

PROVINCIAL TIES

November 2020



— LATEST NEWS & EVENTS —

Sunnyside News for November 2020

“What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if you say you have faith but do not have works? Can faith save you? If a brother or sister is naked and lacks daily food, and one of you says to them, ‘Go in peace; keep warm and eat your fill,’ and yet you do not supply their bodily needs, what is the good of that? So faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead.” -James 2 14-17

This year many of us have been searching for a way to be thankful; this Thanksgiving Holiday has even more meaning. Sunnyside Ministry wanted to share some of the many ways we are grateful.

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- We give thanks daily that we can be here and provide food and financial assistance for those who are hungry and facing a financial crisis.
- We are thankful for the churches that have hosted a Drive-thru Food Drive: more than 40 food drives since April, with Konnoak Hills Moravian Church hosting one every Sunday Morning.
- We are thankful for the Churches and members that have supported us with financial gifts.
- We are thankful for the community gardens that have provided fresh produce for our neighbors.
- We are thankful for the foundations and grantmakers that have provided additional funds in 2020 to help us remain financially stable.
- We are thankful for the Scholarship Program that brings hope to students even during less than optimal learning situations. We can employ the students during the summer who find the work more a passion than a paycheck.
- We are thankful for those that will remember Sunnyside Ministry in their year-end giving.
- MOST OF ALL, we are thankful for the prayers; they sustain us and provide us with the energy we need during these different times.

Sometimes it is our neighbors who say thank you better than we can.

A young female neighbor who we helped with rent, sent this note: “Thank you so much you guys are amazing and don’t know how much I appreciate this help.”



The picture above is a thank you from the child of a Latino family we recently assisted.

We are also thankful for a Church that 42 years ago saw the need among their neighbors in a community and followed the words of James.

Happy Thanksgiving,
Sunnyside Ministry

Submitted by David Holston



Thriving During Times of Challenge

The mission of the [Center for Congregational Health](#) is to help faith communities and their leaders thrive. With assistance from a grant through the Lilly Endowment Inc., the Center is preparing new educational, consulting and coaching resources to help us accomplish this mission.



We know that the pandemic's impact has been felt far and wide and we want to understand more about its impact on your congregation now, and in the future post-pandemic era. We need your wisdom, experience and insight in order to determine how best to meet the needs of congregations emerging into this new, changed landscape of life and ministry, which is why we have created a [Thriving During Times of Challenge survey](#). We need input from **both clergy and laity**, so anyone can take the [survey](#).

Our [survey](#) should take you 15-20 minutes to complete. We truly appreciate your time in helping us understand how to be most helpful to you and your congregation in the future. **Please complete the [survey](#) by November 15, 2020.**

As thanks for completing this survey, the Center will donate \$500 to the charity receiving the most votes by survey takers (at the end of the survey).

Please share the link/survey with others! Again, we are looking for responses ***both from ordained clergy and non-ordained church members (laity)***. The [survey link](#) will close **November 15, 2020**. Thanks for helping!

Here's the survey link

again: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ThrivingCongregationsCCH>

FOLLOWUP Email:

We hope you have participated in our [Thriving During Times of Challenge Survey](#). The Center is preparing new educational, consulting and coaching resources to help congregations as they enter the post-pandemic era. We need your help in order to help your congregation! If you have not completed the [survey](#), please do so now. Please feel free to share the link with friends and colleagues also. **The [survey](#) will close November 15, 2020.**

Here's the survey link

again: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ThrivingCongregationsCCH>

Submitted by David Guthrie on behalf of Rev. Christopher Gambill, Ph.D., Director, Center for Congregational Health

Moravian Ministries Foundation

Stewardship: A four-part harmony

By Laura Watson

Thursdays, 3:00-4:00 pm, November 5 and 12

This four-week experience will look at four familiar scripture passages in new ways as we reflect on how, as followers of Christ, we are called to care for ourselves, our stuff, one another, and the Earth.

Through a mixture of Lectio Divina and conversation, we'll learn together and celebrate the privilege, responsibility and joy of being God's stewards.

Co-led by Rev. Richard Sides, retired pastor in the Southern Province, and Laura Sides Watson, MMFA's Director of Stewardship Services.

11/5: Caring for One Another
1 Peter 4:10

11/12: Caring for Creation
Colossians 1:15-20

Click this link to register on Zoom.

https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZcvceiqqz4rG9ykfX8Gi0hwTaBbKL3_uTmM



BCM News for November 2020

Adapting for Advent - Meeting the Challenge of Christmas

For many Moravians, celebrating Christmas means a packed church, beautiful music, joyous singing, beeswax candles, sharing a Lovefeast and more – all things that are difficult, if not impossible, in this very challenging year. Now more than ever, our Moravian traditions provide grounding and comfort during an uncertain season. Earlier this year, a group began imagining what a Moravian Christmas might look like in this age of physical distancing, virtual worship, and limited singing options. This interprovincial collaboration offers events, ideas, and resources to ensure that Christmas 2020 is a spiritual, memorable, uniquely Moravian experience!

Visit MoravianChristmas.org now and throughout the Advent and Christmas season as we rethink our traditional worship and programming. Highlights include:

- Worship Resources: music, liturgies, images and videos

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- Family Resources: at-home spiritual formation and funSpecial digital content and events: Moravian "stuff" to watch and share, Advent readings online services, Moravian Advent Trivia, centralized event calendar
- AND MORE!



While this site will be accessible on November 3rd, resources will be continually added throughout the season. Check back often! If you have any questions, contact Mike Riess at Mike@MCNP.org.

Share Your Moravian Advent & Christmas Reflections

We need your help!

The BCM is asking for Advent and Christmas reflections from YOU so we can share in one another's holiday no matter how far apart we might be. We invite you to record a short video of yourself answering one or more of the following questions:

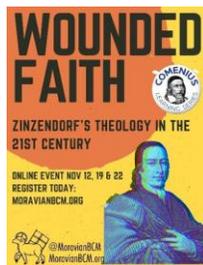
- What is Christmas Eve like for you?
- What do the words "Moravian Christmas" mean to you? What Christmas traditions do you hold close to your heart?
- What kind of mission or outreach do you engage in during Advent and Christmas?
- What is your favorite childhood memory of Christmas?
- What hymn or carol sums up what Advent or Christmas means to you?
- What will you be doing a little differently this year as you celebrate Christ's birth?

[Click here](#) to learn how you can submit your Advent and Christmas reflection or sign up for a time to be recorded!

Register Today: 2020 Comenius Learning Series

Thursdays, November 12th & 19th | 6:00- 7:00 PM ET | Via Zoom

A Wounded Faith: Zinzendorf's Theology in the 21st Century



We know Zinzendorf was radical in his day. His ideas on theology, the church, and missions did not sit well with many of his contemporaries but those ideas sparked communities around the world to embrace an innovative approach to faith. This year's Comenius Learning Series event focuses on Nicholas Ludwig von Zinzendorf and his radical, yet revolutionary views.

Can Zinzendorf's understanding of faith still empower communities today? Which of his ideas still resonate today? And how might Zinzendorf been more ahead of his time than he could have even known? The Rev. Chaz Snider, Associate Pastor at Calvary Moravian Church, will lead the discussion.

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In this time of social distancing, we will be offering Comenius Learning Series virtually. The program will consist of pre-recorded lectures, Zoom discussions, and a closing worship service (Sunday, November 22nd via [Calvary Moravian Church's livestream](#)).

Virtual Office Hours

Tuesdays | 1:00PM-2:00PM

Connect virtually in this space to ask questions, explore ideas, hear responses, and share resources.

Upcoming November Topics:

- Moravian Christmas Resource Overview
- Education and Learning Pods
- Digital Tools for Remote Working
- Tips for Virtual Meeting Facilitation

[Click here](#) to view our virtual office hours topics and join us on Tuesdays!

Submitted by Hanna Cheek Jackson

Celebrations and Concerns

Please hold Arkon Stewart and family in prayer. His grandson, Arkon Stewart III, age 21, died in an automobile accident in Charlotte, October 9. A memorial service was held October 17, at Central Church, 5301 Sardis Rd., Charlotte.

Catherine Brandon Weidner, age 102, of Nazareth, PA, joined the heavenly Church triumphant, October 13, 2020. Born in Winston-Salem, she married the Rev. Mervin C. Weidner in 1941. She joined in Mervin's ministry at First Moravian, Philadelphia; founding new congregations in Allentown, PA, Downey, CA, and Ft. Lauderdale, FL; Calvary Moravian Church, Winston-Salem, and Central Moravian Church, Bethlehem, PA, where Mervin was senior pastor for 18 years. A funeral service was held October 21, at Central Moravian Church, Bethlehem, PA, with burial following in Nisky Hill cemetery.

Ordination Anniversaries for November 2020

Russell Williams.....10 years
Stuart Zimmerman.....42 years
Rusty Rushing.....3 years
Jeffrey Coppage.....27 years
Lisa Mullen.....31 years

Congratulations and God Bless You!

For Your November Calendar

November 11-12 - Joint PEC Meeting (*conference call*)

November 19 - PEC Meeting (*conference call*)

Continuing Education

For many pastors, the COVID-19 pandemic has certainly slowed down our involvement in Continuing Education events. Looking ahead into 2021 we can see that many events are still staying in a virtual format. Please keep in mind that you can apply funds from the Spough Fund towards these virtual continuing education events taking place. The Spough Fund can provide grants up to \$1,500 for pastors to use for their continuing education needs. If you are interested in learning more about this grant or would like a Spough Grant Application, please contact me in the PEC office by phone (336-725-5811) or through email (dmarcus@mosp.org).

Submitted by The Rev. Dr. David Marcus, Assistant to the President of the Provincial Elders' Conference

Moravian Music Foundation

Moravian Music Foundation

The Foundation is in the midst of a whirlwind of activities, recording and producing online content for Advent and Christmas, as well as Festival, and improving our websites and platforms to share all this new music and resources.

Moravian Trivia Challenge

Go ahead and put Dec. 10 at 7:30pm on your calendar and plan to join MMF and the Archives for another game to challenge, inform and entertain you; with our good friends at the BCM hosting.

Monthly Lunchtime Lecture Series – [Online Edition](#)

Sponsored by Moravian Music Foundation Inc. and the Moravian Archives



**OCTOBER'S LECTURE VIDEO
NOW AVAILABLE TO VIEW**

[Moravian Music Foundation YouTube Channel](#)

We are still “on” for July, 2021

***The 26th Moravian Music Festival will be the most connected ever!
with digital content, remote connectivity, recorded and livestreamed music.***

We will focus on education, sharing, and collaboration.

The Festival Planning Committee and MMF staff are working to reimagine a Festival with mostly online content: concerts, rehearsals, workshops, lectures, lessons, master classes, social events, round tables, collaborations, and content and activities for youth and children!



Festival Updates

Digital music experiences will allow for more equitable access to more activities than ever before!

Plan to join us for a new Festival experience in 2021 – Registration information and more details will be forthcoming.

Then make plans to join us in July 2022 in Bethlehem, PA for an in-person Festival with live performances and online connectivity!

Submitted by Erik J Salzwedel

Archives News

November 2020

ANNUAL SUPPORTERS NIGHT – Sunday, November 15 at 7:00pm. The Archives' third Annual Supporters Night becomes a virtual event this year. We will gather together online at our YouTube channel to share a forty-five minute program highlighting the activities and people that have made our work possible this COVID-challenged year. Unique views on our place, with lots of thank yous and some plans ahead for how you can help. Hope to see you there on our November 15 premiere night, or in the days

thereafter. https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCeg8CAs_TGjvZ6zbAK8Lsow

AKD CENTER CONTINUES CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC. Archives staff remain on site to assist with questions and to allow time-sensitive research queries to be researched. Call at 336-722-1742, or email at moravianarchives@mcsp.org

LUNCHTIME LECTURE – Available beginning on November 12 on the Moravian Archives' YouTube Channel will be Dr. Rod Meyer, former director of Historic Bethabara Park, presenting his research on the path of the Great Wagon Road and other colonial roadways in Wachovia. He hopes to be sharing his work on a new interactive website soon.

MORAVIAN STUDIES COLLABORATIVE MOVES TO NOVEMBER 19 AT NOON. MSC monthly meeting moves due to Thanksgiving to a third Thursday at noon. We hope to have student researchers join us to share their work from the "Becoming America" conference. All public talks from that conference are now online. See the links on this website:

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<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLqAWYHoTUEV2oyN1nfFnXeTq6lX-Ne7zj> Last month's MSC talk by Lehigh University Professor Scott Paul Gordon on the very full, lettered life of the Lititz Single Sister can be found here: <https://youtu.be/bgIFJF6-uME>

WACHOVIA HISTORICAL SOCIETY SUPPORT FOR RECORDS CHEROKEE. WHS President I. B. Southerland recently presented Archivist J. Eric Elliott with a \$1000 check for the Archives Book Fund, to be used to support the publication of the Records of the Moravians Among the Cherokees book series. This is the third \$1000 gift to the Archives by Wachovia Historical Society, part of a pledged \$5000 in support of the Cherokee book series. Volume 10 is expected back from the press this month.



Submitted by Eric Elliott, Archivist, Moravian Archives

PEC News for November

The PEC met via video conference Oct. 8 and 22 with all members participating. Each meeting began with sharing news and concerns from across the Province and prayer.

SYNOD / STRATEGIC DIRECTION

PEC received a report from the Synod Planning Committee, now meeting monthly, which included updates on: the selection of Synod co-chairs; finalizing a location for Synod; consideration of the length and schedule of Synod, and review of the Synod planning calendar.

CHURCHES AND LEADERS

PEC agreed that, until COVID-19 pandemic trends improve, meetings with church boards for call processes will be via Zoom, rather than in person. PEC made decisions and took appropriate steps in call processes for: Ardmore; Bethania; Fairview; First, Greensboro; Hope; Little Church on the Lane; Rural Hall; and Unity. PEC approved Dana Myers (Home) as a candidate for ordination upon recommendation of the Commission on Ministry – bringing the total of approved candidates to eight; had an initial interview with one person seeking candidacy; discussed three pastors from other denominations who are open to service in our Province; and received an update from an interprovincial task force on Provincial Acolytes/Lay Pastors. PEC confirmed plans for a service of ordination for Illovis Gonzalez, in Miami, Nov. 29; and approved changes in the questions in the annual reports from pastors and church educators.

BOARDS, COMMITTEES AND COMMISSIONS

PEC received a report from the Provincial Support Services board including: their work on changes and enhancements in our insurance plans and providers; and the approval of the 2019 audit of Provincial finances. PEC made arrangements for an Oct. 27 meeting with the Board of Cooperative Ministries to discuss PEC plans and priorities for the Board in 2021-22, Board organization and staffing needs.

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INTERPROVINCIAL, UNITY and ECUMENICAL

PEC approved new catechism materials prepared over the past two years by the Interprovincial Faith and Order Commission; approved an orderly exchange of ministers document for our full communion relationship with the United Methodist Church; and received a report from the Oct. 7-8 Annual Forum (online) of Christian Churches Together in the USA. PEC discussed agenda items for the annual (Nov. 11-12, online) joint meeting of the Southern and Northern Province PECs; and reviewed information from the NC Synod of the ELCA about their funding and extending a call for a part-time, associate pastor for the ministry of the Dwelling. PEC agreed that Judy Knopf should attend the ELCA Church Council (national governing body) meetings which will partially conflict with the joint meeting of the PECs.

OTHER MATTERS

PEC reviewed a schedule of its 2021 meetings, noting that some adjustments will be needed; discussed a draft revised job description for a part-time Human Resources Manager position; discussed plans for a “virtual” Provincial Stewardship event to be held sometime in November; and considered advice we will need to give to pastors and church boards about how to report 2020 congregational statistics, particularly worship attendance, due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The PEC meets with the Northern Province PEC Nov. 11-12, will have a brief meeting Nov. 12, and a regular meeting Nov. 19.

Submitted by David Guthrie, PEC President

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