



THE LAMPLIGHTER

YORK FIRST MORAVIAN

ARE PEOPLE IN YORK GOOD OR BAD?

SEVERAL MONTHS AGO THERE WAS AN ARTICLE IN THE YORK SUNDAY NEWS BY A MR. LAWRENCE GOLDMAN ABOUT HOW YORK IS AN AWFUL PLACE IN WHICH TO LIVE AND HOW IT HAS THE MOST UNFRIENDLY PEOPLE HE EVER MET. MR. GOLDMAN SOUNDED VERY UNHAPPY LIVING HERE. I WILL CONCEDE THAT THERE ARE SOME RACISTS AND REDNECKS AMONG US, BUT I DO NOT AGREE THAT THE PEOPLE IN YORK ARE WORSE THAN PEOPLE ANYWHERE ELSE. KATHIE AND I HAVE LIVED IN FIVE DIFFERENT STATES, INCLUDING TEN YEARS IN NEW YORK AND EIGHTEEN IN WASHINGTON, D.C. WE CHOSE TO RETIRE HERE AND WE LIKE LIVING IN YORK. WHEN WE MOVED TO NEW YORK CITY, THE PEOPLE THERE HAD A REPUTATION FOR BEING RUDE. I FOUND THIS WAS AN ACCURATE DESCRIPTION. PEOPLE ON THE STREET WOULD NOT LOOK AT YOU. IN THE SUBWAY OR ON THE BUS, EVERYONE SAT WITH HIS OR HER HEAD DOWN. IF YOU MADE EYE CONTACT OR SMILED AT PEOPLE, THEY LOOKED AWAY AND WONDERED WHAT YOU WERE UP TO. ONE TIME ON A SUBWAY PLATFORM IN LOWER MANHATTAN, I SPOTTED A MAN LOOKING AT A SUBWAY MAP. HE GLADLY ACCEPTED MY OFFER TO HELP HIM FIND HIS WAY TO MIDTOWN, AND THEN REMARKED, "YOU'RE NOT FROM NEW YORK, ARE YOU?"

BUT, I DISCOVERED THAT ONCE YOU GOT BENEATH THEIR PROTECTIVE SHELL, NEW YORKERS WERE REAL PEOPLE. I FREQUENTLY VISITED IN A LARGE APARTMENT COMPLEX ACROSS THE STREET FROM OUR HOME. AFTER THE APARTMENT DWELLERS LOOKED THROUGH THE PEEPHOLE AND OPENED THE FIVE LOCKS ON THEIR DOOR, I WOULD GO INSIDE AND LISTEN TO THEIR LIFE STORY. ONCE YOU GOT BENEATH THEIR PROTECTIVE SHELL, NEW YORKERS WERE NOT MUCH DIFFERENT THAN ANYONE ELSE. I'VE DISCOVERED THAT ONCE YOU GET TO KNOW THEM, PEOPLE ARE PEOPLE, THERE ARE GOOD AND BAD FOLKS EVERYWHERE AND SOMETIMES THE GOOD AND BAD IS EVEN INSIDE OURSELVES.

LEBANON, PA. HAD A REPUTATION OF BEING A DIFFICULT PLACE FOR OUTSIDERS AND WE WERE CONCERNED ABOUT MOVING THERE. WHEN WE WERE PREPARING TO MOVE AN OLDER FRIEND TOLD ME THIS STORY. A NEWCOMER TO TOWN ASKED AN OLD-TIMER WHAT THE PEOPLE WERE LIKE AND RECEIVED THIS REPLY, "WHAT WERE THE PEOPLE LIKE IN THE TOWN YOU CAME FROM?" "WHY, THEY WERE THE MEANEST, MOST CRITICAL AND UNFRIENDLY PEOPLE I EVER MET," REPLIED THE NEWCOMER. "WELL, I EXPECT YOU'LL FIND THE PEOPLE HERE ABOUT THE SAME..." REPLIED THE OLD-TIMER. A LITTLE LATER ANOTHER NEWCOMER STOPPED AND ASKED THE SAME QUESTION, "WHAT WERE THE PEOPLE LIKE IN THE TOWN YOU CAME FROM?" THE OLD-TIMER ASKED. "WHY, THEY WERE THE KINDEST, WARMEST, MOST FRIENDLY PEOPLE YOU COULD EVER HOPE TO MEET," THE NEWCOMER ANSWERED. "WELL, I EXPECT YOU'LL FIND THE PEOPLE HERE ABOUT THE SAME..." REPLIED THE OLD TIMER.

I AM TRULY SORRY THAT MR. GOLDMAN FOUND THE FOLKS HE MET IN YORK ARE SUCH UNFRIENDLY PEOPLE. KATHIE AND I HAVE FOUND THAT THE FOLKS IN YORK ARE MUCH THE SAME AS THE FOLKS WE MET EVERYWHERE ELSE WE'VE LIVED. PEOPLE ARE PEOPLE, THERE ARE GOOD AND BAD FOLKS EVERYWHERE AND SOMETIMES THE GOOD AND BAD IS EVEN INSIDE OURSELVES. THIS IS WHAT THE BIBLE TEACHES. IT REMINDS ME OF THE LIMERICK WHICH GOES, *"THERE'S SO MUCH BAD IN THE BEST OF US AND SO MUCH GOOD IN THE WORST OF US, IT'S HARDLY FITTING FOR ANY OF US TO TALK ABOUT THE REST OF US."*

STEVE NICHOLAS



ELDERS NEWS

THE ELDERS MET ON TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12 AT 7:00 PM VIA ZOOM. WE DISCUSSED OUR PASTORS' RESIGNATIONS AND PLANS FOR THE FUTURE. THE WORSHIP SERVICES WERE REVIEWED. A PLAQUE FOR ELAINE ROWELL WAS DISCUSSED. PLANNING FOR THE PUTZ AND NEW IDEAS ON WHERE TO ADVERTISE. WE WILL HAVE ED KNEE FROM LIFEPAATH SPEAK AT OUR NEXT MEETING REGARDING WAYS TO HELP THE HOMELESS. SCHEDULE FOR GUEST PASTORS WAS DISCUSSED. CLIFF BERGSTRESSER IS IN THE PROCESS OF BECOMING A LICENSED LAY PASTOR. HE HAS OFFERED TO HELP AT FIRST AND COVENANT UNTIL A NEW PASTOR IS RECEIVED. THE ELDERS WILL BE KEEPING IN TOUCH WITH OUR SHUT-INS DURING THE INTERIM. OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD WILL START AT THE END OF OCTOBER. A JOINT BOARD MEETING WITH COVENANT'S JOINT BOARD AND MELISSA JOHNSON IS SCHEDULED FOR MONDAY, OCTOBER 2 AT 7:00 PM IN PERSON AT COVENANT. OUR NEXT MEETING WILL BE HELD ON TUESDAY, OCTOBER 10 AT 7:00 PM VIA ZOOM.

TRUSTEES NEWS

THE TRUSTEES MET ON TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 26 AT 7:00 PM VIA ZOOM. PARSONAGE REPAIRS AND MAINTENANCE WERE DISCUSSED. THE REPAIRS FOR THE ANNEX AND CHURCH WERE DISCUSSED. SINCE MOST OF THE ITEMS AT THE PARSONAGE HAVE BEEN TAKEN CARE OF, WE WILL BE CONCENTRATING ON CHURCH REPAIRS AND UPDATES. THE NEXT WORKDAY WILL BE AT THE CHURCH ON THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 2. WANDA HENDRICKS WENT OVER THE TREASURER'S REPORT FOR THE MONTH. GUEST PASTORS COMPENSATION WAS DISCUSSED. THE INSURANCE FOR THE PARSONAGE, ANNEX AND CHURCH WILL BE REVIEWED. WE WILL OWE APPROXIMATELY \$13,000.00 TO BETHLEHEM BY THE END OF THE YEAR. OUR BOOKS WILL BE AUDITED BY MARLIN BUPP FROM COVENANT. OUR NEXT MEETING WILL BE HELD ON TUESDAY, OCTOBER 24 AT 7:00 PM VIA ZOOM. THE NEXT JOINT BOARD MEETING WILL BE HELD ON TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 14 AT 7:00 PM VIA ZOOM.

TOTAL INCOME & OFFERINGS FROM SUNDAYS 9/3/2023 - 9/24/2023

\$ 4,367.00 GENERAL FUND
137.00 REFURBISHING FUND
100.00 MEMORIAL FUND (IN MEMORY OF DON ECKERT)
100.00 MEMORIAL FUND (IN MEMORY OF JANE KERCHNER)
90.00 EMERGENCY NEEDS FUND
50.00 PARKING RENTAL
1,000.00 PARSONAGE RENTAL
526.83 PARSONAGE UTILITIES PAID INCOME
5,500.00 MORGAN STANLEY WITHDRAWAL

\$11,870.83 TOTAL INCOME
\$11,701.62 TOTAL EXPENSES



October Birthdays

- 6 Lindsey Messersmith
9 Stephanie Bish
Kody Neil*
11 Mary Wurzbach
24 Betsy Senft
Terri Zeigler



October Anniversaries

- 8 Timothy & Georgia Rishel
10 Aaron & Rachel Eckert
12 David & Carolyn Bailey
Richard & Melissa Wurzbach



Prayer Concerns

Mary Jones
Kathie Nicholas
Karrie Rishel
Cliff Rowell
Ruth & Clair Seiple
Jemon Grant
Gary Paules

Please contact any of the Elders for Pastoral needs:

Steve Nicholas - 717-755-7412
John Knokey - 717-848-9220
Keith Rishel - 717-472-6793
Jeannette Sprenkle - 717-424-5636
Lindsey Robinson - 717-965-5552

October Schedule for Guest Pastors

10/1 - Rev. Terry Folk, Communion
10/8 - Cliff Bergstresser
10/15 - Rev. Terry Folk
10/22 - Rev. Marion Haynes-Weller
10/29 - Rev. Terry Folk

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