

THE MUSTARD SEED



October 4

Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

World Wide Communion Sunday

Scripture: Philippians 3:4b-14

Message: "It's not what....."

October 11

Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost

Scripture: Matthew 22:1-14

October 18

Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost

Guest Speaker: Joel Caulum

Scripture: Ephesians 2:14-22

October 25

**Twenty-second Sunday after
Pentecost**

Scripture: Matthew 22:34-46

Message: "Looking in the Mirror"



BRUCE'S BABBLINGS

Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

As I am writing this, temperatures are cooler than they have been, the leaves are starting to turn colors (slightly), football has begun, the stores have Halloween stuff out, things like pumpkin lattes and other pumpkin types of things can be found, and the hours of daylight are getting shorter. Things are definitely changing and in some ways for me they are moving too quickly.

I heard several years ago that there is one constant in life and that is change. I have talked in the past with people who are having marital problems who say, "He or (she) is not the same person I was attracted to several years ago." My wife and I have talked about this, and we are both grateful that we are not the same as we were forty-some years ago. We have changed. I am certain some of the changes have been good and welcomed changes and others are perhaps not as welcomed or appreciated, but there is no doubt that we are different. The most obvious difference in me is the color and amount of hair on my head. Trust me, there are others as well but I don't need to give any more information about that.

Sometimes change is difficult for us. Sometimes we think it would be easier if things would just stay the same. But, if there is no change, there is no growth. Isaiah 43:18-19 says, "Do not remember the former things, or consider the things of old. I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert."

What do we need to change, what things do we need to do differently to reach people with the Gospel message? What is God calling us to do at Christian Faith Moravian Church? I hope to continue to ask this question and invite and encourage you to ask the same question as we seek to be faithful to what God is calling us to do.

Serving Christ with you,

Pastor Bruce

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Thursday Evening

Adult Bible Study - 6:30 pm

This Bible study is open to all who wish to participate as we discuss the Book of Hebrews. We invite your interpretations of the various verses as we read each chapter. Hebrews was written between 60 A.D. and 70 A.D. to keep the Hebrew Christians from turning back to the Law and to strengthen them in the face of suffering. It was written to encourage them to continue in faithful service. The author presents Jesus as superior to anyone else and worthy of total trust and devotion. A pot of decaf is available, or bring a beverage of your choice and fellowship with others during our one-hour session each week, led by Shirley.

What is Becoming of Our World Today?

How many times have you heard someone make that remark? Over coffee in a coffee shop? At work? At church? In school? In the park? At the gas station? On TV? In line at the supermarket? What do you think?

Our Moravian Board of World Missions has a few things to say on the subject. That idea is what our Adult Bible Study is looking into over the coming fall and winter months every Sunday from, 9:00-10:00 AM, in the Zinzendorf Room just off Fellowship Hall. Everyone is welcome, and you may join the discussion or just stop by and listen for a while at any time over the coming months.

Based on Jesus' Sermon on the Mount in Matthew, Chapters 5 - 7 and using a magnificent study guide provided by some really smart people at our Board of World Missions, we will try to figure out what our role(s) as followers of Jesus Christ is(are) in problem areas such as clean water and sanitation, clean energy, climate action, "life below water," life on land, hunger, health and well-being, quality education, gender equality, justice, and strong institutions. We will explore how Jesus might want us to care for creation, care for each other, and care for right relationships.

Guided by the Board of World Missions' outline and resources, we assume a seminar-like wide-open discussion. All thoughts and opinions are welcome. And, just because we call it an Adult Bible Study does not mean we do not encourage teens, young adults and even kids who have an interest in what is going on in the world and how we think God expects us to respond. We'd be especially pleased if you invite your friends who are not members (yet) of CFMC.

All you have to do is show up at 9:00 Sunday morning. It's an exciting ride. Come and jump aboard with us.

Bakeless Bake Sale

The Women's Fellowship is asking for your support for a successful "Bakeless Bake Sale." There is no baking, selling, pickup, or delivery involved. What a great deal! Please make your contribution to the Women's Fellowship at any time in October, and indicate on the check memo line: "Women's Fellowship Bakeless Bake Sale."



Thank you

- Thank you to Megan Vanderbloemen and the youth for providing such an upbeat service for Camp Recap Sunday on September 27.
- Peg Landgraf and Toni Reigstad, thank you for your work cleaning the church facilities.
- Thank you to Bob Hudecek and Jerry Mayr for mowing the church, parsonage, and cemetery lawns, and to Bob for the detailed trimming.
- Thank you to Peggy Landgraf, Marlene Sobek, Shirley Block, Kay Kinderman, Lindsay Freye, and Toni Reigstad for providing fellowship during the month of September.
- Thanks go to Peggy Landgraf for caring for the flowers and cutting back the long branches from the tree near the Little Free Library.
- Thank you to Bev Bisbee for livestreaming our worship services each Sunday.
- Thank you to Peggy Landgraf and Lindsay Freye for updating our bulletin boards at church, and thank you to all who help cut out the leaves for the border.
- Appreciation goes to all those who helped fill the Joyful Noise cans to support our youth who attend Mt. Morris camps.
- Thank you to our music director, Jill Stephens, for sharing her gift of music each Sunday.

CFMC Watchword for 2026

"The righteous know the right of the poor."
Proverbs 29:7



Happy Birthday

11 – Crosby True
19 – Cheryl Mayr
21 – Pam Schultz
23 – Steve Quam
26 – Bryan Sobek
27 – Addison Vanderbloemen

Happy Anniversary

5 – Jerry & Cheryl Mayr
7 – Nick & Brittany Blecha
15 – Steve & Vicky Gouldthorp
15 – Ross & Amy Gilbertson

Fall Church Council

Immediately following worship, November 8, we will share in Fellowship as we enjoy our snacks and follow it with the Church Council meeting.

The focus of this Council is the review of the year to date numbers and the annual budget projected for 2027. In addition, we elect new Board members from a list of nominees to replace those who will be completing their term.

This fall we will need to elect 4 Elders (in which 1 will finish out Amy Andersen's term) and 2 Trustees. Elected board members will be installed in January to serve a 2-year term. If you wish to be considered - please reach out to one of the current board members.

Greater Things Now Women's Conference

Ladies, are invited to spend a wonderful day filled with faith, encouragement, fellowship, and inspiration!

Saturday, November 7, 2026

9:00 AM – 3:00 PM

Sun Prairie East High School
Performing Arts Center

Theme: Ask. Seek. Knock. — Matthew 7:7
Enjoy inspiring stories of faith shared by local women, uplifting music, fellowship, resource exhibitors, coffee, and lunch.

Tickets and group rates are available through the Greater Things Now website. See flyer on one of our church bulletin boards.

Laura Watson to Visit CFMC

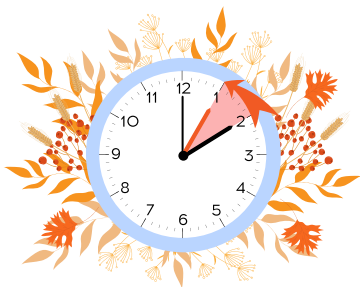
Your board of Trustees has been hard at work trying to determine which things around the church and parsonage need repair or replacement or just ordinary maintenance. They have developed a list of those items and have reached out to Laura Watson. Laura is the vice-president/director of programs for the Moravian Ministries Foundation. She is willing to help us gauge our level of interest and commitment in some or all of these items. This is a service provided to us at no charge.

Laura will be with us after the first of the year and would like to visit with each of our families/giving units. These would be in person meetings if at all possible and would be held at the church. If other arrangements need to be made, she can be flexible with that.

Please be looking for a mailing in the near future with more information about this exciting opportunity.

OCTOBER MINISTRY SCHEDULE

Date	Church Cleaner Coordinator: Peggy Landgraf	Worship Hosts Coordinators: Jerry Mayr & Bob Hudecek	Call to Worship	Scripture Reader	Fellowship Host
Oct. 4	Peggy Landgraf	Ken Glienke & Paul Vanderbloemen	John Scepaniski Psalm 80:7-15	Shirley Block Philippians 3:4b-14	Cheryl & Jerry Mayr
Oct. 11	Peggy Landgraf	Michelle & Mike Larkins	Bob Hudecek Psalm 23	Marty Karow Matthew 22:1-14	Volunteer Needed
Oct. 18	Kristi Thering	Bob Hudecek & Jerry Mayr	Peg Landgraf Psalm 96:1-13	Shirley Block Ephesians 2:14-22	Volunteer Needed
Oct. 25	Kristi Thering	Peg Landgraf & Volunteer	Kari Caulum Psalm 1	Marty Karow Matthew 22:34-46	Mike & Michelle Larkins



Daylight Savings ends on Sunday, November 1.
Don't forget to set your clocks back an hour before going to bed Saturday, October 31.

Board of Elders Highlights

September 7, 2026

- Opened with Devotions and Prayer; All read the Behavioral Covenant together
- Input from board members of our Homework assigned in August to identify various groups we wish to invite for a community conversation to better understand them.
- Discussed the Cup of Covenant service for September 13th and Camp Recap Sunday to be led by Megan on September 20th. [date was changed later to September 27th]
- Instead of having an assigned contemporary worship each month we will incorporate a contemporary song in every Sunday service.
- To shorten the overall length of service, the bell will ring five minutes prior to worship start time to signal Jill's playing of the Prelude.
- Confirmation classes are expected to begin soon after families with youth who qualify have responded.
- Sunday School will continue to be held after the Children's message during Worship. Volunteer teachers and a schedule will be assigned soon.
- Youth Activity Events were discussed and members who wish to be involved by offering an activity. A possible fall activity could be a mini mission day.
- Adult Bible Study on Sunday mornings at 9:00 am will be led by John Scepaniski and Thursday evening Bible Study at 6:30 pm led by Shirley Block.
- Approved August Meeting minutes and Pastor's report.
- Pastor Bruce asked what we want Pastoral Care Teams to look like so he can create training materials.
- A brief discussion about participation in Samaritan's purse to provide Shoe Box gifts was dropped as we prefer to participate in local missions.
- Reminded about the Little Free Library dedication ceremony is September 8th.
- Peggy will be redoing the Church Bulletin boards – one side dedicated to CFMC, one to the community.
- The next Board of Elders meeting will be October 5th

Your Giving Still Matters

Even if you join us virtually you can give online to support the ministries at Christian Faith Moravian Church. Visit our website: www.cfmoravianchurch.org and click on DONATE at the top of the page.

Joint Board Highlights

September 21, 2026

- Opened with Prayer, and all read the Behavioral Covenant
- Minutes were approved of the May 26th Meeting
- November 8th was selected for the Fall Church Council Meeting
- Joint Board members volunteered to serve on the Nominating Committee and the Budget Committee. Name of "at large" members to ask to participate in these committees were suggested.
- Kristi, as President of the Trustees, outlined possible capital improvement projects for which the Trustees have been acquiring budget quotes over the past several months.
- First impressions of our church building and property are important. Keeping things in good repair and making visual improvements shows that we care.
- Laura Watson of the MMFA had done a Zoom call with the Trustees recently and there is discussion of utilizing Laura to assist in determining the viability of doing a capital campaign.
- A listing of projects and rough budgets for both the parsonage and the church was presented to the Joint Board.
- A motion was made and accepted to bring Laura Watson in late October to discuss with the congregation annual/weekly giving and determine congregation's interest in going forward with a capital campaign.
- Pastor Bruce clarified some of his responsibilities vs Lay responsibilities.
- The Joint Board supported that funds raised from events will always include a portion for the church.

Christian Faith Moravian Church
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stamp

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



Socialize with Us!



LOOKING AHEAD

Thanksgiving Dinners

Volunteers are needed for Thanksgiving Meal preparation and delivery for shut in's on Wednesday, November 25th.
It's a fulfilling opportunity to be part of this mission.

Poinsettias

Our Sanctuary will once again be beautifully adorned with poinsettias this Christmas.
Poinsettias will be purchased from Klein's Garden and Gifts.
Orders will be due in early November.
Please keep watch for pricing information and sizes to be available soon.
