



PROVINCIAL

TIES

April 2022



— LATEST NEWS & EVENTS —

250th Easter Sunrise Service

The 250th Easter Sunrise Service will be held on Sunday, April 17, 2022, beginning at 6:00 AM and will be led by The Rev. Ginny Tobiassen, pastor of Home Moravian Church. Worshipers will gather in front of Home Moravian Church, 529 S. Church Street (at the corner of Academy Street and S. Church Street) in Winston-Salem to begin the service. In reverent procession, worship continues as participants assemble in God's Acre for the conclusion of the service.

Submitted by Bridget Smith



Great Sabbath Service of Music and Worship

April 10 and 16, 2022

Under the direction of Drake Flynt, with Mary Louise Kapp Peeples as organist, the Great Sabbath Chorus and String Quartet will present a Great Sabbath Service of Music and Worship.

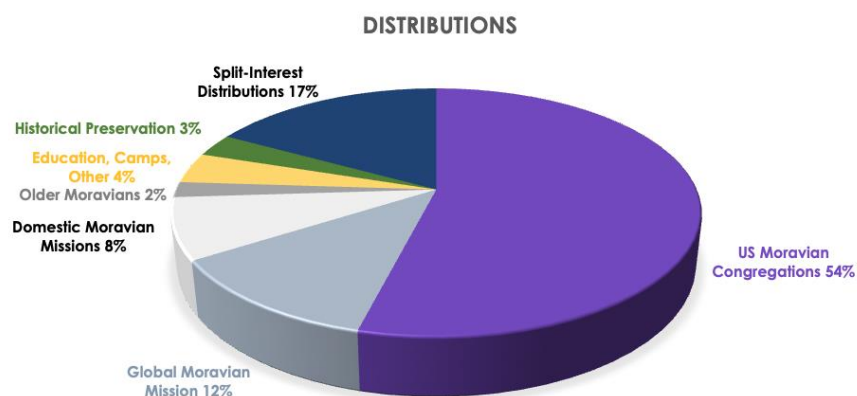
3:00 p.m. on Sunday, April 10, 2022
in the Saal at Salemtowne

7:00 p.m. on Saturday, April 16, 2020
in the Home Moravian Church sanctuary.

The service is sponsored by the churches of Salem Congregation and the music will feature Great Sabbath anthems and hymns.

The service on Saturday, April 16 will also be live streamed on the Home Moravian Church website at www.homemoravain.org.

Submitted by Ted Leinbach for the Great Sabbath Committee



Where did your money go in 2021?

By Vince Holbrook

At the close of 2021 Moravians had **\$206,902,460** under investment through the Moravian Ministries Foundation in America (MMFA). It's the largest amount in the foundation's history.

These assets represent your collective endowments, trusts, scholarship funds, donor advised funds, gift annuities, pensions and various other investment accounts — all invested for the glory of our Chief Elder, Jesus Christ.

MMFA oversaw **\$8,971,256.44** in distributions for 2021 represented by the pie chart. When looking at MMFA's controlled funds, our foundation stewarded **\$591,740.85** in distributions to ministry for 2021.

[Click here to view the entire Impact Statement for 2021.](#)

Concerns and Celebrations

Illness:

Sister **Betty Helms** was diagnosed in March with a cancerous mass on her tonsil. Betty had surgery on April 4 to remove the mass and is now at home recovering from surgery. Please remember Betty in prayer over the days and weeks to come.

Pastoral Changes:

Sister **Victoria Reid (Lasley)** has accepted a call to specialized ministry as a Hospice Chaplain with WellCare. She will conclude her ministry at Kernersville Moravian on Easter Sunday as the transitional associate pastor. Please keep Victoria, her family and the Kernersville congregation in prayer through this transition period.

Ordination Anniversaries for April 2022

Phil Bauguess.....47 years
Wayne Byerly.....25 years
Cheryl Cottingham.....12 years
Richard Spaugh.....55 years
Riddick Weber.....20 years

Congratulations and God Bless You!



The Road to Racial Justice: May 9, 10 and 12 online opportunity

Our Moravian "Statement on Racism and the Church" declares that racism is sin, and calls us to be "salt and light...to turn from our racism and take a new direction in keeping with the teachings of God in Christ Jesus". We can always be learning and growing more into the likeness of Christ. Interested in learning more/digging deeper into racial justice? Register and participate in "The Road to Racial Justice", offered online on May 9, 10 and 12 from 7-9:30 PM ET. This series is co-sponsored by the Southern Province's Moravian Team for Racial, Cultural and Ethnic Reconciliation and the Northern Province's Racial Justice Team, and will be led by Dr. Timothy Berry of the Waconia, MN congregation. The series will include time for conversation in small groups as well as presentations by Dr. Berry. Dr. Berry is an educator, composer and performing artist. He is a frequent speaker at schools, universities, conferences, businesses, and churches to share his insights and research surrounding race literacy, organizational transformation, and antiracism.

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Dr. Berry's seminar, **The Road to Racial Equity and Social Justice: A Pathway for Systemic Transformation** engages participants in a comprehensive approach to learn about the social constructs of race. This seminar will enhance an individual's or congregation's ability to identify and address inequities in communities. Participants will learn the skills and language necessary to:

- Explore their own racial literacy.
- Examine race as a mediating factor for social justice.
- Recognize how critical race perspectives can influence racial equity.
- Distinguish the complexities of race, culture, and diversity.
- Work in teams to understand action research processes toward building a better working and living environment for all people.

Registrations for this series are due by **April 30, 2022**. To register, contact Heather Stevenson at the Commission for Congregational Development at HStevenson@mcsp.org, providing your name and email.

Submitted by Betsy Bombick



Beth Hayes is preparing for retirement the end of July 2022 and wants everyone to have the opportunity to talk to her about the various ministry topics she has been working with throughout her decades of experience. We're introducing the "Pick Beth's Brain" sessions as a time to ask things that perhaps your church leaders might want to know.

The workshops focus on topics like Vacation Bible School (and summer alternatives), collaborative ministry, small church resourcing, adult faith formation (focusing on elective choices), and a general session for anything we have forgotten. You and your church leaders are invited to either attend the Zoom sessions on Tuesdays at 2 p.m. or drop by our new offices at Cedarhyrst for a snack and an in-person conversation with Beth on Thursdays at 6 p.m. This is a great opportunity to see our new office set up and lending library!

If you have been struggling with how to navigate faith formation for your church, or are looking to try something new, don't miss this chance to "pick Beth's brain."

Workshop Schedule (In-Person and Online)

- **May 3 at 2 p.m. – Vacation Bible School and other Summer Options** Zoom Meeting: Email Beth at bhayes@mcsp.org for the meeting link (please specify which meeting you plan to attend)

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- **May 5 at 6 p.m. – Vacation Bible School and other Summer Options** In person at the CCD office in Cedarhyrst (459 Church St S, Winston-Salem, NC 27101)
- **May 10 at 2 p.m. – Collaboration** Zoom meeting: Email bhayes@mcsp.org for the meeting link (please specify which meeting you plan to attend)
- **May 12 at 6 p.m. – Collaboration** In person at the CCD office in Cedarhyrst (459 Church St S, Winston-Salem, NC 27101)
- **May 17 at 2 p.m. – Small Church** Zoom meeting: Email bhayes@mcsp.org for the meeting link (please specify which meeting you plan to attend)
- **May 19 at 6 p.m. – Small Church** In person at the CCD office in Cedarhyrst (459 Church St S, Winston-Salem, NC 27101)
- **May 24 at 2 p.m. – Adult Faith Formation** Zoom meeting: Email bhayes@mcsp.org for the meeting link (please specify which meeting you plan to attend)
- **May 26 at 6 p.m. – Adult Faith Formation** In person at the CCD office in Cedarhyrst (459 Church St S, Winston-Salem, NC 27101)
- **May 31 at 2 p.m. – General Questions** Zoom meeting: Email bhayes@mcsp.org for the meeting link (please specify which meeting you plan to attend)

From the Provincial Financial Office

2021 Church Audits—Church Audits are due April 15th. Instructions for performing the 2021 “audits” of churches have been emailed to all Church Treasurers and Trustee Chairs/Vice Chairs. The form and instructions are also on the MCSP.org website. Please be sure these instructions are given to your Church’s “Audit Committee.” Please contact Robyn Glance, CFO if you have any questions.

No audit will ever detect every potential misstatement, but an annual audit goes a long way to ensuring the financial health of your congregation.

2022 Budgets - As of this writing, we are still looking for 2022 budgets from 13 Churches. These were due on December 15, 2021. These are important not only from a Church standpoint, but also provincially they allow for benchmarking between similar size churches. Please check with your Church Treasurer or Board Chair and if you are one of the 13 Churches, please respond as soon as possible.

Herbert W. and Maye S. Aldridge Fund - The Advisory Board of the Herbert W. and Maye S. Aldridge Fund welcomes your requests for support. The Fund was created “to encourage world peace and alleviate hunger, to give financial assistance to a student to attend Moravian Seminary, to give financial assistance to someone to enter or reside at Salemtowne, to give financial assistance to someone in need or to support any other worthwhile cause recommended by the Advisory Board.” Individual awards of up to \$500 are available and an application form can be obtained from the Provincial Financial Office.

Submitted by Robyn Glance, Chief Financial Officer

The Song of our hearts!

“He has risen, He has risen indeed”

Because of being in and around Cedarhyrst quite often these days, when time allows, I have enjoyed taking a stroll through God’s acre. I have done this in the past from time to time, but being there consistently has allowed me to see the slow and steady transition taking place as Moravians prepare once again (modeled throughout our congregations) our beloved Easter Sunrise Service.

This coupled with the inspiring beauty of spring unfolding all around and new life occurring in every recess and crevice of God’s creation, prompts me of the impact of this time. In the anticipated words, “He has risen” we hear the spiritual cue of where our hope really begins, “He has risen indeed”. Through our Lord's sacrifice, He made a way!

As clergy, educators, and staff in the Province we know this, we have learned this. However, in the busyness of our days I wonder if we forget the impact of the promise that we are a pardoned people. Of course, we try to communicate this to our congregations and those whom we serve, but in that process do we forget our need to be forgiven?

According to the Pew Research Center in a recent article in Christianity Today, “*only 63% of people in the United States self-identify as Christian-down from 75% just ten years ago.*” While baseball, soccer, and football fields remain packed on the weekends, many of our Sunday services and programs continue to decline. Those on the front lines, especially during these Covid days do not need these statistics to remind them because they/we intuitively sense it almost every day.

“As followers of Christ, we need to take time to identify and analyze why a growing number of people are no longer drawn to the church and its message”. Are we willing to search for answers and implement solutions so that the song of our hearts does not get lost in the distractions of this world? My prayer is that in our upcoming Synod in June we do not get lost in the minutia of the distractions but can address these most significant issues facing the Church of Jesus Christ.

As the first Easter came and went and the disciples discovered the empty tomb the reality that the Lord had risen, and the excitement that it generated could not be contained! In a sense, embracing what Jesus had done on the cross for them became the most stimulating revelation that they would ever receive in this life and demanded a reevaluation of self and everything that they thought was important in their lives.

What followed was a joyful, relevant response to all those they met. The disciples claimed Christ’s forgiveness and began to live in hope and possibility!

May the light of Christ shine in all that we do as we continue to prepare for our coming together recognizing the grace in which we all stand and the hope entrusted to us, the song of our hearts!

Serving together,

Chris

For Your April Calendar

- 21 - PEC Board Meeting
- 22 - Provincial Women's Board - Spiritual Life Retreat, LR
- 23 - Pre Synod Meeting for Delegates, to be held virtually (Zoom)

Moravian Music Foundation News **April 2022**

REGISTRATION IS OPEN!



JULY 26-30, 2022 * BETHLEHEM, PA

Live, and in-person, in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania.

FIND ALL THE INFORMATION AT
www.moravianmusicfestival.org

*[Register Now!](#) Programs for children and youth
including an exciting new musical theater piece, called ACTS*

Chorus and Band tracks for adults
Handbells, Trombone Choir, New Worship Ensemble,
Steel Pan, Chamber Music and small ensembles.

Two public concerts presented each day!

As part of the opening worship for the Moravian Music Festival on July 27, 2022 we will have a *time of remembrance* for those musicians who have been called to the more immediate presence of the Savior since the 2017 Moravian Music Festival. We would like to make this list as complete as possible, so if you have someone you would like to be remembered as part of this worship service, please send the name to Nola Knouse at the Moravian Music Foundation: nola@moravianmusic.org.

[VIDEO](#) – Festival Concerts from 2021

[VIDEO](#) – *From the Vault to the Choir Loft*

How does an 18th century hand-written Moravian anthem become a modern edition?

[VIDEO](#) – *The Voyage Home: GemeinKat Catalog Project Update*

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A Worldwide Musical Resource, Indeed!

Join us for a walk through of the MMF Catalog, its history, and the GemeinKat Project to create digital records and share them with the world on WORLDCAT.org and RISM - and the plan to complete the project!



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Let MMF do the planning for one service this year.

[Materials](#) have been posted and available on the [website!](#)

All you need to plan worship is [here](#).

**Our theme this year is the 300th Anniversary of Herrnhut!**

To follow activities planned for the celebrations in Herrnhut, Germany, click [here](#). MMF will post [updates](#).

Submitted by Erik J Salzwedel

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## **For Your Address Book**

New home address for The Rev. **R. Burke and Eleanor F. Johnson**  
900 Tamiami Trail S., #615  
Venice, FL 34285

**Bob Sawyer** - no longer using landline, cell only. His phone number: 336-817-5724





## Provincial Organizational Core Team Update

### Overview:

The Provincial Organizational Core Team (POCT) was formed after the 2018 Synod to focus on two resolutions with these key components:

- Resolution 17: clarify functions of the provincial system, learn about organizational models, seek input, and provide recommendations
- Resolution 18: organize faith communities to reflect their specific ministry context and audience, provide a framework for faith communities to use to self-designate and evaluate

POCT has been working for almost three years, listening and learning, and also meeting in subgroups to focus on each of the resolutions under our purview.

### Regarding Resolution 17:

Through our conversations and research (within and beyond our denomination), we realized that rather than making a structural recommendation, we needed to focus on the deeper, cultural themes that exist in the Southern Province. Those themes led to the development and recommendation of four key areas for growth for the Province:

- Aligning for mission
- Deepening our commitment to the leadership of Jesus
- Building trust across partners
- Embracing the whole church

These observations and recommendations were shared with the PEC in January 2022 and have been subsequently shared with various planning committees for the 2022 Synod, as well as with Rebecca Craver, Director of Congregational Development.

### Regarding Resolution 18:

The POCT submitted a proposal titled “Reimagining Faith Communities” (RFC); to the PEC in spring 2021. While the PEC affirmed aspects of the proposal, further work was required, and no action was immediately taken to implement the findings or tools of the proposal within the Province. The “Reimagining Faith Communities” proposal was shared with Rebecca Craver, along with encouragement to incorporate aspects of the findings within the work of the Commission for Congregational Development.

### Synod Proposals:

The POCT has submitted two proposals to the 2022 Synod: “Four Key Areas for Growth in the Moravian Church, Southern Province” to further the work of Resolution 17, 2018 Synod, and “Renewing and Reimagining Faith Communities” to further the work of Resolution 18, 2018 Synod.

The POCT has included the following individuals over the past three years; a few have had to step off due to other commitments:

Betsy Bombick, Zach Dease, Sherry Edwards, Andrew Heil, Hazel Hooker, Kekka Klingerman, Neil Routh, Rusty Rushing, Amanda Schumpert, Chris Thore, Laura Watson, Leibia Willis.

*Submitted by Laura Sides Watson*

**CHILDREN'S FESTIVAL & LOVEFEAST**

OUR LAMB HAS CONQUERED  
LET US FOLLOW HIM

# Save the Date

**Sunday, August 21st 2022**  
2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.  
**New Philadelphia Moravian Church**  
Winston-Salem, NC

 For the latest info, visit [moravian.org/ccd](http://moravian.org/ccd)

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