



8 Church Square, Lititz, PA 17543
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Growing Faith, Sharing Hope, Living Love!
September 29, 2024
Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost
8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.

*Enter expectantly, pray reverently, greet each other warmly,
listen thoughtfully, sing joyfully, and leave faithfully.*

Chief Elder and Head of the Church: Jesus Christ
Pastors: Rev. Mark V. Breland, Rev. Sayward E. G. Lippincott
Director of Music Ministries: Dr. Jeffrey S. Gemmell
Trombone Choir & Handbell Choir Director: Marilyn Winfield
Children's Ministry Coordinator: Allyson Miller
Lay Ministry Assistant: Greg Bomberger
Office Manager: Courtney Hackman
Administrative Assistant: Jaime Weik
Sexton: Josh Bailey
Custodian and Security: Dan Turnbull
Treasurer: Barbara McKenney
Financial Secretary: Mary Sweger
Ministers: All Members of the Congregation

**Stand, if you are able.*

Prayer for Meditation:

God of unquenchable fire and overflowing grace,
cast out the demons that oppress us;
take away the things that make us stumble.
Lead us into your realm of life and season us with your peace;
in the name of Christ our Lord. Amen.

Prelude: *Two Hymn Preludes*

Wilbur Held

Welcome, Announcements & Greeting

Due to Covid and flu concerns, it's okay not to shake hands. Just greet your neighbor with a smile, a word of greeting, fist or elbow bump. Please pass prayer request cards to the aisle for the ushers during the first hymn. Please sign the Friendship Register and pass it through the pew. Please see an Usher or Sacristan if you would like: headphones to assist the hearing-impaired, large print bulletins, walker, wheelchair, or activity bags to help busy young children.

***Call to Worship:**

If it had not been for God, who was on our side,
we would have fallen prey to those who want to harm us;
we would have been swept away by sadness and fear.
God has broken the snare that took away our freedom.
Our help is in the name of the Lord,
who made heaven and earth.

***Hymn 552**

When Morning Gilds the Skies

Call to Confession

The prayer of faith will save the sick,
and the Lord will raise them up,
and anyone who has committed sins
will be forgiven.
Therefore confess your sins to one another
and pray for one another
so that you may be healed.

Prayer of Confession - Congregation

**God of unity, we live in a world where our lives move
between inclusivity and exclusivity.**

**We often move toward the latter,
trying to oust from our circles those who do not think like us, act like us, or look like us.
Forgive our need to reject and to always be on the lookout
for those things that make us different.
Give us the eyes of our Teacher,
who knows unconditional love and compassion and sees us all as one,
for it is in his name that we pray. Amen. 2**

Words of Pardon

My brothers and my sisters,
if anyone among you wanders
from the truth and is brought back by another,
you should know that whoever brings back a sinner from wandering
will save the sinner's soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.
Rejoice! You have been brought back by the redemption of God
and forgiveness through Jesus Christ our Savior.
You can live in peace.

Sharing of Joy and Concerns

Pastoral Prayer

Scripture: Mark 9:38-50

John said to him, 'Teacher, we saw someone casting out demons in your name, and we tried to stop him, because he was not following us.' But Jesus said, 'Do not stop him; for no one who does a deed of power in my name will be able soon afterwards to speak evil of me. Whoever is not against us is for us. For truly I tell you, whoever gives you a cup of water to drink because you bear the name of Christ will by no means lose the reward. 'If any of you put a stumbling-block before one of these little ones who believe in me, it would be better for you if a great millstone were hung around your neck and you were thrown into the sea. If your hand causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life maimed than to have two hands and to go to hell, to the unquenchable fire. And if your foot causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life lame than to have two feet and to be thrown into hell. And if your eye causes you to stumble, tear it out; it is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than to have two eyes and to be thrown into hell, where their worm never dies, and the fire is never quenched. 'For everyone will be salted with fire. Salt is good; but if salt has lost its saltiness, how can you season it? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another.'

Children's Chat Hymn: 723

I Am Jesus' Little Lamb (v.1 & 3)

Children's Chat

Pastor Mark Breland

***Hymn 581**

Where Cross the Crowded Ways of Life

Message: Warnings

Pastor Mark Breland

Offering of Tithes & Gifts

Offertory Anthem: *The Lord Bless You and Keep You*

Peter Christian Lutkin

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord lift his countenance upon you.

And give you peace. The Lord make his face to shine upon you.

And be gracious unto you. The Lord be gracious, gracious unto you.

Amen.

Text based on Numbers 6:24-26

***Response #817**

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

***Offertory Prayer**

***Hymn 751**

God of Grace and God of Glory

***Benediction**

Postlude – *Prelude on “God of Grace and God of Glory”*

Paul Manz

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Serving Today:

Worship Leaders: (8:00) Paul Swope (10:30) Ellen McQueen

Sacristan (8:00) Don Stoner (10:30) Don Stoner

Head Usher (10:30)

Sound Booth Personnel: Wayne Wolf

Nursery: Matt and Amy Sue Bomberger

275 Anniversary Pastoral Sharing: October 13, 2024

Beth Rohn-Habhegger

Legacy of Love:

Power and Strength through Faith



Mark your calendar for our 2024 Retreat!

Date: November 8th - 10th

Time: 6:30pm Friday - 10:30am Sunday

Place: Kenbrook Bible Camp, Lebanon, PA

Presenter: Maggie Wellert, Retired Moravian Pastor

All are welcome for a time of

Relaxation ~ Spiritual Renewal ~ Fellowship

Price for Weekend includes 2 nights lodging and 4 meals

\$140 for single occupancy

\$115 for double occupancy

The Kenbrook prices are actually higher than those above. The Retreat Committee subsidizes approximately \$85 per person. Anyone who would like to help defray the actual cost, the additional contribution will be received as a gift. A deposit of \$50 per person is payable now with your registration form to reserve your spot. Scholarships are available. Contact Pastor Mark for more information.

Name _____
Phone _____
Rooming With _____
E-Mail Address _____
Dietary Needs _____
Amount Paid _____

Checks payable to "Retreat Committee". Return to Office, Attn. Pastor Mark. Registrations due no later than October 1.

Congregational Watchword for 2024:
 The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.
 Psalm 23:1

PRAYER REQUESTS

Please remember in your prayers this week all of our nursing home residents and shut-ins at home.

Please remember in your prayers:

Serving our country in the military:

Lt. Col. Neal Miller, Army;

Sgt. Jason Stoner, Army Reserves;

Lt. Dain Bomberger, US Navy;

Major Andrew Kemp;

Staff Sgt. Austin Heacock;

Lance Corporal Shawn Stauffer, US Marine Corps

Prayers of Healing for:

Tiffany Skwarlo

Barry Erb

Dick Martin

Harry Lefever

Chad Hostetter

Jonathan Yerger

Cheryl Miller

Marilyn Diener

Wayne LeFevre

Ken Beard

Nova Mentzer

Gloria Shaeffer

Joyce Nolt

June Shelley

Jeff Bamberger

Pastoral Visitation:

*Please contact Pastor Mark or
 Pastor Sayward to schedule a
 pastoral visit for yourself or
 family members.*

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Completed Month of August

	2023	2024
Tithes & Offerings	\$36,756	\$35,595
General Fund Other Income	\$1,057	\$1,282
General Fund Expenses	\$61,587	\$68,104
Net Income	(\$23,774)	(\$31,227)

YTD Through the Month of August

	2023	2024
Tithes & Offerings	\$406,662	\$373,632
General Fund Income	\$58,656	\$59,187
General Fund Expense	\$468,803	\$449,660
Net Income	(\$3,487)	(\$16,841)

THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

Sunday, September 29, 2024

8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. Worship

9:15 a.m. Sunday School for all ages

All Day: Isaac's fundraiser to benefit the Retreat Committee

Monday, September 30, 2024

10:00 a.m. Minis & Me - Dance Studio

7:00 p.m. 275th Committee - Liquid Classroom

7:15 p.m. HBC - Prep Room

Tuesday, October 1, 2024

8:30 a.m. Tai Chi Easy- Dance Studio

9:00 a.m. Quilting - Nursery

7:00 p.m. Elders Meeting - Liquid Classroom

Wednesday, October 2, 2024

8:30 a.m. Yoga - Fellowship Hall

7:00 p.m. Narcotics Anonymous - Social Hall

7:15 p.m. Senior Choir Practice - Sanctuary

Thursday, October 3, 2024

10:00 a.m. Warwick Release Time

7:00 p.m. Yoga - Fellowship Hall

7:00 p.m. Church In Society - Outlook Library

Friday, October 4, 2024

9:00 a.m. Beginner Community Yoga - Fellowship Hall

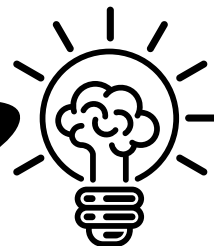
Saturday, October 5, 2024

Sunday, October 6, 2024

8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. Worship - Worldwide Communion

9:15 a.m. Sunday School for all ages

**DID YOU
KNOW?**



The current
Church Square
Journal
is available.

INTERESTING FACT



Extra blessed backpack/bag tags and clear holders are available in the Elbow Room through the month of September

What's Important

I used to put a lot of effort into smoking cigars. And I mean a lot! Each week I would shop online for bundles of cigars, and wait for them to ship. When I ran short, I'd make trips to cigar stores—some almost an hour from where I lived. I had to keep stocked with the smoking tools: cigar lighters, fluid, clippers, humidors. And then I had to find the *time* to smoke, because enjoying one good cigar can fill almost an hour.

I spent an enormous amount of time, money, and energy, just to smoke cigars. It was difficult—sometimes stressful—and often forced me to rearrange my daily schedule. But I always made it happen. Can you imagine what kind of Christian I would be, if I had spent the same effort on entering the kingdom of God?

Today, Jesus talks about cutting off hands and plucking out eyes. He is not advocating self-mutilation. Rather, Jesus is insisting that Christians must be willing to go to any lengths to enter the kingdom of God. We must make *every* effort to follow Christ, and nothing—*nothing!*—is more important than this: that we seek and obey the will of God.

But we don't do that, do we? We say that we're too tired to come to worship. We don't take the time to welcome an immigrant neighbor. We are silent when a friend makes sexist remarks about women. We stand in the way of change and growth, in our churches—demanding things stay the same. We make our ease, our love of things, our fear of change the driving priorities of our lives. Not our God.

Can you imagine what kind of Christians we would be—what kind of church we would be—if we put the kingdom of God first?

*Lance Fox, pastor, Castleton Hill Moravian Church,
Staten Island, New York*

The Moravian Church
Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost
September 29, 2024

