



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

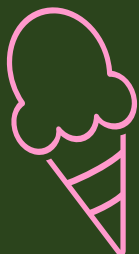
SUNDAY PREVIEW

On Sunday we will hear the story of Jesus teaching in a synagogue on the Sabbath and encountering a woman in need of healing. A woman who has been bent over for eighteen long years, unable to stand straight, appears. Jesus sees her, stops, calls her to him, and heals her. Set free, she straightens up at once, praising God. But not everyone rejoices. The synagogue leader protests, repeatedly, insisting that healing is “work” that should not be done on the Sabbath. But Jesus challenges this narrow reading of the law. The Sabbath is meant for rest and renewal, not for piling on more burdens by withholding the help and healing someone needs to survive and thrive. To withhold compassion in the name of rule-keeping is to miss the heart of God’s command to remember the Sabbath and keep it holy.

For Jesus, the freedom to live fully is more important than rigid interpretations that leave no space for grace. We will also hear the assigned reading for the day from Isaiah. In the passage, Isaiah reminds people to honor the Sabbath—not by pursuing their own interests and doing as they please, but by setting the day apart for delight in the Lord. If they keep the Sabbath joyfully, God promises blessing.

Back-to-School Social

Invite a friend and bring ice cream or a topping to share!
Suggest or bring a game to play!



August 24, 2025
2:00pm-4:00pm
Old Fellowship Hall

Let us know what you’re bringing!
Sign up here: <https://tinyurl.com/y7z8apj6>



CHANGES OF ADDRESS

We have had some changes of address for some of our FMC Family. Please note their new addresses below.

Carole Hayworth
201 W. Hartley Drive
High Point NC 27265

Sam Post
2400 Lomond Street
Winston-Salem, NC 27127

SUNDAY, AUGUST 24

ELEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Watchword for the Week: The steadfast love of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting on those who fear him.
Psalm 103:17

Liturgist: Donna Royster

Liturgy: Peace and Justice (pp. 148-153)

Scripture: Isaiah 58:9b-14
Luke 13:10-17

August Sunday Staple Stampede: School Supplies for Lindley Elementary (Aug. 24 collection item: crayons)

HAPPENING THIS WEEK

Sun, Aug 24 Sunday School (9:45am)
Worship (11:00am, Sanctuary)
Back-To School Social (OFH, 2:00pm-4:00pm)

Wed, Aug 27 Craft Group (2:00pm, Craft Rm.)
Praise Band (6:00pm, OFH)

August 24 Usher Shirt Color: Blue

Aug 31 Usher Shirt Color: Yellow

See page 7 for more upcoming shirt colors.

Zoom Meeting ID: 205 454 336

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

AUGUST SUNDAY STAPLE STAMPEDE AND THE SEPTEMBER 14 MORAVIAN DAY OF SERVICE:

SUPPLIES FOR LINDLEY ELEMENTARY

Crayons (8-count and 24-count boxes, Crayola brand preferred) are this week's featured school supply for the August Sunday Staple Stamped. The Mission Committee is collecting basic school supplies – a different item each week – to be used in grab bags for Lindley Elementary School students. The grab bags will be assembled on Sunday, Sept 14, as our project for the Moravian Day of Service. Plan to join the Mission Committee that day after worship to assemble the bags – many hands will make light work.

So far, we have collected 70 pairs of safety scissors, 134 glue sticks and 596 No. 2 pencils (along with 25 boxes of crayons, 15 boxes of colored pencils, and cash to purchase more) for the grab bags. Two packs of highlighters and one composition notebook also have been donated. Our schedule for donations is:

- Aug. 24: Crayons (8 count and 24 count, Crayola preferred)
- Aug. 31: Colored pencils

Fill the box: This month's emphasis is pancake mix. Place your donations in the One Step Further wooden food collection box in the narthex on Sunday.

NEWS FROM THE PEC

The Rev. Jeff Jones has accepted the call to become the Pastor of Advent Moravian Church in Winston-Salem, NC and will be installed on October 5, 2025. Jeff has been pastor of Covenant Moravian Church/Water of Life Lutheran Church (ELCA) since 2019.

Please pray for Jeff and Catherine as they move through this transition, the Advent Congregation, and the federated ministry of Covenant Moravian/Water of Life Lutheran in Wilmington, NC.

FMC WORSHIP & CONGREGATIONAL PICNIC: SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 28TH

Join us for a morning of music, worship, fellowship, and food! On Sunday, September 28th (10am-2pm), FMC will hold our worship service (led by the praise band), followed by a congregational picnic, at High Point City Lake Park (Shelter #8, Yellow Pine). Bring your camp chairs and chat, join in some outdoor games... You can even bring your fishing rod or take a relaxing boat tour around the lake!

Fried chicken will be provided; please sign up below to help us round out our lunch buffet by bringing a salad, side, bread, drinks, or dessert. Thank you!

Sign-Up Link: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080C44AFA929A2FB6-58090907-fmccongregational>



CONGREGATIONAL RETREAT AT LAUREL RIDGE:

OCTOBER 24TH-26TH

**The deadline to register and submit a deposit (\$50/room)
is August 24th.**

Refunds up until September 24.

Join your First Moravian family on the mountain this fall for fun, fellowship, and spiritual refreshment at our annual congregational retreat! Relax on the rocking chair porch at Higgins Lodge, enjoy a nature walk/hike, play a round of frisbee golf, or knit and chat by the fire surrounded by friends and God's magnificent creation. Visit the cheese factory in West Jefferson or the winery near Sparta. There will be ample time for fellowship over puzzles, board games, and perhaps some special craft/activity sessions led by church members.

Find all the details, plus registration form, in the Fall Retreat Brochure, available in the narthex or linked in our weekly email. **Reservations and \$50 deposit are due by August 24th.** Changes/cancellations must be made at least 30 days prior to the event (by September 24th) to receive a refund. Questions? Contact Meredith Cohoon (336-312-1322 or dce@greensboromoravian.org).

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN PERFORMING WITH FIRST MORAVIAN'S BELLCHOR?

We will be gathering to rehearse for Candle Tea performances soon. If you wish to participate and can commit to weekly rehearsals, please contact Sue Kiorpes at 336-458-7871 or Khaleigha Holdip at 336-307-0488.

MORAVIAN ARCHIVES WILL PARTNER WITH AMERICA 250 TO COMMEMORATE INDEPENDENCE DAY

In 2026, the nation will be celebrating 250 years of American independence. Since 2024, the Forsyth County chapter of America 250 (america250.org) has been meeting to plan events, educational programming, and more to celebrate the semi-quincentennial anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence. Because Salem famously held the first official celebration of the Fourth of July, the Moravian Archives has been actively involved in this committee, including hosting meetings at the Archie K. Davis Center. With our abundance of collection materials related to the inception and history of the United States, the Moravian Archives Southern Province has committed to collaborating with several institutions to educate our posterity and ensure the democratic mission is continued. Assistant Director Sabrina Garity has spearheaded the involvement in the Forsyth 250 Committee and has engaged in the following projects:

- July 4th Parade and Event Planning in the Old Salem and Winston-Salem Area
- "Noncombatant but Not Neutral," a lecture on Moravian Involvement in the Revolutionary War at the Archives
- "Rivers, Ferries, and Fords: Discussing Revolutionary Mapmaking," a Lecture and Vault Tour at the Archives
- Transcribing and Digitizing Collection Materials for various Institutional Partnerships, Social Media Campaigns, and America 250's Web Presence.

We hope that you will consider supporting these efforts. Contributors may go to the Archives website to make an online contribution: www.moravianarchives.org/donate

Thank you for supporting our work during this important national celebration and throughout the year. It is our great privilege to keep and share your heritage now and in the future.

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

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

A BIG SHOUT OUT OF THANKS AND CELEBRATION!

Our candle hut now has a new floor, the furniture is in place, and it's ready to go for candle making as the weather cools! Many thanks to Women's Fellowship Candle Tea Committee for funding the project; to Russ Walker for coordinating the purchase of flooring and installation company; to Russ Walker, Bill Wofford and Mike Cockman for moving all 60 boxes of tile into NFH to be out of the rain at delivery; to Jesse Day, Dalton McLean, and Keegan Smith for moving the tile to the Candle Hut for installation and removing old carpeting; to Meredith Cohoon and Bill Wofford for helping move furniture back in place and wiping down tables; to Mike and Georgia Lineback for a donation towards the project; an anonymous donation to the project; and to the congregation for prayers and support during the project. It is paid for and should bring many years of use and enjoyment. Sincerely, Lisa Salo, Chair Buildings and Grounds Committee



Candle Tea 2025

Candle Tea School Day

Wednesday, December 3rd, 8:00am-1:00pm

First Moravian Church Night

Thursday, December 4th, 7:00pm-8:30pm

Candle Tea

Friday, December 5th (2:00-8:00pm) and
Saturday, December 6th (10:00am-1:00pm)
Vendor Clean-up on Sunday, 1:00pm until finished



FALL CELEBRATION

Fall Celebration-Study Book Workshop

Sat. September 13, 2025 - 9am Registration & Coffee

Lunch will be served at 11:30am

Join us at Kernersville Moravian Church, 504 S. Main St,
Kernersville, NC 27284

Lunch Reservations:

Name: _____

Church: _____ Phone: _____

Number in your party: _____ X \$12 each= \$ _____ included.

Mail to PWB office before Wed. September 3, 2025 – Please list
other names below.

Pastor Evette J Campbell
will be reviewing her Bible
Study Book, Waiting on the
Lord.

*This is going to be an
awesome Bible Study,
please make plans to join
us!*

2026 PWB Budget

Quilt Raffle-to benefit the
PWB 100th Anniversary

News and Information from our
partner Agencies:

Unity Women's

Desk Sunnyside

Ministries

Laurel Ridge Camp

Prison Ministries

Registration & Coffee at
9am

Programing to begin at
9:30am

Provincial Women's Board

459 S Church St,
Winston-Salem, NC 27101

336-722-4911
pwbmcs@gmail.com

Friedland Community Birthday

*"Where our roots
run deep in our
community and
service to our Lord "*

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2025 12PM - 4PM

FOOD TRUCKS, LIVE MUSIC, EVENT TABLES, BOUNCE
HOUSE, HISTORICAL LOCAL ARTIFACTS

Featuring Local Artists

Saints and Sinners

Jeremiah McKinley

Brad Bennett

AND MORE!

Bring a lawn chair and come
celebrate the 250th birthday
of the Friedland
Congregation with the
community



Friedland Moravian Church

2750 Friedland Church Rd. Winston -Salem, NC 27107
(336) 788-2652

PRAY EVERY DAY: AUGUST 2025

1. Rise up and help us; redeem us because of your unfailing love. Pray for Michael and Brenda Brent in Croatia.
2. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight. Pray for Charlie and Vicki Brent in Texas.
3. For lack of guidance a nation falls, but many advisers make victory sure. Pray for the government leaders in our country.
4. Yet the Lord longs to be gracious to you; he rises to show you compassion. Pray for Safiatu Braima and Sierra Leone.
5. For the Lord is a God of justice. Blessed are all who wait for him! Pray for the Moravians in Peru.
6. For the Lord is our judge, the Lord is our lawgiver, the Lord is our king, it is he who will save us. Pray for Moravians in Cuba and the Armando Rusindo Foundation.
7. He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak. Pray for the Moravians in Honduras and Nicaragua.
8. Return to me, for I have redeemed you. Pray for the Teshes in Kenya and Ray of Hope.
9. So is my word that goes out from my mouth: It will not return to me empty. Pray for Laurel Ridge Mission Camp.
10. For he has clothed me with garments of salvation and arrayed me in a robe of righteousness. Pray for Michael and Naomi Woo with OMF International.
11. I will set a sign among them and I will send them to the nations. They will proclaim my glory among the nations. Pray for the work of the Unity Women's Desk.
12. I will put my law in their minds and write it on their hearts. I will be their God, and they will be my people. Pray for refugees and displaced people.
13. The Lord is my portion therefore I will wait for him. Pray for the Harrisons with Greek Intervarsity.
14. For God so loved the world he gave his one and only Son that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. Pray for Alan and DeeDee lobst in France.
15. That joy is mine and it is now complete. He must become greater; I must become less. Pray for the Board of World Mission.
16. I tell you the truth, whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life and will not be condemned; he has crossed over from death to life. Pray for Annie B Missions and Star Mountain.
17. I tell you the truth, everyone who sins is a slave to sin. Now a slave has no permanent place in the family, but a son belongs to it forever. So if the son sets you free, you will be free indeed. Pray for Kevin and Charity in the Middle East.
18. They devoted themselves to the apostles teaching and to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. Pray for Brian and Heather Marx with Mission Aviation Fellowship.
19. 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 Hoffmans in HIV/AIDS Ministry.
20. Neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord. Pray for City with Dwellings and the homeless population.
21. Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved. Pray for Adopt A Village in Tanzania.
22. Share with God's people who are in need. Practice Hospitality. Pray for Phil and Eunice Raiford in Mexico.
23. The one who plants and the one who waters have one purpose, and each will be rewarded according to their own labor. For we are God's fellow workers; you are God's field, God's building. Pray for the Rajpur Foster Child Project.
24. But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law. Pray for PEC members, bishops and other church leaders.
25. And in him you too are being built together to become a dwelling in which God lives by his Spirit. Pray for the Clinica Evangelica Morava in Ahaus.
26. Serve wholeheartedly, as if you were serving the Lord, not men. Pray for seminarians and candidates for ordination.
27. Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! Pray for short term mission teams.
28. I can do everything through him who gives me strength. Pray for Joey Yokeley with Fellowship of Christian Athletes.
29. Now to the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Pray for disaster relief workers.
30. Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before him endured the cross. Pray for Anna Faircloth with YoungLife.
31. The Lord is good, his mercy endures forever. Pray for Estamos Unidos Moravian Ministry.

TRINITY MORAVIAN CHURCH'S NEW DEBT JUBILEE PROJECT IS UNDERWAY!

Trinity Moravian is seeking to raise \$15,000 cash to be able to purchase (and forgive!) over \$2.3 million in medical debt owed by our neighbors in NC.

The Debt Jubilee project has an amazing track record, covered by national and international press. Since 2022, they have been able to purchase and forgive over \$21 million in medical debt owed by our neighbors. You can make a transforming difference in someone's life by making a small donation today.

For more information or to donate today, visit their website at <https://debtjubileeproject.org> or use the QR code below. 100% of your donation goes directly to purchase medical debt, thanks to a generous grant.



SURVEY RESULTS

By the First Moravian Church Board

We thank the congregation for participating in the recent survey that ended July 14. Your willingness to let the Spirit speak through the flock is most helpful. The purpose of this article is simply to share the survey results, without interpretation or commentary.

Excellent Response Rate

We sent the survey to 152 communicant members over the age of 18 for whom we had contact information. We received 71 responses for a **response rate of 47%**.

"Anything above 30% is considered excellent," said Vivien Le Masson, Senior Director of Kantar in his June 26, 2025 article, "[The magic number: how to optimize and improve your survey response rate](#)," on the company's website. Kantar is the world's leading marketing data and analytics business and advisor to 96 of the world's 100 biggest advertisers.

In her June 6, 2025 article "[What is a good response rate for a survey?](#)" in *Survey Lab*, Kinga Edwards describes the following response rate categories:

- Generally Acceptable = 20% - 25%
- Acceptable for an Internal Survey = 10% - 30%,
- Average Survey Response Rate = 20% - 30%
- Average Online Survey Response Rate = 40%

Our response rate is above average when evaluated according to those industry standards. We very much appreciate all who completed the survey and believe the results are statistically significant and meaningful.

Reliability & Validity

Our survey used a number of standard techniques to check that survey responders understood the questions, took the time to read them, and maintained consistency of thought in responding – generally known as [reliability and validity](#).

For example, in our survey Question 1 and Question 2 were very similar. They differed in two ways: 1) one asks the question generally, the other asks within a specific context of a member of our congregation, and 2) the wording was reversed, so to answer the two questions with a consistent position you would need to "agree" on one and "disagree" on the other. In all cases, the responses to our survey affirmed the congregation understood the questions and responded with consistency of thought.

The Results Reveal a Consensus

We had strong, deeply-held opinions on both ends of the scale on all questions. But, the numbers were not spread evenly. On many questions, there was a clear majority (2/3 or more) – especially if you add the "Somewhat" and "Strongly" together for both "Agree" and "Disagree." Sixty-three percent of respondents said they would like to talk more about these topics. Question 4, the one that asked about allowing our facilities to be "for hire as long as it meets Greensboro's Community Standards" was the question that received the mostly evenly-divided responses.

Click [here](#) to view responses and graphs of the results. A summary of the results follows on the next page.

Question	Strongly or Somewhat Disagree	Neither Agree nor Disagree	Strongly or Somewhat Agree
Q1. Our sanctuary, fellowship hall, and grounds should only be used as a venue for weddings and receptions that join one man and one woman in matrimony.	70%	10%	20%
Q2. Our sanctuary, fellowship hall, and grounds should be available as a venue for weddings and receptions joining any member of our congregation or a child of our congregation, regardless of sexual identity or orientation.	18%	4%	78%
Q3. Our sanctuary, fellowship hall, and grounds should be available to any couple our pastor agrees to marry, regardless of sexual identity or orientation.	27%	4%	69%
Q4. Our sanctuary, fellowship hall, and grounds are potential revenue-producing assets. They should be available for hire as a venue for any legal event acceptable under Greensboro's community standards.	31%	18%	51%
Q5. During any future call, our congregation should consider all candidates presented to us by the Provincial Elders' Conference (PEC) and qualified by them.	7%	7%	86%
Q6. During any future call, our congregation should limit its consideration of candidates to those who identify either as traditionally male or female and whose legal gender matches their gender assigned at birth.	62%	18%	20%
Q7. The unity of our congregation is more important than any specific decision about use of facilities or the call process.	30%	14%	56%
Q8. Would you like our congregation to discuss pastoral call criteria and/or criteria for weddings on our grounds?	<u>No</u> 37%	NA	<u>Yes</u> 63%

Table 1. A summary of the survey results.

Where Do We Go from Here?

- **The Church Board is not making policy changes or new decisions on these issues at this time.** Your Board is not going to suddenly change any policies as a result of this survey, as Nancy Jackson said from the lectern a few weeks ago. Nor are there requests before the Board at this time that require a decision. Your Board does, however, accept this information as an accurate reflection of the congregation's disposition at this time.
- **A majority of the congregation wants to talk about these issues. Therefore, your Board is planning to evaluate options for dialogue in early 2026.** Given that nearly two-thirds of respondents expressed interest in discussing these issues, coupled with the 2021 decision to hold congregational discussions that was announced by the Board of Elders but whose implementation was delayed, your Board will evaluate opportunities for congregation-wide discussions. After considering when and how to move forward, they will then share ideas with the congregation. Please contact any Board member if you would like to provide input or participate in planning these discussions.
- **Pray for one another and pray for discernment and understanding.** As we move forward, please be in prayer for our congregation, pastor, staff, and Board. If you have questions or would like to talk to the pastor or Board about the survey, results, or future plans, we invite you to contact us.

In All Things Love

These survey results will mean different things to different people. Moravians hold dear our unofficial motto, "In essentials, unity; in non-essentials, liberty; and in all things, love." The First Moravian Church Board believes that the congregation can find and agree on "unity in the essentials" while showing love toward all.

"The Unitas Fratrum takes part in the continual search for sound doctrine. In interpreting Scripture and in the communication of doctrine in the Church, we look to two millennia of ecumenical Christian tradition and the wisdom of our Moravian forebears in the faith to guide us as we pray for fuller understanding and ever clearer proclamation of the Gospel of Jesus Christ."

--The Ground of the Unity

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.**

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

Kelly McLean, 25th
Alan Turner, 26th

Georgia Lineback, 25th
Gail Haworth, 27th

Hunter Johnson, 26th
Donovan Kopp, 29th

EXTENDED CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Aug 24** Back-to-School Social (2:00pm-4:00pm, OFH)
Sept 1 Labor Day (Office Closed)
Sept 6 Chicken Pie Making (NFH 7:00am, 11:00am)
Sept 7 Men's Fellowship Breakfast (8:30am, NFH)
Chicken Pie Making (NFH 12:30pm, 1:30pm)
Sept 13 Chicken Pie Making (NFH 7:00am, 11:00am)
Sept 14 Day of Service (following worship)
Chicken Pie Making (NFH 12:30pm, 1:30pm)
Church Board Meeting (5:00pm, Conf. Rm)
Sept 20 Chicken Pie Making (NFH 7:00am, 11:00am)
Sept 21 Mission Committee Meeting (12:15pm, OFH)
Chicken Pie Making (NFH 12:30pm, 1:30pm)
Sept 28 Congregational Picnic (High Point City Lake Park)

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!

SUMMER USHER SHIRT COLORS

August 24 Blue

August 31 Yellow

September 7 Hawaiian/Tropical

September 14 Blue

September 28 Back to regular attire

FIRST MORAVIAN CHURCH STAFF

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

Rev. Barbara Styers, Pastor: pastor@greensboromoravian.org

Meredith Cohoon, Director of Christian Education: dce@greensboromoravian.org

Gay Cass, Treasurer: treasurer@greensboromoravian.org

Dr. Jane McKinney, Director of Music: mckinneyj@greensboro.edu

Ann Curtis, Organist/Pianist: anncurtis321@gmail.com

Margaret Stringer, Administrative Assistant: 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