

NOVEMBER SPIRE
DEADLINE: MONDAY,
OCTOBER 20, 2025



Official Newsletter of Lititz Moravian Congregation
OCTOBER 2025



THOUGHTS OF A Pastor's Mind

A Pumpkin Patch Surprise

Something unexpected has sprouted in our front flower garden: a pumpkin patch! None of us intentionally planted it, and yet here it is, growing strong and green, despite what seems to be a consistent invasion of thistles. Our best guess? Last fall, the squirrels made off with porch pumpkins and buried some seeds. Maybe a few made their way from a neighbor's field. However it happened, seeds that were left behind in unlikely soil have taken root, and now we have pumpkins on the way.

This surprise reminds me of one of Jesus' most beloved parables—the story of the Sower found in Matthew 13:3–9, Mark 4:2–9, and Luke 8:4–8. In that parable, a farmer scatters seed in every direction. Some fall on rocky ground, some among thorns, and some on good soil. The farmer has no control over where the seed lands, and yet in the places where the soil is right, the seed grows and produces a harvest—sometimes beyond anyone's expectation.

We don't always know what kind of soil we're planting into. We may assume a place—or even a person—is too hardened, too crowded with thorns, or too shallow for God's Word to take root. And yet, just like the squirrels' forgotten pumpkins, God has a way of surprising us. Seeds can grow in the most unlikely places. The Spirit moves, waters, and nourishes in ways we can't predict. What looked like barren ground may, in time, reveal a beautiful harvest.

Our little pumpkin patch is a living reminder that God is at work in ways beyond our planning and control. The Holy Spirit can bring forth life where we least expect it. So keep sowing kindness, faith, hope, and love. Even if you think the soil isn't ready, you never know what God might grow.



Attic Treasures



Moravian Fellowship would like to include an Attic Treasures area during the December 6 Advent Tea.

If you have experience or interest in purchasing and/or selling used items and would be able to help organize the Attic Treasures, please call or text one of the following coordinators:

Sale

Susan Bricker (223.403.0297)
Brenda Barnes (717.626.2321)
Carol Dague (610.704.8360)



Many thanks!

2025 Vigil Season

Saturday, Dec 20th.

5:00 p.m.

7:30 p.m.

Sunday, Dec 21st.

10:30 a.m.

5:00 p.m.

Wednesday, Dec 24th.

5:00 p.m.

7:30 p.m.



August 5, 2025

Dear Members and Friends,

Christmas is a gift of God to be received and shared with joy. Like the beeswax candles we are given at our Christmas Vigils, we receive the light of Christ, and we raise the candles high to let His light shine not just in us, but through us. Our Christmas Vigils allow us to enjoy this most meaningful, beautiful service, and to share it with others.

Please consider whom God has placed in your life-particularly those who might be without a church-and invite them to come to a Vigil service, with admission cards you could secure for them via the enclosed response card.

If you would like to invite someone new in this way, but customarily get admission cards for family or friends, we encourage you to let your family or friends know that they can get their tickets by sending a request with their phone number and a self-addressed stamped envelope, to the office by Friday, November 14. After that date, all non-member requests may be made at the public distribution. After the public distribution, non-member requests may be made in person at the church office. This way, they can continue to attend, and you can share a blessing for someone who has not attended before.

One of the six Vigils requires no admission cards:
Family Lovefeast Candlelight Service Sunday, December 21, 10:30 a.m.

Five identical Vigil Services require admission cards:

Saturday 20, 2024, at 5:00 pm & 7:30 pm

Sunday, December 21, at 5:00 p.m.

&

Christmas Eve, Wednesday, December 24, at 5:00 p.m. & 7:30 p.m.

Admittance into the church begins one hour before the service, with special prelude music for the evening Vigils beginning about 30 minutes before the service. Enclosed is an admission request postcard. Information for completing the card can be found on the back of this letter. Please note the deadline, Friday, November 14, and respond by returning your completed card as soon as possible to avoid disappointment. To help us serve you best, please follow the instructions for use of the card exactly as stated.

Members will be able to choose either the traditional card or fill out a Google form to request tickets. Click for Ticket Requests Form Public distribution will have two options: traditional in-person and e-ticketing via Eventbrite.

The nursery will not be open during vigils.

Distribution of admission cards will take place in the Fellowship Hall following both the 8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. worship services on Sunday, November 23, and Sunday, November 30. All admission cards not picked up by Sunday, November 30, after the 10:30 a.m. service, will be given to others unless alternate arrangements are made before that time by contacting the Church Office. Public e-ticketing will open on December 1.

If you have a general question or concern, please contact
Jeff Elser: Coordinator (717-626-5410) or the church office (717-626-8515).

Yours in Our Savior,
Rev. Mark V. Breland, Rev. Sayward EG Lippincott, and The Board of Elders

2025 REQUEST CARD INSTRUCTIONS
(Please read before completing)

Admission card request forms are to be filled out by church members only. Due to the limited seating capacity of the Sanctuary, the Board of Elders asks the requests be submitted only for those who are absolutely certain to use them. The selection of an acceptable second choice is essential for the Board of Elders to make a fair distribution.

Enclosed is one request card per household. In the middle upper section of the card, list the names of all family members within the household who are planning to attend the Vigil Service. Be certain to show the total number of first choices on the left-hand columns and second choices on the right, as indicated on the request card.

All other requests should be listed in the middle lower section of the request card, e.g. relatives and guests. Again, be certain to show the total number of first and second choices. Please list all persons requesting tickets by their full name. This is necessary to eliminate duplication and assure the fullest possible utilization of admission cards. Unnamed requests will not be honored. We ask that you request a maximum of two guests per member.

Friday, November 14, is the deadline for receiving all requests, including dieners, workers, soloists, choir members, etc. We may not be able to honor requests received after this date.

If you are unable to pick up your admission cards after the 8:00 am or 10:30 am worship services on distribution dates of Sunday, November 23, and Sunday, November 30, please send a stamped self-addressed envelope with your request or make alternate arrangements by contacting the church office.

Below is an example of a completed request card for the family of Mr. and Mrs. Tim and Linda Maddalena; their daughter, Rose; their son, Jim; and their guests Sam and Mary Jones. First and second choices are listed.

[illegible]

Welcome Our NEW MEMBERS!

Pictured are (Left to Right):
Pastor Mark Breland
New Member: Jan Stotzer
Pastor Sayward Lippincott



Pictured are (Left to Right):
Pastor Mark Breland
New Member: Claudia "Ann" Bowden
Pastor Sayward Lippincott



Join us for a Men's Lunch Group on the first Wednesday of every month!



Please meet at LMC at 11:00 AM, with

transportation provided by the mini bus.

We look forward to seeing you there!



It's a wonderful opportunity to connect with other men within our congregation, share good conversation, and make new memories.

ROMEOS

Retired Old Moravians Eating Out



Come together for great fellowship as we visit local restaurants for lunch and enjoy a variety of activities.



Strategic Planning Committee UPDATE



The Strategic Planning Committee (SPC) met via Zoom on August 28. During this meeting, the committee discussed launching a regular communication campaign—similar to the “Board Highlights” in The Spire—to keep the congregation updated on our progress.

With Pastor Mark’s retirement, he will no longer sit on the committee after October 19th. If a new co-pastor is called while the SPC is still active, that pastor will join the planning process. If a call occurs after the SPC’s work is complete, the new pastor will receive the finished Strategic Plan as part of Lititz Moravian’s call materials.

The SPC also conducted a Spine Analysis of LMC and began examining our mission, vision, and values, including how these elements align and what might need to be refined to create a clearer, more concise expression of who we are as a congregation.

To move this work forward, SPC has divided into three smaller groups to review mission, vision, and values in depth. These groups will meet individually before October 16, when the full SPC will gather again to review their work. An in-person session is scheduled for November 8 to set strategic priorities and next steps.

We are grateful for your prayers and support as we continue this vital work of discerning God’s call for the future of the Lititz Moravian Congregation. If you would like to offer more feedback, please use spcfeedback25@gmail.com



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.

Lititz Moravian Church

Adult Sunday School Classes



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 a 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.



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: TUESDAYS 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

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

September...LMC Refugee Projects
October...Camp Hope
November...You Belong
December...BWM Educational Projects
(Christmas Family Lovefeast)

Thank You

"Thank You" to everyone for your cards,
notes of encouragement, offer of meals and
for your continued prayers.
It means the world to me to know I have the
support of my church family.
It's been a long time, but I am on the road
to recovery and hopefully my voice will
return to normal in the weeks ahead.

God is good!
Blessings, Peg Ivey

There are few words that can express how blessed I am!
Many of you know that my immediate family is gone and
that I have some first cousins but they are very distant
mile wise. I have discovered my very close family and
have been very blessed & uplifted by so many sister and
brothers, right here in my neighborhood. Thank you to
everyone here at Lititz Moravian. Your monetary support,
physical support and encouragement have given me SO
much! The Bell Choir, the Trombone Choir, Joint Board,
"Caring Moravians", Allyson and her sunday school
class, "Friend at Lititz Moravian", Pastor Mark and
Pastor Sayward, the use of the truck and the prayers! Life
is so good when we are thankful for everything. Even the
"stuff" that isn't so great like a flat tire, broken foot, and
an electrical fire. I am sure that these events were all
planned for me.

~Forever grateful and blessed,
Marilyn Winfield~



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:

Sunday, October 5

8:00 & 10:30 a.m. Worship - Sanctuary
9:15 a.m. Sunday School for All

Sunday, October 12

8:00 & 10:30 a.m. Worship - Sanctuary
9:00 a.m. Snack N' Yak - CEB Lobby
9:15 a.m. Sunday School for All
11:45 a.m. Birthday Celebration - Fellowship Hall

Sunday, October 19

Pastor Mark's Retirement Sunday

9:15 a.m. Sunday School for All
10:30 a.m. Worship - Sanctuary
12:00 p.m. Pastor Mark's Retirement Luncheon -
Social Hall

Monday, October 20

Spire Deadline

Sunday, October 26

8:00 & 10:30 a.m. Worship - Sanctuary
9:15 a.m. Sunday School for All
12:00 p.m. LMC Open House

If you're looking for a place to gather with friends or family, or simply a quiet spot to read, LMC is glad to provide a space that suits your needs. To reserve a room, please contact the office with your preferred days, times, and room choice.

Because some outside events are not listed in the bulletin or Spire calendar, we kindly ask that you confirm availability with the office in advance. This helps us ensure that all scheduled events are respected and that we can best accommodate your request.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation!

Submitted by: Courtney (Office Manager)



Stewardship ToDate 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)

Prayers of Healing for:

Barry Erb	Meda Hostetter
Dick Martin	Julie Gemmell
Jeff Bamberger	Joan Keenan
Pastor Dean Jurgen	Erelene Deist
Barry Frey	Peg Ivey
Vince Mizeras	Betsy Teschner
Matt Good	Rick Lehigh
Sam Nolt	Jay Hostetter

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

NEWS FROM OUR BOARDS *Meeting*

Highlights from the Board of Elders for September

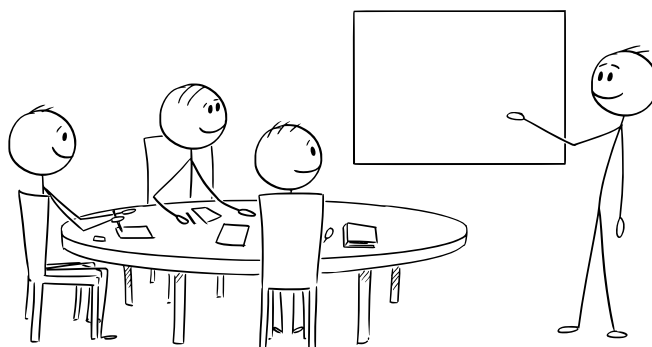
- Volunteer worship assistants are lining up to assist Pastor Sayward this autumn.
- Kitchen guidelines for leadership and facility usage are being worked on.
- The Eastern District Women are meeting here for their 70th anniversary celebration.
- The Vespers in the Park Christmas Singstunde was well attended.
- A motion was made that the Elders affirm the process of the meadow garden to the Trustees and the Cemetery Board.
- We are seeking a volunteer(s) to do the lettering for the front church sign every week or two.
- Rick Lehigh was thanked for his time on the Board of Elders.

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

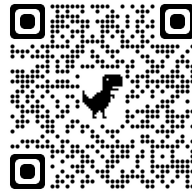
Phone: 717-626-8515

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.

October 2025

November Spire Deadline: Monday, October 20th

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Abbreviations: CEC = Christian Education Committee, NA = Narcotics Anonymous, HBC= Handbell Choir, SC= Senior Choir, CIS= Church in Society, TC= Trombone Choir			1 8:30A Yoga 11A ROMEO's Lunch 7P NA Meeting 7:15P SC	2 7P CIS 7P Yoga	3 9A Beginner Yoga 6P Crafts with Friends	4
5 Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost World Wide Communion Sunday 8 & 10:30A Worship 9:15A Sunday School for All 1P Breast Cancer Care Bags	6 8:30 a.m. Yoga 6:30p Moravian Fellowship 7P CEC 7:30P HBC	7 9A Quilting 3:30P Tai Chi 7P Elders	8 8:30A Yoga 7P NA Meeting 7:15P SC	9 7P Worship Comm. 7P Yoga	10 9A Beginner Yoga	11
12 Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost 8 & 10:30A Worship 9A Snack N Yak 9:15A Sunday School for All 10:30A Infant Baptism 11:45A Birthday Celebration	13 8:30 a.m. Yoga 7P Evangelism Comm. 7:30P HBC	14 9A Quilting 3:30P Tai Chi 6:30P Archives Comm. 7P Stewardship Comm.	15 8:30A Yoga 7P NA Meeting 7:15P SC	16 7P Yoga	17 9A Beginner Yoga 9:30A Preschool Story Hour 6P Crafts with Friends	18 4P Princess Bride Quote Along Night
19 Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost Pastor Mark's Retirement Sunday 9:15A Sunday School for All 10:30A Worship 12P Pastor Mark's Retirement Luncheon	20 8:30 a.m. Yoga Spire Deadline 6:30P Fellowship Comm. 7:30P HBC	21 9A Quilting 3:30P Tai Chi 6:30P Trustees 7:15P TC	22 8:30A Yoga 7P NA Meeting 7:15P SC	23 7P Yoga	24 9A Beginner Yoga	25 10A Random Acts of Kindness
26 Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost 8 & 10:30A Worship 9:15A Sunday School for All 12P LMC Open House Joyful Noise	27 8:30 a.m. Yoga 7:30P HBC	28 9A Quilting 3:30P Tai Chi 7:15P TC	29 8:30A Yoga 7P NA Meeting 7:15P SC	30 7P Yoga	31 9A Beginner Yoga 6P Crafts with Friends	