

THE MUSTARD SEED



September 6

Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Worship: 9:00 am

Scripture: Matthew 16:21-28

Sermon Title: "What If?"

September 13

Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Fall Kick Off Sunday

Worship: 10:30 am

Scripture: Romans 14:1-12

Theme: "Do Not Judge Another"

September 20

Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

Camp Recap Sunday/Joyful Noise Offering

Contemporary Worship

Guest Speaker: Megan Vanderbloemen

Scripture: Matthew 20:1-6

Sermon Title: TBD

September 27

Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Scripture: Phillippians 2:1-13

Sermon Title: "Whose Is It?"

Bruce's Babblings

Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

This month will see our students, teachers, bus drivers, and support staff returning to school for the 2026-27 school year. I encourage you to keep all these folks in your prayers. At the church we also revert to our fall schedule. That means worship (beginning on September 13) will start at 10:30 am. Adult Bible study will meet on Sundays at 9:00 am beginning on September 20 and Thursday Bible study begins September 17 at 6:30 pm. Please note the change in time which will allow our daytime workers to join us. Stay tuned for information about Sunday School. Your Board of Elders has talked about this and will be discussing it again at our September Elders meeting.

We will also be looking into the interest for a confirmation class for our students who are eligible for that. I will be contacting our youth to see if this is something that they would be interested in.

As I continue to transition into this new role, my plan is to concentrate on CFMC duties on Wednesdays and Fridays in addition to Sunday worship and evening meetings. My plan is to do most of my visits on Wednesdays and/or Fridays. I will also be in the office parts of those days. If you would like me to visit with you in your home, please reach out to me and let me know. I enjoy doing home visits but would be unable to do those on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays as I am doing hospice work on those days.

I want to highlight two very important worship services that you will not want to miss coming up in September. First, of all we will have our Fall Kickoff and Cup of Covenant service on Sunday, September 13. This service is an opportunity to recommit your life to Christ and to Christian Faith Moravian Church. Please see an article about the Cup of Covenant in this Mustard Seed Edition. On September 20 we will have camp recap Sunday. Megan Vanderbloemen will be planning this service and the message for the day will come from the campers and Megan. Please be here to experience these meaningful times together.

Serving Christ with you,

Pastor Bruce

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A Cup of Covenant Service for You

Pastor Bruce states the Moravian Church has, for years (since 1741), celebrated Covenanting day or a Cup of Covenant on September 16 or a date near to September 16 that is convenient for all to attend. This is a day when our pastors gather in geographical areas to renew their commitment to the church. This is a time of recommitment, fellowship, and an opportunity for our ordained leaders to support one another. One of the things that I find to be so enriching with this experience is having our retired pastors and often pastor's spouses join us for the cup of covenant.

I have thought for years that this Cup of Covenant experience is something that lay people also have an opportunity to experience. I believe that lay people are more important in the life of the church than our ordained leaders are. I have done a Cup of Covenant at some of the churches I have served in the past.

Years ago, we often used a common cup for the Cup of Covenant but more recently we use individual cups. We actually use communion cups but the Cup of Covenant should not be confused with communion. Holy Communion is a time for us to remember and accept God's unconditional love for us as we honor what Jesus did and continues to do for us. The Cup of Covenant is an opportunity for us to commit or re-commit ourselves to the local church and to the Lord. Please plan to join us for our Cup of Covenant at our 10:30am worship on September 13.

Digital Communication

If you're interested in receiving our weekly e-newsletter along with this monthly newsletter in a digital format, please reach out to our Communication Coordinator, Kari Caulum, at karilee.iluvlucy@gmail.com to be added to the mailing list.



Fall ADULT BIBLE STUDIES

at
Christian Faith Moravian Church

 Grow in faith.
Build community.
Deepen your
relationship
with God.

 **All are welcome!**

Learn • Connect • Be Inspired

Adult Bible Studies

Our Bible study groups offer a supportive, nurturing environment for individuals looking to deepen their faith. This fall, we are pleased to offer two Adult Bible Studies: One on Thursday evenings at 6:30 pm, beginning Thursday, September 17, and another on Sunday mornings at 9:00 am, starting Sunday, September 20.



Happy Birthday

2nd – Nancy Lapp; Kathy Brashi
8th – Doug Block
9th – Jason Mayr; Peggy Landgraf
11th – Rich Vanderbloemen
26th – Joyce Simon

Happy Anniversary

1st – Scott and Marie True
14th – Steve and Lisa Quam



Mt. Morris CAMP RECAP

SUNDAY

WILL BE Sunday, SEPTEMBER 20





Let's celebrate and remember all that God did this summer at camp!

Calling All Campers!

If you attended one of the Mt. Morris Camps this summer, this is your Sunday to share! We'd love to hear your camp experiences and stories.



Four times a year, we collect a "Joyful Noise Offering" to support the Youth Camp Fund. During this special time, the children walk through the congregation collecting coins (or cash) in metal cans, shaking them to make a joyful noise. All funds raised from these collections go directly toward our youth camp fund. Our next "Joyful Noise Offering" will be taken on Camp Recap Sunday which is Sunday, September 20th.

August Elders Meeting Recap

- Opened with Devotions, Prayer and Behavioral Covenant.
- Discussed Western District Northern Province statement in bulletin/website and helping members understand fringe groups.
- Upcoming services: Aug. 9-Pastor Bruce installation, Aug. 16-Lovefeast, Sept. 13 - Cup of Covenant Service with Fall Worship kickoff, Sept. 20- Camp Recap Sunday with Contemporary service and Joyful Noise offering for Youth Camps.
- Reviewed visitor registry book and fall Christian education.
- Recap on Corn & Brat Fest and decided it will now always be held the second Saturday of August.
- Approved Pastor's Report, Music Ministry Report, and July 6th Elder's Meeting minutes.
- Several topics tabled for next meeting.
- Next Board of Elders meeting date for September TBD.



Christian Education

Please watch for announcements about our Christian Education for children and for Confirmation classes for those in 6th grade and up who have not been Confirmed. We hope to have things up and running by the start of October.

SEPTEMBER MINISTRY SCHEDULE

Date	Church Cleaner Coordinator: Peggy Landgraf	Worship Hosts Coordinators: Jerry Mayr & Bob Hudecek	Call to Worship	Scripture Reader	Fellowship Host
Sept. 6	Ken Glienke & Peggy Landgraf	Rich & Laurie Vanderbloemen	Peg Landgraf Psalm 119:33-40	Marty Karow Romans 13:8-14	Peggy Landgraf
Sept. 13	Toni Reigstad	Doug & Shirley Block	Kari Caulum Psalm 103:8-13	Shirley Block Romans 14:1-12	Volunteer Needed
Sept. 20	Toni Reigstad	Daniel Block & Terry Miller	Megan Vanderbloemen Psalm 145:1-8	Paige Michels Matthew 20:1-6	Volunteer Needed
Sept. 27	Peggy Landgraf	Bob Hudecek & Kristi Thering	Shirley Block PSalm 25:1-5	Kari Caulum Phillippians 2:1-13	Volunteer Needed

Thank you

- A sincere thank you to Kristi Thering and Shirley Block for their commitment to cleaning the church this August.
- We are also grateful to Peggy Landgraf, the Joint Board, Marlene Sobek, John Scepanski, Sandi Newell and Toni Reigstad and Ken Glienke, Joyce Simon and Kay Kinderman for hosting fellowship.
- Our heartfelt appreciation extends to Jerry Mayr and Bob Hudecek for their diligent work mowing the church and parsonage lawns during August.
- We are grateful for volunteers, and contributors for making the Corn & Brat Fest a success. Special thanks to Peggy Landgraf and Shirley Block who coordinated the event.
- Special thanks to the Gary Mayr family for generously providing all the corn for the Corn & Brat Fest.
- Thank you to Bev Bisbee for running our livestreams each Sunday.
- Thank you to Marlene Sobek for baking cookies for the Lovefeast and to Kari Caulum and Shirley Block for serving.
- Thank you to Peggy Landgraf for caring for the potted flowers and those planted in the alcove.

Supporting Faith in Action

Congratulations to our own Sister Megan Vanderbloemen, who will complete her 3-month summer student pastoral internship with Common Grace and the Glenwood Moravian Community Church in Madison at the end of this month. Sister Vanderbloemen's supervising pastors were the Rev. Staci Marrese-Wheeler from Common Grace and the Rev. James Heroux from Glenwood.

October Webinar Opportunity

The Western District Executive Board is hosting a free Moravian history webinar in October for anyone interested in learning more about Moravian history and how it can apply to today's culture and context. The Rev. Dr. Craig Atwood, former professor of Moravian History and Theology at Moravian Seminary and current pastor at Home Moravian Church in Winston-Salem, NC will host two teaching sessions, and a third session will be hosted by the District Board about how we apply Brother Atwood's teachings to our current congregational ministries. Further program details will be in the September Moravian Monthly, but for now save these dates! Monday October 5th, Monday October 12th, and Monday October 19th at 7:00 pm CT.



Instead of using cash, checks, or your credit card when you purchase goods or services, did you know you could use SCRIP gift cards? The great thing about SCRIP is that you can use it for everyday purchases like groceries, gas, prescriptions, gifts, and more. You won't be spending any more money than you already do—you'll simply be helping to raise funds to support the church as we get a percentage from each gift card sold. Scrip order forms are available in the narthex. Please also indicate "Scrip" on the memo line of your check. Visit our website at www.cfmoravianchurch.org or talk to our coordinator, Laurie Vanderbloemen, for more information.

Christian Faith Moravian Church
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stamp

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



Socialize with Us!



The Northern Province of the Moravian Church in America equips people and congregations to be agents of God's transforming love in the world. No matter who you are or how you identify, you are embraced and affirmed by God's expansive love.