



**2023**

**EMMAUS MORAVIAN CHURCH**

146 Main Street, Emmaus, Pa. 18049

Phone 610-965-6067

[www.emmausmoravian.org](http://www.emmausmoravian.org)

**Office hours: Monday-Friday 9am-3pm**

**Rev. Brian Dixon** ~ Pastor ~ [pastor@emmausmoravian.org](mailto:pastor@emmausmoravian.org)

**Mikayla Saurerbrey** ~ Student Pastor ~ [studentpastor@emmausmoravian.org](mailto:studentpastor@emmausmoravian.org)

**Melissa Heckman** ~ Secretary ~ [secretary@emmausmoravian.org](mailto:secretary@emmausmoravian.org)

**Martha Cox Popichak** ~ Director of Music ~ [popicox@rcn.com](mailto:popicox@rcn.com)

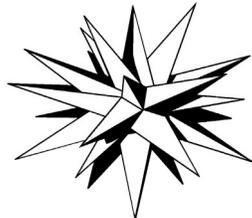
**Christopher Klump** ~ Director of Brass Choir

**Al Kneller** ~ Sexton

**Special Envelope for February**

Emmaus Community Assistance Fund- This fund was created to help members of the church and community in times of need. This fund is used at the discretion of the pastor and office staff.

In the past it has helped single people, families and community members facing financial difficulty due to job loss, medical issues and other life changing events. Circumstances include rent assistance, utility bill assistance and bus ticket purchases. This fund also helps stock the Blessing Boxes on our property. Funds are available if you or someone in the church or community is in need. Please reach out to the office for help.



**2023 Watchword:**

I will recount the gracious deeds of the Lord, the praiseworthy acts of the Lord, because of all that the Lord has done for us. Isaiah 63:7

**Emmaus Moravian Church's Mission Statement:**

Living in Fellowship, Growing in Christ!

**The Moravian Motto:**

In essentials unity; In non-essentials liberty; and in all things love!

## A Message from Pastor Brian

### RE-MEMBERING 2023

Toward the end of 2022, someone named two things they hoped to see at EMC in the New Year. One, was a funeral for COVID; effectively laying the Pandemic to rest. We would all like to see that! And, while I do believe COVID remains a factor, I am more than happy to see us part ways with the fear of it. At our Joint Board retreat last year, I asked our leaders 3 pandemic-related questions: **1. What has been the most difficult change or loss for our congregation during COVID?** **2. Where have we seen flourishing and strength? What has surprised you?** And **3. What has the Pandemic clarified/what are we learning?** The responses to these questions, our work together and the way forward all take these matters to heart. **That second hoped-for thing was a renewed commitment on the part of every member of this community.**

I recently spoke with someone wanting to be baptized again because they wished to rededicate themselves. They wanted to return, to refocus on living up to, living into, living with the promises of baptism. My encouragement to them was that this is something every follower of Jesus is called to do each day! When the disciples asked for more faith, Jesus challenged them to put their faith to work. When the disciples didn't think there'd be enough food for the multitude, Jesus challenged them to share the food they had. When the disciples feared the storm would overwhelm them, Jesus challenged them to trust that God is present.

The idea of each of us renewing our commitment, rededicating ourselves, refocusing and, in a sense, joining the church all over again (and again) a little more each day calls to mind the story of Naaman from 2 Kings (5:1 – 19). Not so much the part about Naaman being a successful Aramean general, or his having a stigmatizing illness, or the problem of his pride, or even the simple fact of Naaman's need for mercy. The part I'm thinking about is where Elisha basically says to Naaman, *"Come on in, the water's fine!"*

In the 2023 Directory of the Moravian Church in America, it is reported that Emmaus has 423 confirmed members who partake of communion and a total membership of 488. That's 40 football teams. That's enough people to run Dorney Park. That's more than the number of delegates serving in the House of Representatives.

But with an average worship attendance of less than a quarter of the membership, and challenges recruiting Sacristans, and retaining volunteers or overwhelming one another's generosity – all while sustaining a high level of support for community assistance, discipleship, worship and witness, disaster relief, Christian missions, congregational care, and a great many other shared ministries – **MAYBE 2023 IS A YEAR FOR YOU TO RE-MEMBER.**

As your pastor, I am continually amazed by the volume and variety of things we accomplish! When I run into to someone that has been "missing church," so to speak, or who conveys regret or embarrassment about not being more involved, please know that my consistent message is basically, *"Come on in, the water's fine!"* Something many of us feel we learned from the Pandemic is not to take anything for granted. That would include each other and the enduring legacy of this 275-year-old fellowship.

In Christ's Abiding Love,

Pastor Brian



## Worship Opportunities

**Wednesday, February 1st** ~ 7:00 Wednesday Nite Lite in the chapel

**Sunday, February 5th** ~ 9:00 Sunday School; **9:30 Worship**; 10:45 Church Council

**Wednesday, February 8th** ~ 7:00 Wednesday Nite Lite in the chapel

**Sunday, February 12th** ~ 9:00 Sunday School; 10:30 Worship

**Wednesday, February 15th** ~ 7:00 Wednesday Nite Lite in the chapel

**Sunday, February 19th** ~ 9:00 Sunday School; 10:30 Worship ~ Transfiguration Sunday

**Wednesday, February 22nd** ~ 7:00 Ash Wednesday Service

**Sunday, Feb. 26th** ~ 9:00 Sunday School; 10:30 Worship ~ 1st Sunday in Lent; Holy Communion

All services are available live via zoom and available later in the day on Facebook.

[Go to www.zoom.us](http://www.zoom.us), Click on "Join a meeting" Enter meeting ID: 442 948 9211

### **Please remember those in need of our prayers ~**

Connie Renner (daughter in law of Howard & Judy), Rev. Diane Joseph,  
Danny Haus (nephew of Kurt & Lisa), Carol Campbell, Ticia Herald,  
Dale Washburn, Barbara Giesler (mother of Pastor Chris),  
our homebound members and nursing home residents

### **Please uphold these church members and friends in your prayers.**

Contact the office whenever a visit is needed or to inform us about any family situation. We will only post names on our prayer list if we have permission from the person in need of prayer, or their immediate family.



### Flower Sponsorships



*February 5th ~ In loving memory of Franklin & Shirley Reith and Marjorie Gruber by  
Cathie & Paul Ingram and*

*In loving memory of Kevin Chapkovich by his wife, Jeanne*

*February 12th ~ In loving memory of Dawn Hartman Corbett by Jeanne & Andy Harakal  
and In loving memory of Lucille Costello by her grandchildren*

*February 19th ~ In loving memory of Janice W. Carper by the Semet Family*

*February 26th ~ In loving memory of parents, Bob & Alberta Robbins by Carolyn Carter*

**Wednesday Nite Lite** will resume February 1<sup>st</sup>!

Do you wish to participate more in your church? Are Sundays difficult to attend? Do you need a boost during the week? Maybe you need Wednesday Nite Lite! WNL is a Lite, mid-week worship service held from 7:00-7:30 in the chapel. The plan is to keep them short, sweet, and soulful: one song, one prayer, one reading, one reflection, and one call to action. Zoom available (same log in as Sundays).

**Morning Prayer** ~ Is prayer something you want to do more of?

Would you like to connect with other church members and pray for the needs of the church, community and world? Join us! Mondays, Wed, and Fridays we meet via zoom at 8:15 a.m (same log in as Sundays). On Tuesdays and Thursdays, we meet at Superior (102 State Ave) at 6:15 a.m. What a wonderful way to start to your morning!

*"Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances, for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you."* ~1 Thessalonians 5:16-18



Dear EMC,

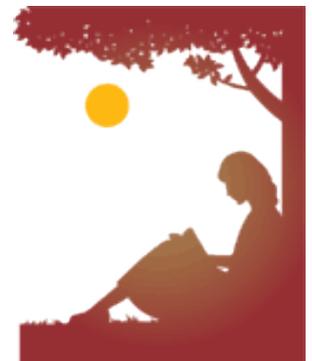
I want to thank all who prayed for me during my stay in the hospital. Thank you, Pastor Brian for your phone calls and prayers.

From, Beth DalMaso

### **An Author in our Midst...**

*Losing Light, Walking by Faith but Wanting to See*, a book written by the Rev. Brian Dixon, is now available for purchase!

In the book, Pastor Brian invites readers on a similar journey through shadow and light. With a seeker's questions and a pastor's heart, he encourages us to "come and see" the fullness of life with God even if (and when) our vision is clouded or the way is unclear. The collection is divided into six sections of approximately 20 pages each, with the stories, poems and prayers in each section reflecting a slightly different theme related to light. ~ excerpt from *Moravian Magazine*, issue 4, 2022



The book, along with the last book written by Pastor Brian, *Keeping Time, Dances to the Beat of a Different Drummer*, cost \$10.00 each and are available in the church office or visit the virtual book store at [www.moravian.org](http://www.moravian.org)

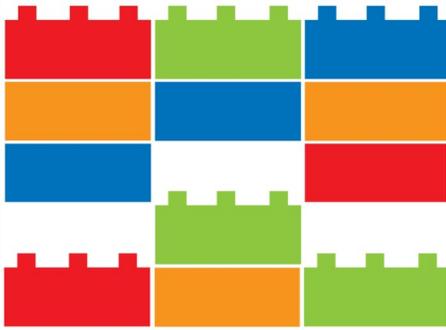
**You are Invited to a  
Lego Block Party!**

Friday, February 3rd from 6:00-8:00

Legos Provided! All ages welcome!

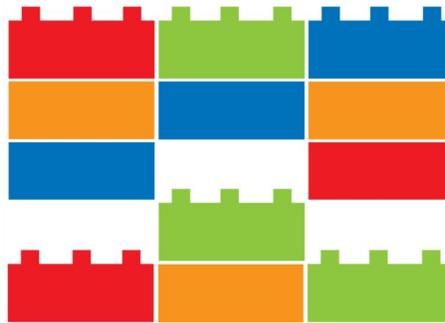
If you don't have time to eat dinner, bring it along!

Refreshments provided!



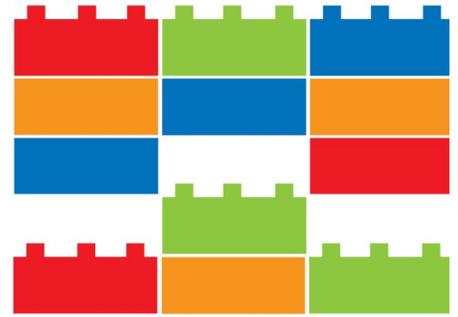
**LEGO  
BLOCK PARTY**

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**LEGO  
BLOCK PARTY**

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**LEGO  
BLOCK PARTY**

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**Emmaus Moravian Church's  
Art Show**

Friday, March 3rd from 6:00-8:00

All forms of art accepted: painting, coloring, photography, knitting, crocheting, quilting, woodworking and so much more!

\*Submit your art by Sunday, February 26th to the office

\*Contact the office for a form to describe/label your artwork

\*We invite everyone to attend the show to view our amazing artists!



## **Christian Education News**

Sunday School classes for ages 2 through adult meet every Sunday at 9:00. Pastor Brian's adult class meets in the Moravian Room and the Prayer Shawl Ministry class meets in the Family Living Area. If you have any questions about Sunday School, please contact Melissa Heckman at 610-653-7025 or Karen Semet at 610-554-9709 or the church office.



### **Preschool Registration for the 2023/2024 coming soon!**

**You are invited to attend an Open House on  
Thursday, March 16th from 6:00-7:30.  
Adults and children welcome!**

Classes available:

Tuesdays and Thursdays 9:00am-2:00pm

Pre-registration for the Tuesday/Thursday program is required. The day is filled with learning (letters, numbers, shapes, kindergarten preparedness), art projects, large motor skills, small motor skills. Children pack a lunch (refrigerator available). The program runs from Sept.- June. A \$50.00 deposit required for registration. Tuition is paid in 10 monthly installments of \$175. 15% discount for EMC members; 10% discount for families with multiple children enrolled.

Mondays or Wednesdays 9:00am-2:00pm

This is a unique program because it allows families options. Pre-registration spaces are available or, you can also sign up on a weekly basis. You can choose one or both days, and sign up sheets are available 4 weeks ahead of time. The program has the same educational level as the Tues/Thurs. class. Children pack a lunch. The cost is \$86.00 per month (for one day option) or 175.00 for 2 day option, or \$25.00 per day. This program runs from Sept. to June.

Contact Melissa in the office for more information!

**Operation Christmas Child** The collection for this year's shoeboxes begins now!

The Operation Christmas Child collection for February will be toothbrushes! February is Dental Health Awareness month. While you are replacing your toothbrush, maybe you could pick up a toothbrush for a needy child in another country. Your donations can be placed in a labeled bag and given to Melissa or placed in the chapel on the hutch. Each month I will be collecting something new to get prepared for the 2023 packing party! Donations of small new or gently used toys accepted too! Thank you in advance for all your support. ~Diane Lint



**CPR Class** We are finally offering a CPR class again! It's scheduled for February 28<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm in the chapel. The cost is \$35.00 a person. Please contact the office or Janet Feldman to sign up!

### Blessing Boxes



All of your donations are greatly appreciated. The Blessing Boxes are used by many people and your donations help keep the boxes stocked. We are always grateful to have back up supplies!

**The Blessing Box immediate needs are:**

**Non food items desperately needed:** shampoo, tissues, toothbrushes, toothpaste, toilet paper, laundry pods or detergent, can openers, winter hats, winter gloves (kids or adults)

**Food items:** peanut butter, jelly, canned veggies, soup, pasta, spaghetti sauce, tuna, canned or individual cups of fruit or applesauce

~ Thank you from Linda Rohrbach and Carol George (the fillers of the boxes)

### The EMC Book Club

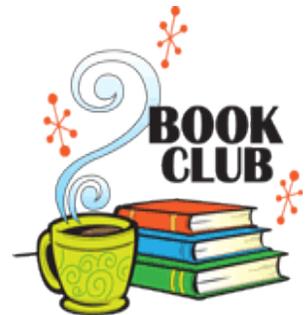
The Book Club readers have made a new list! All are welcome to join our zoom meeting by calling Judy Williamson or the office for information.

February 13 "Three Sisters" by Heather Morris

March 13 "Sea Nurses" by Kate Eastham

April 10 "Keeping Lucy" by T. Greenwood

May 8 "The Foundling" by Ann Leary



### VBS 2023

February is here! That brings many things including cold, snow, winter weather -usually. Who knows if that will happen this year, but one thing is for certain, we will be thinking about warm weather and yes, VBS!

Luckily they both go together this year. This year's theme is Surf Shack. Skipper and Snappy the crab will lead us through powerful water stories from the bible to discover ways to live out God's amazing love! Each day a new surfboard will be created to demonstrate how God Creates, God Helps, God Loves, God calms, and God Sends. VBS will be held July 24-28 from

9:30-12 noon. Please mark your calendars to join us

and support us however you are able. Join Skippy (Pastor Brian) and Snappy the crab in your tropical best and get ready to hang10!

Please contact Kay Marushak- [klmbbird10@gmail.com](mailto:klmbbird10@gmail.com) or Pat Honszer- [pastorpat4@hotmail.com](mailto:pastorpat4@hotmail.com) with questions or to let us know how you want to join us!



### Spring Rummage Sale

It is time to clean out your closets, garages, basements, and attics. We will have our spring rummage sale on **Saturday, March 25<sup>th</sup> in Fellowship Hall from 8 am to 12 noon.**

Delivery dates/times---

Wednesday, March 22, 12 to 6pm

Thursday, March 23, 12 to 6pm

Friday, March 24, 12 to 5 pm

**No Saturday delivery**

Please call Meda Henry, 610-730-4716 for drop off appointments before March 22, 2023.

**The following items will NOT be accepted: televisions, computer screens, computers, electronic devices, stuffed furniture, mattresses, clothing and shoes.**

Please join us in preparing for our rummage sale!

Tuesday, March 21 from 2-5 pm, will be our first work day for volunteers.

We always have a great time working together!

If you can help, please call Meda Henry, 610-730-4716. Thank You!

### Different Ways to Give

Did you know that there's an easy online way to give to our church? The Moravian Ministries Foundation (MMFA) website has a simple way to set up giving from your computer or smart phone. Go to the link below, answer a few simple questions, enter some information about yourself, select an amount and if it is recurring or one time, and how you want to give.

Every dollar you give goes to EMC (MMFA covers all fees and costs).

<https://www.mmfa.info/emmaus-moravian-church-donation-form/>

If you attend regularly but can't make it to church one week, please consider giving online, or even consider switching to online recurring weekly giving!

(Note that MMFA encourages you to use your checking account rather than a credit card – MMFA will pay any fees associated with either.)

Another option is the Bill Pay through your bank. You can set up for Emmaus Moravian Church to be a payee, much like PPL or UGI. The account number would be your envelope number.

The bank will send us a check at no fee to you!

Please contact Melissa Heckman, financial secretary if you have any questions!

-- From the Emmaus Moravian IT Committee

**Connect with EMC in various ways:** How do you receive the newsletter? If you receive it via email and would like a printed copy (instead of or in addition), let the office know. Do you have a friend that is interested in our activities? They can receive the newsletter as well. Have you visited our website lately? Once in a while, check it out! You may learn something new! Are you on our email list? As a member, you can receive updates about worship and any important notices about the congregation. And don't forget about Facebook. Most events are advertised via Facebook. Help the church by sharing their posts! It is great to always know what's happening in the life of your church!

## Moravian Sugar Cake and Lovefeast Bun Sale

Pick up: Saturday, February 11th from 9:00am-11:00am

\$7.00 per cake, \$7.00 per 1 dozen lovefeast buns

Proceeds benefit the EMC Camp Hope Scholarship Fund. This fund helps offset costs for our youth to attend the Eastern District's church camp, Camp Hope, located in New Jersey.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number \_\_\_\_\_

Total number of cakes \_\_\_\_\_

Total number of buns \_\_\_\_\_

Total \_\_\_\_\_

Orders can be emailed to [secretary@emmausmoravian.org](mailto:secretary@emmausmoravian.org) or placed in the offering basket

### **Emmaus Moravian Church items available for purchase!**

Puzzle of the church \$25.00; History Booklet \$5.00; hand painted Christmas ornaments \$20.00

Pastor Brian Dixon has authored 2 books that are available as well!

Contact the office for purchase!

**Cash Card Program** ~ Our cash card program can be used for gifts or your regular shopping! If you frequent a store or restaurant, you can purchase gift cards from the church and use them as cash! EMC gets a percentage of each gift card sale. We carry an inventory of over \$8,000 in 50 different cards for everyday shopping or gift giving! We have access to hundreds more we can order for you and have them in a week. Sales happen every Sunday before and after worship in the chapel lobby or in the office. Cash cards never expire!



**Typically in stock:** Amazon, Applebees, Arby's, Barnes & Noble, Bath & Body Works, Best Buy, Cabelas, CVS, Dick's Sporting Goods, Dominos, Dunkin, Gap, Giant, Holiday Hair, Home Depot, Itunes, JCPenney, Kohl's, Land's End, Limited, L.L. Bean, Olive Garden, Outback, Panera, Petsmart, Red Lobster, Target, Texas Road House, Walmart, Walgreens, Wawa, Weis, Wendy's