



AUGUST 2023

THE LAMPLIGHTER YORK FIRST MORAVIAN

FROM THE PASTORS' DESK:

GOING TO THE BEAT OF A DIFFERENT DRUMMER

I REMEMBER MY HIGH SCHOOL BAND DIRECTOR MAKING AN OBSERVATION ABOUT OUR CULTURE THAT HAS STUCK WITH ME EVEN TO TODAY. IT WAS THE END OF JUNE, AND SHE WAS GETTING MATERIALS READY FOR BAND CAMP THAT WOULD BE STARTING IN ABOUT A MONTH. SHE SAID, "WELL, IT'S ALMOST THE FOURTH OF JULY, AND AFTER THE FOURTH, SUMMER WILL BE OVER." WHEN SHE SAID IT, I THOUGHT SHE WAS CRAZY. MY FAMILY USUALLY TOOK OUR YEARLY VACATION AT THE END OF JULY EVERY YEAR. SURELY SUMMER COULDN'T ALREADY BE OVER!

AS THE YEARS HAVE PASSED, I'VE STARTED TO THINK THAT SHE WAS RIGHT. FREQUENTING GROCERY STORES AND SHOPPING AREAS MORE REGULARLY AS AN ADULT, I HAVE NOTICED THE "MERCHANDISE SHIFT." BEFORE THE FOURTH OF JULY, EVERYTHING IS BBQ, RED, WHITE, AND BLUE, SUNBLOCK AND SWIMWEAR. AS SOON AS JULY 5 COMES AROUND, THE PUMPKINS IMMEDIATELY SHOW UP AS IF THEY WERE JUST WAITING ON THE RACKS TO BE ROLLED OUT. FALL LEAVES AND COLORS ADORN THE AISLES, AND THE BATHING SUIT SECTION IS QUICKLY REPLACED BY BACK-TO-SCHOOL SUPPLIES. SORRY KIDS, NO MORE SWIMMING FOR YOU. IT'S NOT JUST WHAT OUR STORES WANT US TO THINK, BUT IT COMES TO BE OUR MENTALITY IF WE'RE NOT CAREFUL. ALWAYS MOVING TO THE NEXT THING BEFORE THE PREVIOUS ONE IS FINISHED.

NOW, THIS IS JUST ONE EXAMPLE OF HOW OUR CULTURE, AND MAYBE EVEN OUR ECONOMY, TRIES TO DIRECT OUR THINKING AND BEHAVIOR. BUT IT HAPPENS IN MANY OTHER AREAS OF LIFE TOO. THE CONCEPT APPLIES TO OUR MORALITY. MAYBE YOU'VE NOTICED A CHANGE IN ENTERTAINMENT OVER YOUR LIFETIME. FROM THE MID 1930S TO LATE 1960S A MANDATE WAS IN PLACE IN THE ENTERTAINMENT INDUSTRY CALLED THE HAYES CODE, A SET OF REGULATIONS THAT FORCED MOVIEMAKERS TO MAKE FILMS THAT COULD BE VIEWED BY THE WHOLE FAMILY.[1] THAT STANDARD IS NO LONGER IN EFFECT, AND THE RESULTS SPEAK FOR THEMSELVES. WHILE NOT EVERYTHING ON TV IS BAD, WE HAVE CERTAINLY SEEN AN INCREASE OF LANGUAGE, VIOLENCE, AND SEXUAL CONTENT IN OUR MEDIA, EVEN IN SHOWS GEARED TOWARD TEENAGERS. OUTSIDE OF MEDIA, WE HAVE ALSO SEEN THE RISE IN GAMBLING, IN PARTICULAR SPORTS BETTING. IN JANUARY OF THIS YEAR, FORBES MAGAZINE TRACKED THAT 2022 HAD SEEN AT LEAST A 13.5 PERCENT INCREASE IN GAMBLING IN CASINOS AND THROUGH MOBILE APPS COMPARED TO PREVIOUS RECORDS, AND THAT NUMBER IS ONLY EXPECTED TO INCREASE IN THE NEXT DECADE.[2] THE SCRIPTURES ARE CLEAR THAT THE LOVE OF MONEY (1 TIMOTHY 6:10) AND THE DESIRE TO GET RICH QUICK (PROVERBS 13:11) GO AGAINST GOD'S WILL FOR US, AND YET OUR CULTURE CELEBRATES AND ENCOURAGES SUCH BEHAVIOR.

THERE ARE MANY AREAS IN WHICH OUR CULTURE AND EVEN OUR OWN INDIVIDUAL APPETITES GO AGAINST WHAT THE LORD SAYS IS RIGHT AND GOOD. GOD WARNS US OF THIS IN GALATIANS 5:17 **"FOR THE DESIRES OF THE FLESH ARE AGAINST THE SPIRIT"**. WHEN CONFRONTED WITH A CHALLENGE OF "SHOULD I" OR "SHOULDN'T I" ENGAGE WITH THIS ACTIVITY, BEHAVIOR, OR INTEREST, OUR FIRST STEP SHOULD NOT BE CONSULTING OUR OWN SELF ASKING, "WELL, WHAT DO I THINK?" OR, "WHAT IS GOING,

TO MAKE ME FEEL GOOD?" WE MAY VERY WELL WANT THAT EXTRA SERVING OF DESSERT, BUT IS IT GOOD FOR US? IS IT GOING TO MAKE US SICK? RATHER THAN LOOK TO OUR OWN DESIRES, WE ARE TO LOOK TO THE WILL OF THE HOLY SPIRIT AND ASK GOD FOR DIRECTION. "LORD, WHAT WOULD YOU HAVE ME DO?"

THERE ARE MANY VOICES, INCLUDING OUR OWN, TRYING TO TELL US OR ENCOURAGE US AS TO WHAT TO DO, BUT THE CHIEF MOST VOICE TO WHOM WE SHOULD BE LISTENING IS JESUS' VOICE. WHEN THE DISCIPLES ARE ARGUING ABOUT WHO IS THE GREATEST AMONG THEM, THEY START BY MEASURING THEIR WORTH BY STATUS AND POSITION. BUT JESUS CALLS THEM TO MEASURE BY A DIFFERENT STANDARD: **"YOU KNOW THAT THE RULERS OF THE GENTILES LORD IT OVER THEM, AND THEIR GREAT ONES EXERCISE AUTHORITY OVER THEM. IT SHALL NOT BE SO AMONG YOU. BUT WHOEVER WOULD BE GREAT AMONG YOU MUST BE YOUR SERVANT, AND WHOEVER WOULD BE FIRST AMONG YOU MUST BE YOUR SLAVE, EVEN AS THE SON OF MAN CAME NOT TO BE SERVED BUT TO SERVE, AND TO GIVE HIS LIFE AS A RANSOM FOR MANY"** (MATTHEW 20:25-28). JESUS SAYS TO HIS DISCIPLES THAT THEY SHOULDN'T MEASURE THEIR WORTH IN THE SAME WAY THE NON-BELIEVERS DO — "NOT SO AMONG YOU" HE SAYS. RATHER AS JESUS' DISCIPLES THEN AND NOW ARE TO MEASURE OURSELVES AND LIVE ACCORDING TO HIS STANDARD — "EVEN AS THE SON OF MAN CAME NOT TO BE SERVED BUT TO SERVE". JESUS IS OUR STANDARD, AND IT IS ACCORDING TO HIS EXAMPLE, HIS WORD AND HIS COMMAND THAT WE ARE TO LIVE OUR LIVES, NOT BY WHAT THE CULTURE OR OUR OWN DESIRES TELL US.

AS WE SEE THE FALL DECORATIONS FLOODING OUR STORES, LET US FIGHT AGAINST THE TIDE. AS WE SEE IMMORALITY RISING IN OUR COMMUNITIES, LET US STAND FIRM IN OUR FAITH (1 CORINTHIANS 16:13-14), NOT BEING SWAYED BY EVERY WIND OF DOCTRINE BUT BUILDING OUR HOUSE ON THE ROCK THAT IS JESUS CHRIST (MATTHEW 8:24).

AMEN.

REVS. GARRITT AND SANETTE

PASTORS' CONTACT INFORMATION

REVS. GARRITT & SANETTE FLEMING (ESTHER)
1960 WYATT CIRCLE
DOVER, PA 17315-3672

WE CAN BE REACHED AT:

PARSONAGE MOBILE TELEPHONE (717) 585-5846 OR
COVENANT MORAVIAN OFFICE PHONE (717) 755-3269

GARRITT'S EMAIL: PASTORGARRITT@GMAIL.COM
SANETTE'S EMAIL: REV.SFRANCIS@GMAIL.COM

Weekly Schedules

Reverend Garritt:

Sunday: 9-1 P.M. — (**Covenant** & **First Moravian**) — Worship

Monday: Sabbath Day — day of rest; available for emergencies only

Tuesday: 8:30-4:00 P.M. (**Covenant**) — office time (in-person or remote)

Wednesday: 8:30-4:00 P.M. (**Covenant**) — pastoral care visits and office time

Thursday: 8:30-4:00 P.M. (**First Moravian**) — office time (in-person or remote)

Friday: 8:30-4:00 P.M. (**First Moravian**) — pastoral care visits and office time

Reverend Sanette:

Sunday: 9-1 P.M. — (**Covenant** & **First Moravian**) — Worship — Rev. Sanette will only be working on the Sundays on which she is preaching. The 9-1 P.M. will only apply to her working Sundays.

Monday: Sabbath Day — day of rest; available for emergencies only

Tuesday: 9:00-2:00 P.M. (**Covenant**) — office time (in-person or remote)

Wednesday: 9:00-2:00 P.M. (**Covenant**) — pastoral care visits and office time

Thursday: 9:00-2:00 P.M. (**First Moravian**) — office time (in-person or remote)

Friday: 9:00-2:00 P.M. (**First Moravian**) — pastoral care visits and office time

ELDERS NEWS

THE ELDERS MET ON TUESDAY, JULY 11 ALONG WITH THE TRUSTEES AND PASTORS GARRITT AND SANETTE. THE WORSHIP SERVICES WERE REVIEWED AND NOTED THAT ATTENDANCE HAS BEEN UP. WE WENT OVER IN DETAIL WITH OUR NEW PASTORS THEIR SCHEDULE FOR VISITING MEMBERS AND OUR SHUT-INS. ALSO, THEY WILL BE GIVING THE ELDERS A MONTHLY REPORT ON THE WORK THEY ARE DOING AND A YEARLY REVIEW WILL BE GIVEN. OUR WEBSITE WILL BE UPDATED WITH OUR NEW PASTORS' INFORMATION. PASTOR SANETTE REQUESTED PRAYER FOR WHAT WE CAN DO AS A CHURCH FOR THE HOMELESS IN OUR COMMUNITY. OUR NEXT MEETING WILL BE HELD ON TUESDAY, AUGUST 8 AT 7:00 PM VIA ZOOM.

TRUSTEES NEWS

THE TRUSTEES MET ON TUESDAY, JULY 11 ALONG WITH THE ELDERS AND PASTORS GARRITT AND SANETTE. MAINTENANCE/REPAIRS FOR THE ANNEX, CHURCH AND PARSONAGE WERE REVIEWED. IT WAS VOTED TO USE R.L. ADDLESBERGER ROOFING FOR THE PARSONAGE ROOF REPLACEMENT. A HANDICAP ACCESS RAMP FOR THE CHURCH SIDE ENTRANCE WILL BE WORKED ON AT THE NEXT WORKDAY, FRIDAY, AUGUST 4. THE TREASURER'S REPORT WAS GIVEN BY WANDA HENDRICKS. INCOME AND EXPENSES FOR THE MONTH WERE REVIEWED. THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE HELD ON TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 26 AT 7:00 PM VIA ZOOM. (NO MEETING IN AUGUST.)

TOTAL INCOME & OFFERINGS FROM SUNDAYS 7/1/2023 - 7/25/2023

GENERAL FUND	\$ 5,863.76
REFURBISHING FUND	226.00
SMITH BOOK FUND	140.00
EMERGENCY NEEDS FUND	122.00
PARKING	100.00
REFUND CK FROM OVERPAID PA	46.63
STATE TAXES (FROM MARCH)	
DAILY TEXT ORDER	14.00
MORGAN STANLEY WITHDRAWAL	6,000.00
TOTAL INCOME FOR JULY	\$12,514.39
TOTAL EXPENSES FOR JULY	\$11,997.23



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of the Moravian Church • North America

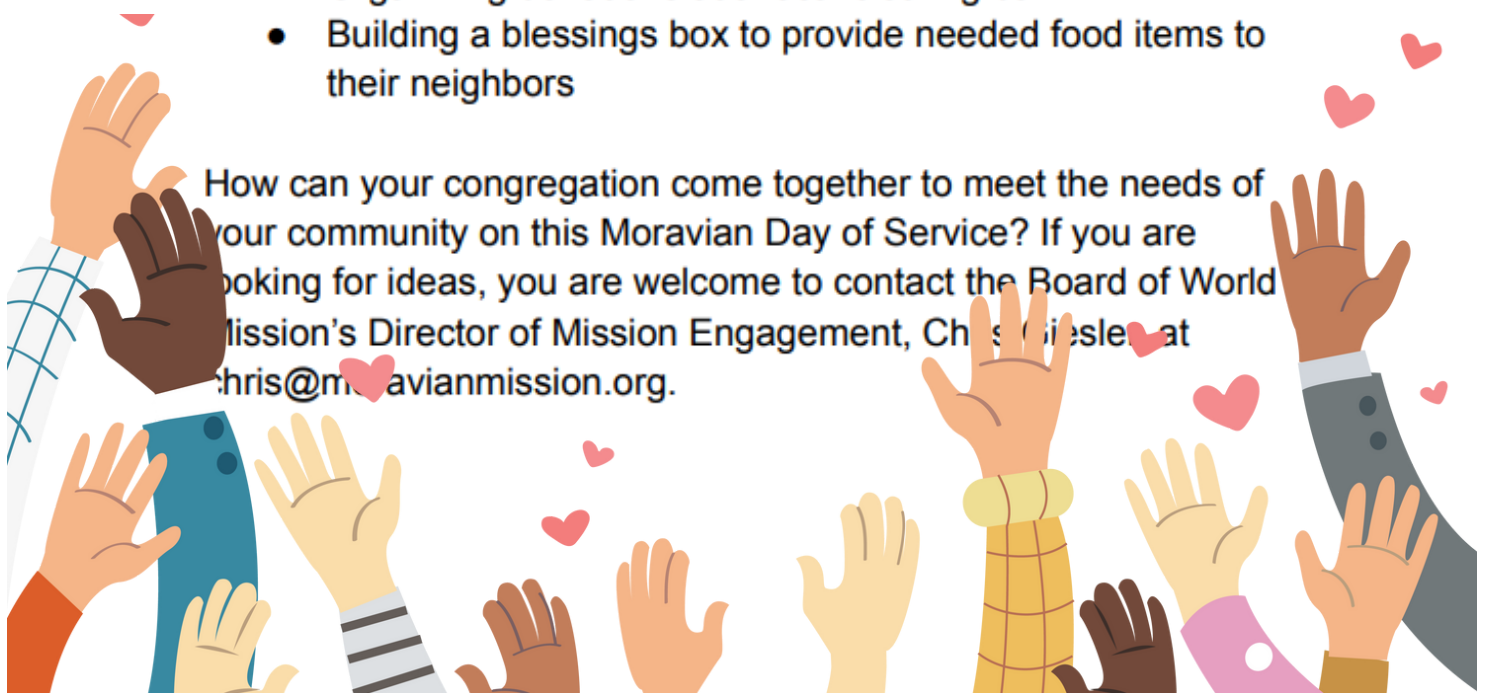
Moravian Day of Service

The 2023 Moravian Day of Service will be on Sunday, September 17th. This celebratory day raises awareness of the importance of mission work in our Moravian faith, encourages congregations to think of new ways to make a difference in their communities, and demonstrates our desire to be the hands and feet of Christ in the world. For your congregation, this can be a day to celebrate the service that you do all year long and highlight ways more of your members can get involved. We also encourage you to plan a special service opportunity that might invite a sense of community engagement and excitement among your members.

In previous years, Moravian congregations throughout the Northern and Southern Provinces have served their communities in a variety of ways. Some examples include:

- Making sandwiches for a local soup kitchen
- Picking up trash in their neighborhood
- Writing notes of appreciation and encouragement to community members
- Making blankets for the humane society
- Organizing donations at a local clothing bank
- Building a blessings box to provide needed food items to their neighbors

How can your congregation come together to meet the needs of your community on this Moravian Day of Service? If you are looking for ideas, you are welcome to contact the Board of World Mission's Director of Mission Engagement, Chris Giesler at chris@moravianmission.org.



August Birthdays

8 Sherry Campanella
11 Rev. Terry Folk*
14 Judy Martin
William Austin
16 Elisabeth Taylor
18 Sam Pauley
19 Binky Gehly*
21 Rev. Steve Nicholas
24 Don Eckert
Jason Martin



August Anniversaries

9 Larry & Jeannette Sprenkle
13 Justin & Lindsey Messersmith
14 Stanley & Judith Martin
22 Rev. Steve & Kathie Nicholas
25 William & Carol Austin



Prayer Concerns

Amy Ardison (Betsy Senft's sister)
Pastor Jeff Coppage
Ann Coppage
Don Eckert
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