



Moravian Minutes

August 23, 2026

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

www.greensboromoravian.org

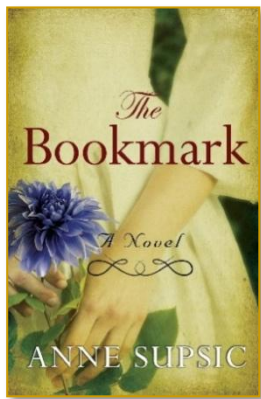
United in Christ, Reaching Out with Love, Changing Lives

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

The pursuit of righteousness is a lifelong endeavor, but scripture gives us a very long history of our Heavenly Father walking closely with all who desire a relationship with Him. Through God's mercy, we are still to present ourselves as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is our very act of worship. We are transformed by the renewing of our minds. Today, we have that same level of mercy, grace, and a Heavenly Father walking with us.



NEXT FMC BOOK CLUB: AUGUST 31 AT 6:30PM

The FMC Book Club meets again **on Monday, August 31 at 6:30pm in Old Fellowship Hall**, when we'll discuss ***The Bookmark* by Anne Supsic**. Please contact Pastor Barbara if you'd like her to order a copy of the book for you. The cost is \$17.99 through independent bookstores, and \$15.99 through Amazon. Kindle and used copies are available.

About the book:

1777. After being wounded at the Battle of Brandywine, the Marquis de Lafayette is taken to the isolated religious community of Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, where he is cared for by a Moravian Single Sister named Liesl Boeckel who has little patience with the arrogant Frenchman and his unwelcome curiosity about her life.

2005. When Abbey Prescott inherits her grandmother's house in Bethlehem, she discovers an eighteenth-century bookmark, which may reveal a romance between Liesl and Lafayette, and she becomes determined to solve the mystery. However, her quest is complicated by the aftershocks of a failed love affair and a possible romantic entanglement of her own.

The Bookmark is an immersive romantic mystery that illuminates a little-known piece of American history through the lives of two women, separated by the centuries but alike in their determination to confront the past and find a way forward.

About the author: Anne Supsic is a docent at the Moravian Museum in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, a dedicated Francophile, and a bookmark collector.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 23, 2026

ELEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Watchword for the Week: Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect. Romans 12:2

Liturgist: Donna Royster

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

Scripture: Isa. 51:1-6; Rom. 12:1-8; Matt. 16:13-20

Sunday Staple Stampede: School Supplies for Lindley Elementary School

Summer 2026 Ushers' Shirt Color: The shirt color for Sunday, August 23rd, is **Hawaiian or Tropical**

HAPPENING THIS WEEK

Sun, Aug 23	Sunday School (9:45am, Library) Worship (11am, Sanctuary)
Wed, Aug 26	Candle Tea Crafters (3pm, NFH Craft Room) Praise Band Rehearsal (6pm, OFH)
Thurs, Aug 27	Line Dancing (11am – 12:30pm OFH)
Sat, Aug 29	FMC goes to the Hoppers game!

Zoom Meeting ID: 205 454 336

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

SUNDAY STAPLE STAMPEDE: SCHOOL SUPPLIES FOR LINDLEY ELEMENTARY

Sunday Staple Stamped: Although Lindley Elementary School is not technically our neighbor for the next year or so, the Mission Committee encourages everyone to purchase school supplies for Lindley students who may not be able to afford them. During the month of August, we will collect school supplies in the little red wheelbarrow in the narthex (or monetary donations in the collection can) to donate to the school. Here are some of the supplies needed: glue sticks, crayons (8 count boxes for kindergarten, 24 count boxes for grades 1-5), composition notebooks, pink rectangular erasers, folders (plastic/poly with pockets and 2 prong with pockets), scissors, yellow No.2 pencils, colored pencils, highlighters, 3-ring binders (2-inch), loose-leaf notebook paper, multi-colored index cards. The supplies specifically requested are: fine tip black Expo markers, regular tip Expo markers (any color), Lysol wipes, paper towels. Monetary donations will help the PTA purchase additional school supplies.

Fill the box This month's emphasis is unsweetened applesauce .. Place your donations in the SimpleWays Community Support and Nutrition Program wooden food collection box in the narthex on Sunday or in the plastic bin on the back porch of the Moravian House at other times.

A CELEBRATION

We collected \$496.63 during the month of July for the Campership Fund at Laurel Ridge. The Campership Fund subsidizes the cost of tuition to summer camp beyond what individual congregations provide. Thank you for your contributions!

CANDLE TEA UPDATES

- ✱ This year Candle Tea will be held on Friday, December 4th, from 3pm-8pm and again on Saturday, December 5th, from 10am-2pm. Volunteers are also needed for clean up duties after the event on Saturday (from 2pm-4pm).
- ✱ The Crafters meet Wednesdays at 2:00pm in the Craft Room in the basement of NFH. Please join us as we work to prepare for the 2026 event. All levels are welcome. Bring your ideas, or we will have suggestions of crafts you can help us make. For information, call or text Penny Wofford at (336) 312-7500.

Save the Date!

RETREAT AT LAUREL RIDGE: FRIDAY, OCT 23RD – SUNDAY, OCT 25TH

Set aside time for a relaxing weekend in the Blue Ridge Mountains this fall with friends from FMC. There's no agenda -- just time to relax, connect with one another, explore the mountain setting, and have fun! It's a great experience for all ages! Higgins Lodge check-in begins at 4pm on Friday, October 23rd, and scheduled retreat activities will begin with supper at 6:00 pm. Our retreat will conclude with morning worship on Sunday, October 25th. **For more information, pick up a brochure posted on the bulletin board in the Narthex.**



The Southern Province
Moravian Church in America

The Provincial Elders' Conference invites you to attend the Consecration of:

- Br. Dion Christopher, who will be consecrated on Sunday, September 20, 2026, at 3:00pm at Prince of Peace Moravian Church in Miami, Florida.
- Br. John D. Rights, who will be consecrated on Sunday, September 27 at 3:00pm at Konnoak Hills Moravian Church in Winston-Salem, North Carolina.

PROVINCIAL WOMEN'S BOARD
FALL CELEBRATION AND STUDY BOOK WORKSHOP
Saturday, September 26, 2026 at Hopewell Moravian Church
701 Hopewell Church Rd, Winston-Salem, NC 27127
Free Continental Breakfast starting at 9 am
Mingle and browse treasures from local Moravian Artists
Programing starts at 10 am with Rev. Elizabeth Corney
336-722-4911 For additional details or pwbmcp@gmail.com

FMC NIGHT AT THE BALLPARK / SATURDAY, AUGUST 29, 2026

Grab your glove and join your First Moravian family for an evening of baseball as the Greensboro Grasshoppers take on the Hub City Spartanburgers on Saturday, August 29! Gates open at 6:00pm, with first pitch at 6:30pm.

It's a wonderful opportunity to enjoy a fun night of fellowship—and to invite friends and neighbors to come along. Stick around after the game for a spectacular fireworks show!

We've reserved the Party Deck, but tickets are limited, so sign up early. Adult tickets are \$20, and the church will cover half the cost of children and youth tickets, making their tickets just \$10. If cost is a concern, additional financial assistance is available.



- Contact Pastor Barbara or Greg Cohoon for more information
- Cost: \$20 (adult) / \$10 (child/youth)
- Sign-up: Contact the church office and/or fill out this form: <https://forms.gle/y9HzkDxJUfueQJpi6>



MORAVIAN ARCHIVES SUMMER SOIREE

August 25, 2026

5:00 pm – 7:00 pm

Our annual summer party is coming up this week, and the Bethlehem location cannot wait to see you. All FMC attendees are welcome!

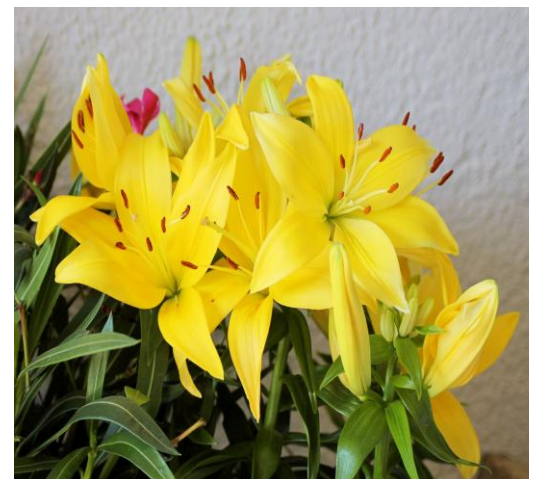
This year Slide On By and Mon and Mel's Sweet Scoops will be serving all your favorites. Twelve String will be playing hits.

Summer Soiree is rain or shine

WHO DOESN'T JUST LOVE LILLIES?

FMC is in the process of planning some new landscaping. We will be planting bushes between the OFH and the new fellowship hall.

The lily plants currently in that spot will be available for our congregation to dig up and plant in your own yard. Lily plants are easy to maintain, and they are very hearty plants. They are perennials and should bloom for years and will come back to life every spring. You will need to dig up the plants by September 1st. Lily plants will be available on a first come, first serve basis. If you have any questions, you may reach out to the church office (336) 272-2196 or to Beth McLean Thank you so much and happy gardening!



OTHER CONGREGATIONAL ACTIVITIES YOU WON'T WANT TO MISS!

(MORE INFORMATION TO COME)

- Congregational Worship and Picnic, Sept 27 at High Point City Lake Park.
- Church Anniversary Lovefeast during worship and Special Concert following worship, Oct 4.



The Southern Province *Moravian Church in America*

The Provincial Elder's Conference is pleased to announce that **Br. David Jackson** has accepted the call to serve as Pastor of **Macedonia Moravian Church** in Advance, NC. Br. Jackson will be ordained a Deacon of the Moravian Church on Sunday, September 13 at 3:00 pm. The Rt. Rev Lane A Sapp will officiate. Clergy, licensed lay pastors and educators will assemble in the Fellowship Hall at 2:30 pm. Please keep David, his family and the Macedonia congregation in yours prayers.

MORAVIAN SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY COMPASS LEARNING PROGRAM ONLINE ORIENTATION

Curious about ministry? Looking to join a welcoming community of learners? Seeking expert instruction? Then join us for the **Compass Virtual Open House** on **Thursday, Aug. 20, from 7 p.m. to 8 p.m. EDT via Zoom.**

Register for the free orientation at
<https://learn.moravian.edu/browse/compass>.

Compass online ministry classes begin in September. Open to all denominations and experience levels, these ecumenical courses offer expert-led instruction in a supportive community. Earn 3 continuing education units per course.

Fall Courses (7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. EDT via Zoom):

- Theology: Faith Seeking Understanding: Wednesdays, Sept. 2–Oct. 7
- Cultivating and Maintaining a Spiritual Life: Thursdays, Sept. 3–Oct. 8



TIME FOR REVIVING, RENEWING, REJOICING AT NEW PHILADELPHIA MORAVIAN CHURCH



- October 1 7:00pm** • Prayer with Bishop Tom Shelton
- October 2, 7:00pm** • Testimony Time with Sister Siv Ashley
- October 3, 4:45pm** • Musical Worship followed by a meal and 7:00 pm Rt. Rev. Dr. Dion Christopher speaks
- October 4, 9:00am** • Communion and Commitment service with worship lead by Bishop Sam Gray

PRAY EVERY DAY: AUGUST 2026

1. God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. 1 John 4:9 Pray for the Cape Town Moravian brass band members who are leading a music ministry in Jamaica.
2. He will bless those who fear the Lord, both small and great. Psalm 115:13 Pray for The Dwelling and other ministries working with unhoused populations.
3. Our hope for you is unshaken, for we know that as you share in our sufferings, so also you share in our consolation. 2 Corinthians 1:7 Pray for Kevin & Charity as they travel back to the Middle East.
4. Now may our Lord Jesus Christ himself and God our Father, who loved us and through grace gave us eternal comfort and good hope, comfort your hearts and strengthen them in every good work and word. 2 Thessalonians 2:16-17 Pray the earthquake victims in Japan.
5. Go into all the world and proclaim the good news to the whole creation. Mark 16:15 Pray for the Star Mountain ministry which is in the midst of turmoil and war.
6. But those who do what is true come to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God. John 3:21 Pray for the summer campers and staff at Laurel Ridge.
7. Great will be his authority, and there shall be endless peace. Isaiah 9:7 Pray for Ockbrook Moravian and the Moravian Brass from Germany who are celebrating Summer on the Settlement tomorrow.
8. Do not forsake me, O Lord; O my God, do not be far from me. Psalm 38:21 Pray for immigrants, refugees and displaced peoples.
9. The Lord has done great things for us, and we rejoiced. Psalm 126:3 Pray for the work of the Unity Women's Desk.
10. But when they cried out to the Lord, he raised up for them a deliverer, who saved them. Judges 3:9 NIV Pray for Michael and Naomi Woo with OMF International training new missionaries.
11. Do not, therefore, abandon that boldness of yours; it brings a great reward. Hebrews 10:35 Pray for the Harrisons with Greek Intervarsity.
12. The Lord will reign forever and ever. Exodus 15:18 Pray for the Ahuas Clinic, Honduras, as it celebrates its 80th anniversary as a healing ministry.
13. For in Him every one of God's promises is a "Yes." 2 Corinthians 1:20a Remember Berthelsdorf, Germany, and pray for the Holy Spirit to renew the Moravian Church each day.
14. Blessed are those who trust in the Lord, like a tree planted by water, sending out its roots by the stream. In the year of drought it is not anxious, and it does not cease to bear fruit. Jeremiah 17:7,8 Pray for the victims of and those battling the wildfires in Canada.
15. You are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the cornerstone. Ephesians 2:20 Pray for the Unity as they direct the worldwide Moravian Church.
16. Ever since the creation of the world God's eternal power and divine nature, invisible though they are, have been seen and understood through the things God has made. Romans 1:20 Pray for Moravians in Peru and Brazil.
17. Jesus said, "Abide in my love." John 15:9 Pray for Blessings Flow project and clean water for all.
18. For we did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we had been eyewitnesses of his majesty. 2 Peter 1:16 Pray for the Moravians in India and Nepal.
19. So we are always confident, even though we know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord—for we walk by faith, not by sight. 2 Corinthians 5:6-7 Pray for the Moravians in Cuba.
20. Remember that you were at that time without Christ, having no hope and without God in the world. But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. Ephesians 2:12-13 Pray for the Moravians in Honduras, Nicaragua, and Costa Rica.
21. He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end. Luke 1:33 Pray for the Michael & Cecilia Tesh as they continue ministries beyond the Ray of Hope school, Kenya.
22. I will make peace your governor and well-being your ruler. Isaiah 60:17 NIV Pray for the Ray of Hope school in Kenya. Rejoice that they have a water filtration system now. Thank you, Evon Crook!
23. First seek the counsel of the Lord. 2 Chronicles 18:4 NIV Pray for Phil & Eunice Raiford in Mexico.
24. Jesus said, "The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life." John 6:63 Pray for the Moravian Church in Tanzania, especially for the struggles of their women clergy.
25. Jesus answered him, "Those who love me will keep my word, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them." John 14:23 Pray for Morongo Moravian in California.
26. My soul thirsts for God, for the living God. When shall I come and behold the face of God? Psalm 42:2 Pray for the Moravians in Florida and Georgia, as they spread the word of Christ.
27. The Lord is my refuge. Psalm 91:9 NIV Pray for Good Shepherd Moravian of Port Arthur, Texas.
28. For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and we were all made to drink of one Spirit. 1 Corinthians 12:13 Pray for Michael & Brenda Brent in Croatia.
29. Pay close attention to yourself and to your teaching; continue in these things, for in doing this you will save both yourself and your hearers. 1 Timothy 4:16 Pray for the Moravians in Labrador.
30. Grace, mercy, and peace will be with us from God the Father and from Jesus Christ, the Father's Son, in truth and love. 2 John 3 Pray for the Moravian Church in Alaska.
31. O Lord, there is no difference for you between helping the mighty and the weak. 2 Chronicles 14:11 Pray for the Board of World Mission as they decide how best to support mission projects and disaster relief.

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

Kelly McLean, 25th,
Alan Turner, 26th

Georgia Lineback, 25th
Gail Haworth, 27th

Hunter Johnson, 25th
Donovan Kopp, 29th

EXTENDED CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Sat, Aug 29 Hoppers Baseball Game – Saturday, August 29th, 6:00-10:00pm.
Mon, Aug 31 FMC Pop-Up Book Club, (6:30 pm, OFH)
Tues, Sept.8 Friendship Circle Meeting (11:30am, OFH)
Sun, Sept 13 Worship; Guest Preacher Craig Troutman (11am, Sanctuary)
Sun, Sept 20 Men's Fellowship Breakfast (8:30-9:45am, NFH)
Sun, Sept 27 Congregational Worship and Picnic (10 am) at High Point City Lake Park
Sun, Oct 4 Men's Fellowship Breakfast (8:30-9:45am, NFH)
Church Anniversary Lovefeast during worship and Special Concert and Reception following worship.
Tues, Oct 13 Friendship Circle Meeting (11:30am, OFH)
Fri – Sun, Congregational Retreat, Laurel Ridge Camp and Conference Center. Brochures
Oct 23-25 available in the narthex. Sign up now!
Sun, Nov 1 Men's Fellowship Breakfast (8:30-9:45am, NFH)

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

Mary Elen Kollman Treasurer: treasurer@greensboromoravian.org

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

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

Kathryn Harris, Administrative Assistant: office@greensboromoravian.org

2026 CHURCH BOARD

Class of 2026

Mike Cockman
Vince Holbrook
Beth Smith

Class of 2027

Charles McKinney
James Paul
Keegan Smith, *vice chair*

Class of 2028

Bev Lozano
Lauren Petersen
Penny Wofford