



8 Church Square, Lititz, PA 17543
Church Office: 717-626-8515
office@lititzmoravian.org
Website: www.lititzmoravian.org

Mission Statement:

Growing Faith, Sharing Hope, Living Love in Christ!

July 19, 2026

“Be the Wheat in the World”

Eighth Sunday after Pentecost | Green

Matthew 13:24-30; 36-43

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. Sayward E. G. Lippincott & Rev. Dr. Mandy M. Mastros, LSW

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: Jaime Weik

Sexton: Andy Weik

Treasurer: Barbara McKenney

Financial Secretary: Mary Sweger

Ministers: All Members of the Congregation

****Stand, if you are able.***

Prelude: *Down to the River to Pray*

The Good Old Way

Trad. American melody, arr. Mark Hayes

I Am a Poor, Wayfaring Stranger

Wayfaring Stranger

Trad. American spiritual, arr. Anna Laura Page

Welcome, Announcements and Greeting

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. If you are visiting with us today, please take a moment to scan the QR code on the 'Connect Card' located on the cover of the Friendship Register. We are so glad you are here!

Please see an Usher or Sacristan if you would like headphones to assist the hearing-impaired, large print bulletins, walker, wheelchair, or activity bags.

Call to Worship: Based on Psalm 86: 11-17 (Leader / **Congregation**)

Teach me your ways, O Lord, that I may live according to your truth!

Grant me purity of heart, so that I may honor you.

With all my heart I will praise you, O Lord my God.

I will give glory to your name forever.

***Hymn:** 530

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

Liturgy for Christian Unity: 122

Sharing of Joys and Concerns and Prayer

Scripture: Matthew 13:24-30; 36-43

He put before them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field, but while everybody was asleep an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat and then went away. So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well. And the slaves of the householder came and said to him, 'Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come from?' He answered, 'An enemy has done this.' The slaves said to him, 'Then do you want us to go and gather them?' But he replied, 'No, for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. Let both of them grow together until the harvest, and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.' "

Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples approached him, saying, "Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field." He answered, "The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man; the field is the world, and the good seed are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one, and the enemy

who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers, and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears listen!

Children's Chat Hymn: #723 (v.2)

I Am Jesus' Little Lamb

**Day by day, at home, away, Jesus is my staff and stay.
When I hunger, Jesus feeds me, into pleasant pastures leads me;
When I thirst, he bids me go where the quiet waters flow.**

Children's Chat

Jonathan Kremser

***Hymn: 681**

O Day of God, Draw Nigh

Message: *Be the Wheat in the World*

Jonathan Kremser

The Offering of Tithes and Gifts

Offertory Anthem: *He's Been Faithful*

Carol Joy Cymbala

*In my moment of fear, through every pain, every tear,
There's a God who's been faithful to me.
When my strength was all gone, when my heart had no song,
Still in love He's proved faithful to me.
Every word He's promised is true;
What I thought was impossible I see my God do.
Refrain: He's been faithful, faithful to me,
Looking back His love and mercy I see.
Though in my heart I have questioned, even failed to believe,
Yet He's been faithful, faithful to me.
When my heart looked away, the many times I could not pray,
Still my God He was faithful to me.
The days I spent so selfishly, reaching out for what pleased me;
Even then He's been faithful to me.
Every time I come back to Him He is waiting with open arms,
And I see once again. Refrain.*

Michelle Phillips, soloist

Offertory Response: 817

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

Offertory Prayer

***Hymn:** 769

God Is My Strong Salvation

Benediction

Postlude: *Trumpet Tune in C*

Michael Ryan

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Serving Today:

Sacristan: (8:00 a.m.) Jeff Elser; (10:30 a.m.) Jeff Elser

Head Usher: Pete Bainbridge

Scripture Readers: (8:00 a.m.) Paul Swope
(10:30 a.m.) Christy Yerger

Worship Leaders: Jonathan Kremser and Ellen McQueen

Sound Booth Personnel: Thaddeus Lippincott

A Time of Renewal for Pastor Sayward - Pastor Sayward's Sabbatical

As a reminder, Pastor Sayward began her sabbatical on July 3rd and will return on September 1st. This time of rest, renewal, and reflection is an important part of sustaining long-term ministry and caring for the spiritual, emotional, and physical well-being of our pastors.

During Pastor Sayward's sabbatical, Pastor Mandy, with the help of the Assistant Lay Minister, will be available for all pastoral care needs, emergencies, hospital visits, and other ministry concerns. Please do not hesitate to contact the church office if you are in need of pastoral support.

We look forward to welcoming Pastor Sayward back in September, refreshed and renewed for the ministry ahead.

Announcements

July 19, 2026

Volunteers Needed for the Rotary Craft Show Food Court

The **Rotary Craft Show** returns to Lititz on **Saturday, August 8** and we are once again excited to host our popular **Food Court!**

Each year, we welcome and serve hundreds of hungry craft show visitors and vendors, and it takes many helping hands to make this ministry a success.

Volunteer sign-up sheets are available in the Star Room.

Whether you can help for an hour or several,
your time and hospitality make a meaningful difference.
Thank you for considering being part of this wonderful outreach
to our community!

Step Inside History at Linden Hall!

Have you ever wondered what lies behind the historic walls of
Linden Hall School for Girls?
What stories have unfolded there over the centuries?

Linden Hall is offering Lititz Moravian Congregation members an exclusive opportunity to take a guided tour of this remarkable campus on
Monday, July 27th at 10:00 a.m.

Come explore the nation's oldest girls' boarding school,
discover its rich history, and gain a unique glimpse into a landmark
that has been part of the Lititz community for generations.

Be part of the LMC Church Team!

Are you—or someone you know—looking for a meaningful way to use your gifts in ministry? Lititz Moravian Congregation is excited to be hiring for two part-time positions and would love to hear from individuals who have a heart for serving the church and our community.

Administrative Assistant

We're seeking a warm, organized, and service-oriented professional to help keep our church office running smoothly. This position serves as a welcoming first point of contact while providing administrative support to the pastoral staff and Office Manager.

Assistant Sexton

We're also looking for a reliable, hardworking, and service-minded individual (approximately 15 hours per week) to assist in caring for our buildings, grounds, and cemetery properties. This role is more than maintenance—it's an important ministry of hospitality and stewardship.

If you're interested in either position, please contact the church office for a complete job description.

To Apply:

Email your resume to office@lititzmoravian.org

Or **mail** it to:

Lititz Moravian Congregation
8 Church Square
Lititz, PA 17543

Help us spread the word!

If you know someone who may be a great fit, please share this opportunity with them.

Be Part of What's Happening at LMC!

Join us for Vespers in the Park for Christmas in July!

Mark your calendars for
Sunday, July 26
at 7:00 PM
at Lititz Springs Park
for an evening of
Christmas joy
in the summer season.

Sing along with favorite
Christmas carols
accompanied by
the Lititz Moravian
Trombone Choir,
enjoy cookies and
chocolate milk,
and visit with Mrs. Claus
while writing letters to
the North Pole.



A festive
evening
for all ages —
we hope you
will join us!



Sunday School KICK OFF!

Kick off the 2026–2027
Sunday School year with us on
Sunday, September 13!

There's a place for everyone!
We offer classes for children,
youth, and adults, with several
adult classes featuring a variety
of topics and study styles to
help you grow in your faith.

Whether you're returning or
joining for the first time,
we'd love to help you find the
class that's right for you.

Come explore, connect,
and grow with us on
September 13th at 9:15am.

Kids' Night Out

Kids' Night Out is a fun-filled evening where children discover God's love through exciting science experiments, music, crafts, games, and interactive Bible lessons that help them apply God's Word to everyday life. It's a wonderful opportunity to make new friends, grow in faith, and have a blast—all in a safe, welcoming environment.

The event is FREE and open to the community! Watch for registration on our website and Facebook page for our next Kids' Night Out on Saturday, **September 12, from 6:00–8:00 PM**. We can't wait to see you there!

Church Picnic

Who doesn't love a picnic filled with delicious food, great fellowship, and fun for all ages?

You're invited to the Lititz Moravian Church Picnic on **Sunday, September 20!** Join us for outdoor worship at 10:30 AM on Church Square (weather permitting), then stay for a picnic lunch, games, and fellowship in the area behind the church.

This also marks our **second Invite-A-Friend Sunday** of the year! Invite a friend, neighbor, coworker, or family member to worship with you and experience the warm welcome, rich traditions, and loving community that make Lititz Moravian Church such a special place.

Come hungry, bring a friend, and enjoy a wonderful day of faith, food, and fellowship!

From Beeswax to Brass:
The Story Behind
Moravian Christmas Vigils



Behind the Scenes of Christmas Vigils

Christmas Vigils are one of the most cherished traditions of the Moravian Church—a beautiful celebration of Christ's birth filled with candlelight, sacred music, Lovefeast, and the joy of the Christmas season. But have you ever wondered what it takes to prepare for this beloved tradition?

Join us for a **special behind-the-scenes experience** and discover the months of planning, preparation, and volunteer dedication that bring Christmas Vigils to life each year at Lititz Moravian Church.

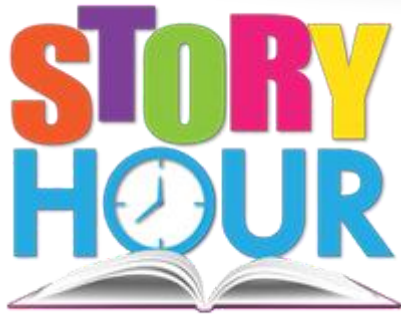
Throughout this **interactive event**, you'll have the opportunity to experience hands-on demonstrations, including tying wicks for our hand-poured beeswax candles, learning how Fire Guards use their blankets during candlelight services, carrying a Lovefeast tray complete with a cinnamon roll and chocolate milk, and exploring many of the meaningful traditions that make Christmas Vigils so special.

Whether you've attended Christmas Vigils for years or are experiencing Moravian traditions for the first time, you'll leave with a new appreciation for the faith, history, and countless volunteers who make this treasured worship experience possible.

Saturday, September 26
10:00 AM – 1:00 PM

Come discover the story behind the tradition... and become a part of it!

Be Part of What's Happening at LMC!



Preschool Story Hour is set to resume in the fall from 9:30-10:30am on the third Friday of each month from September through May.

We will meet from 9:30 – 10:30 am on the following dates:

September 18

December 18

March 19

October 16

January 15

April 16

November 20

February 19

May 21

Story Hour will be held in the Book Nook, which is located on the second floor of the Christian Education Building. Children age three to five are invited to come for an hour of stories, songs, movement, crafts, and a snack. Our primary mission is to plant seeds of Christian faith and values in young children through shared literature. Each month has a theme with a Christian message which we discuss in an age-appropriate way.

Children need not be members of Lititz Moravian to attend. Parents or grandparents are asked to remain and participate with the children. The program is free. Registration is limited, so please register your child early by completing the form below.

If you have any questions, please call Shannon Richard (717) 314-9375.

Preschool Story Hour Registration

Child's Name _____

Age/birthdate _____

Food allergies _____

Child's Address _____

Adult's Name _____

Phone # _____

Email Address _____

Drop off or mail to Lititz Moravian Church: 8 Church Square, Lititz, PA 17543

Congregational Watchword for 2026:
Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch
cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in
the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me.
John 15:4

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. Cdr. Dain Bomberger, US Navy;

Staff Sgt. Austin Heacock

Michael Hackett & Family serving overseas for the government

Pastoral Visitation:

Please contact

Pastor Mandy

to schedule a

pastoral visit for yourself or family members.

Prayers of Healing for:

Meda Hostetter

Richard Hostetter

Erelene Deist

Marilyn Diener

Susan Yeagley

Roger Groce

Melissa Hostetter

Greg Laubach

Marilyn Copenhaver

Charlene Van Brookhoven

Harry Peters

Janet Coates

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Completed Month of May 2026

	2025	2026
Tithes & Offerings	\$43,423	\$53,273
General Fund Other Income	\$5,309	\$1,367
General Fund Expenses	\$49,016	\$43,968
Net Income	\$(283)	\$10,672

YTD Through the Month of May 2026

	2025	2026
Tithes & Offerings	\$255,439	\$269,939
General Fund Other Income	\$38,164	\$37,773
General Fund Expense	\$316,816	\$296,967
Net Income	\$(23,213)	\$10,745

Walking Together This Week

Sunday, July 19, 2026

8:00 a.m. Worship in Sanctuary

9:15 a.m. Keeping Holy Time - Eschbach Parlor

10:30 a.m. Worship in Sanctuary in-person or livestream

Monday, July 20, 2026

8:30 a.m. Yoga - Fellowship Hall

Tuesday, July 21, 2026

9:00 a.m. Quilting - Nursery

6:30 p.m. Trustees Meeting - Liquid Classroom

Wednesday, July 22, 2026

8:30 a.m. Yoga - Fellowship Hall

12:30 p.m. Cemetery Committee - Pavillion (HDR - inclement weather)

7:00 p.m. NA - HDR

Thursday, July 23, 2026

7:00 p.m. Yoga - Fellowship Hall

Friday, July 24, 2026

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

Saturday, July 25, 2026

Sunday, July 26, 2026

8:00 a.m. Worship in Sanctuary

9:15 a.m. Family Sunday School

9:15 a.m. Keeping Holy Time - Eschbach Parlor

10:30 a.m. Worship in Sanctuary in-person or livestream

7:00 p.m. Vespers In The Park - Lititz Springs Park

JOIN THE LIVESTREAM HERE: www.lititzmoravian.org

The Parable of the Weeds

Every garden I plant grows weeds. Weeds, in a garden or in a lawn or among fields of farm crops, are a nuisance. Any plant growing where it's not supposed to grow can be called a weed. Jesus told a story about wheat and weeds planted in a field, explaining that it was a story about the kingdom of heaven.

There's a real temptation to judge people by perceiving some people as weeds among the good crop of better people. Is our world divided into people who are wheat and people who are weeds? Is our world divided into groups of good people and bad people? In Jesus' story, the good wheat is gathered into the barn, but long before that happens, the servants are told to let the weeds keep growing in the field.

Think about that this week. Is this parable about "exclusion"—God will remove weeds? Or is it about "inclusion"—reach out to everybody, no matter who they are?

Instead of envisioning a church as a field of pure grain, or thinking that a church is a place to separate the weeds from grain, try thinking of a church community as a gathering place for all people. The church can be the place to bring all people together through the power of God's forgiving love. Today's Gospel passage reminds me of the chorus from the song "A Dazzling Bouquet," by Bret Hesla:

Mine is the church where everybody's welcome.

I know it's true 'cause I got through the door.

We are a dazzling bouquet of every kind of flower.

Jump in the vase, 'cause we've got space for more.*

Bruce Weaknecht, retired pastor, Macungie, Pennsylvania

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The Moravian Church

Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

July 19, 2026

