

OCTOBER SPIRE
DEADLINE: MONDAY,
SEPTEMBER 15, 2025



Official Newsletter of Lititz Moravian Congregation
SEPTEMBER 2025

Discerning Together: The Call Process

As we look to the future of ministry at Lititz Moravian Congregation, we are entering into a sacred and Spirit-led journey: the call process for a new pastor. This is not simply a hiring process—it is a time of prayerful discernment, mutual conversation, and faithful listening for God's guidance in identifying the right pastoral partner for our congregation and community.

The Moravian Church Northern Province follows a structured yet spiritually grounded call process, designed to match congregations and pastors in shared ministry. Here's an overview of what that process looks like for us:

Step 1: Congregational Preparation

The process begins with reflection. Our Joint Board (Elders and Trustees) works with a District President to assess the needs, vision, and ministry context of our church. During this time, members of the congregation may be invited to participate in surveys to help identify the qualities, gifts, and leadership style we seek in a pastor. This becomes the foundation for creating a Congregational Profile—a snapshot of who we are and who we hope to become.

Step 2: Reviewing Candidates, Discernment, and Issuing the Call

Once our profile is complete, the Joint Board is entrusted with the responsibility of reviewing candidate profiles, interviewing prospective pastors, and discerning which candidate might best fit our ministry needs and mission. The Eastern District provides the Joint Board with potential candidates—pastors who are open to new calls and who align with the needs outlined in our profile. The process is kept confidential within the Joint Board. Following an interview and prayerful consideration, the Joint Board can officially extend the call to the candidate.

Step 4: Announcing the Call

If the candidate accepts the call, the PEC and the Eastern District work with our congregation and the pastor to establish a timeline for the transition and installation. If the candidate does not accept, the Joint Board resumes the discernment process.

How Can You Be Involved?

This process invites every member of the Lititz Moravian Congregation to share insights during the survey phase, but most importantly, through prayer. Pray for our Joint Board, for potential candidates, for clarity and unity, and for God's continued guidance in our ministry.

If you have questions about the process, please contact any member of the Joint Board. The Joint Board's first informational meeting is September 16th.

Desserts

Help Us Fill the Dessert Table for Pastor Mark's Retirement Luncheon!

As we prepare to celebrate Pastor Mark's retirement on Sunday, October 19, we invite you to help us honor him in the sweetest way possible—by filling a table (or two!) with desserts!

There will be only one worship service that day at 10:30 AM, followed immediately by a special luncheon in Pastor Mark's honor.

If you know Pastor Mark, you know one thing for sure: he always eats dessert first! Let's follow his lead and bless him with a beautiful spread of cakes, cookies, pies, bars, and other sweet treats.

Whether homemade or store-bought, your contribution will help make this celebration extra special.

Some of Pastor Mark's favorite desserts are, Peach Cobbler, Oatmeal Cookies with NO raisins, brownie bark, shortbread cookies, cherry pie, and pound cake.

There will be a sign up sheet in the star room for these delectable desserts!

Let's shower Pastor Mark with the sweetness he's shared with all of us over the years!



Confirmation 2025–2026: GROUNDED AND GROWING

Planted with Purpose. Rising in Hope. Living in Love.

Where?

CE Building – 2nd Floor (Room Above the Office)

When?

Sundays after the 10:30 AM Worship

Are you ready to explore your faith, ask big questions, and grow in your walk with Christ? This year's Confirmation journey is more than just a class — it's a launch pad for lifelong discipleship! 

What's Inside?

Part 1: Dive into the Catechism for the Moravian Church

Part 2: Discover your place in the Living Branches youth curriculum

Family Focus: Strengthen your home life with Loving Hearts United 

It All Begins September 14, 2025

Retreats, mentor moments, hands-on learning, and a meaningful path toward Pentecost and Confirmation Sunday on May 24, 2026!

New This Year:

Weekly deep dives into faith, hope, love, the sacraments & more

Monthly mentor meetups to grow in wisdom & friendship

A full-family approach to growing in grace together

 **Confirmation isn't about having all the answers — it's about stepping into the story God is writing with your life.**

**Sign up today. Show up curious. Leave transformed.
Questions? Contact either Pastor Sayward or Pastor Mark.**

 **Let's grow in faith, together.**

EMPLOYMENT JUST AHEAD

🎵 We're Hiring! 🎵

Lititz Moravian Church is looking for a joyful,
music-loving leader to serve as our
Junior Choir Director! 🎵

This is a fun, part-time position in Christian Ministry,
sharing the love of Jesus with children
through the gift of song.

If you have a heart for kids, a passion for music, and a
desire to make worship come alive,
we'd love to hear from you!

📞 Call: 717-626-8515

✉ Email: office@lititzmoravian.org

Come help us inspire the next generation to
sing for the Lord!

LITITZ MORAVIAN MEADOW

MORAVIAN WILDFLOWER MEADOW

You might be a Lititz Moravian congregant who has asked why there is a field of tall grass along the church driveway and Cedar Street.

It is phase one of establishing a meadow that will support local biodiversity, support pollinators, reduce stormwater runoff, reduce emissions and fossil-fuel dependence of gas mowers, reduce the workload of our volunteers (less time spent mowing), and support the endangered Monarch Butterfly and other insects.

There are differing methods to establish a meadow; and the simplest, most economical way is to stop mowing and monitor what will naturally grow.

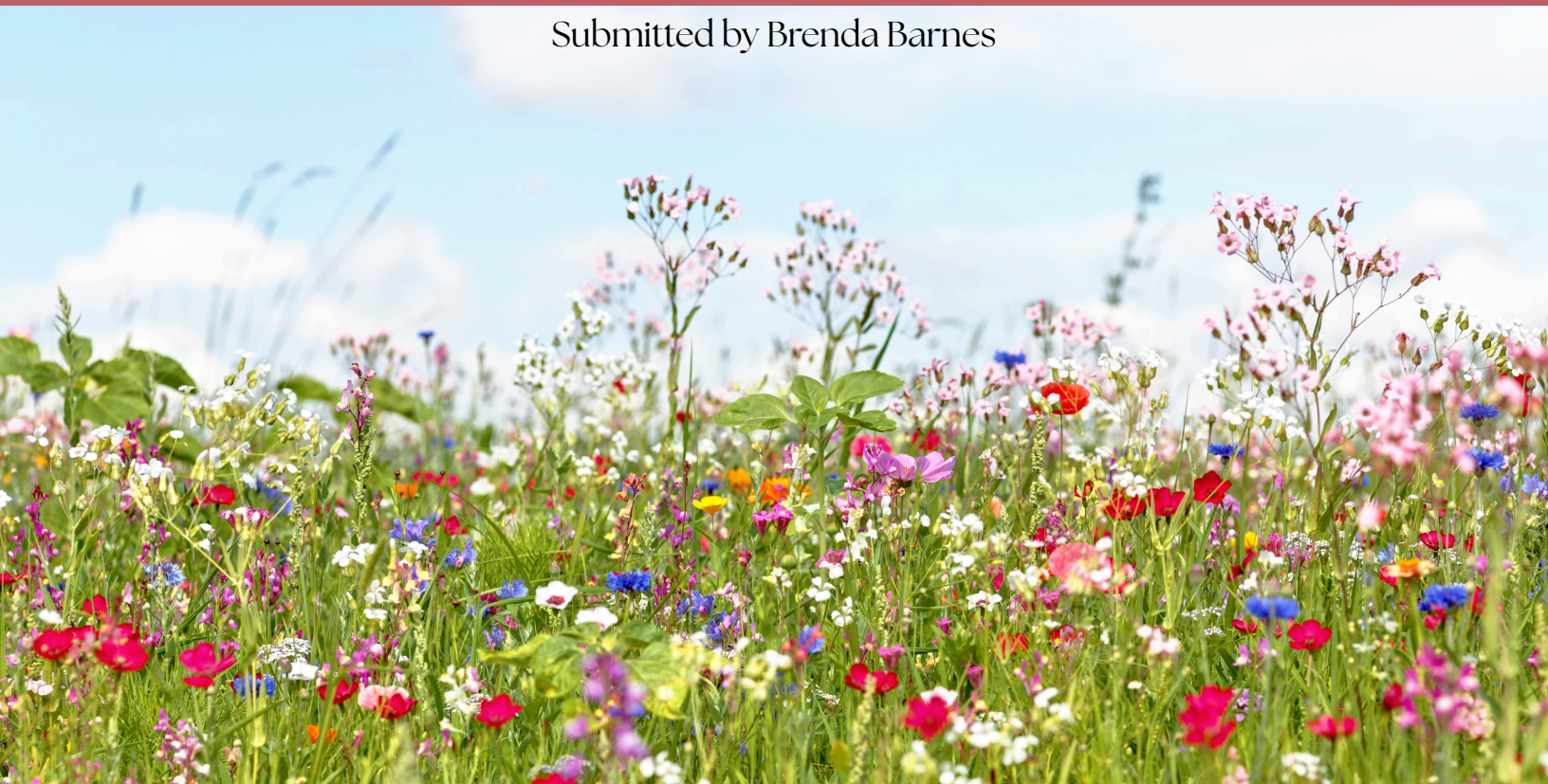
Although we started phase one during 2024, the grass barely grew because of the drought. Spring and Summer of 2025, with all of its rain, finally established the basic meadow.

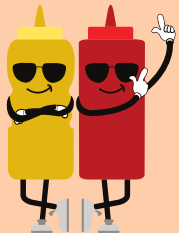
Phase two will include establishing wide pathways for strolling and observing, planting and sowing native perennials and wildflowers, and placement of signage so passers-by will know specifically what this area is (there were “no mow area” signs placed, but most of the signs came down during the winter). We hope to place benches for resting along the pathways.

As we continue to establish pathways, and plant and sow flowers, you will see the changes gradually take place; and you are encouraged to stroll through our meadow then and connect with God’s beautiful creation. If you would like to donate wildflower seeds or native perennials, please reach out to a Cemetery Committee member or myself.

Please contact the Cemetery Committee with any concerns you may have and you can email Dave Walter at: jonwalter123@outlook.com

Submitted by Brenda Barnes





CRAFT FAIR FOOD BOOTH - 2025



Lititz Moravian Church was the best stop on your walk through the Craft Fair. Crowds lined up at our Food Booth and even stretched down and across the street. Guests were hungry and thirsty for refreshment.

Early morning, we served coffee and Moravian Sugar Cake which sold out quickly- single slices and packaged cakes.

The lunch meal followed early with hot dog grillers on the mark at our new grill. Servers loaded the hot dogs with sauerkraut and shouts for beverages rang out for their selections.

It was a perfect day with great weather and a place to sit and relax at tables and chairs. All this was made possible by our volunteers ready with smiles to serve each person.

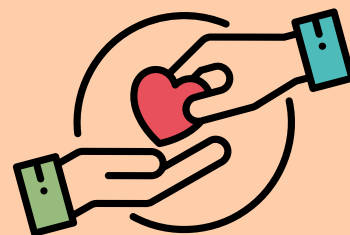
Thank you each one who gave their time and energy for our success.

It was a great experience, and we know those stopping at our tent had a wonderful impression of Lititz Moravian Church.



MORAVIAN FELLOWSHIP

The Lititz Moravian Fellowship is tasked to provide for Growth in Faith, Sharing Hope, Living Love.



We hope to extend fellowship to our congregation and community, and charity within that scope and beyond.

We join in worship and study through Bible Studies during Circle Time.

Special reading is offered to the congregation with our purchase of the Upper Room publication.

We participate in the Lenten Program providing one of the Suppers for those attending.

We also share hope in service to our congregation and their families and friends providing for Funeral luncheons after services of remembrance.

Living love is expressed in our monthly Birthday Fellowship time after the second Sunday service of each month.

Baking Moravian Sugar Cake comes twice a year to sell at our Craft Show Food Booth, along with hot dogs and chips and drinks many individuals find refreshment and rest on our lawn in August.

At Christmas we invite the congregation and public to join us for our Advent Tea the first Saturday in December. Cookies and sweet bars are baked by our members and our Pastors' spouse pour tea and coffee for our guests. Fellowship Hall is decorated, and music is provided by several individuals. On occasion we have a special sale of Christmas designs for all to view and purchase.

We also have dance gatherings with instruction as a delightful social time twice a year.

We encourage our members of all ages to join us. There is much to be done. We get to know one another in service and hospitality.

As summer winds down, we're excited to start a new season of faith formation for our Sprouts (Birth-PreK), Rooted (K-5th grade) and Cultivate classes (6th-12th grade)! Our programs are designed to spark joy, deepen biblical understanding, and nurture each youth's unique faith journey.

What's Coming Up?

Weekly Sunday School: Every Sunday, Sprouts and Rooted children explore Bible stories through the lens of food, games, science experiments, art, music, or drama. The Cultivate class will strengthen friendships and build upon a firm foundation by participating in brunch + faith topics, Bible study that explores the personalities of Old and New Testaments, and Worship Encounters.

Family Faith Night (Quarterly Event): Join us for an evening of fun and fellowship as we gather for Mini Golf, bowling, and Game Night.

Service Projects & Outreach (Quarterly Event): Kids will have opportunities to put faith into action by serving others through simple, age-appropriate outreach projects—helping them see God at work in our community.

Special Events (Quarterly): From the “Princess Bride Quote-A-Long Movie Night”, to a snow-themed January Kids' Night Out, to the premiere of Messy Church, our special events are all about fun, faith, and fellowship with our community!

Why Faith Formation Matters

Our programs are grounded in best practices that respect the ways children and youth learn—hands-on, image-rich, and relational experiences designed to grow confident, authentic faith. We focus on helping children and youth see their own lives in God's big story, fostering a sense of belonging and possibility.

How You Can Get Involved

- Pray for our children and leaders
- Volunteer for upcoming events or as a classroom helper
- Connect with your child through our monthly take-home guides
- Pray for our confirmands as Confirmation begins on Sunday, Sept. 14th!

KEEPING HOLY TIME

Sunday Mornings at 9:00 a.m.
in Eschbach Parlor

Learn how the scriptures speak to us as we explore the lessons that scriptures have to teach us.

We will discuss questions like:

Why was it written?

To whom was it meant for?

What does it mean?

How does it relate to us today?

Why are scriptures important?

Come and join us as we discuss together and learn about the Bible and what its scriptures have to tell us.

Lititz Moravian Church *Adult Sunday School Classes*



Seekers Class

The Seekers Class is seeking to grow in our faith. Our format is to show a video of a faith-based topic and then discuss its meaning and its implications for our lives.

In the past year we have studied two programs
by Pastor Andy Stanley.

In “Follow” we learned that Jesus’ invitation was all about starting a relationship with Him.

In “Starting Point” it’s about how would an adult start from scratch to become a follower of Jesus.

It’s light and it’s fun but you also grow in loving Jesus more.



The Wired Word (TWW)

TWW is a adult Sunday School class that meets weekly from 9:15 am to 10:15 am in the Liquid Classroom on the 2nd floor in the Christian Education Building (CEB).

The leaders of the class are Chris Styers, Liesl Wolf, and Pastor Mark Breland.

TWW is an current event Bible study that connects events to scripture to create thought-provoking discussions.

- Look at recent news
- Challenging questions and commentary
- Reading of scriptures from the old and new testaments
- Conversations on the topic and scriptures
- Closing Prayer

The lesson is emailed each week prior to the Sunday morning class. Most class members read the lesson on their phone. The first class for the fall is Sunday, September 14!

Please come and join the conversation.



T H A N K Y O U

"Thank you for partnering with us in planting the seeds of God's Word in Young Hearts to the 3rd & 4th grade students within the Warwick School District."

~Warwick Released Time~

"We are so grateful to Lititz Moravian Congregation for supporting Milagro House! The gift of \$166.67, received on 07/31/2025, will directly support our mission to provide education, housing, and support services to women and their children who would otherwise be experiencing homelessness."

~Milagro House~

"Your gift of \$166.67 will help to ensure that free food and clothing, homelessness services, and supportive outreach partner are sustainably available under the big, red awning."

~Erin C.
Food Hub Director of
Advancement~

"We cannot say thank you enough for your donation to Power Packs Project!"

Thank you for your continued support for our mission!

~Brad P.
Executive Director~

JOIN US

DO YOU HAVE A PASSION OR TALENT THAT YOU WOULD LIKE TO SHARE WITH US? WE HAVE MULTIPLE GROUPS AND EVENTS THAT YOU ARE WELCOME TO JOIN! PLEASE CONTACT THE OFFICE FOR INDIVIDUAL CONTACT INFORMATION. (717) 626-8515

**CHOIR DIRECTOR: JEFF GEMMELL
SENIOR CHOIR- WEDNESDAYS AT 7:15 P.M. SEPTEMBER - MAY**

**HANDBELL CHOIR DIRECTOR: MARILYN WINFIELD
PRACTICES: MONDAYS AT 7:30 P.M. SEPTEMBER - MAY**

**TROMBONE CHOIR DIRECTOR: MARILYN WINFIELD
PRACTICES: 3RD AND 4TH TUESDAYS AT 7:15 P.M.**

**EVANGELISM: RANDY BRICKER
MEETS: 2ND MONDAY EACH MONTH AT 7:00 P.M.**

**ARCHIVES: TOM WENTZEL
MEETS: 2ND TUESDAY EACH MONTH AT 6:30 P.M.**

**QUILTING: WILMA BEARD
MEETS: TUESDAYS AT 9:00 A.M.**

**YOGA: EILEEN CRONE
MEETS: MONDAYS & WEDNESDAYS AT 8:30 A.M.
& THURSDAYS AT 7:00 P.M.
TAI-CHI: THURSDAYS AT 3:30 P.M.**

**PASTORS: MARK BRELAND & SAYWARD LIPPINCOTT
OFFICE MANAGER: COURTNEY HACKMAN
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT: JAIME WEIK
CHILDREN'S MINISTRY: ALLYSON MILLER**

2025 Second Mile Offering

"Whoever goes with you one mile, go with them two" Matthew 5:41

2025 Second Mile Offering *Approved by the Board of Elders*

January...The Food Hub
February...Power Packs Project
March...Camp Scholarship Fund
April...Warwick Released Time
May...Camp Scholarship Fund
June...Milagro House
July...Warwick Community Chest
August...Power Packs Project
September...North Star Initiative
October...Warwick Community Chest
November...The Food Hub
December...Milagro House

2025 Joyful Noise Offerings *Approved by the Board of Elders*

January...LMC Refugee Project
February...You Belong
March...Camp Hope
April...Lancaster Adult Daycare
May...LMC Refugee Project
June...Camp Hope
July...You Belong
August...Caitlin's Smiles
September...LMC Refugee Projects
October...Camp Hope
November...You Belong
December...BWM Educational Projects
(Christmas Family Lovefeast)



In Memory of Margaret Herzer
LMC Dieners & Sacristans
Helen Heron
Dixie Lou Smith
Suzanne More

In Memory of Harry Lefever
Jane Bergman
In Memory of Glenn Bergman Jr.
Jane Bergman

In Memory of Donald Wier
Jane Bergman



UPCOMING EVENTS:

Monday, September 1

LABOR DAY

Office Closed

Sunday, September 7

Sunday School Returns!

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

9:15 a.m. Sunday School for All

Sunday, September 14

8:00 a.m. Worship - Sanctuary

9:15 a.m. Sunday School for All

10:30 a.m. Worship - Outdoors

11:45 a.m. Birthday Celebration - Church Picnic

12 p.m. Church Picnic - Pavilion

Monday, September 15

Spire Deadline

Sunday, September 21

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

9:15 a.m. Sunday School for All

Sunday, September 28

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

9:15 a.m. Sunday School for All

Stewardship To Date for 2025

Financial Summary (July)

- Tithes & Offerings 2024: \$50,142
- Tithes & Offerings 2025: \$40,648
- General Fund Other Income 2024: \$8,503
- General Fund Other Income 2025: \$9,915
- General Fund Expense 2024: \$48,899
- General Fund Expense 2025: \$56,755
- Net Income 2024: \$9,746
- Net Income 2025: (\$6,193)

2025 Year-to-Date (through July)

- Tithes & Offerings 2024: \$338,037
- Tithes & Offerings 2025: \$342,019
- General Fund Other Income 2024: \$55,502
- General Fund Other Income 2025: \$58,582
- General Fund Expense 2024: \$381,466
- General Fund Expense 2025: \$436,097
- Net Income 2024: \$12,073
- Net Income 2025: (\$35,496)

Prayer Requests

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



Serving our country in the military:

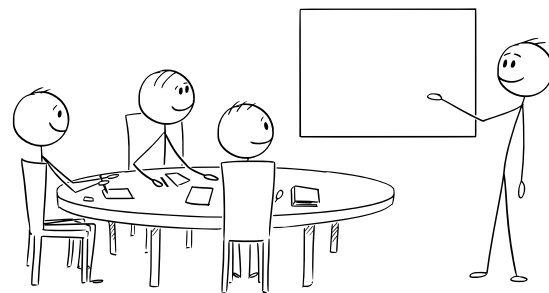
Lt. Col. Neal Miller, Army
Sgt. Jason Stoner, Army Reserves
Lt. Dain Bomberger, US Navy
Major Andrew Kemp
Staff Sgt. Austin Heacock
Lance Corporal Shawn Stauffer, US Marine Corps

Prayers of Healing for:

Barry Erb
Dick Martin
Jeff Bamberger
Pastor Dean Jurgan
Vince Mizeras
Kent Herzer
Rebecca Swartz

Meda Hostetter
Julie Gemmell
Erelene Deist
Peg Ivey
Jaime Weik

NEWS FROM OUR BOARDS *Meeting*



Highlights from the Board of Elders for March

- the ROMEOs group will be starting monthly meetings - see Greg Bomberger if interested
- a Sign-up Genius is being created for the nursery - looking for volunteers!
- an Inquirer's Class will be held on March 29
- Readers for Holy Week services were procured, and the time of the Sunrise Service on April 20th will be 6 am.
- the Kitchen renovation is moving along on schedule!

Highlights from the Board of Trustees Meeting June 17, 2025

- It was moved and seconded to approve the Minutes from the Trustee Meeting of May 20, 2025. Motion Carried Unanimously.
- It was moved and seconded to approve the May financial report. Motion Carried Unanimously.
- A motion was made and seconded to accept the estimate provided by Claire DePerrot for Adair to replace flooring in kitchen and powder room at 6 Church Square. Motion carried unanimously.
- A motion was made and seconded to end the Trustee meeting at 8:12pm. Motion Carried Unanimously.

Highlights from Archive Committee Mtg. April 18, 2025

- MARCH MINUTES: were accepted and approved
- TREASURER'S REPORT: A motion was made and passed to move some of the archives funds into a six-month CD with a higher interest rate. Marian Shatto made a motion that the Archives Committee allow Treasurer Bill Oehme to move \$5,000.00 from archives checking fund into a six-month CD, seconded by Charlie Best. The motion carried.
- FRONT DOORS MUSEUM BUILDING: It was voted on and passed by the committee to have the front doors sanded and varnished to preserve the aging wood.
- TANNENBERG ORGAN CONCERT: Lititz Moravian former organist, Phil Cooper, will present a concert June 13 at The York History Center Museum. A wonderful opportunity to hear another Tannenberg organ.
- NEXT MEETING: May 13, 2025 in Eschbach Parlor



Office Contact Information:

Address: 8 Church Square, Lititz, PA 17543

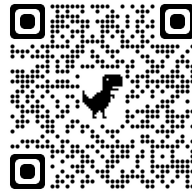
Phone: 717-626-8515

Fax: 717-626-8258

E-mail: office@lititzmoravian.org

Website: www.lititzmoravian.org

Check us out on Facebook and Instagram



Feel free to call the church Monday-Friday, 10:00 a.m.- 2:00 p.m.
Please leave a message if you don't get us right away;
Sometimes we're just in the next room, up the stairs, or down the hall.
We are here to support you.

The Spire is a monthly publication of the Lititz Moravian Congregation. The Spire's mission is to inform and engage everyone involved in the church's life and ministry and reach out to visitors and friends offering opportunities to share in the work of Lititz Moravian. We welcome your suggestions and input.

* Deadline for submitting articles: Noted on the upper left corner of the first page of The Spire.

* Submit articles to the church office: office@lititzmoravian.org or drop them by the office.

Newsletter Staff:

Writers: Members of the Congregation

Editor(s): Courtney Hackman & Jaime Weik

Proofer: Sue Bomberger

Donation Reminder

Before items are donated to the church or any committee, please contact:
Pat Hartzell (717-371-7080)



Online Giving Available

To stop receiving paper envelopes in the mail, please contact the Church Office for more information
office@lititzmoravian.org

Joint Board Leadership

Randy Bricker, Vice Chair, 2026 (Elders)
Diane Bainbridge, Secretary, 2027 (Elders)
Dave Walter, Chair 2027 (Trustees)
Paul Swope, Vice Chair, 2026 (Trustees)
Chris Styers, Secretary, 2027 (Trustees)

Need Transportation to a Medical Appointment?

Our transportation ministry is happy to help!
Please call the Church Office and speak with Greg Bomberger or leave him a message to schedule your ride.

Vision Statement

We are a community that seeks first, last, and always to follow Jesus.

Faith—We see a community of FAITH where all are welcome to join in Worship, Fellowship, Discipleship, Ministry, and Evangelism. We see people on a faith journey, actively living a Christian life in our world and providing support for all those in need both at home and in mission.

Hope—We see a community of HOPE where people are encouraged and equipped to develop their spiritual gifts and to use them in the service of our Risen Lord. We see a congregation where all are involved in a rich variety of opportunities to serve and be empowered to follow God's calling.

Love—We see a community of LOVE where questions of faith are welcome, where the broken find comfort, where unconditional acceptance and love abound, and where all are under God's canopy of grace and forgiveness.

September 2025

October Spire Deadline: Monday, September 15th

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 Labor Day OFFICE CLOSED	2 9A Quilting 7P Elders	3 8:30A Yoga 11A ROMEO's Lunch 6:30P Comm. Band 7P NA Meeting 7:15P SC	4 7P CIS 7P Yoga	5 9A Beginner Yoga 6P Crafts with Friends	6
7 Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost Sunday School Returns! 8 & 10:30A Worship 9:15A Sunday School for All	8 8:30 a.m. Yoga 7P Evangelism Comm. 7:15P HBC	9 9A Quilting 3:30P Tai Chi 6:30P Archives Comm.	10 8:30A Yoga 9P Wellness Wednesday 7P NA Meeting 7:15P SC	11 7P Worship Comm. 7P Yoga	12 9A Beginner Yoga	13
14 Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost 8A Worship 9:15A Sunday School for All 10:30A Outdoor Worship 11:45A Birthday Celebration 12P Church Picnic	15 8:30 a.m. Yoga Spire Deadline 7P CEC 7:15P HBC	16 9A Quilting 3:30P Tai Chi 6P Joint Board 6:30P Trustees 7:15P TC Rehearsal	17 8:30A Yoga 7P NA Meeting 7:15P SC	18 7P Yoga	19 9A Beginner Yoga 9:30A Preschool Story Hour 6P Crafts with Friends	20
21 Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost 8 & 10:30A Worship 9:15A Sunday School for All	22 8:30 a.m. Yoga 6:30P Fellowship Comm. 7:15P HBC	23 9A Quilting 3:30P Tai Chi 7:15P TC	24 8:30A Yoga 7P NA Meeting 7:15P SC	25 7P Yoga	26 9A Beginner Yoga	27 10A Random Acts of Kindness
28 Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost 8 & 10:30A Worship 9:15A Sunday School for All Joyful Noise	29 8:30 a.m. Yoga 7:15P HBC	30 9A Quilting 3:30P Tai Chi	Abbreviations: CEC = Christian Education Committee, NA = Narcotics Anonymous, HBC= Handbell Choir, SC= Senior Choir, CIS= Church in Society, TC= Trombone Choir			