



MAY 2026

THE LAMPLIGHTER YORK FIRST MORAVIAN



Pastor's Message for May 2026

As we continue to bask in the Easter celebrations, I hope that you my fellow siblings in Christ are experiencing renewed hope in the midst of all the present challenges of the day.

As we fully engage in the second quarter of the year 2026, I would like to share with you a new endeavor we would like to embark on as a congregation. This is the formulation of a Strategic Plan for the congregation. This Strategic Plan would guide the ministry of the congregation for the next 3 years, from 2027 to 2029. We anticipate that it would take us 6 months to bring this strategic plan together, from June 2026 to December 2026. The Strategic planning Committee will be comprised of 6 members: the host pastor, a member of the Board of Elders, a member of the Board of Trustees, a youth representative, and 2 other lay persons associated with the congregation. The formulation of the Strategic Plan for the congregation will include the collection of information/data from members, friends, and associates of the church. This will be done in three ways; via paper, electronically and face to face group meeting of the congregation. You can get involved in this process in two ways: 1) offer yourself to serve on the Strategic Planning Committee and or be engaged in the data collection process. I also call on you to prayerfully support the process and the areas and opportunities to grow our congregation. The Strategic Plan will cover 2027 to 2029.

Upcoming events for the summer are:

1. **Church Picnic on Saturday June 6, 2026.** Please make plans to be there along with your friends and family. We are aiming for a minimum of 60 persons between both congregations.
2. **Our Vacation Bible School** will be hosted at Covenant. It will be from Monday, June 29 to Thursday, July 2. The meeting time will be 1 PM to 3 PM. Please make plans for your children, grandchildren, and their friends to share in this occasion.

Let us continue to live and work in the resurrection power of Jesus the Christ.

Shalom,
Rev. Dr. Kevin Marshall

Upcoming Events

~Saturday, May 2 the Women's Fellowship Circle meeting to be held at 10:00 am in the annex conference room and then baking sugar cookies.

~Sunday, May 3 Women's Fellowship Fundraiser sugar cookies for sale.

~Sunday, May 10 is Mother's Day.

~Saturday, May 16 Feeding the Hungry downtown. Meet at Covenant at 10:00 am to help prepare the lunch.

~Monday, May 25 is Memorial Day.

~Thursday, May 28 Senior Social Gathering at 11:00 am in Fellowship Hall.

~Sunday, May 31 Women's Fellowship Anniversary Service.



Upcoming Meetings

~Elder's meeting on Tuesday, May 12 in-person at 10:00 am in the annex conference room.

~Trustees meeting on Tuesday, May 26 at 7:00 pm via Zoom.

~Powerhouse Prayer and Bible study held on Wednesdays at 7:00 pm via Zoom.

FIRST MORAVIAN CHURCH
Joint Board Meeting minutes 4/21/2026 at 10:00 am

Present: Rev. Kevin Marshall, Larry Sprenkle, Jeannette Sprenkle, Cliff Bergstresser, John Knokey, Keith Rishel, Wanda Hendricks, Tim Rishel and Kasi Steinbrenner Absent: Lance Sprenkle

Call to order by Pastor Kevin at 10:00 am

Devotions were led by Pastor Kevin with the reading of "Our Daily Watchword" with prayer.

Welcome and courtesies by Pastor Kevin – Lance's absence and Wanda to have shoulder surgery on April 28.

Matters to be discussed – Added to the agenda was a short agenda for the Trustees by Cliff. Also added was a financial report to share by Wanda.

1. Administering the Minister Evaluation Form – Kevin handed out this form. The Joint Board (Joint Board will decide how to do this) and Pastor will also fill this out. It will be approved by the boards and then kept on file. To be completed by end of year. Check with Melissa Johnson regarding the time of year (by September or end of year based on Kevin's contract).
2. Formulating a Strategic Plan for the Congregation – Most thought that this was a good idea to plan for the future. Cliff mentioned that the plan must be flexible because things change. Take small steps.
 - I. A Strategic Plan Committee – Pastor, 1-Elder, 1-Trustee, 1-Youth Advisor + 2 lay members from the congregation. The committee would develop a questionnaire for members to fill out. This would be on paper, online survey and eventually in person. All voices to be heard. The committee will develop the questionnaire in May and collect all information June – December. This will help us to make a plan in growing God's ministry. Make a 2-3 yr. plan.
 - II. Conversation with the District/Province – Kevin will talk with Melissa.
 - III. The Process - Kevin

FYI – Pastor will be out of office from April 27, 2026 -May 18, 2026

Any other business – Cliff shared information on two books worthwhile reading; "I Once Was Lost" and "Who Moved My Cheese". If anyone would like a copy of the second book, he can order it. Kevin requested a copy for his daughters to read.

Cliff also reviewed the Trustees report. (See summary handed out.) Elder's approved moving funds from the Memorial fund to the Refurbishing fund to cover cost for a new vacuum and two Moravian stars. Wanda mentioned that the microphone does work now and does not need replaced. John Rohrer got it to work.

Wanda went over the financial report for the month. She requested approval to withdraw \$9,000.00 from Morgan/Stanley to cover upcoming bills. Tim made a motion to go ahead with this withdrawal. Cliff seconded the motion. Larry and Lance approved via email.

Termination: The meeting ended at 12:10.

Doxology

Respectfully Submitted; Jeannette Sprenkle, Elder's Secretary

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

\$4,289.25 GENERAL FUNDS
161.00 REFURBISHING FUNDS
140.00 SMITH BOOK FUNDS

\$4,590.25 OFFERING INCOME

\$ 520.83 HOUSING ALLOWANCE FOR APRIL (FROM COVENANT MORAVIAN)
50.00 DONATION FOR USE OF FELLOWSHIP HALL ON 04/11/26
380.00 MORAVIAN CHURCH NORTHERN PROVINCE
(GAP REWARD CHECK FOR 2024)
25,000.00 MORGAN STANLEY WITHDRAWAL CHECK
(FOR UPCOMING EXPENSES)

\$25,950.83 OTHER INCOME

\$30,541.08 TOTAL "INCOME" FOR APRIL

\$17,775.10 TOTAL "EXPENSES" FOR APRIL



May Birthdays

2 Melissa Wurzbach
10 Diane Sprenkle
12 Mary Louise Fetrow*
13 Brielle Saylor
 John Knokey
15 Rick Lehigh*
17 Farrah Robinson
18 Paul Minnich
23 Brock Shealy
25 Terrence Downs*
 David Rishel
26 Kyle Sprenkle
 Kayden Rishel*
29 Cody Martin
 Abigail Wurzbach



May Anniversaries

18 Joseph & Mona Kotchmar*
20 Lance & Diane Sprenkle
21 Cody & Kathryn Martin



Prayer Concerns

KATHIE NICHOLAS
JEMON GRANT
IRELYN SPRENKLE
JEFF RISHEL
PAUL MINNICH
WANDA HENDRICKS
ERIC GREEN
AXEL LEH
SCOTT MURPHY
RICH WURZBACH



**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

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