

The
Season
of
Lent

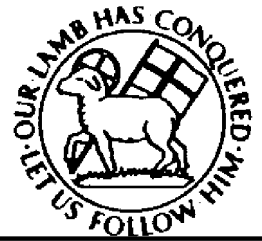


FIRST MORAVIAN CHURCH

FIRST NEWS

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March-April, 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.*

The Journey Begins

by The Rev. Dennis G. Rohn

I love Lent. I know that may sound strange, but I love the routine of Lent. It begins on Ash Wednesday and for five more weeks we share in the routine of gathering each Wednesday and Sunday. Moravians are a little different from other denominations. During Lent, rather than “give up” or “deny ourselves,” we prefer to “take on something.” Jesus came to “take on” the sins of the world. What might you “take on” in this Lenten season to help and serve others in Jesus’ name?

The 40 days of Lent provides an intentional time for reflection, learning, and growing in our faith. This year, we will gather each Wednesday to learn about Spiritual Gifts, identify our personal spiritual gifts, and discover how they can be used in the life of the church.

Our journey continues in the week between Palm Sunday and Easter, when we gather together for Holy Week Readings to remember Jesus’ last week on earth. This long-standing Moravian tradition, dating back to 1757, helps us move from the Hosanna of Palm Sunday, through the pain and agony of Good Friday, to the joyous Alleluias of Easter. Won’t you join us on this journey?

Table of Contents

- The Journey Begins 1
- Sole Purpose Pancake Breakfast . . 1
- Tuesday Morning Zoom 2
- Breakfast Book Club 2
- Sunday School Choir 3
- Ash Wednesday Worship 3
- Lent Sunday School 3
- Lent Supper & Study 3
- Lent Prayer Walk 4
- Readings for Holy Week 4
- Easter Egg-Stravaganza 4
- Easter Services 4
- Spring Rally & Tar Hollow 5
- Vacation Bible School 5
- Eastern District News 6
- Mission, Outreach, Fellowship . . 6-7
- Coshocton Community Choir 6
- Soup & Sandwich Luncheons 7
- Reminder: Luncheon Donations . . . 7
- Sugar Cake Baking & Sales 7
- Thank you's/this & that 8-9
- Thank You Notes 8
- Dover Family Tree News 9
- Sympathy 9
- God's Handy Chart 10
- Calendars 11-12

Sole Purpose Pancake Breakfast

Saturday, March 1, from 8:00 a.m. – 12 Noon

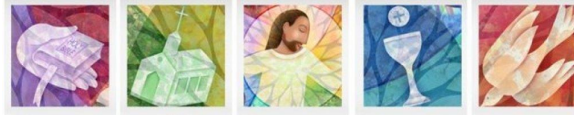
Dine-In or Carry-Out



Tickets are **\$5.00 each** and are available in the church office.

Children Age 2 and under ~ Free

Also, tickets will be available at the door.



Faith Formation

Wasn't that a wonderful Prayer Heart Lovefeast? Our children were so excited to serve you during worship. The only concern was making sure we had enough "jobs" for everyone who wanted to help.

Do you know where they learned to love to serve? Right here at Dover First . . . from YOU! Everyone who offers their service to this congregation and our friends and neighbors is a shining example to our youth. Dieners, sacristans, proofreaders. Elders, Trustees, CEC members. Worship leaders, scripture readers, choirs, cooks and cleaners. Sunday School and Vacation Bible School and Bible Study leaders. The adults appreciate you, but the kids are learning to be you.

So take every opportunity to encourage our youth when you see them participating in the life of the congregation. Tell them you appreciate them; let them know they are doing a great job. Let God use your voice to thank and bless them.

And most of all, keep up your good work! Every time you answer the call to serve your church you are that shining example to our children, of how to be the church.

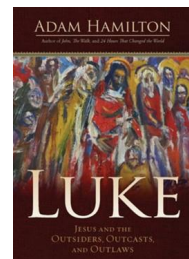
In faith, love, and hope,
Carolyn

P.S. Many of us know exactly what God has called us to do. Many more do not. I hope all of you will come discover your Spiritual Gifts during Wednesday evenings in Lent. Pastor Denny will be your guide and I will be ready with children's activities. I hope you will choose to make these evenings a part of your Lenten journey.

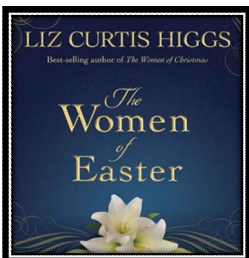
Tuesday Morning Zoom

Join us on Zoom for Lent! Tuesdays, March 4 through April 8 at 10:00 a.m. we will explore Adam Hamilton's "Luke: Jesus and the Outsiders, Outcasts, and Outlaws."

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



Breakfast Book Club



"The Women of Easter" by Liz Curtis Higgs – **Saturday, March 8, at 8:00 a.m.** at Missions Café.

Continue with us in this 3-month series as we spend time with Mary of Bethany, Mary of Nazareth, and Mary Magdalene.

"This season of grace, deepen your faith in a God who so loved the world that he gave us his son."

March 8: Chapters 4-6
April 12: Chapters 7-8



Sunday School Choir

Sunday, March 9, during 10:00 a.m. worship, our Sunday School Choir will present “F.R.O.G.”

Don't miss this musical reminder to “fully rely on God!”

Ash Wednesday Worship

We will gather in the sanctuary at **6:30 p.m.** on **Wednesday, March 5**, to mark the beginning of Lent. This is the 40 days (not including Sundays) of repentance and reflection leading to the celebration of Easter.



Lent Sunday School

Sunrise Sunday School at 8:00 a.m. will be studying Adam Hamilton's “Final Words from the Cross” **March 2 through April 6**. Join Carolyn Menapace in the second floor living room for this 6-week series.

Seeds of Faith at 9:00 a.m. will also have a new study for Lent, **March 9 through April 13**. Join Dylan Seats in the second floor living room for this 6-week series.

Lent Supper & Study

What are your spiritual gifts?

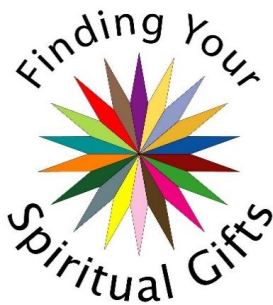
The entire church family, and friends, are invited to gather Wednesdays in Lent for supper, worship and study.

5:30-6:00 p.m. Supper in the Social Hall

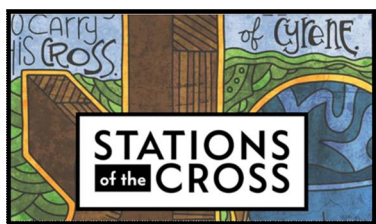
6:00-6:45 p.m. Pastor Denny will lead us in worship and learning about spiritual gifts. At the conclusion of the series, we will have the opportunity to find out what our spiritual gifts may be.

During the study portion of each evening, kids will be invited to a “prayground” in the social hall for some quiet-ish crafts and activities. Adult volunteers will help out so parents can participate in the study.

March 12, March 19, March 26, April 2, April 9



Lenten Prayer Walk



Beginning March 23, you will have the opportunity to experience the stations of the cross in our sanctuary.

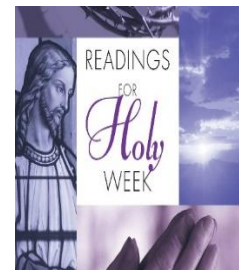
Set aside an hour from **1:00-2:00 p.m. on Sunday, March 23**, for a guided, group experience.

The stations will remain in place in the sanctuary until Easter, if you prefer to experience this prayerful walk with Jesus in your own time.

Readings for Holy Week

Readings for Holy Week represents a harmony account of the sufferings, death, resurrection and ascension of the Lord Jesus Christ as it is found in the New Testament. Its roots go back nearly 250 years to the Moravian Church in Germany.

Join us in the sanctuary at **6:30 p.m.** each evening of Holy Week as we read, sing, and pray together in preparation for Easter.



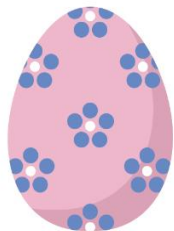
Monday, April 14
Tuesday, April 15
Wednesday, April 16
Thursday, April 17

Readings for Holy Week
Readings for Holy Week
Readings for Holy Week
Readings for Holy Week and
Maundy Thursday Holy Communion
Readings for Holy Week

Friday, April 18

Holy Saturday

Easter Egg-Stravaganza



Join us for a special Easter Event for **kids through 6th grade!**
Egg hunting plus other activities, crafts, and games.
Bring your friends and family!

April 19, from 9:30-11:00 a.m.
First Moravian Church of Dover
319 N. Walnut Street



Easter Sunrise Service

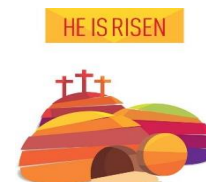
Please join us for our Easter Sunrise service on **Easter Sunday, April 20**, at **7:00 a.m.** in **Schoenbrunn Village**. Leading the sunrise service will be local clergy. We will start the service in the church and conclude at God's Acre. Invite your family and friends for this meaningful Easter service.

All-Ages Easter Sunday School

What can a doughnut hole teach us about Jesus' resurrection? The entire church family is invited to the social hall Easter morning from **9-9:45 a.m.** to find out and celebrate that *the Lord is risen indeed!*

Easter Morning Service

10:00 a.m. Special Easter Morning service ~ Bring your family and friends!



Spring Rally & Tar Hollow Dates

Spring Rally 2025



April 4—6
6th grade—age 21

**Indiana FFA Conference Center,
Trafalgar, IN**
Registration information coming soon!
Program Leader: Shel Green

Watch www.msymc.weebly.com for more information!

Mark your calendars!

Tar Hollow 2025

July 20-26

7th grade – age 21



Vacation Bible School

Mark your 2025 calendar with these important VBS dates:

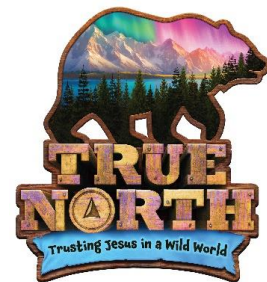
Sunday, March 16: Decoration construction after worship

Sunday, April 6: Decoration construction after worship

Sunday, June 1: Decorating after worship

Saturday, June 7: VBS Volunteer training

June 9-13: “True North” Vacation Bible School 2025!



Contact Carolyn Menapace today if you would like to be a part of Vacation Bible School week. We welcome volunteers of all ages!

Eastern District Northern Province News

Here is an article which appeared in the Moravian Monthly February Newsletter:

The Eastern District *Moravian Church in America* *Northern Province*



New Direction in Faith Formation for the Eastern District

The Eastern District will soon embark on a new venture to address leadership and support for congregational faith formation.

The Eastern District Executive Board approved a proposal from our current Director of Christian Education, Marie Coutts, outlining a program where the District will be divided into four areas and each area will be served by a Director of Faith Formation.

Each of the four areas will be served part-time by individuals hired and trained for the positions. The training of hired individuals will include a two-phase process and upon completion of phase two, the title of the position will change to "Accredited Director of Faith Formation." Additionally, a Resource Director (Jami Vandock, a certified Church Educator in the Southern Province) has been hired part-time for resourcing and future training of the Area Directors. Her role will begin after individuals are hired and have completed phase one of the training.

While the positions will be accountable to the Eastern District Executive Board, the Eastern District Spiritual Formation Ministry Team will serve as the responsible agency for this newly created program. Plans call for implementation to begin July 2025.

Additional information and application forms for interested individuals will be sent to Eastern District congregations in the near future. For more information contact Marie Coutts, mcouts@sbcglobal.net – cell: 330.401.1212.

If anyone is interested and would like to apply, applications are available, please contact the Dover First church office, 330-364-8831.

Our Mission, Outreach, and Fellowship



Coshocton Community Choir Concert

April 13 ~ 6:00 P.M. in the Sanctuary

Coshocton Community Choir, under the direction of Charles Snyder, will present their Spring Concert program. This 90-voice choir represents singers from several counties in Central Ohio who join in song. We invite you to spend an evening with us. This concert does not require tickets but does include a freewill offering for the choirs. A time of fellowship will follow in our social hall. Please join us...Bring your family and friends!

Community Soup & Sandwich Luncheons

by Marcia Harding and Julie Williams



Community Soup & Sandwich Luncheons will be held on **Friday, March 7 and April 4**, from **11:00-1:00 p.m.** These luncheons are **Dine-in or Carry-out** and **deliveries will be 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.**

**Plan to help work, support the luncheon,
and let your friends know they can dine-in or get carry-out!**

Reminder: Items for Community Luncheons



If you donated items for the fall luncheons, please have your items for the spring luncheons to the church by **Wednesday, March 5, and April 2.** Pies need to be at the church on Friday, March 7, and April 4, by 9:00 a.m.



If you do not remember what you brought, please contact Marcia at 330-204-2252. Thanks again for all your support.

Sugar Cake Baking

Only two more months to order a delicious sugar cake this spring...Place your orders early in March for Easter! The April baking is before Easter.



**Price \$7.00 each
Tuesday**

March	18
April	15

You can place an order by calling **Susan Paden, 330-364-7101**, and to offer your help with mixing and baking, please contact **Lorrigan Booth at 330-340-4702 by calling or texting her.** Thanks! Free delivery is available with the purchase of four (4) or more cakes, if ordered prior to Tuesday's baking.

With the monies raised from the above projects, the **Moravian Women** are able to continue their mission of reaching out to others at home and around the world. We thank you for your continued support and look forward to another wonderful year of serving the Lord together in ministry.

Thank you's / this & that



Thank You Notes

A Note of Thanks!

Dear Christmas Carolers,

Thank you so much to the children and adults who came to my house and sang Christmas carols. It was really appreciated.

Carol Staley



Thanks to those who work behind the scenes:

Special Thanks to the Moravian Door Dash Girls who prepared and delivered the delicious **meals** to our more mature members on Feb. 10. Many hands helped to make this all happen. We are blessed by your kindness. Thank you so much.

Members and Friends of Dover First Moravian



Thanks to Our Recent Church Volunteers!

A BIG Thank You...



...to **Gary Martin** for getting the main telephone set up back in the office last week.

...to **Dan Yeager** for setting up the main computer back in the church office on Monday.

...to **Dave Trustdorf** for helping Karen move boxes and reams of paper back to the office and for helping Sam move some panel partitions last week.



Our Thanks to all the guys who helped move furniture, set-up the main computer, and telephone for the office renovation recently: **Don Richardson, Jud Compton, Dan Yeager, Terry Burrell, Steve Rondinella, and Dave Yoder.** Stop by and checkout the new carpet in the offices and be sure to look at the new floor tile in the basement.

Thank you, Todd and Bev Handrich for helping to strip and prep the floors.

And finally, a **BIG thank you to all those who helped** Sam put the basement back together so Buckeye Career Center can hold Adult Education classes once more. Also, **thank you** for helping to move the office furniture and all the boxes. Helpers included: **Bev Antonelli, Dan Yeager, Don Richardson, Terry Burrell, Gary Martin, Susan Paden, Dan & Marcia Harding, Scott & Karol Jones, Jud & Dawna Compton, Steve Rondinella, and Ryan & Dave Yoder.**

Many hands made light work. Thank you so much!

Sympathy



Our sympathy and prayers are extended...

...to **Joyce Rentsch and family** on the death of her mother, Donna Mills on Feb. 4. The Rev. Dennis G. Rohn officiated at Donna's funeral service in Toland-Herzig Funeral Home on Sunday, February 16, 2025. Private burial was in Ridgecrest Memory Gardens.

... to **Cindy and Jim Bowsher and family** on the death of Cindy's brother, Jim Stocker II, who passed away on Feb. 7, in Sarasota, Florida. There will be a celebration of Jim's life on a date and place to be announced by his family. More information is available on the Maloney Funeral Home website.

...to the **Charles "Chuck" Stoltz family**. Chuck passed away on Tuesday, February 4, 2025, in Bethlehem, PA. He was the son of the late Rev. Gordon and Virginia Stoltz (Rev. & Mrs. Stoltz served here at First Moravian Church from 1958-1966).

Chuck graduated from Dover High School and went on to become an educator. To read the full obituary go to: www.cantelmifuneralhome.com where a memory tribute may be placed.

Memorial contributions may be made in Chuck's name to College Hill Moravian Church (72 W. Laurel Street, Bethlehem, PA 18018).

...to **Jim and Carol Booth** on the death of Jim's sister, Kathy Matthus, on Jan. 18. Kathy's Celebration of Life service was held on January 24, with burial in East Avenue Cemetery in New Philadelphia, Ohio.

...to **Jodi Hillyer and family** on the death of her mother, **Ila Johnson Altier**, on January 12. Ila is the grandmother of **Michael Russell**, and the aunt of **Sharyn Dusenberry**. Services were held on Friday, January 17, in Sharon Moravian Church with Rev. Lloyd Gooden and Rev. Darrell Johnson, Ila's nephew, officiating. Burial was in the church cemetery.

New Addresses

Friendly Reminder: Please keep the church office informed of new addresses, telephone numbers, and e-mail addresses.



A reminder if you misplace your Sunday bulletin or bi-monthly newsletter, just go to the church website Doverfirstmoravianchurch.org There is a link on the Home page, just select what you would like to read.

God's Handy Little Chart

God Has A Positive Answer:

You Say:	God Says:	Bible Verses:
"It's impossible."	"All things are possible."	Luke 18:27
"I'm too tired."	"I will give you rest."	Matthew 11:28-30
"Nobody really loves me."	"I love you."	John 3:16
"I can't go on."	"My grace is sufficient."	2 Corinthians 12:9
"I can't figure things out."	"I will direct your steps."	Proverbs 3:5-6
"I can't do it."	"You can do all things."	Philippians 4:13
"I'm not able."	"I am able."	2 Corinthians 9:8
"It's not worth it."	"It will be worth it."	Romans 8:28
"I can't forgive myself."	"I forgive you."	1 John 1:9
"I can't manage."	"I will supply all your needs."	Philippians 4:19
"I'm afraid."	"I have not given you a spirit of fear."	2 Timothy 1:7
"I'm always worried and frustrated."	"Cast all your cares on ME."	1 Peter 5:7
"I'm not smart enough."	"I give you wisdom."	1 Corinthians 1:30
"I feel all alone."	"I will never leave you or forsake you."	Hebrews 13:5

Church Council Results

Elders (3-year terms): Three elected: Bethanie Moser, Leslie Seats, Cheryl Stephens

Trustees (3-year terms): Three elected: Jodi Hillyer, Rebecca Mastin, David Yoder

Christian Education Representative (Elected for a 3-year term): Erin Perkowski

Sperling-Zimmerman Memorial Home Representative (1-year term): Sam Paden



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## **Joint Board Meetings for 2025**

**Meetings are the first Tuesday of the month at 6:00 P.M., in the social hall unless noted differently:  
Tues., Mar. 4, Mon., June 2, Tues., Sept. 2, & Mon., Dec. 1**

**Here is a complete list of Joint Board Members (Elders & Trustees)**

**Elders** ~ Meetings are held the **first Tuesday** of the month in Room 215 at 6:00 p.m.,  
**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 **first Monday** 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 gage 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

Church Treasurer

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

Barbara Gennert, Treasurer 330.364.8831

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

Church Office: 330-364-8831
Web-Site: www.doverfirstmoravianchurch.org

Our Holy Week Schedule



Palm Sunday, April 13
9-9:45 a.m. Sunday School
10:00 a.m. Worship

Holy Week Readings
Monday - Wednesday, April 14—16

6:30 p.m.



Maundy Thursday, April 17
Holy Communion & HW Readings

6:30 p.m.

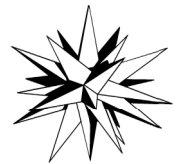


Good Friday, April 18 ~ Holy Week Readings
6:30 p.m.

Easter Dawn Service, April 20

7:00 a.m. at Schoenbrunn Village
9-9:45 a.m. Sunday School in Social Hall @ Dover First
10:00 a.m. Easter Worship at Dover First

He's Risen!



Change Service Requested

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