The Newsletter of The Eastern District Moravian Church November 2023 Melissa Johnson, President

District Developments

Congregational Spotlight

Trinity Moravian Church New Carrollton, Maryland

Caring Committee



Congregational care at Trinity does not begin and end when a member enters and exits the pews. Care extends far beyond our church walls and into daily life. One example of how we minister in the community is through our Caring Committee. The main goal of the Caring Committee is to follow Jesus Christ's teachings promoting service to our neighbors.

The Caring Committee has been an ongoing lay ministry at Trinity for over 20 years. Initially, the committee consisted of women who expressed willingness to serve not only members of Trinity, but also people in the local community. Later, a male member joined the group. The Caring Committee is responsible for those who are members of the congregation, friends of the congregation, and neighbors who are not able to be with us during worship services or who need our special care and concern and committee members engage themselves in numerous activities, including weekly member wellness check-ins, making phone calls, or sending text messages, greeting cards, and when safe to do so, home or hospital visits are made to those enduring grave, stressful situations. Intercessory prayer is another aspect of how our care "givers" work. The Caring Committee also celebrates newborns, recognizes graduates, makes care packages for college students, provides transportation for medical appointments, and coordinates "Card Showers" where the congregation can join in on writing messages of encouragement in greeting cards to send out to those in need.



Whether by mail, email, text, phone, personal visitation or prayer, the Caring Committee also endeavors to keep those missing from the pews "connected" with what is happening at Trinity Moravian Church.



Thanks to Bonnie Robertson (Penn-Mar region rep. of the EDEB) for providing this article. A special thank you to Sister Beverly Malcom from Trinity Moravian Church, New Carrollton, MD for sharing

information on this ministry for this article!

Board Member Spotlight

Bonnie Robertson Lay Representative to the EDEB for the Penn-Mar-DC region

Bonnie is a member of Trinity Moravian Church in New Carrollton, MD. Her parents Donald and Emilie Robertson were charter members, and she was the first child baptized at Trinity. Over the years, Bonnie has served as a Youth Leader, Elder, Trustee, Synod Delegate, Head Sacristan, a member of the choir and band, and more recently, has served as a weekly volunteer at Camp Hope. She loves to travel and feels blessed to have a job that allows her to travel to Alaska multiple times during the year, as well as to many remote areas of the country that usually are not tourist destinations. Her love of travel also involves cruising, and she enjoys the opportunity to board a cruise ship and "unplug" whenever she can. When she's not traveling, Bonnie enjoys relaxing at home and watching her favorite British comedies.



Save the Dates!!!

JUNE 26 - 29, 2024



Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow!

The Board of World Mission's Blessings Flow Project has provided clean water to over 400 families in the La Moskitia region of Honduras this year through the distribution of household water filters. Through a partnership with local leaders and an organization called One Atta Time, we have blessed every family in the villages of Tumtum Tara and Warunta, with plans to serve three additional communities in the first stage of the project.

As we approach the end of the year, now is the best time to let the Blessings Flow! Our partners at One Atta Time are graciously extending the price of \$50 per filter to our Moravian donors through the end of the year, despite having increased their general rate to \$100 this summer. This means that by giving before December 31st, the impact of your donation will be doubled!

Your \$50 donation covers the cost of purchasing the filter, shipping costs to get it in country, the purchase of the bucket, visits by BWM and One Atta Time staff to do health assessments, filter distribution, training on how to use and maintain the filter, and a follow-up visit to measure impact and ensure continued proper usage. That's a lot of value to give EVERY family in these communities a decade or more of clean water to limit days of work and school lost to the effects of water-borne illnesses!

Those in the US can send checks to:
Board of World Mission, 1021
Center Street, Bethlehem, PA
18018. Canadians can send checks
to: Moravian Church in Canada, 600
Acadia Drive SE, Calgary, AB T2J
0B8. Interac e-Transfer donations
may be sent to
treasurer@moravian.ca. Please

treasurer@moravian.ca. Please indicate that your donation is for "Blessings Flow."



Learn more at

www.MoravianMission.org/BlessingsFlow.

MMFA



Looking ahead and preparing for the future can be a daunting task. With the uncertainty of what tomorrow might hold, taking the first step in planning might be nerve-wracking. MMFA is here to help!

Moravian Ministries Foundation in America is a valuable partner and a free resource for Moravians seeking to contribute to the church in a taxefficient and effective manner. Our online "Legacy Planning" tool allows you to draft your will, healthcare directives, and powers of attorney, all at no cost! This wonderful resource enables anyone to initiate their preparations for the future while simultaneously ensuring continued support for Moravian ministries for years to come.

We understand that this might be a confusing and time-consuming process, so we are here to help walk you through each step.

Beyond our "Legacy Planning" tool, MMFA offers additional support to help you:

> Establish gifts to provide an income stream that will eventually benefit your church and/or favorite ministries,

- Maximize tax advantages for both you and your beneficiaries,
- Transfer stock or retirement assets as a generous gift to your church or favorite Moravian ministry,
- And more!

Contact Chris Spaugh, MMFA President & CEO, for guidance or with questions.

Let MMFA be your partner in planning for the future. Let's move ministries forward, together.

Moravian Ministries Foundation in America Chris Spaugh, President & CEO 119 Brookstown Avenue, Suite 305 | Winston-Salem, NC 27101 336.725.2589 | CSpaugh@MMFA.com

Prayer Concerns

You are invited to offer prayers for Sister Jackie Pasquinelli (Member of the Eastern District Executive Board) and her family in this difficult time as they suffer the loss of Steve Pasquinelli, faithful husband, father, and church leader to the Schoenbrunn Moravian Church. Steve died peacefully, October 21, 2023, at home, surrounded by his family, following a battle with cancer. The family suffered the loss of their beloved daughter, Aimee, only months ago, so this continues to be a time of lament and loss which is very heavy for the entire family - Jackie in particular. May the strength of our Moravian fellowship carry her and

the family during this difficult time as we become the hands and feet of Christ together.

You are invited to offer prayers for Sister Sue Dreydoppel (member of the Provincial Elders' Conference) and her family as they both mourn the loss and celebrate the life of her father, The Rev. Allen Lenius. Allen Albert Lenius, after a full life of 96 years, passed away peacefully on October 19, 2023, surrounded by family at Auburn Manor in Chaska, MN.

Please Pray for the following churches who are without pastors:

Canadian District:

The following congregation is not in the call process but is currently without a pastor: Heimtal Church in Edmonton, Alberta.

Eastern District:

Battle Hill, Union, New Jersey Calvary, Allentown, PA Covenant, York, PA Egg Harbor City, Egg Harbor City, NJ First York, York, PA First New York, NY Schoeneck, Nazareth, PA Tremont Terrace, Bronx, NY Trinity, New Carrolton, MD

Western District:

Freedom Moravian Church in Appleton, Wisconsin

Daggett Moravian Church in Daggett, Michigan is not in the call process but is currently without a pastor.

November Birthdays & Anniversaries

November Birthdays

- 1 The Rev. Percival Gordon
- 5 Mr. Warren Gericke
- 8 The Rev. Gary Straughan
- 12 The Rev. Carol Reifinger The Rev. John Fritts
- 13 The Rev. David Wickmann
- 14 The Rev. Dr. Hermann Weinlick

Mrs. Anne Fritts

- 19 The Rev. Rowan Simmons
- 21 Mrs. Carole Freeman
- 22 Mr. Bill Hassler
- 26 The Rev. David Sommers
- 27 Mrs. Erin Petrella Mrs. Dianne Newman
- 30 Ms. Katrina Lehman The Rt. Rev. Chris Giesler

November Anniversaries

6 The Rev. Dr. David & Mrs. Karen Schwarz

16 The Rev. Rebecca & Mr. Vince Sisley

19 The Rev. John & Mrs. Cheryl Wallace

22 The Rev. Mark & Mrs. Diana Breland

23 The Rev. Carol Reifinger &

Mr. James Reifinger

29 The Rev. Dan Miller & Ms. Beth Behrend

<u>Churches celebrating</u> <u>November anniversaries:</u>

9 - 1980 Grace, Queens, New York

13 - 1965 Covenant, York, PA

30 - 1746 Lancaster, PA

November 13, 1741 - Formal announcement to the congregations of the Moravian Church of the immediate

Headship of the Lord Jesus Christ in his church on earth.

The Moravian Music Foundation announces the 26th Season of the Unitas Chorale

Singers Wanted: All voices welcome! No audition

required! https://moravianmusic.org /category/unitas/

First rehearsal: Sunday, January 7, 3:00 - 5:00 pm; College Hill Moravian Church; 72 West Laurel Street, Bethlehem, PA. Rehearsals are held January through April at College Hill on the first, and third Sundays of the month.

Final concert: Sunday, April 28, **2024, 4:00 pm**; location *tbd* Concert Theme: In All Things Love Gwyneth Michel,

Director; gwynmichel@aol.com M MF office: 610-866-3340 (PA); 336-

725-0651 (NC)





First Rehearsal Bunday, January 7, 3:00 - 5:00pm College Hill Moravian Church 12 West Laurel Street, Bethlehem, PA

Rehearsals are held, January - April, at College Hill on the first and third

Sunday, April 28, 2024, 4:00 pm location to be determined)



Gwyneth Michel, Director Luke DiGiacinto, Accompanist

All voices welcome! No audition required: come to the first rehearsal

A performing ensemble of the Moravian Music Foundation 41 W. Locust St., Bethlehem, PA 18 Inquiries to the MMF office at (610) 866-3340 or gwynmichel@ www.moravianmusic.org

An Advent-Season Gift for **Moravian Open Door**



Each Advent season, we are reminded of the family long ago who was homeless, had no room at the inn, and not even a crib for their expected infant. Yet, they were provided for.

Moravian Open Door (MOD) is a Moravian ministry in New York City that provides a safe, clean, temporary home for up to 40 homeless men and women aged 50 years and older since 1987. While the facility (called Moravian House) provides accommodation in single and double rooms, the staff provides supportive services to rebuild lives and help residents move to affordable permanent housing.

As New York City struggles in dealing with the effects of repeated and extreme flooding, so also, MOD struggles to provide that safe and secure facility in an area of the city prone to flooding. The safety of our residents depends on us.

MOD receives no government funding at all.

MOD needs the financial support of Moravian congregations to continue

important service to the homeless.

Please respond generously with your "No Room at the Inn" gift. www.moravianhouse.org

IBOC

Moravian Christmas Gift Ideas



Shop online for these unique gifts at the IBOC store. store.moravian.org

Travel Tumbler \$32.95. Sale: \$24.95 Blue Tote \$18.95 Red Café Mug \$11.95 Book: Advent Hope Shop \$10.95

Book: Brian Dixon Bundle

save \$4.95 \$17.95

Camp Hope

Suzanne Curtis has been the **Executive Director of Camp Hope** since September of 2019. In her time with us, she provided the necessary and creative leadership to keep Camp Hope open in new and exciting ways. She

implemented Summer Family Cabin Rentals when we were unable to have our weekly camp because of the pandemic. She has reconnected Camp with the town of Hope and the relationship that has grown from that has been beneficial to all involved. Through her contacts with other camp directors in the area and through the American Camp Association, Suzanne has learned much and passed that knowledge on to both the Board of Management as well as our weekly volunteer and our summer long staff.

Suzanne has decided to resign from her position as the Executive Director. The Board of Management has accepted, with heavy hearts, this decision and we are beyond appreciative for all that Suzanne has done to help move Camp Hope forward.

Upcoming Event

Christmas at Camp -- December 8 - 10, 2023

- Stay in a cozy cabin with your friends and family
- Swap cookies
- Participate in Hope's Moravian Christmas Lantern Tours (with yours truly acting in one of the "porch skits")
- Learn to fold a Moravian star
- And more!

Visit <u>camphope.org</u> for more information and to register for this event. Hope to see lots of you at camp this fall and winter!

