



PROVINCIAL TIES

March 2023



— LATEST NEWS & EVENTS —

How Do You See?

“It’s not enough to reach people with better ideas or thoughts. They need a new way of thinking and seeing because in their current way they are not capable of understanding the new thoughts and ideas they really need.” When someone recently said this to me, I immediately remembered the mix and frustration that comes with learning or teaching any new thing. We mostly understand anything new we experience based on things we already assume or know. To truly grow and develop, we need to expand how we see and understand.

A few weeks ago, the PEC held a leadership summit for the clergy, provincial acolytes, and educators who serve in the MCSP as well as those eligible for call. It began with a dinner at New Philadelphia Moravian Church which featured a presentation on “TRUST” and the introduction of the members of the PEC.

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We convened the next day for an 8-hour workshop of presentations, discussions, and feedback on the topics of “transparency,” “relationships,” “understanding,” “shared vision,” and “taking risks together” as the steps for building mutual trust in our ministries.

For me, the highlight was listening to discussions and responses from a wide range of ministry leaders about aspects of ministry including making space for discussion in groups. We heard where more understanding and partnership is needed, where there has been hurt, and where hope is growing. A common theme for building better understanding is around developing more information and understanding for the call process. Another was the call for giving mutual effort from among the clergy, provincial acolytes, and educators to lead and to be encouraging role models to congregations (and the province as whole) toward a deeper experience of trust for working together.

A big struggle in recent years has been an increasing inability to see beyond the perspectives and groups to which we are most accustomed. The kind of blurred vision that comes from the hardening of opinions and the deepening of prejudices and biases. How can we learn better ways to see and listen to one another? To see what is really there - what our neighbor sees, but what we often miss. To help others see what we see. To open our eyes together and see what we collectively have never seen or had the ability to see together. These are things the PEC, Commission for Congregational Development, and Commission on Ministry are teaming up to address in order to establish a stronger environment for growth and nurture for our congregations, ministry areas, and leaders.

As the Lenten season grows closer to Holy Week, I am reminded of the meaningful use of the expression in the Gospels for “seeing” especially in John’s Gospel, where the meaning is nearly always about seeing from the heart. Jesus said a lot about seeing. He warned his disciples about having eyes but being unable to perceive the things God desires. Warning them about their hesitance to embrace a new way of seeing the life and the world through the lens of the “Kingdom of God” rather than the world’s way of power and control over others. Jesus consistently modeled for them a new way of seeing anchored in unconditional love and grace, aimed at repairing the brokenness in the world.

I sense God is continuing to call all of us to work on this together. God most often chooses to reveal the things of God through the work of Christian community working together and not in isolation. A community choosing to anchor itself in unconditional love and aimed at the purpose of repairing divisions and brokenness.

The leadership summit was a positive event that included lots of appreciation for gathering and listening to one another with the goal of building a shared vision to guide the province. There is more work to be done in this regard, but we have made a solid start. We learned a lot about how we see things, and one another, and steps we could take to risk doing it better and more faithfully. It was also an opportunity to be reminded that God enables us to see well, but it requires our mutual effort and responsibility to show up for one another to do the work of listening and seeing beyond our assumptions and preferences.

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That the first step as Jesus modeled, is seeking to understand and check our assumptions, but also putting in the work and effort to be heard and seen in a manner that benefits everyone and not just our personal goals.

As we move closer toward this most holy time in the life of our congregations and the province, join me in prayer and reflection for seeking to see and listen to one another from the heart. Let us allow the example of Christ we hear in the story of Holy Week to be our guide for how we should value and love one another and the world in which we are called to embody unconditional love and grace.

Submitted by The Rev. Dr. Neil Routh, President, PEC

From the Provincial Financial Office

Thanks so much! – Thanks to all the churches for paying their 2022 Provincial share. We had 99.7% of the total share paid. This is a record for my 7 years of tenure.

2023 Church Budgets– The 2023 Budgets were due to the Provincial Financial Office December 15, 2023. There are right many that have not been submitted. Please get those in as soon as possible.

2022 Church Audits – The 2022 Church Audit form and information are going out this week to all treasurers, trustee chairs and churches. Please return these to the Provincial Financial Office by April 15, 2023.

Submitted by Robyn Glance, Chief Financial Officer

Commission on Ministry (COM) March 2023

I began service as the new Director of the Commission on Ministry on January 30. In this role, I will be working in collaboration with the PEC (Provincial Elders' Conference) and the CCD (Commission on Congregational Development) to further develop the Commission on Ministry so it can serve the needs of candidates, clergy and lay pastoral leaders in the Southern Province.

Part of my work as Director of the Commission will include providing pastoral care to those who serve in our province. A top priority is providing a ministry of presence and support, listening to, and encouraging candidates, clergy, lay pastors, and the ministries they serve.

Another portion of the Director's role includes serving as assistant to Neil Routh, President of the PEC, helping with call processes, clergy consultation and other assigned duties.

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Currently, the Commission on Ministry supervises candidates pursuing ordination and manages the certification process for Christian Educators. Our goal is for the commission's work to become more inclusive of all forms of ministry in our province, both clergy and lay.

The following individuals currently serve on the Commission on Ministry: Riddick Weber, Jamie Vandock, Matthew Allen, Gary Stilley, Frances Beasley, and Wayne Burkette. The Commission will hold its first meeting for 2023 later this month.

As we continue to develop the work of the Commission in its effort to support and undergird those who serve in ministry, your comments and suggestions are both welcome and needed. Please feel free to contact me by email at lsapp@mccsp.org or by phone at 336-725-5811.

Submitted by The Rt. Rev. Lane Sapp, Director, Commission on Ministry

Moravian Music Foundation News

March 2023



Thursday Talks

Live and Informative!

Thursdays at 12:30pm.

FREE and open to the public.

Mar 9 - Follow the Music; Discoveries and Revelations Barbara Strauss

Mar 23 - Moravian Americans and their Neighbors, 1772-1822 Ulrike Wiethaus, Ph.D. Grant McAllister, Ph.D.

Apr 13 - The Moravian Music Foundation: A History Christopher Ogburn, Ph.D.

April 27 - Such a Scene of Industry...in So Small a Place: The Moravian Aesthetic in American Decorative Arts 1750-1830 Johanna Brown, Old Salem Museums & Gardens

May 11 - David Tannenberg and the American Organ [A precursor to the May 12 performance of the 1800 Tannenberg at the James A. Gray Auditorium, Old Salem Visitor Ctr]

As part of MMF's educational mission, informative lectures are offered, free to the public, on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of the month. MMF plans and presents the 2nd Thursday and the Moravian Archives plans and presents the 4th Thursday. Talks will cover a variety of research topics, spanning music history, musicology, and biography or provide information about projects and programs.

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Moravian Music Foundation SERENADES



The Moravian Music Foundation (MMF) announces its 2023 season of concerts to engage, inspire, and entertain the Winston-Salem community. While the Foundation holds a collection of priceless musical treasures, it is also charged with

sharing these treasures with the world. MMF presents concerts and recordings of Moravian music and provides education and outreach to bring its archival treasures to light. **Season Tickets** are available at moravianmusic.ticketspice.com

A Celebration of the Tannenberg Organ

Friday, May 12, 2023; 7:00pm, Old Salem Visitor Center, 900 Old Salem Rd., Winston-Salem, NC featuring organ soloists, Susan Bates and Mary Louise Kapp Peeples; vocalist, Cristy Lynn Brown; and the Moramus Chorale, a performing ensemble of the Moravian Music Foundation, led by Drake Flynt. With generous support from Old Salem Museums & Gardens.

And...

1. American Roots, July 1, 2023
2. An Evening of Songs from the Heart, Sept. 15, 2023
3. The Long Eighteenth Century, Oct. 27, 2023
4. Night of Light Concert, Dec. 16, 2023 – Special VIP Concert during ChristmasFest

[More about all of the upcoming concerts in the series>>](#)

Season Tickets: \$35. Includes tickets to four concerts in the Winston-Salem area. Subscription guarantees a seat at the smaller venues. Single tickets, if available, will be offered at a later date.

VIP Season Tickets: \$75. Includes reserved seating at all five Winston-Salem events, 2 VIP Pre-Concert Receptions (*Songs from the Heart* and *Night of Light*), Special VIP **Night of Light** Concert during ChristmasFest

Moravian Music Sunday, a day of recognition and celebration

This year, we celebrate the 300th anniversary of Christian Gregor's birth 300 years ago in 1723. Recognizing that music is a means of proclaiming the Gospel, we celebrate Moravian Music Sunday on May 7, 2023. Materials designed to assist your worship planning team in preparation are available on the Moravian Music Foundation's website: order of worship, a bulletin insert, liturgy, and a statement to be read. All materials and details available at <https://moravianmusic.org/moravian-music-sunday-2023/>

Submitted by Erik J Salzwedel, Manager of Operations and Communications

Provincial Women's Board

The J. Kenneth and Bessie Whittington Pfohl Ministerial Fund

What is the Fund? In the 1950s and '60s, the Provincial Women's Board led a Campaign

to raise money to endow a fund to help Moravian ministers with continuing education.

In recognition of the contributions made to the Province by Bishop and Mrs. J. K. Pfohl, the fund was named in their honor.

The Principal of the Fund is invested for the Board by the Provincial Treasurer and the interest earned on this fund is sent to the Treasurer of the Provincial Women's Board each year for disbursement as requested.



Who may apply? Ministers and Seminary Students of the Southern Province

For what purpose may the Fund be used? Qualified individuals may apply for financial assistance for study (including travel) which enhances their service to the Moravian Church.

Contact the PWB Office for an application or more information. 336-722-4911 or pwbmcsp@gmail.com

Submitted by Cindy Lamb

Day of Prayer Services for 2023

March 15, 11:00 A.M. - **Calvary Moravian**, Speaker: Rev. Madi White. Coffee served at 10:00 P.M. This service will be in person only.

March 22, 11:00 A.M. - **Fairview Moravian**, Speaker: Rev. Jeff Carter. The service will be in person and include communion. The service will be available on YouTube and Facebook.

March 29, 11:00 A.M. - **Konnoak Hills Moravian**, Speaker: The Rev. Ginny Tobiassen. Lovefeast. The service will be in person and online: <http://www.khmoravian.org/> Select "YouTube Chanel" at the top of the page.

Submitted by Cindy Lamb

News from the PEC

March 2023

The PEC met on Feb 9 and 25. The main focus during February was the facilitation of the Leadership Summit held at New Philadelphia Moravian Church on Feb 23 and 24. It included 65 participants, which was close to full participation from bishops, clergy, provincial acolytes, educators, and seminary students presently serving in the Southern Province, and those eligible for call. It was striking to have broad participation, which included a few folks who had not attended similar gatherings in more than a decade. The event served as a platform for sharing PEC perspectives in key areas, while gathering input through discussion groups from all who participated. The PEC, along with the Commission on Congregational Development, and the Commission on Ministry, will be using this information to refine and develop our respective ministry efforts. A primary focus for the remainder of this year will be listening and building stronger relationships with congregations and leaders throughout the province toward the goal of a clear vision for the direction of the province and our shared ministries.

Of particular note was information received to increase understanding and awareness for the call process, while also building a stronger relationship between the PEC and congregations. This includes finding ways to connect to congregations beyond crisis mediation, call process meetings, and quadrennial review meetings. The leadership summit also helped the PEC further identify an array of assumptions and opinions among leaders that serve as barriers to better understandings for how congregational leadership can work better together.

At the Feb 25 in-person PEC meeting, we worked to delegate work between the members of the PEC. Presently we are working on building teams to process the data generated from quadrennial reviews and congregational surveys used in the call process. Another step has been the new adoption of a weekly virtual check-in to stay abreast of how our work is developing and better manage the large plate of topics and tasks that are constantly developing.

The PEC has accepted the invitation of the Concerned Moravians to attend the event they are sponsoring later this month. We also worked together to issue a statement to congregations and leaders for the importance of living up to the standard of behavior and the practice of our faith outlined in the Moravian Covenant for Christian Living and the Ground of the Unity Statement.

The PEC continues to work actively on the call processes underway at Ardmore, Bethabara, Come and Worship, Grace, Kernersville, and Raleigh. Additional conversations have been underway in the last month to support Macedonia and the Rev. Zach Dease in a process of taking sabbatical time later this year, as well as with Leaksville and establishing a process for discerning next steps for congregational ministry. Attention has been given to guidance and support connection for current candidates for ordination.

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The PEC approved recommendation from the Provincial Support Services Board for adjustment of provincial share for three congregations for 2023. Note that all congregations have completed their 2022 financial responsibilities for provincial share except for one. The PEC has partnered with the new property committee under the PSSB, and in partnership with the Moravian Ministries Foundation. This group presently includes Neil Routh, Robyn Glance, Bobbie and NT Russell (Christ Moravian), Randy Peddycord (Providence), and Ron Bell (Calvary) – with special consultation provided by Kirk Saunders (Home).

The PEC has also given support for the priorities for CCD and COM as they further develop and refine their work for this Synod period.

Submitted by The Rev. Dr. Neil Routh, President, PEC

Concerns and Celebrations

Death: The Rev. **Adam Spaugh**, 40, son of Richard and Jean Spaugh entered the more immediate presence of his Savior February 19, 2023. A memorial service for Adam will be held in South Carolina later this spring. Adam was ordained a Deacon of the Moravian Church on July 20, 2008 at First Moravian Church, GA. Adam served as pastor of New Hope Moravian, Newton, NC and Palmyra Moravian, Cinnaminson, NJ. Please keep Adam's family in your prayers during this difficult time of loss.

Ordination Anniversaries for March 2023

Margaret Leinbach.....19 years
Zachary Dease.....10 years
Leslie Venable.....36 years

Congratulations and God Bless You!



CCD Update

March 2023

Technology Team Consults Available

Technology, from the first tools to massive computers to tiny mobile devices we carry in our pockets, makes an impact on our way of life. Anytime a new tool is introduced there is a learning curve.

In Spring of 2020, world-wide we experienced a huge learning curve in terms of the tools and technologies that were needed to be in community and share the Good News of Jesus Christ in the world. While we have gotten into a new rhythm in many ways there are still ways we can use technology more effectively.

At the Southern Province Synod in 2022, we mandated the creation of a technology team to support congregations in this ongoing work of selecting and using tools for the work of ministry. This team is now in place and ready to connect with congregations. The Resolution from Synod 2022 states that this team will help congregations with.

1. “Live Streaming Worship to include hardware solutions such as internet access, cameras, computers, monitors, switchers, connections, cables, and software solutions such as software, streaming services, websites.
2. Small Group Meetings to include hardware solutions such as computers, cameras, lighting, and software solutions such as Zoom Meeting and other available video conferencing solutions.
3. A panel or persons trained in the installation and maintenance of these solutions and training for the operators; “

We plan to continue sharing any useful resources that may assist your congregation with tech needs, including this recent **free E-Book** from Rob O'Lynn and "Working Preacher" that gets you started on creating authentic and effective ministry through technology (livestreaming, podcasting, social media, graphic design, etc.) If your congregation would like to consult with a member of the team email **the CCD** at CCD@MCSP.org or call **(336) 722-8126**.

Opportunity for Rural Churches from Fresh Expressions

Online Summit-Rural Revival

Registration and more information here

“Small-town churches can’t escape the genuine and painful problems that face rural North America.

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At the same time, many Jesus' followers across rural regions are uncovering exciting possibilities as they explore creative and practical approaches to loving their neighbors.

Rural Revival Summit is a two-day digital event that will introduce you to other ministry leaders serving in small-town and rural contexts to provide examples and inspiration for being the Church and addressing the needs unique to your community."

There is a group discount so please contact Rebecca Craver at rcraver@mcsp.org if you are interested so we can coordinate as a group

Submitted by The Rev. Rebecca Craver, Director, CCD

For Your March 2023 Calendar

March 2 - PEC Virtual Meeting
March 6 - PEC Virtual Meeting
March 17 - PEC Meeting, in person



Great Sabbath Singers Wanted

Under the direction of Drake Flynt, with Mary Louise Kapp Peebles as organist, the Great Sabbath Chorus will present a Great Sabbath Service of Music and Worship on Saturday, April 8.

Chorus rehearsals begin on Sunday, February 26 from 3:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall of Home Moravian Church. Sunday afternoon rehearsals will continue on March 5, 12, 19, and 26 and on Friday, March 31, at 7:00 pm.

Singers from all our churches are encouraged to sing. Community singers are also invited. The music this year will feature the Rutter Requiem.

Interested singers should email Ted Leinbach at tedleinbach@aol.com.

Submitted by Ted Leinbach for the Great Sabbath Committee

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