



The Belfry

News of Central Moravian Church, Bethlehem, Pennsylvania

June 2023

Worship in June

10 a.m. in the Sanctuary

June 4 - Trinity Sunday
40th Anniversary of Ordination
Sermon: Bishop Hopeton Clennon

June 11 - Second Sunday after Pentecost
Sermon: The Rev. John Rauhut

June 18 - Third Sunday after Pentecost
Sermon: The Rev. Maggie Wellert

June 25 - Fourth Sunday after Pentecost
281st Anniversary Service
Sermon: The Rev. Duane Ullrich

Message from Pastor Hopeton

The transition from Sunday School to Seminary in 1978 was traumatic in its own way. Instantly having to give up the King James Version (KJV) of the Bible—affectionately called “GMV” by my fellow theologues (Grandmother’s Version)—replaced it with the Revised Standard Version (RSV). Repeatedly warned that my high school Latin would pale in comparison to the more relevant Greek and revered Hebrew about to be heaped on my plate. Immediately introduced to symbolism in scripture intended to shake off any semblance of a flat reading of the holy book. My first semester of seminary was earthshaking, and we loved it.

I kept that last KJV and had it rebound. I kept that first RSV and have it sitting on my bookshelf with a couple of dozen other versions. I also kept the memory of my first revelation of symbolism in scripture. It had to do with a variety of numbers. Among the numbers are 3 and 40.

The 3 days of the Good Friday to Easter Sunday experience has more to do with “a short time” than with 72 hours. (Matthew 12:40) Essentially, Jesus was in the tomb for a short time.

The 40 years (Exodus 16:35) and 40 days (Mark 1:13) in the wilderness have more to do with “a long time” than with keeping track of the calendar.

Jesus was in the tomb for a short time and had wandered in the desert for a long time.

This month invites reflection on the 40th anniversary of my ordination as a deacon in the Moravian Church. The actual date is June 19, 1983. At that time, I served as pastor of the Salem Circuit of Moravian Churches in Westmoreland, Jamaica. Four congregations made up the circuit—Salem, Dober, Petersville, and New Hope—totaling 350 members. I spent three years there and three years as pastor of the Zorn Circuit of Moravian Churches before returning to grad school at my alma mater, the United Theological College of the West Indies. Zorn, Moravia, and Bohemia made up the circuit with a total of 750 members. The parents of former Central pastor, the Rev. Dr. Walser Allen served as missionaries at the same Zorn Moravian Church (1903-1929).

In some ways, 40 years as a pastor feels like a long time. In many ways, it feels like the twinkling of an eye. I am deeply grateful these 40 years have brought such joy. I have silly regrets like wishing I kept a record of every baptism, wedding, and funeral I officiated. I also have delightful memories like in 2002, preaching at the 40th anniversary of the pastor Shelia and I had as teenagers, the Rev. Justin Peart. In every way, I offer thanks to God for the grace, mercy, and love that brought me this far, and for my fellow pilgrims along this journey of faith.

Message from Pastor Maggie Wellert

Paul's opening words to the church in Philippi, chapter 1: ³ *Every time I think of you, I give thanks to my God.* ⁴ *Whenever I pray, I make my requests for all of you with joy,* ⁵ *for you have been my partners in spreading the Good News about Christ...* ⁶ *And I am certain that God, who began the good work within you, will continue his work until it is finally finished on the day when Christ Jesus returns.*



⁷ *So it is right that I should feel as I do about all of you, for you have a special place in my heart. You share with me the special favor of God, both in my imprisonment and in defending and confirming the truth of the Good News.* ⁸ *God knows how much I love you and long for you with the tender compassion of Christ Jesus.*

These beautiful words convey the thoughts of my heart towards the community of Central Moravian Church, as I prepare to (again!) retire, June 30, 2023. Gratitude. Joy. Partnership. Love.

This second go around as Parish Pastor began on July 1, 2019, barely three months after my husband's death. It was an exercise in trust and compassion on your part simply to take me on as staff! You went so much further, however, and welcomed, nurtured, and cared for me as I walked the tender path of grief, heartache, letting go, moving to a new home, and discerning my place in the world without my beloved partner.

At about the same time I began the Certificate Program in Spiritual Direction at Moravian Theological Seminary. When it came time to practice the skills I was learning, people from our Stories for Life group stepped forward to meet with me as a Wannabe Spiritual Director, Companion; and a group of 7 volunteered to be a Group Spiritual Direction team, meeting monthly. COVID interrupted our in-person gatherings, but those same people willingly set out to learn to use Zoom as part of the experiment. That small group continues to meet on Zoom!

This community of faith and friends held me together until I could begin to feel that I was once again returning to a sense of "me." You patiently allowed me to weave my journey into sermons, Bible studies, Awakened Hearts, and general conversations, without complaint. You trusted my invitation into body prayer (one of you nick-named it "Moravian Calisthenics), imagining yourself in a Biblical story, and even singing chants. That is trusting love!

You, dear ones, sustained me until I could believe that thriving was possible. It was a kind of resurrection... and you witnessed it and shouted hallelujah in your hearts, and our tears turned to laughter and profound joy and expansive love.

I am so grateful. I move to an expanding ministry of Spiritual Direction, prayer retreats, and convening small groups. I am very clear it is my calling from the Spirit of God. And, I will continue to lead worship at Central on an as needed basis over the next few months.

I close by once again borrowing from Paul's letter to the Philippians: *"This is my prayer, that your love might become even more and more rich with knowledge and all kinds of insight. ... I pray that you will then be filled with the fruit of righteousness, which comes from Jesus Christ, in order to give glory and praise to God."*

Drive-By Drop-Off Donations

Volunteers will be at the Christian Education building parking lot off of New Street on Sunday, June 4 from 8:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. to receive your donations of food for the Food Pantry, spring and summer clothing for children, women and men, linens, diapers (newborn through adults) for Cynthia's Boutique, and plastics for the TREX challenge rain or shine. *Food Pantry items appreciated include:* 5 lb. bags of flour and sugar, ground coffee, tea, canned soups, ketchup, mustard, cake mixes, toilet paper, soap bars, and any other items you wish to donate.

Iron Pigs Baseball Game

Central's annual Iron Pigs Baseball Outing will be on Friday, June 16 with a 7:05 p.m. game time. We have 20 tickets reserved between third base and home. The cost of the tickets is \$10. Please contact the church office to reserve your seat(s).

2023 High School Graduation Grants

This is our sixth year for *Envelopes for Education*, to honor our high school graduates with a monetary gift from the congregation. Please join us on Sunday, June 4 when we will recognize and honor these students. We are delighted to present four Central members who graduated from high school this year:

Josiah Adams received a diploma from Liberty High School. He was President of the Future Business Leaders of America. Josiah was involved in Liberty Theater, Liberty Swim Team and was a Wyld Life Leader. He has accepted James Madison University to study sports and recreation management.



Jeremy Ko received a diploma from Emmaus High School. He was an active player as a point guard in the varsity basketball team. Jeremy achieved the Principal's Honor Roll for 4 years. He has accepted Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University to major in aerospace engineering.



Katie Owens received a diploma from Liberty High School. She was involved in band, choir, and orchestra. Katie was a band section leader, choir section leader, involved in county band and chorus festivals, jazz band and a capella. Katie was the varsity soccer captain and is a member of the National Honor Society. She has accepted Penn State to study genetics and developmental biology.



Claire Phillips received a diploma from Saucon Valley High School. She is a National Merit Scholar Finalist, has received a U.S. figure skating silver level achievement, and Graduating Seniors Award. Claire was Debate Team President, Model UN President, Reading Team co-captain, and scripture reader at Central Moravian Church. Claire is a member of the National Honor Society and 2023 Freddy performer. She has accepted The University of Vermont to study statistics.



We appreciate and thank all those who generously contributed and who will be praying for these students as they move forward with their lives.

Vacation Bible School

Central children and their friends ages 3 to 10 are invited to participate in Vacation Bible School from Monday, June 26 to Friday, June 30. Children from



Central, Advent, East Hills, and College Hill Moravian churches will gather at East Hills Moravian Church to explore this year's program "Operation Restoration. . . Mending God's World." Guided by a Bible story each day, students will explore how through feeding, healing, forgiveness, and prayer they can mend God's world and the people in it. From 9 a.m. to 12 noon they will participate in science and crafts projects, music, and physical activities that relate to the themes. A mid-morning snack time will be provided. The week will end with a picnic for all the children and their families on Friday afternoon with perhaps a surprise or two. East Hills Moravian Church is located at 1830 Butztown Road in Bethlehem next to Governor Wolf Elementary School. Please contact the church office for a registration form.

If you have any questions, please contact: Gayle Dimmick (gldimm@msn.com or 610-216-8337), Bob Wascura (rwascura@gmail.com) or Karen Brady (karen.brady@rcn.com or 610-570-2430).

Sacred Ground: An invitation from the Central Moravian Racial Justice Team

“The angel of God appeared to Moses in flames of fire blazing out of the middle of a bush... God said... Remove your sandals from your feet. You’re standing on holy ground.” Exodus 3.

For Moses, sacred ground is a place of surprise, vulnerability, and learning. *The Sacred Ground Dialogue Series* developed by the Episcopal Church is all of these and more as it leads participants through 11 sessions focused on race, racism, and racial justice in the United States.

The guiding principle for this experience is the “beloved community” that Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. espoused—a place “where all people are honored and protected and nurtured as beloved children of God, where we weep at one another’s pain and seek one another’s flourishing.”

(<https://www.episcopalchurch.org/sacred-ground/invitation/>)

One of several Central Moravian members who participated in Sacred Ground, Barry Kessler describes the program. “From September 12, 2022, to February 20, 2023, I attended 11, facilitator- led, Zoom sessions titled *Sacred Ground, A Film-based Dialogue Series on Race and Faith*.” Barry points out that “The facilitators came from professional backgrounds within US Episcopal, Lutheran and Moravian churches.”

Another Central participant, Margaret Krawiec observes “My most common response to the information presented was why didn’t I learn this in school?” Barry agrees. “I received my grade school education during the 1950’s in New York City. Regrettably, the story of our country is not as I was taught. The subject of slavery and the eradication and mistreatment of whole cultures was glossed over and misrepresented.”

Barry continues, “What I learned from Sacred Ground made me acutely and sadly aware of how blind and misinformed I and others have been to the truth about our past complicity in causing much suffering by African-Americans, Native Americans, Asian-Americans and Hispanic-Americans, just about everyone who wasn’t born to white privilege.”

Although Judy Williams had an understanding of systemic racism in American culture before she became involved in Sacred Ground, she says, “I still found there was a LOT I didn’t know about the actual history and lives of people of color.” Judy’s insight came from other sources as well. “Not only did I learn from the readings and the videos, I learned from my other group participants.” Small group discussion is key to the program’s approach.

Film-maker and author of the Sacred Ground study guide, Katrina Browne explains that Sacred Ground explores “the confounding, thorny, troubled terrain of black/white relations and equity issues in this country – the histories and legacies of slavery.” For Katrina, whose family was invested in nineteenth-century slave trade, race and racism “is a maze that cries out for our devoted, careful, steady walking. The work of repair is so incomplete.” Despite the challenges of healing the wounds of racism, Katrina reassures her readers, “I have seen congregations and dioceses that are applying themselves faithfully to this work.”

The Sacred Ground website fully describes the series, but some highlights are:

- “It is built around powerful documentary films and readings... which serve as the jumping-off points for dialogue.”
- Participants consider “key chapters in U.S. history of race and racism, as well some of the latest thinking by scholars and practitioners of racial healing, racial equity, and whiteness.”
- “It focuses on Indigenous, Black, Latino, and Asian American histories as they intersect with European American histories.”
- Its spiritual underpinning is grounded in the Christian faith.
- “It emphasizes personal story-sharing and deepening relationships.” <https://www.episcopalchurch.org/sacred-ground/invitation/>

For more information about Sacred Ground, visit the website link above.

Beginning this August, Rev. Maria Tjeltveit will coordinate another local offering of Sacred Ground. Sacred Ground will be held on Zoom in two segments, first meeting on alternating Mondays from August 28 until November 20 and then taking a break until January 8, 2024. The last four sessions will continue on alternating Mondays until February 12. Individuals may choose Mondays from 1:30 - 3 p.m. or 7 - 8:30 p.m. Registration will take place in August. For more information you can contact Maria Tjeltveit at sacredground.beth@gmail.com. Two preview sessions will be held, one on June 26 and another in August with day TBA.

As a member of the Central Moravian Racial Justice Team, Barry Kessler extends an invitation to all: “Please consider a journey with Sacred Ground when it is offered again.”

— Cheryl Boots, Central Moravian Racial Justice Team member

Moravian Holy Land Tour 2024

Join Pastor Hopeton and Shelia Clennon on a 10-day pilgrimage to the Holy Land June 12 - 21, 2024.

This is the journey through Israel and Palestine that we make every other year in the even number year. We will visit major Biblical sites in Nazareth, Capernaum, Caesarea, Jericho,



Bethlehem and Jerusalem. Next year, there is also an optional extension to “Cairo & the Route of the Exodus” June 21 - 26. The cost from New York Kennedy airport starts at \$3,998 per person based on double occupancy. For more information, you may request a brochure from the church office or visit the website: www.moraviantour.com.

Green Weekly Texts for June

- Volunteer at Monocacy Farm Project, an organic farm located on Bridle Path Road in Bethlehem, that supports Central’s Food Pantry with fresh produce. <https://www.monocacyfarmproject.org>
- Renovating a bathroom? Install a low-flow water-saving toilet. And, in the shower, install water-saving shower heads or flow restrictors. Lowes and Home Depot stock these items that will cut your shower flow to about 3 gallons/minute instead of 5 or 10 gallons/minute. Your shower will still be cleansing and refreshing...and you’ll be saving lots of water!
- Use white distilled vinegar as a cleaner; it’s non-toxic, eco-friendly and super cheap! <https://www.healthline.com/health/cleaning-with-vinegar>
- Use small reusable mesh bags (often available in the grocery) when buying fruits and vegetables, rather than plastic. And advocate for a plastic bag ban!

Stewardship One-Liner

I do not believe one can settle how much we ought to give. I am afraid the only safe rule is to give more than we can spare.

— C. S. Lewis

Update on Terms for Chairs of Committees

In 2020, the Joint Board voted to recommend a policy that all committees follow a protocol of having terms for chairs of committees. The long-standing model used for board members of two terms of three years each is recommended for committee chairs. Each committee is encouraged to select their chair. If a chair cannot be found, the Senior Pastor or the Vice President of Elders and the President of Trustees will assist in finding a new chair. This change was announced at Church Council and became effective in January 2021. To allow for adjustment to the new concept of terms in January 2021, each long serving chair should have considered themselves in year one of a second term allowing for three more years of service. If a chair is recent to the committee, for instance, amid a first term, the committee can determine when the term should conclude. The current chair may choose to step out of the responsibility sooner if that is their wish. If extraordinary circumstances are present, the committee may offer an extension of the term. However, committees are encouraged to intentionally consider leadership at three-year intervals and actively consider the merits of multiple candidacies. As is true of Board members, after a one-year absence the chair may be reconsidered to serve. Chairs are heartily encouraged to remain on committees after serving as the chair of the committee.

The rationale for this course of action is twofold. First, some chairs seek relief from the responsibility of acting as chair after many years of service. Some candidates who are asked to serve as chairs are reassured if they know there is a term for which they are agreeing to take on the responsibility. Another benefit is the opportunity to share in the leadership skills of others on the committee.

If you are a long-standing chair, serving more than three years by 2021, and began as suggested a “second term” in January 2021, you are now serving year three of your second term. This means that a change in leadership in January 2024 would be encouraged. This policy is not meant to be burdensome but rather to encourage fair expectations for leadership on committees. If you have any questions or concerns about your committee, please contact Mary Catherine Tachovsky for assistance.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<h1>June 2023</h1>					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	
				1 10 Cyn Btq. 73 W LL	2	3 11 Memorial Service for Mary Jo Hill OC Reception NH 5 AA, BA
4 8:30-1 Drive by food pantry, clothing, & plastic CE lot 11 Bishop Hopeton Clennon's 40 th Ordination Anniversary CS 5 AA, BA	5 5 Mission Zoom	6 7 Congregational Care Zoom	7 7:15 Men's Bible Study NH 9:30 BW OC LL 7 Care for Creation Zoom	8 10 Cyn Btq. 73 W LL 1:30 Twenty Minute Society 73 W CR	9 8:30-11:30 Food Pantry 73 W LL	10 5 AA, BA
11 Fair Trade Coffee Sale after services 10 MW7 73 W Parlor 5 AA, BA	12	13 7 Elders Zoom	14 7:15 Men's Bible Study NH 9:30 BW OC LL 4:30 B&G Zoom	15 10 Cyn Btq. 73 W LL 4 Fundraising Zoom	16 8:30-11:30 Food Pantry & Cyn Btq Dist 73 W LL 7 Iron Pigs Stadium	17 8:30-11:30 Food Pantry & Cyn Btq Dist 73 W LL 5 AA, BA
18 Father's Day 5 AA, BA	19 Juneteenth Office Closed	20	21 7:15 Men's Bible Study NH 9:30 BW OC LL 7 Trustees Zoom	22 8:30-11:30 Food Pantry 73 W LL 10 Cyn Btq. 73 W LL	23	24 5 AA, BA
25 281 st Anniversary of Central 5 AA, BA	26 9-12 VBS East Hills 7 Governance Zoom	27 9-12 VBS East Hills	28 7:15 Men's Bible Study NH 9-12 VBS East Hills 9:30 BW OC LL	29 9-12 VBS East Hills 10 Cyn Btq. 73 W LL	30 9-12 VBS East Hills	

Musical Notes

Rebecca Lepore, Minister of Music
becky@centralmoravianchurch.org

QR Code for the Central Moravian Church Music Webpage



Central Brass Ensemble – If you are interested in playing with the Central Brass Ensemble, please contact Caitlin Heckman at caitlin.g.heckman@gmail.com for further information. The Central Brass will play on Sunday, June 4th at the 10 a.m. service.

The Sunday School Choir, under the direction of Faith Fiegel, will sing at the 10 a.m. service on Sunday, June 4th.

Summer Music: All are welcome to sing!

Sunday, July 2 – Tenor/Bass Choir – Rehearse at 9 a.m.

Sunday, July 9 – Summer Choir – Rehearse at 9 a.m.

Sunday, July 16 – Summer Choir– Rehearse at 9 a.m.

Sunday, August 13 – Summer Choir – Rehearse at 9 a.m.

Sunday, August 27 – Soprano/Alto Choir – Rehearse at 9 a.m.

The Mainstreet Brass will perform an outdoor concert on the church green on Sunday afternoon, August 20th at 2:00 p.m. Bring your lawn chairs, find a spot in the shade, and enjoy an hour of fun brass music. (In case of rain, the concert will be moved into the sanctuary.)

The Johnston Memorial Festival Concert will be held on Sunday afternoon, **October 8th at 4 p.m.** If you are interested in singing for this concert, please contact Becky Lepore so you can pick up your music packet and rehearsal schedule.

Music Committee Meeting: Tuesday, August 1st at 6 p.m. via Zoom

a church mouse report

hello
and greetings to you
and greetings to strangers
and this month i returned to the church guest book
and found 50 entries for the year 2022
and my previous report for 2004 included 115 entries
and in 2013 there were 99 entries
and in 2022 we had visitors from 15 different states
and as usual the most were from pennsylvania
and rather unusual the most from any other state came
from florida with seven entries
and visitors also came from three other countries
and they were from canada denmark and egypt
and it is often easy to spot a visitor – they're awestruck
and are looking around to see everything that we take for
granted
and at christmas we welcome the heavenly stranger
and likewise we must welcome the strangers in our
midst
and so the next time you see visitors in church greet
them
and make sure they sign the guest book
and the guest book is in the west hallway of the
sanctuary
and the next visitor just might be a heavenly stranger
and or a new member
and jesus loves strangers
and jesus loves you
and so do i



Special June Offering Envelope

Preservation Fund (June 25): Gifts designated to the Preservation Fund are used for capital project expenses to maintain the interior and exterior buildings and grounds, including major repairs and restorations. We use the interest income from this Fund which is Board designated for capital projects only. Our long-term goal is to increase this fund, thereby increasing the income generated. More income means more monies available to perform the upkeep of our precious historic buildings.



The Belfry

June 2023

Central Moravian Church
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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:

Tamera Ace

Michael Repsher

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The Belfry Deadline

Articles for the July *Belfry* are due
by June 5.

Church Journal

Baptism

May 14 - Ava Elizabeth Bard

Wedding

April 28 - Rachel Puelle & Colin Worrich

June Birthdays



1 Ashley Caldwell	6 Bart Shaw	15 Amanda Viruet-Brotz	20 Tricia Salabsky	24 Jaece Zuk
1 Bryce Charles	7 Jody Trostle	16 Megann Seebeck	21 Kenneth Brown	25 James Phillips
1 Mitchell Davis	9 Molly Behr	16 Kalman Sostarecz Jr	21 Gilbert DeGruccio	26 Richard Benner
1 Suzanne Fischer	9 Sarah Rampolla	16 Alexis Wintjen	21 Caroline Laubach	26 Wayne Dubbs
1 Margaret Krawiec	11 Jeff Mosebach	16 Charles Wintjen	21 Mike Wall	26 John Lindsay
2 Glenn Noack	12 Lloyd Achey	17 Aaron Bach	21 Mary Wisneski	27 Logan Farinhas
2 Madeleine Williams	12 Elaine Banerjee	17 Christian Ferrey	22 Bonnie Beitel	27 Sarah Wascura
3 Gene Allen	12 Ian Larimer	17 Tyler Geho	22 Dan Calcagnetti	28 Logan Chiles
3 Christine Murphy	12 Mia Mecleary	17 Carol Holbert	22 Gavin Kret	28 Jeremy Ko
4 Kelly Ahn	12 Bonnie Moyer	17 Jeff Long	22 Katie Royer	28 Amy Kozar
4 Jennifer Thompson	13 Karen Ferrey	17 Joseph Schaffer	22 Barbara Senick	28 Dave Kreichelt
4 Jason Toedter	13 Martha Jones	18 Sarah Rohrbach	23 Barbara Thompson	28 Connie Pierce
4 Deacon Williams	14 Katherine Anthony	19 Evan Caldwell	23 Sarah Lewis	29 Mark Connor
5 Katie Albarelli-McKelvey	14 Leonard Anthony	19 Irvin Marcon	23 Suzanna Hierl	29 Peter Lantz
5 Jesiah Gonzalez	14 Joseph Markovic	19 John Wyckoff	23 James Milot	29 Joanne Williams
5 Pat Herman	14 Marlin Schaffstall	20 June Griffiths	23 Olivia Toedter	30 Allison Gebhart
5 Charles Stork	15 Elissa Derbak	20 Eliza Grigsby	24 James Gold	30 Michael Guro
6 Thes Godshalk	15 Alice Kodama	20 J. Mark Jones	24 Emily Wallace	30 Jody Marcon
6 Aeyoung Min	15 Deborah Leyshon-Brandt	20 Margaret Marcon	24 Edward Weiland	30 Abigail Ward