

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

INQUIRER'S CLASS CONTINUES

A new **Inquirer's Class** began last week and continues this Sunday morning from 9:30 to 10:30am in the Conference Room. The class will take a break next week for the retreat, then resume on November 2 at 9:30am in the Lift Room (first floor, NFH). The class will skip November 9 while Pastor Barbara is out of town, and finish November 16 with a "make-up class" at 9:30am in the Conference Room. All are welcome! The class is "drop in;" no registration required.

Check out the article on page 3 for an announcement about a one-night only "pop-up" book study on November 17!

NOMINATIONS SOUGHT FOR BOARD AND SYNOD

If you are interested in serving on the Church Board or as First Moravian's delegate (or serving as an alternate delegate) to the 2026 Southern Province Synod, please contact Pastor Barbara Styers. We will elect three Board members for three-year terms, one Board member for a one-year term, one Synod delegate, and one alternate Synod delegate at the **Church Council** meeting on **November 16** in the sanctuary, immediately following worship.

FALL SUNDAY SCHOOL OFFERINGS

Adult Good News Class | 9:45am, Library (NFH)

Youth Fellowship | 9:45am, Upper Room (OFH)

Children (K-5) | 9:45am, Children's Space (Under Sanctuary)

Inquirer's Class | 9:45am, Conference Room (NFH)

Adults: The Good News Class is currently working through the *Gospel of Mark*, a book study by Amy-Jill Levine. They invite you to join them in the Library (under NFH) each week for coffee and conversation. No advance prep required!

Youth Fellowship: It's not easy being a teenager today! On Sunday, September 21, our middle and senior highs will begin a video series/study on "Courage" by Francis Chan. They will meet in the Upper Room (above OFH), where pastries and breakfast beverages will abound!

Children (K-5): You're invited! On Sunday, September 21, our children will begin a 12-week series on "Invitation". Through both Old and New Testament stories, we will be identifying ways in which God invited different people to do amazing things, as well as discovering how God is inviting us to use our lives for Him today. This class will meet in the Children's Space beneath the Sanctuary.

Inquirer's Class: The Inquirer's Class began last week and continued this morning from 9:30 to 10:30am in the conference room. The class will take a break next week for the retreat, then resume on November 2 at 9:30am in the Lift Room (first floor, NFH). After skipping November 9 while I'm out of town, a make-up class will be held on November 16.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 19

NINETEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Watchword for the Week: Proclaim the message; be persistent whether the time is favorable or unfavorable; convince, rebuke, and encourage, with the utmost patience in teaching. 2 Timothy 4:2

Liturgist: Jane Wall

Liturgy: Discipleship (pp. 37-42)

Scripture Reading: Genesis 32:22-31

Luke 18:1-8

October Sunday Staple Stampede: Thanksgiving foods for Greensboro Urban Ministry

HAPPENING THIS WEEK

Sun, Oct 19 Sunday School (9:45am)
Inquirer's Class (9:30am, Conf Rm)
Worship (11:00am, Sanctuary)
Chicken Pie Assembly (12:00pm, NFH)

Wed, Oct 15 Praise Band (6:00pm, OFH)
Choir Rehearsal (7:30pm, Sanctuary)

Oct 24-26 Congregational Retreat at Laurel Ridge

Zoom Meeting ID: 205 454 336

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

OCTOBER SUNDAY STAPLE STAMPEDE: THANKSGIVING FOODS FOR GREENSBORO URBAN MINISTRY

We have collected a load of Thanksgiving-themed groceries in our little red wheelbarrow (and \$50 in cash) but have room for plenty more. All donations will be given to the Greensboro Urban Ministry food bank. Please add your nonperishable food items to the wheelbarrow and monetary donations to the collection cans in the narthex each Sunday this month as we help fill the food bank's shelves with commodities to help our neighbors as the holiday season draws near. Donations may also be left during the week in the bin on the back porch of the Moravian House.

Fill the box: This month's emphasis is jelly (low-sugar, if possible). Place your donations in the One Step Further wooden food collection box in the narthex on Sunday.

NEW LOCATION AND ADDRESS FOR THE PROVINCIAL WOMEN'S BOARD

The Provincial Women's Board has opened their new office at Bethania Moravian Church. The new mailing address is:

PO Box 104

Bethania, NC 27010-0104

The new office hours are 9:30am to 3:00pm, Mondays and Thursdays.

WANTED: ITEMS FOR THE CANDLE TEA RAFFLE

The Raffle returns to Candle Tea this year! We have a number of nice donations but could use a few more. If anyone would like to donate an item (one possibility would be a gift basket) please contact Libby Connery by October 20th at (336) 707-1128 or email is lkc3med@gmail.com. Thanks for everyone's support!

NEWS FROM THE PEC

Please remember **The Rev. Betty Helms** in prayer as her tonsil cancer from 2022 has returned. Betty will be undergoing radiation treatment and would like for everyone to remember her and the New Hope, NC congregation in prayer in the days to come.

The **Rev. John D. Rights** requested and was granted permission to retire from active ministry effective November 2, 2025. Brother Rights was ordained a deacon in the Moravian Church on June 6, 1985 and consecrated a presbyter December 20, 1998. Brother Rights served as associate pastor at Calvary Moravian, Winston-Salem, NC from 1985 - 1989. He also has served as pastor at Bethania Moravian, Bethania, NC, 1989-1994, and Konnoak Hills, Winston-Salem, NC beginning in 1999 until his retirement in 2025. We express deep appreciation to John for his faithful and dedicated service to the Moravian Church and wish him many blessings in retirement.

You are invited to a reception celebrating the retirement of The Rev. John D. Rights on Sunday, November 2 from 2pm-4pm at Konnoak Hills Moravian Church. The reception will be held in the church Fellowship Hall.

The Provincial Elders' Conference (PEC) of the Moravian Church in America, Southern Province, has called **The Rev. Tony Hayworth** to Provincial Service. In this new role, Rev. Hayworth will serve under the Commission on Ministry (COM), where he will focus on researching and developing ministry tools to support the COM's ongoing efforts to enhance, nurture, and care for clergy and other church professionals across the Southern Province.

Rev. Hayworth brings a commitment to pastoral care and experience from his service as an ordained ministry in the MCSP, and most recently as Pastor of Fairview Moravian Church. His transition into provincial service is a step in the mission of the MCSP to strengthen and sustain its leadership through thoughtful and compassionate support.

To honor Rev. Hayworth and celebrate his service to the Fairview congregation, a reception will be held at Fairview Moravian Church on **Sunday, October 26**, following worship. All are invited to attend and share in this moment of gratitude and encouragement.

As Rev. Hayworth and the Fairview congregation enter this time of transition, let us surround them with our prayers and support. May this new chapter be filled with grace, growth, and continued witness to the Living Christ.

CHURCH COUNCIL: NOVEMBER 16 FOLLOWING WORSHIP

We will have one of our two annual stated Church Council meetings on November 16 in the sanctuary immediately following worship. The purpose of the November Council is to elect Church Board members and, this year, First Moravian's 2026 Southern Province Synod delegate. The Church Council in February 2026 will review 2025 finances and present the 2025 annual reports and the 2026 budget.

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.

CANDLE TEA NEEDS YOUR HELP!

It's October and our beloved Candle Tea is just TWO months away! As always, we need everyone's help to make this huge community event a success. We especially need help in the Cookie Sales Room as an order bagger (any time during the weekend) and in various areas in the early hours on Friday from 2:00-5:00pm.

There is a job for everyone at Candle Tea whether you are a veteran volunteer or interested visitor. Have no fear: if you've never helped in a particular area, on-the-job training will be provided! You can see all the opportunities here:

2025 Candle Tea Volunteer Signup: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080C44AFA929A2FB6-57500750-2025>



Click the link or scan the QR code to access the online sign-up (also linked in the Friday email).

Area Chairs: Please be sure you have signed up to work in your own area!

CURRENT CANDLE TEA NEEDS/OPPORTUNITIES

Area Chairs & Volunteers: Please make sure that you and all your team members have signed up online for the areas and time slots in which you/they plan to volunteer. Our planning team is working hard to fill open slots and needs to know where our actual vacancies are. Use this link to sign yourself or your team members up, or contact Meredith Cohoon if you need help entering your volunteers: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080C44AFA929A2FB6-57500750-2025>. If you do not yet have a role at Candle Tea, please browse the openings and sign up where you can help—on-the-job training provided!

Costumes: Need help picking up/picking out your Candle Tea costume for this year? The Costume Room (beneath OFH) will be open immediately after worship on the following Sundays: October 12, October 19, and November 2. Come see us!

Baked Goods: Our Baked Goods table is always a Candle Tea highlight thanks to your homemade goodies. Cakes, pies, cookies, candies... variety is the spice of life! Food items should be packaged to sell (unpriced) and labeled with any common allergens. Contributions can be dropped off in advance (if freezer-safe) or at First Church Night (Thursday, 12/4).

Tavern Donations: Help stock our Tavern (and our pantry for Christmas Eve Lovefeast services)! We need large canisters of decaf Folgers or Maxwell House coffee, Country Time Lemonade mix, and bags of granulated white sugar. Please place donations in the bin marked "Candle Tea" in the narthex. Thank you!

Got Candle Tea questions? Contact Lisa Salo, Jane McKinney, or Meredith Cohoon.

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

A ONE-NIGHT ONLY POP-UP BOOK STUDY ON NOVEMBER 17!

Although the time is yet to be determined, Pastor Barbara is holding a one-night (or one-afternoon) only book study. We'll be talking about the book *Rebecca's Revival* by Jon F. Sensbach (originally published 2006). Moravians may be more familiar with the names Leonard Dober and David Nitschmann, European Moravian missionaries. Their success in St. Thomas would not have been possible without Rebecca, a former slave who evangelized alongside them, creating the earliest African Protestant congregation in the Americas. Contact Pastor Barbara for more information!

Pray Every Day October 2025

1. Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you. Pray for Michael and Naomi Woo with OMF International.
2. You are the light of the world. A city on a hill cannot be hidden. Pray for disaster relief workers and Moravian Disaster Response.
3. Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. Pray for Michael and Brenda Brent in Croatia.
4. But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness and all these things will be given to you as well. Pray for Joey Yokeley with Fellowship of Christian Athletes.
5. The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field. Pray for Charlie and Vicki Brent in Texas.
6. As you go, preach this: "The kingdom of heaven is near." Pray for the government leaders and unity in our country.
7. Whoever finds his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it. Pray for short term mission teams.
8. Come to me all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Pray for Safiatu Braima and Sierra Leone.
9. Make a tree good and its fruit will be good, or make a tree bad and its fruit will be bad, for a tree is recognized by its fruit. Pray for seminarians and candidates for ordination.
10. For whoever does the will of my Father in heaven is my brother and sister and mother. Pray for the Moravians in Peru.
11. If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. Pray for the Clinica Evangelica Morava in Ahaus.
12. I tell you the truth, unless you change and become like little children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. Therefore, whoever humbles himself like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven. Pray for Moravians in Cuba and the Armando Rusindo Foundation.
13. Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. Pray for PEC members, bishops, and other church leaders.
14. For whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and whoever humbles himself will be exalted. Pray for Moravians in Nicaragua and their churches.
15. I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me. Pray for the Raipur Foster Child Project.
16. The kingdom of God is near. Repent and believe the good news! Pray for the missionary work with Ukrainian refugees and the war in Ukraine.
17. It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick. I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance. Pray for Phil and Eunice Raiford in Mexico.
18. You see, at just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly. Pray for The Dwelling and local homeless shelters.
19. For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord. Pray for Adopt-a-Village in Tanzania.
20. Therefore there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus, because through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit of life set me free from the law of sin and death. Pray Anna Faircloth with YoungLife.
21. And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose. Pray for the Unity Women's Desk and their scholarship recipients.
22. I will have mercy on whom I have mercy and I will have compassion on whom I have compassion. Pray for the Hoffmans in HIV/AIDS ministry.
23. That if you confess with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. Pray for Sunnyside Ministry and other crisis agencies.
24. Love must be sincere. Hate what is evil; cling to what is good. Pray for Kevin and Charity in the Middle East.
25. As surely as I live, says the Lord, every knee will bow before me; every tongue will confess to God. Pray for Dusty and Christin Harrison with Greek Intervarsity.
26. May the God of hope fill you with joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. Pray for Brian and Heather Marx with Mission Aviation Fellowship.
27. For I resolved to know nothing while I was with you except Jesus Christ and him crucified. Pray for Alan and DeeDee Iobst in France.
28. For we are God's fellow workers; you are God's field, God's building. Pray for Annie B Missions and Star Mountain.
29. Salt is good, but if it loses its saltiness, how can you make it salty again? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with each other. Pray for the Board of World Mission.
30. Whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant, and whoever wants to be first must be slave of all. Pray for Estamos Unidos Moravian Ministry.
31. From the ends of the earth I call to you, I call as my heart grows faint; lead me to the rock that is higher than I. Pray for Ray of Hope Orphanage and Michael and Ceci Tesh.

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

June Vernon, 19th
Robert Newton, Sr., 25th

Nancy Jackson, 21st
Stephanie Williams, 25th

Lisa Salo, 21st
Madison Patterson, 25th

EXTENDED CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Oct 18** Chicken Pie Making (NFH 7:00am, 11:00am)
- Oct 19** Chicken Pie Making (NFH 12:30pm, 1:30pm)
- Oct 24-26** Laurel Ridge Retreat (No worship at FMC)
- Nov 1** Chicken Pie Making (NFH 7:00am, 11:00am)
- Nov 2** Men's Fellowship Breakfast (8:30am, NFH)
Inquirer's Class (9:30am, Lift Room in NFH)
Chicken Pie Making (NFH 12:30pm, 1:30pm)
Church Board (4:00pm, Conf. Rm)
- Nov 8** Chicken Pie Making (NFH 7:00am, 11:00am)
- Nov 9** Chicken Pie Making (NFH 12:30pm, 1:30pm)
- Nov 11** Friendship Circle (11:30am, OFH)
- Nov 15** Chicken Pie Making (NFH 7:00am, 11:00am)
- Nov 16** Inquirer's Class (9:30am, Conf Room)
Church Council (Sanctuary, immediately following worship)
Chicken Pie Making (NFH 12:30pm, 1:30pm)
Sip and See (12:30pm, OFH)
- Nov 20** Finance Committee (7:00pm, Conf Rm)
- Nov 22** Chicken Pie Making (NFH 7:00am, 11:00am)

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!

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