



Provincial Update: Advent 2022

The Northern Province Moravian Church in America

Advent is a time of profound hope as we await the coming of the Savior. The promise of the Messiah breaks into our world – no matter who or where we are. Jesus came to challenge the status quo, to uproot the norms, and to save God's people. The challenge of Advent is to choose hope, joy, love, and peace – every day in every way – by how we live each day. The gift of Advent is the incarnation, the inbreaking of God's reign in our world today. May the coming blessing of the Christ Child soften your heart, change your life, and bless the people and the world around you.

Betsy Miller



Advent Opportunities

During the Advent season, many congregations offer special spiritual formation and fellowship opportunities. There are two provincial opportunities this Advent season: *A New Way of Being: Light, Wind, Healing, Home – an Advent series toward racial justice and healing.*

Wednesdays, starting November 30th at 7pm ET / 6pm CT / 5pm MT. This series will feature excerpts from the lectures Dr. Catherine Meeks delivered at the Pilgrimage Toward Racial Justice and Healing, and Dr. Meeks will make a special in-person appearance on December 7. The series will include musical offerings, devotions, presentations, and small group conversations. Go to Moravian.org/Northern/2022AdventSeries to learn more and find the Zoom link. The second province-wide opportunity is a Bible study on Tuesday evenings with Br. Michael Johnson and the people of John Hus Moravian Church. 7:30pm ET / 6:30pm CT / 5:30pm MT. Meeting ID 971 4841 1541. Passcode 386718. Zoom link: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/97148411541?pwd=R256L1lIZWh4TW5DbXRRobTc1eWo4UT09>

Annual Reports

Annual Report forms will be sent out soon! The Provincial Staff has made the membership data pages into an online form that will do the math calculations for you. The financial pages remain in fillable form. As before, you may submit the fillable online, but you must also print and submit them with your complete Annual Report. The deadline for submissions is February 28, 2023, with financial penalties for late reports. We encourage you to fill out the questions during a January Joint (Unified) Board Meeting and finalize the report in February.

Provincial Synod 2023: For the Healing of the World

Provincial Synod will be held June 22–25, 2023 on the campus of Moravian University in Bethlehem, PA. It is important for congregations to elect their delegates so that they may register and select a committee beginning in January 2023. The Nominating Committee is working to secure names for the various elected positions; the provincial staff is working on registration materials and on-site logistics; agencies and other groups are preparing reports. Any member of the province may submit a Proposal (or Memorial) to synod.



PEC Meets in Wisconsin

As we move into the endemic stages of the Covid pandemic, the Provincial Elders' Conference is meeting in person - this time in southern Wisconsin. The PEC met at Mt. Morris, the Camp and Retreat Center of the Western District. They had lunch at Tricklebee Café in Milwaukee, met with area clergy and spouses, and worshiped with the saints at Common Grace, the Federated Congregation meeting at Lakeview Moravian Church in Madison, Wisconsin. The PEC continues to work on welcoming those who wish to serve in lay or ordained ministry, developing educational materials for leaders new to the Moravian Church, and preparing for the upcoming Provincial Synod.



Association for Partners in Christian Education (APCE)

Congregations are urged to join the APCE to gain access to helpful resources for those responsible for the Christian education and spiritual formation of congregational members. Whether paid or unpaid, full-time or part-time, Christian educators in local congregations will find a wealth of resources through APCE, including materials on racial justice. The annual fee is only \$200. Learn more at <https://apcenet.org/>.

Notice, Name, and Nurture

Is there someone in your congregation who demonstrates gifts and graces for leadership in the church? Whether full-time ordained or part-time lay leadership, the province is prayerfully seeking qualified individuals to serve our congregations. Everyone can be an important part of raising up the next generation of leaders - no matter their age! If you know someone in your congregation who would make a great pastor, tell them! Pray for the Holy Spirit to work powerfully in their lives. Talk with them and invite them to consider ministry as a vocation. Most people in ordained ministry today report that someone in their local congregation encouraged them on their spiritual journey. Be that 'someone' today! Notice their gifts, name it aloud to the individual, and nurture that sense of God's call by giving them opportunities to exercise leadership in their local church.

Help Us Tell Our Story

Did you know that people are checking us out online - wanting to learn more about who the Moravians are? You can help us tell our story to a wider audience. In addition to including a link to MCNP.org on your website, please also include links to our Facebook and Instagram pages. To learn more about how you can tell our story, contact Sylvie Hauser, our Communications Consultant, at sylvie@mcnp.org.



Northern Province Website: www.MCNP.org

Facebook: www.facebook.com/moravianchurch.np

Instagram: www.instagram.com/moravianchurch.np