



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Sun., Aug. 12**
10:00 am Worship with Communion;
Blessing of the Backpacks
- Mon., Aug. 13**
6:00 pm Commission of Elders
- Sun., Aug. 19**
1:30 pm
Swim Picnic at Connie & Victor's
- Sun., Aug. 26**
10:30 am
All Ages Worship
- Mon., Aug. 27**
6:00 pm Diner's Club at Red Lobster
- Fri., Aug. 31—Sun., Sept. 2**
Philadelphia St. lot closed for maintenance
- Mon., Sept. 3**
LABOR DAY—
Church Office Closed
- Sun., Sept. 9**
9:00 am Sunday School
10:30 am Worship in the Sanctuary;
Kidsfest restarts

Wicked Good

“Wicked Good” may now be a part of my everyday vocabulary after our vacation to Maine. Getting the opportunity to visit coastal Maine was amazing (Thank you, Mom & Dad)! I cannot count the number of times that creation took my breath away or how many times I thought my heart might stop at the sheer wonder of God’s handiwork. The house that we rented was right on the water with a beautiful backyard overlooking the inlet. Every morning, throughout the day, and even into the wee hours of the night, you would find us there, outside in nature. The boys ran around in the soft green grass in their bare feet, waddled into the cold Atlantic ocean waters, and climbed onto rocks bigger than two cars stacked on top of each other. Did I mention the temperature ranged from 75 to the low 80s? It was spectacularly, awesomely beautiful! Maine has stolen my heart, blown my mind, and reshaped my spirit. I HIGHLY RECOMMEND adding Coastal Maine to your bucket list! I hope in my future that I will see more of Maine, more of New England. But until then, we will continue to feel our spirits lifted with God experiences here in York.

You might be saying, it’s HOT! Who would want to be outside? I know, I hear you! I told Kevin, “I can see myself camping in Maine, I can see myself hiking in Maine, I can see myself kayaking in Maine, but not at home, it’s too hot!” I literally said those exact words! But since we have been home, I want to be back in the woods, near the water, and on an adventure. I want to see more of creation and notice the details I have overlooked.



But isn’t that where Christ calls us? Christ calls us out of the boat, out of the safe comfortable (air-conditioned) places and into adventures. Those adventures might be new, they might be scary. But when you go with the Lord, we can trust it will all be okay. When we go with Christ, we will experience life-altering, faith-growing, soul-expanding, breathtaking moments with God. They say, “Life Is an Adventure.” Why not go on the adventure with the best trail guide EVER? Where is Christ calling you? What is holding you back? Take the first step and see where the “wicked good” adventure will lead!

—Pastor Sayward

Average Attendance in Worship

June 2018 — 4 Sundays: 39.5
June 2017 — 4 Sundays: 54
July 2018 — 5 Sundays: 36
July 2017 — 5 Sundays: 48

Offerings—June 3-July 29

General: \$16,665.00
Refurbishing Fund: \$512.00
Flower Fund: \$35.00
Dividends: \$5.72
Smith Book: \$130.00
Parking: \$400.00
Camp Hope: \$192.85
Donation toward Church computer: \$300.00

Elders Report

No July Meeting.
Elders will meet August 13th.

Trustees Report

No meeting in August. Trustees will meet again on September 17th.

Joint Board Report

A Joint Board meeting was called Sunday, July 29th by Pastor Sayward to discuss requests from Liz and Randi, the occupational therapists for the Sensory Rooms. Liz and Randi would like permission to add another Play Group session from 11:15am-1:15 pm on Tuesdays and Thursdays. They would also like to rent the first classroom for an office. Due to HIPAA laws, the room will need a lock on the door. Liz said they could take care of the lock. They also asked if they could freshen the room with new paint. They will supply paint swatches for us to approve the color. Steve Nicholas made a motion to give permission for a second session for the Play Group and to give them the use of the second classroom as an office pending discussion on a rental agreement. Rick Lehigh seconded the motion and a unanimous vote followed. Steve also noted that we may also need to consider a monthly charge for the use of the church facilities for the Play Group sessions. We will be giving them a church key.

In other business, Pastor Sayward reported that the air conditioning stopped working at the parsonage. Parts are needed for the outside unit. Approximate cost is \$600.00. The AC unit is too small for the house.

Moravian News Briefs

Br. Michael Poole concluded his ministry at the Battle Hill Moravian Church in Union, New Jersey on July 31st. Please keep Mike, his wife Sr. Tracy Pryor (pastor of the Great Kills Moravian Church in Staten Island, NY), and the Battle Hill congregation in your prayers during this time of transition.

Br. Chris Geisler, pastor of Emmaus Moravian Church in Emmaus, PA, has accepted a call to serve on the staff of the Board of World Mission as Director of Mission Engagement. He will conclude his ministry at Emmaus on Aug. 26th and begin serving on the BWM on Sept. 8th.

Of note, please keep Br. Chris and his family in your prayers in the loss of his father, **Rev. John Geisler**, who passed into the more immediate presence of his Savior on June 7th.

Sr. Jane Gehler, pastor of Unionville Moravian Church in Unionville, MI, has accepted a call to Specialized Ministry to serve as Director of Spiritual Care at Marquardt Village in Watertown, MI beginning Sept. 10th.

Please keep **Revs. Rhonda and Tracy Robinson**, pastors of Iglesia Esperanza of Bethlehem, in prayer as they care for their parents, Rev. & Mrs. Steadman Bent who have recently been ill.

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The IBOC is offering new products this summer, including a new T-shirt, designed especially for the Northern Province! This high quality, 100% cotton T-shirt comes in a beautiful, royal-blue color with a brilliant red & white silk-screened design, "Jesus Make My Heart Rejoice" over a big red heart! The back lists all the U.S. Northern Province Moravian congregations, emerging ministries, and fellowships. Sizes S to 2XL. Visit store.moravian.org.

Food Pantry

Please remember our Food Pantry needs: pre-packaged food items, such as granola/energy/cereal bars, peanut butter crackers, snack-sized fruit cups, peanut butter, ramen soups, tuna/chicken salad snacks-to-go. Also personal hygiene items such as toothbrushes, toothpaste, deodorant, shampoo, and soap. And clean grocery bags.

Worship Survey Results

The ballots have been counted and the results reveal that our congregation is in favor of remaining in the sanctuary for the year and only moving to the air-conditioned Fellowship Hall for worship during the hot summer months.

Our summer worship schedule concludes September 2nd in Fellowship Hall. We will return to the sanctuary on September 9th. Sunday School will resume at 9 am beginning September 9th. All Ages Worship will continue the last Sunday of each month with Praise Songs and a modified service. *Kidsfest* (we hope!) will also resume September 9th.

Parking Lot Resurfacing

We have received notice that the Philadelphia Street lot will be closed for resurfacing and line painting from Friday, August 31st through Sunday, September 2nd. Street parking and parking in the Child Care Services lot on the south side of the church will be available for Sunday's service. The dates are subject to weather conditions.

2019 Moravian Young Adult Youth Convo

Attention all youth aged 18-26 years ... Explore your Moravian Mission Roots and walk in the steps of the first Moravian missionaries!! Experience this opportunity with other young adults from across the Northern and Southern Provinces from June 25-July 3, 2019. Participants will spend time in Hands-On Mission Work in the U.S. Virgin Islands of St. Croix, St. John and St. Thomas, islands which were badly damaged from Hurricanes Harvey and Irma last year.

Save the date! And watch this newsletter for more details as we get them!

Diners' Club

Please consider joining our delightful little group — and **bring a friend or two** for some **quality mingling with fellow Christians!**

August 27: Red Lobster
 September 25: Round the Clock Diner East
 October 23: First Post
 November 27: Texas Roadhouse



Summer Swim Picnic

Sunday, August 19th, 1:30 pm

at Connie & Victor's
 3768 Druck Valley Rd.

Please bring a side dish. Beverages will be provided or bring your favorite refreshment!
 Don't forget your swim suit!

August Lectors

Aug. 5 Sharon Saylor
 Aug. 12 Aaren Downs
 Aug. 19 Chris Dobron
 Aug. 26 Cliff Rowell

August Children's Chat

Aug. 5 Pastor Sayward
 Aug. 12 John Knokey
 Aug. 19 Pastor Sayward
 Aug. 26 none needed

August Ushers

Jeff & Linda
 Rishel

August Nursery Staff

Aug. 5 if needed
 Aug. 12 if needed
 Aug. 19 if needed
 Aug. 26 none needed

August Gatekeepers

Aug. 5 Jeff Rishel
 Aug. 12 Lance Sprenkle
 Aug. 19 Gary Paules
 Aug. 26 Larry Sprenkle



Sensory Room News

Our grant money has been exhausted. We have been able to put heating and air-conditioning units in the two Sensory Rooms that are being used by Liz and Randi, the occupational therapists from the Early Intervention program. The Kid's Connection Sensory Play Group classroom and the Sensory Resource Room (what was the Men's classroom) has also been fitted with heating and air-conditioning units. The Sensory Resource Room is where the parents of the Play Group meet. It is where Pastor Sayward can sit down one-on-one with the parents and share their stories and concerns. It also provides opportunities for Pastor Sayward to share about Jesus and First's ministry!

In a recent Joint Board held July 29th, it was brought to our attention that, due to a very long waiting list, a second Kid's Connections Play Group is needed on the Tuesdays and Thursdays when the current Play Group meets. The request was unanimously approved by the Joint Board so, beginning in September, the Play Groups will meet from 9:00-11:00 am and 11:15 am-1:15 pm. Liz and Randi have also

asked — and were granted — the use of another classroom to serve as their office. A lock will be installed on the door to ensure HIPAA compliance. Both Liz and Randi have offered to repaint the room and will submit color swatches for our approval. The Board also approved to give the therapy staff a key to the church.

There are more possibilities for ministry and ministry partnerships in the future, so please continue to pray for this new ministry and look for more opportunities to get involved!



A Labor of Love

(Above left) Tim & Jeff Rishel unload supplies for the Sensory Rooms with Thaddeus's assistance.

(Above right) Jeff Rishel & John Knokey install the carpet padding.

(Bottom left) Thaddeus touches up the wall paint.

(Bottom right) The carpet is laid and final painting completed!





Birthdays

- | | |
|---------------------|--------------------------|
| 2 Betsy Swartz | 16 Elisabeth Taylor |
| 8 Sherry Campanella | 18 Samuel Pauley |
| 11 Rev. Terry Folk | 21 Rev. Stephen Nicholas |
| 12 Linda Rishel | 24 Don Eckert |
| 14 Judy Martin | Jason Martin |
| William Austin | 27 Christine Dobron |



Anniversaries

- | | |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 9 Larry & Jeannette Sprengle | 22 Rev. Stephen & Kathie Nicholas |
| 14 Stan & Judy Martin | 25 William & Carol Austin |
| 20 Samuel & Gabrielle Pauley | |



Prayer Concerns

Members and Friends

- | | |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Amy Ardison (Betsy Senft's sister) | Stanley Remley |
| Jeanne Barshinger | John Rishel |
| Miriam Boll | Karrie Rishel |
| Don & Audris Eckert | Cliff & Elaine Rowell |
| Marie Enterline | Ruth & Clair Seiple |
| Peg & John Knaub | Wes Senft |
| Glenn & Cheri Miley | Lewis Swartz |
| Kathie Nicholas | Mary Jones |
| Sue Paules | |
| Samuel Pauley | |

Shut-Ins

- | | |
|-------------------|--------------|
| Jeanne Barshinger | John Rishel |
| Miriam Boll | Lewis Swartz |
| Marie Enterline | |

New Addresses



- | | |
|--|---|
| Steve & Trudy Kotek
4 Morningside Drive
York, PA 17402 | Cindy Leiphart
338 W. Market St., Apt. 2
York, PA 17401 |
| Binky Gehly
105 Bridlewood Way, A-21
York, PA 17402 | |



Family Corner



It's August! Summer will soon be over and school will be starting. Many parents may be ready for school, although I am sure few kids are ready!

The Dog Days of Summer are upon us. I always assumed that the Dog Days of Summer meant nasty, oppressive, humidity-ridden heat. But it really doesn't. Instead, it turns out, the Dog Days refer to the Dog Star, Sirius, and its position in the heavens. In Maine, we had the opportunity as a family to walk out during low tide to a rock that sat farther out from the shoreline. It was a clear beautiful night for star gazing. We felt like we could touch the stars!

Why not before the school schedules get filled ... go star gazing! Check out:

- ◆ the York County Astronomical Society (<http://www.ycas.org>)
- ◆ the Planetarium (<https://ycas.org/planetarium-learning-center.htm>)
- ◆ the National Air & Space Museum (<https://airandspace.si.edu>)
- ◆ the North Museum of Nature and Science in Lancaster (<https://northmuseum.org/in-the-museum/>)
- ◆ the home base for Cosmic Mike on WJTL's Kid's Cookie Break (<https://www.facebook.com/Cosmic-Mike-111634472279135/>)
- ◆ and if you have time, plan a trip to Potter County (<https://visitpottertioga.com/explore/attractions/stargazing-in-pennsylvania/>) !!

Looking at the stars can remind you of how small we are and how awesomely amazing God is! Psalm 8:3-5 says, "When I look at the night sky and see the work of your fingers — the moon and the stars yet set into place — what are mere mortals that you should think about them, human beings that you should care for them? Yet you made them only a little lower than God and crowned them with glory and honor."

Blessing of the Backpacks

Back to school is coming! WOO HOO!!!

On August 12th, we will be having a Blessing of the Backpacks during worship. Anyone and everyone heading back to school — be it Pre-K to college students, teachers, and/or staff — are invited to bring their backpacks, briefcases, totes, etc., to worship.

By the way, this is a great time to invite someone to church! People will find it easy to say, "Hey, my church is blessing backpacks this Sunday — would you like to come and bring your children?" This could be one of the best evangelism opportunities of the year!

<https://www.buildfaith.org/blessing-of-the-backpacks-6-tips-for-success/#gref>



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Check out our NEW website!
www.yorkfirstmoravian.org

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AUGUST 2018 NEWSLETTER

2018 Watchword

Let us fear the Lord our God, who gives the rain in its season, the autumn rain and the spring rain, and keeps for us the weeks appointed for the harvest.

Jeremiah 5:24