



The Belfry

News of Central Moravian Church, Bethlehem, Pennsylvania

February 2012

An Invitation to “Live Our Faith:” Upcoming Congregational Forum and Lenten Series

This fall, our Stewardship Committee created a different way to look at the church budget called a Mission and Ministry overview. All members received a copy of the brochure along with a pledge card and letter last November. Based on last year's numbers, we divided the ministries of the church into five main categories and including staff salaries, figured out the percentage of our efforts on each. For many of us, this reflects a much more accurate picture of what our efforts and money are doing in our church, our community and our world!

These five categories of our church's ministries; Mission, Worship & Music, Congregational Care & Outreach, Christian Education & Youth, and Facilities & Administration should also be the starting point of our visioning and planning together for the future of our congregation. What are we doing now - and where would we like to go in the future? Where do we fit into these ministries?

Join us for a **congregational forum on Sunday, February 26** from 2 - 4 p.m. in Nitschmann Hall of the Christian Education building (lower level) to explore each of these topics further and lend your voice as our Joint Board looks to a visioning process this spring. Our Eastern District President, the Rev. David Bennett, will lead and moderate our discussion.

Living our Faith: A Lenten Ministry Exploration

Dinners at 6 p.m., Speaker/Discussion at 7 p.m. (both located in Nitschmann Hall, lower level of the Christian Education building, unless otherwise noted)

February 29: Mission

The Rev. Tracy Robinson of the Moravian bilingual Bethlehem church start Esperanza will discuss his ministry and lead a discussion in mission.

March 7: Christian Education

The Rev. Dr. Steve Simmons, director of Continuing Education at the Moravian Theological Seminary, will ask how we educate and the importance of Christian education for all ages.

March 14: Congregational Care and Outreach

The Rev. Dr. Riddick Weber, professor of pastoral ministry at the Moravian Theological Seminary, will lead a discussion on caring for our neighbor.

March 21: Facilities and Administration

Jeff Long, architectural historian and Central member, will explore some of the historic uses of our buildings, while asking us to think about how we might continue to use our buildings for the ministry of the present day.

March 28: Worship and Music (program in the Old Chapel)

Director of Music Rebecca Kleintop Owens and Harpist Andrea Wittchen will lead the congregation in the experience of contemplative worship with quiet and reflective music centering on hymns and spiritual songs.

Our congregational forum also marks the beginning of the Lenten season. As we look forward each year to weekly Wednesdays Lenten gatherings for fellowship, dinner, and discussion, we again turn to our five categories of ministry to guide our discussions

together after dinner each week. Rather than meeting in the Old Chapel, please note that most of our gatherings will take place in Nitschmann Hall right after the dinner. We hope that you will join us along our Lenten journey as we live our faith together.

Come See the Dead Sea Scrolls!

Under the leadership of Dr. Ben Wright, a religious studies University Distinguished professor at Lehigh University, all are invited for a special trip to New York City to see the Dead Sea Scrolls exhibit. At 12 p.m. (immediately after the 11 a.m. service) on Sunday, March 11, a Transbridge bus will pick us up in the C.E. parking lot for a trip to the Discovery Museum in Times Square, New York City.

The museum is displaying hundreds of biblical era artifacts along with the Dead Sea Scrolls which explore life in ancient Israel at the time the Hebrew Bible was composed through the period when the Dead Sea Scrolls were authored and eventually hidden. The exhibition will provide a unique window into the period when the traditions we know as Judaism and Christianity emerged from ancient Israel.

Following an afternoon visit to the museum and explanation of the Dead Sea Scrolls exhibit with Ben, we will be free for dinner in the immediate area before leaving at 7 p.m. and returning to Bethlehem by 8:30 or 9 p.m. A boxed lunch and beverage will be included. The cost for this trip is \$45 (including lunch but not dinner.) Space is limited; please reserve your spot by contacting the church office.

Sunday Morning Specials

This winter and spring, Sojourners and the Christian Education Committee are joining together to offer short study groups on a variety of faith topics. As our Travelers' Together discussion group comes to a close on February 19, we hope that you will note the following classes and join us! No need to sign up; come to Nitschmann Hall (CE building, lower level) at 10 a.m.

February 26 and March 4: "Encounters with Women Mystics" Led by Emily Wallace

"Women like Catherine of Sienna or Teresa of Avila had to struggle just as hard as women do today to balance the claims of family against the equally passionate claims of their own emerging selves and the absolute need to time and silence that these claims dictate." (Carol Lee Flinders, *Enduring Grace*.) We will encounter strong and amazing women mystics in our sessions; Hildegard of Bingen and Mechthild of Magdeburg.

March 11: "Exploring the Dead Sea Scrolls"

Dr. Ben Wright of Lehigh University will explain these important documents found in the mid-20th century, some scrolls being the oldest known copies of Biblical and extra-biblical documents. Following the 11 a.m. church service this day, all are invited to see some of the Dead Sea Scrolls in New York City.

March 18 - April 1 "Moravian Theology 101"

Rev. Dr. Craig Atwood presents a three week class covering the theology of the Ancient Unity, Zinzendorf, and the modern Moravian Church.

Upcoming Educational Opportunities in the Community

The Moravian Seminary presents the Weber Memorial Lectures on March 9 from 9:30 - 2:30 p.m. This free lecture will feature Gil Rendle speaking on "Conversation as Courageous Discernment for a Wilderness Time." Learn more about holy conversation and how we might discern God's will in the church community.

Also consider continuing education in a lay leadership program called "CrossRoads" offered by the seminary. This semester they will offer "The Story of Christianity," "Unpacking the Scriptures - Discipleship," and a class on identifying your skills and gifts. For more information please contact the seminary at 610-861-1516 or www.moravianseminary.edu

The Institute for Jewish-Christian Understanding offers free luncheon discussion programs the first Friday of each month at 12 p.m. in Seegers Union of Muhlenberg College. February's program on February 3 will feature a discussion on "The Arab Spring."

Comenius Forum

The Comenius Forum, held each 3rd Sunday of the month, will offer a look at the poet Robert Frost. Moravian College Professor Emeritus Dr. Bob Burcaw will lead a discussion on "Robert Frost: The Last Iconic Great American Poet" on February 19 at 12:30 p.m. in the Old Chapel. Light refreshments will be provided as we begin.

Youth Group Schedules Winter and Spring Events!

Attention 6th - 12th graders: Mark your calendars for our Winter/Spring 2012 events. We would love to have you join us!

February 25 - Pancake Breakfast
7:30 am-11:30 am

March 2 - Snowtubing with Edgeboro Moravian at Blue Mountain from 4pm-10 pm

March 11 - T-shirt sale fund-raiser
9:45am-11am and after the 11am service

April 7 - Flowers on God's Acre at 9 am and breakfast to follow

May 6 - Luncheon at noon to inform our congregation of what the Youth Group has been up to!

June 18-20 - Youth Service Days
(tentative dates)

Contact Katie with any questions
(ktjs686@rcn.com or 610-428-9231)

Blanket Sunday

On Sunday, February 5, we will hold our annual Blanket Sunday appeal to the congregation. Church World Services, who has provided help to individuals throughout the world for over 60 years, will put your donation to good use in providing assistance for victims of natural disasters or working to move people out of poverty.

Consider making a donation in church on February 5 or send your donation to the office (payable to Central, memo: Blanket Sunday).

Children's Opportunities: Hungry for Pancakes?

Holy Communion Workshop

Are your children curious about the practice of Holy Communion? Have you wanted to explain this sacrament to them and the practices of the congregation? All children are invited to this special session of Church School in Benigna Auditorium on Sunday, February 5, at 10 a.m, to learn more about the practice of Holy Communion. Resources will be also shared to help you discuss, as a family, the age in which you would like your child to partake. Please ask Pastor Janel for more information.

Help Fill the Ark

Learn about some of the animals on Noah's Ark and how they can change the life of a poor family! On Sunday, February 26 at 10 a.m., Mary Wright will present a church school workshop on the work of Heifer International in giving animals to help families find sustainable income and hope.

This special project will help us begin the season of Lent with easy and fun daily devotionals to help us awareness of global poverty and how we can help even with small donations. A perfect Lenten devotional for your family! For more information please contact Pastor Janel.

Our youth group will be presenting a pancake breakfast on Saturday, February 25 from 8:30 to 10:30 a.m. in the lower level of the Christian Education building. Come hungry! Lots of variety, side meats, and coffee/tea for a low price!

Proceeds from the breakfast will pay the school fees as we continue to sponsor an albino student named Daniel in Sikonge, Tanzania, who attends a special school which keeps him safe. Youth helpers, please arrive at 7:30 a.m. to set up. Community service hours available. Contact Katie with any questions (ktjs686@rcn.com or 610-428-9231.)

It's a Birthday Celebration!

Celebrate your birthday with a congregational lunch and cake at our February 5 Birthday Social. Join us after church in the C.E. Building for a light lunch supplied by the Busy Workers and lots of cake! We are looking for 12 (or more) cakes, one for each month of the year. Look to the sign-up sheet in church or call or e-mail the church office. Everyone gets to sit at their birthday table and enjoy their cake (or sample the other ones too!) Sponsored by the Church Family Life Committee.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<h1>February 2012</h1>						
Location Key CE - Christian Education Building BA - Benigna Auditorium CE CR - Conference Room NH - Nitschmann Hall ZP - Zinzendorf Parlor CS - Sanctuary OC - Old Chapel LL - Lower Level 73 W CR - Church Office Conference Room CSE - Christian Spring Estate			1 6:45 Men Bible NH 9:30 Busy Workers OC LL 10 Cynthia's Btq 73 W Rear 7 Travelers ZP	2 6 Handbell Reh. KS 7 Choir Reh. CS	3	4 5 AA, BA
5 Food Bank/Coffee Blanket Sun. 10 Travelers NH 12:15 Birthday Social NH 7 AA, BA	6	7 9 Sewing, 73 W CR 6 Music Comm. ZP	8 6:45 Men Bible NH 9:30 Busy Workers OC LL 10 Cynthia's Btq 73 W Rear 7 Travelers ZP	9 6 Handbell Reh. KS 7 Choir Reh. CS	10 7:30 Two Part Invention Concert OC	11 5 AA, BA
12 Blood Pressure Clinic OC/CS 10 Travelers NH 12:15 Confirmation CE 7 AA, BA	13	14 9 Sewing, 73 W CR 9 Comenius CE CR 12 Bach at Noon CS 7 Elders' OC	15 6:45 Men Bible NH 8 Peanut Makers Kit 9:30 Busy Workers OC LL 10 Cynthia's Btq 73 W Rear 7 Travelers ZP 7 Trustees' OC	16 10 Knitting 73 W CR 6 Handbell Reh. KS 7 Choir Reh. CS	17	18 10-12 Food Bank 73 W Rear 5 AA, BA
19 10 Travelers NH 12:30 Comenius OC 7 AA, BA	20 Office Closed	21 9 Sewing, 73 W CR 7:30 BAM Annual Meeting Advent Moravian	22 Ash Wednesday 6:45 Men Bible NH 9:30 Busy Workers OC LL 10 Cynthia's Btq 73 W Rear 7 Ash Wednesday service CS	23 6 Handbell Reh. KS 7 Choir Reh. CS	24	25 8:30-10:30 Pancake Breakfast NH 5 AA, BA
26 First Sunday in Lent Communion 2 Congregational Forum CE NH 7 AA, BA	27	28 9 Sewing, 73 W CR 9 Comenius CE CR 7 Social Action Comm. CE CR	29 6:45 Men Bible NH 9:30 Busy Workers OC LL 10 Cynthia's Btq 73 W Rear 6 Lenten Dinner CE 7 Lenten Prog CE			

Need Some Help? Have a Few Hours to Give?

Did you ever hear of a local organization called ShareCare which provides caregiving assistance to those who need help at no cost? Through transportation, light chores, visitation, shopping, yardwork, etc., ShareCare looks to help to promote independence and improve the quality of life.

If you have a few hours a week that you can help ShareCare by being a volunteer for any of these opportunities, they will train you, provide insurance, and be a support system for your work. Please contact Pastor Janel or look for information at the Lenten dinners as well as in church during Lent.

Vintage to Vogue Fashion Show

Take a walk down Memory Lane on March 24 from 12-2:30 p.m. for a Vintage to Vogue Fashion Show: "A Day in the City" at Moravian Village. Fashions provided by PHYLLIS Vintage jewelry clothing and accessories. Music by Becky Owens.

All proceeds will go to help the International Kindergarten in Nepal through The Nepali Moravian Outreach. Last year was a sold out event, so don't wait too long to get your ticket. Tickets are \$30. Contact: Alice Mosebach: 610-625-4576 or alicem40@ptd.net.

Busy Workers' Cookbook Corrections

Nobody's perfect and to prove the point, we need to make two corrections in the Busy Workers' Cookbook. If you've given books as gifts, please notify your friends and family also.

Page 4: Recipe for Sausage Dip

Add 1 cup of sour cream to the list of ingredients.

Page 132: Recipe for Ricotta Cookies - add 4 cups flour to the list of cookie ingredients. Flour should be added with the other dry ingredients, before adding the ricotta cheese.

Worship in February

9 a.m. in the Old Chapel

11 a.m. in the Sanctuary

February 5 - Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

Sermon: The Rev. Carol A. Reifinger

February 12 - Sixth Sunday after Epiphany

Sermon: The Rev. Janel R. Rice

February 19 -

Sermon: The Rev. Carol A. Reifinger

February 22 - Ash Wednesday

7:00 p.m. Worship - Sanctuary

Meditation: The Rev. Janel R. Rice

February 26 - First Sunday of Lent

Holy Communion

Meditation: The Rev. Carol A. Reifinger

It's Not Too Late to Pledge

It's not too late to submit your pledge card for 2012 envelope giving. Your pledge does not have to be on the printed pledge card, a simple note will be fine. You can send it to the office, place it in the offering plate on a Sunday morning, or email the office at office@centralmoravianchurch.org.

Please help the church know how to plan for the 2012 budget year! Thank you.

The Belfry Deadline
Articles for the March *Belfry* are due in the church office by February 3.

A Jamaican Feast

Central Moravian Church
Choir Trip

On Tuesday, December 27, twenty-four Moravians gathered in the C.E. Parking Lot at 2:30 a.m. to travel from the Philadelphia Airport to Montego Bay in Jamaica. We arrived at 9:30 a.m. and for the first day, we enjoyed the beautiful Jamaican sunshine, sand and ocean as we stayed at the all-inclusive Ibersotar Hotel. On Wednesday, we traveled in two vans and enjoyed a pig roast in St. Leonards. That evening, we presented a concert in St. Elizabeth at the Springfield Moravian Church, a beautiful church on the top of a gorgeous mountain. The church was built in 1847, but was founded in the 1750s as a Moravian mission to the large slave population. Following the concert, we traveled the windy, mountainous roads to Mandeville.

On Thursday, we had the unique experience of observing the enthusiastic celebration of the Jamaican National Election. Throughout the country, the Jamaican people wore green or orange clothing, depending on the candidate they supported. Since no formal public gatherings were allowed on Election Day, we were unable to present a concert, so instead, we traveled to the North Coast of Jamaica where many of the group climbed the scenic Dunn's River Falls and enjoyed lunch at the Ruins Restaurant. That evening, we traveled back to Mandeville and because of the huge crowds of excited Jamaicans celebrating the victory of Sister Portia, our vans weren't able to drive to the hotels, so all twenty-four of us walked



the remaining distance through the crowds of celebrants and military from the heart of the city of Mandeville to our nearby hotel. We all agreed that the enthusiastic participation of the Jamaican voting process was absolutely inspiring!

On Friday morning, we checked out of our Mandeville hotel and were treated to a marvelous tour of the National Institute of Jamaica. That afternoon, we checked into the Pegasus Hotel in Kingston, and then traveled onto Covenant Moravian Church where we presented another concert. Following the concert, we were treated to a delicious dinner at the Morris Knibb Moravian Prep School.

On Saturday, (New Year's Eve), we experienced Juici Patties, a Jamaican fast food establishment. Delicious!! We traveled back to Mandeville for a concert at the New Beulah Moravian Church where we helped celebrate the 150th anniversary of the Bethlehem Moravian College. Afterwards, we enjoyed a catered dinner in the Fellowship Hall and had a wonderful time getting to know our gracious Jamaican hosts. We returned to Kingston that evening, where some of group attended the Watchnight Service at Redeemer Moravian Church while others stayed back and enjoyed the fireworks display from our hotel. On New Year's Day, we celebrated a three hour worship service and Holy

Communion (with Rt. Rev. Hopeton Clennon presiding) at the Harbour View Moravian Church. The choir sang several pieces as a part of this worship experience and I even got to play some hymns and play along with their praise band musicians. Following the worship

service, we boarded our vans and traveled to Port Royal where we enjoyed yet another wonderful feast of seafood before flying from Kingston to Montego Bay, and then concluding our journey home to Philadelphia. We arrived back in Bethlehem on New Year's Day at 11:30 p.m.

We were so thankful for the many months of planning by Rt. Rev. Hopeton Clennon and Alice and Craig Mosebach. What a powerful team!! We were equally blessed by the presence of Hopeton Clennon and his delightful wife, Sheilia throughout the entire trip. Their joy, enthusiasm, warmth, guidance, and spiritual leadership were evident throughout the entire journey. Every last need was taken care of, and we surely felt like sheep in a loving Shepherd's flock! We drove over 300 miles and experienced all three counties of Jamaica. The food was extraordinary. Everywhere we went, we were treated to ackee and saltfish, boiled rice and peas, jerk pork, jerk chicken, curried goat, boiled bananas, and the group's favorite, a Christmas drink called sorrel.

What a Jamaican feast! We were overwhelmed by the beauty of the country and most especially, the extraordinary energy, friendliness and hospitality of the Jamaican Moravian congregations. Not only

were our physical bodies fed, but so were our spiritual bodies as we worshiped together through daily devotions, singing hymns and anthems, and worshiped in different Moravian Churches. We were reminded of the privilege we have in being able to worship with our Moravian brothers and sisters, and that regardless of culture, distance, worship styles, or language, “We are all one body, we have the same Spirit, and we have all been called to the same glorious future. There is only one Lord, one faith, one baptism, and there is only one God and Father, who is over us all and in us all and living through us all.” Ephesians 4: 4,5

Musical Notes

Rebecca Owens, Director of Music
RAKLEINTOP@hotmail.com

The Central Handbell Ensemble under the direction of Jeanne Bednarik, rehearses on Thursday evenings at 6 pm in the Kleiner Saal. If you are interested in ringing, please call Jeanne Bednarik at 610-974-8332 or email her at jmbednarik@yahoo.com.

Central Moravian Brass Choir under the direction of Caitlin Worrich, plays the second Sunday of every month at the 11 a.m. worship service, and will play on Sunday, February 12. If you play a brass instrument and would like to play with this ensemble, please contact Caitlin Worrich at Caitlin.worrich@gmail.com.

New singers are always welcome in both the **Chapel Choir**, (9 a.m. worship service) directed by Richard Miller, and the **Central Choir** (11 a.m. worship service) directed by

Becky Owens. Please contact either Becky Owens or Richard Miller for more information and for a rehearsal schedule.

Chamber Music in the Old Chapel – Friday, February 10 at 7:30 p.m. Enjoy the wonderful music of Two Part Invention duo Nora Suggs, flute and John Arnold, guitar, as they perform repertoire ranging from J. S. Bach and historic Moravian music to Argentine tangos and modern commissioned works. There is a suggested donation of \$10.

A New Price on Central Moravian Church Music CDs Central Moravian Church Music CDs will continue to be available at the recently discounted price of \$5 each. Thank you to Kelly Knapp for her superb record keeping of both the accounting and inventory, and thank you to members of the congregation who supported this form of music ministry during November and December! CDs are available for purchase at this discounted price in the church office.

Music Committee Meeting: Tuesday, February 6 at 6 p.m. Llyena Boylan, Chair of the Music Committee

a church mouse report

and hello
and greetings
and this report highlights the christian angelic hierarchy and though there are many the mosttraditional and familiar and standard of the western christian world is the hierarchy described by pseudo-dionysius in the 4th and 5th centuries

and dionysius describes the angelic hierarchy as having three spheres and each sphere having three ranks or choirs of angels
and think of a sphere as a celestial body with a range of action or influence
and the ranks as levels of importance within the sphere and all nine ranks are generically known as angels
and the first two spheres have influence in the heavenly realm and the third sphere has influence in the earthly realm
and the first sphere consists of the heavenly counselors
and these are angels in the constant presence of god
and the second sphere consists of the heavenly governors
and these angels carry out the decrees of the first sphere of angels
and oversee the third sphere of angels
and in the third sphere of angels are the heavenly messengers
and these are the only angels in contact with humankind
and they protect and guide humanity
and bring our prayers to god
and next months report will explain the functions of the nine ranks
and jesus and gods angels love you
and so do i





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February 2012

Central Moravian Church
73 West Church Street
Bethlehem PA 18018

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Office Hours: 8:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m., Mon. - Fri.
Closed for Lunch 12-12:30 p.m.

Pastoral Staff:

Carol A. Reifinger
Janel R. Rice

Facilities Administrator:

Tom Tenges

Music Staff:

Rebecca Kleintop Owens
Richard T. Miller

Youth Ministry:

Katie Stehly

Office Staff:

Mary J. Wisneski

Financial Secretary:

George Mowers

Sexton:

John Geier

Church Journal

Baptisms

January 8 - Gavin Kret

In Memoriam

December 23 - Patricia Hunter

January 4 - Ann Getz

January 4 - Barry Zug

Moravian Women February Meetings

Group 1	2nd Wed., Feb. 8	12:30 p.m.	73 W. C. R.
Group 2	2nd Wed., Feb. 8	7:00 p.m.	C. E. Building
Group 3	2nd Wed., Feb. 8	9:30 a.m.	Nitschmann Hall
Group 4 & 5	2nd Mon., Feb. 13	10:00 a.m.	Chapel LL
Group 6	3rd Thurs. Feb. 16	12 p.m.	Chapel LL
Group 7	2nd Sun., Feb. 12	10:00 a.m.	73 W. Parlor

The next Board Meeting will be February 27, at 7 p.m.
in the the Christian Education Building Conference Room

2012 Church Directory Update

We are in the process of updating the church directory for 2012. We hope to mail it out in March. If you have any changes to your family's information, please call or e-mail the church office. Some examples of changes are address; cell phone number, e-mail, marriage, children or anything else you can think of to keep our directory and our database up to date.