

Welcome to First Moravian Church of Dover

November 29, 2026
1st Sunday of Advent

Advent Lovefeast

Call to Worship: *Chimes*

**** Hymn*** ***"People in Darkness"*** ***H. 266, vs. 2***

Lighting of the Advent Wreath and Star

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 *"Lo, How a Rose Is Growing"* *Kloppers*

*** Liturgy for Advent** **Page 49**
"Hosanna" **H. 239**

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

Hymn ***"O Come, Little Children"***

O come, little children, O come, one and all
O hear of the Savior, His love never ends
come listen and learn, tell others of him.
He's born bringing Christ, rejoice in your heart.

Prayers of the People

Scripture Readings: Isaiah 64:1-9 **Pg. 770**
1 Corinthians 1:3-9 **Pg. 173**
Mark 13:24-37 **Pg. 51**

Message: **"Keep Awake"**

Presentation of Our Tithes and Offerings

*** Offertory Response –** ***H. 190, v 2***

As they offered gifts most rare at that manger rude and bare;
so may we with holy joy, pure and free from sin's alloy,
all our costliest treasures bring, Christ, to you our heav'nly King.

*** Offertory Prayer**

The Lovefeast

Hymn ***"O Come, O Come, Immanuel"***
H. 274, vs. 1 & 3

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 bright and morning star, and bring us comfort from afar!
Dispel the shadows of the night,
and turn our darkness into light. (Refrain)

Hymn ***"Once He Came in Blessing"***
H. 273, vs. 1 & 2

Once he came in blessing all our sins redressing,
Came in likeness lowly, Son of God most holy;
Bore the cross to save us, hope and freedom gave us.

Still he comes within us, still his voice would win us
From the sins that hurt us; would to truth convert us
From our foolish error, ere he comes in terror.

Hymn ***"Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers"***
H. 256, vs. 1 & 2

Rejoice, rejoice, believers, and let your lights appear;
the evening is advancing, and darker night is near.
The bridegroom is arising and soon is drawing nigh.
Up, pray and watch and wrestle; at midnight comes the cry.

The watchers on the mountain proclaim the bridegroom near;
go forth as he approaches with alleluias clear.
The marriage feast is waiting; the gates wide open stand.
Arise, O heirs of glory; the bridegroom is at hand.

Blessing the Lovefeast:

Hymn "Immanuel, to You We Sing" ***H. 280, vs. 3***

All glory, worship, thanks and praise,
that you have come in these our days!
O heav'nly guest, expected long,
we hail you with a joyful song.

Anthems ***"Veiled in Darkness"*** ***Pfohl***

Chancel Choir

"How Shall I Meet My Savior"

Courtney Wallace, Soprano

Collecting the Cups

**** Hymn "How Shall I Meet You, Jesus?" H. 268***

How shall I meet you, Jesus? How shall I welcome you?
What all the world is seeking, great treasure of the soul!
O, set your light beside me, my spirit now renew,
so that I may discover what greatly pleases you.

Great love alone compelled you to leave eternal light,
to come and dwell among us and share our common plight.
The whole world's grief and suff'ring and earth's unspoken pain,
your perfect love embraces till only love remains.

No longer need we sorrow nor worry night and day
how we might draw him to us within our heart's embrace.
He of his own will find us and full of love and grace
take up each anxious burden and bless each soul with peace.

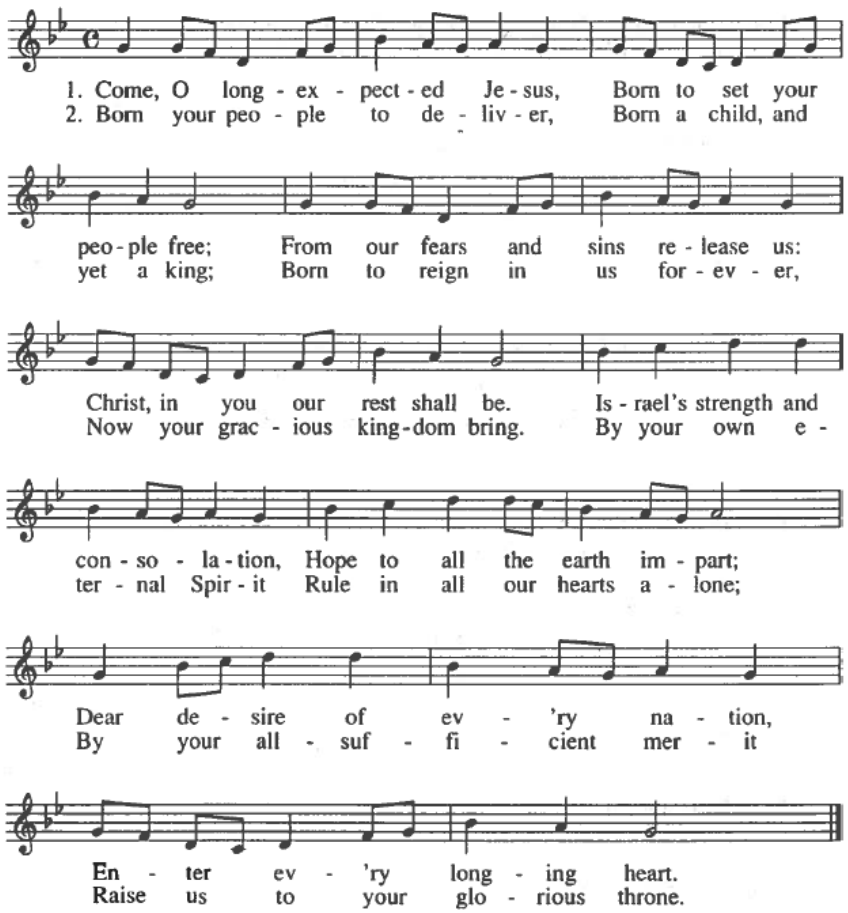
*** Benediction**

A Time of Advent Reflection

"Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus" ***Krentz***

Julia Kandel, Pamela Schmitzer, Flutes

Hymn "Come, O Long-Expected Jesus"



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Chimes

** Please stand if you are able.*

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.

First Moravian Church of Dover
319 N. Walnut St., Dover, OH 44622
330-364-8831 doverfirstmoravianchurch.org

Pastor: Rev. Jay Petrella
Dir. of Music: G. Randall Gibbs
Dir. of Faith Formation: Carolyn Menapace
Office Admin: Karen Baker
Custodian: Sam Paden

Assisting in Worship Today

Greeters	Becky & Larry Kutcher
Usher	Jud Compton
Dieners	Scott and Karol Jones, Jud and Dawna Compton, Brian and Melanie Cronebach, Michael Russell, Jean Richardson, John and Stacy Stubbins, Justin and Erin Perkowski, Sam and Susan Paden
Social Hour	Becky Mastin
Nursery	Available if needed by a parent & child

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.

Flowers

The flowers are in memory of Leslie and Dorothy Long, given by Sandy and Gary Martin.

One Call Now ~ 330-364-8831

Scott and Lorrigan Booth are sponsoring our One Call Now this week.

One Call Now Sponsors are needed for the following weeks: **May 2, 9, 16 & 30 and June 6, 20 & 27.** If you desire to sponsor one week or more, please call Karen Baker in the church office, 330-364-8831. **Cost: $20 per week.**

2027 Daily Text – We have **1 Paperback Daily Text** available in the church office. Cost: $15.00

Attendance from Last Sunday

Sunday School 25 Worship ~ 10 AM 104

Prayers for the People

CC: John & Cinda Pixler; **Hennis** (Dover): Bonnie Auman; **Park Village** (Dover): Joyce Brewer, Bill Cozart, Suzanne Rinderknecht; (New Phila.): Richard & Zoe Ann Kelley.

Birthday and Anniversary Daily Prayer Support

Nov. 29 Cade Miller
Nov. 30 Julia Geissinger
Dec. 2 Cain Craddoc
Dec. 3 Libby Paden; Anniv: Tony & Kelli Argento
Dec. 4 George Wilson, II
Dec. 5 Blake Hoop
Dec. 6 Erin Perkowski

The Dover Moravian Messenger

Sunday		Counting after Worship ï Living Room or Church Office
	6:00 PM	Advent Communion @ Sharon Mor. Church
Monday	2-3:00 PM	Advent Study ï Social Hall
	6:00 PM	Mor. Women Ex. Bd. Mtg. ï Living Room
	6:30 PM	Reeves Bells Rehearsal ï Sanctuary
Tuesday	**9:00 AM**	**Deadline: Jan/Feb Newsletter articles due in church office**
	9:00 AM	Zoom Bible Study
	Buckeye Adult Classes: T & Th – ESOL 6-9 PM – Basement	
	6:00 PM	Elders Meeting ï Social Hall
	7:00 PM	Chancel Choir @ St. Joseph Catholic Ch.
Wednesday	10:00 AM	Praying In Color @ Shirley Thompsonôs
	7:30 PM	Virtual MCNP Racial Justice Team Advent series
Thursday	8-8:00 PM	Luncheon Prep. ï Kit/S.H./Lobby & L. Rm.
Friday	11-1:00 PM	Community Luncheon ï Kit/S.H./Lobby & L. Rm.
Saturday	8:30 AM	Reeves Bells Rehearsal ï Sanctuary
		Sugar Cake Baking for Sch. Village ï Kit./S. Hall
Sunday	9:00 AM	Sunday School ï C.S. Rooms
	10:00 AM	Worship ï Sanctuary
		Counting after Worship ï Living Room or Church Office
	1:00 PM	Prayer Shawl Ministry ï Living Room
	2:00 PM	Christmas Lovefeast at Schoenbrunn Village
	2-6:00 PM	(4-6:00) Birthday Party ï Kit. & S. Hall

Lessons & Carols @ St. Joseph Catholic Church – Dover
5:15 PM ***Advent Vespers – Please be in your seat.***
5:30 PM *Bell Prelude*
6:00 PM *Carol Service*

Our Worship Opportunities



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

First Sunday of Advent

Advent Begins

Nov. 29 ~ Worship & Advent Lovefeast ~ 10 A.M.



6:00 p.m. Advent Communion service @ Sharon Moravian Church. This is our gathering of six Moravian Churches in the Valley coming together for worship and communion. What a real blessing. Don't miss this opportunity. Let's have a great turnout for this event as we praise the Lord and enhance your Advent walk, you will be enriched in the spirit.

Dec. 6 ~ Worship – Second Sunday of Advent ~ 10 A.M.

2:00 p.m. Christmas Lovefeast and Candlelight service at Historic Schoenbrunn Village ~
Dress warmly for this simple gathering of family and friends in worship. The service includes many Moravian traditions for the Advent / Christmas season and lots of carols to sing.

Advent Lessons & Carols @ St. Joseph's Catholic Ch.

5:00 PM ~ Doors Open
5:30 PM ~ Bell Prelude
6:00 PM ~ Carol Service

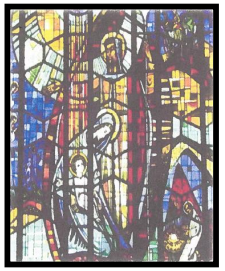
2027 CONTRIBUTION ENVELOPES

WILL BE AVAILABLE to pick up Dec. 6.

If your name is on a check or on a plain envelope, you are given credit for your giving. If you would like to give electronically, or update your electronic giving through our service with Vanco, or using your bank, which can save time and expenses that we incur, a form is available in the church office. If you are not receiving giving envelopes and would like them for 2027, please let Julie Williams know. Also, if you currently have envelopes and do not need them, please let Julie know. If you have any questions, (regarding electronic giving, envelopes or statements) please call or text Julie Williams at 330-933-9707 or email at juliewill1411@gmail.com

All giving must be received by 9 AM on Wed., Dec. 30,
to be counted toward your 2026 contributions.

Our Music Opportunities



Advent Vespers

A Service of Lessons and Carols
St. Joseph's Catholic Church

The annual **Advent Vespers** will be presented at **St. Joseph's Catholic Church of Dover, Ohio,** on **Sunday, December 6.** A **prelude of music** at **5:30 p.m.** will be performed by the **Reeves Bell Choir and a brass choir**. The service, beginning at **6 p.m.,** will include local church choirs, school choirs from St. Joseph's School, Legacy Christian School and other local musicians. Please accept this invitation to join us for a beautiful evening of **Lessons and Carols.**

Our Mission and Outreach Opportunities

Community Soup & Sandwich Luncheon














Dine-in or Carry-out available



Delivery is available to businesses with a minimum order of $25.



Friday, December 4, from 11:00-1:00 p.m.

in the **Social Hall**

The luncheons have become a very special form of outreach from our congregation to folks throughout the county. Every person who walks through our doors and smells broccoli cheese soup cooking in the kitchen or unwraps a warm creamed chicken sandwich and enjoys a piece of homemade peanut butter pie is touched by your generosity and the Christian love that went in to preparing that food.

Proceeds from our luncheon will help the Moravian Women contribute to missionary efforts at home and around the world. We appreciate all your support in making our luncheon a success. If you can help work, please contact **Marcia Harding** or **Julie Williams.** Plan to attend and bring your friends! We hope to see you on Friday the 4th.

Trimming of Candles

At our Christmas Eve service, each worshipper will receive a lighted beeswax candle with a red frill. Volunteers are needed to place the frills on the candles. If you have never helped, plan to come and learn how to trim the candles on **Monday evening, December 7, at 6:00 p.m.** in the social hall. **Mark your calendars, everyone is invited to help,** come, and bring a friend!



Moravian Women Christmas Party



All Moravian Women are invited to the **Christmas Party** on **Thursday, Dec. 10, at 6:00 p.m.** in the **Social Hall**. We look forward to an enjoyable lovely evening of food, fellowship, and festivity in celebration of our Lord Jesus' birth. **Sign-up sheets** are in the lobby, so **please let us know if you will attend by Noon on Monday, Dec. 7.**

Annual Christmas Cookie Walk

Saturday, December 12 ~ 9-11 a.m. or until sold out

Pre-made boxes of assorted cookies available while supplies last.

You will fill your own boxes for $10 per pound, boxes provided.



Barrs Mill Church of God

4677 St. Rt. 93 NW

Sugarcreek OH





Sugar Cake Baking

Tuesday & Thursday, December 15 & 17

Price $7.00 each

Free delivery is available with the purchase of four (4) or more cakes, if ordered prior to Tuesday's baking.

Place an order by calling Susan Paden, 330-364-7101.



24-Hour Unity Prayer Watch
Monday, December 21



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 **Monday, December 21,** 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: **4-5 AM; 8-11 AM; 8-9 PM; 10-11 PM; and Midnight-1 AM.** 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 are on the clipboard in the lobby or you can call the church office to sign up.** Pick a time and spend some quality time away from all distractions and pray.

Information sheets are available near the sign-up sheets.

Christmas Gift-Giving Ideas





Advent begins Today, November 29...
Christmas is just around the corner...

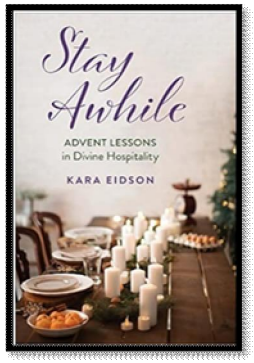
Get your shopping done early by purchasing Moravian Advent & Christmas Stars...

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.

Our Christian Education Opportunities

Stay Awhile Study



This Advent . . . "Stay Awhile". You are invited to afternoon Advent devotions and discussion.

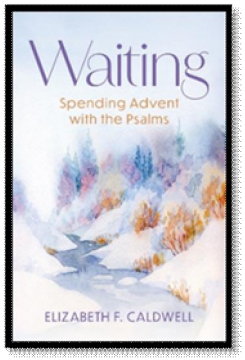
We will gather in the social hall over a cup of tea and focus on a different aspect of divine hospitality each week: invite, plan, prepare, welcome.

Let's find out how these themes can help us prepare to welcome Jesus at Christmas.

November 30, December 7, 14, and 21

2:00-3:00 p.m.

Advent Zoom Bible Study



Join us for a special Advent series: "Waiting: Spending Advent with the Psalms," **December 1, 8, 15 and 22**. Each **Tuesday morning** of Advent from **9-10:00 a.m.**

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.

Advent Study with the

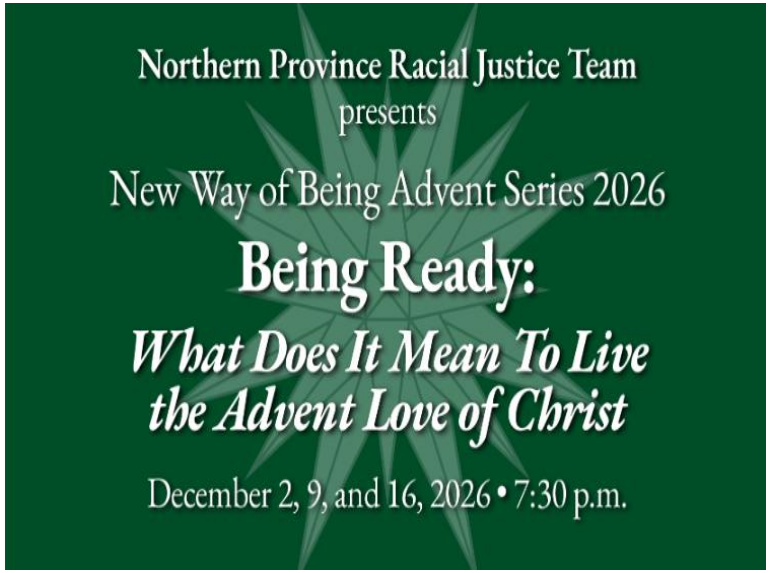
Northern Province Racial Justice Team

The MCNP Racial Justice Team's *New Way of Being* Advent Series returns. Gather virtually and experience this year's theme of "Being Ready: What Does it Mean to Live the Advent Love of Christ."

Zoom link will be available at www.moravian.org

December 2, 9 and 16

7:30-8:30 p.m.





Sparkle Box Sunday School

Create your own "Sparkle Box!" Each household is encouraged to take supplies home and make a Sparkle Box just like in the story shared on Youth Sunday. Throughout Advent, write down the special gifts you're giving in honor of Jesus' birthday and place them in the box.

Then on **Sunday, December 27,** bring your Sparkle Box to Sunday School. All ages will gather as one class to share what our gifts were and talk about what really made our Christmas season sparkle!

A Note of Thanks!



My Church Family,

I was so honored and blessed by your many kindnesses as I recently celebrated my 90th birthday. It felt like I was renewing our friendship as I read your thoughtful cards and messages. I was also honored by your visits, food and phone calls. It was an extra special day because my nephews brought my identical twin sister, Sally, from Michigan, so we were able to celebrate together which hadn't happened in years. While I am unable to attend church in person, I so appreciate you who make it possible for me to worship right with you online. I still feel part of Dover First and bless your thoughtfulness.

With my gratitude,

Sue Canfield