



JULY 2025

# THE LAMPLIGHTER YORK FIRST MORAVIAN

## Pastor's Message for July 2025

### FREE AT LAST

July 4th, also known as Independence Day, is a federal holiday that commemorates the adoption of the Declaration of Independence on July 4, 1776. This declaration proclaimed the 13 American colonies' separation from Great Britain, marking the birth of the United States as an independent nation.

The Declaration of Independence was drafted primarily by Thomas Jefferson, it was adopted by the Second Continental Congress on July 4, 1776. The Declaration formally declared the 13 American colonies as independent states, severing their political ties with Great Britain. This declaration was a crucial step in the American Revolution, which ultimately led to the establishment of the United States of America. Independence Day has been a federal holiday since 1941, although celebrations date back to the 18th century. Independence Day is a time to reflect on the principles of liberty and freedom that are central to American identity.

In essence, July 4th is a day to remember the nation's founding, celebrate its independence, and appreciate the freedoms enjoyed by Americans.

As Christians the concept of freedom carries a deeper meaning for us. Ultimate freedom or liberation of the mind, body, soul, and spirit comes from the Triune God. It is a freedom from sin and all its consequences. As the Holy Scripture declares in John 8: 36 "If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed". This Freedom in Christ allows us to celebrate the 4<sup>th</sup> of July with a deeper appreciation of what the USA stands for and the responsibility that each of us have to do all in our power to maintain this freedom for the next generation and share the concept and this good news with the whole world.

Shalom,

Rev. Dr. Kevin Marshall

Happy  
INDEPENDENCE  
Day!

# Upcoming Events

Friday, July 4 - Independence Day!

Tuesday, July 8 - Joint Board meeting at 7:00 pm via Zoom.  
(This meeting will replace the Elders meeting.)

July 14-17, Monday thru Thursday (1:00 - 3:00 pm) - Vacation Bible School to be held at First. Covenant will be partnering with us for VBS.

**VBS theme is “Zoom in on Jesus”.**

*Looking for volunteers to teach, assist with crafts or games.*

*(Must have clearances to help with VBS-  
please see Jeannette for links to obtain clearances.)*



Saturday, July 19 - Feeding homeless downtown. Meet at Covenant at 10:00 am to make sandwiches and pack bags.

Head downtown at 12:00 noon for distribution of food bags.

Distribution is normally finished by 1:00-1:30 pm.

Sunday, July 20 - Women's Fellowship monthly meeting following the worship service.

Sunday, July 27 - Bring your children or grandchildren to church Sunday. Activities planned for the children.



## ELDERS NEWS

THE ELDERS MET ON TUESDAY, JUNE 10 AT 7:00 PM VIA ZOOM. REVIEWED WORSHIP SERVICES OVER THE LAST MONTH. SHUT-IN VISITS WERE REVIEWED. PASTOR KEVIN WILL BE MAKING PASTORAL CARE VISITS TO ALL MEMBERS. UPDATES AND REPORTS WERE GIVEN FOR OUTREACH AND MISSIONS, MINISTRY TO CHILDREN AND YOUTH, WOMEN'S MINISTRY, MEN'S MINISTRY, WORSHIP AND SACRISTAN AND FELLOWSHIP/BIBLE STUDY. BRING YOUR KIDS/GRANDCHILDREN TO CHURCH SUNDAYS HAVE BEEN GOING WELL. BIBLE STUDY HELD WEDNESDAYS AT 7:00 PM ONLINE HAVE ALSO BEEN GOING WELL. WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP HELD A MEETING ON TUESDAY, JUNE 17 VIA ZOOM TO FINALIZE PROGRAM FOR THE RELAUNCH SERVICE TO BE HELD ON SUNDAY, JUNE 29. A GUEST SPEAKER WILL BE COMING AND A SNAK & YAK WILL FOLLOW THE SERVICE. WE WILL BE PRAYING FOR AND DONATING ITEMS TO ACCESS YORK. MEN'S FELLOWSHIP MEETING WILL BE HELD ON SATURDAY, JULY 12 AT THE CHURCH HERE AT FIRST. WE ARE PARTNERING WITH COVENANT THE 3RD SATURDAY OF EACH MONTH TO FEED HOMELESS DOWNTOWN. REQUESTING AT LEAST ONE PERSON FROM OUR CHURCH EACH MONTH TO REPRESENT FIRST. KEVIN AND CLIFF HAVE COMPLETED RESEARCHING SENIOR CENTERS. THEY WILL DISCUSS IN FURTHER DETAIL WITH THE JOINT BOARD, WHICH HAS BEEN SCHEDULED FOR TUESDAY, JULY 8 (IN PLACE OF ELDERS MEETING.) A SPECIAL CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING WILL BE HELD ON SUNDAY, AUGUST 24 FOLLOWING THE WORSHIP SERVICE. CLIFF IS STILL RESEARCHING A POSSIBLE PRE-SCHOOL FOR CHILDREN. PLEASE PRAY FOR PASTORAL LEADERSHIP FOR ALL CHURCHES WITHOUT PASTORS. THE NEXT ELDER'S MEETING WILL BE HELD ON TUESDAY, AUGUST 12 AT 7:00 PM VIA ZOOM.



## TRUSTEES NEWS

THE TRUSTEES MET ON TUESDAY, JUNE 24 AT 7:00 PM VIA ZOOM. ACTIVE PROJECTS FOR THE PARSONAGE, ANNEX AND CHURCH WERE DISCUSSED AS WELL AS ITEMS THAT CAN BE TAKEN CARE OF AT A LATER TIME. NEED TO REPLACE OFFICE COMPUTER AS IT CAN'T BE UPGRADED TO WINDOWS 11. WILL RESEARCH LAPTOP FOR REPLACEMENT. NEW CARPET TO BE INSTALLED IN OFFICE/PASTOR'S OFFICE AS THERE ARE TEARS THROUGHOUT. WILL GET PRICING AT CARPET MART. AUSHERMAN PAINTING INC. WAS AWARDED PAINTING JOB FOR OUTSIDE TRIM AND SOME WOOD REPLACEMENT FOR CHURCH WINDOWS. INSURANCE FOR THE CHURCH PROPERTIES WAS RENEWED WITH GUIDE ONE INSURANCE. WANDA HAD ALSO RECEIVED A QUOTE FROM ANOTHER INSURANCE CO. WANDA WENT OVER THE TREASURER'S REPORT FOR THE MONTH. INCOME AND EXPENSES WERE GONE OVER IN DETAIL. THERE WILL BE NO TRUSTEES MEETING IN JULY. THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE HELD ON TUESDAY, AUGUST 26 AT 7:00 PM VIA ZOOM.

**TOTAL INCOME & OFFERINGS FROM  
SUNDAYS 6/1/2025 - 6/29/2025**

\$ 7,177.00 GENERAL FUND

196.00 REFURBISHING FUND

*\$ 7,373.00 OFFERING INCOME*

520.83 COVENANT MORAVIAN CHURCH - HOUSING  
ALLOWANCE FOR JUNE

55.00 COVENANT MORAVIAN CHURCH - MOTHER'S DAY  
FLOWERS PAID

81.91 COVENANT MORAVIAN CHURCH - VACATION BIBLE  
SCHOOL MATERIALS PAID

81.92 FIRST MORAVIAN CHURCH (SUNDAY SCHOOL  
ACCOUNT)- VBS MATERIALS PAID

\$ 739.66 *OTHER INCOME*

**\$ 8,112.66 TOTAL INCOME FOR JUNE**

**\$11,672.22 TOTAL EXPENSES FOR JUNE**



## July Birthdays

- 1 Keith Rishel
- 5 Makenna Eckert
- 10 Rokeya Marshall
- 12 Annette Tyson  
Jeannette Sprenkle
- 14 Karrie (Earnst) Rishel\*
- 15 Timothy Rishel
- 17 Nancy Danneberger\*
- 18 Cheri Miley\*
- 22 Stanley Martin\*
- 23 Laura Shealy
- 24 Rev. Kevin Marshall
- 25 David Bailey  
Christopher Rishel
- 30 Donnaree Marshall

**For Pastoral needs,  
please contact:**

**Rev. Kevin Marshall - 717-585-5846**

**or any of the Elders:**

John Knokey, Vice-Chair - 717-848-9220

Keith Rishel - 717-472-6793

Jeannette Sprenkle - 717-424-5636

Kasi Steinbrenner - 717-965-2032



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

***\*Notice from the Moravian Ministries Foundation starting the month in May 2025, the "online" giving payouts to churches will occur only once a month. If people want to make sure their donations are paid and received by our church sooner, they might want to send their donation/check directly to Wanda Hendricks at her home address shown below. (Especially at years end).***

Wanda Hendricks  
3715 Fox Chase Drive  
Dover, PA 17315

## July Anniversaries

- 1 Douglas & Kathy McDannell\*
- 13 Rev. Norman & Maria Prochnau
- 30 Rev. Kevin and Donnaree Marshall



## Prayer Concerns

MARY JONES

KATHIE NICHOLAS

KARRIE RISHEL

RUTH & CLAIR SEIPLE

DEBBIE MILLER

JEMON GRANT

GARY PAULES

IRELYN SPRENKLE

JEFF RISHEL

TRUDY MOORE-KOTEK

JIM RABINE



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## **2025 Watchword**

"For I know the plans I have for you says the Lord  
plans for welfare and not for evil  
to give you a future and a hope."  
Jeremiah 29:11