



MARCH 2026

THE LAMPLIGHTER YORK FIRST MORAVIAN



Pastor's Message for March 2026

The month of March this year will see the concluding of the season of Lent and the first week of the following month April, the crucifixion of Jesus the Christ and the following Easter celebration. One of our traditions as Moravians is to share in a week-long worship service from Palm Sunday to Good Friday. In this week-long reflection we recount Jesus' Journey of passion to the cross, thus affectionately called "Passion Week Services". Some of the highlights for this week of reflections are:

1. Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem is celebrated on Palm Sunday. In this celebration we recall entrance into Jerusalem and the crowd's response to this fulfilment of prophecy event. This includes Jesus' riding on a donkey, and the people singing 'Hosana' and spreading their clothes and palm branches for the donkey to walk on.
2. Jesus' institution of the Lord's Supper is usually celebrated on Maundy Thursday. In this celebration we recount Jesus washing the disciples' feet and reinterpreting the Passover feast to reflect His impending death and resurrection. We usually share in the Lord's Supper on this day
3. Jesus' Passion in the Garden of Gethsemane is another moment of focus in this week-long reflection.
4. The Good Friday worship experience captures Jesus' trial before different leaders civil and religious and His concluding crucifixion on a cross. This was the ultimate price paid for the redemption of humankind
5. The concluding event for the Lent, Passion Week, and Easter observance is the Easter Sunday Worship Celebration. We usually have an Early morning celebration and a mid-morning worship celebration

Let us take the time of observing Lent, the week-long reflection of "Passion Week Services", and the Easter Sunday celebration to deepen our spiritual life, focusing on the work of Christ to purchase our redemption.

As a Christian and member of this congregation I want to affirm you as a redeemed person, bought back into right relationship with the Father. Purchased not with silver nor with gold but with the precious blood of Jesus.

Shalom, Rev. Dr. Kevin Marshall

Upcoming Events

Men's Fellowship will have a brief meeting for all men following the worship service on Sunday, March 1.

Daylight Savings Time begins on Sunday, March 8.

St. Patrick's Day - Tuesday, March 17.

First Day of Spring - Friday, March 20.

Feeding the Hungry Downtown on Saturday, March 21.
(Meet at Covenant at 10:00 am.)

First's Anniversary service celebrating 274 years of ministry will be held on Sunday, March 22.

Palm Sunday service is on March 29.



Upcoming Meetings

Elders meeting in-person on Tuesday, March 10 at 10:00 am in the annex conference room.

Trustees meeting on Tuesday, March 24 at 7:00 pm via Zoom.

Powerhouse Prayer and Bible Study is held on Wednesdays at 7:00 pm via Zoom. Led by John Knokey.

ELDERS NEWS

The Elders met in-person on Tuesday, February 10 at 10:00 am in the annex conference room. The board reviewed services from the previous month. Report on Outreach and Missions was given by Kevin. Feeding the Hungry downtown is back with a new location. Children and Youth Ministry report was given by Kasi. There was no Kids Fest in January due to snow. The next one will be on Sunday, February 22. Kevin said that we need to get the kids more involved in church. We can also support them in their sports activities, etc. VBS will be held at Covenant this year. Camp Hope dates are out. Are any of our kids interested in going to Camp this year? Jeannette gave updates for the Women's Fellowship. The monthly meeting for this month usually held following worship has been moved to Tuesday, the 17th online due to the cold weather. The fund raiser sub sale is going on right now. Men's Fellowship was reported by Keith. An executive meeting was held on January 15 and a brief meeting for all men after the worship service will need to be re-scheduled. John reported on Worship and Sacristans. The communion assistant for Feb. 22 is Jeannette and Keith will be April 2. He will be highlighting a hymn each month and will start on Sunday, February 22, giving a background on the hymn and then we will all sing it. Kevin suggested having the choir sing these hymns. John said it just difficult to get everyone together. Kevin said to announce it the Sunday before to stay after church to practice. Keep the same Sunday each month so the choir will know when they will sing. Fellowship and Bible Study was reported by John. Musser's Grove has contacted him for reserving for June 7 and payment for the picnic grove. The price has gone up, and it is now \$275.00 to reserve. John will not be taking charge. Kevin said that Covenant will pay half and can take charge since it's part of their 60th anniversary celebration. Pastoral Care was reported by Kevin. He said that there were no visitations this month due to snow and cold weather. Kevin did visit with Rich in the hospital and spoke with Steve Nicholas. He attended Mary Jones' funeral service and spoke there as well. John and Steve also attended her funeral. John mentioned that Kevin's message was very well done. Kevin would like the Elders to check in on members. He will divide a list. The Senior Citizen Club will start in the spring. Kevin will talk with Melissa about training of Worship Leaders and Lay Preachers. He will check with Covenant to see if we can do this together. The Congregational Report to Bethlehem is due at the end of the month. Upcoming dates: Ash Wednesday-Feb. 18th (Kevin asked John if we would pray in the service.) First Sunday in Lent-Feb. 22nd (Communion), Jeannette is assistant. 274th Anniversary Worship service is on March 22. Kevin would like to form an anniversary service committee for our 275th next year. John said that Jamen Grant is now at Pleasant Acres, he may have had a stroke. Kevin said we can visit with him.

The next Elder's meeting will be an in-person meeting held on Tuesday, March 10 at 10:00 am in the annex conference room.



TRUSTEES NEWS

The Trustees met on Tuesday, February 24 via zoom. Active projects in the parsonage, annex and church were discussed. Also, projects that can be done at a later time were reviewed. Boiler re-inspection in the annex was approved. Ausherman will be coming in the spring to paint the exterior trim on the North and West side windows and the stone windowsills. A deposit was sent to Ausherman and contract signed to get work started. Approximately June to be completed. Boben Masonry will be doing repointing and brick repair work on the church starting in the spring. Church roof will need resealing in the spring. We switched back to Met Ed and Columbia Gas to lower heating bills. Wanda gave her financial report for the month. The board approved withdrawing \$12,000 to pay for upcoming bills.

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 24 at 7:00 pm via Zoom.

**TOTAL INCOME & OFFERINGS FROM
SUNDAYS 2/1/2026 - 2/22/2026**

\$ 4,013.77 GENERAL FUND

124.00 REFURBISHING FUND

50.00 MEMORIAL FUND (IN MEMORY OF MARY JONES)

60.00 SMITH BOOK PROJECT

\$ 4,247.77 OFFERING INCOME

\$ 520.83 HOUSING ALLOWANCE FOR FEBRUARY
(FROM COVENANT MORAVIAN)

591.94 REFUND CHK FROM AMERICAN POWER & GAS

19,000.00 MORGAN STANLEY WITHDRAWALS (FOR MISC.
INVOICES AND UPCOMING EXPENSES)

\$20,112.77 OTHER INCOME

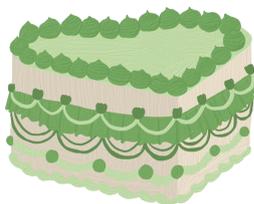
\$24,360.54 TOTAL "INCOME" FOR FEBRUARY

\$16,808.46 TOTAL "EXPENSES" FOR FEBRUARY



March Birthdays

1 Wanda Hendricks
3 Sadie Wurzbach
5 River Robinson
7 Pastor Sayward Lippincott*
10 Bob Taylor
11 Alianna Saylor
19 Hayley Teal
24 Chloe Senft
25 Sharon Saylor
26 Pyper Robinson
29 Jemon Grant*
30 John Rohrer



**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

March Anniversaries

16 Samuel & Jaylynn Pauley
24 Clair & Ruth Seiple



Prayer Concerns

KATHIE NICHOLAS

JEMON GRANT

IRELYN SPRENKLE

JEFF RISHEL

TRUDY MOORE-KOTEK

PAUL MINNICH

DEVON GREEN

WANDA HENDRICKS

ERIC GREEN

AXEL LEH

SCOTT MURPHY

RICH WURZBACH



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



2026 Watchword

"because of the tender mercy of our God,
by which the rising sun will come to us from heaven
to shine on those living in darkness
and in the shadow of death,
to guide our feet into the path of peace."

Luke 1:78-79