



OCTOBER 2025

THE LAMPLIGHTER YORK FIRST MORAVIAN

Pastor's Message for October 2025

1 Corinthians 2: 1,4 “And, brethren, when I came to you, came not with excellency of speech or of wisdom, declaring unto you the testimony of God. And, my speech and my preaching was not with exciting words of man’s wisdom, but in the demonstration of the Spirit and of power.” I wish to focus with you on one of the longest themes on the church calendar. That is Pentecost, for this year it was for twenty-three weeks. This focus on the Holy Spirit highlights the importance of the Holy Spirit to the church and the followers of Christ. The Holy Spirit is the third person of the Trinity. As such the Holy Spirit has all the power and authority as the other two persons in the trinity, the Father and the Son. While the three persons of the trinity is actively at work throughout human history, however, the role of the Father is highlighted in the creation narrative and the role of the Son in the act of the redemption. The scriptures place a special focus on the role of the Holy Spirit in the establishment of the Church and the empowerment of the followers of Christ. According to the scriptures the disciples were instructed by Jesus to wait in Jerusalem for the empowering of the Holy Spirit before they begin their evangelical mission of spreading the good news of the Gospel to all nations. Acts 2 narrates the event of the empowering of the believers on the day of Pentecost a Jewish Celebration. The empowered Christians led by Peter with their newly found motivation expanded the mission of the Church.

The indwelling of the Holy Spirit in the heart of a Christian is critical to his/her identity and work of the Church. The Holy Spirit empowers and emboldens the followers of Christ to live the Christian life and evangelize the world through words and deeds. As such as our text indicated, the apostle Paul indicated that his preaching was dependent on his skills as a speaker or his own wisdom but rather on the power of the Holy Spirit that dwells within him.

Like the Apostle Paul we too as followers of Christ are dependent on the Holy Spirit. When we commit ourselves to be apart of the community of Faith, we invite the Holy Spirit to come and live in our hearts. This indwelling of the Holy Spirit empowers us to live the Christian life and be engaged in evangelism. This lengthy celebration of the Christian Pentecost in our church calendar is an indication of the importance of this event and in extension the person of the Holy Spirit to the Church its members.

Shalom

Rev. Dr. Kevin Marshall

Upcoming Events

Men's Fellowship next meeting to make candles to be announced.

Saturday, October 11 - Women's Fellowship Circle meeting to be held at the parsonage from 11:00 am - 1:00 pm.

Saturday, October 18 - Feeding the Hungry downtown. Meet at Covenant 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, October 19 - Women's Fellowship monthly meeting following the worship service.

Sunday, Oct 26 - Kid's Fest (Bible story, snacks and crafts.)



Looking Ahead

Sunday, November 2 - Operation Christmas Child kick off day. Shoeboxes will be collected until November 23.

Sunday, November 23 - Candle Wrapping following worship. Bring potluck.

Sunday, November 30 - Hanging of the Greens.

Putz Dates - Sunday, December 14 thru Sunday, January 4

Unity Prayer Watch - Date to be announced, second week of December.

Saturday, December 13 - Christmas Party at 1:00 pm in Fellowship Hall with potluck and games.

Sunday, January 11 - Taking Down the Greens

First Moravian on the move!



Men's Fellowship candle making



Feeding the Hungry



Feeding the Hungry



Eastern Reg. Moravian Women's 70th Anniversary



**Fellowship
Outreach**



**Fellowship
Outreach**

**Missions
Faith
Formation**



**Missions
Faith
Formation**

Kid's Fest

ELDERS NEWS

The Elders met on Tuesday, September 9 at 7:00 pm via Zoom. John Knokey led the meeting as Pastor Kevin was on leave. Worship services were reviewed. The next Feeding the Hungry downtown is on Saturday, October 18. Meeting at Covenant at 10:00 am. Kid's Fest is going well. There were eight kids at September's Kid's Fest. 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. The Men's Fellowship met on Saturday, September 13 and made candles to be used at our Christmas Eve service! There were six men that came out to help. They are hoping to make more candles for our church and possibly for other churches in the future. The next communion is Sunday, October 5 (World-wide communion Sunday). John may fill in for Keith Rishel as the communion assistant since Keith is operating the video/sound for zoom. New Bible Study on Wednesdays in September will continue for four weeks led by Pastor Kevin. It is a Biblical journey to "What happens after we die". John said that the Powerhouse Prayer and Bible study will resume after the new year. Pastoral care for members was reviewed. John said for Evangelism we could all invite friends to our Putz showings that are coming up. Also, invite friends to come to our Christmas Eve service. Operation Christmas Child will start Sunday, November 2 and end on November 23. John has extra shoeboxes for members to use and will set them out. John went over upcoming dates for the Advent season. He gave the Putz showing dates and Christmas Party date. The Unity Prayer Watch date hasn't been set up yet but will be sometime during the second week of December. Prayer Pal Breakfast to be held on Sunday, September 21 at 9:30 am. We need to try to have more members participate next year.

The next Elder's meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 14 at 7:00 pm via zoom.



TRUSTEES NEWS

The Trustees met on Tuesday, September 23 via Zoom. Repairs and updates were discussed for the parsonage, annex and church. Discussed Windows 11 upgrade for the church office and computer in sanctuary used for Zoom. Ausherman quote of \$14,210.00 to paint exterior trim North and West side windows (19 qty.) and stone sills stripped of paint will be readdressed in the spring. Will also obtain a second quote. Repointing of bricks at the church just on the two sides quoted \$30,000. Grant submitted and waiting for approval in October. Church roof needs resealing in the spring 2026. Pastor Kevin was reimbursed \$463.29 for purchase of drum set. Donations received covered the balance. Wanda gave the Treasurer's report with detail of income and expenses for the month. She requested board approval to withdraw \$8,000 from Morgan/Stanley to cover next month's expenses. The board approved the withdrawal. The next workday at the church to be determined sometime early October.

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 28 at 7:00 pm via zoom.

**TOTAL INCOME & OFFERINGS FROM
SUNDAYS 8/31/2025 - 9/30/2025**

\$4,275.16 GENERAL FUND

117.00 REFURBISHING FUND

50.00 MEMORIAL FUND (IN MEMORY OF JIM RABINE)

70.00 EMERGENCY NEEDS FUND

48.00 WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP FUND (FOR STUDY BOOKS
ORDERED)

\$4,560.16 OFFERING INCOME

\$8,000.00 MORGAN STANLEY WITHDRAWAL CHECK (FOR UPCOMING
INVOICES DUE IN OCTOBER)

520.83 COVENANT MORAVIAN CHECK (HOUSING ALLOWANCE FOR
SEPTEMBER)

\$8,520.83 OTHER INCOME

**\$13,080.99 TOTAL INCOME FOR SEPTEMBER (INCLUDES OFFERING
FROM SUNDAY, 08/31/25)**

\$20,791.68 TOTAL EXPENSES FOR SEPTEMBER



October Birthdays

6 Lindsey Messersmith
9 Stephanie Bish
Kody Niel*
11 Mary Wurzbach
19 Donnaree Bailey Marshall
24 Betsy Senft
Terri Zeigler



**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

October Anniversaries

8 Timothy & Georgia Rishel
12 David & Carolyn Bailey
Richard & Melissa Wurzbach



Prayer Concerns

MARY JONES
KATHIE NICHOLAS
JEMON GRANT
IRELYN SPRENKLE
JEFF RISHEL
TRUDY MOORE-KOTEK
PAUL MINNICH
DEVON GREEN
DONNAREE MARSHALL
WANDA HENDRICKS
JOHN ROHRER

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