



# Moravian Minutes

First Moravian Church, 304 S. Elam Ave., Greensboro, NC 27403

July 13, 2025

[www.greensboromoravian.org](http://www.greensboromoravian.org)

*United in Christ, Reaching Out with Love, Changing Lives*

## 2025 WATCHWORD

The Lord watches over the strangers; he upholds the orphan and the widow. Psalm 146:9

## THIS SUNDAY, WE CELEBRATE MORAVIAN MUSIC SUNDAY!

On Sunday, our service will feature special music, including Aurora Cohoon on cello playing "Sing Hallelujah, Praise the Lord," accompanied by Ann Curtis on organ. The choir will offer anthems by Johann Christian Bechler and Johann Christian Geisler, and trumpeter Jay Lineberry will join us for beloved congregational hymns such as "Jesus Makes My Heart Rejoice" and "Grace and Peace from God" (text by Christian Gregor and Nicholas von Zinzendorf, sung to a tune from Gregor's 1784 *Choralbuch*).

Please join us, as we give thanks, not only for the gift of music and the way it enriches our lives, but also for the work of the Moravian Music Foundation and especially for our own music program, led by Dr. Jane McKinney. If you wish to honor and financially support First Moravian's music program, please consider making a donation to the music fund.

As the Music Foundation says, "Moravian Music Sunday offers the opportunity to celebrate the joy of music and its importance in the lives of so many Moravians over the centuries. We are reminded today of the importance of our musical heritage and the beauty and comfort it has provided us for generations....[A]s Moravians, this music is your inheritance."

*Pastor Barbara*

## Salem Walk Film Screening

August 11 at 5:00pm at Aardmore Moravian Church, 2013 W. Academy St. Winston Salem. Discussion follows.

## EXCITING THINGS ARE COMING! SAVE THE DATES!

Mark your calendars now and plan to join us for some wonderful upcoming events you won't want to miss!

### Congregational Picnic

Sunday, September 28,  
10:00am-2:00pm  
High Point City Lake Park  
Shelter #8 (Yellow Pine)

### Congregational Retreat

Friday, October 24 to  
Sunday, October 26  
at Laurel Ridge Camp &  
Conference Center

### Candle Tea

Friday, December 5th  
(2:00-8:00pm) and  
Saturday, December 6th  
(10:00am-1:00pm)

## REMEMBER TO KEEP TRASH OUT OF THE RECYCLING CANS

We received a notice from the city that they found non-recyclable materials in our recycling can for the second time. Failure to comply with the city's recycling guidelines may result in removal of our recycling carts by the city. Thank you for your cooperation!

### SUNDAY, JULY 13

**Watchword for the Week:** Make me to know your ways, O Lord; teach me your paths. Psalm 25:4

**Liturgist:** Donna Royster

**Liturgy:** Liturgy for Moravian Music Sunday (insert)

**Scripture:** Luke 10: 25-37

**July Joyful Noise:** Armando Rusindo Mission Foundation

**July 13 Usher Shirt Color:** Blue

**July 20 Usher Shirt Color:** Yellow

*See page 2 for more upcoming shirt colors.*

### HAPPENING THIS WEEK

**Sun, July 13** Sunday School (9:45am)  
Worship (11:00am, Sanctuary)  
Church Board Meeting (4:00pm, Conf. Rm.)  
**Wed, July 9** Craft Group (2:00pm, Craft Rm.)  
Praise Band (6:00pm, OFH)

**Zoom Meeting ID:** 205 454 336

**Zoom Link:** <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/205454336FMC>

### JOYFUL NOISE: ARMANDO RUSINDO MISSION FOUNDATION

**Joyful Noise offering:** So far, our congregation has donated \$142.01 for the Armando Rusindo Mission Foundation, an organization that works closely with Moravian brothers and sisters in Cuba to identify critical needs and to raise money to improve everyday lives and spread the word of God. The ARMF has helped install water purification systems; supported the building of fruit, vegetable and animal farms; supplied Christian education materials, hospital supplies, bicycles for pastors and sewing machines for women's projects; and provided disaster relief following hurricanes. Please consider a donation to help the Mission Committee raise at least \$500 to support this work among the Moravians in Cuba. Place your donations in the collection cans in the narthex each Sunday through the end of July or mail a donation to the church office.

**Fill the box:** This month's emphasis is canned corn (low- or no-salt). Place your donations in the One Step Further wooden food collection box in the narthex on Sunday.

### SUMMER USHER SHIRT COLORS

**July 20** Yellow

**July 27** Pink

**August 3** Hawaiian or Tropical

**August 10** White

*Watch this space for updates!*

### MORAVIAN ARCHIVES: PETER OLIVER EVENTS WEEK SUCCESS!

From June 12th to 21st, events celebrating the 225th anniversary of Peter Oliver's Freedom being legally won were held in Winston-Salem, with many institutions participating. Creative Corridors Coalition held a press conference to kick off the events, with Mayor Joines declaring June 13th Peter Oliver Freedom Day, reading the proclamation at the future Peter Oliver Pavilion and Gallery site. Events throughout the two weeks showcased the history of enslavement in Salem, the Moravian connection past and present, and the incredible legacy of Peter Oliver.

Watch the "Local Vibe" WXII Special here: <https://tinyurl.com/2fyzn8v6>

### INTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITY WITH THE MORAVIAN ARCHIVES

The Moravian Archives continues to grow their Internship program, partnering with East Carolina University's Library Science Program's new concentration in Archives as well as their existing partnerships with other local colleges and universities. Internships can be for course credits or for experience. This fall they are looking to place 3-4 interns. If you know someone who would be interested, or are interested yourself, email Sabrina Garity at [sgarity@mcspp.org](mailto:sgarity@mcspp.org)!

#### What do Interns do?

- Digitizing and Metadata
- Accessioning
- Preservation and Conservation Work
- Event Planning and Public Engagement
- Cataloging Books, AV, and Rare Materials
- Historical Research and Information Sharing
- Technical Work and Database Development



### CANDLE TEA 2025: PLANNING TEAMS

Candle Tea will be here before you know it and this year, the Women's Fellowship is experimenting with a new strategy for organizing this beloved, yet enormous event: planning teams. In order to share and distribute the colossal responsibilities of the traditional Candle Tea Chair, a number of volunteers have agreed to serve on six different planning teams: Area Chair Coordinators, Vendor Coordinators, Area Chair/Planning Luncheon Organizers, Set-Up/Take-Down Team, Publicity/Printing Team, and Problem-Solver/Event Floater Team.

As these teams get underway with their respective tasks, watch this space for areas where more help is needed and decide how you will be involved in this much-anticipated community event!

### LAUREL RIDGE FALL FAMILY CAMP

**SEPTEMBER 5-7, 2025**

For Families of All Ages!

Adults \$65.00 ♦ Children (3+): \$40.00 ♦ Children under 3: FREE!

Register now at [www.laurelridge.org](http://www.laurelridge.org)

Volunteers are always welcome at Laurel Ridge! Visit <https://laurelridge.org/opportunities/> to learn more.

### ***THE SEVEN AGREEMENTS SERIES HAS BEEN COMPILED INTO A BOOKLET***

This past spring, a series of articles by Vince Holbrook entitled *The Seven Agreements* ran in the newsletter. These articles explored how the Southern Province has structured the decision-making process around seven important issues (listed below)—each of which has been controversial at one time or another.

In addition to the seven issues, the series included an introduction and a piece explaining the Church Board's intention to survey the congregation. The survey will seek input on the use of our church facilities and the preferred personal characteristics of future pastors. The Church Board felt it was important to share information with the congregation about the issues, especially the two issues where the Board still has leeway in making their decisions, before asking the congregation for their opinion on these matters.

The articles have now been compiled into a booklet and were emailed to the congregation on June 20. Printed copies of the booklet will also be available in the narthex. If you did not receive the booklet by email and would like one, please contact the church office.

The seven issues are:

- Agreement 1: Who chooses a congregation's pastor?
- Agreement 2: Who qualifies pastors?
- Agreement 3: Who may be married by a Moravian pastor?
- Agreement 4: Who decides how a church uses its facilities?
- Agreement 5: Who is responsible for employing church staff?
- Agreement 6: Who may become a member of our congregation?
- Agreement 7: Who may take communion?

### **THE DEADLINE TO RESPOND TO THE CONGREGATIONAL SURVEY IS MONDAY, JULY 14!**

YOU CAN FIND THE LINK TO THE ONLINE SURVEY IN EMAILS FROM THE OFFICE SENT ON JUNE 26 AND JULY 2.

IF YOU NEED A PAPER COPY OF THE SURVEY, PLEASE CONTACT THE OFFICE.

### **CHECK YOUR EMAIL FOR A LINK TO THE CONGREGATIONAL SURVEY THE DEADLINE TO SUBMIT YOUR SURVEY IS JULY 14.**

The current Board of First Moravian Church, Greensboro, would like to hear the thoughts and insights of all communicant members age 18 and older regarding two matters that remain at the discretion of our congregation, particularly as they relate to sexual identity and orientation:

- Use of church grounds and facilities for events such as weddings
- Criteria for pastoral calls

While individual members have shared their opinions informally, we are not aware of any previous proactive effort to gather input from all communicant members. We would greatly appreciate your voluntary and completely anonymous responses to help guide our discernment.

We have created a brief, eight-question survey that should take about three minutes to complete, and which was sent out via email to all eligible congregants. The most efficient way to participate is by completing the survey online; however, if you would prefer a paper copy, please reach out to the church office.

**Non-communicant members and communicant members under the age of 18 are not eligible to take the survey. However, they are welcome to share their thoughts by submitting a letter to the Church Board—anonymously if they wish.**

To be clear:

- We are not expecting to initiate a pastoral call process, nor do we have any current request to use our facilities that requires policy reconsideration.
- This is not a vote or a ballot. The Board, guided by the Holy Spirit, is entrusted with making or revising policy as needed, and is not required to conduct a survey or hold a congregational vote.
- That said, the Board believes that your input—prayerfully offered and collected in a respectful, anonymous, and objective way—can play an important role in the Board's informed discernment.

We hope you will take this opportunity to share your thoughts and help shape the future direction of our ministry. If you have any questions, please contact the church office. Thank you for your participation.

### Pray Every Day July 2025

1. Be very strong; be careful to obey all that is written in the Book of the Law. Pray for Charlie and Vicki Brent in Texas.
2. Where you go I will go, and where you stay I will stay. Your people will be my people and your God my God. Pray for Moravians in Peru.
3. Turn, O Lord, and deliver me; save me because of your unfailing love. Pray for Moravians in Honduras and Nicaragua.
4. May the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart, be pleasing in your sight. Pray for Joey Yokeley with Fellowship of Christian Athletes.
5. Now I commit you to God and to the word of his grace, which can build you up and give you an inheritance among all those who are sanctified. Pray for the work of the Unity Women's Desk.
6. This service that you perform is not only supplying the needs of God's people but is also overflowing in many expressions of thanks to God. Pray for the Harrisons with Greek InterVarsity.
7. You are my hiding place; you will protect me from trouble. Pray for the Board of World Mission.
8. Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Pray for Kevin and Charity in the Middle East.
9. But as for me and my household we will serve the Lord. Pray for the Hoffmans in HIV/AIDS Ministry.
10. Do not repay evil for evil. Be careful to do what is right in the eyes of everybody. Pray for Moravian pastors, bishops and other church leaders.
11. We wait in hope for the Lord; he is our help and our shield. Pray for Adopt A Village in Tanzania.
12. May your unfailing love rest upon us, O Lord, even as we put our hope in you. Pray for disaster relief volunteers.
13. Be still before the Lord and wait patiently for him. Pray for Phil and Eunice Raiford in Mexico.
14. I desire to do your will, O my God; your law is within my heart. Pray for the Clinica Evangelica Morava in Ahaus.
15. As the deer pants for streams of water, so my soul pants for you, O God. Pray for the Rajpur Foster Child Project.
16. Rise up and help us; redeem us because of your unfailing love. Pray for Moravians in Labrador.
17. Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me. Pray for seminarians and candidates for ordination.
18. To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul; in you I trust, O my God. Pray for Pradhans in Nepal.
19. Therefore since we have been justified through faith we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. Pray for short term mission teams.
20. If God is for us, who can be against us? Pray for refugees and displaced people.
21. Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved. Pray for summer and mission camps and campers.
22. Love must be sincere. Hate what is evil; cling to what is good. Pray for Brian and Heather Marx with Mission Aviation Fellowship.
23. Do not be afraid or discouraged, for the Lord God, my God, is with you. Pray for Annie B Missions and Star Mountain.
24. For we are God's fellow workers; you are God's field, God's building. Pray for Alan and DeeDee Iobst in France.
25. You are not your own; you were bought at a price. Pray for Michael and Naomi Woo with OMF International.
26. Do not be terrified; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go. Pray for Moravians in Brazil and Bolivia.
27. He is good; his love endures forever. Pray for the Teshes in Kenya and Ray of Hope.
28. And now these three remain: faith, hope, and love. But the greatest of these is love. Pray for Anna Faircloth with YoungLife.
29. Be on your guard; stand firm in the faith; be men of courage; be strong. Do everything in love. Pray for Moravians in Cuba and the Armando Rusindo Foundation.
30. Therefore if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come! Pray for Safiatu Braima and Sierra Leone.
31. My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness. Pray for Michael and Brenda in Croatia.

## MORAVIAN DISASTER RESPONSE: FLOODING IN NICARAGUA

Thank you for your past support of Moravian Disaster Response (MDR). Your generous contributions to this program have allowed us to respond quickly to a disasters around the globe.

This weekend, we received reports of severe flooding in eastern Nicaragua, including several villages with a Moravian presence. Initial reports noted lives lost, crops destroyed, and homes and other buildings lost or damaged.

Funds contributed in response to this disaster will help with immediate needs like food to replace crops lost, as well as longer-term recovery to rebuild and repair buildings. As more information is received, MDR will share updates on Their website at [MoravianMission.org/MDR/](http://MoravianMission.org/MDR/).

100% of the donations received for our MDR Fund go to providing relief for these disasters. You can assist MDR with our disaster response efforts by giving online at [MoravianMission.org/Give](http://MoravianMission.org/Give). Please designate your gift to "MDR" to ensure that funds can be directed to the disaster relief efforts where there is the greatest need. Please make checks payable to "Board of World Mission" and send to:

Board of World Mission  
1021 Center Street  
Bethlehem, PA 18018

## POSTCARD FROM THE CARIBBEAN: SISTER LUCILLE REFLECTS ON THE 14TH MORAVIAN WOMEN'S CONFERENCE

The 14th Moravian Women's Conference of June 22-28, 2025, was held aboard RCCL's *Oasis of the Seas*. I was able to fellowship and worship with sisters from 123 Moravian congregations. It was an unforgettable experience. Our theme, "Fashioned Focused Faithful," was taken from Psalm 119:73. Our theme hymn was "I, the Lord of Sea and Sky."

- ❖ **Monday:** Our first stop was A Perfect Day at Coco Cay, Bahamas in place of Labadee Island, Haiti. We had a tasty barbeque, different fruit juices, and ice cream. Many cooled off in the lagoons, some did water slides or zipline. A perfect day it was.
- ❖ **Tuesday:** Our featured speaker, Dr. Anique Elmes-Matthew, began her presentation, but the Holy Spirit had other ideas, turning her presentation into a powerful Holy Spirit healing service. Later that afternoon, we had Holy Communion. At 6pm there was a cocktail reception with everyone dressed up. One of two formal nights. Very nice.
- ❖ **Wednesday:** We were transported by busses from the port to the New Irwin Moravian Church, Falmouth, Jamaica to an island-themed Lovefeast of ginger beer, lemonade, and rock cakes (like a scone). We were welcomed by the New Generations Cultural Band. They were good. We received our program along with a sterile alcohol pad to clean our hands in anticipation of sharing our cake. The food and cultural experience in "the village" was a beautiful memory.
- ❖ **Thursday:** Dr. Elmes-Matthew continued her presentation highlighting women of the Bible, namely Eve, Tamar, Hannah, Esther, and the Samaritan woman. As we know, God uses anyone to fulfill His purpose. Our closing service was held later followed by a Cultural Affair where attendees were dressed in their cultural outfits and briefly described their islands. Attendees were recognized for being the youngest and oldest (91 years old), birthdays, number of conferences attended, first time cruisers, and drawing for a quilt.
- ❖ **Friday:** We arrived in Nassau, Bahamas along with three other cruise ships. There were a lot of us there.
- ❖ **Saturday:** We departed from Fort Lauderdale with lifelong memories, and new vigor to be focused and faithful to our Creator and His creation.

In His name,

Sister Lucille Samuel



New Irwin Moravian Church, Falmouth, Jamaica



### NEEDED: FLOWER ARRANGEMENTS AND VOLUNTEERS FOR SUNDAY MORNINGS

Help create a welcoming and meaningful worship experience by volunteering to serve as an usher, greeter, liturgist, or nursery shepherd, or dedicating one or two floral arrangements for our Sunday morning service. Sign up by using the online form <https://forms.gle/uTGj7pz8fpm8LBuXA>, calling or emailing the office, or using the paper sign-up in the narthex. Children are welcome to assist an adult and middle-school-aged youth and older are welcome to serve on their own as a greeter, usher, or a liturgist with instruction. See Pastor Barbara if you have questions.

Flower arrangements are \$38 each, with two arrangement slots available each Sunday. You can order flowers through the online sign-up for volunteers. If you are unable to submit your request through the volunteer form, please call the church office. Checks should be made payable to FMC with the memo "Chancel Flowers." **If you do not receive an acknowledgment from the office that your request was received, please contact the office.**

### UPCOMING SUNDAY MORNING VOLUNTEERS & FLOWER DEDICATIONS

Date	Greeters	Ushers	Liturgist	Nursery	Flower Dedications
July 13			Donna Royster		Styers
July 20			Lisa Salo		
July 27			Lydian Averitt		

### DO YOU NEED NURSERY CARE ON SUNDAY?

Contact the church office during the week, speak to an usher, or let Meredith know on Sunday morning!

### BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

Robin Hrdlicka, 13 <sup>th</sup>	Wendell Childes, 13 <sup>th</sup>	Elise Martin, 16 <sup>th</sup>
Michael Lineback, 17 <sup>th</sup>	Leigh Anne Blasius, 18 <sup>th</sup>	Tom Herlocker, 18 <sup>th</sup>
Hannah Johnson, 18 <sup>th</sup>		Jennifer Williams, 18 <sup>th</sup>

### EXTENDED CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- July 13** Church Board Meeting (4:00pm, Conf. Rm)
- July 25** FMC Night at the Ballpark (6:00pm)
- Aug 10** Church Board Meeting (4:00pm, Conf. Rm)
- Sept 1** Labor Day (Office Closed)
- Sept 7** Men's Fellowship Breakfast (8:30am, NFH)
- Sept 14** Day of Service (following worship)  
Church Board Meeting (5:00pm, Conf. Rm.)
- Sept 21** Mission Committee Meeting (12:15, OFH)
- Sept 28** Congregational Picnic (High Point City Lake Park)

### FIRST MORAVIAN CHURCH STAFF

**Office Hours:** Monday-Friday, 9:00am-1:00pm; (336) 272-2196; [office@greensboromoravian.org](mailto:office@greensboromoravian.org)

**Rev. Barbara Styers**, Pastor: [pastor@greensboromoravian.org](mailto:pastor@greensboromoravian.org)

**Meredith Cohoon**, Director of Christian Education: [dce@greensboromoravian.org](mailto:dce@greensboromoravian.org)

**Gay Cass**, Treasurer: [treasurer@greensboromoravian.org](mailto:treasurer@greensboromoravian.org)

**Dr. Jane McKinney**, Director of Music: [mckinneyj@greensboro.edu](mailto:mckinneyj@greensboro.edu)

**Ann Curtis**, Organist/Pianist: [anncurtis321@gmail.com](mailto:anncurtis321@gmail.com)

**Margaret Stringer**, Administrative Assistant: [office@greensboromoravian.org](mailto:office@greensboromoravian.org)

#### 2025 CHURCH BOARD

*Class of 2025*  
Nancy Jackson  
Libby McCandless  
Donna Royster  
Lisa Salo

*Class of 2026*  
Vince Holbrook  
Beth Smith

*Class of 2027*  
Charles McKinney  
James Paul (*Vice Chair*)  
Keegan Smith