



SEPTEMBER 2025

THE LAMPLIGHTER YORK FIRST MORAVIAN

Pastor's Message for September 2025

What then shall we say to these things? (Romans 8:31a) The Book of Romans offers the most systematic teaching in the Bible about the human Dilemma and God's solution for it. Written by the apostle Paul about A.D. 57, Romans lays out the major themes of sin, salvation, redemption, justification, grace, and reconciliation. As an outstanding teacher and leader, Paul communicates with purpose. With his words he endeavours to influence the believers in the most influential city in the world.

"What then shall we say to these things?" is a rhetorical question. The verses following Romans 8:31 speaks of persecutions, distress, famine, and other hardships, which serves as the "these things" the question refers to. The question is answered by the subsequent declaration: "If God be for us, who can be against us?". This emphasizes that God's support is the ultimate assurance. Paul then in this text is declaring that God is willing to provide for His people, having already given His Son for them.

As believers then, our response to hardship is not with despair but rather with unwavering faith that God is on our side. Despite the challenges that we go through or, are going through we are assured that God has already provided for us and will continue to provide all that we need.

Paul culminates the thought with the confident statement that no earthly or spiritual power can separate believers from God's love in Christ Jesus. We hold on to that confidence as our children and grandchildren and young relatives return to school. We stand firm in Christ as we view with certain amount of suspicion what is happening in this country and the rest of the world. As long as we remain under God's banner (Jehovah Nissi) it will well with us. And this is the message that we take to the world, evangelizing those around us.

Shalom

Rev. Dr. Kevin Marshall



The Women's Fellowship will be donating items to the YWCA/Access York & Victim Assistance Center as part of their outreach program. We are asking the congregation and friends to help in collecting items to assist women and their children who are victims of abuse. *All items must be **new**.* Collection of items will be in October and November and will be taken to the Victim Assistance Center early in December. Thank you for your help!

Please see list of needed items below:

Personal Care Items:

Toothbrushes
Shampoo
Body Wash
Razors

Toothpaste
Feminine Care Products
Shaving Cream

Infant Care Items:

Bibs
Crib Sheets
Bottles
Sippy Cups
Wipes & Diapers

Receiving Blankets
Swaddle Blankets
Bottle Warmers
Thermal Blankets
Odorless Diaper Pails

Clothing:

Sweatpants
Sweatshirts
Socks

Sports Bras
Child and Adult Pajamas

Household Items:

Air Diffusers
Bath Towels
Pots and Pans Sets
Twin Blankets
Pillows
Shower Curtains
Plastic Drinkware
Silverware

Bed Linens
Baking Pans
Cleaning Supplies
Storage Containers
Twin Comforters
Pillow Protectors
Twin Mattress Protector
2-Gallon Clear Storage Bags



Upcoming Events

***We will be returning to the sanctuary on Sunday, September 7 for worship services.**

***Pastor Kevin will be on leave from Sept. 4 - Sept. 20 but will be leading the Wednesday Bible Studies and helping with Feeding the Hungry on the 20th.**

Our guest pastors are Rev. Terry Folk on Sunday, September 7 and Lay Pastor Cliff Bergstresser on Sunday, September 14.

Bible Study will start on Wednesday, Sept. 3 and topic will be "What Happens When We Die?" and will be led by Pastor Kevin. Morning study is at 10:00 am via Zoom and also in person at Covenant. Evening study is at 7:00 pm via Zoom. Zoom links were given in the August Newsletter but if you need the links, please email Jeannette at sprengle9@aol.com.

Saturday, Sept. 13 - Men's Fellowship meeting at church at 9:00 am to discuss candle making.

Saturday, Sept. 20 - Feeding the Hungry downtown. First will be hosting this one. Need volunteers. We will meet at 10:00 am to make sandwiches and pack bags. Then head downtown at 12:00 noon for distribution of food bags. Distribution is normally finished by 1:00-1:30 pm.

Sunday, Sept. 21 - Prayer Pal Breakfast at 9:30 am.

Sunday, Sept. 21 - Women's Fellowship monthly meeting following the worship service.

Saturday, Sept. 27 - Eastern Region Moravian Women 70th Anniversary celebration with worship service at 11:00 am to be held at Lititz Moravian Church followed by luncheon.

Sunday, Sept. 28 - Kid's Fest (Activities planned for the children.)



Thank you to Cliff Bergstresser for agreeing to serve as our church delegate to Provincial Synod to be held in June 2026 in Minneapolis. Also, thank you to Keith Rishel for agreeing to be backup delegate should Cliff not be able to attend.

ELDERS NEWS

The Elders met on Tuesday, August 12 at 7:00 pm via Zoom. The previous worship services were reviewed. As part of Outreach and Missions, we will be hosting Feeding the Hungry downtown on Saturday, September 20. We will need volunteers to help prepare the food and also to take it to the downtown location for distribution. Kid's Fest is going well. Nicki from Covenant suggested getting together a combined youth group. Possibly plan something for the end of September to meet on a Friday evening or a Saturday. The Women's Fellowship will be donating new items to the YWCA/Access York Victim's shelter for women and children. They are planning to attend the 70th Anniversary special worship service for the Eastern Region Moravian Women on Saturday, September 27. A luncheon follows the service. The Men's Fellowship met on Saturday, July 12 and reviewed candle making. They are hoping to make candles for our church and possibly for other churches in the future. Next meeting date is Saturday, September 13 at the church. The next communion is Sunday, October 5 (World-wide communion Sunday). Keith Rishel is the communion assistant. A new Bible Study will start on Wednesday, September 3 and will continue for four weeks. It is a Biblical journey to "What happens after we die". Kevin will be leading this study to be held at 10:00 am and 7:00 pm on Wednesdays via Zoom. The morning study is also in person at Covenant church. Pastoral care was reviewed by Kevin. Shut-ins were visited and phone calls were made by Kevin and the Elders. Kevin asked the board to prayerfully consider ideas on how we can engage the community more? Kevin left the board know that Donnaree will be having knee surgery on Wednesday, September 3. He requested a two week leave to assist her in recovery. The dates are 9/4 to 9/20. The board approved his leave request.

The next Elder's meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 9 at 7:00 pm via zoom.



TRUSTEES NEWS

The Trustees met on Tuesday, August 26 via Zoom. Shawn from Ausherman Painting went over painting details requested on outside of church. He gave a quote of \$5,785.00 to paint and repair exterior doors (6 door/2 porches). He also quoted \$14,210.00 to paint exterior trim on windows (19 total) and the stone sills. The board voted to go with just painting the exterior doors at this time. Will revisit the window painting in the spring. Repairs and updates were discussed for the parsonage, annex and church. Cliff contacted Community Connections to see who they use for snow removal. He received a quote from John Jackson of \$160 to clear the church back parking lot per snow event. John will take care of the sidewalks. The board voted to go ahead with this quote. Cliff submitted grant application for masonry work to repoint brick work at the church. Will hear back in October. Wanda gave the Treasurer's report with detail of income and expenses for the month. She requested board approval to withdraw \$12,000 from Morgan/Stanley to cover expenses. The board approved the withdrawal. The next workday at the church will be Monday, September 15 at 9:00 am.

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 23 at 7:00 pm via zoom.

**TOTAL INCOME & OFFERINGS FROM
SUNDAYS 8/3/2025 - 8/30/2025**

\$ 3,600.00 GENERAL FUND
67.00 REFURBISHING FUND
156.00 SMITH BOOK FUND

\$ 3,823.00 OFFERING INCOME

\$12,000.00 MORGAN STANLEY WITHDRAWAL CHECK
(for Real Estate School taxes & upcoming invoices due in September)
520.83 COVENANT MORAVIAN CHECK
(Housing Allowance for August)
68.60 COVENANT MORAVIAN CHECK
(Vacation Bible School (Craft Supplies & Snacks - their share)
355.35 PA Dept. of Revenue Check
(Refund Check for overpayment of PA payroll taxes in 2nd. Qtr.)

\$12,944.78 OTHER INCOME

\$16,767.78 TOTAL INCOME FOR AUGUST
(Includes Morgan Stanley Ck. for Sept. invoices)

\$15,471.30 TOTAL EXPENSES FOR AUGUST

(THIS DOES NOT INCLUDE THE OFFERING FOR THIS SUNDAY, AUGUST 31ST.
THAT WILL BE INCLUDED ON THE NEXT NEWSLETTER.)



September Birthdays

- 1 Kristi (Zeigler) Miller
- 2 Dalton Niel*
- 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*



**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

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

MARY JONES

KATHIE NICHOLAS

KARRIE RISHEL

JEMON GRANT

IRELYN SPRENKLE

JEFF RISHEL

TRUDY MOORE-KOTEK

JIM RABINE

PAUL MINNICH

DEVON GREEN



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

First Moravian Church
39 North Duke Street
York, PA 17401

717-843-2239

www.yorkfirstmoravian.org



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