LITITZ MORAVIAN
CONGREGATION



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!

November 15, 2026
Twenty-fifth Sunday after Pentecost
Playing It Safe?
Matthew 25:14-30

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

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 and 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
Senior Care Lay Ministry Assistant: Greg Bomberger
Sexton: Andy Weik
Assistant Sexton: Rodney Moore
Office Manager: Jaime Weik
Administrative Assistant: Sharon Roseboro
Treasurer: Barbara McKenney
Financial Secretary: Mary Sweger
Ministers: All Members of the Congregation

Stand, if you are able.

Prelude: *Prelude on a Folk Hymn ("Lonesome Valley")* Francis Jackson

Welcome, Announcements and Holy Hellos

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)**

Lift up our spirits to the God enthroned in the heavens!
The Holy One is our dwelling place from generation to generation.
Lift up our hearts to the God who shapes us and guides us.
The Holy One is God, forming the earth, the world, and the universe.
Lift up our worship before the Holy One who is God.
The Holy One teaches us to count our days that we may gain a wise heart.
Praise God!

***Hymn:** 530 *Praise to the Lord, the Almighty*

***Liturgy for Stewardship:** 154

Handbell Choir *Give Thanks*
By Henry Smith; arr. by Anna Laura Page

Dr. Shauna Carter, Head of School for Linden Hall

Linden Hall Musical Piece *Communion Hymn (Behold the Lamb)*
By Keith and Kristyn Getty and Stuart Townend

Gabby Brown, Elena Heffner, Valerie Liao, Clover Rice, & Melody Ross, vocalists
Maggie Weber, violin; Erin Bong, cello; Serena Heffner, piano

Joys, Concerns and Prayer

Hymn: 447 98th Birthday for Doris Irene Yoder on November 16th

With your presence, Lord, our Head and Savior,
bless her now we humbly pray;
our dear heavenly Father's love and favor
be her comfort every day.
May God's Spirit now in each proceeding
favor her with his most gracious leading;
thus shall she be truly blessed both in labor and in rest.

Scripture: Matthew 25:14-30
"For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. At once the one who had received the five talents went off and traded with them, and made five more talents. In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things; I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things; I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow and gathering where you did not scatter, so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' But his master replied, 'You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow and gather where I did not scatter? Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance, but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'"

Children's Chat Hymn: 723 *I Am Jesus' Little Lamb*

Children's Chat: Pastor Sayward Lippincott

***Hymn:** 653 *God of the Fertile Fields*

Message: *Playing It Safe?* Pastor Sayward Lippincott

The Offering of Tithes and Gifts

(8:00 a.m.) **Offertory Organ Music**

(10:30 a.m.) Offertory Anthem: *Holy, Holy, Holy* Franz Schubert

Holy, holy, holy, holy is the Lord. Holy is He.
He without beginning, He, who always was,
Ever is and ruleth, shall be evermore.
Holy, holy, holy, holy is the Lord. Holy is He.
Power, wonder, love, all around Him dwell.
Holy, holy, holy, holy is the Lord.

***Offertory Response:** 449 (v.1) *For the Fruit of All Creation*

***Offertory Prayer**

***Hymn:** 657 *We Give You But Your Own*

Benediction

Postlude: *Toccata in A Minor* Jan Pieter Sweelinck

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Serving Today:

Sacristan: (8:00 a.m.) Don Stoner (10:30 a.m.) Greg Bomberger
Head Usher: Pete Bainbridge
Worship Leader: Diane Bainbridge
Scripture Readers: (8:00 a.m.) Teddy Flory (10:30 a.m.) Ellen McQueen
Sound Booth Personnel: Kevin Donnelly
Nursery: Priscilla Stoner, Shannon Richard and Linden Hall Volunteers

Announcements
November 15, 2026

We Want to Hear From You: Livestream Feedback

Lititz Moravian Congregation is gathering feedback from those who watch our worship services online. If you livestream worship or watch a service later in the week, we would appreciate hearing what you value, what helps you feel connected to LMC, and what options you would find helpful for the future.

You can share your thoughts through our online Google Form (https://forms.gle/SoLkUnLUBbYQwGE68) or participate in a brief phone survey by calling the church office Mon-Fri, 10 am-2 pm before November 30th. Volunteers are also available to call individuals who would prefer to share their feedback by phone. Your perspective matters! Thank you for helping us discern the best way forward together!

It's (SOON!) Annual Report Time!

As we prepare for the new year, it's time to gather our 2026 Annual Reports! An email will be going out to Committee and Ministry Leaders next week with the electronic format to submit. Please submit your (electronic) report to the church office by Monday, December 14th.

Thank you for helping us document another year of ministry, service, and life together at LMC!

Preschool Story Hour

Story Hour will be held in the Book Nook on **Friday, November 20th** from **9:30am - 10:30am** (The Book Nook 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.

Contact the office at office@lititzmoravian.org to register!!

What's Happening at LMC....

Curious About Vegan Food? Come Taste for Yourself!

Have you ever wondered what vegan foods include—or whether they can be delicious? Join us for a vegan potluck and find out for yourself! Everyone is invited to bring a family-sized covered dish to share. Please keep dishes vegan, with no meat, fish, poultry, eggs, dairy, or cheese. Think fresh fruits and vegetables, beans, nuts, seeds, and other plant-based ingredients.

Need some recipe ideas or inspiration? Reach out to Eileen Crone!
In addition to sharing good food and fellowship, Eileen will present a talk on the evolution of nutrition and U.S. dietary guidelines from the 1950s to today. Come ready to taste something new, learn something interesting, and enjoy time together!

WHEN: Sunday, November 22nd at 3:00pm
WHERE: Fellowship Hall in the Christian Education Building
R.S.V.P. to Eileen by November 19th at 717-627-4258 or eileenwiedercrone@gmail.com

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Thank you for Helping Us 'Sparkle & Spread God's Love!'

A heartfelt THANK YOU to all the wonderful volunteers who helped make last evening's Kids' Night Out such a success! Your time, energy, creativity, and enthusiasm brought our theme, "Sparkle & Spread God's Love," to life in so many special ways!

From helping the children assemble a working train display and playing games, to sharing the story "*The Sparkle Box*" and sending each child home with their very own sparkle box to fill with good deeds and acts of kindness, the evening was filled with fun, laughter, and meaningful moments. And what a special ending as the children learned a new song and proudly performed it for their parents and guardians in the Sanctuary!

We hope the children carry the message of the evening with them—that even the smallest acts of kindness can shine brightly and spread God's love to others.

Nights like this wouldn't be possible without YOU! We are so grateful for each and every one of you!!

Vigil Tidings & Updates

Vigil ticket requests from members were accepted through Friday, November 13th.
(You can submit a request to the office, but the Google form will be closed for submissions).

Admission cards can be picked up after each service in Fellowship Hall on:
Sunday, November 29th
and
Sunday, December 6th

Help Keep the Vigil Tradition Shining!

Join us for ***Candle Trimming*** on **Thursday, December 3**, from **8:00 AM–6:00 PM in the Prep Kitchen**.

Volunteers are welcome to stop by anytime and lend a hand—there's no need to stay for the entire day!

Whether you can give 15 minutes or a few hours, your help is appreciated. Come be part of this special behind-the-scenes tradition that helps prepare our candles for the Christmas Vigils.
We'd love to have you join us!

Experience the Magic of the Moravian Putz!

A cherished ***Moravian Christmas tradition***, the **Putz** is a beautiful display that brings the story of Jesus' birth to life through detailed scenes, figures, and lights.

The Putz will be open to the community on select days in December.

Would you enjoy helping keep this special tradition alive?

We're looking for volunteers who are willing to learn how to operate the Putz. No experience necessary!

Please contact Brenda Barnes or the church office to learn more.

Lititz Moravian's Advent Poinsettia Tree



To be presented in the Sanctuary
Sunday, December 19th and Sunday, December 27th.

Poinsettias will be distributed after the 10:30 a.m. service on December 27th.

Plants can be purchased for $15.00 and will be displayed on the Poinsettia Tree "In Honor" or "In Memory" of a loved one.

Please print information on the form below and turn into the church office or place *in an envelope* in the offering plate during a Sunday service.

Checks can be written to "Lititz Moravian Congregation" with 'Poinsettia Tree' on the memo line.
Return the bottom portion with your order with payment attached.

Deadline to order is Friday, November 20th.

Presenter (From): _____

Phone: ( ) _____

(CIRCLE ONE) - "In Honor" or "In Memory" of:

Name: _____

(CIRCLE ONE) - "In Honor" or "In Memory" of:

Name: _____

Number of Plants TOTAL: _____ X $15.00 / each = $ _____

_____

OFFICE USE: CHECK # _____ CASH _____ LOGGED _____

HELP US MAKE CHRISTMAS BRIGHT!!



STILL TAKING DONATIONS!!

Ready to make room at home?
Household items for **Attic Treasures** may be dropped off in the Craft Room beginning October 1.
For questions about Attic Treasures, please contact Cindy Walter.
Benefits Moravian Fellowship.

STILL TAKING DONATIONS!!

Holly Jolly Market

New this year is the market for the youngest shoppers to check off their Christmas shopping list! Donate new or "very gently used" household or decor items. You can bring items to the office or place in the Star Room.
Benefits Christian Education Committee.

STILL TAKING DONATIONS!!

Greenery Wanted!

Looking for artificial greens, swags, berries, ribbons to make artificial crafts to sell during The Advent Tea.
You may bring in any supplies to the office.

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:

COL. Neal Miller, US Army;
SGT. Jason Stoner, US Army Reserves;
Lt. Cdr. Dain Bomberger, US Navy;
Michael Hackett, Nancy Steedle & Family serving overseas for the government

Pastoral Visitation:

Please contact Pastor Sayward or Pastor Mandy to schedule a pastoral visit for yourself or family members.
You may also scan QR code below to submit a confidential prayer request online.

Prayers of Healing for:

Meda Hostetter
Richard Hostetter
Marilyn Diener
Susan Yeagley
Roger Groce
Melissa Hostetter
Greg Laubach
Charlene Van Brookhoven
Harry Peters
Pat Steinmetz

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Completed Month of September 2026

	2025	2026
Tithes & Offerings	$37,707	$32,738
General Fund Other Income	$10,748	$12,596
General Fund Expenses	$65,479	$58,679
Net Income	$(17,024)	$(13,345)

YTD Through the Month of September 2026

	2025	2026
Tithes & Offerings	$448,845	$481,167
General Fund Other Income	$74,630	$71,242
General Fund Expense	$580,119	$541,653
Net Income	$(56,644)	$10,756

Walking Together This Week

Sunday, November 15, 2026 - Handbell Choir in Church
8:00 a.m. Worship
9:15 a.m. Sunday School for all ages
10:30 a.m. Worship LIVE STREAM

Monday, November 16, 2026
8:30 a.m. Yoga - Fellowship Hall
7:15 p.m. Handbell Choir - Prep Room

Tuesday, November 17, 2026
9:00 a.m. Chandelier Cleaning - Sanctuary - Anyone may join!
9:00 a.m. Quilting - Nursery
7:00 p.m. Trustees Board Meeting - Liquid Classroom
7:15 p.m. Trombone Choir Rehearsal - Fellowship Hall

Wednesday, November 18, 2026
8:30 a.m. Yoga - Fellowship Hall
9:30 a.m. Study Circle - Prep Kitchen
7:00 p.m. NA - HDR
7:15 p.m. Senior Choir Practice

Thursday, November 19, 2026
7:00 p.m. Yoga - Fellowship Hall

Friday, November 20, 2026
9:15 a.m. Beginner Community Yoga - Fellowship Hall
9:30 a.m. Preschool Story Hour

Saturday, November 21, 2026

Moravian Mission Gift Shop now open fall hours! Thursday, Friday & Saturday 10am-4pm

Sunday, November 22, 2026 - Trombone Choir in Church
8:00 a.m. Worship with LIFT & Joyful Noise
9:15 a.m. Sunday School for all ages
10:30 a.m. Worship Service with LIFT & Joyful Noise LIVE STREAM

The Joy and the Risk

This is not my favorite parable. I am never really ready for the severity of it. Slavery, forced labor, unclear instructions, an exacting, unmerciful "owner" who terrorizes the people he enslaves with threat of harsh punishment. It seems that a lot of people really like this parable, though, because they imagine themselves as one of the good and faithful servants.

But let's be honest. Those of us reading this parable in a modern American context are not like the "good and faithful servants." We are much more like the servant who buries the money. Even though we live in a place that overflows with food, consumer goods, and so on, we often hoard our wealth and resources in a way that suggests we are facing great deprivation. We donate for the tax deduction, not the kingdom of God. We play it safe. Not just with our money, but also with our time and other resources.

What if we allowed ourselves to imagine a different future worth investing in? What if we could enter into joy? The ones who invested the money entrusted to them had to enter into that joy, before they could take the risk. They had to envision a potential future, do the work, and make themselves vulnerable to the possibility of failure. Their investments could have failed. Similarly, our endeavors are not guaranteed to work. But success is secondary to faith. God has called us to be faithful. May we enter into joy and get to work.

Elizabeth Corney, pastor, Hopewell Moravian Church,
Winston-Salem, North Carolina

The Moravian Church
Twenty-fifth Sunday after Pentecost
November 15, 2026