

## **Report to the Synod of 2022 Provincial Elders' Conference**

### **Mission and Purpose**

The Provincial Elders' Conference shall provide priority-based leadership of all church ministries and administer the polity of the province. (*Constitution, Section 5.1*)

Since 2019, the Provincial Elders' Conference has adopted the following purpose statement for the Province:

*“The purpose of the Southern Province is to equip Moravian Christians and congregations to be agents of God’s transforming love in the world. We do this through spiritual growth, community and mission.”*

### **Assignments from the 2018 Synod**

The "Report on 2018 Synod Resolutions" provides a summary of the fulfillment of and activity related to assignments from the 2018 Synod.

### **Responsibilities**

The duties of the Provincial Elders' Conference (*Constitution Section 10.5*) may be grouped into three broad categories: Vision and Direction, Relationships, and Administration and Finance. Individual responsibilities with major activities since the last Synod are listed below.

### **Major Activities since Last Synod**

#### **Vision and Direction**

*Implement strategic directives of Synod and set plans and priorities for the Board of Cooperative Ministries.*

PEC acted on the 22 Resolutions from Synod itself, and delegated certain actions to Provincial boards and agencies, or task groups. After the 2018 Synod, PEC set and monitored plans and priorities for the Board of Cooperative Ministries, (BCM). Due to budgetary constraints, and unexpected staff departures in 2021, the PEC took steps to create the Commission on Congregational Development to assume the roles and functions of the BCM.

*Manage, report and communicate progress and successes from Synod directives.*

PEC received regular reports from Provincial boards and agencies both in written form and through PEC members who served as members of those groups. PEC tracked progress on all 2018 Synod Resolutions. A brief report of the fulfillment of 2018 Synod Resolutions is included in Reports to Synod.

*Oversee new church development.*

The PEC guided the work of the New and Emerging Ministries Team as it conducted “Jump Start” workshops for congregational leaders and pastors, and provided small grants to support new initiatives in 3 congregations. PEC partnered with the NC Synod of the ELCA in a federated ministry called The Dwelling, a congregation among and for homeless neighbors in Winston-Salem; issued a call to Illovis Gonzalez to be organizing pastor for Agape Moravian Church in Miami, called Fran Saylor to Provincial service to explore new ministry possibilities in the Triangle area of NC, which has now formed into a new ministry called The Table, and continued its support for Estamos Unidos (pastor Angelica Regalado), the Come and Worship ministry and Anthonys' Plot (both led by Russ May).

#### **Relationships**

*Administer the call process and appointment procedures.*

PEC successfully completed 14 call processes for congregations, issued 3 calls to provincial service and 2 to specialized ministry; and made three additional pastoral appointments. PEC made 13 interim appointments of pastors.

*Develop relationships with, and oversee, congregations including Quadrennial Reviews. Provide conflict management support as needed.*

PEC continued use of a Congregational Vitality Survey as part of quadrennial reviews. From 2019-May 2022, the PEC conducted 33 quadrennial reviews with congregations and 1 with a provincial board in the inter-synodal period; and, worked with congregations as needed in the areas of congregational vitality, board-pastor relationships, and conflict resolution.

In early 2022 the completion of the sale of the Durham church property (formerly Christ the King) was made to the Evangelical Presbyterian Church.

*Oversee candidacy and clergy development.*

PEC reorganized the Candidacy and Ordination Review Committees into the Commission on Ministry. A report is provided below about the number and status of candidates for ordination. PEC continued the deacon-presbyter partnership program and a “first call” cohort for newly ordained deacons. PEC administered continuing education grants and funding for the annual Moravian Ministry Association retreat through the Bishop J. Herbert Spaugh Fund; coordinated continuing education grants from the Moravian Ministers’ Connection program (a joint Northern and Southern Province initiative funded by the Lilly Foundation); provided emergency assistance and underwrote partial costs for the Ministers’ Care Program (with CareNet) from the Pastoral Assistance Fund; and, approved continuing education grants for pastors (Pfohl Fund, Provincial Women’s Board), and the Aldridge Education Fund (for Church Educators).

*Communicate with the Bishops’ Conference*

The PEC President joined and provided a list of prayer topics for the monthly Bishops’ Conference meeting. The PEC consulted the Bishops on matters of doctrine and polity as needed. The PEC invited and commissioned bishops to officiate at 7 ordinations of deacons and 4 consecrations of presbyters; and provided reimbursement of travel-related expenses for their ministry in and for the Province. The PEC worked with the bishops to provide representative at ecumenical functions, particularly the consecration or installation of bishops in denominations with which we have a full communion partnership.

*Oversee Unity and ecumenical relationships.*

PEC made appointments to, oversaw the work of, and/or received reports from the following: The United Methodist-Moravian Coordinating Committee, Lutheran Moravian Coordinating Committee, and the Moravian Episcopal Coordinating Committee; and (jointly with the Northern Province) Churches for Middle East Peace. Activities of the PEC President included: representing both the Northern and Southern Provinces in Christian Churches Together in the USA; serving on the governing board of the NC Council of Churches; participating in meetings of the Unity Board, Unity Synod and Unity Executive Committee (of the worldwide Moravian Church); serving as the key contact point for joint membership of the Southern and Northern Provinces in the World Council of Churches; and being the endorsing agent for chaplains in the armed forces for the Southern, Northern, and Eastern West Indies Provinces and the Unity of the Brethren (TX).

## **Administration and Finance**

*Approve the Provincial Budget*

In consultation with the Provincial Support Services Board, the PEC reviewed, adjusted and approved the Provincial Budgets for 2019-2022.

*Allocate available financial resources of the province based on Synod priorities.*

PEC monitored the finances of the province, receiving reports and acting on recommendations from the Provincial Support Services Board. PEC approved adjustments in the Provincial Share allocation methodology set by the 2018 Synod, particularly for the 2021 budget year (due to the pandemic).

*Approve congregations' requests for relief from provincial share allocations.*

After the 2018 Synod, the PEC began the practice of adjusting the provincial share allocation prior to the budget year for congregations which were unlikely to meet it. During the 2019-22 budget cycles a total of 29 congregations received this “pre-relief”. In addition, the PEC, upon recommendation of the Provincial Support Services Board, approved a total of 19 relief requests from 15 congregations.

*Make appointments to boards/commissions/task forces.*

For the inter-synodal period, PEC made appointments to the Board of Cooperative Ministries, the Provincial Support Services Board, The Archives Commission, Interprovincial Faith and Order Commission, Interprovincial Board of Communication, Salem Academy and College Trustees, Moravian Theological Seminary Trustees, Moravian Ministries Foundation in America Trustees, the Commission on Ministry, and the appointments to ecumenical groups listed above.

*Restructuring of the Archives Commission*

The Provincial Elders Conference announced a restructuring of the Archives Commission to provide a stronger link to the Province, strengthen its funding efforts and align with the structures of the Province’s Commission on Ministry, Commission on Congregational Development and Provincial Support Services Board. Members of the restructured Archives Commission will include the PEC president (to whom the archivist reports), two church representatives (ministers/educators), a PEC representative, a Salem Congregation representative, two laity and the chair of a new Friends of the Moravian Archives organization. The Friends will proactively identify ways to expand sources of financial support and increase donor participation. In addition, a Board of Advisors comprised of peer archivists and individuals with specific skills important to the Archives will be created to meet twice a year to provide professional consultation.

Supervise and manage the day-to-day operations of the Province. Oversee Board of Cooperative Ministries (BCM) and Provincial Support Services (PSSB).

PEC Continued active contact with Provincial Boards and agencies through PEC membership on these boards, and by receiving, reviewing and acting on regular reports and requests from these groups. PEC approved staff changes in the Provincial Finance Office, and a change from a full-time Human Resources Director to a part-time Human Resources Manager.

**Membership and Worship Statistics \***

<b>Year</b>	<b>Communicants</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Average Worship Attendance</b>
2018	12,209	14,406	4,915
2019	12,064	14,291	4,668
2020	11,505	13,617	5,007
2021	11,096	13,114	4,299

\* Note: During the COVID-19 pandemic, congregations reported both in-person and online worship attendance data.

**Membership Age Analysis \***

<b>Year</b>	<b>0-11</b>	<b>12-18</b>	<b>19-35</b>	<b>36-50</b>	<b>51-64</b>	<b>65-74</b>	<b>75+</b>
2016	8%	7%	17%	14%	21%	17%	15%
2020	7%	7%	16%	15%	18%	20%	18%

\* Notes: 1) Data is gathered every four years. 2) Many churches do not gather and provide age information.

**Membership Gains and Losses**

*(Note: Data for 2021 was not fully available at preparation)*

<b>2018-2020 Gains</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>% Total</b>
Adult Baptisms	22	21	3	46	7%
Confirmations	28	51	2	81	13%
Rc'd from other Moravian	47	60	39	146	23%
Rc'd from other Denominations	55	80	4	139	22%
Reaffirmation of Faith	74	61	10	145	23%
Readmitted	6	7	5	18	3%
Other	6	29	17	52	8%
<b>Total Gains</b>	<b>238</b>	<b>309</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>627</b>	
<b>2018-2020 Losses</b>					
Transfer Other Moravian	22	55	25	102	6%
Transfer Other Denominations	27	39	18	84	5%
Moved to Inactive	186	101	84	371	23%
Dropped	69	19	282	370	23%
Deaths	209	204	205	618	39%
Other	12	16	11	39	2%
<b>Total Losses</b>	<b>525</b>	<b>434</b>	<b>625</b>	<b>1584</b>	
<b>Gains Over(Under) Losses</b>	<b>(287)</b>	<b>(125)</b>	<b>(545)</b>	<b>(957)</b>	

**Pastoral Leadership Changes since the 2018 Synod**

**Candidates for Ordained Ministry**

During 2018-2021, nine candidates were approved for ordination. As of May 2022, seven were ordained: Andrew Craver, Leslie Cox, Evette Campbell, Illovis Gonzalez, Scott Rainey, Adriana Craver, and Reed Lawson. There are six completing educational and other preparation: Margaret Norris (Home); Noah Smith (Friedland); Madison White (Come & Worship); Josh Follweiler (Mayodan); and Dana Myers (Home) and Ethan Smith (King), and one discontinued candidacy. In addition, two people have begun the stages of the candidacy process.

**Ordination as Deacon**

Andrew Craver	August 5, 2018
Leslie Cox	September 8, 2019
Evette Campbell	January 19, 2020
Illovis Gonzalez	November 29, 2020
Scott Rainey	August 1, 2021
Reed Lawson	October 3, 2021
Adriana Craver	October 10, 2021

## Consecration as Presbyter

Zachary Dease	July 29, 2018
Andrew Heil	November 25, 2018
Virginia Tobiassen	November 25, 2018
E. Christine Clore	September 19, 2021
Heather Vacek	April 24, 2022

## Pastoral Changes

### 2019

	<b>To:</b>	<b>Date of change:</b>
Tom Anders	Community Fellowship ((Prov. Acolyte)	January 11, 2019
Kenny King	Willow Hill (Provincial Acolyte)	February 1, 2019
Chaz Snider	Calvary (Associate)	May 5, 2019
David Marcus	Provincial Elders' Conference	April 22, 2019
Jeff Jones	Covenant /Water of Life ELCA	August 11, 2019
Russell Williams	New Beginnings	August 11, 2019

### 2020

Leslie Cox	Mayodan	October 1, 2019
Christy Clore	Kernersville (Transitional)	October 15, 2019
Evette Campbell	Rolling Hills	February 23, 2020
John G. Rights	Friedland (co-pastor)	February 23, 2020
Dion Christopher	Prince of Peace (appointment)	March 1, 2020
Sam Gray	New Philadelphia	July 1, 2020

### 2021

Rusty Rushing	Peace / Little Church on the Lane	January 1, 2021
Fran Saylor	Provincial service	February 1, 2021
Tony Hayworth	Fairview	February 14, 2021
Andrew Craver	Rural Hall	August 1, 2021
Adriana Craver	Jackson Health, Miami (Chaplain)	August 23, 2021
Rebecca Craver	Commission on Cong. Development	September 1, 2021
Scott Rainey	Unity	September 7, 2021
Eulencine Christopher	South Florida Pastorate (appointment)	September 1, 2021
Joe Moore	Bethania	October 4, 2021
Reed Lawson	Christ	October 10, 2021
Barbara Styers	First, Greensboro (appt. from PCUSA)	January 9, 2022

### 2022

Victoria Lasley	Wellcare (Hospice Chaplain)	April 15, 2022
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## Interim Appointments

### 2019

Jeff Coppage	Fairview	January 1, 2019
Elroy Christopher	First Moravian, Georgia	January 13, 2019
Worth Green	Fries Memorial	January 19, 2019
Tom Shelton	Prince of Peace	January 21, 2019
David Merritt	Hope	March 3, 2019
Larry Jones	New Philadelphia (Intentional Interim)	March 15, 2019
Bob Peterson	Union Cross	October 1, 2019
Judy Knopf	Bethania	May 5, 2019
Richard Spaugh	Christ	July 1, 2019
Don Griffin	Bethabara	December 8, 2019

**2021**

Victoria Lasley	Kernersville (Interim Associate)	January 18, 2021
Joe Moore	Unity	January 21, 2021
Jeff Coppage	Union Cross	November 21, 2021

**Pastoral Retirements**

Robert Wolf	Forsyth Jail and Prison Ministry	September 1, 2018
Worth Green	New Philadelphia	October 28, 2018
Scott Venable	Fairview	December 31, 2018
David Merritt	Bethania	March 1, 2019
Willie Israel	Rolling Hills	September, 1, 2019
Logan Jones	UNC Rex Hospital	October 31, 2019
David Guthrie	PEC	September 30, 2021
Cheryl Cottingham	Immanuel New Eden	May 20, 2022
Craig Troutman	Raleigh	May 31, 2022

**Pastors Awaiting Calls**

Excluding recent seminary graduates and current seminary students, there is one pastor currently without call in the province.

**Potential Retirements**

There are eighteen currently active pastors who have reached or will reach the age of sixty-five during the next inter-synodal period (2022-2026).

**Provincial Acolytes (annual appointment)**

Tom Anders	Community Fellowship
David Berrier	Oak Grove
Gary Easter	Crooked Oak
Chuck Harmon	Fulp
Kenny King	Willow Hill
Alfred Yorks	Suriname Fellowship
Envoy Hodgson	Palm Beach

**Congregational Acolytes**

Upon election by and at the request of the church board(s), the PEC appoints Congregational Acolytes to terms of three years, after which the church board(s) may extend such appointments as desired. During 2018-2022 the PEC appointed 8 Congregational Acolytes in 5 congregations.

**Certifications of Directors of Christian Education**

Jami Vandock	Raleigh	Date April 23, 2020
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### In Memory

The following pastors, pastor spouses, church educators, and provincial workers moved into the more immediate presence of our Lord and Chief Elder during the inter-synodal period:

#### **Jack Nance**

The Rev. Jack Thomas Nance, 88, passed away Monday, April, 16, 2018. He was born on April 20, 1929 to Patty Lane Nance and Ethel Aaron Nance in Pelham, NC. After service in the U. S. Army and working for Burlington Industries, Jack responded to a call to ministry and completed studies for a certificate in theology at Moravian Theological Seminary. He was ordained deacon June 27, 1965 at Moravia Moravian Church (his home congregation) by Bishop Herbert Spaugh, and consecrated a presbyter February 11, 1973, also by Bishop Spaugh. Together, with his wife, Vera Kirkman Nance, Jack served pastorates at the Providence, Mizpah, Hopewell, and Union Cross congregations. Jack retired in August, 1996 and continued in pastoral ministry at Community Fellowship, in Welcome, NC, beginning in 1997 until his death. He never met a stranger, and enjoyed carving wooden canes, playing the banjo, working in the garden and Vera's home cooking. Jack was active in the ministry of Laurel Ridge, Yokefellow Prison Ministry, the Boy Scouts, and also served as chaplain at the Brian Center in Winston-Salem, NC. He was preceded in death by an infant son, Jack Todd Nance. Surviving are his wife of 67 years, Vera Kirkman Nance; one son, Rodney Nance; one daughter, Kashemi Lambeth (Kim); two grandsons, three great grandsons; two brothers, and three sisters. A memorial service was held at Community Fellowship, April 23 with the Rev. John D. Rights and the Rev. David Merritt officiating. Burial followed in God's Acre at Moravia Moravian Church, Summerfield, NC.

#### **John Giesler**

The Rev. John H. Giesler, 87, of Winston-Salem, died on June 7, 2018. He was born in Green Bay, Wisconsin on April 3, 1931, to the late Laura Louise (Dickey) and Carl Giesler. John was educated at Milwaukee State Teacher's College, Moravian College, and received a Bachelor of Divinity degree from Moravian Theological Seminary in June 1958. He married Barbara L. Gordon August 17, 1957. John was ordained a deacon in 1958, by Bishop Mewaldt, and consecrated a presbyter in 1965, at Bilwaskarma, Nicaragua, by Bishop Hedley Wilson. After 11 years of missionary service in Nicaragua, the Giesler's returned to United States, where John was pastor of the Friedberg, King, and Bethabara congregations in North Carolina, and the New Hope congregation, Miami, FL. After his retirement in 1996, he served the Willow Hill congregation in Cana, VA. John had a great passion for serving the Moravian Church with a deep interest in its history and musical expression. In addition to his pastoral work, he was a president of the Board of Trustees of the Moravian Music Foundation, member of the Moramus Chorale, participant in many Moravian Music Festivals, president of the Hymn Society of America, and a member of the committee that published the 1995 Moravian Book of Worship. He and Barbara enjoyed taking hundreds of interested Moravians on tours to historical Moravian sites all over the United States and Europe. He was preceded in death by five siblings, and a daughter, Becky Morgan. He is survived by his wife of 61 years, Barbara; two daughters, Debby Pyatt and Cindy, Meier; a son, the Rt. Rev. Chris Giesler; a son-in-law Derrick Morgan; eight grandchildren and 4 great-grandchildren; and, one sister, Ann LaFortune. A memorial singstunde was held Saturday, June 16, at at Fairview Moravian Church, Winston-Salem, with the Rev. Scott Venable officiating. Burial followed in God's Acre, Salem.

## **John Fry**

The Rev. John F Fry, 92, died June 13, 2018. He was born in Davie County, NC on October 28, 1925, a son of George and Laura Wood Fry. He attended Clemmons School, and served in World War II with the U.S. Army 3<sup>rd</sup> Division in the infantry, artillery, special services and intelligence units. In 1947, he married Edith West Fry, and enjoyed 65 years of marriage until her death in 2012. John worked for 19 years in the blacksmith shop of R.J. Reynolds Tobacco Co., and was an active lay person and supply preacher. After a prescribed course of study he was ordained a deacon February 27, 1966, at Macedonia Moravian Church by Bishop Kenneth G. Hamilton, and was consecrated a presbyter March 4, 1973, also by Bishop Hamilton. He served as lay pastor, then “student pastor”, and the first full-time pastor of the Fulp Moravian Church, Walnut Cove, retiring in 1991. He continued in pastoral ministry part-time at Mt. Bethel for 14 years beginning in 1994. John served the wider church through involvement with the Board of Christian Education and Evangelism, the Moravian Clergy Association, and in Junior Camps at Laurel Ridge. He was preceded in death by a son, Eric, and his wife Edith; and is survived by a son, Rick; a daughter, Kathy; a daughter-in-law, Rebecca; four grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren. A memorial service was held Sunday, June 17, at Fulp Moravian Church, with Pastor Chuck Harmon officiating. Burial followed in the church’s God’s Acre.

## **William Kerner**

William Byron Kerner Sr., 89, of Charlottesville, VA, died on Saturday, July 7, 2018. Born October 20, 1928 in Kernersville, North Carolina, he was the son of Essie Hankins Kerner and Rephelius Byron Kerner. Bill was educated at Virginia Episcopal School and at the University of Virginia. Following his graduation in 1951, he reported for active naval duty aboard the USS Henley in Norfolk. Upon completion of his first active duty tour in 1954, he and his wife, Elizabeth (Betty) Brewer, were married in 1955. He enrolled in Moravian Theological Seminary that autumn. After a break in studies during which he taught English at a private school in Connecticut, Bill completed theological studies and received a Bachelor of Divinity degree in 1962. He was ordained a deacon Oct. 14, 1962 at Kernersville Moravian Church, by the Rt. Rev. Herbert Spaugh, and consecrated a presbyter April 28, 1974, also by bishop Spaugh. Bill served the Providence Moravian Church in Winston-Salem, NC from 1962 until accepting an appointment to active duty as a Chaplain with the U.S. Navy in 1965. Bill’s military service allowed his family to live and learn in a variety of places as far-flung as Newport, Rhode Island; Grosse Ile, Michigan; Naples, Italy; and New London, Connecticut. Bill retired from the Navy in 1982. He and Betty continued educational travel and cultural adventures beginning with a year in Jerusalem (studying biblical archeology at the Institute for Holy Land Studies). Bill loved to learn new things, whether it was a summer class in Maine on post-and-beam construction (which enabled him to build a wing on his Richmond home), how best to bargain with rug merchants in the wild rural west of Turkey, or the countless lectures and performances he and Betty enjoyed over their many summers visiting the Chautauqua Institution in upstate New York. He and Betty were active founding members of Redeemer Moravian Church, in Richmond, VA. He was later an active member of St. Paul’s Episcopal Church in Richmond, where he served as a Stephen Minister and was a volunteer for a variety of social efforts, including a tutoring program, and Meals-on-Wheels. For the past decade, Bill and Betty made a home in Charlottesville, VA, close to his children and grandchildren. Bill is survived by his wife, Elizabeth Brewer Kerner; his daughter Hilary Kerner; daughter-in-law Carolyn Kerner-Shears; sons, Will and Thane Kerner; two grandchildren; and a sister. Memorial services were conducted Saturday Aug. 4, 2018, at St. Paul’s Memorial Church, Charlottesville, VA; and Saturday Aug. 11, 2018 at Kernersville Moravian Church.



## **Betty Campbell**

Betty Lynn Cooper Campbell, 77, passed away August 2, 2018. Betty was born to the late Reverend Thomas N. and Mannie Patterson Cooper on January 18, 1941 in Kinston, NC. Betty retired from the Forsyth County Register of Deeds in 2010, after a 32-year tenure. She was also a middle school teacher, and teacher of medical terminology at several institutions. She was married to the Reverend Doctor William Campbell, on June 17, 1961 in Bethel, NC. In addition to Bill, she is survived by daughters,Carolynn C. Wood and Melody C. Lee; a son, W. Vance Campbell, II; six grandchildren and five great grandchildren; and a brother. Betty was a member of Hope Moravian Church, Winston-Salem, NC. For many years, she was a church choir and band member, organist, youth and Sunday school worker in the churches Bill served as pastor, which included the Immanuel (Winston-Salem), New Hope (Miami, FL) and Moravia (Summerfield, NC) Moravian Churches. At the time of her death, Betty was organist at the Memorial Reformed Church in Winston-Salem, NC. A memorial service was held Sunday, Aug. 5, a Hope Moravian Church, Winston-Salem, NC, with the Rev. Judy Knopf and the Rt. Rev. Graham H. Rights officiating, and the Rev. W. Glenn Davenport assisting. Burial followed in God's Acre, Hope Moravian Church.

## **Theodore Wilde**

The Rev. Theodore Edward (Ted) Wilde, age 79, of Arlington, MA, died August 4, 2018. He was born in Vancouver, BC, August 16, 1938, to the Rev. Edward and Mrs. Margaret Weingarh Wilde. Ted attended elementary school in North Dakota, high school in Green Bay, Wisconsin, and graduated summa cum laude from Moravian College (Bethlehem, PA) in 1960. He continued studies at Moravian Theological Seminary; was a student pastor at the United Church, Linden, Guyana; and completed a Master of Divinity degree at Union Theological Seminary, in New York City. Union is where he met Margaret Dickey, also studying for an M. Div., and they were married in 1964. During seminary, Ted served as supply pastor of the Trinity congregation, New Dorp Beach, Staten Island, NY. He completed a M.A. degree in international relations at Yale University in 1967, and served as Director of Prince George County's (MD) Community Action Agency. Ted was ordained a deacon November 26, 1973, in Barbados, Eastern West Indies, after working in Bridgetown, Barbados with Christian Action for Development in the Caribbean. From 1974-1983, he worked as an economic consultant and research association for development programs with Robert Nathan Associates, Washington, DC. His assignments included working with Alaska native peoples, other Native Americans, people in Guyana and Latin America, as well as Africa, Sri Lanka, and many developing countries. In August 1983, Ted began serving as Executive Director of the Board of World Mission of the Moravian Church (North America). From the start, he worked to expand the Moravian Church's definition of "world" and of "mission." He accepted the call to become pastor at Prince of Peace Moravian Church, Miami, FL, in August 1995, and retired from active service under call in 2001. In, August 2017, Ted and Margaret moved to the Boston area to be near their son, Parke. A private burial service was held in Oxford, PA, August 25. On the same date, a memorial service was held at Prince of Peace Moravian Church, Miami, FL. Ted is survived by his wife, Margaret, his son Parke, daughter Rachel and their families. A hymn Ted wrote in 1984, "Christ Engage Us in Your Mission," expresses his mission theology and includes this stanza: "Open then our hearts and senses to your Spirit's varied ways. Overcome our self-defenses so we hear the prayer and praise which the folk of countless cultures in new words and rhythms raise."

## **Henrietta Green**

Henrietta Stout Green, the wife of the late Rev. W. Norwood Green, Sr. passed away Monday, September 10, 2018, three hours short of her 95th birthday. Henrietta was the first of six children born to Edgar Lee and Lucille Henderson Stout, and loved her younger sisters and brothers as if they belonged to her. A child of the Great Depression, Henrietta selflessly served others, and never complained of anything, except perhaps, her husband's perpetual tardiness at mealtimes. Henrietta was a member of the Moravian Church from childhood, and she was a Graduate of James A. Gray High School, in Winston-Salem, NC, where she was valedictorian of her class. Following her graduation from high school, Henrietta worked briefly at Montgomery-Ward, and then at the old Downtown Garage. On December 26, 1946 Henrietta married

Norwood Green, a soldier home from the War in Europe. Norwood was ordained to the Ministry of the Moravian Church in 1951, and for most of her marriage Henrietta used her skills as a typist to serve as his “home” secretary, maintaining a record of Norwood’s pastoral service. Henrietta and Norwood had one son, the Rev. Dr. Worth Norwood Green, Jr., born July 21st, 1949. Unlike her husband, Norwood, who never met a stranger, Henrietta was quiet and retiring. In her later years, she seldom ventured outside her home except to buy groceries or attend church. Even so, she remained as kind and generous to others, especially those who were close to her, as she was stern and stingy with herself. Her life was one of constant prayer. She was preceded in death by her husband, Norwood, by two brothers, and a sister. She is survived by her son, Worth N. Green, Jr. by two grandchildren; by four great-grandchildren; and by two sisters. After a private interment at Friedberg Moravian Church, a memorial service was conducted by the Rev. C. Scott Venable at Fairview Moravian Church, at September 21.

### **George Chiddie**

The Reverend George Amos Chiddie, 90, of Asheville, NC, died September 12, 2018. He was born in Forsyth County, to the late Dewey Fleat and Flossie Myers Chiddie. His family attended Advent Moravian, where as a teenager he felt called to ministry. He graduated from Moravian College and Theological Seminary in 1953, was ordained a deacon April 12, 1953 at Advent Moravian Church by Bishop J. Kenneth Pfohl, and consecrated a presbyter in 1959 at Providence Moravian Church by Bishop Edmund Schwartze. In the fall of 1952, he met Jean Oehman at Moravian Youth Camp in Brevard, NC. They were married on April 18, 1953. Together they served pastorates in North Carolina, at Providence, King-Mizpah, Leaksville and Bethesda, and New Philadelphia (Associate). George was active in the camp and conference ministry of the Southern Province at Camp Hanes, and later at Laurel Ridge, serving as a dean for junior camps. In 1976, the Chiddies began service in the Eastern West Indies Province at the Christiansted and New Herrnhut congregations. He is remembered there for founding brass choirs, including Trombone Choir at New Herrnhut, which continues today; and for mentoring four men as they became ordained pastors. In 1988, they returned to North Carolina and George was pastor at Pine Chapel, Winston-Salem until retiring in 1997. In retirement, George taught computer science at Forsyth Community College, and was interim pastor for a number of congregations, notably St. Phillips, Bethabara, and Friedland. He also returned to his love of woodworking and created beautiful furniture for his wife and family. In 2008, George and Jean moved to the Asheville area to be close to their children. He is survived by his wife of sixty-five years, Jean Oehman Chiddie; three daughters; nine grandchildren and 9 great-grandchildren; and a sister. A memorial service was conducted Saturday, September 22, 2018 at the Brooks-Howell Home, Asheville NC, with George’s son-in-law, the Rev. Dr. David Winkle, officiating, and the Rev. Sherwin Alleyne.

### **Mohamed Braima**

The Rev. Mohamed S. Braima died Sunday, Nov. 4, 2018. Mohamed grew up in the village of Mbaoma, in Sierra Leone, and studied in Islamic schools there, as well as in Kenema, Bo, and Freetowne. In high school, while reading the Bible one day, he decided he wanted to be a Christian, and he also met his future wife, Safiatu. In 1975, after finishing high school, Mohamed came to the United States. He found a church home at Little Church on the Lane, in Charlotte, and was baptized by the Rev. Herbert Weber. Mohamed graduated Belmont Abbey College with a degree in Biology in 1981 and worked at Presbyterian Hospital for 18 years. He married Safiatu in 1986. The ten-year civil war in Sierra Leone that began in 1991 gave the Braimas a vision and burden for their homeland. Mohamed coordinated relief efforts, personally traveling to deliver food, clothing and medical supplies to Sierra Leone refugees in Guinea. In 2006, he completed a Master of Divinity degree from Reformed Theological Seminary, Charlotte NC. With the support of the Little Church on the Lane, he and Safi began mission work in 2007 in the village of Luawa Yiehun, their home town. He was appointed a Provincial Acolyte in 2008, and ordained a deacon on February 5, 2012 at Little Church on the Lane by Bishop Sam Gray. Mohamed served with the Interprovincial Board of World Mission as pastor for the Sierra Leone Unity Mission Area, designated by the worldwide Moravian Unity in 2010. Under his faithful and tireless leadership, this ministry grew to include: four congregations and fellowships, two secondary schools, a program to build relationships between Christians and Muslims, and

plans for a radio station. A memorial service was held Saturday, Dec. 1, 2018 at Little Church on the Lane, followed by a funeral service and burial in Luawa Yiehun, Sierra Leone December 7. The Moravian Daily Texts for Dec. 1 included Psalm 70:4: “Let those who love your salvation say evermore, ‘God is great!’” Mohamed would certainly add, “All the time!”

### **Richard Shamel**

The Reverend Dr. Richard Isaac Shamel, 88, passed away Sunday, November 18, 2018. He was born May 26, 1930 in Urichsville, Ohio, to Clarence Florentine Shamel and Jean Cross Shamel. He graduated Ohio State University with a degree in mathematics and English in 1951, planning to be a schoolteacher. Richard received the call to ordained ministry and attended Moravian Theological Seminary, graduating in 1954. It was there he met his wife and partner in mission, June Ardell Zimmerman. They were married in 1955, and together served the Coopersburg, PA congregation; and the New Dorp Beach, Midland Beach, and Tremont Terrace congregations in NY. In 1968 Richard began mission service in Antigua, the Eastern West Indies Province, most notably at the Spring Gardens and Gracefield congregations, and as superintendent of the twelve churches on Antigua. Health problems forced a premature conclusion of his mission work. Richard and June returned to the United States in 1973, and he served pastorates with the Moravia, New Eden, and Providence congregations in North Carolina. Richard received the Doctor of Ministry degree from Drew University in 1992, and retired in 1995 after forty years of ministry. In retirement he was supply pastor for the Mayodan, Hope, Bethesda, Macedonia, Union Cross, and New Hope (Miami, FL) congregations. He was preceded in death by his wife of sixty-one years, June; and is survived by three sons and by six grandchildren. A memorial service was held Saturday, November 24, 2018 at Macedonia Moravian Church, with the Rev. Zachary Dease and Bishop Graham Rights officiating. Burial followed in God’s Acre at Macedonia.

### **Roger Kimball**

The Rev. Roger W. Kimball, age 84, died December 29, 2018. He was born Sept. 28, 1934 in Winston-Salem, NC, and was the first of four children of Thomas Alexander Kimball and Treva Rothrock Kimball. He was baptized as an infant at Friedland Moravian Church, Winston-Salem, and later confirmed his faith there. At age 14, he responded to an invitation made by the pastor in worship to anyone who felt a call to pastoral ministry. Roger attended Griffith School, and graduated from Glenn High School (1952), from Moravian College (1956) and Moravian Theological Seminary (1960). During his school years Roger enjoyed sports, and learned to play the tuba in the school and church bands. He married Mary Ethel “Mitzi” Pennington May 31, 1958. In the following years, they were blessed with four children. While in Seminary he took a one year leave of absence to serve with the Board of World Mission on St. Thomas, US Virgin Islands. Roger was ordained a deacon June 26, 1960 by the Rt. Rev. Hebert Spaugh, at Friedland Church, and began mission service in Guyana, where he was consecrated a presbyter by the Rt. Rev. Edwin Kortz, October 27, 1968. Roger served as the Superintendent of the Moravian work in Guyana, and was secretary of the Guyana Council of Churches. In 1969, he accepted a call to serve in the Eastern West Indies Province, on St. Thomas with the Friedensberg, Friedensthal, and Friedensfeld congregations. From 1972 to 1975, he was the President of the Provincial Board for the E.W. I. Province. During their ministry in Guyana and St. Thomas, Roger was active in a variety of social and community ministries. In 1981, the Kimballs returned to the Southern Province, as Roger was pastor of the Mizpah and Advent congregations. While at Advent, Roger mentored and encouraged a number of persons as they discerned calls to pastoral service in the church. He retired August 31, 2000, after 40 years of service, and entered another period of service as an interim pastor for the Holly Springs, West Palm Beach, Ardmore, Macedonia, Enterprise, Christ, Advent and Mizpah congregations. He retired from his retirement December 31, 2016. Roger is survived by his wife of 60 years, Mitzi; a daughter; three sons; seven grandchildren; five great-grandchildren; two sisters; and one brother. A memorial service was conducted at Friedland Moravian Church, Jan. 4, 2019 with the Rt. Rev. Graham Rights, Rev. James Demby, Rev. Wayne Byerly, and Br. David Berrier officiating. Burial followed in God’s Acre, Friedland.

### **Linda Fishel**

Mrs. Linda Lou Berrier Fishel, age 76, passed away Tuesday, April 30, 2019. She was born on February 7, 1943 in Forsyth County to James Phillip and Lois Lashmit Berrier. She had been a member of Fraternity Church of the Brethren and presently a member of Bethania Moravian Church. She worked as a bookkeeper and office manager for Dixie Insurance and retired from Aon Insurance. She loved flower arranging, needle work, beach and family. She was preceded in death by her parents, her brother, James Calvin Berrier and infant sisters, Jeanette and Dorcas June. She is survived by her husband, Charles W. Fishel; two daughters; two sons; a sister-in-law; three grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren. A memorial service was conducted Friday, May 3, 2019 at Bethania Moravian Church with The Rt. Rev. Lane Sapp and Rev. David Kindy officiating. Burial followed in Fraternity Church of the Brethren Cemetery.

### **Grace Robinson**

Grace Arlene Snavelly Robinson, age 95, died on July 9, 2019. She was born August 10, 1923 to the late Emma and Clayton Snavelly and was raised in Lititz, PA. Grace was a devoted Moravian her entire life, active not only in the Lititz congregation, but also with the Easter District Youth program. She attended Moravian Seminary for Women (now Moravian College) in Bethlehem, PA, where she met the Rev. Dr. Kenneth William Robinson. They married in 1951. That same year Kenneth was ordained in the Reading Moravian Church, PA, and became pastor of the Fry's Valley and Port Washington congregations, in Ohio. Grace shared in Ken's ministry in the Northern Province and in the Southern Province, beginning in 1954 at Home Moravian Church (Assistant) and then, at First, Greensboro; Ardmore; Bethania, and Home (Associate). Kenneth retired in 1991 after 40 years of active service. For many years, concluding in 2018, Grace was a faithful staff member and volunteer at the Moravian Archives, where she specialized in transcription of handwritten documents. Grace was preceded in death by her five siblings, and, in 2012, by her loving husband Kenneth. She is survived by two children and one grandson. A memorial service was conducted July 12, 2019 at Home Moravian Church with the Rev. Andrew Heil and the Rt. Rev. Dr. D. Wayne Burkette presiding. Burial followed in God's Acre, in Salem.

### **Dennis Stanfield**

Mr. Dennis Keith Stanfield, 63, of Winston-Salem, died Wednesday, July 18, 2019. He was born in Winston-Salem on October 14, 1955 to the late Charlotte Snider Stanfield and Elbert Graham Stanfield, Sr. Mr. Stanfield was a graduate of Parklawn Senior High School (class of 1974) and went on to earn undergraduate degrees from Wake Forest University and High Point University, as well as a Masters in Business Administration from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. He spent a varied career of thirty-five years working in the areas of Information Technology, Real Estate, and Finance. Employers of note include Sara Lee Corporation, Lowe's Companies, Wake Forest University, and most recently, The Moravian Church in America, Southern Province, where he served as Provincial Treasurer. Mr. Stanfield was a licensed Certified Public Accountant and Real Estate Broker. Dennis was a lifelong member of Trinity Moravian Church, where he taught Sunday School, served on both the Board of Elders and Board of Trustees, played softball for decades, ushered, served at Lovefeasts, and played in the band. Music was his first love, and he recorded a number of contemporary Christian and country songs, many of which were performed in church. Dennis especially loved sports and being active outdoors. He loved nature, and especially the splendor of the North Carolina mountains. He was preceded in death by his parents, and his two beloved dogs, and is survived by one brother. A memorial service was held July 21, 2019 at Trinity Moravian Church, officiated by Rev. Bill McElveen, Rev. Russell Williams, and Bishop Graham Rights. Burial followed at God's Acre, in Salem, with the Rev. Ginny Tobiassen officiating.

## **Henry May**

The Rev. Dr. Henry May, Jr., age 87, passed away Friday, Oct. 18, 2019. Henry was born in Forsyth County, NC, the son of H. E. May, Sr. and Martha Todd May. He graduated from Clemmons High School, and married Bobby Jean Brown December 1951. After working for the Western Electric Company, in Winston-Salem, NC, Henry prepared for ordained ministry. He received a BA degree from Moravian College, an M. Div. degree from Moravian Theological Seminary, and later, a Th.M. from Duke University School of Divinity, and a D. Min. from Southeastern Theological Seminary. Henry was ordained a deacon June 23, 1963 and consecrated a presbyter April 25, 1971, with the Rt. Rev. Hebert Spaugh as officiating bishop for both. His 33 years of active ministry included pastorates at Bethesda, Park Road, Trinity, Calvary, New Philadelphia, Little Church on the Lane (Charlotte, NC), and again at Trinity. He also provided leadership within the Southern Province, including two terms as a Provincial Elders' Conference member, and with community groups and ministries in the places he served. He was preceded in death by his wife, Bobbie Jean May, his son; John May, and his grandsons; John Henry May and Christopher David Sidden. He is survived by a sister; three children; seven grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren. A private graveside service was held October 21, 2019 with the Rev. Chris Thore officiating.

## **Dorothy Burkette**

Dorothy Grubbs Burkette died Jan. 2, 2020 in Johnson City, TN, at the age of 94. Dot was born in Winston-Salem, the oldest of three children of Oscar and Addie Grubbs, and grew up in the Advent congregation. She met her husband, David R. Burkette, while both attended Business College. After David's ordination, she was active in the churches he served as pastor, including Clemmons, Bethania, Fries Memorial, Rolling Hills (FL), and Calvary, and as he served as Executive Director of the former Board of Evangelism and Home Missions. Dot was devoted to church activities for her entire life, but she also enjoyed collecting antiques, especially antique dolls, and flower gardening. Her career was in administrative work, including working for many years as bookkeeper in the Provincial Treasurer's Office. After their retirement, she and David moved to his family home in Jefferson, NC and then to Johnson City, TN in 2014. She was survived by her husband; two sons; six grandchildren, two step grandchildren, and several great grandchildren. A graveside service was held January 6 in Salem God's Acre followed by a memorial service at Calvary Moravian Church, with the Rt. Rev. Lane Sapp officiating.

## **E. Artis Weber**

Elizabeth Artis Wright Weber passed away Monday, February 17, 2020, at the age of 98. She was born in Winston Salem to the late Burgess McAger and Bessie Reynolds Wright. She studied voice at Salem College, taught German at Salem Academy and, from 1962 until her retirement in 1980, was Admissions Director for Salem Academy. Music and singing were integral parts of her devotional and church life. She composed over 1,000 hymns on subjects including marriage, prayer, renewal, worship, church seasons and celebrations. One appears in the Moravian Book of Worship. In 1982, she married the Rev. F. Hebert Weber and joined in his ministry as pastor of the Little Church on the Lane, Charlotte, NC, until his retirement in 1987. After his retirement, Herbert served as interim pastor of the Morning Star (Asheville), New Hope (Newton), Calvary, Messiah, Hope and Oak Grove congregations, and regularly visited the Palmetto Fellowship (Spartanburg). They were active members of the Fairview congregation in Winston-Salem, and enjoyed traveling. After Herbert's death in 2006, E. Artis continued her love for traveling. She attended the 2008 Moravian Women's Consultation Conference in Herrnhut, Germany where her hymn, "Salt of the Earth Are We" was performed. After moving to Salemtowne Moravian Retirement Community, she was involved in as many activities as her health allowed. She was preceded in death by her husband, two brothers and a nephew. She is survived by two sisters, one brother, one step-daughter, and two step-granddaughters. A memorial service was held February 22, 2020 at Fairview Moravian Church, Winston-Salem with the Rev. Jeff Copping, the Rev. Scott Venable and the Rev. Dr. Riddick Weber officiating. Burial followed in God's Acre, Salem.

### **Sue White**

Sue Southern White died Monday April 6, 2020 at the age of 73. Sue was the daughter of James and Rosalea Holley Southern, graduated from North Forsyth High School (1965), and had a 42 year long career with the Phoenix Company, Winston-Salem, NC. In 1991 Sue married the Rev. Keith White, and served with him as he pastored, first in the Baptist church, and then in the Moravian ministry at the Bethesda, Enterprise, and Advent Moravian congregations. After Keith's untimely death in 2013, Sue continued as an active member of the Advent congregation, teaching Sunday school and participating in Women's Fellowship. She is survived by her mother-in-law; three sisters-in-law, and two former sisters-in-law. A family graveside service was conducted at Advent Moravian Church, officiated by the Rev. Dr. Tim Sapp and Pastor David Berrier. Due to the coronavirus, a memorial service was held at a later date.

### **Harold Miller**

Rev. Dr. Harold Daniel "Dan" Miller, Jr., 72, passed away Saturday, May 2, 2020. He was born in Forsyth County on September 10, 1947 to the late Harold Daniel Miller, Sr. and Ethel Halley Miller. Danny was a proud graduate of RJ Reynolds High School, Wake Forest University, Duke University, Radford University, and UNC-Chapel Hill. He was previously a Moravian minister at Mount Bethel Moravian Church and a long-term member of Bethesda Moravian Church. Dr. Dan was a child psychologist at the Davidson County Mental Health for over 15 years. He is survived by a daughter. A private graveside service was held for the family, with a memorial service planned for a later date.

### **Rosemary Stewart**

Rosemary Shoaf Stewart, age 83, died July 15, 2020. She was the youngest of eight children born to Carl and Fallie Myers Shoaf. Rosemary graduated Clemmons School in 1955 and married Arkon Gray Stewart Dec. 24<sup>th</sup> of that year. She was employed at Kress's Department Store, Hanes Hosiery, and R J Reynolds Tobacco Company. In 1970, she became a full time homemaker and enjoyed more time with her children, volunteering at church, and working in the garden. Rosemary was a full partner in Arkon's ministry as together they served the Enterprise, Providence, and Ardmore congregations. She became known for her chicken pies, strawberry pies and sourdough rolls. She was preceded in death by her parents and siblings. She is survived by her husband of 64 years, the Rev. Arkon Stewart, their three children, six grandchildren, a step-granddaughter, and two great grandchildren. A memorial service was held Sunday, July 26, 2020 at New Philadelphia Moravian Church, with the Rt. Revs. Graham Rights and Sam Gray officiating.

### **Earlette Peek**

Blanche Earlette Peek, wife of the Rev. Robert (Bob) Peek, passed away at age 70, Thursday, Oct. 1, 2020. She was born Jan. 5, 1950, in Tampa, FL, to Earl Hampton Keene and Nellie May Keene. She had a lifelong passion for crafting, art, gardening, event planning and decorating, and flower arranging, and received awards at the Dixie Classic Fair for flora and craft entries. Earlette joined in ministry with Bob as he served as pastor of the Morning Star, Immanuel, New Eden, and the merged Immanuel-New Eden congregations. She was survived by her husband, the Rev. Robert Peek; a son; and a brother. The Rev. C. Scott Venable conducted a memorial service Saturday, Oct. 10, at Fairview Moravian Church, with burial following in God's Acre, Salem.

### **Catherine Weidner**

Catherine Brandon Weidner, age 102, of Nazareth, PA, died October 13, 2020. Born in Winston-Salem, Catherine graduated Reynolds High School and Salem College, and 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. Catherine was active as a pianist, organist, choir director, Sunday school teacher, and women's ministry leader. She is

survived by four children, one sister, five grandchildren and five great-grandchildren. A funeral service was held October 21, at Central Moravian Church, Bethlehem, PA, with burial following in Nisky Hill cemetery.

### **Gregorio Moody**

Brother Gregorio Moody Chow passed away Dec. 10, 2020, at age 52, in Miami, FL. Gregorio was born in Waspsam, Nicaragua May 10, 1968 to Apolinario Moody and Emilia Chow. His education included high school graduation (Corn Island National Institute); certifications in primary education and accounting; a medical doctor and surgery degree (National Autonomous University of Nicaragua); an Associate of Arts degree from the University of Alaska, Bethel campus; studies at Baptist Seminary, Managua, Nicaragua; and a diploma in theological studies from Alaska Moravian Seminary, Bethel, AK. Brother Moody was appointed Provincial Acolyte for King Nani Kinka (King of Kings) Moravian Church, Miami, FL in 2008, and in 2016 also began to serve the New Hope (FL) congregation as Provincial Acolyte. He is survived by two sisters and two brothers. A funeral service was conducted Jan 14, 2021 by The Rt. Rev. G. Thomas Shelton, and the Rev. Dr. Dion Christopher, at Prince of Peace Moravian Church, Miami, FL.

### **Robert Rierson**

Robert McCoy “Bob” Rierson, age 83, died January 15, 2021. Born December 10, 1937, he was the youngest of seven children of the late John McCoy and Martha Annie Rierson, and was baptized and grew up in the Friedberg congregation. He graduated from Griffith High School, Winston-Salem; Moravian College (1960); and received the Bachelor of Divinity degree from Moravian Theological Seminary in 1964. During a year of service in the Virgin Islands while in seminary, Bob met his future wife, Annalise Fleming. Bob was called to the Nisky and New Herrnhut congregations, St. Thomas, USVI, and ordained a deacon June 7, 1964, at Friedberg, by Bishop Kenneth G. Hamilton. He and Annalise were married September 5 of that year. Bob was consecrated a presbyter Dec. 12, 1971, by Bishop Peter Gubi. He served as Superintendent of the congregations in the US Virgin Islands, and was elected a member of the Provincial Elders’ Conference of the Eastern West Indies Province. In 1972, he accepted a call to become pastor of Coral Ridge Moravian Church, Fort Lauderdale, FL; followed by being Associate Pastor of Home Moravian Church; and pastor of the Mizpah, and then, the Messiah congregation. Bob was elected to the Provincial Elders’ Conference in 1986 and served until 1988. After a brief time of secular employment, Bob became Executive Director of the Board of Evangelism and Home Missions in 1991, providing direction to new church development. He also served as Chair of the Board of Directors of Yokefellow Prison Ministry of NC, and was instrumental in the expansion of Sunnyside Ministry of the Moravian Church. He retired in August 2003. Bob was preceded in death by his son, Robert Stephen Rierson, and by two brothers and two sisters. Bob is survived by his wife, Annalise; two daughters; two granddaughters; and one brother and one sister. A graveside service was held Wednesday, January 20, 2021 in God’s Acre in Salem, with the Rt. Rev. D. Wayne Burkette and the Rev. John D. Rights officiating.

### **Robert Peek**

The Rev. Robert M. Peek, age 77, joined the heavenly Church Triumphant Friday, May 21, 2021. Bob was born in Prince William County, VA, the son of Edna and Macon Peek, and grew up in Greensboro, NC, and was a member of Florida Street Baptist Church. He graduated from the University of Maryland, and later earned Master of Public Administration degree at Golden Gate University, San Francisco, CA. Robert retired from the U. S. Air Force in 1987, after 24 years of service; and spent over 8 years with MCI Communications. He responded to a call to ministry, graduated Moravian Theological Seminary in 1999, was ordained a Deacon May 23, 1999, at Christ the King Moravian Church, Durham NC, by Bishop Graham H. Rights, and consecrated a Presbyter September 25, 2005, at Immanuel-New Eden Moravian Church, Winston-Salem, NC by Bishop Lane A. Sapp. Robert was pastor of Morning Star Moravian Church, Asheville, NC; both the Immanuel and New Eden congregations in Winston-Salem, and the merged Immanuel-New Eden congregation; and, after retirement in 2009, served the Providence congregation. Bob was strongly committed to the spread of the Gospel, and to pastoral care for members and non-members

alike. He was preceded in death, in 2020, by his wife, Blanche Earlette (Keene) Peek; and is survived by a son, a brother, a sister, and two half-sisters. A memorial service was held at Fairview Moravian Church, Winston-Salem, Saturday, June 12, 2021 with the Rev. Tony Hayworth officiating. Burial followed in God's Acre, in Salem.

### **David Burkette**

The Rev. David R. Burkette, 95, died on January 8, 2022 in Johnson City, Tenn. He was born in Ashe County near Jefferson, N.C. on June 28, 1926, the older son of the Rev. George Carroll and Maxie Ennice Burkett. David attended Draughn's Business College in Winston-Salem and Moravian College in Bethlehem, Pa., and was a 1957 graduate of Moravian Theological Seminary in Bethlehem. Following work in the business world as a sales representative for the George A. Hormel Company, he felt called into ordained ministry, enrolled in theological seminary in 1954, and following graduation, was ordained into the ministry of the Moravian Church in June, 1957.

He served Moravian congregations as pastor at Clemmons, Bethania, Fries Memorial, founding pastor of Rolling Hills Moravian Church in Longwood, Florida, and Calvary Moravian in Winston-Salem. In 1978, he was called to be Director of Evangelism and Home Missions for the Moravian Church, Southern Province, from which position he retired in 1991. Following retirement he served interim pastorates at several Moravian congregations before relocating to his family home place in Ashe County. While living in Ashe County he and his late wife, Dorothy, were active in the Mountain Laurel Moravian Fellowship, Laurel Springs, and N.C. He was predeceased by his wife, Dorothy, and his younger brother. He is survived by two sons; six grandchildren; two step grandchildren; and 12 great grandchildren. A family graveside service was held Thursday, January 13, 2022, in Salem God's Acre, followed by a public memorial service at 11:00 am at Calvary Moravian Church, Winston-Salem, N.C, with the Rt. Rev. Lane Sapp officiating.