

FIRST MORAVIAN CHURCH
225 N. 10TH STREET
EASTON, PA 18042-3370
The Rev. Sue Koenig, Pastor
Laurie Toyberg, Secretary

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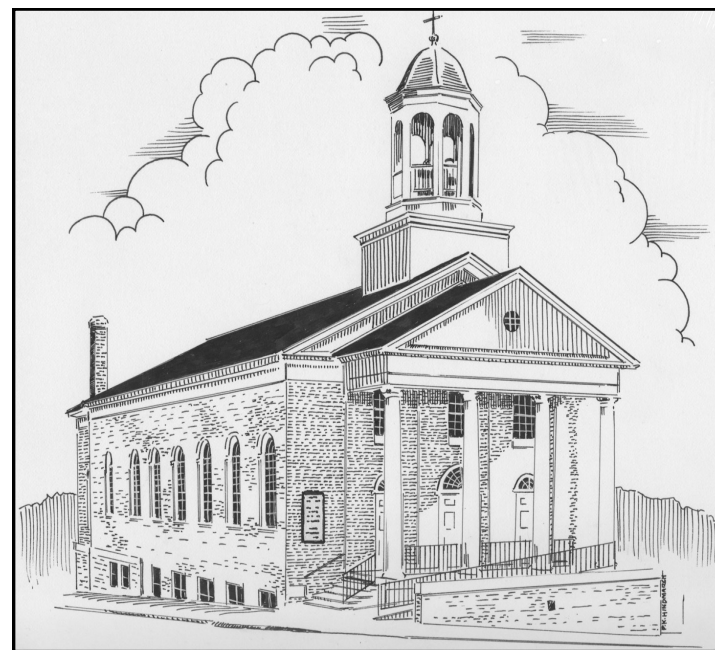
***Worship Sundays 10:45 AM;
10 AM Beginning June 15, 2025
Summer through Labor Day 10 AM***

Join us for worship! All are



THE FM STEREO NEWSLETTER

June 2025



**In Essentials, Unity
In Nonessentials, Liberty
In All Things, Love**

Congregational Watchword for 2025

Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. In my Father's house there are many dwelling places.

John 14:1-2

*"Breath of God, O life-giving Spirit,
yours the truth that we seek this day."
© Kieran Sawyer, MBW Hymn #499*

Dear kindred in Christ,
On Pentecost Sunday, June 8, we will recount the story of the coming of the Holy Spirit, the Advocate Jesus promised to send who would be with us forever (Acts 2:1-21). The Holy Spirit is our comforter, guide, and the revealer of God's truth—the truth we seek that enables us to obey Jesus' commands.

In a devotional entitled, *A Guide to Prayer*, I discovered a prayer regarding "the truth we seek" that seems especially relevant for our time. With the publisher's permission, I have copied a portion of it below. William Barclay wrote this prayer in a time before 1964, before the Civil Rights Act and the Voting Rights Act were passed. In the world in which we live today, seeking truth through the guidance of the Holy Spirit is a grave responsibility of Christians and Christian community. May God bless us with an outpouring of the Holy Spirit as they knew that first Pentecost, igniting our hope and our commitment to seek the truth that is possible to know.

Pr. Sue

O God, our Father, in the life and death and resurrection of Jesus you have given us the remedy for sin. In him you have opened to us the way to forgiveness for all our past sins, and you have given us the strength and the power to live in purity and truth...

Help us to put away all evil things...

Help us to live in purity...

Help us to live in truth.

Grant

*That we may never speak or act a lie;
That we may never be misled by false or mistaken beliefs;
That we may never evade the truth,
even when we do not want to see it.*

Grant to us at all times

*To seek and to find;
To know and to love;
To obey and to live
the truth.*

This we ask for the sake of him who is the Way, the Truth, and the Life, even for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

COMMUNITY NEWS

49th ANNUAL BOUTIQUE FOR HOPE

St Luke's SportsPlex, 4636 Crackersport Road, Allentown
In 2025, The Boutique for Hope celebrates its 49th annual sale! The Boutique for Hope is a sale of new and gently used clothing, household goods, antiques, collectibles, vintage clothing and accessories, toys, games, sporting equipment and high-end boutique items. The Boutique for Hope was started in 1974 by a group of dedicated Bethlehem Steel company wives. Today, more than 400 community volunteers run the event each spring.

The Boutique for Hope benefits three organizations serving cancer patients and their families in the Lehigh Valley. In 2023, the Boutique raised over \$315,000 and donated \$100,000 each to the Cancer Support Community of the Greater Lehigh Valley, St. Luke's Cancer Center, and St. Luke's Hospice. ***The Boutique will be open for shopping June 11-14.***

Activities In the West Ward

Clean Up Days are scheduled for July 11 and Sept. 27. Pick up supplies beginning at 8 am at N. 12th Street.

Visit the **West Ward Market**, held every Wednesday from 3 to 7 pm on N. 12th Street.

LOOKING AHEAD...

Here are highlights of what is ahead for **July 2025**:

- 07/01 Canada Day (Canada)
- 07/04 Independence Day (US)
- 07/06 John Hus Festival/ 4th Sunday after Pentecost/
Holy Communion
- 07/11 *An Evening Out for Everyone*—Community Picnic and Carnival (new date)
- 07/13 5th Sunday after Pentecost
- 07/20 6th Sunday after Pentecost
- 07/27 7th Sun. after Pentecost/Outdoor Worship & Picnic



FIRST MORAVIAN UNIFIED BOARD

Members of the Unified Board met on May 18 at 12:30 pm. Pastor Sue opened the meeting with prayer. The agenda for the meeting, the minutes of April 13, and the April Pastor's Report were reviewed and approved. The matters discussed included the following:



- ♦ Treasurer Frank Chisesi reported that our current cash balance is \$7,564, and has fallen below the \$10,000 benchmark we have set to cover monthly costs. Health and pension payments need to be made. Water and sewer bills were significantly higher than usual due to a leaky toilet that we believed had been fixed. Mike LoQuasto suggested adding a monitoring system to the mainline. Frank will look at the options Mike provided. The Capital Fund balance invested with the Moravian Ministries Foundation was \$40,751 after 45 months, representing earnings of \$751. Fees are about \$82 per quarter. We decided to check on CD and money market rates and consider a change next month.
- ♦ Yard sale results were reviewed. We raised \$1,000 (\$1,100 with subsequent online sales) \$300 more than the previous year and just \$100 short of our goal. The added bake table raised \$75 of this amount. We sold 23 metal chairs. Next year we plan to ask for donations from members' neighbors to increase the items available for sale; consider how we might have one or more higher-priced items; and continue the bake table.
- ♦ Gift card sales are on track to reach our goal of \$50,000 in sales for \$3,000 in earnings. A weekly announcement for the screen will be prepared; and we will add an incentive every other month. The person with the highest amount of card purchases in June will receive a free \$25 gift card of their choice; August TBA! One vendor has signed up for the Holiday Craft Bazaar; another has made an inquiry. Advertising for vendors will begin soon. Sue Ficzkowski suggested a flyer to be distributed at other bazaars.
- ♦ The Board approved a request for baptism for Melanie (Bullock) Boyd on August 10; and use of Fellowship Hall that afternoon.
- ♦ Existing church policies with regard to property were reviewed.
- ♦ Worship arrangements for May 25; summer confirmation; a sermon series based on the Bible Study, "Responding to God's Call for Mercy;" and an upcoming study on the book "Compassionate Giving," were discussed.
- ♦ We will explore a fall trip to Sight & Sound to see Noah.
- ♦ A request from Camp Hope to serve as an emergency site was approved; there will be a workday on May 24; rental rate for Oasis will remain the same at the end of July.

The next Unified Board meeting will be June 22 at 11:30 am.

WORSHIP IN JUNE 10:45 am through June 8, 10 am beginning June 15

June 1, Ascension Sunday/Oasis Worship Team/Sunday School (Robotics)

We will celebrate Christ's Ascension and glorious reign in which we are invited to live now. Christ has called us to be his witnesses, and to tell to all the good news of repentance and forgiveness. Sunday School will be held in the Fellowship Hall after a brief time with the congregation. The class will return to enjoy the music and singing with the Oasis Congregation's Worship Team who will be visiting with us and playing during the worship service.

June 8, The Day of Pentecost/Holy Communion

"Hail this joyful day's return!" We rejoice in the coming of the Holy Spirit, just as Jesus promised—our comforter, advocate and guide. As we walk in the Spirit we are given all that is needed to be Christ's witnesses in the world...beginning at First Moravian and reaching out to the ends of the earth! We will celebrate a service of Holy Communion. The liturgical color of the day is red.



June 15, Trinity Sunday/Father's Day/Summer Hours Begins **Our worship time changes to 10 am today through Labor Day.**

The scripture texts for the next five weeks will be drawn from the Immigration Bible Study, *Responding to God's Call for Mercy*. The readings for this first week are Genesis 12:1-3 and 1 Peter 2:9,10. We will recognize Father's Day with an inclusive litany that remembers fathers and all those who have nurtured others in a father's



role. Please plan to stay for a time of short time of visiting (and Moravian sugarcake!) following the worship service.

June 22, Second Sunday after Pentecost/Prayer and Anointing for Healing/Prayer Day for Outdoor Ministries

The readings for this week's theme, "Biblical Understandings in Caring for Immigrants—What Does the Lord Require" are Leviticus 19:33,34; Deuteronomy 10:17-19; and 1 Corinthians 12:12-13, 24b-26. We will pray the Liturgy for Outdoor Ministries; and offer a time of prayer and anointing for healing.

June 29, Third Sunday after Pentecost/VBS Program

Our VBS Program this year is God's promises to Noah and we look forward to celebrating with our children and youth. The sermon topic will be "Understanding Migration in the US and Canada."

CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL

First Sunday Sunday School will meet on Sunday, **June 1 at 10:45 am**. Children will spend a brief time with their families and the congregation at the start of the service, and then go to the Fellowship Hall for Sunday School. Registration forms and other materials are available at the church or by calling the church office at 610-258-6317. Children ages three through 13 are invited. After the June class, Sunday School will return on September 7. Children and youth are invited to Children's Messages, VBS and Arts Fest during the summer months!



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

God's Promises to Noah

June 26 & 27 6:30-8:15 pm

This year's Vacation Bible School program will invite children and youth into the story of God's promises

to Noah. Two by two and as a group we will give thanks for God's love of God's good creation and God's care for human beings and animals alike! Come and experience this delightful story of faithfulness! Children ages 3 through 5th grade complete are invited; older children are welcome, too! Vacation Bible School will be **Thursday and Friday, June 26 and 27 from 6:30 to 8:15 pm**. There will be Bible stories, crafts, songs, games, snacks, and a slideshow to recap each evening!

Come and have fun as we learn about Noah and God's promises to all of us! Everyone is invited back on Sunday, June 29 at 10 am for worship and a VBS closing program. Please call the church to register at (610) 258-6317 or visit our website at firstmoravianeaston.org.



ROBOTICS

Children and youth and their families are invited to the Robotics Ministry sessions with Mike Koenig offered the first Sunday of each month following worship and Sunday School. The next session will be **Sunday, June 1 at 12:15 pm**. Meet in the room behind the sanctuary. A light lunch will be provided.



PROVINCIAL AND DISTRICT NEWS

For updates from the Northern Province and Districts, please see June's *Moravian Monthly* (access information <https://www.moravian.org/northern/the-moravian-monthly/>)

For news from the Board of World Mission, including updates on disaster relief efforts and volunteer opportunities in North Carolina, visit <https://www.moravian.org/mission/>

NEWS FROM CAMP HOPE

I hope this message finds you well. My name is Brian Lauderman, and I will be the Summer Staff Manager at Camp Hope this year. I'm reaching out to invite your church community to join me and Camp Hope in promoting our upcoming summer filled with a variety of excellent week-long camps that will be sure to bring a fun, faith-based experience for children, teenagers, and young adults. Camp provides a safe environment where people of all ages can grow spiritually, build lasting friendships, and enjoy activities like swimming, canoeing, singing, and campfires.

In addition to our week-long camps, we are also looking for help for our summer long staff. These positions include lifeguards, kitchen staff, and general maintenance. Camp is at its best when we have dedicated staff who want to help make everyone's experience a memorable one. I ask that you also take the time to ask your congregation if there are any members who would be interested in joining me in this incredible journey.

If you'd like more information or would be open to having me share a short announcement during a service, I'd be happy to coordinate. Thank you for considering these great opportunities. Please feel free to reach out with any questions or to discuss further. Blessings, Brian Lauderman, Summer Staff Manager
717-940-1654; bjlauderman@gmail.com
www.camphope.org

Summer Camp Schedule

Musical Theatre Camp: 6/29-7/5 (5th-9th grade)
Primary Camp: 7/6-12 (3rd or 4th grade)
Middler Camp: 7/13-7/19 (5th or 6th grade)
Junior High Camp: 7/20-7/26 (7th or 8th grade)
Senior High Camp: 7/27-8/2 (9th-12th grade)
Swim Camp: 8/3-8/9 (3rd-6th grade)
Pre-Primary Camp: 8/3-8/6 (1st or 2nd grade)

What Is Juneteenth? Information for Kids and Families

Posted 05/18/2022 by *Boys & Girls Clubs of America* in *Parent Resources*

What is Juneteenth? In 1863, President Abraham Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation, which declared a formal end to slavery in the United States. However, change was not instant after the proclamation. Nearly two and a half years later, on June 19th, 1865, the enslaved African Americans of Galveston, Texas got the news by way of the Union army troops that freedom had come at last. The next year, the people of Galveston commemorated that day as Juneteenth, a celebration of freedom. Since then, it's been observed in communities and states as a holiday, but officially recognized as a federal holiday in 2021.

Why is the holiday called Juneteenth? The name blends the month and the day this news reached the people of Galveston: "June" plus "nineteenth" is Juneteenth. It's also often called Emancipation Day or Freedom Day. For Juneteenth activities in the Lehigh Valley, visit <https://juneteenthlv.org/>

JUNETEENTH EVENTS IN EASTON THIS YEAR

5K Walk/Run Health Fair

June 22, 2025 from 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Lace up your sneakers for Easton's Juneteenth 5K Walk/Run Health Fair. Walk, jog, or run at your own pace while discovering educational displays along the route exploring African American history, health and wellness resources, and meet with local community organizations.



Juneteenth Parade

June 22, 2025 from 3:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Juneteenth celebrations culminate in Easton with a parade that brings the entire Lehigh Valley community together. African American community leaders, cultural performers, fraternity and sorority members, youth groups, drumlines and steppers, and dance troupes create a joyful procession that must be seen.



FIRST MORAVIAN CHURCH OF EASTON
10th & Bushkill, Easton



SATURDAY MAY 17
8 am - 1 pm

Household and kitchen items, linens, dishes, collectibles, small appliances, coffee makers, children's toys, pictures, books, folding chairs, tools, and more...

YARD SALE

This year's yard sale was very successful and we were happy to see a number of people returning to shop who had come in prior years. We raised \$1,100 from the sale which included \$100 from two items sold online and \$75 from an added bake sale. We extend our gratitude to everyone who contributed to the sale in any way. Thank you for your donations of sale items and baked goods and for other support for the sale. We

thank our sale organizers and advertisers—Mike LoQuasto, Frank Chisesi, Dawn Hughes, Laurie Toyberg, and Sue Wexler; and our work crew that assisted with setting up, taking down, and working during the sale: Frank Chisesi, Ray Folweiler, III, Dawn Hughes, Susanne Kessler, Pastor Sue Koenig, Carl Lerch, Mike LoQuasto, Sr., and Donna Pritchard. The Black Family who have always assisted us with the yard sale and other fundraisers were in our prayers due to John's recent surgery. We are thankful that he is doing well now.

SPRING CLEANING

A sparkling "thank you" to Benjamin, Lila, and Gwen Triolo, Frank Chisesi, and Dawn Hughes, who helped with our spring cleaning day on Saturday, March 24. The fellowship hall and kitchen were sparkling when they finished, and Bennie did not leave behind a cobweb or speck of dust! We are grateful for the assistance of three members of the AA groups that meet in our church.



"MORAVIAN MONEY" GIFT CARDS FUNDRAISER

Please continue your support of the Moravian Money fundraiser by making your purchases using gift cards from the church. Frank Chisesi has gift cards available every Sunday; and arrangements may be made to order them at other times. The person with the highest amount of gift card purchases in June will receive a **free \$25 gift card** of their choice!



Please see the enclosed flyer on Grocery Shopping—one copy for you to keep and one to share!

PRAYER AND SPIRITUAL FORMATION OPPORTUNITIES **"SWEET HOUR OF PRAYER"**

Everyone is invited to gather for prayer at 4 pm on Wednesday afternoons. Those who would like may bring a short devotion, poem, or story to share. The *Sweet Hour of Prayer* is held virtually using Zoom and may be accessed by everyone via a regular phone. To join via phone, call Zoom at 301 715 8592, enter the Meeting ID 934 9796 5599 followed by #. Enter # when asked for your participant ID; enter the passcode 892624, #.

PRAY WITH CHURCHES FOR MIDDLE EAST PEACE

We would love to have you pray with us every Wednesday at 12:30 pm. We believe prayer is one of the core practices in advocating for those we love. Learn more and register: <https://cmep.org/cmep-events/wednesday-prayers-for-peace/>

COMPASSIONATE GIVING

Promoting Dignity and Self-Reliance in Our Mission

The Rev. Judith M. Ganz has written a new book entitled *Compassionate Giving: Promoting Dignity and Self-Reliance in Our Mission*. This book will be the text for our next Bible Study to be offered Mondays in June at 11 am beginning June 2. Rev. Ganz lived in Costa Rica and Nicaragua from 1973 until 1979, evacuating during the Sandinista War. (The family then came to First Moravian Church of Easton.) Please let Pastor Sue know if you plan to attend and/or if you would like to order a copy of the book.

CHOIR AND HANDBELL REHEARSALS

We extend our gratitude to our voice and handbell choirs for sharing their gifts with us during Lent and the season of Easter. They will sing and play on Pentecost Sunday, June 8. The bell piece is "Peace and Harmony," and the extraordinary anthem is titled, "Visions and Dreams."

PRAYER AND VISITATION MINISTRIES

Please contact Pastor Sue if you would like a visit at home, care facility, or hospital; if you would like to receive Holy Communion at home; or if you are in need of prayer. Members of our Prayer Chain are always ready to pray for you or to join you in prayer for others. We would also like to assist you with getting on ZOOM for worship or by providing frozen meals. Call the Church Office at 610-258-6317. Meals are for everyone.

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PRAYER CONCERNS

Members of First Moravian Church

Those in care facilities

Gloria Bolmer	Leah & Andrew Brown	Cal Wexler
Anne Hajdu	Anita Johnson	Tom Wolfe
James Shook	Dorothy Price	Linda Paff

Those at home

Janet Balogun	Donald Bodden	Mary Buccos
Laurie Bullock	Stella Harling	Liam & Luke Davis
Frank Cigus	Zakk Davis	Donna Pritchard
Frances Goode-Rivera	Barbara Leshar	Bettemae Weiss

Friends of our First Moravian Church Family

Gilbert Hendershot	Deena Kohler	Phil Shell
Tyler & Alicia Cox	Bob Morgenstern	Anne MacIntosh & Family
Elyse	Lauren Hensley	John Black & Family
Ellie and family	Jeannette Leshar	John Morgenstern
Jeff & Brenda Fogel	Ryan & Dave	Karen Statler
Sharon Long	Helen Lerch	Noah Shook
Dorey & Jeff Smith	Debbie S.	Melody & Dan
Aiden	Paula Fisher	Colleen Royer
Dick & Ann Smith	Shannon	Mariana Colon
Cookie Knauss	Aiden Hess	

Student of Sandra Morrisette; Family of Russell Timberman

The world and nation. We pray for an end to conflicts and wars in the Middle East, Sudan, Ukraine, and other war-torn areas of the world, for peace with justice and freedom for all people. We continue to pray for all victims of injustice and violence; those suffering from the ongoing effects of trauma; those affected by human and natural disasters; and all suffering from abuse and addiction. We pray that we may work together for justice and righteousness, for the peace and well-being of all people and creation.



JUNE BIRTHDAYS

06/01 James Mamana
06/03 Esther Cigus
06/04 Sherri Mondillo
06/09 Kaylie Simmons
06/13 Barbara Leshar
06/16 Rev. Pat Honszer
06/17 Zakk Davis

Gordon Hughes
06/23 John Dentith
06/25 Janet Morrow
06/28 Debra Detwiler
06/30 Diane Kohler

JUNE ANNIVERSARIES

06/03 Douglas, Sr. & Dorinda
Gaines

06/07 Jimmy & Jenna Harry
06/15 Walter & Carrie Cigus
06/20 Michael & Anne Hajdu
06/22 John & Hollie Pellow
06/24 Bill & Laurie Bullock
06/27 Frank Chisesi & Dawn
Hughes



*With your presence,
Lord our Head and Savior, bless
them now we humbly pray...*

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