

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

ARTS FEST
FOR KIDS—
Aug. 13 & 14

Registration
online or call
the church
office.

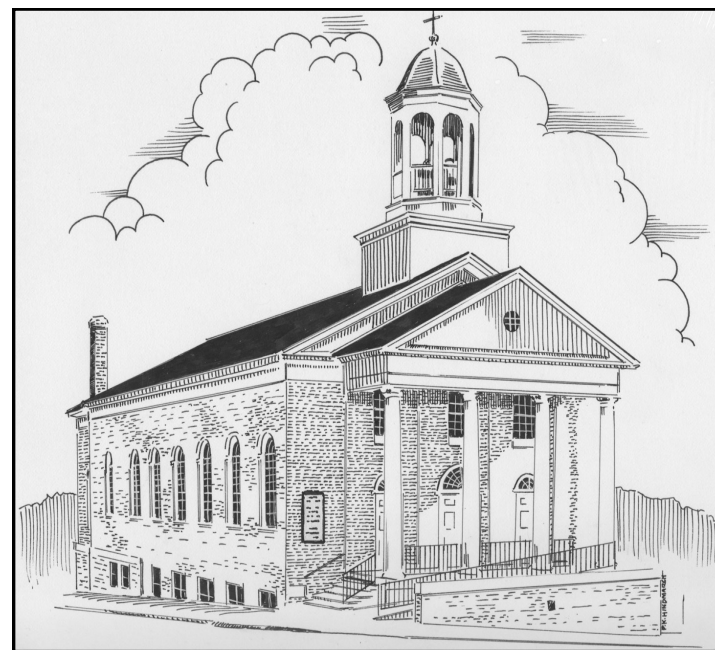


***Worship Sundays at 10 am—
10:45 am beginning Sept. 6***

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

THE FM STEREO NEWSLETTER

August 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,

Let us rejoice and give thanks to God! Of course, we give thanks in all seasons, but especially in this season, we pause to praise and bless The True God, who creates, redeems and sustains! The summer at First Moravian has been full and rich! Busy, yes, but filled with joy and love and delight.

We had a marvelous time of learning and spiritual formation during our confirmation classes in June—for confirmands and adults alike! We received an uplifting and informative report from the MCNP Synod from our delegate, Mike Koenig on June 28 during worship. Vacation Bible School was exciting with friends old and new coming together to form a supportive community. We were blessed with encouraging words of scripture to carry with us—faith, trust, courage, confidence, and love—and the Biblical stories of David and Goliath and the close and protective friendship between David and Jonathan. We enjoyed an outdoor worship service and a wonderful picnic meal and time of fellowship on Sunday, July 26.

We look forward now to August with its times of gratitude, remembrance, and celebration. Andy Dormarunno has blessed our congregation with his musical gifts as our organist and pianist, and his gracious, warm, and joyful spirit for the past four years. Our hearts are full with gratitude for Andy, and we celebrate with him on his decision to attend Elizabethtown College this fall. We give thanks for Matthew Dormarunno who has served our congregation for three years as an AV technician, and for the entire Dormarunno family who are and will always be part of our First Moravian family. Andy will play for our worship service on August 16 before moving to Elizabethtown. Please be present as we express our heartfelt gratitude to Andy and his family and pray for God's blessing on all his future endeavors.

In the upcoming weeks, we will welcome our community to a picnic and carnival, an 'evening out for everyone' on August 7; and welcome young people to our Arts Fest program kids on August 13 and 14. Then on Sunday, August 16 we will welcome new members to our congregation and celebrate with a luncheon reception following the worship service and the sacrament of Holy Communion. What a gift it is to be part of this loving, supportive and welcoming congregation where we rejoice in all seasons and are always ready to build a bigger table to make room for everyone!

Pastor Sue

FALL RUMMAGE SALE Sept. 12, 8 am-1pm

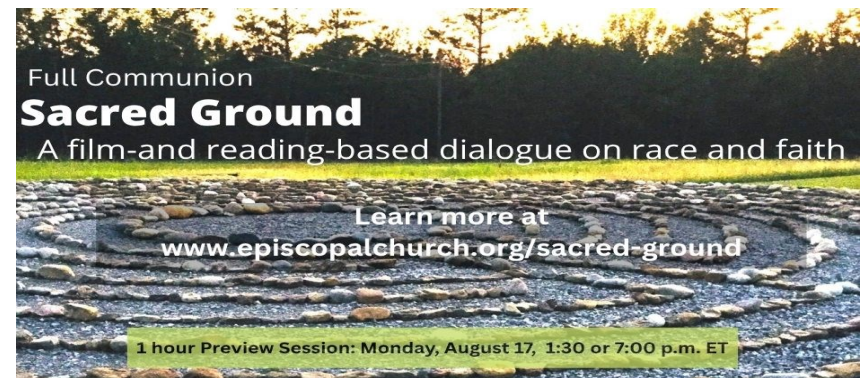
Our rummage sale, consisting of all items that one can wear—clothing, shoes, handbags, belts, coats, hats, jewelry, etc.—will be held on Saturday, **September 12** from 8 am to 1 pm. As you rotate spring and summer clothing, or clean your closets, please consider donating good, clean, wearable items to the church for the rummage sale. Help will be needed for setting up on Friday, September 11, during and after the sale. **Items for the sale are being received now!** Please bring them during church hours, or call the church office to make arrangements to drop off items. Thank you!



EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

EASTERN REGION MORAVIAN WOMEN'S WORKSHOP

The Eastern Region Moravian Women's Workshop will be held on Saturday, September 26. Pastor Sue will be one of the presenters speaking on the topic, "Faithful Women and a Hope of Resistance."



**On Zoom, Every other Monday,
1:30-3:00 p.m. Or 7:00-8:30 p.m. ET
Aug. 31-Nov. 23, 2026; Jan. 4-Feb. 8, 2027
Contact the Rev. Maria Tjeltveit to register
sacredground.beth@gmail.com**

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.

FIRST MORAVIAN UNIFIED BOARD

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



The Unified Board met on June 28, 2026 at 11:30 am.

Highlights from the meeting include:

- Review and approval of the agenda, minutes for May 17, 2026 and the May Pastor's Report
- A brief report from the 2026 Synod of the MCNP including the approval of a proposal for a joint Provincial and District Synod to be held in 2028 as an experiment for a format moving forward
- Affirmation of our confirmands as new members and the Rite of Confirmation on August 16, 2026
- A brief discussion of music ministries—Andy's plans were still pending
- A brief report from Pastor Sue on conversations with other Moravian congregations and congregations of our ecumenical partners and possibilities for shared mission and ministry
- Approval of a change to our Child Care Policy increasing the time between required background checks from three to five years consistent with PA requirements
- A review of upcoming ministries and events
- Approval of participation with other Moravian congregations in this year's Pride event on August 30 in Bethlehem
- Treasurer's update, and approval of savings withdrawal in an amount equal to the income earned on the investment (\$7,088 at present) to cover anticipated cash needs, leaving the initial investment of \$40,000 intact at this time
- Finalizing arrangements for reciprocal financial audit of 2025 with Palmer Moravian Church
- Facility needs noted including storage area door; and expressions of gratitude for those caring for our facilities

The Unified Board did not meet in July. The next meeting is scheduled for August 9, 2026, at 11:30 am.

SECOND QUARTER YTD FINANCIAL UPDATE 6/30/26	
Revenues	66,427.35
Expenses	\$72,444.58
Net Income (Net Loss)	(\$6,017.23)

WORSHIP IN AUGUST

Summer Schedule 10 AM

(Regular worship time of 10:45 am begins Sept. 6)

August 2, 10th Sunday after Pentecost

We serve God who satisfies the needs of every living thing (Ps. 145:16), and who invites all people to come to a feast, to eat and drink without cost. We follow Jesus who is the Bread of Life and gives to all daily bread. Christ gave his body as food for the world—his body, blessed, broken and shared for us. Where do we find free bread? Whom do we invite to eat and drink without cost? (Isaiah 55:1-5, Mt. 14:13-21) We will pray together a prayer for disarmament written by Pope Leo for this MCNP Prayer Day for World Peace & Nuclear Disarmament.

August 9, 11th Sunday after Pentecost

“I will listen to what the LORD God is saying.” (Ps. 85:13) Jesus speaks to his disciples to calm their fears and doubt in the midst of a storm. What storms do we face today? Will we listen to what God is saying and have faith, particularly when what we hear is the sound of “sheer silence?” (1 Kings 19:9-18, Mt. 14:22-33)

August 16, 12th Sunday after Pentecost/Rite of Confirmation/Holy Communion/Reception

“Let all the peoples praise you, O God.” (Ps. 67:3) Let's explore how Jesus' teaching from Matthew 15:10-28 gives insights into how Jesus interprets scripture. Let's celebrate with those who will be joining the church through the Rite of Confirmation this Sunday! We will welcome Giada LoQuasto, Nico Smith, and Noah Triolo, and rejoice in this new step in their lives of faith. We will also bless and give thanks for Andy Dormarunno and his music ministry with us the past four years. The worship service will conclude with a celebration of Holy Communion for the August 13 Festival. A luncheon reception will follow in the Fellowship Hall. Please RSVP by August 13 to the church office for the reception.



August 23, 13th Sunday after Pentecost/Prayer & Anointing

“The steadfast love of the Lord endures forever.” (Ps. 138:8) Our worship will include a time of prayer and anointing for healing.

August 30, 14th Sunday after Pentecost/Prayer Day for Public Education and Moravian Educational Institutions

We will welcome back Harpist Jim Dronenburg, who will provide special music for our worship service.



WITH DEEPEST SYMPATHY

We extend our deepest sympathy to Sue Wexler and her family on the death of her beloved husband, Calvin, who entered the more immediate presence of the Savior on July 8, 2026. A celebration of Calvin's life will be held at First Moravian Church of Easton

on Monday, August 3, 2026 at 2 pm, with visitation from 1 to 2 pm. Please hold Sue and all the family in your prayers.

"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 August 19 or 26.

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.

PARISH NURSES' BLOOD PRESSURE CHECKS

Our parish nurses, Dawn Hughes and Janet Morrow will provide blood pressure checks on August 9 **by request after the 10 am worship service**. Walk-in blood pressure checks in the church office at 10 am before second Sunday worship services at 10:45 am will resume 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 July delivery totaled 88 items:

- * 6 boxes of cereal
- * 6 boxes of pancake mix
- * 3 bottles of syrup
- * 15 packs of baby wipes
- * 7 boxes of pasta
- * 51 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**

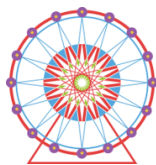


LEHIGH VALLEY PRIDE August 30 1-7 PM

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.*

The Northern Province of the Moravian Church in America equips people and congregations to be agents of God's transforming love in the world. No matter who you are or how you identify, you are embraced and affirmed by God's expansive love.

SUMMER FUN FOR EVERYONE
SUMMER FRIENDSHIP & FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITIES
COMMUNITY PICNIC AND CARNIVAL



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.



RECEPTION FOR NEW MEMBERS
AND GRATITUDE FOR MUSIC MINISTRY

This August 16 will be a very special day in the life of First Moravian, and we will have a catered luncheon reception following the worship service! We will welcome three new confirmed communicant members to our congregation! Giada LoQuasto, Nico Smith, and Noah Triolo all completed confirmation classes earlier this summer and will be joining the church through the Rite of Confirmation at the 10 am worship service. We are thrilled to celebrate this new step in their Christian faith with them and their families!

We will also be offering prayers of blessing and thanksgiving for Andy Dormarunno and his marvelous music ministry the past four years. Andy has touched our lives through his presence and gifts, and we are deeply grateful for his ministry. Andy will begin attending Elizabethtown College in Elizabethtown, PA. He plans to return to play at First Moravian at Christmas. Please RSVP for the reception via the signup sheet at the church, or call the church office by Thursday, August 13.



FIRST SUNDAY SUNDAY SCHOOL

First Sunday 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 are invited.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2026

We had a great VBS this summer! Our Bible stories helped us overcome our fears when our problems seem VERY BIG—much bigger than we are; and to give thanks to God for the gift of faithful friends. "**David Meets Goliath**" and "**Best Friends**" from *Growing in God's Love-A Story Bible* were our core stories for this summer's VBS program. We made shepherd pouches with stones reminding us to have faith, courage, confidence, trust, and love. Another project was a Friendship Tree with the fingerprints of every classmate serving as colorful leaves. There was lively music and snacks, and an awesome slideshow on Sunday, July 12! One evening, we welcomed Lanie Yaswinski, Director of Spiritual Formation for the Lehigh Valley.

Thanks to our amazing young people, to parents and grandparents, and to all who assisted with VBS—Carrie and Walt Cigus, Esther Cigus, Sue Fizcko, Mike Koenig, Donna Pritchard, Laurie Toyberg, and those who contributed to and prayed for our VBS. Thanks to Dale and Pat Johnson for their donation of a pop-up canopy which became a desert palace! *Don't miss the pictures on the back of this month's calendar!*

ADDITIONAL PRAYERS - The world and nation

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. We pray for immigrants, refugees, and asylum seekers, for those who care for them; for those grieving the loss of civil rights advances; and for those incarcerated. We pray for a spirit of humility that we may work together for the peace and well-being of all people and creation, living "in all things love."



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 **September**:

- 09/06 15th Sun. after Pentecost, worship service time returns to 10:45 am, First Sunday Sunday School begins
- 09/07 Labor Day
- 09/11 Patriot Day
- 09/12 Rummage Sale
- 09/13 16th Sun. after Pentecost, Prayer Day for Christian Education, Unified Board meeting
- 09/16 Minister's Covenant Day
- 09/20 17th Sun. after Pentecost, Moravian Day of Service, Lay Covenanting Service
Prayer Day for Church Development
- 09/27 18th Sun. after Pentecost, Prayer Day for Older Adult Ministries



WORSHIP ON ZOOM

We invite you to join us for worship in person or online. Sunday services are available on Zoom, and streamed on Facebook. 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.]

"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. Please see the list of gift cards available on the order form in the entrance area, or request a form from the church office.

PRAYER CONCERNS

Members of First Moravian Church

Those in care facilities

Gloria Bolmer	Leah & Andrew Brown	Dorothy Price
Anne Hajdu	Tom Wolfe	
James Shook	John Morgenstern	

Those at home and/or in need of healing

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

Friends of our First Moravian Church Family

Gilbert Hendershot	Deena Kohler	Tyler & Alicia Cox
Lauren Hensley	Ellie and family	Jeannette Leshner
Dick & Ann Smith	Sharon Long	John Morrow
Helen Lerch	Dorey & Jeff Smith	Debbie S.
Barbara Clements	Patti Montaque	Connie Knauss
George	Nory Ramos	Ahmed (11 years old)
Creed Hight	Blanche	Bishop Kay Ward
Lenore	Jason Andersen	Grace Calantoni
Lauren	Becky, David & Louise	Sam Portney & family
Rachel & Titus		

Prayers of Sympathy

Family & friends of Calvin Wexler

[See additional prayers on p. 5]



AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

- 08/02 Deborah Kichline
- 08/07 Brian Smith
- 08/08 Matthew Triolo
- 08/13 Bryson Erb
- 08/15 John Morganstern
- 08/16 Jennifer Sek
- 08/18 Frank Chisesi
Samuel Sawyer
- 08/19 Chad Hendershot
- 08/20 Gwen Triolo
- 08/21 Leah Brown
- 08/22 Amie Simmons
- 08/26 Zoey Light
- 08/28 Nancy Happel

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



Happy belated birthday to Jim Stull 7/19!

AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES

- 08/10 Seth and Destiny Conard
- 08/12 Stephen and Coleen Sawyer