



The Belfry

News of Central Moravian Church, Bethlehem, Pennsylvania

February 2023

Worship in February

9 a.m. in the Chapel
10 a.m. Sunday School in the C. E. building
11 a.m. in the Sanctuary

February 5 - Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany

Sermon: Bishop Hopeton Clennon

February 12 - Sixth Sunday after the Epiphany

Sermon: The Rev. Maggie Wellert

February 19 - Last Sunday after the Epiphany

Sermon: Bishop Hopeton Clennon

February 22 - Ash Wednesday

Supper in Christian Education building at 6 p.m.

Worship in the Old Chapel at 7 p.m.

Worship Leader: The Rev. Maggie Wellert

February 26 - First Sunday in Lent Holy Communion

Sermon: Bishop Hopeton Clennon

Welcome New Staff

Mike Repsher is a carpenter, born in Bethlehem, who has lived in Nazareth. Talk about pressure! He joined our facilities staff on January 9th as a member of the team with Tammy Ace, led by Jeff Griffis. Mike covers the evening shift with special responsibilities for maintenance, repairs, and security. As a carpenter and painter, Mike has a passion for the restoration of older buildings. Fortunately for us!



Mike is a graduate of Freedom High School and Bethlehem Area Vocational Technical School. He loves the outdoors—hiking and mountain biking. He played rugby in Bethlehem for 20 years and is the father of two middle schoolers.

Numbers

In the church office, we are knee-deep in statistical reviews. Looking at 2022, what do the numbers tell us about membership and meaning, attendance and ministry, finances and mission?

Central Moravian Church gives thanks to God for the faithful life, witness, and service of eleven members entering the more immediate presence of their Lord and Savior in 2022. Over those twelve months, three members transferred to other churches and another three were removed at their request by the Board of Elders—five of whom relocated to other states.

Central Moravian Church rejoices with our active saints. Nine were received as new members. Another three were readmitted to membership at their request to the Board of Elders. As for baptisms, we celebrated this sacrament for twelve of our youngest members ranging from age five months to four years. Our prayers are with their parents along with the obligation to love and nurture these children in Christ.

Only one of our members who passed away in 2022 was baptized as a baby at Central. Almost three months old at baptism. Nineteen years old at death. The average age of the other ten members are age 43 at joining Central and age 89 at death. The average length of their membership is 46 years. Numbers!

And yet, behind these numbers lay wonderful memories of fellowship past and boundless potential for life-changing ministries into the future. May it be so.

— Pastor Hopeton

2023 BAM Annual Meeting

All members of Central Moravian Church are invited to attend the annual meeting of the Bethlehem Area Moravians at East Hills Moravian Church (1830 Butztown Road) on Tuesday, February 21, at 6:30 p.m. This will be hybrid format. You may contact the church office for the Zoom link.

Drive-By Drop-Off Donations

Volunteers will be at the Christian Education building parking lot off New Street on Sunday, February 5 from 8:30 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. to receive your donations of food, fall and winter clothing, diapers (newborn through adults) for Cynthia's Boutique and plastics for the TREX challenge rain or shine, but not if Bethlehem is under a "snow emergency".

Food Pantry items appreciated include: flour, sugar, ground coffee, tea, canned fruits, canned vegetables and/or soups of all kinds, ketchup, pasta sauces, mustard, cake mixes, toilet paper, soap bars. Any other items you wish to donate. These items supplement the food received from Second Harvest. We all have been impacted by supply chain issues, and your donations are appreciated by the Food Pantry Clients and go a long way towards moving clients forward in combating Food Insecurity.



Pancake Breakfast - February 11

We are resuming the annual mission trip to Jamaica, March 4-11, 2023. Pastor Hopeton will be traveling with six members including four youth: Christian Ferry, Ruth Ferry, Kayla Roman, and Zach Roman. We are depending on your support of the pancake breakfast fundraiser on Saturday, February 11 from 8:30 - 10:30 a.m. on the lower level of the Christian Education building. Special thanks to Pam Larimer for coordinating this amazing breakfast experience. Please invite friends and neighbors. Suggested donation is \$10 per person and we are relying on your generosity.

Update on Call Process

The Joint Board continues its work with the Eastern District Executive Board led by Melissa Johnson in extending a call for an Associate Pastor. To maintain the confidentiality for all potential candidates, it bears repeating that the process needs to remain confidential. Our Congregation is highly engaged in close relationships within the Moravian community, and there is a great curiosity to see the path forward to our future. We clearly hear the desire for some information about the call process. We offer to share some context for our call process. Many of you are already aware of these circumstances.

A scarcity of clergy has had a considerable impact on the process. At Central, we have had the luxury of two full time pastors in our recent history. The Central Moravian Congregation and Joint Board continue to see the need for two pastors. Some churches, however, are awaiting a single pastor or are sharing clergy. We have learned that the call process now takes more time than boards and churches have been accustomed to in the past.

Nonetheless, we remain focused on the needs of Central Church and comforted by the lead of the Holy Spirit. We look forward to this work as it continues into 2023. Please pray for the Joint Board as they continue the process.

Now Soliciting "Selfies" for Central's 2023 Pictorial Membership Directory

If you weren't able to have your portrait picture taken by Lisa Arnold on November 20 or December 4 and do not have your picture in one of our three earlier pictorial directories, please consider submitting a high resolution digital photograph of yourself for our 2023 pictorial membership directory. "Selfies" should be emailed to Lisa Arnold at (lisawardarnold@verizon.net) with a copy to Cindy at the church office (office@centralmoravianchurch.org). ***The deadline for submitting "Selfies" is February 28.***

The technical requirements for submitted photographs are:

1. Photos should be taken in (or cropped to) the horizontal format, also known as landscape format.
2. Photos must have a minimum resolution of 200 dpi at 2.5(h) x 3(w) inches. Higher resolutions are welcome of course! Photos taken or copied from the web at "web" resolution (72 dpi) cannot be used.

— Membership Committee

“Create Deep in Me” Midweek Lent 2023 Supper at 6 p.m.—Program at 7 p.m.

We are deeply grateful to be able to return to our in-person Lenten Suppers and Study this year, with various groups of the congregation providing our weekly meal.

Ash Wednesday falls on February 22 this year and will be the opening day of our six week series. We will gather for dinner at **6:00 p.m. in Nitschmann Hall** and then convene in the Old Chapel for a traditional Ash Wednesday **Worship at 7:00 p.m.** Ashes will be available for those who wish to share in that ancient Christian practice.

March 1: After sharing a meal, we will gather in the Old Chapel to learn from Br. Micah Sadigh. His topic is “Spirituality as A Source of Meaning and an Instrument for Healing.” His presentation will introduce the Cloud of Unknowing, contemplative prayer, the meaning of healing.

March 8, 15, and 22 we will have various presenters, including Pastor Maggie Wellert. We will move into the meaning of Lent, the significance of prayer as part of our Lenten devotion, and share in some older prayer practices.

We will introduce the practice of contemplative prayer, as introduced by Brother Micah, and share in devotional ways of engaging with Scripture readings, either individually or in small groups.

This will include guided imagery—imagining yourself in a story, and what you learn from that experience.

We will also work with an African Bible Study method from the Anglican Church, a variation of the monastery practice of “lectio divina,” holy reading.

On the last evening of the series, **March 29**, after we break bread together, we will close our time with a Contemplative Worship in the Old Chapel.

The invitation of “Create Deep in Me,” is to expand our heart relationship with God, to notice a closer connection, and share in God’s deepening Presence in life.

Feel free to join us for any or all of these Midweek Lenten services.

Awakened Hearts

Awakened Hearts: A Wisdom Way of Knowing Prayer Circle, will be meeting on the **THIRD** Thursday of the month beginning on February 21 at 10:00 am.

Our group meets for about an hour and a half sharing in our faith journeys through prayer, Scripture, singing, and faith conversation.

We welcome you to join us any month you are available. Here is the Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83144436453?pwd=RGNsTGppTDR1MFA5c2h4RzlhOUxvUT09>

If you have any questions, please be in touch with Pastor Maggie.

The Essentials Café

The Essentials Café is a Pay-What-You-Can Community Café located in the former parsonage of West Side Moravian Church at 408 3rd Avenue in Bethlehem. It is being developed by a group of Moravian pastors and volunteers from Edgeboro Moravian Church, College Hill Moravian Church, and West Side

Moravian Church. Their mission is to provide people with nutritious food regardless of their ability to pay in an environment conducive to fostering meaningful and supportive relationships.

The organizers are currently forming teams of supporters to grow herbs and vegetables, to secure food donations, and to be caretakers of the facility. Your skills to help renovate the site are welcome. Besides monetary contributions, they have a wish list of items needed to open the restaurant...from napkins and tables, to a commercial coffee maker. For more information, please contact Pastor Tammie Rinker at 610-865-0256 or tammierinker@gmail.com.



BAM Freezer Ministry

You are invited to the Bethlehem Area Moravian Freezer Ministry Ecumenical Gathering on Saturday, February 25, from Noon - 2 p.m. at East Hills Moravian Church, 1830 Butztown Road, Bethlehem PA 18017.

Enjoy a lunch of soup, salad, and bread and...

Hear the story of the Freezer Ministry:

- 55,000 meals to date and growing every year
- A little Ministry made strong during Covid

Hear from some of our partner ministries:

- Bethlehem Emergency Sheltering
- Weekend Bagged Lunch Program at Christ UCC Church
- Sole Sistas, an amazing support group for cancer recovery patients
- The Essentials Café – the new ministry on the block next to West Side Moravian Church. A pay as you can café, where all are welcome

Main Program:

- Explore the expansion of the Freezer Ministry
- Our connection to Second Harvest & Feed America
- Where will the next Freezer Outpost be located
- 15 new Vegetable Stand days in 2023
- Involving Youth and Young Adults
- The Freezer Ministry as a partner Ministry
- How one can get involved
- Questions and Answers
- Additional items

We finish with opportunities to:

- Meet people from all the ministries
- Get to know other interested and involved people
- Sign Up for helping

Please let us know if you can attend. Reserve your spot by February 21. Contact Bob Wingrove, BAM Freezer Ministry Coordinator, at cell: 610-730-3929, answering machine: 610-867-0537, email: robert.wingrove@rcn.com.

Moravian Ladies Sewing Society

For over one hundred sixty years, the ladies in the Moravian Ladies Sewing Society have been meeting to sew. This fellowship group provides an “outlet for our creativity” as one of our members expressed as a reason she joined the society. The sewing society was started in 1861 to sew items needed by the Union soldiers during the Civil War and continued sewing after the war ended doing relief work. Members of the Society were ladies from Bethlehem Area Moravian Churches; so, in 1869, the name of the group became Moravian Ladies Sewing Society.



Starting in 1872, the society began making a cloth doll they named “Polly Heckewelder” in honor of the founding member of their group who had died in 1868. Polly Heckewelder dolls have been made since that time. In fact, it is the oldest continuously made cloth doll in America. Even though the group has not met weekly during the COVID pandemic, members have continued their sewing at home. In addition to continuing to make the dolls by sewing at home, bimonthly meetings on the second and fourth Tuesdays are scheduled. Since the number of members in the group has decreased, new members are needed to keep up with our doll making. Each member of the groups specializes in sewing or making a particular part of the doll and will teach new members how to make a part of the doll. In addition to learning how to help make the doll, its clothes, or put it all together, experiencing the camaraderie of the group is a plus. Conversation around the table in the Church Office Conference Room where we meet is great! While sewing or working on the doll, one can learn from others in the group about Polly Heckewelder, the Society, Biblical topics, Hymns, Moravian history and/or traditions, and oral histories of Bethlehem or the Church.

If you are interested in becoming part of this group or have other questions about joining, please contact Mary Brown at 610-625-8966.

Church Directory Updates

Caitlin & Aaron Bach 3025 Bard Street Bethlehem PA 18017	Kathryn Lamberton 4532 Calvert Place Center Valley PA 18034
Julie Bechtold 3108 Applewood Drive Bethlehem PA 18020	Jody & Gen Marcon 1521 Prospect Avenue Bethlehem PA 18018
Joe Jr. & Jeanne Bednarik 835 NW 1911 th Road Lone Jack MO 64070	Aeyoung Min 534 Hillside Street Ridgefield NJ 07657-2418
Mark Bennett 329 Piave Street Haines City FL 33844	Hannah Paxton 4079 W Hopewell Road Center Valley PA 18034
Dirk & Laura Chiles 2118 Eagles Landing Drive Nazareth PA 18064	Richard Pearce & Andrea Danenhower The Fields at Indian Creek 4061 Eveningstar Road Emmaus PA 18049
Phil & Jane Corvino philcorvino@icloud.com	Charlotte (Finnerty) Sacks 230 State Street, Unit 14 East Greenville PA 18041
Diane Decker 112 Sedberry Lane, Apt 103 Mooresville NC 28117	Kalman Sostarecz Jr 3537 Lenape Lane Emmaus PA 18049-1813
Ginny Delph: 484-707-5582	
Ginger Godley 11225 Estia Dr., Unit 173 Bradenton FL 34211	Donald Spieth & Llyena Boylan 3324 Jacksonville Road Bethlehem PA 18017
Sandy Griffis 2316 Woodridge Terrace Easton PA 18045	Reed & Elaine Treible 610-588-7386
Kristie Korab 3572 Sweetgum Drive Nazareth PA 18064	Judy & Dick Williams 572 Riverwoods Way Bethlehem PA 18018

Database and Contact Information Updates

We are currently working on our 2023 Pictorial Directory. If you have any contact information updates, and/or any adult children listed in the 2020 Directory as living in your home that have moved, please contact the church office.

In addition, please take a few moments to confirm that we have your correct emergency contact information on file in the church office.



**BOARD OF
WORLD MISSION**
of the Moravian Church • North America

Seed Distribution in Honduras and Nicaragua

It's not exactly planting season here in North America, but at the Board of World Mission, we have seeds on the brain! That's because much of our recent disaster relief work has been focused on providing bean and vegetable seeds for replanting after disasters have wiped out existing crops in Honduras and Nicaragua. After nine months of heavy rains and flooding, we continue to receive reports of families in La Mosquitia living on one meal per day and often surviving on fish that they are able to catch from the riverbanks. Thanks to generous BWM donors, we have provided 13,000 pounds of bean seeds, which will be distributed to about 650 families. The seeds will be planted by mid-February and harvested in March or April. If it is unaffected by floods or insects, this will be the first harvest of a major food crop in the last twelve months. We are also pleased to report that, thanks to Sturgeon Bay Moravian Church and a North Carolina organization called Seed Programs International, hundreds of families will also soon be able to plant watermelon, cabbage, tomatoes, kale, and more. Many thanks to Brother Rick Nelson and our Honduran and Nicaraguan partners, who have been instrumental in coordinating these efforts. Stay updated on these Moravian Disaster Response efforts and other Board of World Mission projects on their website, MoravianMission.org.

Bulletin Sponsorships Available

There are available Sundays for sponsoring the Sunday bulletin. April 23 and 30, May 7, 14 and 21 and June 4, 18 and 25 and all of July are available.

Many other Sundays in 2023 are also available – check your calendar! Please contact Martha Jones at the church office to reserve your date.

Stewardship One-Liner

No matter how little we have, we have the honor of discerning with God how to invest in the things we love and strive to love more.

— Tyler Sit

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<h1>February 2023</h1>						
			1 7:15 Men's Bible Study NH 9:30 BW OC LL 7 Care for Creation Zoom	2 10 Cyn Btq. 73 W LL 11 Women's Bible Study Anne Zug's 7 Church Choir Rehearsal CS	3	4 5 AA, BA
5 8:30-1 Drive by food pantry, clothing, & plastic CE lot 10 Sunday School CE 12:30 Joint Board Orientation NH 5 AA, BA	6 4 Racial Justice Team Zoom 7 Governance Zoom	7 9:30 Comenius CE CR 7 Congregational Care Zoom 6 Music Zoom	8 7:15 Men's Bible Study NH 9:30 BW OC LL 4:30 B&G Zoom	9 10 Cyn Btq. 73 W LL 11 Women's Bible Study Anne Zug's 7 Church Choir Rehearsal CS	10 8:30-11:30 Food Pantry 73 W LL	11 8:30-10:30 Pancake Breakfast NH 5 AA, BA
12 10 MW7 73 W Parlor 10 New Members class Sanctuary WR 10 Stories for Life OC LL 10 Sunday School CE 10 Toddler Time BA 12:15 Confirmation Class NH 2 Chamber Music OC 5 AA, BA	13 5 Personnel Zoom 7 Digital Ministry Zoom	14 9:30 Sewing 73 W CR Bach at Noon 7 Elders Zoom	15 7:15 Men's Bible Study NH 9:30 BW OC LL 12:30 Knitting 73 W CR 7 Trustees Zoom	16 10 Cyn Btq. 73 W LL 11 Women's Bible Study Anne Zug's 4 Fundraising Zoom 6 Int'l Student Care Zoom 6 Chapel Choir Rehearsal OC 7 Church Choir Rehearsal CS	17 8:30-11:30 Food Pantry & Cyn Btq Dist 73 W LL 6 Friday Fun Night NH	18 8:30-11:30 Food Pantry & Cyn Btq Dist 73 W LL 5 AA, BA
19 10 New Members class Sanctuary WR 10 Stories for Life OC LL 10 Sunday School CE 5 AA, BA	20 Presidents' Day Office Closed	21 9:30 Comenius CE CR 10-11:30 Awakened Hearts Zoom 6:30 BAM East Hills Moravian 7 CE Cmte Zoom	22 Ash Wednesday 7:15 Men's Bible Study NH 9:30 BW OC LL 6 Lenten Dinner NH 7 Service OC	23 8:30-11:30 Food Pantry 73 W LL 10 Cyn Btq. 73 W LL 11 Women's Bible Study Anne Zug's 7 Church Choir Rehearsal CS	24	25 5 AA, BA
26 Lent Holy Communion 10 Stories for Life OC LL 10 Sunday School CE 5 AA, BA	27	28 9:30 Sewing 73 W CR 7 SAC Zoom			Abbreviation Key 73 W CR = office confer. room BA = Benigna Auditorium in CE bldg. BW = Busy Workers, CE = Christian Education Bldg CE CR = Christian Ed. conference room CS = Church Sanctuary , NH = Nitschmann Hall CE bldg. OC = Old Chapel, LL lower level WR = Church West Room ZP = Zinzendorf Parlor in CE bldg	

Musical Notes

Rebecca Lepore, Minister of Music
becky@centralmoravianchurch.org

QR Code for the Central Moravian Church Music Webpage



The Chapel Choir and the Church Choir – The Chapel Choir, under the direction of Richard Miller, rehearses several times per month on Thursday evenings at 6 p.m. in the Old Chapel, and the Church Choir rehearses every Thursday evening at 7 p.m. in the Sanctuary balcony. Please contact Richard Miller or Becky Lepore if you are interested in singing.

Central Brass Ensemble – If you are interested in playing with the Central Brass Ensemble on **Sunday, February 12**, please contact Caitlin Heckman for more information at caitlin.g.heckman@gmail.com.

Sunday, February 12 at 2:00 p.m. in the Old Chapel – Two Part Invention – Plus One! Chamber Music concert featuring flute, cello, and guitar. The concert will last one hour. No tickets required. Free-will offering.

Music Committee Meetings –
Tuesday, February 7th at 6 p.m. via Zoom.
Tuesday, March 7th at 6 p.m. via Zoom.

Special February Offering Envelope

Endowment Fund (February 5): The money given in this special envelope will go directly to the General Endowment Fund for unrestricted use by the Board of Trustees. Earnings from this fund are used by the Board to help support the programs and mission in the annual Operating Budget of the church. The purpose of our endowment is to secure the financial future and well-being of Central. Over the past decades, many individuals and estates have provided gifts to our endowment. Planned Giving is also an excellent way to give to the endowment. As the donor, you may designate your gift as unrestricted or restrict the use of your gift for a specific purpose, for example: the music program, Christian Education, care for our historic buildings, or other specific interests. Currently, we have many restricted and unrestricted funds that make up the General Endowment Fund at Central Moravian Church.

a church mouse report

hear ye
and hear ye history has been made
and the patricia l smith collections room has been created
and dedicated in december 2022
and named for pat smith in recognition of her long
and faithful service
and caring for central moravian churchs historical
collections
and this honor reflects her foresight
and leadership
and guidance to the collections committee
and their dedicated efforts to search for
and mark
and chronicle all church items large and small
and functional and precious
and this room is in the lower level of sanctuary
and will environmentally protect
and display many of these historic items
and many of which have long served the church
and are now retired to attics
and basements or repurposed in other locations
and we know jesus loves and is caring for pat smith
and jesus loves you
and so do i



Green Weekly Texts for February

- Switch to e-bills or paperless statements, and pay bills online.
- Keep the fireplace damper closed when not in use; don't let your furnace heat go up the chimney!!
- Check your faucets and pipes for leaks. Leaks waste water 24/7. Even a small leak can waste 50 or more gallons/day. An inexpensive washer is usually enough to stop a leak. And while we're on the subject, good ways to conserve water are to take shorter showers and turn off the water while brushing your teeth.
- Celebrate Valentine's Day AND save water: shower with a friend.

MMFA Moravian Day of Giving February 21

The third annual Day of Giving provides individuals opportunities to support their local congregations, agencies, and the Northern Province. Go to MMFA.com to learn more and stay tuned for giving challenges.



The Belfry

February 2023

Central Moravian Church
73 West Church Street
Bethlehem PA 18018-5821

Phone: 610-866-5661

Email: office@centralmoravianchurch.org

Website: www.centralmoravianchurch.org

facebook.com/centralmoravianchurch

youtube.com/c/CentralMoravianChurch

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

Pastoral Staff:

Hopeton Clennon
Maggie Wellert

Music Staff:

Rebecca Lepore
Richard Miller

Head Sacristan:

Tim Brady

Media Director:

Will Schwab

Senior Office Administrator:

Cindy Gibson

Financial Staff:

Kristin Wruble
Kelly Knapp
Martha Jones

Facilities Staff:

Jeff Griffis
Tamera Ace
Michael Repsher

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February Birthdays



1 William Parkinson	11 Tamra Ingraham	18 Tara Tachovsky
2 Bob Wascura	12 Ginny Delph	19 Norman Prochnau
2 Kimberly McFadden	12 Carol Sabetti	19 Pam Larimer
2 Ben White	12 Robert Huth Jr	20 Alice Mosebach
2 Kelley Gold	13 Jeff Feather	20 Stephen Yorks
2 Tara Anderson	13 Sandra Deiter	20 Andrea Danenhower
3 John Santanasto	13 Isabella Weikert	20 Jill Lichtenwalner
4 Doris Tatham	13 Lulu Mae Shipman	20 Gabriel Krem
5 Bonnie Davis	14 Deidre Hockin	21 JoAnna Freund
5 Alex Newell	14 Thomas Hierl	21 Kyle Warmkessel
5 John Paul DeBard	14 Bob Davis	22 Esther Evans
6 Bryon Richards	14 Julia Rockwell	23 Barbara Wright
6 Grace Rampolla	14 Gabrielle Kintzer	23 Brenda Haas
7 Miriam Devey	15 Ann Kuhn	23 Michael Behr
7 Barry Stauffer	15 Harper Malishchak	23 Owen Royer
8 Camie Modjadidi	16 Judith Smith	24 Mark Weddigen
8 Brenda Hoelman	16 Susan Ettwein	25 Lynnette Delbridge
8 Lauren Parkinson	16 Noah Ko	25 Alica Diehl
9 Tom Tenges	16 Laura Wintjen	25 Austin Kozar
9 Susan Parks	16 Eric Reifinger	25 Maximus Kozar
10 Dale Henninger	17 Robert Clewell III	26 Linda Thudium
10 Peg Hoffman	17 Lisa Fontanez	27 Kora Lindsay
10 Valerie Ruhe	17 Jason Eckhart	28 Margaret Melgary
11 A. Thomas Jacoby	18 James Jordan	28 Ashley Baker
11 Nicholas Butterfield	18 Gisela Leck	28 Julia Terwilliger

The Belfry Deadline

Articles for the March *Belfry* are due by
February 6

Church Journal

Baptism

December 25 - Willem St John Kennedy

In Memoriam

November 15 - Charles Ferguson

December 23 - Robert Brown