Moravian Minutes

November 23, 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



Join us for worship and an "informal" Thanksgiving Lovefeast this Sunday in gratitude for God's many blessings.

Coffee and muffins will be available in the narthex beginning at 10:30am. Come enjoy a time of fellowship in the sanctuary as we share a simple meal together as our service begins.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 23

TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Watchword for the Week: Be still, and know that I am God! I am exalted among the nations, I am exalted in the

earth. Psalm 46:10 Liturgist: Vince Holbrook

Liturgy: Thanksgiving (pp. 159-163) **Scripture:** Deuteronomy 26:1-11

November Joyful Noise: Mustard Seed Community

Health

HAPPENING THIS WEEK

Sun, Nov 23 Sunday School (9:45am)
Worship (11:00am, Sanctuary)
Chicken Pie Assembly (12:00pm, NFH)
Band Practice (3:00pm, OFH)

Band Practice (3:00pm, OFH)

Wed, Nov 26 Praise Band (6:00pm, OFH)
Choir Rehearsal (7:30pm, Sanctuary)

Thurs, Nov 27 Thanksgiving Day (OFFICE CLOSED)

Fri, Nov 28 OFFICE CLOSED

Tavern Set-Up (Time TBD)

Zoom Meeting ID: 205 454 336

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

NOVEMBER JOYFUL NOISE: MUSTARD SEED COMMUNITY HEALTH

Please continue contributing to our November Joyful Noise offering in support of Mustard Seed Community Health's expansion plans, even though we have met our \$500 fundraising goal. With generous donations last Sunday, we have collected \$689.11 for the medical clinic that helps uninsured and underinsured patients improve their health. Mustard Seed is currently moving ahead with plans to purchase a permanent building that will expand the medical clinic and consolidate all of Mustard Seed's services under one roof. Please drop your contributions in the collection cans in the narthex or send checks for Mustard Seed Community Health to the church office through the end of the

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.

From the 2026 Synod Nominations Committee:

The nomination process for the 2026 Moravian Church Southern Province Synod is now open!

We are seeking individuals to serve in leadership positions including: Provincial Elders' Conference (3 clergy, 3 lay); Board of World Mission (1); Moravian Mission Society (12); School of Theology at Moravian University Board of Trustees (2); Provincial Women's 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.

News from the PEC

The Provincial Elders' Conference is pleased to announce that **Mr. Allen Casstevens** will be installed as a Provincial Acolyte to serve the Moravia Moravian congregation in Oak Ridge, NC on Sunday, November 16, 11:00am. Allen comes to us from the Presbyterian Church, USA where he received training to become a Commissioned Ruling Elder which is the equivalent of a Provincial Acolyte in our tradition.

Please remember Allen and the Moravia congregation as they begin a journey of service together.

The Rev. Elizabeth A. Corney was received as a Deacon of the Moravian Church and installed as Hopewell Moravian's pastor on Sunday, November 9. Please keep Elizabeth and the Hopewell congregation in your prayers as they begin this exciting journey together.

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN PARTICIPATING IN 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 New Year's Eve





December 31, 2025, at 8:00 p.m. St. Philips Moravian Church



All are invited to share a Watchnight Service sponsored by the Southern Province of the Moravian Church on Wednesday, December 31, at 8:00 p.m. This one-hour service of Holy Communion will be shared at St. Philips Moravian Church in the Salem Historic District (911 S. Church Street, Winston-Salem). Angelica Regalado-Cieza, pastor of Fries Memorial Moravian Church will speak.

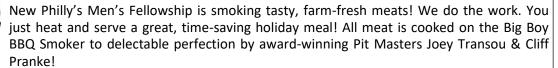
All band members are invited to assemble for a prelude 30 minutes prior to worship.

New Philadelphia Moravian Church Men's Fellowship

Smoked Meat Sale

benefitting

Laurel Ridge Camp and Conference Center



Proceeds benefit the Simmons-Dula Fund supporting maintenance for Laurels Lodge, four cabins, and Special Projects at Laurel Ridge Moravian Camp.

Thanksgiving Order Pickup: Tuesday, Nov. 25 (5:15 to 6:30 PM)

Christmas Order Deadline: Sunday, Dec. 7 | Order Pickup: Monday, Dec. 22 (5:15 to 6:30 PM)

Pick up all orders in the foyer of the New Philadelphia Moravian Church Fellowship Hall. If the weather is nice, we will be around back in the pavilion handing out the orders.

Gray Styers will pick-up Christmas Orders upon request for delivery after Christmas Eve Lovefeasts.

Oink!

(Porkilicious!)

Tenderloin, 1 to 1 ¼ pounds* seasoned with mild spice rub \$20

Gobble!

(Turkeyummm!)

Boneless breast, 3 pounds* seasoned with rosemary-garlic rub \$25

Moo!

(Beeftastic!)

Tenderloin, 2 to 3 ½ pounds** \$78 - \$137 (\$39 per pound)

Meat Loaf, 2 ½ pounds* seasoned with a BBQ rub \$24

We truly prefer you order online. Click Here, scan the QR code, Or contact Joey Transou at (336) 971-7804 or Joey@TransouRealty.com

Please contact Gray Styers if you want him to pick up your Christmas Order.



^{*}Pre-cooked weight

^{**}Cooked weight



School Day

First Church Night

Candle Tea Fri., Dec. 5, 2:00-8:00pm

Wed. Dec. 3 8:00am-1:00pm

Thurs, Dec. 4 7:00pm-8:30pm

Sat., Dec. 6 10:00am-1:00pm

YARD SIGNS, FLYERS, AND POSTCARDS NOW AVAILABLE!

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! We have yard signs, flyers, and postcards available in the narthex. Please consider taking some to help us spread the word around Greensboro

IMPORTANT SET-UP DATES

Saturday, November 29th (10"00am- Until): NFH Table Set-Up/Craft Store Set-Up/Campus Decorating Sunday, November 30th: No Hanging of the Greens/Individual Area Set-Up, as needed Monday, December 1st (all day): Additional Set-Up, as needed Thursday, December 4th (all day): Bakery Deliveries/Cookies Store Set-Up/Online Order Packing Thursday, December 4th (1:00-4:00pm): Vendor Set-Up Friday, December 5th (10:00am-12:00pm): Vendor Set-Up

CANDLE TEA VOLUNTEER INFO

Costumes: Need help picking up/picking out your Candle Tea costume for this year? See Meredith Cohoon, Lisa Salo, or Jane McKinney after worship any Sunday to browse the costume room.



We're still looking for help at the Lighted Star Table, Baked Goods Table, and Candle Trimming Table! 2025 Volunteer Schedule/Sign-Up: https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080C44AFA929A2FB6-57500750-2025

CANDLE TEA NEEDS

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 and labeled with any common allergens. Contributions can be dropped off in advance (if freezer-safe) or at First Church Night (Thursday, 12/4). Price stickers will be available for you to label your contributions.

Tavern Items: We need large canisters of decaf Folgers or Maxwell House coffee, Country Time Lemonade mix, and bags of granulated white sugar to stock the Tavern Kitchen. 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.



MORAVIAN DISASTER RESPONSE 11/6/25 UPDATES

HURRICANE MELISSA (JAMAICA, THE CARIBBEAN) NOVEMBER 4, 2025

The Board of World Mission has received a detailed report from the Provincial Board of the Jamaica and Cayman Islands Province of the Moravian Church following Hurricane Melissa's devastating impact on the island. The report included photos and brief initial assessments of a number of church-owned properties, the vast majority of which are located in the western parishes of Westmoreland and St. Elizabeth, which experienced some of the most severe destruction. While the report is extensive, it notes that some churches and church properties have not yet been assessed for potential damage.

According to the report, five church buildings have been destroyed: Carmel, Salem, Beaufort, Springfield, and Faith Moravian Church. In addition, 20 church-owned facilities, the majority of which are churches, but also manses and schools, have sustained severe damage, with roofs torn away and major structural losses. Damage among homes and community buildings is also extensive. The report noted that "it is feared that most, if not all, of the 36 congregations at the Central and Western District Conferences have sustained some level of damage."

The Provincial Board has outlined a multi-step plan for the coming weeks and months, which includes addressing people's immediate needs, offering pastoral and psychological care, continuing to coordinate assessments across affected areas, mobilizing local volunteer groups for cleanup and repair, and establishing the Moravian Church Jamaica and Cayman Islands (MCJCI) Disaster Response Fund. The BWM's Moravian Disaster Response (MDR) has contributed an initial \$10,000 to this fund. Additional support is greatly needed to meet the scale of destruction and to help our partners rebuild and build anew their places of worship, ministry, and community life.

We are aware of several fundraisers across the Worldwide Moravian Unity and ask that Moravians in North America respond to this disaster through BWM channels to help us facilitate a coordinated response. This also enables us to prepare for North American mission teams to assist with recovery efforts when the Moravian Church in Jamaica is ready to receive us.

Typhoon Halong (Alaska) November 6, 2025

We are also maintaining contact with partners and leaders in Cuba and Haiti, who were also impacted by this storm.

The Board of World Mission continues to closely monitor the situation in western Alaska following Typhoon Halong, which reached Alaska on October 12. The storm brought hurricane-force winds, widespread flooding, and severe damage to coastal villages across the Yukon–Kuskokwim Delta region.

Several communities with Moravian congregations have been directly impacted and hundreds of people, including some Moravians, from villages in the region have been displaced. Displaced individuals are currently being housed in several Moravian facilities in Bethel including two parsonages, the Moravian Seminary, and possibly soon, the old seminary building. To help offset the cost of utilities for these buildings serving as temporary housing, the BWM's Moravian Disaster Response Fund has provided the Alaska Province with \$10,000 in additional support. This funding is in addition to the \$10,000 previously contributed to the Western Alaska Disaster Relief 2025 Fund, which is a collaboration of local community organizations and regional partners and was recommended by Moravian contacts.

We continue to hold all affected individuals, families, and communities in prayer, and we stand ready to offer additional support as we communicate with the Alaskan Moravian Province. Your gifts make it possible for us to respond quickly as needs change, to faithfully partner with our Alaskan siblings in the weeks and months ahead.

100% of donations to our MDR Fund go toward providing relief for these disasters. 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



Donate online at: MoravianMission.org/Give



Pray Every Day December 2025

- 1. I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse; and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you. Pray for the Clinica Evangelica Morava in Ahaus.
- 2. The scepter will not depart from Judah, nor the ruler's staff from between his feet, until he to whom it belongs shall come and the obedience of the nations shall be his. Pray for Charlie and Vicki Brent in Texas.
- 3. When your days are over and you rest with your ancestors, I will raise up your offspring to succeed you, your own flesh and blood, and I will establish his kingdom. Pray for the Moravian School, Shristi Academy, in Nepal.
- 4. Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign: The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel. Pray for Safiatu Braima and Sierra Leone.
- 5. When Israel was a child, I loved him, and out of Egypt I called my son. Pray for the Moravians in Peru.
- 6. But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, though you are small among the clans of Judah, out of you will come for me one who will be ruler over Israel, whose origins are from of old, from ancient times. Pray for Moravians in Cuba and the Armando Rusindo Foundation.
- 7. You have made them a little lower than the angels and crowned them with glory and honor. You made them rulers over the works of your hands; you put everything under their feet. Pray for the Moravians in Alaska and their recovery from natural disaster.
- 8. My people, hear my teaching; listen to the words of my mouth. I will open my mouth with a parable; I will utter hidden things, things from of old. Pray for Michael and Naomi Woo with OMF International.
- 9. In that day the Root of Jesse will stand as a banner for the peoples; the nations will rally to him, and his resting place will be glorious. Pray for Joey Yokeley in Fellowship of Christian Athletes.
- 10. Then will the eyes of the blind be opened and the ears of the deaf unstopped. Pray for the Teshes and Ray of Hope Orphanage.
- 11. A voice of one calling: 'In the wilderness prepare the way for the Lord.' Pray for the Unity Women's Desk.
- 12. Here is my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen one in whom I delight. Pray for Anna Faircloth with YoungLife Ministry.
- 13. The Spirit of the Sovereign Lord is on me, because the Lord has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. Pray for the Harrisons with Greek Intervarsity.
- 14. He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim freedom for the captives and release from darkness for the prisoners. Pray for Alan and DeeDee lobst in France.
- 15. In my vision at night I looked, and there before me was one like a son of man, coming with the clouds of heaven. Pray for the Board of World Mission.
- 16. He was given authority, glory and sovereign power; all nations and people of every language worshipped him. Pray for Annie B Missions and Star Mountain.
- 17. His dominion is an everlasting dominion that will not pass away and his kingdom is one that will never be destroyed. Pray for Kevin and Charity in the Middle East.
- 18. See your king comes to you, righteous and victorious, lowly and riding on a donkey. Pray for Brian and Heather Marx with Mission Aviation Fellowship.
- 19. The days are coming, declares the Lord, when I will raise up for David a righteous branch a King who will reign wisely and do what is just and right in the land. Pray for the Hoffmans in HIV/AIDS Ministry.
- 20. When your days are over and you rest with your fathers, I will raise up your offspring to succeed you. Pray for the recovery work in Jamaica.
- 21. You will be with child and give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus. Pray for Adopt A Village in Tanzania.
- 22. For nothing is impossible with God. Pray for Phil and Eunice Raiford in Mexico.
- 23. Blessed is she who has believed that what the Lord has said to her will be accomplished! Pray for the Rajpur Foster Child Project.
- 24. Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all people. Pray for PEC members, bishops and other church leaders.
- 25. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord. Pray for local homeless shelters.
- 26. Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to men on whom his favor rests. Pray for seminarians and candidates for ordination.
- 27. When they had seen him, they spread the word concerning what had been told them about this child. Pray for Michael and Brenda Brent in Croatia.
- 28. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things they had heard and seen, which were just as they had been told. Pray for short-term mission teams.
- 29. When they saw the star, they were overjoyed. They saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshipped him. Pray for disaster relief workers.
- 30. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold and of incense and of myrrh. Pray for the war in Ukraine and refugees.
- 31. And Jesus grew in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and men. Pray for Estamos Unidos Moravian Ministry.

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

Emily Nunn, 24th

Harvey Veach, 24th

Maggie McCandless, 27th

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)

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! This Sunday, November 16th, our middle and senior highs will begin the second unit ("Stand Firm") in their 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! Our children are in the midst of a 12-week series on "Invitation". Through both Old and New Testament stories, we are 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 meets in the Children's Space beneath the Sanctuary.

EXTENDED CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Nov 23 Chicken Pie Making (NFH 12:30pm, 1:30pm)
Nov 27-28 OFFICE CLOSED (Thanksgiving Weekend)

1 20 T S 1 1 (251) All D \

Nov 28 Tavern Set-Up (OFH, All Day)

Nov 30 Advent Communion

Dec 3 Candle Tea School Day

Dec 4 Candle Tea First Church Night (OFH, 7:00pm)

Dec 5-6 Candle Tea

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: mckinney @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