

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

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secretary@firstmoravianeaston.org

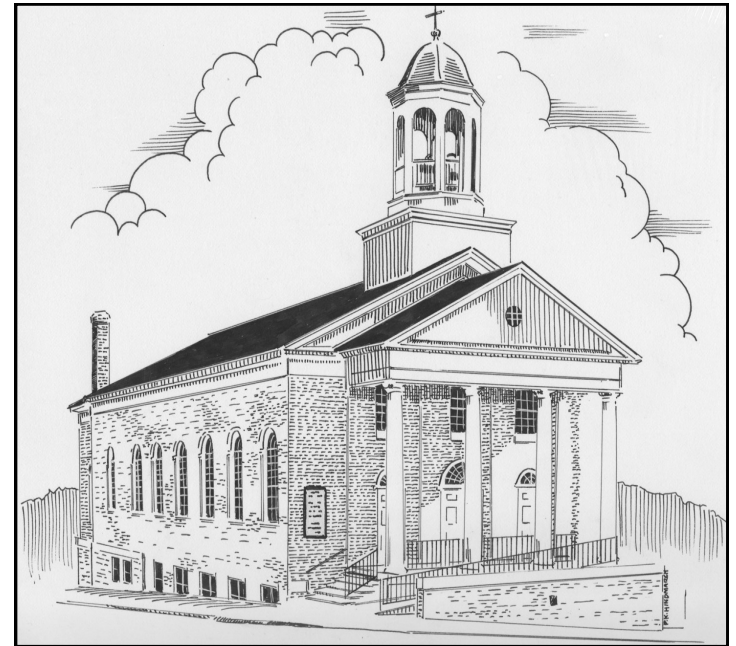
REGISTER FOR
**Vacation
Bible
School**

*Worship Sundays at 10 am—
10:45 am beginning Sept. 6*

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

THE FM STEREO NEWSLETTER

July 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*

Beloved siblings and friends in Christ,

It was a joy to share in First Moravian's worship service on Sunday morning, June 21... from a *pew*! It was our delight to welcome Renee Amator who led the worship service and preached. Lila and Noah Triolo served as liturgists, and read the responsive litany in honor and celebration of Father's Day. This was Renee's first time preaching, and she prepared a beautiful and inspiring children's message and sermon based on Jesus' words in Matthew 10:31: "So do not be afraid; you are of more value than many sparrows." Renee will be assisting with worship leadership and preaching when I am on vacation or traveling for church-related meetings. She will lead worship and preach on July 19 and October 11.

It was a joy to welcome several guests. We welcomed Ian Riccelli and his guests, his girlfriend Caroline, and a couple who are his special friends. Ian returned to play the piano and organ for the service as Andy enjoyed a vacation. We welcomed Joanna Genemans from the Graceham Moravian congregation, who spent the previous week with a team making repairs, painting, and doing other tasks at Camp Hope. It is from time at Camp Hope that Joanna and Ian know one another well—well enough that Ian knew to ask Joanna if she had brought her flute. With an answer in the affirmative, they played two beautiful piano-flute duets for our prelude! A lovely surprise and gift!

The congregation was blessed to have a window into a new experience of confirmation at First Moravian. Giada LoQuasto, Nico Smith, and Noah Triolo participated in our "Confirmation Academy" held June 15-20. Lila Triolo, who confirmed her faith last summer, joined us to offer assistance and continue her own spiritual formation. Mike LoQuasto, Sr. was an outstanding co-leader; and Laurie Toyberg, assisted with crafts and preparations, and Mike Koenig with video productions. Nico, Giada, Noah and Lila, all did an excellent job participating as we worked our way through the 2020 Moravian Catechism, beginning with the Moravian understanding of the essentials of Christianity: On God's part—God creates, redeems, and sustains; on our part—faith, love, and hope. Noah, Nico, Lila and Giada created a virtual tour of the church which was shown during the service, along with a video of photos with the song, "Thy Word" in the background. The video highlighted some of the week's activities. Lanie Yaswinski, Christian Formation Director for the Lehigh Valley, joined us Thursday morning, to explore possible new formats for confirmation and other programs. Giada, Nico and Noah will confirm their faith on August 16 at 10 am. Please come and welcome our new members! (See the July Calendar for photos!)

Pastor Sue

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"MORAVIAN MONEY" GIFT CARDS FUNDRAISER

Please begin or 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. Make this a "*Christmas in July*" for someone special by purchasing one or more gift cards. Please see the list of gift cards available on the order form in the entrance area, or request a form from the church office.

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.

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.

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

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 spring and summer clothing, or clean your closets, please consider donating good, clean, wearable items to the church for the rummage sale. Thank you!



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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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, and highlights were provided in the June 2026 FM Stereo newsletter. The June meeting was rescheduled from June 14 to June 28, and had not occurred prior to the preparation of this newsletter. Highlights from the June 28 meeting will be included in the August newsletter. The Unified Board will take a summer break and not meet in July.

SOME QUOTES ON STEWARDSHIP

Compiled by the Moravian Ministries Foundation of America

Take my silver and my gold;
not a mite would I withhold.
Take my moments and my days;
let them flow in ceaseless praise!

"Take My Life and Let It Be" by Frances R. Havergal

Money is not the only commodity that is fun to give. We can give time, we can give our expertise, we can give our love, or simply give a smile. What does that cost? The point is, none of us ever run out of something worthwhile to give. *Steve Goodie*

From Robert Schnase, author of *Five Practices of Fruitful Congregations*:

- What we save belongs to God, and we should invest in ways that strengthen society. What we give belongs to God, and we need to give generously, extravagantly, and conscientiously in ways that strengthen the Body of Christ.
- Acquisitiveness does not foster a life rich in God.
- We give to find purpose and to accomplish things for Christ.

FIRST QUARTER FINANCIAL UPDATE 3/31/26	
Revenues	\$59,009.35
Expenses	\$62,044.20
Net Income (Net Loss)	(\$3,034.93)

WORSHIP IN JULY

Summer Schedule 10 AM

July 5, 6th Sunday after Pentecost

The Lord is gracious and full of compassion. (Ps. 145:*) Christ has compassion for those who are weary and heavy-laden, and promises to give them rest. (Matthew 11:16-19m 25-30) We remember Jan Hus, the martyr who died July 6, 1415. Hus spoke out against the abuses of the church. He sought change and reformation. He was tried for heresy, and burned at the stake. His followers became the Czech Brethren and today, the Moravian Church. We will celebrate a service of Holy Communion for the Hus Festival.



July 12, 7th Sunday after Pentecost



God's paths overflow with plenty, (Ps. 65:11) and God sows seed with abandon. Jesus invites us to be those seeds that fall in good soil that produce a plentiful harvest...and to make our hearts be good soil. (Mt. 13:1-9, 18-23)

July 19, 8th Sunday after Pentecost

"Teach me your way, O Lord, and I will walk in your truth.." "you, O Lord, are gracious and full of compassion, slow to anger and full of kindness and truth." (Ps. 86:11, 15) Jesus teaches God compassion, kindness and patience in a parable of wheat and weeds. "Let them grow together." (Mt. 13:24-30, 36-43)



The date of July 22 is set aside to remember the apostle, Mary Magdalene. Mary, "The Tower," was present at Jesus's crucifixion and burial, and she was the first person to whom the risen Lord appeared, after she went to the tomb to anoint his body. She was the first to proclaim the risen Lord to the disciples, and for this is called, "the apostle to the apostles."

July 26, 9th Sunday after Pentecost/Outdoor Service/Picnic

We will be worshipping outdoors when we hear Jesus compare the kingdom of God to a mustard tree, yeast, a treasured pearl, and a net holding a full catch of fish. (Mt. 13:31-33, 44-52) we will enjoy our annual church picnic after the worship service.

HOW CAN *we pray* FOR YOU?

"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. Please let Pastor Sue or Laurie, our church secretary how

we can pray for you. 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 July 22, 2026.

PRAYER AND VISITATION MINISTRIES

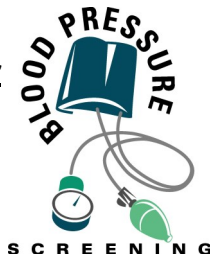
Please contact Pastor Sue if you would like a visit at home, care facility, or hospital; if you would like to receive Holy Communion; or if you are in need of prayer. Our Sweet Hour of Prayer group and Prayer Chain is always ready to pray for you or to join you in prayer for others. We would also like 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 cmep.org for the latest statements and press releases from Churches for Middle East Peace.

SUMMER SCHEDULE PARISH NURSES' BLOOD PRESSURE CHECKS

Our parish nurses, Dawn Hughes and Janet Morrow, will continue to provide monthly blood pressure checks during the summer months of July and August on the second Sunday of every month by request after the 10 am worship service in the Church Office. They will resume walk-in blood pressure checks before the worship services at 10 am on second Sundays on September 13.



FMCE FOOD MINISTRY

We are collecting pasta of all kinds with the exception of spaghetti, pancake mix and pancake syrup, canned beans and other canned goods, and baby wipes. All items should be non-perishable with unexpired dates.

Our June delivery totaled 65 items:

- * 14 boxes of cereal
- * 7 boxes of pancake mix
- * 4 bottles of syrup
- * 3 packs of baby wipes
- * 9 boxes of pasta
- * 28 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. Please consider asking your elected officials to support food programs

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

COMMUNITY NEWS 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!

OASIS CONGREGATION VBS

The Oasis Congregation that meets at First Moravian will have a VBS program for children and youth ages 4-15 from Monday, July 13 through Friday, July 17, from 6 pm to 8:30 pm. Everyone is invited! To register, call Mariana at 484-619-5057.

SUMMER FUN FOR EVERYONE
SUMMER FRIENDSHIP & FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

ANNUAL CHURCH PICNIC

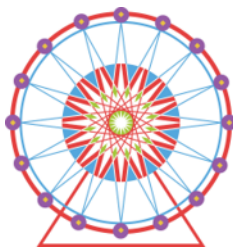


Come to our outdoor worship service on **Sunday, July 27**, and stay and enjoy wonderful fellowship and delicious food at our annual **Church Picnic**. The main course, beverages, utensils, and paper products will all be provided. Bring a side dish or dessert to share...and a friend! The picnic will follow our 10 am worship service which will be held outdoors, weather permitting. All are invited!

COMING IN AUGUST...

COMMUNITY PICNIC AND CARNIVAL
AN EVENING OUT FOR EVERYONE
August 7, 6:30-8:30 pm

First Moravian Church will host "An Evening Out for Everyone" on Friday, **August 7** from 6:30 to 8:30 pm. Come enjoy an old-fashioned picnic and then try your hand at some carnival games! This year, the carnival is being planned by the First Sunday Sunday School class! All are invited to enjoy good food, friendship, and fun!



ARTS FEST FOR KIDS—August 13 & 14

This year's Art Fest will meet on Thursday and Friday, August 13 and 14 from 9:30 to 11:30 am. Using the book "God's Paintbrush" by Sandy Eisenberg Sasso and illustrated by Annette Compton as our guiding story, children and youth will have an opportunity to paint God's world in a variety of mediums—watercolors, pastels, tempera, and acrylics—and experiment with different techniques. We will even have the opportunity to paint upside down like Michaelangelo! Registration forms are available at the church or by calling the church office at 610-258-6317. Children ages three and up are invited to attend. Please register by Monday, August 10 so that we are sure to have sufficient supplies.



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 for this summer's VBS program. There will be music, crafts, games, and snacks. Register online, or contact the church office for a registration form. Ages 3+ See you at VBS!



FIRST SUNDAY SUNDAY SCHOOL

First Sunday Sunday School will not meet in July and August. Please plan to attend VBS and Art Fest! Sunday School will begin again on September 6 at 10:45 am. 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.



2026 SCHEDULE AT CAMP HOPE

Scholarships available

Musical Theatre Camp: 6/28-7/4 (5th-9th grade)
SHOWS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC— GODSPELL, JR.
Call for tickets 908-459-4435

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>

Hope Conference and Renewal Center embraces all of God's children, regardless of age, gender, color, sexual orientation, or religious preference. 5

PROVINCIAL AND DISTRICT NEWS

For updates from the Northern Province and Districts, please see the *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/>

LOOKING AHEAD...

Here are highlights of what is ahead for **August**:

- 08/02 10th Sunday after Pentecost,
Prayer Day for World Peace & Nuclear Disarmament
- 08/09 11th Sunday after Pentecost, and Holy Communion
- 08/13 August 13th Festival
- 08/13 Arts Fest, 9:30-11:30 am
- 08/14 Arts Fest, 9:30-11:30 am
- 08/16 12th Sunday after Pentecost, Rite of Confirmation
August 13th Holy Communion
Reception for New Members after the worship service
- 08/21 Moravian Mission Founded, 1732
- 08/23 13th Sunday after Pentecost, Prayer & Anointing
- 08/30 14th Sunday after Pentecost, Prayer Day for Education
and Moravian Educational Institutions, Harpist Jim
Dronenburg, special music
Lehigh Valley Pride, Steelstacks, 1-7 pm



LEHIGH VALLEY PRIDE August 30 1-7 PM

Admission: \$5 for general admission (adults), \$3 for youth ages 13-17, and free for children up to 12. Free admission is also granted if you donate a toiletry item at the entrance to benefit the BSC Care Cupboard.

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.]

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	Esther Cigus

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 Montague	George	Connie Knauss
Nory Ramos	Ahmed (11 years old)	Sean Delauter
Creed Hight	Blanche	Lenore
Carolyn Lewis	Duncan Morrisette	Sam Portney & family
Jason Andersen	John Morrow	Crissy Flyte
Lauren	Jenna	Bishop Kay Ward
Marie, Brayden & Garrison		Becky, David & Louise
Families of Janet Balogun; Brian King		Grace Calantoni

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.

JULY BIRTHDAYS

07/03	Benn Erb
07/04	Sue Koenig Robby Lathi
07/05	John Mamana
07/08	Jenna Harry
07/13	Leiah Pellow
07/14	Ray Folweiler, IV Hollie Pellow
07/17	Vickie Erb Sadie Simmons
07/24	Pat Morgenstern Jenna Woodring

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



JULY ANNIVERSARIES

07/05	James & Wendy Mamana
07/17	Matthew & Gwen Triolo
07/19	Dale & Pat Johnson *Happy 30 th
07/28	Glenn & Vickie Erb
07/30	Patricia & Thomas Nodoline *Happy 40 th

JULY BIRTHDAYS, cont.

07/28	Benjamin Triolo Andrea Yahraes
07/30	Dominique Konders
07/31	Madison Gaines