



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 26, 2026

“Is the Lord Really With Us, or Not?”

Ninth Sunday after Pentecost | Green

Exodus 17:2-7

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.***

(8:00 a.m.) **Prelude:** *Trumpet Voluntary*

John Travers

(10:30 a.m.) **Prelude:** *Trumpet Voluntary*
Gavotte in D Major

John Travers
J. S. Bach

MaryLee Yerger and Justin Santoro, violins

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: (Leader / Congregation)

Come, Holy Spirit and rouse the people of God.

All the earth is groaning for restoration.

Though the whirlwind of life tosses and turns us, we remember:

Out of chaos, the Spirit births new worlds.

Come Holy Spirit and revive what has gone stale.

Let the troubled be comforted.

Let the apathetic be agitated.

Wash away all that suppresses, silences, and condemns.

Come, Spirit, come. We welcome your renewal among us.

***Hymn: 532 (v. 1, 3, 5)**

When in Our Music God Is Glorified

Sharing of Joys and Concerns and Prayer

Christian Wolf's Reflections on Synod (video)

Responsive Reading - *To Be Thirsty*

James Heroux

Holy God, whose Spirit moved over the waters at the dawn of creation, hear our prayers for all who are thirsty today.

We pray for those who are spiritually thirsty, who long to know your presence, but are struggling to find you.

We pray for those who are alone and feel as if there is no hope; those who long to feel needed and loved, those who are searching for meaning and purpose.

² O healing river, pour down your waters and heal your people.

We pray for all those who are physically thirsty, who don't have enough water to drink themselves or to feed their animals.

Whose fields are parched, whose crops have withered, those who have to walk long distances to find enough water to survive.

And those whose homes and villages are torn apart because of drought or famine.

Holy God, source of everlasting water, bring the refreshing and life-giving rain.

We pray for those who advocate for the equal sharing of resources among peoples and nations; those who dedicate their lives to protect streams, rivers, and oceans.

Those who are working to find clean water and to make it available to those who need it.

God, open our hearts to the work of those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, those who search for justice to be made known.

This compassionate work listens for the voices that have been silenced and boldly respond in faith, hope and love.

As this work can feel daunting, we remember our God, who promises to do something new.

We remember our God who can surprise us if we are willing to pay attention.

We often walk through our days with the belief that today's happenings will be repeated tomorrow, that nothing will change.

We don't dare hold out for or expect rocks to break open and water to gush out. We don't expect flowers to bloom in the desert places.

We don't expect a word to crack apart our predictable world to reveal a new story, we aren't looking for bread to fall and reveal the feast of the kingdom in every crumb.

Give our souls the longing, Lord, that we could expect the marvelous to find us in our routine days.

We hope that the light of justice will break through, the word of promise will be heard, and the act of kindness will be recognized and then celebrated.

Celebrated as a gift from you that changes our wilderness moment into a kingdom event, one that nourishes our thirsty souls with hope and delight, one that becomes a starting point for your promises yet to be, Amen.

Scripture: Exodus 17:2-7

The people quarreled with Moses and said, "Give us water to drink." Moses said to them, "Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the Lord?" But the people thirsted there for water, and the people complained against Moses and said, "Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?"

So Moses cried out to the Lord, “What shall I do for this people? They are almost ready to stone me.” The Lord said to Moses, “Go on ahead of the people and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile and go. I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink.” Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarreled and tested the Lord, saying, “Is the Lord among us or not?”

Allyson Miller’s Reflections on Synod

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

Pastor Mandy M. Mastros

Songs of Resistance

Call: We are here.

Response: We are here.

Call: With our children. *

Response: With our children. *

Together: Our Love for each other will carry us through.

Our love for each other will carry us through.

*V2: With our courage

*V3: To bear witness

*V4: As believers

Joyful Noise Collection for Church World Service

***Hymn: 644**

How Clear Is Our Vocation, Lord

Message: *Is the Lord Really With Us, or Not?*

Pastor Mandy M. Mastros

The Offering of Tithes and Gifts

Offertory Music: *Sonata No. 3*

G. F. Handel

Offertory Response: 817

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

Offertory Prayer

Bob Turgyan’s Reflections on Synod

***Hymn:** 793

When We Lift Our Pack and Go

Benediction

Postlude: *Recessional*

Robert J. Hughes

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Serving Today:

Guest Organist: E. Douglas Bomberger

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

Head Usher: Tim Hartel

Scripture Readers: (8:00 a.m.) Priscilla Stoner
(10:30 a.m.) Michelle Phillips

Worship Leader: Greg Bomberger

Sound Booth Personnel: Kevin Donnelly

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.

Introducing... Church Square Conversations!

Did you notice a brand-new page in the July & August issue of The Spire?

We're excited to introduce Church Square Conversations—a fun new feature designed to help us get to know one another a little better!

As a church family, we may recognize familiar faces each Sunday, but there's so much of each person's story still waiting to be discovered. From favorite childhood memories and hidden talents to quirky hobbies and life experiences, this page is all about sharing the little things that make each of us unique.

Church Square Conversations

A chance to learn something new about a member of our church family... and maybe discover a new conversation starter!



Allyson Miller

- Allyson played the baby bass drum in the Marching Band during High School.
- She met Ken Burns while living in Los Angeles.
- Allyson has a love for photography, especially capturing unique moments in everyday life.
- Allyson once lost a brand new iPhone while kayaking in Kentucky with her husband.



Nancy Sandercox

- The one food Nancy could eat every day is yogurt.
- Nancy collects tiny pictures & figurines of foxes.
- During her childhood in Greensburg, Pennsylvania, she would pick and sell cherries from her family's farm.
- Her first job was at The Alumni Office of Bethany College in Bethany, West Virginia.



Brenda Watson

- Brenda's favorite vacation spot is "any beach!" "As long as my feet are in the sand, I am happy!"
- Her favorite hobby is quilting. Did you know...? Brenda handmakes all the baby quilts for newborns born to members of LMC.
- Brenda's favorite movie is "Ghost."
- Her favorite board games growing up were Monopoly and Life.



Would you be willing to answer a few fun, random questions about your life or share a favorite photo from years gone by for our "Guess Who?" feature? The photos may be from your childhood or a wedding photo (it doesn't have to be church related). We'd love to include voices and stories from across our church family, helping us learn something new about one another and creating even more opportunities for connection!

If you would be willing to answer a few questions or submit a photo, please email Jaime at office@lititzmoravian.org to start the fun!

The best part? Every story shared is another opportunity to connect, laugh, reminisce, and strengthen the friendships that make Lititz Moravian such a special church family.



So jump in, have some fun, and let's keep the conversations going—both in The Spire and around Church Square!

Announcements

July 26, 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.

80 YEARS OF HOPE

FAITH. FRIENDS. ADVENTURE.

Generations growing together
in faith and love.

≡ You're Invited! ≡

CAMP HOPE 80TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

SATURDAY, AUGUST 8, 2026

A day for the whole family to
worship, play, reconnect, and
celebrate 80 years of God's
faithfulness at Camp Hope!

A day filled with...



WORSHIP
IN NATURE



SWIMMING,
LAKE FUN &
OUTDOOR
GAMES



FELLOWSHIP
& COMMUNITY



LIVE
MUSIC



PICNIC
DINNER

♡ Memories. New friends. Lasting faith.

12:00 pm Arrival & Exploration

1:00 pm Anniversary Vespers

2:00 pm Free Time
(Pool & Lake access)

4:00 pm Picnic Dinner



HOPE
CONFERENCE
and RENEWAL
CENTER

♡ We can't wait to celebrate with you!

Details & Registration

Scan the QR code
or visit our website
to learn more and
register today!



www.camphope.org

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!

Today

**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.

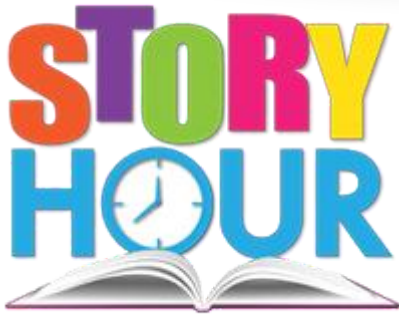
Throughout this **interactive event**, you'll have the opportunity to experience hands-on demonstrations, including tying wicks for our hand-poured beeswax candles, learning how Fire Guards use their blankets during candlelight services, carrying a Lovefeast tray complete with a cinnamon roll and chocolate 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

| Grace Notes |

Sometimes one thought from a sermon can stay with us all week.

Use this space to write down what speaks to you today—a Scripture, a takeaway, a prayer, or even an upcoming event you'd like to remember.

May it continue to encourage you long after worship ends.

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 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

Monday, July 27, 2026

8:30 a.m. Yoga - Fellowship Hall

Tuesday, July 28, 2026

9:00 a.m. Quilting - Nursery

Wednesday, July 29, 2026

8:30 a.m. Yoga - Fellowship Hall

7:00 p.m. NA - HDR

Thursday, July 30, 2026

6:30 p.m. Joint Board - HDR

7:00 p.m. Yoga - Fellowship Hall

Friday, July 31, 2026

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

Saturday, August 1, 2026

Sunday, August 2, 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

JOIN THE LIVESTREAM HERE: www.lititzmoravian.org

The Parable of the Costly Pearl

Jesus emphasizes the value of the kingdom of God in a parable about a wholesale pearl dealer on a trip looking for fine pearls for his business. “When he found one of great value, he went away and sold everything he had and bought it” (Matthew 13:46 NIV). He knows that even if he sells all that he has, the pearl surpasses all his former accumulated wealth. The point is not that one can buy their way into the kingdom. Rather, there is nothing more valuable in all the world than possession of the kingdom of God.

This parable emphasizes that the well-trained expert will discover, upon finding the reality of the kingdom, that nothing is comparable in worth. Whatever cost a person expends is nothing in comparison to the benefit of belonging to it. Salvation and the righteousness of the kingdom is a greater treasure than all that the world has to offer, and it is the source of greatest joy (Matthew 13:44). When we recognize fully the value of life in the presence of the Savior now and in life eternal, all of the sacrifice we make cannot compare to the joy of experiencing its present reality.

Unfortunately, it is all too easy to lose sight of this value and so lose the joy. What a joy it is to be a child of God! Nothing is more valuable than being in God’s kingdom. Every day that we carry out our responsibilities, what a privilege it is to help others know Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior, walk with Jesus more closely, and serve Jesus more happily! We are ambassadors of the kingdom of heaven, the greatest treasure of this world. Each day let us repeatedly give thanks for the incredible value of this gift. Therein lies our true joy. “Jesus is my joy; therefore blessed am I.”

*James Demby, pastor, Leaksville Moravian Church,
Eden, North Carolina*

The Moravian Church

Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

July 26, 2026

