

2026 SOUTHERN PROVINCE SYNOD: SUMMARY AND LINKS

Note: *At the end of the article is a link to the complete text of the resolutions.*

2026 Synod Information

The 2026 Synod of the Moravian Church Southern Province centered on the theme, “Ever Transforming, Ever Renewing.” based on Romans 12:2. Synod delegates gathered from all the congregations and agencies that make up the Southern Province for worship, dialogue, discernment and decision making. As a result of their commitment and service, this executive summary of the resolutions offers a snapshot of the priorities set forth by Synod for the next four years of the shared ministry of the MCSP.

Southern Province Leadership for 2026-2030

The Moravian Church in America Southern Province Synod elected Andrea “Andi” Williams as Provincial Elders’ Conference (PEC) president. Andi is the first woman and the first lay person elected to the role in the Province’s history. Additional PEC members elected include Frances Beasley (Home), Rickey Gardin (Advent), and Monique Richards (Southern Shores District) as our lay representatives and The Rev. Dr. Dion Christopher (Southern Shores District), The Rev. Dr. Riddick Weber (Moravian School of Theology), and The Rev. Andrew Craver (Rural Hall) as our clergy representatives.

The Synod also elected three new Bishops of the Unity: The Rev. Dr. Dion Christopher, The Rev. Dr. Nola Knouse, and the Rev. John D. Rights (Resolution 2). They will be consecrated later this year.

Governance Changes

The Florida Georgia District has been renamed the Southern Shores District to better represent the continued growth the province is seeing (Resolution 11).

The following changes are also to be made to the Book of Order:

- Changes to the Board of World Mission’s (BWM) constitution created a need to update the MCSP Book of Order (Resolutions 1, Resolution 4)
- Updates to the Book of Order to reflect structures of the Commission on Ministry (COM) and Commission on Congregational Development (CCD) (Resolution 3, Resolution 10)
- Interprovincial Board of Communication’s role as an agency was further clarified in the Book of Order (Resolution 6)
- The 70 year holding period on archive material was removed from the Book of Order and updated to create more involvement and regular revision from archive staff (Resolution 7)
- The number of people on the Mission Society’s Board was given more leniency (Resolution 8)
- The title Provincial Acolyte will be changed in the Book of Order to Licensed Lay Pastor (Resolution 9)
- By Jan 1, 2027, the Provincial Elders’ Conference will distribute it’s policy on Vitality, Governance, Intervention, and Dissolution of Congregations to all Southern Province Congregations (Resolution 28)

Fundraising and Resource Development

The MCSP Archive’s capital campaign was extended through 2030 (Resolution 5)

The MCSP will continue developing practical resources for congregations to explore alternative income sources and ministry transformation. (Resolution 12)

MCSP congregations are encouraged to partner with local schools, nonprofit organizations, and community groups to utilize church spaces for outreach initiatives. This synod affirms the importance of church buildings not only as places of worship but also as centers of community life to witness the love of Christ. (Resolution 13)

Budget increases in Resolutions 14, 17, and 19 are afforded thanks to churches agreeing to an additional mandatory increase above their calculated share amount. This amount will be apportioned (divided between) to each church based upon the share amount they provide / total share received.

Youth

The Southern Shores Youth Director (SSYD) was allotted a \$5000 travel budget. The SSYD will transition from a half-time position to a three quarters-time position. This is funded thanks to Synod mandated funds, CCD funds and potential grant funding. (Resolution 14)

The Provincial Youth Directors will create structured youth leader training which can be implemented in congregations and will work with youth groups and leaders to plan regional events throughout the year (Resolution 26, Resolution 27)

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Training and Education

Collaboratively, The Interprovincial Faith and Order Commission, CCD, Eastern District Spiritual Formation Committee of the Northern Province, in collaboration with the Interprovincial Board of Communication (IBOC) will create the Spiritual Formation and Christian Education digital hub. This hub will include, but is not limited to:

- Resources created and reviewed by Moravian contributors
- Shared curricula and ministry tools
- A Moravian glossary offering definitions of key terms such as Spiritual Formation, Faith Formation, Christian Education, Spiritual Discipline, and Spiritual Practice

\$5000 of already budgeted funds are allotted to this project. (Resolution 15)

Board leadership education opportunities are to be developed and collected by the end of 2026 for the 2027 board cycle with ongoing assessment of topics (Resolution 22)

The COM will work on developing a more comprehensive continuing education process for ministry professionals to support their ministry and skill development. (Resolution 24)

Advocacy and Justice

The 2026 Synod reaffirmed our call to the work of justice and advocacy in the world. Part of this work includes creating opportunities to learn from one another using listening circles where individuals share their understanding and hear others' points of view. (Resolution 16)

The 2026 MCSP Synod supports the vision of a joint MCNP Racial Justice Team and MCSP Moravian Team for Racial, Cultural, and Ethnic Reconciliation (MTR) pilgrimage and racial justice conference to be held in Montgomery, Alabama in 2027. To help support the work of MTR, the team was granted increased funding from \$2,000 per year to \$5,000 per year. (Resolution 17)

MCSP has many partnerships including the BWM, the Moravian Unity, Churches for Middle East Peace, The United Methodist Church, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, the Presbyterian Church USA, the Episcopal Church, North Carolina Council of Churches, the National Council of Churches, and the World Council of Churches. MCSP Synod affirms in alignment with our partners that every human being is created in the imago dei — the image and likeness of God — and deserves to be valued and treated as such. This means working for continued racial justice, supporting refugees, and otherwise seeking justice for all human beings. (Resolutions 18, 20, 21, 25)

Due to the multitude of languages spoken in the MCSP and a desire to expand the ability for all to participate in the life of the church in their native languages, the 2026 synod allocated \$16,000 for the next intersynodal period (\$4000/year) to help cover the cost of translation services at events and in communications. (Resolution 19)

Resolutions of the 2026 Synod – Moravian Church Southern Province

You can read the complete resolutions here: <https://www.moravian.org/southern/2026/06/resolutions-of-the-2026-synod/>

Reports from the 2026 Synod – Moravian Church Southern Province

<https://www.moravian.org/southern/2026/06/reports-from-the-2026-synod/>

These include Committee Reports, Agency Reports, Provincial Reports, and Interprovincial Reports.

2026 Synod Board Elections – Moravian Church Southern Province

<https://www.moravian.org/southern/2026/06/2026-synod-board-elections/>

Southern Province elects new leadership at 2026 Synod – Moravian Church Southern Province

<https://www.moravian.org/southern/2026/06/southern-province-elects-new-leadership-at-2026-synod/>