check your contribution. Black and white trash bags are NOT acceptable for donating your plastic.

We are counting on you to include only acceptable plastic so that our donation is not rejected. Everyone is doing a good job of sorting your plastic to make sure our donation is acceptable. The Bethlehem Area Moravians thus far have kept several tons of plastic from polluting the earth in the past 5 years! That is a LOT of plastic! With our churches working together, we have made an impact.

We received the benches by the Little Library and the parking lot for free through our donations. Your help and your donations are appreciated. If you have any questions, or wish to volunteer to help with this project, contact 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

Plastic 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 easily is shiny & crinkles or crunches
- If material does not stretch easily



## THANKS FOR THE MUSIC

As our music ensemble season has come to a close for the 2024–2025 year, we offer thanks to all the wonderful musicians who give so generously of their time and talent to enhance our worship throughout the year.

Thanks to the **Choir**, the members of which devote hours each week in rehearsal and worship to serve as music ministers for our congregation, providing the foundation for our worship. The choir year culminated Sunday, May 18, in a wonderful celebration of *Moravian* music, focusing on the talents of our own congregation with hymns by Willard Harstine, Shirley Cox, and Pastor Chris as well as organ prelude and postlude by Becky (Kleintop) Lepore and Ben Wallace. A moving addition this year was the choir's premier of an arrangement of BLESSED

ASSURANCE, written by Brian Henkelmann (son of the congregation) in honor of his cousin, Chuck Stoltz, who is sorely missed and whose presence remains with us each Sunday.

Thanks to our amazing **Handbell Choir** whose talents add beautifully to our worship each time they ring. The Handbell Choir wrapped up their season, bookending our worship Sunday, June 1, with their elegant tintinnabulation. (Look it up!) This ensemble is lovingly and masterfully led by Co-Directors, Ben and Krysti Wallace. Rehearsals are always exciting with Little Ringers Amelia Olver, Milo Wallace, and Parker Diehl-Mongold in attendance.

Thank you from **Gwyn**: What an unexpected and humbling surprise greeted me at the end of Moravian Music Sunday with the proclamation changing my title from Organist/Director of Music to *Minister of Music* at College Hill! I am so blessed to be at College Hill and feel unworthy of this title, but am tremendously grateful to the Elders and the congregation for honoring me in this manner. With God's help and that of the congregation, I will strive to live up to my new task.

**Organ Update:** After months of planning, on Thursday, May 22 (just days after Moravian Music Sunday), Pete Gerger, our organ tuner and contractor, disconnected the organ console from the pipe chamber. He has visited many times since, with tremendous progress being made with each visit. Unfortunately, we weren't able to find a congregation to take our old console (also featured during this year's Moravian Music Sunday), but we have been able to harvest its parts. The keyboards (manuals) have been donated to another organ builder and the metal is being recycled. Work is also progressing inside the organ chamber - old relays (the parts which directly open the organ pipes to create sound) are being replaced by new, wiring is being updated to current standards, and preparations are being made for a new rectifier. Watch for a bulletin board coming soon, focusing on the organ project. Excitement is in the works!

## 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!

Yes, it's summer and yes, Christmas is months away, but we are starting to collect school supplies (pencils, markers, crayons, glue sticks, etc)

and other needed items (sidewalk chalk, kickballs, tissues, Lysol wipes, etc) NOW so they 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** is in need of 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.



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

#### MISSION MINUTE: KEEP IN TOUCH WITH THE BWM!

Wondering how to stay connected with the Board of World Mission? We offer two regular newsletters for Moravians around the world:

1. The Mission Message is our official quarterly newsletter and gives the best and broadest overview of our work. If you want to know what the BWM's staff and board are working on and how you can connect, this is the newsletter for you! We offer the Mission Message via email and postal mail, so you can subscribe—for free—to whichever format is best for you.
2. The Ahuas Spotlight is a quarterly emailed newsletter about the Ahuas Clinic, a medical ministry serving the La Moskitia region of Honduras for over 75 years. It is lovingly compiled

by BWM board member and Ahuas Committee member Lisa Pampe and gives inspiring and thorough updates on all aspects of the Clinic's ministry.

Subscribe to our BWM communications at [MoravianMission.org/News/](http://MoravianMission.org/News/). Click the big green button to share your contact info and subscription preferences. We also invite you to follow us on social media for more regular updates on our work! We are on Facebook, Instagram, TikTok, and Bluesky.

### 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, N.Y.  
10003

Gifts may also be made on the MOD website [www.moravianhouse.org](http://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/>

## BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

### TRUSTEES UPDATE

June 11, 2025

We are experiencing an increasing shortfall from our giving units. Our obligation to the Norther Province for Eastern District and Common Ministries is now \$4792.96 in arrears. Again, this month we were unable to meet our obligations. We are asking you to be mindful of our obligations and continue to support our ministries all year long.

## IN OUR COMMUNITY

### 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 church office or in Fellowship Hall.

Our next classes are on **Wednesday, June 25** and **Wednesday, August 13** from **5:30 PM–7:00 PM**.

## LV PRIDE 2025

Dear Lehigh Valley Moravian Churches,

Grace and peace to you! 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. This year, we are once again organizing a presence at Lehigh Valley Pride, which will be on **August 17 from 2 PM – 7 PM** at ArtsQuest in Bethlehem, PA, with a clear and joyful mission:

"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."

Your congregation's voice and presence are vital in helping make this message visible and tangible to all who attend. Whether you've joined us before or are considering it for the first time, there are meaningful ways to be involved.

### HOW CAN YOU PARTNER WITH US IN THIS MISSION?

#### Celebration:

Attend Pride 2025 with us! Bring a group from your congregation and experience the joy, color, and power of being present with our LGBTQIA+ neighbors. After Pride, we encourage you to work with your pastor or leadership team to share reflections during a Sunday worship service. Testimonies about showing up for our community in this way can help your wider congregation understand the sacred impact of Pride.

#### Service:

Join our volunteer team during the event! One of our most beloved forms of service is distributing cold water bottles to Pride attendees. In the past,

we've had the water at our booth for folks, but this year we are switching that up and are going to the people! Remembering the words of Jesus and that when we give folks who are thirsty something to drink, we are indeed serving Christ, we invite all our service volunteers to go out to the crowds and hand out water as you participate in the greater event! This visible act of care gives us the opportunity to engage directly with people across the festival grounds. Volunteers should be comfortable with some walking and moving about — no booth confinement required!

**Note: College Hill will be participating in Pride 2025 with other Moravian congregations, so we will need volunteers who can walk around and pass out water bottles to the attendees.**

#### Affirmation:

Lastly, we are also seeking volunteers (especially clergy and lay pastors) to offer *glitter blessings* at our booth throughout the day. These small moments of personal affirmation are deeply meaningful to many attendees. All materials and a brief orientation will be provided — just bring your spirit of compassion and love.

If your congregation is interested in partnering with us for Pride 2025 in one or more of these ways, or if you'd simply like more information, please reach out to Byrnes Craig ([byrnes.craig@gmail.com](mailto:byrnes.craig@gmail.com)) and/or Mikayla Sauerbrey ([revmikayla@gmail.com](mailto:revmikayla@gmail.com)). We are also gratefully accepting donations of bottled water to support our service efforts throughout the event. We'd love to collaborate with you to make this witness of celebration, service, and affirmation as powerful and Spirit-filled as possible.

Together, let us embody God's expansive love — not just in words, but in joyful, visible presence.

In All Things Love,

Mikayla Sauerbrey (Pastor, Calvary Moravian Church) & Byrnes Craig (Community Engagement and Outreach Coordinator, Emmaus Moravian Church)

## YOUNG PEOPLE MAKING PEACE DAY CAMP

Sponsored by the LEPOCO Peace Center, this day camp will be held **July 21–25, 2025 from 9 AM–noon** at First Presbyterian Church in Allentown. Peace Camp is five mornings of fun activities focusing on peace and social justice: We sing and dance, do arts and crafts, play cooperative games, and work to build a peaceful community. We welcome campers who have finished kindergarten through 7th grade. Older students and adults may serve as volunteers. Pre-registration is required, so visit <https://lepoco.org/peace-camp/> or contact LEPOCO at 610-691-8730 or [lepoco@fast.net](mailto:lepoco@fast.net) to register or for more information.

## 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](mailto: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!

## NEWSLETTER DEADLINE: JULY 28

Please submit articles for the August 2025 edition of *The Builder* by **Monday, July 28, 2025** to [church@collegehillmoravian.org](mailto:church@collegehillmoravian.org). Please submit all Weekly Announcement articles by the Wednesday of that week.



## HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

June 2	Emily & Steven Sanchez
June 4	William & Nancy Miller
June 5	Andy & Cindy Brown
June 10	Rick & Judy Snyder
June 15	Richard & Diane Cuvo
June 19	Anthony & Nicole Parra
June 22	Doug & Rosemary Kleintop
June 27	Will & Nancy Harstine
July 11	Ray & Joan Duh
July 13	Ken & Amy Roy
July 17	Ken & Gloria Johnson
July 18	Jason & Lauren Miller
July 31	Jim & Connie Gregg
	Joe & Caroline Pietkiewicz
	Michael & Christina Weiner



## HAPPY BIRTHDAY

June 4	Will Harstine
June 6	Larry Meixell
June 7	Linda Thomas
June 8	Joe Pietkiewicz
June 9	Russell Lobb
June 10	Travis Brown
	Blaine Strunk

June 12	Deborah Matyas
June 15	Michael Saunders
June 16	Nicolas Kurtz
June 17	Kevin Harstine
June 18	Jane Gottwald
June 19	Leonard Feist
June 21	Cian Miller
June 22	Tyrone Miller
	Tom Mosser
June 23	Megan Buchman
June 25	Andy Bauer
	Maryann Cuvo
	Mike DiMenichi
	Rita Hahn
June 28	Glenn Kurtz
July 2	Luke Meixell
July 6	Ashley Williams
	Amy Deutsch
July 7	Emily Lopez
	Kaspian Hlavinka
July 8	Rosemary Kleintop
	Stephanie Mohr
July 10	Dan Deutsch
	Barb Killar
July 11	Kerry Meixell
July 15	Maya Albertson
	Amy Deutsch
July 17	Nancy Danneberger
July 19	Chris Collie
	Cory Dieterly
	Ben Harney
July 20	Danielle Frisch
July 21	Paty Eiffé
July 22	Andy Brown
	Steve Hitcho
July 23	Natalie Brown
July 26	Nena Asquith
	Ken Michaels
	Corinne Parra
	Diane Petko
	Sue Youtz
July 30	Tanner Brown

- 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...**

- Ben Gehringer (son of Julie Illick)
- Martha Cox Popichak
- Samantha and Emmeileine (granddaughter & great granddaughter of Nancy Beitel-Vessels)
- Evan Burkhardt
- Steve Youtz (brother of Sue Youtz and Julie Illick)
- Shayla (friend of Bria Prosperi)
- Jeffrey Harstine (son of Nancy & Will Harstine)
- Sharon Bond
- 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.

## **PRAYERS**

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

- Jerry Yob
- Will Harstine
- David Danneberger
- Bobbi James
- Gloria Reisinger
- Joe Pietkiewicz
- Tom Markley
- Sherwood Kindred
- Debbie Zechman
- Joan Menges
- Kathy Powers

