

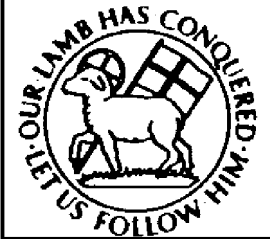


FIRST MORAVIAN CHURCH

FIRST NEWS

Vol. 29, No. 6

Published 6 times a year.



Looking Ahead

by The Rev. Dennis G. Rohn

The foundation of Moravian theology was set in the 1460's by Luke of Prague. There was a period of time when this foundation was obscured. However, it has returned to the forefront in this century and is once again seen as the foundation of our theology.

This foundation is identified as Essentials, Ministerials and Incidentals.

The Essentials on God's part are that God creates, God redeems and God sustains. The Essentials on our part are that we respond in Faith, Love and Hope. Our Faith is what brought us to this point and continues to sustain us. Our Love is displayed in the present as we interact with others. Our Hope lies in our future as we move forward in our personal ministries.

God's Essentials, to which we respond in Faith, Love and Hope, impact our congregation. It was our spiritual ancestors whose Faith in God through Christ brought our congregation into existence. It has been the Love of God's people which has carried us to this point – a love for God and each other. It is our Hope as a congregation which will lead us into the future. I know many of us are anxious about our future as a congregation without a called pastor. It is my firm belief that God has someone in mind, that individual just doesn't know it yet.

Perhaps our time without a "called" pastor allows us more time to examine God's call in each of our lives. To recognize that God calls each of us to an important role in continuing the ministry God has set before us. To focus on what binds us together and how we can best respond to whatever "call" God places before us.

If we take seriously the Apostle Paul's analogy that the church is the Body of Christ, then each part/person is necessary for the church to be healthy and function in a healing way. We have gifts of the Holy Spirit and God calls us to use them within the context of the church. How is God calling you to use your gifts in Faith, Love, and Hope? Remember, we are called to serve, not to be served.

May we each enter 2026 in hope – hope in our future and how each of us may be part of that. Hope that God's call to our pastor will be answered. Hope that we will be able to meet the needs within and around us with love and grace. Our future is found in Hope.

Thank You

As we will soon head into the Advent / Christmas season which will then bring 2025 to an end, I wish to say thank you for the opportunity to serve as your part-time pastor these past months. I am retiring as of January 1, 2026, but will still be open to leading worship as invited and needed.

It has been a pleasure to work among you in a pastoral role, and our congregation remains in my prayers as we continue to search for the pastor I believe God has already decided upon. Together, may we trust in God's holy leading.

Denny

November-December, 2025

First Moravian Church
319 North Walnut St.
Dover, OH 44622
330-364-8831

www.doverfirstmoravianchurch.org

2025 Congregational Watchword:

*We do not proclaim ourselves;
we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord.
2 Corinthians 4:5*

Our Mission Statement:

*L - Lead all people to Jesus Christ.
O - Obey God's Commands.
V - Value and nurture spiritual growth.
E - Encourage Christian service.*

Our Motto:

*In Essentials: Unity;
In Non-Essentials: Liberty;
In All Things: Love.*

*Jesus makes my heart rejoice.
I'm His sheep and know His voice.
He's a shepherd, kind and gracious;
And His pastures are delicious.
Constant love to me He shows;
Yea, my very name He knows.*

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We are all citizens of one world, we are all of one blood. To hate a man because he was born in another country, because he speaks a different language, or because he takes a different view on this subject or that, is a great folly. Desist, I implore you, for we are all equally human. . . Let us have but one end in view, the welfare of humanity; and let us put aside all selfishness in considerations of language, nationality, or religion.



Signature of John Amos Comenius

Signature of John Amos Comenius

Our Worship Schedule during the months of November, December, and January 4, 2026:

Nov. 2 ~ Lorrigan Booth will bring the message.

Nov. 9 ~ Worship & Holy Communion

Rev. Dennis G. Rohn will bring the message.

Nov. 16 ~ Jud Compton will bring the message. Please remember to use your Helping Hand Offering Envelope in addition to your regular offering envelope on this Sunday.

Nov. 23 ~ Youth Sunday – The youth will lead the worship service.

Nov. 30 ~ First Sunday of Advent – Advent Lovefeast

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

Dec. 7 ~ Second Sunday of Advent

Dec. 14 ~ Third Sunday of Advent

Dec. 21 ~ Fourth Sunday of Advent – Christmas Pageant

Wednesday, Dec. 24 ~ Christmas Eve – Invite a friend and come worship with us at 6:30 p.m. Please note: This year we will have only one service on Christmas Eve.

Dec. 28 ~ First Sunday after Christmas Day

2026

Jan. 4 ~ Second Sunday after Christmas

Epiphany Holy Communion – The Rev. Dennis G. Rohn will bring the message.

Worship in person each Sunday at 10:00 a.m.!
Let's fill our pews with family and friends!



Count Your Blessings!

How many of you remember the hymn, “*Count Your Blessings*” by Johnson Oatman, Jr. published in 1897? Part of the first verse goes something like this: *When you are discouraged, thinking all is lost, Count your many blessings, name them one by one, And it will surprise you what the Lord has done.* Gratitude. Do you remember to say thanks to God? Have you given back to God recently?

We would love to see you in church each week. Bring your family and friends. If you know of someone who currently does not have a church home, invite them to come to church with you, or better yet, bring them with you. Help us fill our pews on Sunday morning and by doing so we can increase our attendance and giving. Can’t make it to church every Sunday? For your convenience, there are several ways you can contribute to the church.

The Offering Plate is located on the stand as you enter the sanctuary on Sunday morning; you can mail in your offering; drop it off in the church office during the week; use Vanco or your bank for electronic Giving; or scan the QR code for online giving.



Let’s count our blessings; we can make a difference in someone’s life and the life of our church! And don’t forget to say thanks to God. See you in church real soon.

Reminder...Here are Four Advent and Christmas Worship Traditions to Attend:

First Sunday of Advent, November 30 ~ Advent Lovefeast at First Moravian Church of Dover, at 10:00 a.m.



Sharon Moravian Church hosts the “**Advent Communion**” on **Sunday, November 30, at 6:00 p.m.**



Christmas Lovefeast and Candlelight Service, Sunday, Dec. 7, at 2:00 p.m. at Schoenbrunn Village. Dress accordingly.



“**Lessons & Carols**” an all-community choir vespers at **St. Joseph’s Catholic Church** on **Sunday, Dec. 7, at 6:00 p.m.** Music for the season from musicians throughout the county. Prelude music starts at 5:30 p.m. Bring your family and friends.



Christmas Eve Service for 2025

We will be hosting one service of worship for our 2025 season.

The traditional Moravian candlelight service will occur on **Wednesday night, Dec. 24, at 6:30 p.m.** This service will feature special music by G. Randall Gibbs, including the bell choirs and choral works, as well as the sharing of the beeswax candlelight service.

Invite your friends to come and join us in this amazing night of nights.



Music Concerts Coming Up at First Moravian

Zollikon Institute Choral Group

The Zollikon mission is to build a community of scholars on a foundation of historic Christianity made manifest in a two-kingdom theology, and the priesthood of all believers, as manifested in early Anabaptist theology and perspective. We seek to accomplish this mission within an atmosphere of innovation, mutual respect, and rigorous academic discipline that is both life-giving and peace-driven.

Within the Zollikon Institute course offerings is the opportunity to experience singing in a choral group. The choral group practices weekly preparing music to share in a worship setting. This group of 68 singers will present a concert at **First Moravian Church on Friday, November 14, at 7:00 p.m.** The group is under the direction of Franklin Miller, choral director at Legacy Christian School at Sugarcreek, Ohio.



Harmony Ringers

Coming soon to Dover, Ohio, **Harmony Ringers** will present a **concert** in our sanctuary at the First Moravian Church of Dover, on **Saturday afternoon, December 13, at 3:00 p.m.**

Born in the summer of 2011, in Canton, Ohio, Harmony Ringers is a powerhouse handbell choir that's been captivating audiences ever since. Led by the talented Christine Allison, the ensemble is made up of hand-picked ringers who bring their passion and skill to every performance. They are proud to be Stark County's premier auditioned community handbell choir.

To learn more go to their website: harmonyringersfoh.org
Mark your calendars and plan to attend this concert on the 13th!

Decorating the Church for the Christmas Season

by Susan Corder

If you would like to help decorate the church for the Christmas Season, please contact Susan Corder, 330-204-0931. We are scheduled to decorate on **Sunday, November 23, from Noon-5:00 p.m.** Extra hands would be appreciated.

A **light lunch** will be **served at 11:00 a.m.** followed by decorating the church. Parents with small children are encouraged to bring your children for the **Advent Workshop** which runs until **2:00 p.m.** Children may attend the workshop, while the parents help to decorate the church.



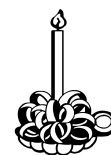
Trimming of Candles

by Susan Corder

At our Christmas Eve service, 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 evening only for the **Trimming of Candles**. If you have never helped, plan to come and learn how to trim the candles. The Trimming of Candles for the Christmas Eve service will be held **Tuesday, December 9, from 6:00-9:00 p.m.** in the social hall.

Reminder: Bring your scotch tape dispensers.

Mark your calendars, everyone is invited to help. Come and bring a friend!



Our Mission, Outreach, and Fellowship

NEWS from the Board of World Mission...

Moravian Disaster Response to

Typhoon Halong in Alaska – 10/17/25 UPDATE



The Board of World Mission (BWM) is the agency that coordinates the North American Moravian response to disasters worldwide. BWM is closely monitoring the situation in western Alaska following Typhoon Halong, which reached Alaska on October 12. The storm brought hurricane-force winds, widespread flooding, and severe damage to coastal villages across the Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta region.

Through news outlets and Moravians in Alaska, we know that several communities with Moravian congregations have been directly impacted, including but not limited to: Kongiganak, Bethel, Napakiak, Kwigillingok, Napaskiak, Kipnuk, Quinhagak, and Tuntutuliak. Damage resulting from wind and flooding is widespread. Hundreds of people from Kipnuk, Kwigillingok, and perhaps other villages were evacuated by the National Guard to Bethel and Anchorage because nearly all homes sustained severe damage. Moravian facilities, such as Bethel Moravian Church and the Moravian Seminary in Bethel, have begun helping those displaced by the storm.

With the guidance of Moravians in Alaska, BWM's Moravian Disaster Response (MDR) has contributed an initial \$10,000 to the Western Alaska Disaster Relief 2025 Fund, which was established by local community organizations and regional partners, many of whom were recommended by Moravian contacts. According to the Alaska Community Foundation, which houses the fund, "distribution decisions will be guided by advisors including regional leaders and stakeholders, ensuring resources reach affected communities based on locally identified needs." Further donations are greatly appreciated to help us continue this response.

We ask for your prayers for all affected individuals, families, and communities, and for those working tirelessly to bring aid and relief in the aftermath of the storm. The BWM stands ready to offer additional support in the weeks and months to come as we continue to communicate with the Alaskan Moravian Province. Your gifts make it possible for us to respond quickly to urgent needs, provide resources for rebuilding, and accompany our partners through the long recovery ahead.

100% of donations to our MDR Fund go toward providing relief for these disasters. **You can assist us with our disaster response efforts at MoravianMission.org/Give (scan QR code). Please designate your gift to "MDR" to ensure funds are directed to the disaster relief efforts with the greatest need. Please make checks payable to "Board of World Mission" and send to: [Board of World Mission, 1021 Center Street, Bethlehem, PA 18018](#)**



One Call Now Update

We have a wonderful communication system in place which many of you help to support with your weekly sponsorship. One Call Now was started in 2016 and gave us the expanded capability of reaching many of our church family groups quickly and easily. The system has served us well since then and it is now time for refreshing.

Even if you are already signed up for the One-Call-Now system, we are asking you to complete the form below to confirm to what phone number you wish the calls to be delivered and what messages you would like to receive.

This system allows messages to be delivered even if the call is not answered. It will go to your voice mail as long as it is set up and not full. The system will attempt to reach your number eight times. If not answered by then (by you or by your voice mail), the message will not be delivered. When a call is being sent out your caller ID will show the church number.

We currently have four groups for messages. More groups can be added by any group leaders interested. Please fill out the form below and place it in the basket at the back of the sanctuary, return it to the office, or email/call **Sue Henriksen** at sue.henriksen@yahoo.com or **330-447-6952** to sign up for these groups no later than **Sunday, November 23.**

Name_____

Phone Number for One Call Messages_____

Mark all calls you wish to receive:

_____Important messages for the entire congregation (occasional)

_____Wednesday updates (weekly)

_____The Moravian Daily Texts (daily)

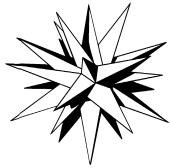
_____Prayer Chain calls (as needed)

Church Food Pantry

The Board of Elders decided at their meeting on August 5, 2025, to end the **Church Food Pantry** due to: 1) Lack of use, and 2) Food expired. We were throwing out more food than we were giving out. The last time it was used, two families were given food assistance in February 2025. Each time food was given, it was logged in the Church Food Pantry card catalog.

2025 Helping Hand Sunday

We will continue our **Helping Hand Fund** where we can give a grocery card if a member of the congregation needs any help. Consider giving to the Helping Hand Fund in November. **Please use your special Helping Hand offering envelope with the border and dated November 16, 2025**, (which is located in front of the November 16 envelope in your packet), **or any other envelope and mark it for Helping Hand.**



Advent begins November 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.

Unity Prayer Watch ~ Saturday, December 17

Each year we join the greater Moravian Church in prayer for this 24-hour day of continual intercession. Your help and commitment is needed. Take a half hour of your life and serve God on **Saturday, December 20**, as we pray for the world in a whole lot of hurt.

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, Gnadenhutten, 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; and 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 will be on the board in the foyer or you can call the church office to sign up beginning in November.** Please pick a time and spend some quality time away from all distractions and pray. Information sheets will be available soon.

Sole Purpose

by Julie Pfeiffer



The 2025 Sole Purpose team is living up to their mission statement: "Putting shoes on kids' feet". This year we participated in Dress A Child. We gave out 879 shoe vouchers to qualifying families for the start of the 2025/26 school year. We also sent shoe vouchers to all the area school districts for them to have at their discretion. That's mission-minded work. We need more youth and adults involved! Please call/text 330.340.6494 (Julie) and join others from the congregation in Sole Purpose. **Get involved in Sole Purpose today!**

Also, our **2026 Pancake Breakfast** is slated for **Saturday, March 7**. Please plan to support this event. Our mission is funded by this church, area businesses, and organizations. We can't make a difference without your support.



Daylight Savings Time Ends

Daylight Savings Time will end on **Sunday, November 2.**

Remember to set your clocks **back one hour** before going to bed on Saturday night.
Fall Back – November 1.

Tuesday, November 4 ~ Election Day – Don't Forget to Vote

As Moravians we aspire to be faithful Christian citizens. The "Moravian Covenant for Christian Living" states this very clearly under the section of "The Witness of a Christian Citizen".

"Considering it a special privilege to live in a democratic society, we will faithfully fulfill the responsibilities of our citizenship, among which are intelligent and well-informed voting, a willingness to assume public office, guiding the decisions of government by the expression of our opinions, and supporting good government by our personal efforts."



On Tuesday, November 4, exercise your special privilege to **Vote**.

Community Soup & Sandwich Luncheons

by Marcia Harding, Julie Williams, and Susan Corder



The Community Soup & Sandwich Luncheons will be held on **Friday, November 7, and December 5,** from **11:00-1:00 p.m.** These luncheons are **Dine-in or Carry-out** and **deliveries available to businesses with a minimum order of \$25 or more.**

The **menu** will be **soups, sandwiches and desserts.** Proceeds from our luncheons help the Moravian Women contribute to missionary efforts at home and around the world.

We appreciate all your support in making our luncheons a success. If you can help work, please contact **Marcia Harding, 330-343-2104,** or **Julie Williams, 330-933-9707.**

Dates for other Friday luncheons are as follows: **March 6, and April 10.** Plan to help work, support the luncheons, and let your friends know they can dine-in or get carry-out!

Sugar Cake Baking

Tuesday ~ November 18 & December 16 & 18 – Price \$7.00 each



Sugar Cakes will be sold five more times this year by the Moravian Women to help continue their mission of making a difference in the lives of God's people here and abroad. **The Moravian Women Advisory Board is asking for your help in increasing our sales.** Talk to your neighbors, friends, relatives, and co-workers. This year free delivery will once again be available for orders of 4 cakes or more and the order is placed prior to Tuesday's baking. Place your order by calling **Susan Paden, 330-364-7101.**

Additional baking dates are as follows:

~ for 2026 ~

February 17, March 17, April 21

We hope you will participate in these activities. Take time to enjoy the fun and fellowship. Again, we thank you for your continued support and look forward to another year of serving the Lord together in Ministry.

Moravian Women Christmas Party

by Lorrigan Booth

Thursday, December 11, at 6:00 p.m.



All Moravian Women are invited to the **Christmas Party** which will be held on **Thursday, December 11, 2025**, at **6:00 p.m.** in the **Social Hall**. We look forward to enjoying a lovely evening of food, fellowship, and festivity in celebration of our Lord Jesus' birth. Bring a friend.

Soup Sales for 2026

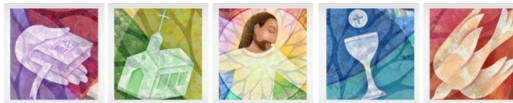
Orders for soup will be taken on **Sunday, January 18 & 25.**



Please pick up your soup order on Sunday, February 1.

Cost: \$8.00 per quart

As always, we thank you very much for all the support you provide for these successful outreach events.



Faith Formation

What Are You Waiting For?

Some of us begin the countdown to Christmas the day after Halloween, swapping out ghosts and goblins for elves and reindeer. Some of us wait for the Thanksgiving turkey to be gobbled up, or at least packed away in the fridge as leftovers, before we begin baking Christmas cookies. But officially, in the church, we begin our season of waiting on the first Sunday in Advent – November 30 this year. It's the first day of the new church calendar. We wait with Mary and Joseph, Elizabeth and Zechariah, Anna and Simeon, for the birth of Jesus. We hear John the Baptist's call to prepare for the beginning of Jesus' ministry.

We're in a season of waiting here at Dover First, waiting for God to reveal who our next pastor will be. Sometimes patience wears out and like the psalmist we cry out, "How long, O LORD?" But still we wait, and work, together, trusting that God is using this time to teach us, grow us, and transform us. Perhaps you are in a personal season of waiting – for healing, for comfort, for answers to prayers.

In the book "All Creation Waits," Gayle Boss offers one animal for each day of Advent, describing the ways they prepare for winter and how they spend those months waiting for spring. Painted turtle burrows into the mud at the bottom of a pond, balancing lactic acid from her muscles and calcium from her shell to survive without oxygen. Honey bees huddle together and shiver, generating enough heat to keep the hive a tropical 92 degrees. A porcupine switches to a strict diet of tree bark in the winter, climbing trees to feast at night, then retreating to the ground and rolling himself into a tight ball inside a hollow tree to rest during the day.

Whatever you are waiting for this season, consider what God's creatures have to teach you. All of them wait, and they know how to "wait well." They work when it's time to work, and they rest when it's time to rest. They know the waiting can't be rushed and they know that spring will come. And sometimes, like the honeybees, they know they need each other to stay warm, to stay healthy, and to be ready for spring.

In faith, love, and hope,

Carolyn

Sunday School – Classes for All

Join us each Sunday from 9-9:45 a.m.

Pre-K to 2nd Grade: Kids will meet in Room 214 with Becky Mastin, Erin Perkowski, and Stacy Stubbins.

3rd to 7th Grade: Youths in grades 3-7 will meet in Room 213 with Tessa Compton, Jerica Shuss, and April Yoder.

*All youth will gather together during Sunday School on **November 23**, for Youth Sunday worship prep, and on **December 21**, for Christmas Pageant rehearsal.*

Classes for Teens and Adults:

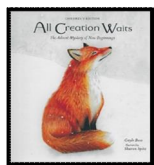
Seekers: Teens and adults are welcome to join us in the First-floor living room with Steve Mastin.

Seeds of Faith: Adults and teens please join us in **Room 215**. Jud Compton will lead “Follow Jesus” November 2-November 23. Bev Antonelli will lead “Faithful:
Christmas Through the Eyes of Joseph” November 30-December 21.

Sunrise Sunday School: All teens and adults are welcome to meet in **Room 215** with Carolyn Menapace at **8:00 a.m.** Our first session will be November 2-November 23. We will be trying out a new lectionary-based curriculum.

All-Ages Sunday School

Sunday, December 28, from 9-9:45 a.m.



We will gather in the Social Hall for a special holiday class for all ages.

“All Creation Waits” during Advent. Come celebrate the way a new beginning comes to us at Christmas!

Praying in Color

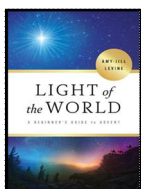
Each Wednesday morning, a faithful group gathers at the home of Shirley Thompson to pray: for personal concerns, for our church, and for our world. And then, they color! Or draw, or doodle, whatever feels natural and helpful to focus on prayer and on the scripture offered for reflection.

New members and guests are welcome. Bring paper and something to draw with. Wednesdays at 10:30 a.m.

Note: No gathering on November 26, or December 24.



Zoom Bible Study



A Bible study that you can join from anywhere! Use your computer, laptop, tablet, or cell phone to connect with members and friends near and far. Each Tuesday morning from 10-11:00 a.m. we enjoy learning and lively conversation.

Our study of the book of Revelation continues through **November 25**.

Join us for Advent as we study “**Light of the World!**” **December 2, 9, 16 & 23**.

There will be no Zoom December 30.

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.

Youth Sunday

On **Sunday, November 23**, youth members will lead us in worship. Support them with your presence in-person and online during 10:00 a.m. worship as they learn to lead and serve in new ways!



Fall Retreat



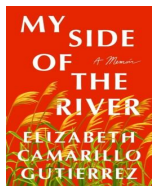
Fall Retreat 2025 is in Tuscarawas County! Take advantage of this close-to-home camp experience. Join other Mid-States Youth (grade 6 to age 21) at Camp Zimmerman in Gnadenhutten November 14-16.

The program is **“Walk the Talk”** led by Ben Lippert. Registration and payment are both available online – **deadline is November 9**. Contact Carolyn Menapace for scholarships or registration help.

<https://msymc.weebly.com/fall-retreat.html>

Breakfast Book Club

November: My Side of the River (Elizabeth Camarillo Gutierrez)

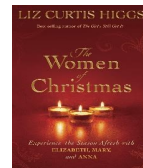


Monday, November 3, at 7:00 p.m. at the Founders Hall of KSU Tuscarawas. Join the book club at this free community event featuring author Elizabeth Camarillo Gutierrez. A book signing will follow.

Saturday, November 15, at 8:00 a.m. at Missions Café we will discuss this deeply moving memoir that explores the complexities of identity, family, and resilience through the lens of the American immigrant experience.

December: The Women of Christmas (Liz Curtis Higgs)

Saturday, December 20, at 8:00 a.m. at Missions Café we will explore the biblical stories of Elizabeth, Mary, and Anna, experiencing the Christmas season through their faith and struggles.



Game Night

Saturday, November 15, from 5:00 to 7:00 pm in the Social Hall.

All ages are invited for an evening of food, fellowship, and fun! Invite your friends and family to join us.

Bring a pizza or other food to share and your favorite game. CEC will provide drinks and paper products.

We're planning a **Euchre tournament** and a chance to learn how to play **Boomwhackers** – they are instruments, not games, but just as fun!



Advent Lunch & Kids' Movie



The Christian Education Committee invites you to stay after worship on **Sunday, November 23, for lunch**. Let's begin the Advent season with some church family fellowship!

CEC members will remain in the Social Hall to **watch a holiday movie with kids** until 2:00 p.m. so **adults can help decorate the church for the season**.

OMMC Advent Study



Come share this Advent experience with your Ohio Moravian siblings! Using materials from the Northern Province Racial Justice Team's 2023 Advent Study Series, each session will include scripture, theological reflection, a guest speaker/video presentation, and time for conversation.

Mondays on Zoom from 10:00-11:15 a.m. (Dec. 1, 8, 15, 22)

Tuesdays at Schoenbrunn Moravian from 6:30-7:45 p.m. (Dec. 2, 9, 16, 23)

Monday & Tuesday content each week will be the same.

You may attend either session each week as your schedule permits.

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 two hours.

Christmas Caroling

The CEC is sponsoring an evening of cocoa, crafts, and caroling. Come help us spread Christmas cheer to members and friends of the congregation. All ages and singing abilities welcome!

Saturday, December 13

5:00 PM: Cocoa and pizza in the Social Hall plus a Christmas craft

6-8:00 PM: Caroling around our community

Please sign up in the lobby by Sunday, December 7, if you plan to attend.



Christmas Pageant



The annual youth **Christmas Pageant** will be presented on **Sunday, December 21**, during worship. Come let the sights, sounds, and scriptures of the nativity story lift your Christmas spirit!

Rehearsal Schedule:

Sunday, December 14, 11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Saturday, December 20, 10:00 a.m. – Noon

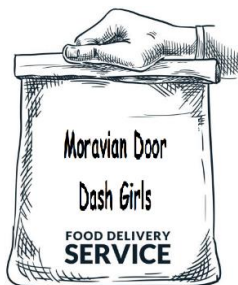
Sunday, December 21, 9:00 – 9:45 a.m.

Contact Carolyn Menapace to sign up as an actor or adult helper.

Thank You Notes!

Thank you so much for all the prayer and support given to us through Andy's health issues and passing. We greatly appreciated the use of the social hall and the Women's Fellowship for providing the meal after the service. There are not enough words of gratitude to express.

In Christ's Love,
Patty Gintz & family



Thank you to the Moravian Door Dash Girls who prepared and delivered delicious food numerous times throughout the year to our more mature members and friends of the church. Your thoughtfulness is appreciated.

Dear Church Family,

Thank you for the prayer shawl and bible I received on graduation Sunday. Thank you to everyone who has helped me in any way throughout my life. I will always remember I have my church family with me wherever I go.

Ryan Yoder



Dear Members and Friends,

Thank you very much for the surprise recognition, during and following worship on Aug. 31, for my 80th birthday. It was a well-kept secret and it means a lot. Thank you.
Denny



to All Our Church Volunteers.

When there is a need for help, we ask and you answer the call.
We appreciate your help throughout the year.

- ...to **Larry & Becky Kutcher** for checking the star boxes making sure all the parts are in each box and for assembling stars throughout the year.
- ...to **Gary Martin** for cutting the weeds near the student parking area in our second parking lot and power washing the front and back entrances of the house next to Salon Destiny recently. Thanks, Gary, for your help throughout the year. It is appreciated.
- ...to **Marcia Harding** for creating/changing the two bulletin boards above the cabinets in the social hall on a regular basis. These bulletin boards welcome guests, family and friends as they meet for the Community Luncheons, Men's Fellowship Breakfasts, and other events in the social hall throughout the year. Be sure to check out the bulletin boards! Thanks, Marcia, for a job well-done!
- ...to **Julie Williams** for taking care of the outside flowers at the church. They are beautiful from Spring to Fall. So many nice comments are received throughout the seasons by members and friends driving by or stopping in the church office. Thank you, Julie, for all you do.
- ...to **Susan Paden** for creating the CEC Sunflower bulletin board in the social hall near the storage area for the tables and chairs. This bulletin board shares some ways you can serve your church. Where will you serve in the next year?
- ...to **Dawna Compton** for scheduling our Scripture Readers; and to **Shirley Thompson** for securing our Greeters on Sunday morning.
- ...to **Jud Compton** for posting the message titles on the corner sign at Walnut and 4th Street; and for changing the big white double-sided sign out front. Jud does a great job of posting our upcoming events.
- ...to **Sue Ellen Hoffman and Karol Jones** for updating the Archives Cabinet in the social hall near the piano. Also, they are in the process of organizing the Archives Room in the basement.

Two little words that mean a lot... *Thank You! Volunteers*

Church Treasurer Retires

Barbara Gennert, our **Church Treasurer**, for the last 11 years and 3 months, recently retired on October 1, 2025. Barb was previously our Church Treasurer back in the early 90's. Thanks, Barb, for paying the bills on time all those years. We wish her the best in her retirement.

Our Deepest Sympathy



You are in our thoughts and prayers,

May the *love* of friends *comfort* you at this time.

Our sympathy and prayers are extended...

...to **Randy and Nancy Gibbs and family** on the death of Nancy's sister, Linda Nussbaum, on Wednesday, October 15, in Michigan.

...to **Paula Hale and family** on the death of her mother-in-law, Betty Hale on Tuesday, Oct. 14, in Cleveland Clinic Mercy Hospital.

...to **Ron Pissocra and Julie and Steve Williams and family** on the death of Ron's niece, and Julie's cousin, Jill Lovett, who passed away on Oct. 6. Jill was the current pastor at the First United Church of Christ in New Philadelphia. A memorial service was held at the First United Church of Christ in New Philadelphia on Saturday, October 11, 2025, with the Rev. Elena Larssen officiating.

...to **Sue Stephens and family** on the death of her uncle, Don Marshall, on Oct. 3. A Celebration of Life service was held on Oct. 11, in Geib Funeral Center at Dover.

...to **Shirley Thompson and Patty Gintz and family** on the death of Patty's husband, Andy Gintz, on Sept. 21. Pastor Doug Kilchenman officiated at the service in Toland-Herzig Funeral Home in Dover, on Tues., Sept. 30. Following the service, a meal was served in the social hall of First Moravian Church of Dover.

...to **Chevelle Swartz and family** on the death of her uncle, Richard Wineman on Thursday, August 21. The Rev. Dennis G. Rohn officiated at Richard's funeral on Wed., Aug. 27, in R. K. Lindsey Funeral Home in Dennison, OH.

College Addresses



Do you like to get mail? Let our college students know that you are thinking of them by sending a card throughout the year to stay in touch. Here are a few addresses that we have received so far this fall. As more addresses are received in the church office, we will pass them along to you.

Camryn McGlumphy

124 E Union Street, Apt. 303
Athens, OH 45701

Daniel H. Pfeiffer

1694 N High St., Apt. B
Columbus, OH 43201

Thomas Peveto

Edinboro University
405 Scotland Rd., Highlands 6, Rm. 6400
Edinboro, PA 16444

Rachel Pfeiffer

Room 0388 Smith-Steeb Hall
80 W 11th Ave.
Columbus, OH 43201

Part-time Pastor: Dennis G. Rohn 610.216.7467
Email: pastor@doverfirstmoravianchurch.org or drohn1945@gmail.com

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## **December Joint Board Meeting**

**Meetings are the first Tuesday of the month at 6:00 P.M.,  
in the social hall unless noted differently:**

**Monday, December 1**

### **Joint Board Members (Elders & Trustees)**

**Joint Board Chair: Rebecca Mastin**

**Elders ~ Meetings are held the first Tuesday of the month (unless noted differently) in Room 215  
at 6:00 p.m., and except when Joint Board meets, then after Joint Board at 7 P.M.**

**By-Laws of the First Moravian Church of Dover:** The duties of the Elders include overseeing the spiritual care and oversight of the congregation and its membership. Elders strive to secure faithful compliance with the enactments of the Unity, Provincial and District Synods, with "The Moravian Covenant for Christian Living," the section on discipline in the Book of Order, and the established rules of the congregation. The members of the Board of Elders decide all applications for admission to membership and decide all cases of dismissal.

|                              |                      |              |
|------------------------------|----------------------|--------------|
| Brian Cronebach              | 2020-2025 ~ 2nd term | 330.340.5549 |
| Pamela Duncan, CEC Rep.      | 2023-2025 ~ 1st term | 330.340.7476 |
| John Stubbins                | 2023-2025 ~ 1st term | 330.987.0144 |
| Scott Minor                  | 2024-2026 ~ 1st term | 330.432.7036 |
| Steve Rondinella, Vice-chair | 2021-2026 ~ 2nd term | 330.827.4513 |
| Bethanie Moser               | 2025-2027 ~ 1st term | 330.432.3814 |
| Leslie Seats                 | 2022-2027 ~ 2nd term | 937.479.4028 |
| Cheryl Stephens, Secretary   | 2025-2027 ~ 1st term | 330.987.3933 |

**Trustees ~ Meetings are held the second Tuesday of the month in the Social Hall at 6:00 p.m.,  
except when Joint Board meets, then after Joint Board at 7 P.M.**

**The duties of the Board of Trustees** include overseeing the planning, development and maintenance of church properties. The trustees plan the budget of annual expenses associated with supporting the work of the congregation. The trustees review the monthly expenses against the budget and insure payment of the pastor's salary, staff salaries, and provincial obligations. Requests for funds and purchases from the staff, congregational ministries, and external groups are reviewed. Reports from the Treasurer and Financial Secretary are monitored monthly to gauge progress towards meeting all obligations.

|                              |                         |              |
|------------------------------|-------------------------|--------------|
| Karol Jones, Sec. & CEC Rep. | 2020-2025 ~ 2nd term    | 330.343.8236 |
| Gary Martin                  | 11/2023-2025 ~ 1st term | 330.204.1926 |
| Greg Miller                  | 2023-2025 ~ 1st term    | 330.340.3861 |
| Bev Antonelli                | 2024-2026 ~ 1st term    | 330.340.2522 |
| Brenda Crilow                | 7/2023-2026 ~ 2nd term  | 330.243.6682 |
| Dan Yeager                   | 2021-2026 ~ 2nd term    | 330.364.6951 |
| Jodi Hillyer                 | 2025-2027 ~ 1st term    | 330.340.4785 |
| Rebecca Mastin, President    | 2025-2027 ~ 1st term    | 330.204.9520 |
| David Yoder, Vice-President  | 2025-2027 ~ 1st term    | 724.272.4822 |

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Financial Secretary/Treasurer

Julie Williams, Fiscal Off.	330.933.9707
Jenny Shoup, Cooper Accounting	330.440.7434

Church Office & One Call Now:

330-364-8831

Worship Services:

Sundays ~ 10:00 a.m.

Sunday School:

Sept.— May ~ 9:00 a.m.

Part-time Pastor:

The Rev. Dennis G. Rohn

610-216-7467 cell

Administrative Assistant:

Karen Baker

Director of Music:

G. Randall Gibbs

Director of Faith Formation:

Carolyn Menapace

Custodian:

Sam Paden

Web-Site:

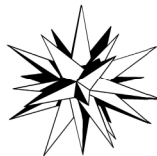
www.doverfirstmoravianchurch.org



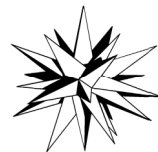
*As you gaze into the nighttime Christmas sky,
may you feel the glow of God's love
and may every star you see
represent a blessing for those you love. ~ Unknown*

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**Here are some of the articles inside this newsletter...**



**Holy Communion, Advent Communion,  
Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship Service,  
Unity Prayer Watch** and much, much more.



**Change Service Requested**

**First Moravian Church  
319 North Walnut Street  
Dover OH 44622-2943**