



APRIL 2026

THE LAMPLIGHTER YORK FIRST MORAVIAN

Pastor's Message for April 2026

“Jesus is the Prince of Peace”

One of the titles given to the Messiah in the prophetic utterance in Isaiah 9:6 is “Prince of Peace”. The verse reads “For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.” Each of the four titles given in this verse reveals something new about the identity of the Messiah, and all are very relevant to a full understanding of who Jesus really is. However, I find the title of “Prince of Peace” being most applicable and needed in our world and in this country at this time. It is a time when the rhetoric and engagement in wars are on the rise in our world. One of the most recent and egregious conflict that America has found herself engaged in is with Iran. Most persons in the country are very concerned about it and the consequences now, and in the near and distant future.

It is in the shadow of these realities that I remind you of our Savior and the message that we bring especially in the Easter season. Our message declares that Jesus is the Prince of Peace into our world. The title “Prince of Peace” (Hebrew: Sar Shalom), signifies Jesus as the one who brings spiritual harmony, restoration with God, and internal peace. When a person, a family, a nation, or the world accepts and receive His Peace it will lead to political tranquility all over the world. Most importantly is the approach of the one who has received the Peace of Christ. It is a posture of Peace towards neighbor regardless of who they are.

Important to us believers, are Jesus’ parting words and admonition to His disciples, and by extension to us is: “Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your heart be troubled and do not be afraid.” (John 14:27) As recipients of this peace let us spread the message of Peace in this season. The kind of peace that the world does not give, but the world needs. Let us share with the world the Peace that passes all human understanding.

“Blessed are the peacemakers for they shall be called the children of God”.

(Matthew 5:9)

Shalom, Rev. Dr. Kevin Marshall

Upcoming Events

Happy Easter! He has risen!

~Sunday, April 5 - Easter Sunrise Service at Covenant at 6:30 am
Easter Worship services to be held a regular time -
Covenant Moravian Church at 9:30 am
First Moravian Church at 11:15 am
(Easter Egg Hunt following the worship service.)



~Covenant Moravian Church will be having a Basement Sale on Saturday, April 18 from 9:00 am - 12:30 pm. Many items for sale, clothing for the whole family and much more! Soups, Snacks and Lunch available. Questions? Please call 717-755-3269.



Upcoming Meetings

~Joint Boards from First and Covenant meeting on
Tuesday, April 7 at 10:00 am at Covenant.
~Joint Board meeting for First on Tuesday, April 21 at 10:00 am
in the annex conference room.
~Powerhouse Prayer and Bible study held on Wednesdays
at 7:00 pm via Zoom.

ELDERS NEWS

The Elders met in-person on Tuesday, March 10 at 10:00 am in the annex conference room. Worship services were reviewed from the past month. Kevin said that the Hymn of Appreciation that John suggested has been a good addition to the service. He would like to have the choir sing these hymns. Report on Outreach and Missions was given by Kevin. Feeding the Hungry downtown is back with a new location. First may be in charge of April's feeding. He will confirm and let us know. Children and Youth Ministry report was given by Kasi. Kids Fest was held in February, but we will not have it in March due to the church Anniversary/Lovefeast service. We would like the kids to participate in serving lovefeast. Kevin would like to have a Youth service this year, maybe in May where the kids would all have a part in the service. VBS will be held at Covenant this year from June 29 - July 2 from 1:00-3:00 pm. Jeannette gave updates for the Women's Fellowship. The monthly meeting usually held following worship was moved to Tuesday, the 17th online due to members not being available on the 3rd Sunday in March. We are planning an Anniversary service for Sunday, May 31. A Circle meeting was also held on Saturday where we studied our Devotional guide "Waiting on the Lord!" along with having snacks and a Valentine's Day heart craft. It was a wonderful time of fellowship. Men's Fellowship was reported by Kevin. They are still trying to set things up for the men. John reported on Worship and Sacristans. The communion assistant for April 2, Maundy Thursday is Keith. Fellowship and Bible Study was reported by John. He said that Bible Study is going well. Pastoral Care was reported by Kevin. Mary Jones' funeral was held. Visitations this month will be along with Cliff Bergstresser and they will be visiting Kathie and Steve and Jeff Rishel. John suggested including Cliff Rowell and Gloria Moore on the visitation list. The Senior Citizen Club was planned and will start on Thursday, April 23. We are just not sure what time is best for everyone. Seeking volunteers to be there. We will have a sign-up sheet. Bring a potluck dish to share. Worship Leaders and Lay Preachers training available through the Eastern District Board as well as the Compass program. Flyers were put in the bulletin for more detailed information on both. The Congregational Report to Bethlehem was mailed in time for the deadline of February 28. Some portions of the report were also submitted through the MCNP portal. 274th Anniversary Worship service is on March 22. This will be a Lovefeast service. We will need servers and John is hoping that the choir will sing. Kevin presented Assessment and Profile tools for the congregation (for the pastor and congregation). He also would like to develop a "Strategic Plan" for First for 2027. He provided a sample for reference. We need to meet with all members to develop this plan so that everyone has a voice in this. Passion Week Services: At Covenant at 4:00 pm Sunday - Wednesday. Maundy Thursday Communion service at First at 7:00 pm. Good Friday service at Covenant at 7:00 pm and Sunrise service at Covenant at 6:30 am. Easter Sunday regular service time at both churches. Joint Board meeting for both churches on Tuesday, April 7 at 10:00 am at Covenant. Joint Board meeting for First on Tuesday, April 21 a 10:00 am. Other Business: Jeannette will be on vacation from April 11-18. The next meeting will be a Joint Board meeting held on Tuesday, April 21 at 10:00 am in the annex conference room.



TRUSTEES NEWS



The Trustees met on Tuesday, March 24 via zoom. Projects in the parsonage, annex and church were reviewed. Ausherman will be coming mid-June to paint the exterior trim on the North and West side windows and the stone windowsills. 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. Wanda will be calling Craig Slanker for a quote. Elevator pressure test is due, \$995.00 & \$220.00 Hatfield Elevator. Boiler maintenance contract, getting a quote from Hailer. MJ will audit our books after tax season. Wanda went over the finances for the month. The board approved withdrawing \$25,000 to pay for upcoming bills and projects. Joint Bd meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 21 at 10:00 am in annex conf. room.

**TOTAL INCOME & OFFERINGS FROM
SUNDAYS 3/1/2026 - 3/29/2026**

\$5,237.55 GENERAL FUNDS

212.00 REFURBISHING FUND

25.00 MEMORIAL FUND (IN MEMORY OF DENISE ECKERT)

228.20 FLOWER FUND (EASTER FLOWERS)

118.00 SMITH BOOK PROJECT

\$5,820.75 OFFERING INCOME

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

100.00 DONATION FOR USE OF FELLOWSHIP HALL ON 3/7/26
AND 3/8/26

52.99 ADAMS ELECTRIC - OWNERSHIP REWARDS CHECK

\$ 673.82 OTHER INCOME

\$ 6,494.57 TOTAL "INCOME" FOR MARCH

\$13,747.63 TOTAL "EXPENSES" FOR MARCH



April Birthdays

3 Joseph Kotchmar*
4 Spencer Lippincott*
11 Kathy McDannell*
12 Georgia Rishel
18 Julia Folk*
 Meagan Purswell*
24 Gloria Moore
28 Kevin Lippincott*
 Lori Lehigh*



**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

April Anniversaries

10 Glenn & Cheri Miley*
13 Stan & Sally Senft



Prayer Concerns

KATHIE NICHOLAS

JEMON GRANT

IRELYN SPRENKLE

JEFF RISHEL

PAUL MINNICH

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