

First Moravian Church

319 N. Walnut Street, Dover, Ohio 44622

January 4, 2026

10:00 A.M.

Interim Part-time Licensed Lay Pastor	Marie Coutts (330-401-1212)
Greeters	Jud & Dawna Compton
Nursery	Jennifer & Matthew Peveto
Usher	Edith Santee
Worship Leader	Leslie Seats
Elder Serving	Scott Minor
Director of Music	G. Randall Gibbs
Director of Faith Formation	Carolyn Menapace
Custodian	Sam Paden
Administrative Assistant	Karen Baker Office: 330-364-8831
Web Site	www.doverfirstmoravianchurch.org

Chimes

Watchword for the Week: (In Unison) *The Moravian Daily Texts*
Praise the name of the Lord, for his name alone is exalted;
his glory is above earth and heaven. Psalm 148:13

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 "Epiphany Prelude" Callahan
 Mary Cooper, Cello

* **Hymn** "Jesus' Name, Jesus' Name" **H. 324**

* **Liturgy for Epiphany** **Page 65-69**

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

Drawing of Watchwords

Hymn "With Praises and Thanksgiving" **H. 309, vs. 1 & 3**

Holy Scriptures

Epistle Lesson: Ephesians 3:1-12 **Page 205**
Gospel Lesson: Matthew 2:1-12 **Page 2**

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

Hymn "Little Children, Welcome!" **H. 679, vs 1**
*Little children, welcome! Earth is yours to live in;
 arms of love protect you, little children, welcome!*

Anthem "Were You There on That Christmas Night" arr. Sleeth
 Chancel Choir

Presentation of Our Tithes and Offerings

* Offertory Response – H. 279, v. 3

*This will I do, O Child Divine, I'll give you all I hold as mine;
 my soul, my body, Lord, are yours, and all the gifts your love
 outpours.
 My humble offerings now receive, and through your grace, Lord,
 let me live
 in faithfulness through all my days, and join in heaven's
 ceaseless praise.*

Offertory Prayer

Hymn "Brightest and Best of the Stars" **H. 317**

Meditation: The Rev. Dennis Rohn

Special Music "What Child Is This?" arr. Bonam
 Julia Kandel, Pamela Schmitzer, Flutes
(The Special Music today is in honor of Violet Schmitzer's 90th birthday.)

Preparatory to Holy Communion **See insert**

Service of Holy Communion in Celebration of Christ's Coming
Page 183

Postlude "Fantasy on Antioch" arr. Travis

Chimes

* Please stand if you are able.
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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.



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



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

Name Tags: As a courtesy, **please wear your name tag next Sunday**, so our Interim Part-time Licensed Lay Pastor Marie Coutts can learn your name. She already knows many of you, but for those she does not know, this is a way for her to learn your name. If you do not have a name tag, please contact Karen in the church office and a name tag will be made available for you. Thank you.

Elder Connection: Leslie Seats, 937.479.4028, 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 my husband,
J. Marc Cappell, given by Marla Cappell and family.

One Call Now ~ 330-364-8831

Gene and Lin Sidel are sponsoring our One Call Now this week.

One Call Now Sponsors are needed for **Mar. 22, Apr. 12 & 26, May 3, 17, 24 & 31.** If you desire to sponsor a week (\$15.00), please contact Karen in the church office, 330-364-8831.

Stewardship Moment

They saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure-chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. *Matthew 2:11*

Attendance from Last Sunday

Sunday School 19 Worship ~ 10 AM 61
Christmas Eve ~ 6:30 PM 289


Prayers for the People

Cleveland Clinic Union Hospital: Cinda Pixler;
Amberwood: Laura Colvin; **Hennis** (Dover): Bonnie Auman;
Northwood: Etta Grimm; **Park Village** (Dover): Joyce Brewer,
Bill Cozart, Suzanne Rinderknecht; (New Phila.): Ron & Bette Kohl.

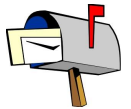
Birthday and Anniversary Daily Prayer Support

Jan. 4 Violet Schmitzer; Anniv: Beau & Rosey Smith
Jan. 5 Dennis Duncan, Shawn McCarthy
Jan. 6 Becky Mastin
Jan. 8 John Levengood, Kennedy Hale, Julie Heavilin
Jan. 10 Pam Smith
Jan. 11 Cynthia Seaman

The Dover Moravian Messenger

Sunday	10:00 AM	Worship & Holy Communion ó Sanctuary
	The Prayer Shawl Ministry will meet today , in the church living room at 1:00 p.m. Questions: See Edie Santee, Susan Paden, or Pamela Schmitzer	
Monday	9:00 AM 9:00 AM 6:00 PM 7:00 PM	Staff Meeting ó Church Office Counting ó Living Room Moravian Women Adv. Bd. Mtg. ó Rm. 215 CEC Meeting ó Living Room
Tuesday	10:00 AM 6:00 PM	Zoom Bible Study Nominating Committee Meeting ó L. Room
Wednesday	10:30 AM 6:00 PM 6:30 PM	Praying in Color @ Shirley Thompsonø Menø Bible Study ó Living Room Chancel Choir ó Choir Loft
Thursday	6-7:30 PM	The Chosen ó Living Room
Friday	Noon	Bible Study ó Living Room
Sunday	8:00 AM 9:00 AM 10:00 AM 11-1:00 PM	Sunrise Sunday School ó Room 215 Sunday School ó C.S. Rooms Worship ó Sanctuary Soup Orders taken in Lobby VBS Team Meeting ó Social Hall

A Friendly Reminder:



- Please keep the church office informed of **new additions to your family, new addresses, new email addresses, and telephone numbers.**
- If you would like to **receive the newsletter via email**, please notify the church office with your email address.
- If you would prefer to **receive the newsletter via the post office**, please let us know in the church office and your name will be added to our mailing list.
- If you **misplace your Sunday bulletin or bi-monthly newsletter**, just go directly to the church website doverfirstmoravianchurch.org and select what you would like to read. Information on the website is in color, so be sure to check it out!



Prayer & Lay Leadership: A Three-Part Educational Webinar Series

Deepen your prayer life. Strengthen your leadership. Enrich your community.

Join us for a three-part series of 90-minute live webinars via Zoom exploring how prayer shapes personal faith and congregational life. Each session offers a unique perspective—its theology, creativity, and role in leadership—led by gifted Moravian educators.

Join one, two, or all three sessions—each stands alone while contributing to a richer understanding of prayer.

Who Should Attend: Lay leaders, worship assistants, educators, musicians, and anyone seeking to deepen their understanding and practice of prayer.

Hosted by: The Eastern District Executive Board

Session 1: The Heart of Prayer

Led by the Rev. Dr. Jennika Eckhaus and Pastor Theresa Fisher

Date: January 28, 2026, at 7:00 p.m.

Explore the foundations and expressions of prayer. Learn simple, practical ways to deepen your spiritual life—whether you're new to prayer or seeking renewal.

Session 2: Preparing Meaningful Devotions

Becky Lepore & the Rev. Mikayla Sauerbrey

Date: February 24, 2026, at 7:00 p.m.

Asked to offer devotions at a gathering? Looking to provide spiritual grounding for your group? Learn practical tools for creating meaningful moments of prayer and connection.

Session 3: Prayers for Worship

Led by the Rev. Dr. Riddick Weber

Date: March 25, 2026, at 7:00 p.m.

Wondering how pastoral, intercessory, and invocation prayers differ or what to say in an offertory prayer? Learn the purpose of key worship prayers & simple ways to craft them.

Scan the QR Code to Learn More & Register

Visit our website at www.moravian.org/equip

For questions email amy@mcnp.org



Our Worship Opportunities



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



Jan. 4 ~ Meditation & Epiphany

Holy Communion ~ The Rev. Dennis G. Rohn

Jan. 11 ~ Marie Coutts will bring the message.

Jan. 18 ~ Tessa Compton will bring the message.

Jan. 25 ~ John Kelly will bring the message,
followed by a light lunch and **Church Council** in the
Social Hall.

VISION 2026:

The Church Council will give direction for Vision 2026 and beyond by:

- Electing three (3 yr. term) Elders to the Board of Elders
- Electing one (2 yr. term) Elder to the Board of Elders
- Electing three (3 yr. term) Trustees to the Board of Trustees
- Electing one (1 yr. term) Trustee to the Board of Trustees
- Electing a member to the Christian Education Committee
- Electing a representative to the Sperling-Zimmerman Home Committee
- Receiving reports from all ministries
- Approving the ministry budget for 2026



Our Mission and Outreach Opportunities

Change Can Make A Difference Offering



Sunday, January 25, we will collect our quarterly ***“Change Can Make A Difference Offering”***. This time the offering will go to the **Michael and Ceci Tesh family to help with the building of a new school.**

Save your change and dollar bills and bring them with you to church on the **25th**. Thank you.

Men’s Community Fellowship Breakfast



Saturday, January 17

from 9-11 AM



St. Joseph Catholic Church

Hosting at Knights of Columbus Hall at 346 W. 9th Street, Dover

This ecumenical breakfast is for all men in the community.

Bring your appetite and enjoy a delicious breakfast!

There will be great food and fellowship!

SOUP’S ON! On **Sunday, February 1**, you will once again



have the opportunity to purchase quarts of homemade soup prepared by the Moravian Women following the morning worship service.

Soup choices are **Cheesy Broccoli, Chicken Noodle, Stuffed Pepper and Vegetable Beef.** Preorders will be taken in the lobby Jan. 11, 18 & 25. The cost will be \$8.00 per quart.

Proceeds from the soup sale will be used to support the ongoing funding of projects within our congregation, community and the world. Nothing tastes better than a warm bowl of soup on a cold wintry day!

Our Christian Education Opportunities

Upcoming CEC Events – Save the Dates!

- ***The Chosen* – Thursday evenings Jan. 8 – Feb. 26** we will watch an episode of *The Chosen*: Season 4 each week.

Join us in the living room from 6-7:30 pm. To watch an episode and read the scripture that inspired it. All ages are welcome – bring a friend!

All episodes are free to watch online if you miss a week or would like to enjoy them at home:

<https://watch.thechosen.tv>



- **Sun., Jan. 11, after worship to 1:00 p.m.**

VBS Team Meeting in the Social Hall

(All are welcome as we begin planning for VBS 2026!)

- **Sun., Jan. 18, from 6-8:30 p.m.**

Ohio Moravian Bowling Bash at Wabash Lanes
\$10.00 per bowler includes shoe rental, unlimited games, and snacks. Bring your friends and family!



- **Sun., Feb. 1, during 10:00 a.m. worship**

Prayer Heart Lovefeast

- **Sun., Feb. 15, after worship Soup-er Sunday in the S. Hall**

Potluck, chili cookoff, games, Boomwhackers, fleece blanket project, and more! All members and friends are encouraged to stay for lunch and fellowship.

- **Wed., Feb. 25, from 5:15-6:45 p.m.**

Lent supper and study begins. (Five Weds: Feb. 25-Mar. 25)

Mark Your 2026 Calendar

A few important **Camp, Rally & Retreat** dates to remember in 2026:

Spring Rally: April 10-12 in Indiana
(Currently in 6th grade to age 21)



Tar Hollow (completed 7th grade – age 21): **July 19-25**

Camp Bethany (completed 2nd – 6th grade): **August 3-7**

Fall Retreat: TBD (Fall of 2026 ~ in 6th grade to age 21)

VBS Team Meeting:

Stay after worship on **Sunday, January 11,**
to join our 2026 Vacation Bible School team!

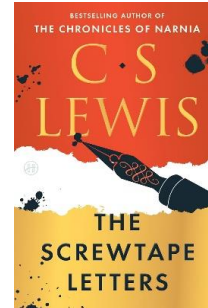
We're trying a new program this year, so come get a preview of what we will be doing and help brainstorm ideas for music, stations, and decorations.

We will meet in the Social Hall from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Bring a lunch, or we will order take-out.



Breakfast Book Club

Saturday, January 17, at 8:00 a.m. at Missions Café.



The Screwtape Letters **(C.S. Lewis)**

An imaginative series of letters on the importance of taking a deliberate role in Christian faith by portraying a typical human life, with all its temptations and failings, seen from devils' viewpoints.

MORAVIAN *Bowling* **BASH**

SUNDAY, JANUARY 18

\$10 PER BOWLER

6:00–8:30 PM

WABASH LANES

Shoe rental, unlimited games,
and snacks included

Call or text Carolyn Menapace at 330-204-7089
to receive updates in case of inclement weather,
or check the Dover First Moravian Facebook page.

