

First Moravian Church

319 N. Walnut Street, Dover, Ohio 44622

December 28, 2025

10:00 A.M.

Part-time Pastor	Denny Rohn (610-216-7467 cell)
Greeters	Steve & Becky Mastin
Nursery	Available if needed by a parent and child
Usher – hand out bulletins	Beth Rondinella
Director of Music	G. Randall Gibbs
Organist/Pianist Today	Mary Lou Keener
Director of Faith Formation	Carolyn Menapace
Custodian	Sam Paden
Administrative Assistant	Karen Baker Office: 330-364-8831
Web Site	www.doverfirstmoravianchurch.org

First Sunday of Christmas

(This service of Lessons and Carols is an adaptation by the late Rev. Dr. Albert H. Frank of the “British Methodist Christmas Service of Praise.” The scripture references have been omitted as the worshipper is invited to hear the words of Scripture, think of their meaning and join in the carols and hymns allowing the word of God to dwell in the hearts of all.)

Call to Worship: Chimes

Watchword for the Week: In Unison *The Moravian Daily Texts*
**I will recount the gracious deeds of the Lord, the
praiseworthy acts of the Lord, because of all that the
Lord has done for us.** Isaiah 63:7

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 “Bethlehem” Traditional Irish Carol

*** Christmas Liturgy** **Page 59**

Prayers of the People

“The Lord’s Prayer” **H. 828**

First Scripture Lesson

The Prophets Foretell His Coming

H. 274

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 wisdom from on high,
and order all things far and nigh;
to us the path of knowledge show,
and teach us in her ways to go. **(Refrain)**

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)**

O come, Desire of Nations, bind
all peoples in one heart and mind;
bid envy, strife and quarrels cease;
fill the whole world with heav’n’s peace. **(Refrain)**

Second Scripture Lesson

The Annunciation of Mary

T. Good King Wenceslas

Sing of Mary, blest is she! Mother of the Savior!
“Yes!” said she to Gabriel’s plea, “Yes!” to God forever.
“Yes!” for every woman born. “Yes!” for every nation.
“Yes! For even the unborn. “Yes!” for all creation.

(text by Vincent Wm. Uher, III, 1996)

Third Scripture Lesson

The Birth of the Savior of the World

H. 292

Once in royal David’s city stood a lowly cattle shed
where a mother laid her baby in a manger for his bed.
Mary was that mother mild, Jesus Christ her little child.

He came down to earth from heaven who is God and Lord of all,
and his shelter was a stable, and his cradle was a stall;
with the poor and meek and lowly lived on earth our Savior holy.

And our eyes at last shall see him, through his own redeeming
love,
for that Child, so dear and gentle, is our Lord in heav’n above,
and he leads his children on to the place where he has gone.

Fourth Gospel Lesson

The Adoration of the Shepherds

H. 296, vs. 1-4, 6

*While shepherds watched their flocks by night,
all seated on the ground,
the angel of the Lord came down,
and glory shone around, and glory shown around.*

*“Fear not,” said he, for mighty dread
had seized their troubled mind,
“Glad tidings of great joy I bring
to you and humankind, to you and humankind.”*

*“To you, in David’s town this day,
is born of David’s line
the Savior, who is Christ the Lord,
and this shall be the sign, and this shall be the sign.”*

*“The heav’nly babe you there shall find
to human view displayed
all meanly wrapped in swathing bands
and in a manger laid, and in a manger laid.”*

*“All glory be to God on high,
and to the earth be peace;
good will henceforth from heav’n to all
begin and never cease, begin and never cease.”*

Fifth Scripture Lesson

The Adoration of the Magi

H. 290, vs. 3-5

*And by the light of that bright star,
three wise men came from country far.
To seek for a king was their intent,
and to follow the star wherever it went.*

(Refrain)

*Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel,
born is the King of Israel.*

*This star drew nigh to the northwest,
o’er Bethlehem it took its rest,
and there it did both stop and stay,
right over the place where Jesus lay.*

(Refrain)

*Then entered in those wise men three,
full reverently upon their knee,
and offered there in his presence
their gold, and myrrh, and frankincense.*

(Refrain)

Sixth Scripture Lesson

The Message and Meaning of the Incarnation

*** H. 298**
*Christ the Lord, the Lord most glorious, now is born; O shout aloud!
We by him are made victorious; praise the Savior, hail our God!*

*Praise the Lord! On us is shining Christ, the sun of righteousness;
he, to us in love inclining, cheers our souls with pard’ning grace.*

*Praise the Lord, whose saving splendor shines into the darkest
night;
O what praises shall we render for this never-ceasing light.*

*Praise the Lord, God our salvation, praise him who retrieved our
loss;
sing, with awe and love’s sensation, hallelujah, God with us.*

*** Unison Benediction:**

Lord, now let your servant depart in peace, according to your word. For my eyes have seen your salvation which you have prepared for all people. Go with me and all who worship you today, and give us your peace. In Jesus’ Name. Amen.

*** Benediction Response:**

**H. 301, vs. 3
T. Murray**

*Be near me, Lord Jesus! I ask you to stay
close by me forever and love me, I pray.
Bless all the dear children in your tender care,
and fit us for heaven, to live with you there.*

*** Silent Meditation**

Postlude

Voluntary on “In dulci jublio”

Mansfield

Chimes

** Please stand if you are able.*

Reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE #736036-A. All rights reserved.

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.



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



Elder: Pam Duncan, 330.340.7476, 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 **vases of flowers** are in loving memory of Dean Miller, given by Phyllis, Teresa and family.



Flowers are needed for the following Sundays: **March 1, Apr. 12 & 19, and May 24.**

If you would like to provide flowers for one of these Sundays, please contact Karen in the church office.



One Call Now ~ 330-364-8831

Terry and Susan Corder are sponsoring our One Call Now this week.

Stewardship Moment

We offer our gifts and talents as a response to what God has already done for us in Jesus Christ.

David N. Mosser, author of The Stewardship Companion

And now, our God, we give thanks to you, and praise your glorious name. *1 Chronicles 29:13*

Attendance from Last Sunday

Sunday School 36 Worship ~ 10 AM 165

Prayers for the People

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

Dec. 29	Sara Holmes, Steve Williams
Dec. 30	Gracen Gerbig; Anniv: Jon & Joyce Stingel
Dec. 31	Rick Michel, Jr.
Jan. 1	Courtney Wallace
Jan. 2	Adrian Schaar, Ross Randazzo, Brian Bullock
Jan. 3	Kristin Becker, Abigail Houk, Zachary Kosmala Anniv: Jim & Cynthia Seaman
Jan. 4	Violet Schmitzer; Anniv: Beau & Rosey Smith

The Dover Moravian Messenger

Sunday	10:00 AM	Worship ó Sanctuary
Monday	9:00 AM	<u>NO</u> Staff Meeting ó Church Office
Tuesday		

The deadline for 2025 giving is Tuesday, Dec. 30, at 9 AM.

Any offerings received after that will be credited to your 2026 contributions.

If you did not receive 2026 offering envelopes and would like to have them, please contact the church office or Julie Williams at 330-933-9707 or email her at juliewill1411@gmail.com.

	1:00 PM	Counting ó Living Room
Wednesday	6:00 PM	Men's Bible Study ó Living Room
Thursday		<i>New Year's Day</i> ~ Church Office Closed

Friday	9:00 AM	<u>Deadline:</u> Church Council Reports due in Church Office
--------	---------	---

	Noon	Bible Study ó Living Room
Sunday, Jan. 4	8:00 AM	<u>NO</u> Sunrise Sunday School Class ó Room 215
	9:00 AM	Sunday School ó C. S. Rooms
	10:00 AM	Worship & Holy Communion ó Sanctuary



The **Prayer Shawl Ministry** will meet **Sunday, Jan. 4**, in the **church living room** at **1:00 p.m.** If you have any questions, please see Edie Santee, Susan Paden, or Pamela Schmitzer.

Our Worship Opportunities



Come Worship with Us

Each Sunday at 10:00 A.M. in the New Year!

Jan. 4 ~ Epiphany Holy Communion

The Rev. Dennis G. Rohn will bring the message.



Jan. 11 ~ Marie Coutts will bring the message.

Jan. 18 ~ Message by: **Tessa Compton**

Jan. 25 ~ John Kelly will bring the message.

After worship there will be a light lunch in the social hall, followed by Church Council.

Bring your family and friends!

To Remind You



Annual Church Council Reminder...

All reports are due in the church office **by 9 A.M. on Friday, January 2, 2026.**

The report should include a summary of what took place during the year, mention of membership, plans for the coming year, as well as a financial report. Financial reports should show both income and expenses. E-mail your report to:

admin.assistant@firstmoravianchurch.org

Your cooperation in meeting this deadline will be appreciated in order to have the annual report packets ready for distribution on January 11. Thank you.

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 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



A Friendly Reminder:

- Please keep the church office informed of **new addresses, telephone numbers, email addresses, and new additions to your family.**
- 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!



Our Mission, Outreach & Fellowship Opportunities

Coming in 2026...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 on the following Sundays: January 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!

LÔÔK

What's coming up!

Ecumenical Men's Fellowship Breakfast



Saturday, January 17

from 9-11 AM



**St. Joseph's Catholic Church hosting at
Knights of Columbus Hall ~ 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 food and fellowship!

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)