



NOVEMBER 2025

THE LAMPLIGHTER YORK FIRST MORAVIAN

Pastor's Message for November 2025

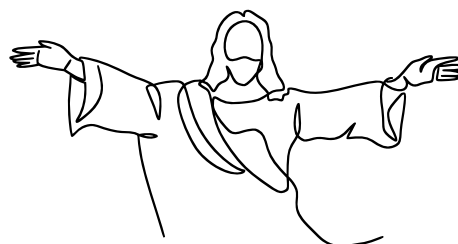
The Importance of November 13th to the Moravian Church

The 13th of November each year marks an important reminder and celebration for the World Wide Unity of the Moravian Church. The occasion being the recognition and acceptance of Jesus the Christ as our Chief Elder. "November 13 is significant to the Moravian Church as the annual Festival of Christ the Chief Elder, celebrating the 1741 decision to recognize Jesus Christ as the head of the church, a position that has been held by no human since. This festival commemorates the historical moment when the church officially announced that Christ was chosen as its Chief Elder, and it remains a day of worship, celebration, and personal commitment for Moravians worldwide. On November 13, 1741, the official announcement was made to all Moravian congregations that Jesus Christ had been chosen as Chief Elder. This followed a decision made by church leaders on September 16, 1741. By naming Christ as Chief Elder, Moravians affirmed that no human leader would hold that role, emphasizing Christ's sole authority over the church. This also serves as a reminder of servant leadership and the importance of following Christ's example. The festival is celebrated with services, which often includes Holy Communion and Love Feasts. It is a time for members to reflect on their faith and renew their commitment to Christ as their head."

November 13 also is very special for our sister congregation, Covenant Moravian Church. It represents the date that the Covenant ministry began in 1965. "The election of Elders and Trustees for the new church, to be called Covenant Moravian Church of York was held on November 21, 1965" (Paul Wolfgang). The Congregation at Covenant was a coming together of the Bethany Moravian Church and Olivet Moravian Church. This November the congregation will begin a yearlong celebration of the Ministry of Covenant Moravian Church of York. This will be its 60th Anniversary Celebration. The first stop will be the Opening Service. This will be on Sunday November 9, 2025, at 9:30 am, they will also celebrate the Chief Elder Communion in this opening service. The preacher will be Revd Melissa Johnson the President of the Eastern District Conference. The Theme for the yearlong celebration is "THE FAITH JOURNEY: Looking Back as We Press Forward." The calendar of events for the yearlong celebration will be posted at a later date. We are looking forward to a fulfilling year of celebration and a mighty move of God.

Shalom

Rev. Dr. Kevin Marshall



Upcoming Events

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

Sunday, November 9 - Covenant's 60th Anniversary celebration service with the Rev. Melissa Johnson, Eastern District President as guest speaker. All invited.

Saturday, November 15 - 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, November 16 - Women's Fellowship monthly meeting following the worship service.

Sunday, November 23 - Kid's Fest (Bible story, snacks and crafts.)

Sunday, November 23 - Last day for collection of Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes.



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

Thursday, November 27 - Thanksgiving Day



Sunday, November 30 - Hanging of the Greens.

Looking Ahead

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

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

Saturday, December 6 - Pastor's Appreciation dinner for First and Covenant from 2-4 pm to be held at Covenant.

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

Sunday, January 11 - Taking Down the Greens

ELDERS NEWS

The Elders met on Tuesday, October 14 at 7:00 pm via Zoom. Previous worship services were reviewed. Keith has been filling in for John Rohrer operating the audio/video for Zoom. Feeding the Hungry downtown last month went well with First hosting. There were seven volunteers helping. Kid's Fest is going well. Bible stories on the Miracles of Jesus. There were eight kids at September's Kid's Fest. Two members of the Women's Fellowship attended the 70th Anniversary special worship service for the Eastern Region Moravian Women on Saturday, September 27. The message was very inspirational, and breakfast and lunch were provided by the Lititz Women's Fellowship. The Men's Fellowship has had a good interest in candle making. Six men were in attendance to help make candles. There were 70 candles made at the second meeting. These will be used at the Christmas Eve service. Kevin would like to see it grow into selling to other churches. The next communion is Sunday, November 9. Kasi is the communion assistant. The Bible Study held on Wednesdays in September was very well done and informative led by Pastor Kevin. It was a Biblical journey to "What happens after we die". Pastoral care for members was reviewed. John said that Jamen Grant's son has passed away. He suggested that we send cards for Jamen. Operation Christmas Child will start Sunday, November 2 and end on November 23. Kevin said that the Pastor's appreciation dinner for First and Covenant will be held on Saturday, December 6 from 2-4 pm at Covenant. Kevin asked the Elders to think of members who we can ask to serve on Elders. John mentioned that we have been operating in a deficit as a board. Keith suggested having the Moravian Daily text put on our Facebook page.

The next Elder's meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 11 at 7:00 pm via zoom.



TRUSTEES NEWS

The Trustees met on Tuesday, October 28 via Zoom. Repairs and updates were discussed for the parsonage, annex and church. Windows 11 upgrade completed for laptop and replacement completed for office desktop. Painting inside window trim for windows that were replaced is in progress. 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 approval received. Sanctuary right side dimmer switch is not working. Needs fixed before Christmas. Church roof needs resealing in the spring 2026. Pastor cost of living of 2.5% was approved for 2026 and Kevin's call was extended for another year by the Joint Board on October 14. Wanda gave the Treasurer's report with detail of income and expenses for the month. She will need to withdraw funds from Morgan/Stamley before end of year to cover Bethlehem's apportionments. The board decided to wait until December to do this. The next workday at the church to be determined.

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 25 at 7:00 pm via zoom.

**TOTAL INCOME & OFFERINGS FROM
SUNDAYS 10/1/2025 - 10/31/2025**

\$5,519.00 GENERAL FUND
212.00 REFURBISHING FUND
60.00 EMERGENCY NEEDS FUND

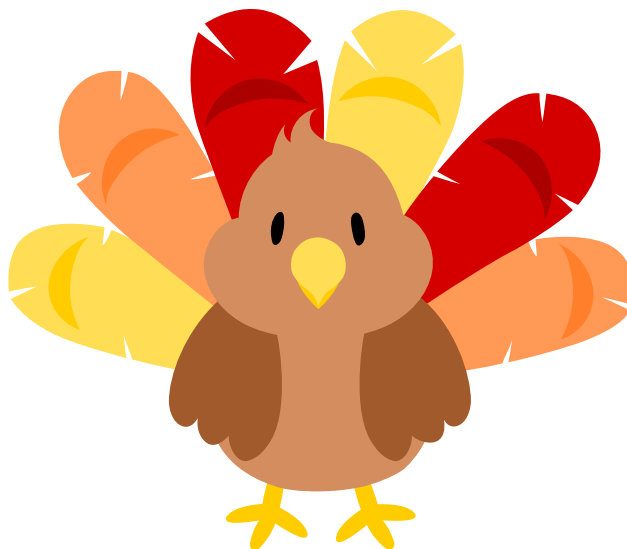
\$5,791.00 OFFERING INCOME

\$ 520.83 COVENANT MORAVIAN CHECK
(HOUSING ALLOWANCE FOR OCTOBER)

\$ 520.83 OTHER INCOME

\$6,311.83 TOTAL INCOME FOR OCTOBER

\$8,276.19 TOTAL EXPENSES FOR OCTOBER



November Birthdays

7 Linda Taylor
10 Julia Saylor
15 Gary Paules
17 Aaron Eckert
19 Dynola Kotek
20 Olivia Downs*
21 Lindsey Robinson
30 Jacob Sprenkle



**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

November Anniversaries

5 Terrence & Christine Downs*



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