

# Our Savior's Moravian Church

November 2020

## *Quiet as a Feather*

The leaves have fallen and the pumpkins have seen better days. The temperatures are steadily getting colder, and we have already seen some snow. November is a month often filled with big and little traditions. Gathering around a family table. Getting up early in the morning and wandering the woods. Building a fire in the fireplace. Watching the geese make the journey south.

This past week I spent time on retreat at Mt Morris Camp & Retreat Center. I sat by the fire, I walked across the fallen leaves. I spent a lot of time in quiet reflection, something hard to come by as a father of two little ones. There are some God places in my life. What I mean by that, is that, I have some special nostalgic places where I feel a strong connection with the Divine. Little Lake at Mt Morris is one of those places for me. I took some time and sat along the shore. I listened to the quiet all around me and prayed. There is much to pray for in this world.

As I neared the end of my time of prayer, I asked God to give me strength and at that moment I could hear just overhead a small group of geese flying by. Part of the beauty of the quiet is that you can hear things you don't always hear. These geese flew so close, and the quiet around me allowed me to hear their feathers as they flapped their wings through the air. It may not sound like anything extraordinary, but in that moment, I felt the peace of God in my hear. I felt safe and secure. For a moment I stepped away from this unusual time and was just sitting with the Divine.

When was the last time you sat with God? I mean, really, truly stopped and sat with God, just the two of you? Do you have a God place that you seem to connect with God more strongly? When was the last time you sat or stood in that place?

It is easy amidst the chaos of the world to just want to step away and let the world pass you by. I encourage each of you to take the time to do that in small moments like a retreat. It is necessary for your mind, body, and soul. But allow it to be a time to recenter yourself. To allow God to fill you so that you can step back into the world as an instrument of God's grace and love.

Grace and Peace,  
*Pastor Greg*



# November 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>1</p> <p>8:30am - Sunday School 9:30am - Worship</p> <p>7:30pm - Online Book Study</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3</p> 	<p>4</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>6</p> 	<p>7</p> <p>St. Anthony's Rib Dinner 5:00-7:00pm</p>
<p>8</p> <p>8:30am - Sunday School 9:30am - Worship Holy Communion</p> <p>5:00pm - Confirmation Class 7:30pm - Online Book Study</p>	<p>9</p> <p>Joint Board Meeting 7:00pm</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>11</p> <p>Choir Practice 7:00pm</p>	<p>12</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14</p> 
<p>15</p> <p>8:30am - Sunday School 9:30am - Worship</p> <p>7:30pm - Online Book Study</p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17</p> <p>Women's Bible Study Group 7:00pm - Zoom</p>	<p>18</p> <p>Choir Practice 7:00pm</p>	<p>19</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21</p>
<p>22</p> <p>8:30am - Sunday School 9:30am - Worship Advent Festival</p> <p>7:30pm - Online Book Study</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25</p>	<p>26</p> 	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p> 
<p>29</p> <p>8:30am - Sunday School 9:30am - Worship Advent 1</p> <p>5:00pm - Confirmation Class 7:30pm - Online Book Study</p>	<p>30</p>					

# Our Savior's Moravian Church

The **Purpose** of this Church shall be to **glorify** God in adoration, **Love** and **service** as God's **missionary** to our **community**, our **nation**, and our **world**, bearing witness to **God's** redeeming **grace** in **Jesus Christ**.

## 2020 Congregational Watchword:

JESUS SAID, "I HAVE PRAYER FOR YOU THAT YOUR OWN FAITH MAY NOT FAIL." **LUKE 22:32**

\*\*\*\*\*

### Board of Elders

Pastor Greg Behrend – Chair  
Steve Pasche - Vice Chair  
Jenny Brummer - Secretary  
Wendy Sue Murphy  
Steve Krage

### Board of Trustees

Mark Stephan - Chair  
Dale Krage – Vice Chair/Secretary  
Rick Kreidermacher  
Scott Decker  
Tim Murphy

### Cemetery Board

Scott Decker  
Ken Krage  
Roger Schumacher

## Top 3 Board Topics

In our efforts to share with the congregation some of the current topics of our church leadership, the joint board shares with you these top 3 topics currently being addressed.

- 1. Christmas Eve Service Survey** – The board is working to give our members a variety of options for our Christmas Eve service this year. We understand different families might have different desires so we ask folks to fill out the survey to help provide feedback so we can plan the things that are the most meaningful to folks.
- 2. By-Law Update** – The revisions made to our church by-laws have been approved by the Provincial Elders Conference and now await a church council meeting for final approval. At our January Church Council Meeting we will review the changes and updates.
- 3. Uplifting our Sunday School Staff** – To show our support for our Sunday School Superintendent and Teachers, the Joint Board will be looking to have Sunday School appreciation pot-luck at the end of the school year. Please be sure to thank our teachers who do such a wonderful job with our children.

## Thank You!

Thank you to Cheryl Lovlien, Wendy Murphy, Kathy Brosig, and everyone who helped volunteer and donate at our fall blood drive!

Thank you to everyone who helped donate and volunteer for the Chili Drive-Thru Fundraiser!

Thank you to everyone who donated and helped pack/deliver our senior care packages!

# Life of the Congregation

## November Birthdays:

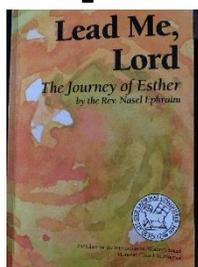
Tim Murphy 11/1  
Mike Lovlien 11/9  
Gary Rahn 11/21  
John Timm 11/24  
Angela Decker 11/30

## November Anniversaries

Don & Linda Ihrke 11/7  
Eric & Heather 11/14  
Mark & Lisa Stephan 11/29

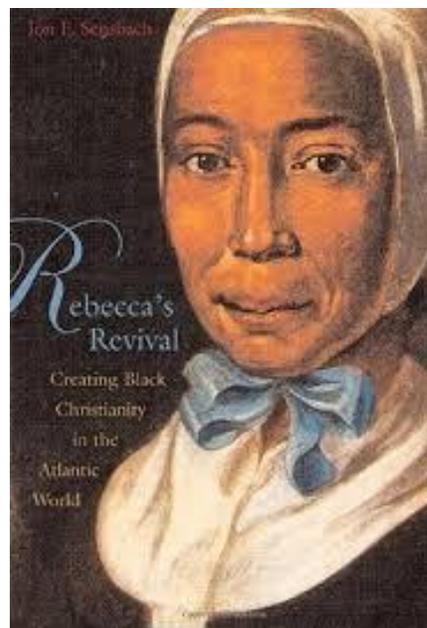
## **Women's Bible Study – Lead Me Lord** **3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of Each Month - 7:00pm**

All women of the congregation are invited to join a Bible study group that meets on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of each month. Please talk to Cheryl Lovlien for more information and how to join!



## **Online Book Study**

Rebecca's Revival by Jon Sensbach  
Sunday evenings 7:30-8:00p



## **Pork Dinner – November 7<sup>th</sup>** **5:00-7:00pm**

We welcome and support our Catholic brothers and sisters as they utilize our building for their annual Pork Dinner. This year all meals will be drive-thru. Please consider coming out to support our brothers and sisters.

## **Advent Festival – Nov. 22<sup>nd</sup>**

Following worship on Sunday November 22<sup>nd</sup>, all are invited to stay for our Advent festival. We will be preparing our hearts and church building for the coming Advent and Christmas season.



## **Pastor Greg on Vacation with his Family** **November 23-28**

The week of Thanksgiving, Pastor Greg will be away visiting family members for holidays and birthdays.

## **Vocal Choir**

Our Vocal Choir will work to continue rehearsals on Wednesday evenings as they are preparing some special music for our upcoming Advent season. All are welcome to join; you do not need to have previous musical experience to join. We encourage anyone who is interested in joining to speak with Cheryl Lovlien



# A New Way of Being

**Advent Series Featuring Moravian Stories and Racial Justice**

**December 2, 9, 16, 23 – 6pm on Zoom**



The Provincial Racial Justice Team is inviting all people to join them this Advent Season for a series called “A New Way of Being”. This four-session series features a video story shared by a Moravian who has been impacted by racism. Each session will also incorporate the Revised Common Lectionary Text from Sundays in Advent, a short, written reflection and discussion questions. These will be powerful sessions with the hope for all of us to hear one another better.

## Mission Outreach

### Conversation Café Postponed

We are continuing to plan and discern when we will be able to have another Conversation Café Meal. We hope to be able to offer this ministry again soon.



## Youth

### Sunday School Volunteers

Craft/Activity Day (1st Sunday of the Month)

We are looking for members who are willing to lead our Sunday School students in a craft and/or activity the first Sunday of each month. You will help lead students through a 15-20-minute craft or activity with the help of our Sunday School leaders. To sign up, simply pick a Sunday that you are able to help and let Jessica Merchlewitz know (507.4501612)

\*Our next Sunday we need help is February 7th

## Opportunities to Give

### Roof Fund

Thank you to everyone who has made donations to our roof project. We have raised over \$28,000 towards our goal of \$50,000 by the end of this year. We are still looking for gifts so if you are able to give above and beyond this is a great project to consider giving towards. Thank you all for your support!

### Moravian Ministries to Support

There are so many areas of need currently, especially some of our Moravian Ministries. If you are able to contribute to the work of the greater Moravian Church please visit our Giving Page on the church website to donate

- Mt. Morris Camp & Retreat
- Tricklebee Café
- Moravian Music Foundation
- Moravian Care Ministries
- Moravian Open Door
- Moravian Center Adult Day