Moravian Minutes

November 2, 2025

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

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

VETERANS DAY IS NOVEMBER 11

We will publish a bulletin insert honoring all veterans, living and dead, on November 9. We already know of at least one correction to last year's edition, but invite everyone to review the 2024 insert at the link below and send updates to the office. https://tinyurl.com/42sr3z8y

Don't forget to set your clocks back one hour on Saturday night!



Nominations Sought for Board and Synod

If you are interested in serving on the Church Board or as First Moravian's delegate (or alternate delegate) to the 2026 Southern Province Synod, please contact Pastor Barbara Styers. At the Church Council meeting on November 16, immediately following worship in the sanctuary, we will elect: three Board members for three-year terms, one Board member for a one-year term, one Synod delegate, and one alternate delegate. Nominations will also be accepted from the floor. If you plan to nominate someone, please confirm ahead of time that they are willing to serve if elected and that they are communicant members. A list of candidates will be shared this week.

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.

FALL SUNDAY SCHOOL OFFFRINGS

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 class will be meeting again on November 2 and 16, meeting in the Lift Room on the first floor of NFH.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 2

TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Watchword for the Week: Jesus said, "For the son of man

came to seek and to save the lost." Luke 19:10

Liturgist: Dru Fulcher

Liturgy: All Saints (pp. 105-108)

Scripture Reading: 2 Thessalonians 1:1-4, 11-12

Luke 19:1-10

November Joyful Noise: Mustard Seed Community Health

HAPPENING THIS WEEK

Sun, Nov 2 Men's Fellowship Breakfast (8:30am, NFH)

Sunday School (9:45am)

Inquirer's Class (9:30am, Lift Room)

Worship (11:00am, Sanctuary)

Chicken Pie Assembly (12:00pm, NFH)

Church Board Meeting (4:00pm, Conf. Rm.)

Wed, Nov 5 Praise Band (6:00pm, OFH)

Choir Rehearsal (7:30pm, Sanctuary)

Zoom Meeting ID: 205 454 336

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

NOVEMBER JOYFUL NOISE: MUSTARD SEED COMMUNITY HEALTH

A Joyful Noise fundraiser supporting Mustard Seed Community Health begins this week and continues throughout the month of November. We hope to raise at least \$500 to help with Mustard Seed's expansion plans. The medical clinic, located on South English Street, helps uninsured and underinsured patients improve their health. Please drop your contributions in the collection cans in the narthex or send checks for Mustard Seed Community Health to the church office.

A celebration: Thank you to everyone who contributed food for Greensboro Urban Ministry during October's Sunday Staple Stampede. We collected a load of Thanksgiving-themed groceries in our little red wheelbarrow (and \$205 cash).

Fill the box: This month's emphasis is **beans (pinto, kidney, northern, black, and garbanzo; canned or dry. Low- or no-sodium preferred).** Place your donations in the One Step Further wooden food collection box in the narthex on Sunday.

A One-Night Only Pop-Up Book Study on November 17!

Pastor Barbara is holding a one-night only (Zoom option will be provided) 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!

Pastor Barbara has two extra copies of the book for anyone who may be interested.

Please contact Pastor Barbara to express or confirm your interest as soon as possible!

NEWS FROM THE PEC

With heavy hearts, we share the news that **Lillian ("Yibbett") Shelton**, beloved wife of the **Rt. Rev. Tom Shelton**, entered the more immediate presence of our Savior on the evening of Tuesday, October 21.

Lillian's life was a beautiful witness to faith, love, and service. As we grieve her passing, we also give thanks for the grace-filled life she lived and the many lives she touched.

A service will take place at Rolling Hills Moravian Church, Longwood, FL on Sunday, November 2, with visitation from 1:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m., and the service beginning at 3:00 p.m. A second service will be held at Friedberg Moravian Church, Winston-Salem, NC on Saturday, November 8, with visitation from 11:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., followed by the funeral service at 2:00 p.m.

Please keep Brother Tom and the entire Shelton family in your prayers during this tender time. May they be surrounded by the peace and comfort of Christ, and upheld by the love of the church.

Sister Jean Bryan Christopher Spaugh entered into eternal rest on Monday morning, October 27, 2025, following an extended illness, at the age of 78. Jean is survived by her husband, The Rev. Richard Spaugh, and her daughter, Amanda Weekley, both of Winston-Salem; her brother, William Christopher of South Carolina; and her five cherished grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her son, The Rev. Adam Spaugh. A graveside service will be held at 11:00 am on Saturday, November 1, 2025, at the Salem Moravian Graveyard in Old Salem, Winston-Salem. Please keep the Spaugh family in your prayers during this time of loss and remembrance.

From the 2026 Synod Nominations Committee:

Greetings in the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ!

The nomination process for the 2026 Moravian Church Southern Province Synod is now open! We are to serve in leadership positions, including Provincial Elders' Conference (3 clergy, 3 lay), Board of Moravian Mission Society (12), School of Theology at Moravian University Board of Trustees (2), ance Board (10). All nominations must be submitted by January 26, 2026.

To nominate someone, complete the Provincial Board Candidate Recommendation Form:

https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/NLZLM7S

Candidates must also complete either the Provincial Board Candidate Information Form:

https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/38CYG7Y

OR, for PEC, the PEC Candidate Information Form: https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/38Y8VZG

For more information regarding the nomination process, scan the QR code.

A FAIR-Y GOOD TIME WAS HAD BY ALL!

A small group from church enjoyed a short but delightful visit to the State Fair last week, traveling there and back by Amtrak. Members of the group succeeded in packing in a lot on a short trip: visiting the animal barns, viewing prize-winning vegetables, checking out machinery, pottery, and other displays, and sampling some of the many treats. With new memories and sticky fingers from cotton candy and sugar-dusted fried dough, we're already looking forward to another Fair adventure next year!



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.

INQUIRER'S CLASS MEETS IN THE LIFT ROOM THIS WEEK

The Inquirer's Class resumes this week with a class on the structure and governance of the Moravian Church, from the world-wide Unity to the Southern Province and First Moravian. We will meet 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 Q&A/"make-up class" at 9:30am back in the Conference Room. Bring your questions! Or better yet, share them ahead of time to make sure there will be answers. All are welcome! The class is "drop in;" no registration required.



Mission Lovefeast



Hope Moravian Church Sunday, November 2, 3:00 PM



The Mission Society will host its annual Mission Lovefeast on Sunday, November 2, at 3:00 PM at Hope Moravian Church. The service will celebrate local and global mission efforts including the work of Joey Yokeley with the Fellowship of Christian Athletes. There will also be updates from

short-term mission teams supported by the Mission Society and special music. If you have any questions please contact Jennifer Boles at 336-773-1732.



MUCH FUN MOVING MOUNTAINS OF MULCH

On Saturday, October 18, Gray Styers and Penny Wofford were joined by six landscape architect students from North Carolina. A&T University to move the mountain of mulch next to the Old Fellowship Hall. Starting with bagels for breakfast and ending with pizza for lunch, the mulch-movers are motivated by great music through the morning. More mulch is still mounded next to the steps, so feel free to borrow a wheelbarrow from the garden shed (lock code: "STAR") and move some more if you have a few spare minutes.



The Board of World Mission is closely monitoring the wake and path of Hurricane Melissa, which made landfall in Jamaica as a Category 5 storm on Tuesday, October 28th. Initial forecasts and reports indicate that this is a storm of historic proportions capable of severe, widespread damage. Moravian Church has several connections, missions, and congregations in Cuba, the Dominican Republic, Haiti, and Jamaica - all of which have

been or will be impacted by various stages of this storm. In these initial days of the storm, we do not have any specific damage assessments to share, but we are already in communication with partners across these regions as they begin assessing the storm's impact.

The BWM stands ready to respond as needs are identified in collaboration with local leadership. We earnestly invite your prayers and support for those affected – internationally and domestically, directly and indirectly – and for those who will be engaged in recovery and relief efforts in the weeks and months ahead.

We also remain in contact with our siblings in Alaska, who are continuing to recover from the recent Typhoon Halong, and will share updates on both recovery efforts as new information becomes available.

100% of donations to our MDR Fund go toward providing relief for these disasters. You can assist us with our disaster response efforts at MoravianMission.org/Give (scan QR code). Please designate your gift to "MDR" to ensure funds are directed to the disaster relief efforts with 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

Candle Tea News

CANDLE TEA YARD SIGNS

Yard signs are a great way to let new members of the community know about our event, and long-standing residents can mark their calendars and plan to attend! Please consider taking one to help us spread the word across the neighborhoods! A limited number are available in the narthex this week, but more are on the way.

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



2025

Candle

Tea

CANDLE TEA NEEDS YOUR HELP!

Candle Tea is just over ONE MONTH away! 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, at the Candle Table as a cashier, and behind the scenes in the Tavern Kitchen (perfect if you don't want to wear a costume!).

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 <u>decaf</u> 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.

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!



New Philadelphia Moravian Church Men's Fellowship Smoked Meat Sale for Laurel Ridge Camp and Conference Center

New Philly Men's Fellowship
Oink-Gobble-Moo
Holiday Smoked Meat Sale



New Philly's Men's Fellowship is smoking tasty, farm-fresh meats! We do the work. You just heat and serve a great, time-saving holiday meal! All meat is cooked on the Big Boy BBQ Smoker to delectable perfection by award-winning Pit Masters Joey Transou & Cliff Pranke!

All proceeds are going to support our Laurel Ridge Moravian Church Camp and Conference Center. See their link for more information: Laurel Ridge.

	Order Deadline	<u>Order Pick</u>	<u>. Up</u>
<u>Thanksgiving</u>	Sunday, Nov. 16	Tuesday, Nov. 25 (5:1	5 to 6:30 PM)
<u>Christmas</u>	Sunday, Dec. 7	Monday, Dec. 22 (5:15	i to 6:30 PM)
If the weather is	s nice, we will be arou	New Philadelphia Moravian Ind back in the pavilion ha rs upon request for deliver	
Oink! (Porkilicio Tenderloin, 1 to	,	ed with mild spice rub - \$2	20
Gobble! (Turkey Boneless breast,		with rosemary-garlic rub	- \$25
	$3\frac{1}{2}$ pounds**, \$39 per pounds*, seasoned with		
		Order online: >>>>> h -7804 or Joey@TransouRe	
Name:		Cell Phone:	
Email:		(optional)	
Pork Tenderloir Turkey Boneles Beef Tenderloir Smoked Meatlo	n \$20 s Breast \$25 n \$78 - \$137	R QUANTITY (Thksgvg) ———— ———— ————	(X-mas)
Proceeds bene	efit the Simmons-D	ula Fund supporting m	naintenance for Laurels

Lodge, four cabins, and Special Projects at Laurel Ridge Moravian Camp.
Please contact Gray Styers if you want him to pick up your Christmas Order.

Pray Every Day November 2025

- 1. Turn oh Lord and deliver me; save me because of your unfailing love. Pray for disaster relief workers and Moravian Disaster Response, specifically the work in Alaska following the tsunami.
- 2. Keep me safe O God, for in you I take refuge. Pray for the Raipur Foster Child Project.
- 3. Hear O Lord, my righteous plea; listen to my cry. Give ear to my prayer. Pray for Phil and Eunice Raiford in Mexico.
- 4. The Lord is my rock, my fortress and my deliverer; my God is my rock in whom I take refuge. Pray for Moravian churches in the Eastern West Indies Province who continue to recover from damage caused by hurricanes.
- 5. You, O Lord, keep my lamp burning; my God turns my darkness into light. Pray for Michael and Naomi Woo with OMF International.
- 6. The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands. Pray for PEC members, bishops, and other church leaders.
- 7. May the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be pleasing in your sight O Lord, my Rock and my Redeemer. Pray for Adopt-a-Village in Tanzania.
- 8. In you our fathers put their trust; they trusted and you delivered them. Pray for Moravians in Cuba and the Armando Rusindo Foundation.
- 9. You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies. You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows. Pray for Shristi Academy, a Moravian School, in Nepal.
- 10. To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul; in you I trust, O my God. Pray for the Clinica Evangelica Morava in Ahuas, Honduras.
- 11. Such is the generation of those who seek him, who seek your face, O God of Jacob. Pray for the Unity Women's Desk
- 12. The Lord is my light and my salvation, who shall I fear? Pray for Moravians in Peru.
- 13. Wait for the Lord; be strong and take heart and wait for the Lord. Pray for the Hoffmans in HIV/AIDS ministry.
- 14. Ascribe to the Lord the glory due his name; worship the Lord in the splendor of his holiness. Pray for seminarians and candidates for ordination.
- 15. Lord my God, I called to you for help and you healed me. Pray for Joey Yokeley with Fellowship of Christian Athletes.
- 16. You are my hiding place; you will protect me from trouble and surround me with songs of deliverance. Pray for Safiatu Braima and Sierra Leonne.
- 17. Sing joyfully to the Lord, you righteous; it is fitting for the upright to praise him. Pray for Kevin and Charity in the Middle East.
- 18. We wait in hope for the Lord; he is our help and our shield. Pray for Ukrainian refugees and the churches in the Czech Republic.
- 19. May your unfailing love rest upon us, O Lord, even as we put our hope in you. Pray for the Harrisons with Greek Intervarsity.
- 20. Your love, O Lord, reaches to the Heavens, your faithfulness to the skies. Your righteousness is like the mighty mountains, your justice like the great deep. Pray for Anna Faircloth with YoungLife.
- 21. The days of the blameless are known to the Lord, and their inheritance will endure forever. In times of disaster they will not wither; in days of famine they will enjoy plenty. Pray for Brian and Heather Marx with Mission Aviation Fellowship.
- 22. Lord, do not forsake me; be not far from me, O my God. Come quickly to help me, O Lord my Savior. Pray for new and emerging ministries of the Moravian Church.
- 23. I waited patiently for the Lord; he turned to me and heard my cry. Pray for Alan and DeeDee lobst in France.
- 24. Be pleased, O Lord, to save me; O Lord, come quickly to help me. Pray for Charlie and Vicki Brent in Texas.
- 25. As the deer pants for the streams of water, so my soul pants for you, O God. Pray for Annie B Missions and Star
- 26. Put your hope in God, for I will yet praise him, my Savior and my God. Pray for the Teshes in Kenya and Ray of Hope.
- 27. All this happened to us, though we had not forgotten you or been false to your covenant. Our hearts had not turned back; our feet had not strayed from your path. Pray for the Board of World Mission.
- 28. Rise up and help us; redeem us because of your unfailing love. Pray for Michael and Brenda Brent in Croatia.
- 29. Clap your hands, all you nations; shout to God with cries of joy. How awesome is the Lord Most High, the great King over all the earth! Pray for Estamos Unidos Moravian Ministry.
- 30. Within your temple, O God, we meditate on your unfailing love. Like your name, O God, your praise reaches to the ends of the earth. Pray for the growing Moravian Church in Brazil.

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, or calling or emailing the office. Children are welcome to assist and 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. 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

Ian Hrdlicka, 3rd

Alec Carter, 6th Rebekah Wofford, 7th

10:30 Pre-Tour: Historic Bethabara Park 12:30: Welcome & Overview at God's Acre 1:00-3:00: Bethania Ramble

3:00-4:00: Closing Reception at the Cornwallis House For more information or to buy tickets in advance, go to Preservation NC's Events page at:

presnc.org/events/event/bethania-ramble/



Preservation NC's final Ramble of the year will highlight a very different area of our unique state! You're likely familiar with the nearby living history museum of Old Salem, but have you visited the smaller settlement of Bethania? Join us in exploration of Bethania, established in 1759 as a self-sufficient farming community which allowed both Moravian and non-Moravian settlers.

This National Historic Landmark (one of only 40 in NC!) is the only known existing Germanic-type Linear Agriculture village in the South. Our Ramble through Bethania's 500-acre Historic District will reveal exquisite detailed craftsmanship, stacked stone walls and cobblestone paths, and peaceful nature areas. The Town Plan exemplifies both Old World planning and New World adaption.

EXTENDED CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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)

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