

The Moravian Monthly

Official Newsletter of the Canadian, Eastern, and Western Districts
of the Moravian Church Northern Province.

October 2025

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Please contact
Sylvie Hauser at
sylvie@mcnp.org
or (920)495-
8995 with any
questions or
concerns about
this newsletter.

Provincewide Updates

Nominations Open for Positions to be Filled at 2026 Provincial Synod

The 2026 Northern Province Provincial Synod Nominating Committee is presently accepting names for consideration for the following positions to be filled at the 2026 Provincial Synod: Trustee of the Larger Life Foundation Board, Moravian Theological Seminary Board of Trustees, Lay Member of the Provincial Elders Conference, Provincial Women's Board, and 2030 Unity Synod Delegate. Please scan the QR code or go to MCNP.org to view the descriptions of each position. Please contact Jill Westbrook at jillw@roadrunner.com or jillwestbrook18@gmail.com with questions and/or to submit individuals for consideration for these positions.



Gift Planning: The Perfect Partner to Your Retirement Plan! Webinar Wednesday, October 29, 2025 | 12:00 PM ET OR 7:00 PM ET

Planning for retirement secures your future. Planning your gifts can shape the future of others. More and more people are discovering how charitable trusts and other gift plans can provide a steady income, meaningful tax benefits, and the joy of knowing their resources will fuel ministry and mission for generations. In this webinar, you'll learn how a gift plan can complement your retirement plan, helping you care for loved ones while also creating a legacy of generosity and impact. Register by scanning the QR code (or go to MMFA.com/News/)



Mission Minute: A Summer of Exchange Camping



This summer, the BWM supported 40 exchange campers and leaders as they traveled from six Unity Provinces to attend camps and experience the global Moravian Unity in a tangible way. At Mt. Morris in Wisconsin, participants came from Germany, Jamaica, Pennsylvania, and Florida; Youth Convo in Miami welcomed groups from Antigua, Trinidad, Jamaica, St. Thomas, and Barbados; and campers from Labrador attended Van Es in Alberta. The exchanges brought fresh energy as youth shared songs, traditions, and stories—discovering that even small differences sparked curiosity and connection.

For many campers, the program offered first-time travel experiences. Labrador leader McKinley Winters shared how one youth marveled at the Edmonton airport: “You should have seen her facial expression—priceless!” These moments, Winters reflected, help youth imagine futures that include studying or traveling beyond their home villages. Local campers also found their worlds expanding through new friendships. One Wisconsin camper, inspired by a bond with a German peer, is now planning to study abroad.

This program isn’t just about sending campers somewhere new; it’s about planting seeds of connection that bear fruit in our church for years to come... and it doesn’t happen by accident! The BWM coordinates travel, fosters partnerships across provinces, and provides financial support that enables international participation. Thank you for your support of the BWM and Moravian exchange camping!

Opportunity for Continuing Education *for educators, seminary students, and pastors*

The Association of Partners in Christian Education (APCE) will hold their annual event January 21-24 in Pittsburgh, PA. This is an outstanding event for Sunday school teachers, Christian Education Committee members, seminary students and pastors, offering 75 workshops from which to choose (addressing curriculum, social justice issues, youth ministry, children and adult spiritual formation, etc.), in addition to excellent keynote speakers and worship opportunities. (Participation is also offered on-line, with a limited number of workshops.)

Bishop Lane Sapp was part of a large group of Moravians from both Northern and Southern provinces attending last year’s event in Memphis, TN. Bishop Sapp offers the following reflection: *“It was one of the best events I’ve attended in 37 years of ministry. The worship was creative, inspirational and engaging. We were blessed by hearing the Word proclaimed by some of the most gifted preachers in the nation and the plenary sessions were extraordinary as we engaged and dug deeper into Biblical texts and topics.”*

You may register for the event at: www.apcenet.org – selecting “2026 Annual Event.” (Note that if you join APCE you receive a significant discount on registration fee.) Seminary students and volunteers attend at a discounted rate.

The theme for this year is “Bridging the Gap – Love God, Love Self, Love Neighbor” and the following highlights the content:

“Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law?” Jesus replied: “Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.’ This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’ All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments.” Matthew 22:36-40

In a pluralistic society where people are at odds with each other, anger lingers beneath the surface, and many are paralyzed about how to move forward, we’d like to invite you to conversations about how to bridge the divide that separates us.

Love is not a sedentary word, it requires action. When we ask ourselves whom we love we should also look inward to how we love. Love isn’t something we collect for ourselves, but an action lived out in how we express it to others through serving, understanding, and growing together despite our differences.

For more information or for assistance in registering, contact Marie Coutts, mcouts@sbcglobal.net; cell: 330.401.1212.

New Resources for the Racial Justice Team's Immigration Bible Study

Sermon Series Slide Decks

In March of this year, the MCNP Racial Justice Team provided a five-part Bible Study on immigration entitled, "Responding to God's Call for Mercy: A Bible Study on Immigration." The Bible Study was commended to you by the Provincial Elders' Conference and the Racial Justice Team for use in congregations. We noted at that time that one of the ways the Bible Study may be used is as a sermon series. To assist you with that option, the Racial Justice Team has prepared five sets of PowerPoint slides, one set for each session of the Bible Study.

The Responding to God's Call for Mercy Bible Study and all corresponding resources are available to download, share, and copy at <https://www.moravian.org/northern/2025/03/26/immigrationbiblestudy/>.



We believe Responding to God's Call for Mercy: A Bible Study on Immigration will assist congregations in beginning to explore this critical and urgent topic in our world today. It is provided by the Racial Justice Team (RJT) to help guide congregations in this time when many people are feeling anxious and fearful and is part of the RJT's commitment to continue to provide resources for caring for immigrant and refugee neighbors in these difficult and uncertain times. In addition, the Racial Justice Team believes that the Church has an important perspective to add as our nations seek to develop a comprehensive solution to our immigration challenges – a solution that respects the diversity and worth of all people, while keeping our borders safe. The Bible Study will strengthen our ability to be in conversation with one another, and love another and our neighbors.

Thank you for considering Responding to God's Call for Mercy: A Bible Study on Immigration for use in your congregation. Please contact Sue Koenig at suekoenig@mcnp.org with questions or requests for additional information.

THE MUNSEE TRIBE IN KANSAS PRESENTS



MUNSEE & MORAVIAN RELATIONSHIPS THROUGH TIME

Presented by Seth Angel (Historian)

Seth Angel is a graduate of the University of Akron. He is a life-long student of history and a recipient of Tuscarawas County, Ohio's Zeisberger – Heckewelder Award.

He is on the board of directors for the Tuscarawas County Historical Society and a member of the Eastern District Executive Board of the Moravian Church. His passion is history of the region, especially the



people and events surrounding early Moravian Missions in Pennsylvania, Ohio and beyond. In this lecture, Angel will be discussing the relationship between the Munsee Tribe and the Moravian Church, following their journey across the United States and to their final settlement in modern day Kansas.

OCTOBER 25, 2025

2 - 3PM

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

1320 W 15TH ST

OTTAWA, KS

66067



Scan the QR code to join the
event via Microsoft Teams



New Initiative from Churches for Middle East Peace: *Let Children Live*

Visit Churches for Middle East Peace at cmep.org/let-children-live/ (scan QR code below) to learn about the "Let Children Live" initiative, and for an opportunity to pray and advocate for a living child in Gaza or the West Bank.

The Moravian Church Northern Province is a member of Churches for Middle East Peace. We are represented by the Rev. Sue Koenig, MCNP Director of Racial Justice and Healing.



Moravian Music Foundation Online Resources



Comenius Music Academy Online

How to Use Music Notation Software (MuseScore Tutorial)

ONLINE October 24, 2025 12:00pm-1:30pm ET

To many, the world of music composition and publishing may seem intimidating and inaccessible. This class seeks to be a gateway into the world of digital music notation. MuseScore is a free, open-source, and user-friendly software that can compete with some of the leading notation software on the market, but without the cost. If you are a hobbyist, are seeking to transcribe your written music, find a place to publish your compositions, or simply want to learn the ins and outs of notation software, this class is for you. Visit [Musescore.org](https://musescore.org) for information on how to download.

Hymn-writing Masterclass

ONLINE November 21, 2025 12:00pm – 1:30pm ET

Last Spring, in our Hymn-writing class, we worked on developing our philosophy of hymn-writing. In keeping with this Fall's theme of composition, this Masterclass will seek community submissions of newly written texts, tunes, harmonized chorales, and other settings of congregational music. We will perform a blind critique (not revealing the name of the author/composer) to see the areas where each submission could use some work, and where each submission excels.

Find Resources for Musicians and Worship Leaders at MoravianMusic.org/Resources/

Moravian Music Foundation Awards

The MMF Board of Trustees has established three awards: the Moramus Award, the Award of Merit, and the James V. Salzwedel Award for Excellence in Church Music. Nominations for these awards should be written and submitted to the Nominations and Awards Team of the MMF Board. (Contact: Chris Ogburn 336-725-0651 or Kyle Johnston 610-866-3340 / emails: christopher@moravianmusic.org, kyle@moravianmusic.org) This Team, upon investigation and evaluation, shall recommend, with appropriate documentation, candidates for these awards to the Board of Trustees for action. Awards recognize lifetimes of dedicated service; the joyful sharing of the gift of music in and beyond worship; and exemplary contributions to preserving, sharing, and celebrating Moravian musical culture. Full descriptions at <https://moravianmusic.org/awards/>.

October Birthdays and Anniversaries

Birthdays

- | | |
|----------------------|--------------------------|
| 1 Betty Troutman | 18 Earl Goulbourne |
| 1 Karen Schwarz | 19 Doris Schattschneider |
| 3 Carol Jones | 21 Mabel Matthias |
| 4 Frances Surber | 21 Jane Graf |
| 5 Susan Dreydoppel | 21 Wellesley Ferguson |
| 10 Derek French | 21 Scott Marrese-Wheeler |
| 11 Maria Edwards | 22 Linda Wickmann |
| 13 Elizabeth Behrend | 22 Paul Moran |
| 15 Christina Giesler | 25 Nancy Rinderknecht |
| 16 Jane Harberg | 26 R. Burke Johnson |
| 16 David Sobek | 26 Tabor Pearson |
| 16 Sara Aker | 29 Jeffrey Bonn |
| 17 Dean Jurgen | |

Ordination Anniversaries

- 3 Lyn Bechtel (32 years)
- 12 Aaron Linville (11 years)
- 18 Marian Boyle Rohloff (23 years)
- 22 Mandy Mastros (8 years)
- 28 Lynnette Delbridge (41 years)

Churches Celebrating Anniversaries

- 3 Schoeneck, Nazareth, Pennsylvania (263 years)
- 6 London, Cambridge, Wisconsin (136 years)
- 8 Graceham, Thurmont, Maryland (267 years)
- 18 Vanderbilt Avenue, Staten Island, New York (136 years)
- 20 Church of the Redeemer, Dublin, Ohio (40 years)
- 23 Canaan, Davenport, North Dakota (144 years)
- 24 First, Uhrichsville, Ohio (151 years)
- 25 Edgeboro, Bethlehem, Pennsylvania (111 years)
- 31 Lake Auburn, Victoria, Minnesota (167 years)

Please pray for the following churches who are in the call process or without pastors:

- | | |
|---|--|
| • Battle Hill, Union, New Jersey | • First, Dover, Ohio |
| • Canaan, Davenport, North Dakota | • First, New York, New York |
| • Castleton Hill, Staten Island, New York | • Great Kills, Staten Island, New York |
| • Central, Bethlehem, Pennsylvania | • Heimtal, Edmonton, Alberta |
| • Chaska, Minnesota | • Lebanon, Pennsylvania |
| • Christ, Calgary, Alberta | • Shepherd of the Prairie, Fargo, North Dakota |
| • Christian Faith, Deforest, Wisconsin | • St. Paul's, Upper Marlboro, Maryland |
| • Daggett, Michigan | • Tremont Terrace, Bronx, New York |
| • Ephraim, Wisconsin | • Veedum, Pittsville, Wisconsin |
| • Faith of the Nation's Capital, Washington, DC | |



Moravian Church in Canada

Christian Nationalism: A Canadian Context

October 18th 10 am – 3pm MT

The Canadian District, in collaboration with Lutheran colleagues, is sponsoring an event following through on the 2023 Provincial Synod's Christians against Christian Nationalism resolution. At this event we'll define Christian Nationalism, learn how it manifests in a Canadian context, and explore how our congregations and clergy might respond.

Speakers for the event are Dr. Greg Carey, Professor of New Testament at Lancaster Theological Seminary and Moravian Theological Seminary in Pennsylvania, and Dr. Marc Froese, Professor of Political Science at Burman University in Alberta. We would like to thank Rio Terrace Church for providing the location and the Northern Province's Racial Justice Team for supplying the honorarium for our speakers.

When: October 18, 2025 10:00–3:00 MT

Where: Rio Terrace Church & Zoom (to participate on Zoom, visit <https://mcchurch.ca>).

CHRISTIAN NATIONALISM: A CANADIAN CONTEXT

WHAT IS CHRISTIAN NATIONALISM?
HOW DOES IT IMPACT CANADIANS?
HOW MIGHT WE RESPOND?

OCTOBER 18, 2025
10 AM – 3 PM
REGISTRATION OPENS AT 9:30AM

SPEAKERS

DR. GREG CAREY
PROFESSOR OF NEW TESTAMENT
LANCASTER THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY,
PENNSYLVANIA

DR. MARC FROESSE,
PROFESSOR OF POLITICAL SCIENCE,
BURMAN UNIVERSITY, ALBERTA

TO PARTICIPATE ON ZOOM VISIT
<https://mcchurch.ca>



RIO TERRACE CHURCH
15108 76 AVE NW
EDMONTON
LUNCH PROVIDED
PLEASE SCAN TO REGISTER
SO WE CAN PLAN FOR LUNCH
Your Freewill
Donation is Appreciated!

For Further Info Contact Rev. Deborah Ann Taylor
pastordeborahann@telus.net
This event is made possible by the Racial Justice Team of the Moravian Church,
Northern Province and organized by Pastor Aaron Linville (Moravian),
Pastor Craig Wentland, (Lutheran), and Rev. Dr. Deborah Ann Taylor (Lutheran)

The Eastern District

Moravian Church in America

Northern Province



Introducing Amy Silvoy: Executive Assistant to the Eastern District President

Amy Silvoy has recently joined our ministry as the executive assistant to the Eastern District Executive Board President. You can contact Amy at amy@mcnp.org or 610-865-0302 (opt. 1). Read more about Amy below, and please help us welcome her to the Eastern District!

Amy Silvoy is a marketing and events professional with a knack for bringing people together and making projects run smoothly. Most recently, she was the Program Coordinator for SkillsUSA Council, a nonprofit that connects students with career and technical education opportunities, where she coordinated programs and large-scale events that brought together students, educators, and industry leaders. Prior to that, she was Director of Marketing and Communications at Moravian Theological Seminary, where she launched a new brand identity and strengthened digital and event communications.



Beyond her career, Amy has been married to her husband Shawn for 18 years, and they share a 10-year-old son, Lincoln. Her family life often overlaps with her volunteer work — she and Shawn have volunteered with SkillsUSA for more than two decades, and she's active with Scouting America as a Den Leader alongside Lincoln. Amy is also deeply involved in her church community, especially in music ministry, and has been a member of the handbell choir for most of her life. When she's not working or volunteering, you can usually find her poolside cheering Lincoln on at swim meets.

Moravian Historical Society 168th Annual Meeting

The Moravian Historical Society will host its 168th Annual Meeting, Lecture, & Reception on Sunday, October 19, 2025. The event will take place in the Saal of the Bahnson Center, 60 W. Locust St. Bethlehem. The Annual Meeting will begin at 2:30 p.m., followed by the lecture at 3:00 p.m. Lisa Minardi, Director of Historic Trappe will present "Window to Revolution: Pennsylvania Germans and the War for Independence," which reexamines the central role that Pennsylvania Germans played in America's founding. The event is free to attend and open to the public.

Advanced registration is requested; reservations can be made by visiting www.moravianhistory.org/annual-meeting.

Moravian Music Foundation Eastern District Opportunities

Music at the Museum – Every First Sunday through November (Kyle Johnston)
Bethlehem Moravian Museum, 1:00–4:00pm, 66 W. Church St., Bethlehem, PA, Dates: November 2

Monday Morning Music: a musical moment with Kyle Johnston at the keyboard – Mondays, 10am
Start your week off with your favorite hymns! Join Kyle Johnston every Monday morning as he plays through a variety of hymns from multiple sources. Hear old favorites, discover new favorites, and relax to the sound of classic hymns at home, in your office, or on your commute. Recordings are available now on the MMF YouTube Channel.

Monthly (South Side) Shape-Note Sing (Lehigh Valley Shape-Note Singers) 6:00–8:00 (Every 4th Tuesday)
Come join Kyle Johnston and the Lehigh Valley Shape Note Singers in learning to sing an authentic, historic American style of singing. Singers of all ages and skill levels are welcome. Geoffrey Daniels in Bethlehem.

The Western District

Moravian Church in America,

Northern Province



WDEB Lay Member Election

The Western District will hold a special election via email ballot this month to fill the vacant lay member position on the District Board. The candidates are Brother Lowell Hewitt from the Shepherd of the Prairie congregation in Fargo, ND and Brother Charlie Ganz from the Christ's Community congregation in Maple Grove, MN. According to the Book of Order, each Joint Board will have one vote, each pastor serving a District congregation or ministry will have one vote, and each bishop residing in the District will have one vote. You will receive an application form from each candidate. Votes are due to the District President, Rev. Jason Andersen, at jason@mcnp.org by the end of October.

2025

HOSTED BY THE WESTERN
DISTRICT JUSTICE TEAM

**JUSTICE
CONFERENCE**

OCTOBER 17-19

**WATERTOWN &
MILWAUKEE, WI**

Featuring

*Presentation on Congregational Based Justice
Organizing from faith leaders with
"Becoming a Welcoming Watertown"*

*Tour at America's Black Holocaust Museum
& the Sherman Phoenix Marketplace*

*Food with Tricklebee Cafe, & Watertown's Loaves and
Fishes Ministry*

*Register online
or email pastor@wsmoraviangb.org*

