



United in Christ, Reaching Out with Love, Changing Lives

2026 WATCHWORD

My dwelling place shall be over them, and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. Ezekiel 37:27

SUNDAY PREVIEW

We begin the journey to Easter this Sunday by recognizing the First Sunday in Lent with Holy Communion. The choir will perform the chorale for married brethren in memory of Brooks Haworth and the Gospel lesson is the temptation of Jesus. Hope to see you then!

NEXT SUNDAY IS UNITY PRAYER DAY AND SPECIAL UNITY OFFERING

March 1 marks the 569th anniversary of the founding of the Unitas Fratrum, the worldwide Moravian Church. We will offer prayer for the Unity and collect a special offering that day to support the Moravian Unity Heritage Foundation (MUCHF), which manages the Moravian UNESCO World Heritage sites: Bethlehem, PA; Herrnhut, Germany; Christiansfeld, Denmark; and Gracehill, Northern Ireland. We will be collecting for Joyful Noise the following four Sundays of March.

LADIES, JOIN US FOR THE QUARTERLY WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP GENERAL MEETING!

All are invited to the quarterly general meeting of the Women's Fellowship on Tuesday, March 3rd, at 7:00 pm in the Conference Room (NFH). We will be discussing and allocating funds from the 2025 Candle Tea. The meeting will also be available via Zoom at the following link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83028298152>.

Questions? Please contact Libby Connery, Women's Fellowship President (email: lkc3med@gmail.com).

SPECIAL MUSIC – MARCH 8 DURING 11:00AM WORSHIP

You don't want to miss the 11:00am worship service (music beginning at 10:45am) on March 8 when we will again be joined by pianist and oboist extraordinaire Martin Brinkley. You may remember when Martin blessed us with his music two years ago. He will be accompanying the choir's performance of John Rutter's The Lord is My Shepherd, and Justin's singing of "Qui tollis peccata mundi," ("You Take away the Sins of the World") from Johann Sebastian Bach's Mass in G Minor. The prelude (beginning at 10:45) and postlude will be the three movements of Mozart's Piano Sonata in D Major for four hands (with a surprise duet pianist). For his day job, Martin is a professor (and former Dean) of the UNC School of Law. His oboe instructor is Keisuke Wakao, oboist with the Boston Symphony Orchestra and the Boston Pops.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2026

FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT

Watchword for the Week: Be glad in the Lord and rejoice, O righteous, and shout for joy, all you upright in heart. Psalm 32:11

Liturgist: Lisa Salo

Liturgy: Lent 2 (pp. 78-81)

Communion Liturgy : In Celebration of the Atonement (pp. 196-208)

Scripture: Romans 5:12-19; Matthew 4:1-11

February Sunday Stampede: Children's books (Family Support Network)

HAPPENING THIS WEEK

Feb. 22 Sunday School (9:45am, Library)
Worship (11:00am, Sanctuary)

Feb. 25 The Sanctuary will be open for private contemplative prayer from noon to 1:00pm and 5:00 to 6:00pm. A short (10 minute) prayer liturgy led by Pastor Barbara will conclude each time of prayer.

Feb. 25 Praise Band (6:00 - 7:30pm, OFH)
Choir Rehearsal (7:30pm, Sanctuary)

Zoom Meeting ID: 205 454 336

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

Until further notice, church office hours will be Tuesday – Friday, 9:00am to 1:00pm.

FEBRUARY SUNDAY STAMPEDE: COLLECTING CHILDREN'S BOOKS FOR FAMILY SUPPORT NETWORK

We have started a small collection of children's books in the narthex, but we need more. During the month of February, the Mission Committee will collect children's books to benefit the Family Support Network of Central Carolina (FSNCC), a local nonprofit organization whose mission is to provide support, education, and caring connections to those who have a child with a disability, special healthcare needs, or who have experienced a NICU stay. FSNCC envisions every child having a thriving family and is committed to fostering an inclusive, diverse, and equitable community. First Moravian Church will support FSNCC by collecting donations for their "Books for Babies" program. FSNCC delivers books to the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) families twice a month. Reading to babies, even at this young age, helps with bonding, comfort, increased vocabulary, cognitive stimulation, and more restful sleep! The benefits are endless, and parents are establishing an amazing habit that will nurture their child for years to come. New children's books – especially board books for babies – are perfect donations. FSNCC is also happy to accept monetary donations that will support the Books for Babies program and other services at www.fsncc.org. Please bring your contributions each Sunday and place them in the little red wheelbarrow in the narthex. Cash donations may be placed in the collection cans in the narthex, or you may send your check to the church office, attention Gay Cass, and indicate in the memo line that the gift is for Joyful Noise/Children's Books.

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

SPRING '26 SPIRITUAL LIFE RETREAT

Friday, April 24th – Sunday, April 26th

The Provincial Women's Board Provincial Retreat at Laurel Ridge is open to all women of the Southern Province.

On-line Registration:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSePrZTixVVVH5zVDTjVbWf_Dt6Cz04TXxyiXFJxz1Z7LUFJdA/viewform?usp=header

THE PROVINCIAL WOMEN'S BOARD PRESENTS:

Spring '26 Spiritual Life Retreat

@ Laurel Ridge

LIVING the Sanctified Life

Friday, April 24th - Sunday, April 26th

****Registration deadline: March 24, 2026****

Retreat Facilitator:
Traci Fisher



2026 LENTEN WORSHIP AND PRAYER OPPORTUNITIES



WEDNESDAYS IN LENT

Each Wednesday during Lent, the First Moravian Sanctuary will be open for contemplative prayer from noon to 1:00pm and 5:00 to 6:00pm. A short (10 minute) prayer liturgy led by Pastor Barbara will conclude each time of prayer.

CARPPOOL TO DAY OF PRAYER SERVICES

Join friends from First Moravian and carpool to the Provincial Day of Prayer services each week at area Moravian churches. We will depart from the FMC parking lot one hour before scheduled activities begin (e.g., depart at 9:00am for a 10:00am coffee hour). Contact Meredith Cohoon (336.312.1322) for more information or to arrange a ride.



2026

DAY OF PRAYER SERVICES



MARCH 29, PALM SUNDAY
APRIL 5, EASTER SUNDAY

February 18, 11 A.M. Home Moravian, Ash Wednesday, Speaker: The Rev. Virginia Hege (Ginny) Tobiassen. Coffee Fellowship at 10 am in the Parlor. The service will be available in person and live streamed on the Home Church Web page. Click on Live broadcasts to access the service.

<https://www.homemoravian.org/index.php/live-broadcasts/>

February 22, 2 P.M. Christ Moravian, Speaker: The Rev. Linda Seippel, Lovefeast.

February 25, 11 A.M. Trinity Moravian, Speaker: The Rev. Dr. Craig Atwood. Lunch will be served after the service.

March 4, 11 A.M. Ardmore Moravian, Speaker: The Rev. Craig Troutman. Refreshments will be served at 10:00 A.M. The service will be live streamed online: www.facebook.com/ArdmoreMoravian/videos

March 11, 11 A.M. Fries Memorial Moravian, Speaker: The Rev. Angelica Regalado-Cieza. Coffee hour at 10 A.M. Service will be live streamed <https://www.youtube.com/@friesmemorialmoravianchurch4962>

March 18, 11 A.M. Fairview Moravian, Speaker: The Rev. James Newsome. The service will include communion and will be available on YouTube and Facebook.

March 25, 11 A.M. Konnoak Hills Moravian Church, Speaker: The Rev. Judy Knopf. Lovefeast. The service will be livestreamed at <http://www.khmemoravian.org/> Select "YouTube Chanel" at the top.

GREAT SABBATH SINGERS WANTED

SERVICE OF MUSIC AND WORSHIP ON SATURDAY, APRIL 4TH, 2026

Under the direction of Amanda Schumpert, with Mary Louise Kapp Peebles as organist, the Great Sabbath Chorus will present a **Great Sabbath Service of Music and Worship on Saturday, April 4th, 2026.**

Chorus rehearsals begin on Sunday, February 22 from 3:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall of Home Moravian Church. Sunday afternoon rehearsals will continue on March 1, 8, 15, and 22 and on Friday, March 27, at 7:00 pm.

Singers from all our churches are encouraged to sing. Community singers are also invited. The music this year will include Great Sabbath anthems and hymns. Interested singers should email Ted Leinbach at tedleinbach@aol.com.

Music on the Mountain

March 13-15, 2026
Higgins Lodge, Laurel Ridge

an opportunity to make music together, to worship, to learn, and to enjoy fellowship in a casual mountain setting with cozy accommodations and delicious meals included.

Participate in
BAND or CHOIR
or just come along to listen

Relax, Refresh,
and Remind Yourself of
God's Grace Through Music

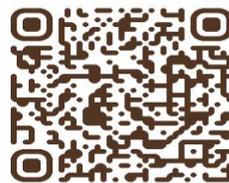
Band Leader - Danny Green
Choir Leader - Nancy Sawtelle
Collaborative Piano - Sara M. Wood
Devotions - Rev. Reed Lawson
Children - Chris Ogburn, Darla Earnest

Families welcome! Program of children's music and activities.
No registration fee for 17 and under.

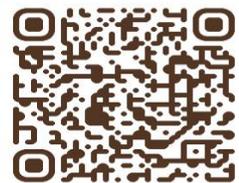
Scholarship funds available.

Questions to erik@moravianmusic.org
or 336-725-0651

INFO



REGISTER NOW



or find the link and more info at
www.moravianmusic.org

MARCH 1 MEN'S FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST: WILLS, ESTATE PLANNING, & HEALTHCARE POAs – Q&A

Jennifer Noble, a Trust & Estates attorney at Fox Rothschild will be our guest at the Men's Fellowship meeting on March 1, at 8:30 in the NFH Conference Room. She will be providing basic information about estate planning, wills, and healthcare POAs and answering questions. All are welcome to join the Men's Fellowship (including guests), but please RSVP to Greg

UNITY PRAYER DAY AND OFFERING— MARCH 1

On March 1, the worldwide Moravian Church (the *Unitas Fratrum*), founded in 1457, celebrates its 569th birthday! We will mark this celebration during worship on Sunday, March 1, as the first Sunday in March is designated as a Day of Prayer for the Unity. In addition, we will take up an offering for a cause chosen by the Unity in honor of its birthday. This year, the Unity is asking for donations to benefit the **Moravian Unity Heritage Foundation (MUCHF)**.

Special envelopes for the Unity Prayer Day Offering will be included in the bulletin. To contribute, place cash or check (payable to FMC with "Unity" in the memo line) in the envelope and drop it in the offering plate during the regular collection. You may also mail a check (payable to First Moravian with "Unity" in the memo) to the church office

Information on this year's offering from Rev. Dr. Jørgen Bøytler, Unity Board Administrator:

The purpose of the Moravian Unity Heritage Foundation (MUCHF) is supporting preservation projects of historical buildings and other structures considered cultural heritage, belonging to the Moravian Church around the Unity.

The Unity Synod 2016 passed a resolution directing a Moravian Unity Cultural Heritage Foundation (MUCHF) to be established. The Moravian Church is a living and vibrant part of the body of Christ. We are a Church Communion with 300 years of history. From the beginning, our Moravian forefathers erected buildings for worship and settlements and mission stations, in which Moravians dwelled and developed the Moravian way of life, liturgy. The structures were tangible signs of the Moravian Church witness to the world.

Many Moravian provinces today have properties including settlements, mission stations, church buildings etc. dating back to the 18th Century and later, which are considered cultural heritage of historical and sociological importance. As a sign of the significance of Moravian Church Cultural Heritage, the settlements of Bethlehem (Pennsylvania), Christiansfeld (Denmark), Gracehill (Northern Ireland), and Herrnhut (Germany) have been named UNESCO World Heritage. Several other settlements, mission stations and church buildings are considered Cultural Heritage.

The Moravian building culture and Moravian architecture are part of the heritage of our faith; and have been proven to be extraordinarily important to maintain, and valuable for society far beyond the limits of the Moravian constituency.

The provinces and congregations face challenges in restoring, maintaining, and revitalizing some of the structures due to financial constraints, due to lack of architectural staff, lack of sufficient knowhow concerning historic craftsmanship, conservation principles, national conservation legislation, possible avenues of funding, and knowledge of experience from other provinces concerning restoration issues of Moravian buildings.

The **Moravian Cultural Heritage Foundation** has now been established as a **Unity Undertaking**, and is governed by a Board, consisting of Moravian sisters and brothers from various parts of the Unity, appointed by Unity Synod 2023. To fulfill its purpose, MUCHF needs to do as follows:

Hire an administrator, who on behalf of the MUCHF Board will work on:

- Identifying internal Moravian and external national and international funding sources and making efforts to establish working capital.
- Identifying and assembling a group of international experts in Moravian Architecture, Church History, restoration, historic craftsmanship, cultural heritage management and other relevant subjects to offer guidance and advice to the provinces.
- Establishing a central register of structures to be considered as cultural heritage within the Unity.

The Unity Prayer Day Offering 2026 will enable MUCHF to hire an administrator, who will start working for the benefit of the Moravian Church Cultural Heritage around the world.

CHRISTIANSFELD, DENMARK



From the UNESCO website:

The Moravian Church Settlements in Herrnhut, Bethlehem, Gracehill (Northern Ireland), and Christiansfeld (Jutland, Denmark) were established according to overarching planning principles that reflected the ideals of the Moravian Church, as expressed in their plans and democratic organisation. Herrnhut, founded in 1722 as the “mother settlement”, is a testimony to the original Moravian urban and architectural design principles, as well as the key attributes of the Church’s spiritual, societal, and ethical ideals. Bethlehem, established in 1741, is the first permanent, best-preserved, and most important Moravian Church settlement in North America. Gracehill, developed in 1759 and featuring a grid-like plan focused on a village square, is the best-preserved Moravian Church settlement on the islands of Great Britain and Ireland. Founded in 1773, Christiansfeld, with its intact central square and impressive collection of buildings, presents the best-preserved example of a northern European Moravian Church settlement. Each architectural ensemble bears witness to the Moravian Church’s vision of a unified, coherent urban design, inspired by the concept of an “ideal city” developed by the Church during its formative phase in the 18th and beginning of the 19th centuries.

All four settlements have distinctive Moravian buildings, including a particular type of Gemeinhaus (congregation building), church, and choir houses (large structures designed as communal dwellings for unmarried men, unmarried women, and widows), as well as a nearby God’s Acre (cemetery). Each settlement has its own architectural character based on an original Moravian Church Civic Baroque style but adapted to local conditions. Together, these settlements represent the transnational scope and consistency of the international Moravian community as a global network. Present today in each component part is an active congregation whose continuation of traditions forms a living Moravian heritage.

Christiansfeld

The 18th century settlement of Christiansfeld in South Jutland is an exceptional example of a Moravian Church planned colony settlement, which reflects the Moravian Church’s societal and ethical ideals. Founded in 1773, it was built as a colony of the Moravian Church... The town presents an intact and well-preserved collection of buildings, oriented along two tangential east-west streets surrounding the Church Square and integrates a cemetery placed outside of the town. The town reflects the Moravian Church’s societal structure, characterized by large communal houses for the congregation’s widows and unmarried men and women. The architecture is homogenous and unornamented, with one- and two-story buildings in yellow brick and with red tile roofs. The proportions, materials, and craftsmanship contribute to the town’s special atmosphere of peace and harmony. The Moravian Church settlement of Christiansfeld bears an exceptional testimony to the Brethren’s principles, which are expressed in the town’s layout, architecture and craftsmanship.

Source: <https://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/6370/> and <https://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1468/>

PRAY EVERY DAY: FEBRUARY 2026

1. Stop doing wrong, learn to do right! Seek justice, encourage the oppressed. Pray for Michael and Brenda Brent in Croatia.
2. The Lord Almighty has sworn, 'Surely as I have planned, so it will be, and as I have purposed, so it will stand.' Pray for Charlie and Vicki Brent in Texas.
3. You will keep in perfect peace him whose mind is steadfast, because he trusts in you. Pray for the government leaders in our country.
4. In that day the Lord Almighty will be a glorious crown, a beautiful wreath for the remnant of his people. Pray for Safiatu Braima and Sierra Leone.
5. Yet the Lord longs to be gracious to you; he rises to show you compassion. Pray for the Moravians in Peru.
6. For the Lord is a God of justice. Blessed are all who wait for him! Pray for Moravians in Cuba and the Armando Rusindo Foundation.
7. 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 Honduras and Nicaragua.
8. Defend the cause of the fatherless, plead the case of the widow. Pray for the Teshes in Kenya and Ray of Hope Orphanage.
9. He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak. Pray for Joey Yokeley and Fellowship of Christian Athletes.
10. Even youths grow tired and weary, and young men stumble and fall; but those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. Pray for those without housing and homeless.
11. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint. Pray for the Unity Women's Desk.
12. So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. Pray for Anna Faircloth with YoungLife.
13. I will strengthen and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand. Pray for Dusty and Christin Harrison with Greek Intervarsity.
14. Here is my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen one in whom I delight. Pray for Alan and DeeDee lobst in France.
15. Fear not for I have redeemed you; I have summoned you by name; you are mine. Pray for the Board of World Mission.
16. I will also make you a light for the Gentiles, that you may bring my salvation to the ends of the earth. Pray for Annie B Missions and Star Mountain.
17. The Lord will guide you always; he will satisfy your needs in a sun-scorched land. Pray for Kevin and Charity in the Middle East.
18. Yet I will rejoice in the Lord, I will be joyful in God my Savior. Pray for Michael and Naomi Woo with OMF International.
19. Stand at the crossroads and look; ask for the ancient paths, ask where the good way is and walk in it, and you will find rest for your souls. Pray for Brian and Heather Marx with Mission Aviation Fellowship.
20. But blessed is the man who trusts in the Lord, whose confidence is in him. Pray for the Hoffmans in HIV/AIDS Ministry.
21. You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart. Pray for continued recovery from natural disasters.
22. 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 Adopt A Village in Tanzania.
23. Because of the Lord's great love we are not consumed, for his compassions never fail. Pray for Phil and Eunice Raiford in Mexico.
24. As a shepherd looks after his scattered flock when he is with them, so will I look after my sheep. Pray for the Rajpur Foster Child Project.
25. I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit in you; I will remove from you your heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh. Pray for PEC members, bishops and other church leaders.
26. The ways of the Lord are right; the righteous walk in them, but the rebellious stumble in them. Pray for the Clinica Evangelica Morava in Ahaus.
27. He will stand and shepherd his flock in the strength of the Lord, in the majesty of the name of the Lord his God. Pray for seminarians and candidates for ordination.
28. This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers and sisters. Pray for Moravians in Brazil and Bolivia.

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

Holly Nuttall, 23rd
Thomas McKinney, 28th

Ron Lutz, 24th
Tweedle Sisk, 28th

Melissa Mishler, 25th
Heather Kopp, 29th

EXTENDED CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- March 1 Unity Prayer Day & Offering
- March 1 Men's Fellowship Breakfast (8:30am-9:45am) NFH
- March 1 Sunday School (Library, 9:45am)
- March 1 Worship (Sanctuary, 11am)
- March 1 Gargoyles Hockey Game (3pm)
- March 3 Women's Fellowship Meeting (7pm, NFH)
- March 4 Each Wednesday during Lent, our Sanctuary will be open for contemplative prayer from noon to 1:00pm and 5:00 to 6:00pm. A short (10 minute) prayer liturgy led by Pastor Barbara will conclude each time of prayer.
- March 4 Praise Band (OFH, 6pm-7:30pm)
- March 4 Choir Rehearsal (7:30pm)
- March 8 Sunday School (Library, 9:45am)
- March 8 Worship (Sanctuary, 11am)
- March 10 Friendship Circle (OFH, 11:30am-1pm)

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: Tuesday-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

Cathy Jansen, Interim Administrative Assistant: office@greensboromoravian.org

2026 CHURCH BOARD

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Beth Smith

Class of 2027
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Penny Wofford