

# First Moravian Church

319 N. Walnut Street, Dover, Ohio 44622

August 23, 2026

10:00 A.M.

|                             |                                                                                        |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Licensed Pastor             | Marie Coutts (330-401-1212 cell)                                                       |
| Greeters                    | Greg & Janie Miller                                                                    |
| Nursery                     | Available if needed by a parent & child                                                |
| Usher                       | Brian Cronebach                                                                        |
| 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                    | <a href="http://www.doverfirstmoravianchurch.org">www.doverfirstmoravianchurch.org</a> |

## Call to Worship: Chimes

**Watchword for the Week: In Unison** *The Moravian Daily Texts*  
**Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God – what is good and acceptable and perfect.**  
Romans 12:2

**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* "Fuge in C Major" *Buxtehude*

\* **Hymn** "Joyful, Joyful, We Adore You" **H. 544**

\* **General Liturgy 7 – Celebration** **Page 43**

**Scripture Lesson: Luke 10:38-42** **Page 73**

**Hymn** *T: Covenant*

*Bethany, O peaceful habitation,  
bless-ed mansion, loved abode;  
there my Lord had oft his resting station,  
converse held in friendly mood:  
with that bliss which Mary highly savored,  
I could wish this day still to be favored;  
but his presence makes to me  
ev'ry place a Bethany.*

## Children's Moment

Marie Coutts

### Hymn

"Little Children, Welcome!"

H. 679, vs 1

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

*Little children, welcome! Earth is yours to live in;  
arms of love protect you, little children, welcome!*

## Prayers of the People

### Special Music

"How Beautiful"

Paris

*Courtney Wallace, Soprano*

## Presentation of Our Tithes and Offerings

\* **Offertory Response** – T: Hymn to Joy Text, Albert H. Frank, 1990

*Alleluia to the Father,  
alleluia to the Son,  
alleluia to the Spirit,  
ever-blessed Three in One.  
Giver of all good and perfect  
gifts from heaven's bounteous store;  
we return our gifts in homage,  
bless us now and evermore.*

## Offertory Prayer

### Message:

"The Welcome Mat"

### \* Hymn

"Friends, Welcome One Another"

See Insert

### \* Benediction

### Postlude

"May Jesus Christ Be Praised"

arr. Wyrzten

## Chimes

\* Please stand if you are able.

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**Please note:** Please silence your cell phone 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.



**Special Thanks to Marie Coutts** for leading our congregation the past eight months. Our prayers and best wishes to you as you begin another chapter on your journey. We will miss you.  
Members and Friends of Dover First

### Flowers

The flowers are in memory of Velma and John McGonigal, given by Linda Earley.

**Flowers** are needed for **Sept. 20**. If you desire to provide flowers for this Sunday, 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.

### Attendance from Last Sunday ~ 118

### Prayers for the People

**Amberwood:** Laura Colvin; **Country Club:** John & Cinda Pixler; **Hennis** (Dover): Bonnie Auman; **Northwood:** Etta Grimm; **Park Village** (Dover): Joyce Brewer, Bill Cozart, Suzanne Rinderknecht; (New Phila.): Richard & Zoe Ann Kelley.

### Birthday and Anniversary Daily Prayer Support

Aug. 23 Cloey Colwell, Scott Booth  
Aug. 24 Quinn Bergstaller; Anniv: Scott & Lorrigan Booth  
Aug. 26 Heather Fether  
Aug. 29 Anniv: Scott & Cyndi Walter  
Aug. 30 Lindsay Begue, Scott Jones, Lori Smith, Bev Handrich



### Volunteer to Visit Dave Trustdorf

If you would like to visit Dave Trustdorf, there is a sign-up sheet in the lobby.

Altercare Country Lawn, Room 303  
10608 Navarre Road  
Navarre, OH 44662

## *The Dover Moravian Messenger*

Today 10:00 AM Worship ñ Sanctuary

Monday 4:30 PM Counting ñ Living Room

**Buckeye Adult Classes: T & Th – GED 9-Noon; ESOL 6-9 PM – Basement**

Tuesday 7:00 PM OMMC Meeting @ Sch. Mor. Church

Thursday Mission Day Preparation @ Dover First

Friday-Saturday Mission Work Days @ Dover First ñ Inside Building & Outside Building

Sunday 10:00 AM Installation Service of The Rev. Jay Petrella ñ Sanctuary

### Our Worship Opportunities



*Worship Each Sunday at*

*10:00 A.M.*

*August 23 ~ Message: “The Welcome Mat” by Marie Coutts*

*August 30 ~ Installation Service of The Rev. Jay Petrella*

**Bring your family and friends!**

## *A Thank You Note from Marie Coutts*

**My dear friends,**

Today is my last day at Dover First. I'm not sure how many people have been blessed with the opportunity to return to a position where they had once served – and one that had given them such an amazing amount of joy – but God gifted me with that opportunity. When I started in January as Dover's appointed interim pastor, it was truly a "coming home" experience. And even though my sweet little "Wednesday's Word" children from long ago are now grown with children of their own (!), this experience has been a journey of connecting with old memories and making new ones. What a blessed opportunity this has been!

I will miss serving here more than you can possibly imagine – these months have been among some of my greatest joys in life. Please know that I will continue to hold all of you, and the ministries of this congregation, in daily prayer.

Being one who never throws anything away, I found the good-bye letter I wrote to this congregation in 1999. The end of that letter is as true today as it was then, and so I close with the words of that letter from long ago:

***I delight in the knowledge that my "moving on" will in no way end the special relationship I have with all of you. Whenever I think of you, dear friends, it will always be with warm feelings and much love – and no doubt a few tears as I come to the realization that a once in a lifetime experience has come to an end.***

***At the end of the movie "The Wizard of Oz", Dorothy kisses the Tin Man goodbye and says, "I think I'll miss you most of all." – To each of you, my sentiments exactly.***

And to that I say: Ditto!

Much love and thanks,

*Marie*

## **Our Mission and Outreach Opportunities**

### **Community Soup & Sandwich Luncheon**



**Friday, September 4 ~ 11:00 – 1:00 p.m.**

### **First Moravian Church Social Hall**

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 are willing to donate for this luncheon, sign-up sheets are in the lobby, along with reminder sheets to take with you.**

**Additional information will be in the September/October Newsletter and in future Sunday bulletins.**

### **"Called to Care" – Ministry of Visitation**



Some of you may remember the Visitation Team led by Jean Beller, and later by Milly Sudduth. That caring ministry has been reorganized, and a new visitation team will soon begin reaching out to those in nursing homes as well as home-bound members.

The **"Called to Care"** visitation team is not intended to serve in place of the pastor, but to supplement pastoral visits and maintain on-going contact with our members who are unable to attend worship or church events.

Current members of the **"Called to Care"** team are Linda Bayer, Dawna Compton, Brenda Gordon, Karol Jones, and Edie Santee. **If you would like to join the visitation team, please contact the church office.**

**“Following His Lead:  
A Moravian Mission of Faith, Love and Service”**



**On Friday & Saturday, August 28 & 29 ,2026, starting at 9:00 a.m.,** come join others in a two-day mission work here at First Moravian Church. We will do some **work outside and inside.** See below for some of the projects that needs your labor of love! There will be sign-up sheets in the lobby for each project (see details on sign-up sheets). **Any questions call Sam Paden 330-987-1769.**

- Sort thru Christmas Decorating boxes & totes
- Service Ice Machine in Kitchen
- Electrical (Basic work): sanctuary (outlets), restrooms on 1<sup>st</sup> floor (motion sensor light switches), rewire new star to hang,
- Install new star in sanctuary: replace old chain, wiring and star. Need to be able to climb ladder up the bell tower.
- Install floor door stops at 5 doors
- Replace two door stops
- Paint walls in basement
- Outside: Lamp post light fixture needs replaced, repaint yellow posts; flower beds need general weeding, etc.; pressure wash sidewalks and front steps, back entrance to sanctuary and kitchen.

There will be other projects to sign up for, see table in lobby.

You do not have to go abroad to serve. You can serve right here in T-County!

**SIGN UP NOW!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!**



August 18, 2026

Dear Church Family,

*Apostle Paul wrote in Galatians 6:2, Carry each other's burden, and in doing so you fulfill the law of Christ. Apostle Paul did not want anyone walking alone with their struggles. When we help a child, we are helping one of God's own.*

This is exactly what your **Sole Purpose Mission Team** is doing. Showing love and support to those in our community who are less fortunate and in need.

**Thank you so much for attending our Sole Purpose Pasta Dinner** after church this past Sunday, **and for your generous donations.** Your kindness and support mean so much to the Sole Purpose Mission Team.

Because of your generosity, Sole Purpose can help put new shoes on the feet of children throughout our county schools. Every donation received makes a difference in a child's life and shows that their community cares.

We are so grateful for your continued support of Sole Purpose. **Thank you!**

With heartfelt thanks,

Janie Miller & Stacy Stubbins

Your Sole Purpose Mission Team  
Janie Miller & Stacy Stubbins, Co-Advisers

## **Our Christian Education Opportunities**

### **Elijah Bible Study**

You're invited to a one-session Bible study on the prophet Elijah. He performed miracles, confronted King Ahab and Queen Jezebel and challenged 450 prophets of Baal.

If you're coming to our evening at Dutch Valley/Ohio Star Theater this will be a great preview of some parts of the musical. If you're not, it will still be a great refresher on this major Old Testament prophet.

**Thursday, September 10, from 6-7:30 p.m.**  
*in the Social Hall. Ice cream will be served!*



### **Dutch Valley Dinner and a Show**

Come with us to dinner and a show!

**Thursday, September 17** ~ Dinner: 5 p.m. ~ Show: 7 p.m.

Sign up in the lobby. Cost for **family-style** meal and show is \$68.00 (*or \$47.00 for show only*).

**Payment is due by August 23.** Mark for **"Dutch Valley"** and place in the offering plate or drop off in the church office.  
(Checks can be made out to First Moravian Church)



### **Breakfast Book Club is Back!**

Our faith-based book club returns this fall. We will meet one Saturday morning each month at **Missions Café at 8:00 a.m.** Check out our first fall selection:  
**September 19: The First Phone Call from Heaven (Mitch Albom)**

*This novel is set in Coldwater, Michigan, where several townspeople suddenly receive phone calls from individuals who have died. These calls claim to come from heaven, prompting media attention, pilgrimages, and widespread debate about whether the phenomenon is a miracle or a hoax.*