

FIRST MORAVIAN CHURCH

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

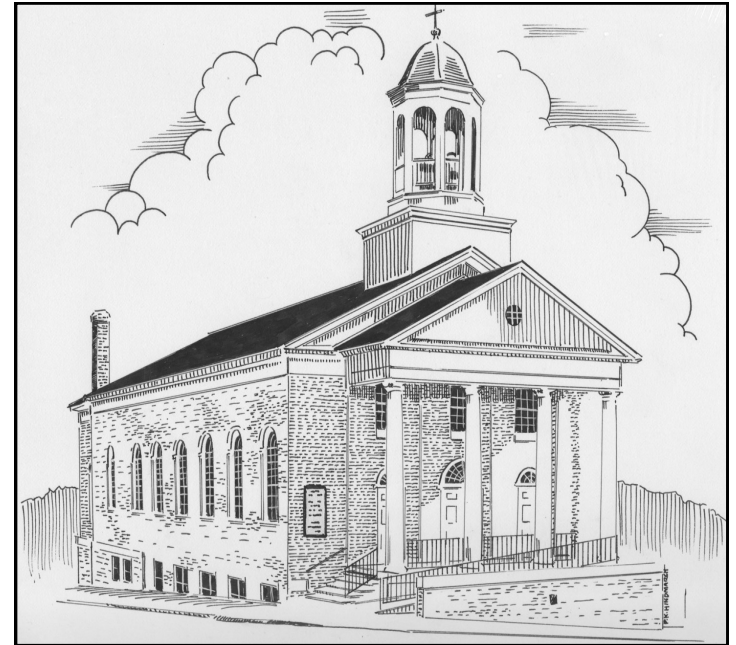
www.firstmoravianeaston.org
secretary@firstmoravianeaston.org



***Worship Sundays at 10:45 am—
10 am beginning June 21!***

**Join us for worship!
All are welcome at First Moravian!**

THE FM STEREO NEWSLETTER
June 2026



**In Essentials, Unity
In Non-essentials, Liberty
In All Things, Love**
Congregational Watchword for 2026

***So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation:
everything old has passed away;
look, new things have come into being!
~2 Corinthians 5:17***

Dear friends in Christ,

The 2026 Synod of the Moravian Church Northern Province will meet in Minneapolis, Minnesota on Thursday and Friday, June 25 and 26. The theme of the Synod is “God’s Vision, Our Mission, Your Decision.” Synod committees began meeting in January. In March, Synod delegates attended an online webinar to prepare for Synod and for conversations in our committees. The webinar included enlightening worship and a presentation on adaptive change, including the distinction between technical and adaptive change. Our Unified Board has also had an opportunity to watch a recording of the webinar.

Technical change is much easier than adaptive change.

Technical changes have solutions—if we need a boiler repair, we can call a service technician and make a decision to accept the arrangements and make the repair. Adaptive change is more challenging. There are no clear or certain answers; and often involves changing long-held beliefs and practices, and changing “the way we have always done things.” Yet, adaptive change deepens our trust in God as we discern together where Christ, our Lamb who has conquered, is leading us now, and opens to the creative work of the Holy Spirit.

Mike Koenig is the congregation’s Synod delegate; and we as a congregation extend our gratitude to him and to our alternate delegate, Brian Smith. Mike and I look forward to sharing the 2026 Synod experience with you at our worship service on June 28. Please hold the MCNP Synod (and the MCSP Synod on June 3-6), and all who will be participating in your prayers.

Pastor Sue

The Stereo newsletter format will be changing soon. If you prefer to receive only an electronic copy of the newsletter, please contact the church office at (610) 258-6317 or secretary@firstmoravianeaston.org. Please also contact the church office if your address, email address or phone number has changed. Thank you for your assistance! We will request your feedback when the first edition of the new newsletter is sent.

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YARD & BAKE SALE

This year’s yard and bake sale was very successful and we were happy to see a number of people returning to shop who came in prior years. We raised \$700, and several items will be sold online for additional proceeds. 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, Sr., 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, Dawn Hughes, Susanne Kessler, Mike Koenig, Pastor Sue Koenig, Carl Lerch, Mike LoQuasto, Sr., Jan Morrow, Donna Pritchard, Afshin Sharafi, Armin Sharfai, Gwen Triolo, and Lila Triolo. Thanks to our bakers for all the delicious baked goods: Dawn Hughes, Wendy Mamana, and Jan Morrow. Thank you to everyone who donated the items to make the sale possible!

RUMMAGE SALE—Coming September 13, 8 AM-1 PM

Our rummage sale, consisting of all items that one can wear—clothing, shoes, handbags, belts, coats, hats, jewelry, etc.—will be held on Saturday, September 13 from 8 am to 1 pm. As you rotate winter and summer clothing, or clean your closets, please consider donating good, clean, wearable items to the church for the rummage sale. Thank you!

“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 gift cards at other times.

COMMON MINISTRIES (“BENEVOLENCES”)

There are Provincial and District Common Ministries which congregations support together. Provincial Common Ministries in 2025 were allocated as follows: Operations (22%), Mission (20%), Care and Nurture of Leaders (16%), Ministry & Vocation (15%), and Moravian Identity, Relationships with Others, and Healthy Congregations (together totaling 27%) . It has been a number of years since First Moravian paid their shared ministries in full, and we have accumulated a significant debt. **If we pay this year, and each of the subsequent four years, in full, our outstanding obligation will be forgiven.** Thank you for supporting our Common Ministries. 11

FIRST MORAVIAN UNIFIED BOARD

"The Lord is my rock, my fortress, and my deliverer."
2 Samuel 22:2



The Unified Board met on May 17, 2026. Highlights from the meeting include:

- Review and approval of the agenda, minutes for April 12, and Pastor's April 2026 report
- Synod updates; reminders of Eastern District Mission Grants and SPG grants available with due dates for proposals of May 31 and June 1, respectively.
- Discussion of upcoming worship and spiritual formation plans including Pentecost Holy Communion; confirmation; Sunday School (with a decision to take a break for July and August);
- worship assistance; and a suggested change to our Child Care policies which will be considered at the June meeting. A request from The Rev. Lance Fox to visit First Moravian on behalf of
- Moravian Open Door was approved.
- The software used for the monthly newsletter will no longer be supported after September. This will require a change and presents an opportunity to move to a format that will be easier to use. We will also ask the congregation to confirm if they would like to continue to receive a paper copy of the newsletter.
- Frank Chisesi reported that the PA Dept. of State Annual Report has been filed; he has drafted a letter to Dago Construction concerning the repair invoice we received and will follow up.
- The General Fund balance has been low, but helped with recent donations, the Oasis rent, and the proceeds from the yard and bake sale which raised \$700, with the sale of several items pending on Craig's List. Gift card sales are down so far this year; we will encourage purchases through an upcoming initiative.
- The Board expressed its gratitude to Carl Lerch and Zakk Davis for their extensive work to clean the church and restore the pews.

The next Unified Board meeting will be June 14, 2026 at 12:30 pm.

FIRST QUARTER FINANCIAL UPDATE 3/31/26	
Revenues	\$39,367.35
Expenses	\$42,680.58
Net Income (Net Loss)	(\$3,313.23)



WORSHIP IN JUNE

Summer Schedule Begins June 21

June 7 & 14 10:45 AM

June 21 & 28 10 AM

June 7, 2nd Sunday after Pentecost/Outdoor Ministries

Jesus' mercy and grace are at the forefront of the gospel reading today from Matthew 9:9-13, and 18-26. We will recognize the Provincial Prayer Day for Outdoor Ministries with a special liturgy, and pray for all who will be leading and participating in this summer's camping programs.

June 14, 3rd Sunday after Pentecost

Jesus' great commission is grounded in compassion; compassion for the crowds who are like sheep without a shepherd. Jesus commissions the disciples to embody his own mission—to cast out unclean spirits and to heal the sick. (Mathew 9:35-10:8).

June 21, 4th Sunday after Pentecost/Father's Day/Summer Schedule Begins—Worship at 10 AM

To God, every person is precious and valued; every person known and loved. Jesus comforts the disciples even as he explains the high cost of faithful discipleship (Matthew 10:24-29). We will celebrate Father's Day with a special litany. We will have the added joys of hearing a special message and welcoming a special guest.

June 28, 5th Sunday after Pentecost

Jesus' ministry is filled with acts and gestures of hospitality and welcome. Now he describes the reward given to those who show hospitality to his followers—even a cup of water is a sign of righteousness and of the inbreaking kingdom of God (Matthew 40-42).



WORSHIP ON ZOOM

We invite you to join us for worship in person or online. Sunday services are available on Zoom. Access information is below. If you need assistance, please call the church office at 610.258.6317. We would be pleased to help you connect to First Moravian!

Access information to join Sunday morning worship on Zoom:

Meeting ID: 997 5374 8227, Passcode: 544713. By phone: Dial 301.715.8592 [enter meeting ID and passcode at prompt.]

"SWEET HOUR OF PRAYER"

Everyone is invited to gather for prayer on Wednesday afternoons at 4 pm. 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, including 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, #. Please note that we will not meet on June 3 or June 24, 2026.

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; or if you are in need of prayer. Our Prayer Chain is 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. Meals are for everyone. Call the Church Office at 610-258-6317 to request prayer or meals.

PRAY WITH CHURCHES FOR MIDDLE EAST PEACE

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/> Visit also cmep.org.

PARISH NURSES' BLOOD PRESSURE CHECKS

Our parish nurses, Dawn Hughes and Janet Morrow, are offering monthly blood pressure checks on the **second Sunday of every month at 10 am** in the Church Office. This is most helpful and "healthful" ministry. It is a gift to have caring and knowledgeable nurses in our First Moravian Church family. Please take advantage of this opportunity to care for your health. The next date for blood pressure checks is **June 14, 2026**.



HISTORY OF FATHER'S DAY FROM THE OLD FARMER'S ALMANAC

1908 Mining Tribute: The very first event honoring fathers took place on July 5, 1908, in Fairmont, West Virginia. Grace Golden Clayton suggested the service to honor the 362 men—most of whom were fathers—who had died in the Monongah mining disaster the previous December.

1910 Washington State: Sonora Smart Dodd of Spokane, Washington, wanted to honor her single father who raised six children alone after her mother died in childbirth. She campaigned local churches and the YMCA, leading to the nation's first statewide Father's Day on June 19, 1910. Father's Day became an official US holiday in 1972. 4

FMCE FOOD MINISTRY

First Moravian, we have done so well collecting **cereal** that the Food Pantry is stocked for the time being! We are continuing to **collect pancake mix, pancake syrup, and baby wipes**. We have also received a request for **beans of any kind** and **pasta of all kinds except spaghetti**. Canned goods and other non-perishable, in-date foods will also be received



Our most recent deliveries on May 11, 2026 totaled 70 items:

- * 19 boxes of cereal
- * 4 boxes of pancake mix
- * 3 bottles of syrup
- * 14 packs of baby wipes
- * 11 boxes of pasta
- * 19 cans/packages of food

We are grateful for all your food donations for those in need; and to Walt and Carrie Cigus for delivering the food collected to Project.

Food insecurity in Pennsylvania increased 44% in the past two years, with more than 1.7 million people facing hunger.

Feeding America Map the Meal Gap: <https://map.feedingamerica.org/>

WEST WARD MARKET

May 7th – October 15th, 2026

Join us for a family-friendly, outdoor community market featuring low-cost fresh produce, pantry items, kids activities, local musicians every week and monthly cooking classes in Easton's vibrant West Ward. (SNAP/EBT accepted)

NEW DATE: Thursdays | 5 PM – 8 PM

**NEW LOCATION: 10TH & Pine Community Garden
923 Pine St., Easton, PA 18042**

First Moravian Church will have a table at the West Ward Market on Thursday, July 2, from 5-8 pm. Please let Pastor Sue know if you are available to help. This is a great opportunity to meet more of our neighbors and support our community!

GRATITUDE FOR YOUR TITHES, OFFERINGS & GIFTS

The Unified Board expresses its gratitude to the congregation for the multitude of ways you share your time, gifts and talents, and financial resources in support of the ministries of First Moravian, and the needs of neighbors and communities.

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://www.discoverlehighvalley.com/events/juneteenth-lehigh-valley/>

JUNETEENTH EVENTS IN EASTON THIS YEAR

5K Walk/Run Health Fair

June 13, 2026 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 local community organizations.

Juneteenth celebrations will be held on **Thursday, June 18, 2026**, at the **West Ward Market (South 10th and Pine Community Garden., Easton, PA)** from **5:00–7:00 p.m.** Come support local Black entrepreneurs while enjoying a vibrant evening market experience featuring food, unique goods, and community fellowship in the heart of Easton's West Ward.

Celebrations culminate in Easton with a **Juneteenth Parade and Music Festival** on **June 20, 2026 from 12 noon to 3:00 pm.** The parade will bring 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 SUNDAY SUNDAY SCHOOL

First Sunday Sunday School will meet on Sunday, June 7, and we will continue a new series of lessons on **David**. This month's lesson is, "**A Brand New King.**" The class will meet in the Fellowship Hall following the Children's Message at the beginning of the 10:45 am worship service. Thanks to all who are part of our Sunday School program! Registration forms and other materials are available at the church or by calling the church office at 610-258-6317. Children 3+ and youth invited.



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

COMING JULY 9 & 10, 6:30-8:15 PM

VBS will draw us into stories that help us overcome our fears when our problems seem VERY BIG—much bigger than we are; and to give thanks to God for *friends*. "David Meets Goliath" and "Best Friends" from *Growing in God's Love-A Story Bible* will be our core stories. There will be music, crafts, games, and snacks. Register online, or contact the church office for a registration form. Ages 3+

CONFIRMATION ACADEMY COMING JUNE 15-20

A summer confirmation program will be offered Monday through Friday, June 15-20 from 10 am to 2:30 pm (four hours for each session, with a half-hour break for lunch.) On Saturday, June 20 we will meet in the morning to learn about and/or participate in an outreach project. Pastor Sue Koenig and Mike LoQuasto, Sr, will lead these Confirmation classes. All youth age 12 and older are invited to participate.



2026 SCHEDULE AT CAMP HOPE

Scholarships available

- Musical Theatre Camp: 6/28-7/4 (5th-9th grade)
- Primary Camp: 7/5-11 (3rd, 4th, or 5th grade)
- Junior High Camp: 7/19-7/2 (6th, 7th or 8th grade)
- Senior High Camp: 7/26-8/1 (9th-12th grade)
- Swim Camp: 8/3-8/9 (3rd-6th grade)
- Pre-Primary Camp: 8/2-8/5 (1st or 2nd grade)

BRAND NEW

August 2 to August 8: **Junior Park Ranger Camp** (3rd-6th grade)
All grades are grades completed

For more information visit <https://www.camphope.org/camp>

Central Moravian Church to Host A Presentation on Christian Nationalism

Central Moravian Church will host a presentation on Christian Nationalism on Sunday, May 31 at 1 pm. Becky Lepore, a member of Central Moravian and a recent graduate of the Moravian University School of Theology, will be the presenter. The event will be held in the church's Christian Education Building, located at 40 W. Church Street, Bethlehem, PA.

At the 2023 Synod of the Moravian Church Northern Province, the Committee on Church and Society resolved that the MCNP rejects Christian Nationalism, which supports racism and white supremacy, and fall of 2024, the Moravian Church Northern Province joined our ecumenical partners in endorsing the Statement of Christians against Christian Nationalism.

What is Christian Nationalism, and in particular, how has the Moravian Church responded to the development of Christian Nationalism? What does our theology speak to this topic? Becky Lepore did extensive study on this topic during her seminary classes and created and presented a talk on Christian Nationalism in February 2025 to 120 interested congregation and community members. Becky will give an updated presentation on Sunday afternoon, May 31 at 1 p.m. in the Christian Education Building of Central Moravian Church. The presentation will not be on Zoom, but a recording will be made available by the MCNP Racial Justice Team at <https://www.moravian.org/northern/racialjustice/>

LOOKING AHEAD...

Here are some highlights for July:

- 07/01 Canada Day
- 07/02 Community Table at West Ward Market
- 07/04 Independence Day (250th Anniversary)
- 07/05 6th Sunday after Pentecost,
John Hus Holy Communion
- 07/06 John Hus Festival
- 07/09 VBS (6:30-8:15 pm)
- 07/10 VBS (6:30-8:15 pm)
- 07/12 7th Sunday after Pentecost
- 07/19 8th Sunday after Pentecost
- 07/26 9th Sunday after Pentecost/
Outdoor Worship/Church Picnic



PRAYER CONCERNS Members of First Moravian Church

Those in care facilities

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

Those at home and/or in need of healing

Janet Balogun	Mary Buccos	Barbara Leshner
Laurie Bullock	Stella Harling	Walter & Carrie Cigus
Zakk Davis	Bettemae Weiss	Frank Cigus
Marcie Sos	Susanne Kessler	Pat Johnson
Frances	Chad Hendershot	

Friends of our First Moravian Church Family

Gilbert Hendershot	Deena Kohler	Tyler & Alicia Cox
Tammy Bane	Elyse	Lauren Hensley
Ellie and family	Jeannette Leshner	John Morgenstern
Dick & Ann Smith	Sharon Long	Helen Lerch
Dorey & Jeff Smith	Debbie S.	Barbara Clements
Patti Montaque	George	Cookie Knauss
Nory Ramos	Ahmed (11 years old)	Kay Gauthier
Creed Hight	Blanche	Sean Delauter
Carolyn Lewis	Duncan Morrisette	Lenore
Marie, Brayden &	Jason Andersen	John Morrow
Garrison	Crissy Flyte	Sam Portney & family

Linda Schneider and family upon the unexpected death of her husband
Family and friends of Linda Bennington

We pray for lasting peace with justice and freedom for all people in the Middle East, Sudan, Ukraine, and other war-torn areas of the world; for children whose lives have been shattered that they will have all they need to heal and thrive. We pray for an end to hate and violence in all its forms; for justice, healing and peace for all victims of violence, and for perpetrators of violence that they come to repentance through the mercy and compassion of Jesus. We pray for those suffering from the ongoing effects of trauma; for those displaced and grieving losses from natural disasters; for all who struggle with mental illness or addiction and their families.



JUNE BIRTHDAYS

- 06/01 James Mamana
- 06/03 Esther Cigus
- 06/04 Sherri Mondillo
- 06/09 Kaylie Simmons
- 06/13 Barbara Leshner
- 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



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

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