

# First Moravian Church

319 N. Walnut Street, Dover, Ohio 44622

November 30, 2025

10:00 A.M.

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<b>Part-time Pastor</b>	Denny Rohn (610-216-7467 cell)
<b>Greeter</b>	Shirley Thompson
<b>Nursery</b>	Available if needed by a parent & child
<b>Worship Leader</b>	Bethanie Moser
<b>Usher</b>	Dave Trustdorf
<b>Director of Music</b>	G. Randall Gibbs
<b>Director of Faith Formation</b>	Carolyn Menapace
<b>Custodian</b>	Sam Paden
<b>Administrative Assistant</b>	Karen Baker <b>Office:</b> 330-364-8831
<b>Web Site</b>	<a href="http://www.doverfirstmoravianchurch.org">www.doverfirstmoravianchurch.org</a>

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## Advent Lovefeast

**Call to Worship:** *Chimes*

**Watchword for the Week:** In Unison *The Moravian Daily Texts*  
**Come, let us walk in the light of the Lord!** Isaiah 2:5

**Welcome and Announcements** ~ We ask you to **sign and pass the register** in your row. **Visitors:** Please check the box marked "Visitor" and include your complete mailing address.

*Prelude* **"Ever Joyful"** *Manuel*  
*Rebecca Kutcher, Ruth Anne Dingwell, G. R. Gibbs*

\* **Hymn** **"Rejoice, Rejoice, the Kingdom Comes"** **H. 260**  
**Lighting of the Advent Wreath and Star**  
Dylan, Leslie, Anja, Mia & Emma Seats

\* **Liturgy for Advent** **Page 49**  
**"Hosanna"** **H. 239**

**Prayers of the People**  
**"The Lord's Prayer"** **H. 828**

**Children's Moment** *Carolyn Menapace*  
*During the singing, children are invited up for the Children's Moment.*

**Hymn** **"O Come, Little Children"**  
*O come, little children, O come, one and all  
O hear of the Savior, His love never ends  
Come listen and learn, tell others of him.  
He's born bringing Christ, rejoice in your heart.*

## Holy Scriptures

**Old Testament:** **Romans 13:11-14**

**Pg. 169**

**New Testament:** **Matthew 24:36-44**

**Pg. 28**

**Meditation:** The Rev. Dennis G. Rohn

## Presentation of Our Tithes and Offerings

\* **Offertory Response – H. 190, v 2**

*As they offered gifts most rare at that manger rude and bare;  
So may we with holy joy, pure and free from sin's alloy,  
All our costliest treasures bring, Christ, to you our heav'nly King.*

## Offertory Prayer

## The Lovefeast

**Hymn** **"O Come, O Come, Immanuel"** **H. 274, vs. 1 & 3**  
*O come, O come, Immanuel, and ransom captive Israel,  
that mourns in lowly exile here  
until the Son of God appear.*

**Refrain:** *Rejoice! Rejoice! Immanuel shall come to you, O Israel!*

*O come, O bright and morning star, and bring us comfort from afar!  
Dispel the shadows of the night,  
and turn our darkness into light. (Refrain)*

**Hymn** **"Once He Came in Blessing"** **H. 273, vs. 1 & 2**  
*Once he came in blessing all our sins redressing,  
Came in likeness lowly, Son of God most holy;  
Bore the cross to save us, hope and freedom gave us.*

*Still he comes within us, still his voice would win us  
From the sins that hurt us; would to truth convert us  
From our foolish error, ere he comes in terror.*

**Hymn** **"Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers"** **H. 256, vs. 1 & 2**  
*Rejoice, rejoice, believers, and let your lights appear;  
the evening is advancing, and darker night is near.  
The bridegroom is arising and soon is drawing nigh.  
Up, pray and watch and wrestle; at midnight comes the cry.*

*The watchers on the mountain proclaim the bridegroom near;  
go forth as he approaches with alleluias clear.  
The marriage feast is waiting; the gates wide open stand.  
Arise, O heirs of glory; the bridegroom is at hand.*

**Blessing the Lovefeast: Hymn "Immanuel, to You We Sing"**

All glory, worship, thanks and praise,  
that you have come in these our days!  
O heav'nly guest, expected long,  
we hail you with a joyful song.

H. 280, vs. 3

*Anthems*

**"New King a Comin'"**

Chancel Choir

Rodby

**"How Shall I Meet My Savior"**

Courtney Wallace, Soprano

*Collecting the Cups*

**\* Hymn "How Shall I Meet You, Jesus?" H. 268**

How shall I meet you, Jesus? How shall I welcome you?  
What all the world is seeking, great treasure of the soul!  
O, set your light beside me, my spirit now renew,  
so that I may discover what greatly pleases you.

Great love alone compelled you to leave eternal light,  
to come and dwell among us and share our common plight.  
The whole world's grief and suff'ring and earth's unspoken  
pain,  
your perfect love embraces till only love remains.

No longer need we sorrow nor worry night and day  
how we might draw him to us within our heart's embrace.  
He of his own will find us and full of love and grace  
take up each anxious burden and bless each soul with peace.

**\* Benediction**

**A Time of Advent Reflection**

**"Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"**

Julia Kandel, Pamela Schmitzer, Flutes

Krentz

**Hymn "Come, O Long-Expected Jesus"**



1. Come, O long - ex - pect - ed Je - sus, Born to set your  
2. Born your peo - ple to de - liv - er, Born a child, and



peo - ple free; From our fears and sins re - lease us:  
yet a king; Born to reign in us for - ev - er,



Christ, in you our rest shall be. Is - rael's strength and  
Now your grac - ious king - dom bring. By your own e -



con - so - la - tion, Hope to all the earth im - part;  
ter - nal Spir - it Rule in all our hearts a - lone;



Dear de - sire of ev - 'ry na - tion,  
By your all - suf - fi - cient mer - it



En - ter ev - 'ry long - ing heart.  
Raise us to your glo - rious throne.

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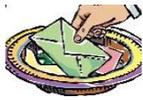
*Chimes*

\* Please stand if you are able.

**Please note:** If you have a cell phone, please turn it off during the worship service. If you would like to recycle your bulletin, place it in the box near the ushers' table at the back of the sanctuary.

Our **thanks** to **all who helped with the service** by sharing their talent for the Lord and God's people today.

**Dieners:** Scott and Karol Jones, Steve and Becky Mastin, Jean Richardson, Steve and Beth Rondinella, Michael Russell, Dylan and Leslie Seats, Scott and Lori Smith, John and Stacy Stubbins.



The Offering Plate is located on the stand as you enter the sanctuary. Scan the QR code for online giving.



**Elder: Bethanie Moser, 330.432.3814**, is available after the service or call during the week if you have a joy, a concern, need prayer, or have a question.

### Flowers

The flowers are in memory of Leslie and Dorothy Long, given by Sandy and Gary Martin.

### One Call Now ~ 330-364-8831

Don and Jean Richardson are sponsoring our One Call Now this week.

**One Call Now Sponsors** are needed for the following weeks: **Feb. 8 & 15; and Mar. 1, 8, 15 & 22.** If you desire to sponsor one week or more, please call Karen Baker in the church office, 330-364-8831. **Cost: \$15 per week.**

### Stewardship Moment

The earth is the LORD's and all that is in it, the world, and those who live in it. - *Psalm 24:1*

### Attendance from Last Sunday

Sunday School 43 Worship ~ 10 AM 114

### Prayers for the People

**Amberwood:** Laura Colvin; **Green Meadows:** Steve Burgess;  
**Hennis** (Dover): Bonnie Auman; **Northwood:** Etta Grimm;  
**Park Village** (Dover): Joyce Brewer, Bill Cozart, Suzanne Rinderknecht; (New Phila.): Ron & Bette Kohl.

### Birthday and Anniversary Daily Prayer Support

Nov. 30 Julia Geissingner  
Dec. 2 Cain Craddoc  
Dec. 3 Libby Paden; Anniv: Tony & Kelli Argento  
Dec. 4 George Wilson, II  
Dec. 5 Blake Hoop  
Dec. 6 Erin Perkowski  
Dec. 7 Len Crilow, Scott Walter, Linda France, Noah Randazzo;  
Anniv: Ed & Patsy Raus, John & Stacy Stubbins

### **Did you know?**

#### THE ADVENT WREATH

The color for the season of Advent is purple. The color purple stands for royalty. Jesus is the King of Kings.

The Advent wreath is made of materials that symbolize Christ. A simple circle of evergreen whose branches remain green even when nature is in its winter's sleep testifies to the continuation of life. The branches form a circle so that the evergreen branches touch --symbolizing life without end.

In addition to the evergreen branches, there are sprigs of holly which symbolize the crucified Christ. Legend tells us holly was used to fashion the crown of thorns for the head of the crucified Christ, and that the holly berries were yellow until stained red by His blood. Ivy, a clinging vine which, like the holly, bears its fruit in the winter, is used to remind us of human weakness and the need to "cling" to divine strength. Pine cones symbolize resurrection as pine cones fall from the trees and seed new trees and new life.

Four candles encircle a central, Christ candle. The four candles represent the four Sundays of waiting. *(The color of the candles will vary. Some Moravian Churches use beeswax candles, some use all purple, and some use three purple and one pink. The pink or rose candle is also called the "Joy" candle and it comes out of the history of Advent when the season included "fasting" and the fast was broken on the third Sunday in anticipation of the great event to come.)* The flame of each new candle reminds us, the worshipers, that something is happening, and something more is still to come. The Christ Candle is not lighted until Christmas Eve. The Advent wreath sets the mood of waiting in the dark for the day when Christ was born – and the light came into the world.

## The Dover Moravian Messenger

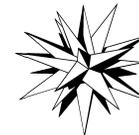
Sunday	4:00 PM	Advent Communion Rehearsal @ Sharon
	5:00 PM	Light Supper for Combined Choir
	6:00 PM	Advent Communion @ Sharon Mor. Ch.
Monday	9:00 AM	<u>NO</u> Staff Meeting ó Church Office
	<b>9:00 AM Deadline: Jan/Feb Newsletter Articles due in church office</b>	
	1:00 PM	Counting ó Living Room
	10-11:15 AM	OMMC Advent Study on Zoom
	6:00 PM	Mor. Women Ex. Bd Meeting ó L. Room
Tuesday	10:00 AM	Zoom Bible Study
	6:30-7:45 PM	OMMC Advent Study @ Sch. Mor. Church
Wednesday	10:30 AM	Praying in Color
	6:00 PM	Menø Bible Study ó Living Room
	6:30 PM	Chancel Choir @ St. Joseph Ch. St. Joeø Rehearse Here ó Sanctuary
Thursday	8-8:00 PM	Luncheon Prep. ó Kit/S. H./L. Rm./Lobby
Friday	11-1:00 PM	Community Luncheon ó Kit/S. H./L. Rm./Lobby
	Noon	Bible Study ó Room 215
Saturday	2-7:00 PM	Birthday Party (4-6 PM) ó Kit. & S. Hall
Sunday	9:00 AM	Sunday School ó C.S. Rooms
	10:00 AM	Worship ó Sanctuary
	<b>11:30-1:00 PM Confirmation Class – Basement</b>	
	1:00 PM	Prayer Shawl Ministry ó Living Room
	2:00 PM	Schoenbrunn Village Lovefeast
	<b>5:15 PM Choir in your seats at St. Joseph Catholic Church ~ Lessons &amp; Carols</b>	
	<b>5:30 PM Bell Prelude</b>	
	<b>6:00 PM Carol Service</b>	

## Our Worship Opportunities



*Worship with Us Sundays at 10:00 A.M.*

*First Sunday of Advent*



*Advent Begins*

**The Rev. Dennis G. Rohn** will bring the messages during Advent and Christmas.

**Nov. 30 ~ Worship & Advent Lovefeast ~ 10 A.M.**



**6:00 p.m. Advent Communion service @ Sharon Moravian Church.** This is our gathering of six Moravian Churches in the Valley coming together for worship and communion. What a real blessing. Don't miss this opportunity. Let's have a great turnout for this event as we praise the Lord and enhance your Advent walk, you will be enriched in the spirit.

**Dec. 7 ~ Worship – Second Sunday of Advent ~ 10 A.M.**

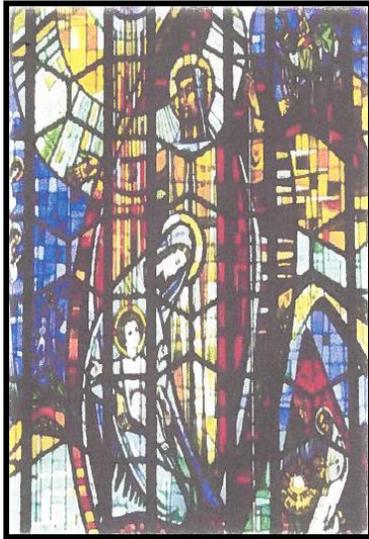
**2:00 p.m. Christmas Lovefeast and Candlelight service at Historic Schoenbrunn Village ~**

Dress warmly for this simple gathering of family and friends in worship. The service includes many Moravian traditions for the Advent/Christmas season and lots of carols to sing.



*Bring your family and friends!*

## Our Music Opportunities



### *Advent Vespers*



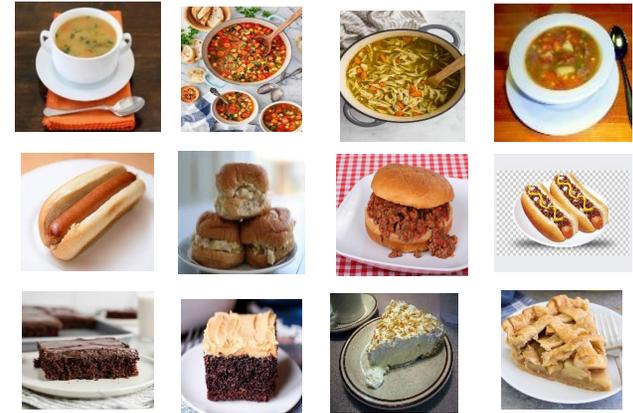
*A Service of Lessons and Carols*

### *St. Joseph's Catholic Church*

The annual **Advent Vespers** will be presented at **St. Joseph's Catholic Church of Dover, Ohio**, on **Sunday, December 7**. A **prelude of music at 5:30 p.m.** will be performed by the **Reeves Bell Choir and a brass choir**. The service, beginning at **6 p.m.**, will include local church choirs, school choirs from St. Joseph's School, Legacy Christian School and other local musicians. Please accept this invitation to join us for a beautiful evening of **Lessons and Carols**.

## Our Mission and Outreach Opportunities

### *Community Soup & Sandwich Luncheon*



**Dine-in or Carry-out available**



**Delivery is available to businesses with a minimum order of \$25.**



**Friday, December 5, from 11:00-1:00 p.m.**

in the **Social Hall**

The luncheons have become a very special form of outreach from our congregation to folks throughout the county. Every person who walks through our doors and smells broccoli cheese soup cooking in the kitchen or unwraps a warm creamed chicken sandwich and enjoys a piece of homemade peanut butter pie is touched by your generosity and the Christian love that went in to preparing that food.

Proceeds from our luncheon will help the Moravian Women contribute to missionary efforts at home and around the world. We appreciate all your support in making our luncheon a success. If you can help work, please contact **Marcia Harding, 330-343-2104**, or **Julie Williams, 330-933-9707**. Plan to attend and bring your friends! We hope to see you on the 5<sup>th</sup>.

### Trimming of Candles

At our Christmas Eve services, each worshipper will receive a lighted beeswax candle with a red frill. Many volunteers are needed to place the frills on the **500+ candles**. We have scheduled one time for the **Trimming of Candles**. If you have never helped, plan to come and learn how to trim the candles on **Tuesday evening, December 9, from 6-9 p.m.** in the social hall. **Mark your calendars, everyone is invited to help, come, and bring a friend!**



### Moravian Women Christmas Party

All Moravian Women are invited to the Christmas Party on **Thursday, Dec. 11, at 6:00 p.m.** in the Social Hall. We look forward to an enjoyable lovely evening of food, fellowship, and festivity in celebration of our Lord Jesus' birth. **Sign-up sheets** are in the lobby, so please let us know if you will attend.



### Cookie Walk

**Saturday, December 13 ~ 9-11 a.m.** or until sold out  
Pre-made boxes of assorted cookies available while supplies last. You will fill your own boxes for \$10 per pound, boxes provided.



### Barrs Mill Church of God

4677 St. Rt. 93 NW ~ Sugarcreek OH  
330-852-2508



### Sugar Cake Baking

**Tuesday & Thursday, December 16 & 18**

**Price \$7.00 each**

Free delivery is available with the purchase of four (4) or more cakes, if ordered prior to Tuesday's baking.

Place an order by calling Susan Paden, 330-364-7101.



### 24-Hour Unity Prayer Watch Saturday, December 20



Each year we have the privilege to be in prayer for the Unity of the Moravian Church. These prayers stretch out over 27 provinces throughout the world. Our date for this year will be **Saturday, December 20**, which has been designated as Dover First's Day of Prayer. We will share these duties with our sisters and brothers in the Moravian walk from Fry's Valley, Gnadenhutzen, Uhrichsville, and Church of the Redeemer in Columbus.

Our time slots for Dover First are as follows: **3-4 AM; 7-9 AM; 1-2 PM; 6-7 PM; 9-10 PM; 11-Midnight.** These are really good time slots for the most part, so we should be able to fill all of them quite easily. **Sign-up sheets are on the clipboard in the lobby or you can call the church office to sign up.** Pick a time and spend some quality time away from all distractions and pray.

Information sheets are available near the sign-up sheets.

### Christmas Gift-Giving Ideas



**Advent begins Today, Nov. 30...  
Christmas is just around the corner...**

**Get your shopping done early by purchasing  
Moravian Advent & Christmas Stars...**

**Great Gifts throughout the Year!**

The white plastic electric **Advent stars** are available in two sizes (**21-inch ~ \$30; and 12-inch ~ \$25**) in the church office. **The 12-inch star is designed to be used as a tree topper or hanging star.** These stars make great gifts year-round: birthdays, weddings, showers, etc. Complete instructions for assembly are included.

## Our Christian Education Opportunities

### **Tuesday Zoom Bible Study**

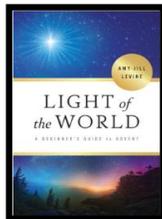
Join us for Advent! **December 2, 9, 16 and 23, at 10:00 a.m.**

Our study is "Light of the World" by Amy-Jill Levine.

This is a gathering you can join from anywhere!

It's a great chance to connect with members and friends near and far, from the comfort of your home.

**Contact Carolyn for help getting set up on Zoom, or for a one-on-one Zoom session so you can get comfortable with the technology.**



### **TUFF Bags Packing**

**Tuesday, December 9 at 6:00 p.m. Sign up in the lobby to help pack bags of food for kids in Tuscarawas County.** All ages are welcome to help.

We will meet at the TUFF Bags warehouse and packing will take approximately one hour.

### **OMMC Advent Study**

*"I Give You a New Commandment...Love One Another"*

The Northern Province Racial Justice Team's Advent Study Series. Each session includes scripture, theological reflection, a guest speaker/video presentation, and time for conversation.

**Mondays on Zoom: 10:00-11:15 a.m. – Dec. 1, 8, 15 & 22**

**Tues. at Sch. Moravian: 6:30-7:45 p.m. – Dec. 2, 9, 16 & 23**

Monday and Tuesday content each week will be the same – attend either session each week.

**Sign up in the lobby to receive the Zoom link.**



Northern Province Racial Justice Team and  
Southern Province Moravian Team for Reconciliation  
*present*

*New Way of Being Advent Series 2025*

**Come, Let Us Walk in the Way  
of Faith, Hope, and Love**

*Walking with those seeking safety, refuge, and a new life*

How do we know "God still goes that road with us?" How do we walk with those seeking safety, refuge, and a new life? The series will provide suggestions for ways congregations and individuals may walk with our immigrant neighbors.

**All sessions will be offered on Zoom on Wednesdays,  
December 3, 10, and 17, from 7:30-8:30 PM ET.**

**Guest presenters** for the series are:

**The Rev. Angelica Regalado-Cieza**, Pastor at Fries Memorial Moravian Church in Winston-Salem, NC;

**The Rev. Mikayla Sauerbrey**, pastor of Calvary Moravian Church in Allentown, PA  
and **Marcus Dip Silas** of *Mending Together*;

**The Rev. Ben Lippert**, pastor of the Schoenbrunn Moravian Congregation in New Philadelphia, Ohio.

Zoom Meeting ID 878 3916 5887, Passcode 53405

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87839165887?pwd=s8XLLjLBmpVTrafqLitKwtJHYHhE5j.1>

Visit

<https://www.moravian.org/northern/2025/11/12/new-way-of-being-advent-series-2025/> for additional details.

Questions? Contact Rev. Sue Koenig at [suekoenig@mcnp.org](mailto:suekoenig@mcnp.org).