



THE LAMPLIGHTER

YORK FIRST MORAVIAN

WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE?

TO SAY WE WERE SHOCKED AND DISMAYED BY THE SUDDEN RESIGNATION AND DEPARTURE OF OUR PASTORS, GARRITT AND SANETTE FLEMING, WOULD BE AN UNDERSTATEMENT. IN CONVERSATION WITH MANY OF OUR MEMBERS, WE CAN ALREADY SEE THAT WE ARE WORKING THROUGH THE STAGES OF GRIEF WHICH INCLUDE DENIAL, ANGER, BARGAINING, DEPRESSION, AND ACCEPTANCE. AS A CONGREGATION, WE NEED TO REACH THE LAST STAGE IF WE ARE GOING TO MOVE INTO THE FUTURE. GIVEN THEIR STRONG CONVICTIONS AND FEELINGS WE BELIEVE IT IS NOT LIKELY OUR PASTORS WILL BE CHANGING THEIR MINDS.

FOLLOWING THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF THEIR RESIGNATION ON SUNDAY, AUGUST 20, OUR JOINT BOARDS MET AND MADE SEVERAL DECISIONS ABOUT OUR FUTURE AS A CONGREGATION. WE FEEL OUR PARTNERSHIP WITH COVENANT MORAVIAN IS ADVANTAGEOUS FOR US, AS WE ARE BOTH SMALL AND STRUGGLING CONGREGATIONS WHO ARE STRONGER TOGETHER, SO WE WILL WORK WITH THEM IN SECURING PULPIT SUPPLY AND IN SEEKING A NEW PASTOR. THE REV. TERRY FOLK, OUR FORMER PASTOR LIVING IN GETTYSBURG, HAS OFFERED TO PREACH TWICE MONTHLY, AND OUR OWN MEMBER, CLIFF BERGSTRESSER, HAS RECENTLY COMPLETED A COURSE IN PREACHING AT MORAVIAN THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY AND WILL BE PREACHING. SEVERAL OTHER PASTORS, INCLUDING ONE BISHOP, HAVE OFFERED TO HELP US SO WE SHOULD NOT HAVE TO SCRAMBLE TO FILL THE PULPIT. FORMER PASTOR SANETTE HAS EXPRESSED A WILLINGNESS TO PREACH IN THIS TIME OF TRANSITION BUT BEFORE SHE IS ABLE TO DO THIS, WE NEED TO RECEIVE PERMISSION FROM THE EASTERN DISTRICT BOARD OF THE MORAVIAN CHURCH. THE VICE-CHAIR OF OUR ELDERS, THE REV. STEVE NICHOLAS, WILL BE AVAILABLE TO ASSIST IN A PINCH. WE ARE ASKING OUR GUEST PREACHERS TO SERVE AT BOTH FIRST MORAVIAN AND COVENANT, SO WE WILL KEEP OUR SERVICE TIMES AT 9:30 AM FOR COVENANT AND 11:15 AM FOR FIRST.

SINCE THEY WILL NEED A PLACE TO STAY, PASTORS GARRITT AND SANETTE WILL REMAIN IN THE PARSONAGE FREE OF CHARGE UNTIL THE END OF AUGUST AND THEREAFTER THEY WILL RENT ON A MONTH-TO-MONTH BASIS. THIS WILL HELP BOTH THEM AND US, AS THE PARSONAGE WILL NOT SIT EMPTY UNTIL WE RECEIVE A NEW PASTOR.

BOTH FIRST MORAVIAN AND COVENANT HAVE WRITTEN TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE EASTERN DISTRICT BOARD, THE REV. MELISSA JOHNSON, REQUESTING A MEETING TO ARRANGE A CALL TO A NEW PASTOR. WE DO NOT KNOW HOW LONG THIS PROCESS WILL TAKE, BUT WE DO NOT BELIEVE THE LORD IS FINISHED WITH US AT FIRST MORAVIAN CHURCH. OUR MEMBERS DID A WONDERFUL JOB OF HANGING IN DURING THE TWENTY-TWO MONTHS THAT WE WERE WITHOUT A PASTOR BEFORE THE FLEMINGS ARRIVED IN JUNE. WE KNOW HOW TO DO THIS. OUR GOD IS A FAITHFUL GOD, AND HE CALLS HIS PEOPLE TO BE FAITHFUL OVER AND OVER AGAIN. BROTHERS AND SISTERS IN CHRIST, WE ASK FOR YOUR UNDERSTANDING, YOUR PATIENCE, AND YOUR PRAYERS AS WE BEGIN THE PROCESS OF SEEKING NEW PASTORAL LEADERSHIP.

THE JOINT BOARD OF FIRST MORAVIAN CHURCH, YORK PA



“On the Road to Maturity”

When you think that your burdens are heavy,
When you think you have walked your last mile,
When you think that defeat stands before you,
When you think you have smiled your last smile,
When the problems of life press around you,
When your cross becomes too great to bear,
When you feel that your strength has all left you,
When you think there is no one to care,
Do not think of quitting your mission,
Don't begin to lower your goal,

Through all of your trials and testings,
It may be God is stretching your soul.
For holy and high is our calling
And weak is our faith for the task,
But He has the strength we are seeking
And he gladly will share if we ask.
So lean on his shoulder, dear children,
New faith and assurance you'll gain,
To help you through all of life's trials
And comfort through this “growing pain”.

Glenda Fulton Davis

ELDERS NEWS

THE ELDERS MET ON TUESDAY, AUGUST 8 ALONG WITH PASTORS GARRITT AND SANETTE. THE WORSHIP SERVICES WERE REVIEWED. THE PASTORS GAVE THEIR REPORTS. THE BOARD THOUGHT THAT THE REPORTS WERE WELL PREPARED AND VERY DETAILED. THE TIME WITH COVENANT AND FIRST IS WELL BALANCED. WE DISCUSSED HOW WE CAN HELP OUR HOMELESS. JOHN SPOKE WITH ED KNEE AT LIFEPAATH AND HE WOULD BE HAPPY TO COME AND SPEAK TO THE BOARDS. JOHN WILL SET THIS UP. WE WENT OVER CONTACTS/VISITS WITH OUR SHUT-INS. MORAVIAN DAY OF SERVICE IS SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 17 AND WE TALKED ABOUT WHAT WE CAN DO. IDEAS TO BE CONTINUED AT OUR NEXT MEETING. THIS WAS STARTED AS A WAY TO START MISSIONS IN CHURCHES. THE PUTZ PROGRAM WAS DISCUSSED. JOHN SAID THAT ATTENDANCE WAS WAY DOWN LAST YEAR. IT WAS DECIDED TO SHOW THE PUTZ JUST TWO WEEKS BEFORE CHRISTMAS AND THE WEEK OF CHRISTMAS. THE DAYS AND TIMES OF THE SHOWINGS WILL REMAIN THE SAME. OUR NEXT MEETING WILL BE HELD ON TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12 AT 7:00 PM VIA ZOOM.

TRUSTEES NEWS

THERE WAS NO MEETING IN AUGUST. THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE HELD ON TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 26 AT 7:00 PM VIA ZOOM.

TOTAL INCOME & OFFERINGS FROM SUNDAYS 7/30/2023 - 8/27/2023

\$ 6,096.00	GENERAL FUND
481.00	REFURBISHING FUND
120.00	MEMORIAL FUND (IN MEMORY OF DON ECKERT)
25.00	MEMORIAL FUND (IN MEMORY OF JANE KERCHNER)
50.00	PARKING RENTAL
96.58	AT&T DIVIDENDS
470.00	EMERGENCY NEEDS FUND
1,223.96	JULY & AUGUST PARSONAGE HOUSING ALLOWANCE (FROM COVENANT)
\$ 8,562.54	SUB-TOTAL
\$ 4,000.00	WITHDRAWAL FROM MORGAN STANLEY
\$12,562.54	TOTAL INCOME
\$12,113.40	TOTAL EXPENSES



September Birthdays

- 1 Kristi (Zeigler) Miller
- 2 Dalton Neil*
- 7 Michael Rishel
- 10 Rev. David Danneberger*
Rich Wurzbach
- 12 Christine Downs
- 14 Tyler Sprenkle
- 17 Lance Sprenkle
Larry Sprenkle
- 20 Ruth Seiple
- 25 Doug McDannell*
Owen Senft
- 30 Maria Prochnau*



September Anniversaries

- 9 Travis & Kayla Berkheimer*
- 11 Timothy & Betsy Senft
- 19 Richard & Lori Lehigh
- 23 Lloyd & Meagan Purswell*
- 29 Kevin & Pastor Sayward Lippincott*
Dalton & Marcie Neil*



Prayer Concerns

Amy Ardison (Betsy Senft's sister)
Pastor Jeff Coppage
Ann Coppage
Mary Jones
Kathie Nicholas
Karrie Rishel
Cliff Rowell and Family
Ruth & Clair Seiple
Jemon Grant
Gary Paules

Did you know...

We have an online giving portal! If you prefer to worship via Zoom you can send your offering online!

Just go to:

- mmfa.info
- click Giving Portal at the top
- Click 'F' and select First Moravian Church - York, PA

If you prefer to mail your offering, you can send it direct to:

Wanda Hendricks
3715 Fox Chase Drive
Dover, PA 17315

First Moravian Church
39 North Duke Street
York, PA 17401

717-843-2239

www.yorkfirstmoravian.org



2023 Watchword

"And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus."

Philippians 4:7