



PROVINCIAL TIES

January 2021



— LATEST NEWS & EVENTS —

Forming faithful stewards, *together*.

By Laura Watson

“For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life.” Ephesians 2:10

Stewardship is about much more than money, and it’s more than what we do through our church. It’s a way of life; it’s our identity. God created us to be stewards, to care for all God has entrusted to us; as God’s stewards we use our lives to reflect God’s love and generosity in who we are and all we do.

Your Moravian Ministries Foundation is pleased to offer stewardship services to help you form and nurture faithful and generous stewards in your ministry setting. We do this by partnering with you to discern your community of faith’s unique culture and core rhythms, and then together we create a multi-year plan that encompasses all aspects of church life.

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To learn more, please join Chris Spaugh, MMFA President and CEO, and me for “[Forming Faithful Stewards, Together](#),” on Thursday, January 21, at 11:00 am. During the webinar we’ll share more about what’s new for MMFA’s stewardship services, including tools such as a health assessment and year-round planning template, our partnerships with three different money management courses, and more.

Please also join us for a new stewardship bible study in 2021; on the last Tuesday of every month, at 11 am EST, we’ll gather via Zoom for a one hour conversation about a chosen passage of scripture. I’m excited to co-lead our January session (1/26/21) with the Rev. Melissa Johnson, pastor of Advent Moravian Church in Bethlehem, PA. Stay tuned for more details, but please go ahead and [register today!](#)

How will your community of faith be a part of God’s work in our world in 2021? And how can MMFA walk with you as you form, educate, and nurture generous and faithful stewards? Please reach out to me (lwatson@mmfa.info; 336-725-2589) with any questions or to learn more about MMFA’s services; you can also visit us online at www.mmfa.info.

I look forward to hearing from you and to moving ministries forward, together.

Celebrations and Concerns

Death:

Br. **Gregorio Moody**, Provincial Acolyte serving the King of Kings and New Hope congregations in Miami, FL, entered the more immediate presence of the Lord on December 10 at age 52, due to complications from COVID-19. A burial and memorial service are scheduled for January 15.

Pray also for the leaders and members of King of Kings and New Hope in the loss of a beloved pastor; and for the members, churches and fellowships of the Florida-Georgia RCC in this time of grief.

Ordination Anniversaries for January 2021

Ray Burke.....	44
James Doss.....	46
Truman Dunn.....	47
R. Burke Johnson.....	54
Ofreciano Julias.....	36
Roy Ledbetter.....	47
Russell May.....	15
Virginia Tobiassen.....	8

Congratulations and God Bless You!

BCM News for January 2021

2021 EMPOWER Award

**Heidi Everhart, Director of Children's Ministry, Friedberg
Moravian Church, Winston Salem, NC**



Heidi Everhart is an educator par excellence for the Moravian Church and a faithful member of APCE serving on the Annual Events ministry team. She is married to Daniel Everhart and they have one son, Josh, and live in the Winston Salem area. She graduated from UNC-G with a degree in early elementary education and went on to teach first, second, and third grade. In 2012, she felt the calling to use her gifts in the local church scene and went to become the children ministry director at Friedberg Moravian Church where she still serves. She worked on and received certification in the Moravian Church

as an educator in 2015. She is a ball of energy and works well with volunteers to coordinate her gifts to the church. Many of you have met Heidi through APCE as she has been integral in the marketplace area for the past few years. As her friend Joyce Vance noted, she has developed resources and programs for intergenerational interaction enriching and empowering parents and grandparents in the home and church. You might have met Heidi through one of her workshop options at APCE as she has taught “New To The Pew” and “Teaming Up With Parents”. Her ministry has reached beyond Friedberg to the Moravian camp center at Laurel Ridge. Colleague Scarlett Dowdy, the program director for Laurel Ridge, considers her to be the best support staff as she gives her time in planning and participating in numerous camping adventures. She is a dedicated member of the ecumenical educator group in the area. I can always count on Heidi and her support, advice, and involvement in many educator projects. We are thrilled to see Heidi Everhart be recognized with the EMPOWER award.

Other BCM News:

Spring 2021 Sunday School curriculum

- The deadline for standing orders for Spring 2021 Sunday School curriculum is January 15, 2021 for any changes. This information can be sent to bhayes@mcsp.org.

APCE

- Deadline for free APCE annual event scholarship information is due to bhayes@mcsp.org by January 15, 2021 if you are interested in attending the virtual event in February.

Submitted by Beth Hayes

For Your January Calendar

January 14 - PEC Meeting (*conference call*)

January 28 - PEC Meeting (*conference call*)



Moravian Archives News January 2021

Statement on Reorganization

The Moravian Church Southern Province and its Archives Commission have begun a restructuring of the agency to ensure long-term viability in an ongoing challenging economic environment. Restructuring steps will include consulting archival specialists for professional direction and exploring additional financial opportunities to fund the agency's work. In addition, the staff is being reduced by one position.

The Province and Commission want to thank Eric Elliott, who has served as archivist since January 2018, for his commitment these past three years. Nicole Crabbe will continue in her current position as Assistant Archivist, reporting to the Commission. Those needing records or services from the Archives are asked to give her as much notice as possible.

PEC News January 2021

The PEC had an abbreviated meeting Dec. 10 and a regular meeting Dec. 17 via video conference, with all members participating. December 10 we received the sad news of the death due to COVID-19 of Br. Gregorio Moody, Provincial Acolyte serving the King Nani Kingka (King of Kings) and New Hope congregations in Miami. Prayers for the Moody family and those congregations were included in our time of intercessory prayer for needs and concerns across the Province.

SYNOD / STRATEGIC DIRECTION

PEC reviewed the ongoing work of the Synod Planning Committee as it continues preparations for the 2022 Provincial Synod (to be held June 1-4); and received updates from the Moravian Team for Racial, Cultural and Ethnic Reconciliation (2018 Resolution 19).

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CHURCHES AND LEADERS

PEC received an update from the Commission on Ministry and discussed the status of candidates for ministry, and of three of our pastors; and continued steps in the call process for: Ardmore; Fairview, First, Greensboro; Hope; Little Church on the Lane; Rural Hall; and Unity. PEC confirmed the schedule of quadrennial reviews in spring 2021 for: Covenant, Calvary, Trinity, Willow Hill, Mt. Bethel and the Laurel Ridge Board of Directors; and arranged a consultation with the joint boards of one congregation regarding their annual church council and congregational finances. PEC reviewed and discussed materials about the role and function of Provincial Acolytes; and met with one pastor from another denomination open to serving in our Province.

BOARDS, COMMITTEES AND COMMISSIONS

PEC noted recent 2021 budget decisions by the Archives Commission and accepted its recommendation to reduce the Archives staff, with Eric Elliott concluding service Dec. 31. PEC met with Beth Hayes and Jami Vandock of the Commission on Ministry to discuss proposed changes in the Church Educator Manual, and ways to support Church Educators in their congregational ministries. PEC accepted a proposal from the bishops about their 2021 assignment to serve with various groups, including: the Interprovincial Faith and Order Commission, Commission on Ministry, Moravian-Episcopal Coordinating Committee, and United Methodist-Moravian Coordinating Committee. PEC continued discussion of the priorities and organization of the Board of Cooperative Ministries for 2021-22.

INTERPROVINCIAL, UNITY and ECUMENICAL

Guthrie reported to the PEC about recent activities and developments within the world-wide church including: the annual meeting (in November) of the Moravian Church Foundation, hurricane recovery efforts in Nicaragua and Honduras, the Nicaragua Province and Cuba Unity Mission Province; and plans for a Unity Executive Committee meeting in January. PEC received a report about the continued development and our shared ministry with the ELCA, the Dwelling, in Winston-Salem; and completed a final revision of the “orderly exchange of clergy” agreement with the United Methodist Church.

OTHER MATTERS

In addition to a Dec. 8 memo to congregations, PEC prepared and sent a memo to pastors regarding their leadership in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

In January, the PEC will be meeting on the 14th and 28th.

Submitted by David Guthrie, PEC President

2020 YEAR END REPORTS

A reminder that annual year-end reports are due in the PEC office by January 31. The reports were provided via e-mail in early December to pastors, church educators and secretaries. Please contact the PEC office should you have questions or concerns. 336.725.5811

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