



**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)

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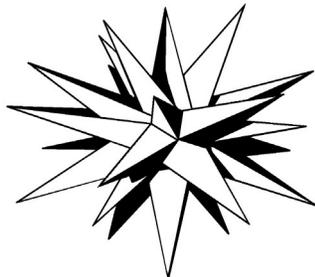
**Martha Cox Popichak** ~ Director of Music ~ [popicox@rcn.com](mailto:popicox@rcn.com)

**Christopher Klump** ~ Director of Brass Choir

**Al Kneller** ~ Sexton

**Special Envelope for January**

Common Ministries -The common ministries of the Worldwide Moravian Church include (but are not limited to) the following ministries: Moravian Open Door, Camp Hope, Ministerial Education, Board of World Mission, Moravian Music Foundation, and Provincial Archives. By paying our yearly assessments, we provide funding for these Moravian led ministries, and more. Many of these ministries are highlighted in the Moravian Magazine. As a member of the Moravian Church, you can receive this magazine for free. If you do not receive this monthly publication, please contact the church office.



**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

### HOW ABOUT THE REST OF CHRISTMAS?

Christmas and New Years have big “fresh start” energy. Celebrating the birth of Jesus – the fulfillment of God’s promise and our hope in the same – is a reminder that first and foremost God is God with us. And, as the Apostle Paul proposed; if God is with us, if God is tender-hearted toward us, “if God is for us...” (Romans 8:31) doesn’t this then bring a sense of purpose and possibility to the New Year?

For many, resolutions are the way to go (or at least start). There are changes we wish to see. There are changes we want to make. There are changes needing to happen. And we believe that we can do all things through Christ... (Philippians 4:13), so let’s get to work! Right?

Depending on whom you ask (Forbes, Time or Inc. magazine, the New York Post, etc.) the success rate of New Year’s resolutions ranges from 9 – 20%. Several reasons for failure are given. They’re not actionable. There’s a lack of accountability, or our being unrealistic or impatient. All these explanations and the solutions offered seem to share a thread:

**Real, lasting, substantive change requires consistent, sustained effort over time.**

Which, if this sounds like work, that’s because it is.

But I don’t think we have a problem with hard work. We work hard. We work smart. We have a work ethic. We strive for work-life balance. We whistle while we work. And 91 – 80% of New Year’s resolutions still fail. What if work isn’t the problem? What if it’s rest? Or, to put it another way, what if a significant (and serious) challenge we might take more seriously is God’s commandment (and gift) of rest: Exodus 20:8 and Deuteronomy 5:12?

In the account of creation, Adam and Eve are given a day of holy rest after God does all the work! At his baptism in the Jordan (Matthew 3), Jesus is blessed and loved and the happiness of the Father without having yet done anything! What if rest isn’t shirking, or missing opportunity, or wasting time, but something with intrinsic, implicit valor, dignity, and worth? What if it’s something given to us (and commanded) by God because it’s something we need? Jesus did not say, “Come to me all you who are weary and heavy-laden and I will give you something to do.” He said he would give us rest.

The American poet-farmer Wendell Berry captures our reluctance to rest in a few lines about going for a walk: “What is the way to the woods, how do you go there? By climbing up through the six days’ field, kept in all the body’s years, the body’s sorrow, weariness, and joy... Why must the gate be narrow? Because you cannot pass beyond it burdened. To come in among these trees you must leave behind the six days’ world, all of it, all of its plans and hopes.” **This kind of rest is not leaving undone what you can do but trusting deeply in what God can do.**

Restfully yours,  
Pastor Brian

## Worship Opportunities

Sunday, January 1st ~ 10:30 Worship ~ Communion and Watchwords

Sunday, January 8<sup>th</sup> ~ 9:00 Sunday School; 10:30 Worship

Sunday, January 15<sup>th</sup> ~ 9:00 Sunday School; 10:30 Worship

January 22<sup>nd</sup> ~ 9:00 Sunday School; 10:30 Worship

Sunday, January 29<sup>th</sup> ~ 9:00 Sunday School; 10:30 Worship

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

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

*January 1st ~ In loving memory of Janice W. Carper by the Semet family and  
In loving memory of Gregory Feldman's birthday on January 3rd  
by his parents, Ken & Janet Feldman*

*January 8th ~ In loving memory of Arlene Keller and family members  
by Michael & Meda Henry and family*

*January 15th ~ In loving memory of Kris Snyder by her sons, Jake, Jalen, Elias, Abe and  
In honor of Jeff & Kerry Schmeltzle's wedding anniversary. They would have  
celebrated 30 years on January 16th, 2023*

*January 22nd ~ In loving memory of George Rinker's birthday on January 26th  
by Kathy and Barb and*

*In loving memory of our parents, E. Jane & Ruland Feldman and Frank & MaryLee Price  
by Ken & Janet Feldman*

*January 29th ~ In loving memory of Eddie George by Carol George and In loving memory  
of Janet E. Schwartz-Lichtenwalner by sisters Linda, Cindy and Judy*

### **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:** Ready to eat foods for our homeless community, peanut butter, jelly, soup, baked beans, spaghetti, spaghetti sauce, canned or individual cups of fruit or applesauce, pudding cups.

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



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

Dear EMC,

Thank you for your gift to the ministry of Samaritan's Purse (Operation Christmas Child). We appreciate your donation of \$1,145.34. We celebrate the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ into the world. Much like Mary, Joseph, and the shepherds in the Bible, the life of each person who meets our Saviour today is radically changed!

### **It's not too late to start a new daily tradition!**



### **Daily Texts available!**

The Daily Texts grew out of a spiritual renewal of the Moravian Church (Unitas Fratrum) that dates back to Aug. 13, 1727. The texts were first published in 1731 in Herrnhut, Germany. Today, the Daily Texts continues its promise of "a daily message from God that is new every morning."

Contact the office to purchase!

Paperback: \$10.00, Large Print: \$14.00, Journal: \$17.00

### **Morning Prayer Time**

Dear friends, A friendly reminder and update about weekday morning prayer!

Our schedule is as follows:

Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays at 8:15 a.m. on Zoom

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/4429489211> (same as Sundays)

Tuesdays and Thursdays 6:15 a.m. at Superior (102 State Ave in Emmaus)

A time-honored Moravian practice and a great 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*

## Christian Education News

Sunday School classes for ages 2 through grade 12 will resume on Sunday, January 8th at 9:00. All children welcome to attend! If you have any questions about Sunday School, please contact Melissa Heckman at 610-653-7025 or Karen Semet at 610-554-9709.

### **Adult Opportunities:**

**Adult Sunday School Class** ~ January 22<sup>nd</sup>- March 5<sup>th</sup> ~ will meet in the Moravian Room 9:00am "Ed's Story: A Film Series About Hope" (7-Week DVD Study) Suffering is everywhere and it changes us. Diagnosed with ALS and given a short time to live, Ed wrestles with the challenges suffering raises: worry, identity, forgiveness, gratitude, and healing. Emerging from it all is his discovery that there is always hope. Ed Dobson pastored Calvary Church in Grand Rapids, Michigan, and served as consulting editor for *Leadership* magazine. He held a doctorate from the University of Virginia, and authored several books, including *The Year of Living like Jesus* and *Seeing Through the Fog*. He moved to the U.S. from Northern Ireland in 1964. He died in December of 2015. This study will be led by Pastor Brian.

**Prayer Shawl Ministry** ~ Starting on Sunday, January 15<sup>th</sup>, the Prayer Shawl Ministry Group will meet in the Family Living Area at 9:00am. Enjoy prayer, scriptures and fellowship along with supporting our ministry to others. Bring your knitting needles or crochet hook! We have plenty of yarn to work with! For more info, contact Linda Miller 610-573-0574 or Kathy Rinker 484-264-7651.



**Children's Christmas Program** ~ A huge "THANK YOU" to our student Pastor, Mikayla Sauerbrey and all those who helped her with the production of "Selah the Sleepy Sheep." Everyone loves to see and hear the children perform and we are thankful to all who helped make this production successful!

**Operation Christmas Child** 2022 was a huge success! After a break of 2 years because of COVID, we packed 90 shoeboxes and donated shipping for more than 122 shoeboxes. Thank you very much for your generous donations. In a year when many people are struggling and every other piece of mail or email is a worthy organization asking for donations, it touches my heart that you are still willing to support this ministry to needy children around the world!

The collection for next year's shoeboxes begins now! We will be accepting donations of new or gently used toys. So, now is the time to clean out those toy boxes, closets, and under the bed (please remove all dust bunnies, lol). Your donations can be placed in a labeled bag and given to the office or placed in the chapel on the hutch.

Each month I will be collecting something new to get prepared for the November 2023 packing party! Thank you for all your support!



~ Diane Lint

### **The Sacristan Corp Thanks You!**

It takes a village! And we are so thankful that our village showed up and willingly served worshippers at our 3 Christmas Eve Services! It was a bit chaotic behind the scenes at times, but you pitched in where needed and got the job done! It was also a fun time chatting with volunteers between the busy times. I am so thankful to be in fellowship with such a great group of people and to be able to call Emmaus Moravian “home” with you all as members my church family.



Wishing you God’s blessings for a healthy and happy 2023,  
Sue Adams, Head Sacristan

### **The EMC Book Club**

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



January 9 “Take My Hand” by Dolan Perkins-Valdez  
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

### **Offering Envelopes and Pictorial Directory**

The 2023 Offering Envelopes and Directories are ready to be picked up in the Comenius Room!

### **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

## Community Happenings

### Greetings from the Essentials Cafe Team!

The Essentials Cafe is a new undertaking in West Bethlehem. The Cafe will offer healthy and delicious meals as well as great coffee on a PayWhatYouCan model.

We draw inspiration from our friends and encouragers at:

Tricklebee Cafe: <http://tricklebeecafe.org/>

Cafe Esperanza: <http://www.cafeesperanzardg.org/>

What's happening:

- \* We recently secured our location: 418 3rd Avenue in Bethlehem, Pa. 18018
- \* We are securing a contractor to build a ramp and ADA compliant restroom.
  - \* We are creating a wish list of needed items, to be shared soon!
- \* We continue to work on behind-the-scenes administrative tasks (permits, insurance, etc)

We are excited to welcome you to our first event in our space!

### **Essentials Cafe Open House; Saturday January 21st, 12 noon to 2pm**

- \* Come see the space that will soon be the cafe!
- \* Sample delicious soups, desserts, and beverages.
- \* Meet the Cafe Team, learn about the project, and sign up to share your skills.

If you would like to support this project with a donation, it is appreciated!

Send donations to the address above!

Essentials Cafe Team: Lynette Delbridge, Dawn Fenner, Kasey Thomas  
Christine Johnson, Secretary; Rebecca Miller, Treasurer; Tammie Rinker, President

### Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser

All proceeds to benefit East Penn Neighbors Helping Neighbors

Dinner will be held at Faith Presbyterian Church ~ 3002 N. 2nd St. Emmaus

February 11th at 5:00 and 7:00

Early Bird \$8.00; \$10.00 at the door

Get tickets by calling Faith Pres at 610-967-5600

### Part-Time Office Coordinator at College Hill

College Hill Moravian Church is seeking a part-time office coordinator to oversee the church office. Looking for a friendly, reliable and organized person to prepare weekly church bulletins and other printed and electronic communications, maintain information, greet the public and coordinate facility use. Strong interpersonal and computer skills and experience with Microsoft Office a must. Familiarity with congregational life and dynamics a plus. This is a salaried position, 20 hrs./week, vacation and holidays included, no other benefits. Questions can be sent

to: [personnel@collegehillmoravian.org](mailto:personnel@collegehillmoravian.org).

You may apply online at <https://www.collegehillmoravian.org/jobs>



## The Board of World Mission of the Moravian Church North America

Greetings! Thank you for your support of the work of the BWM! Emmaus Moravian Church members generously gifted \$2,449.92 to the BWM's general fund. Your donation allows the Board the greatest flexibility to ensure that particular initiatives in need of funding to expand, will receive it.

The support of you and other donors helped 2021 be a year of growth and visioning for the future! The Ahaus Clinic's 75th Anniversary Fund was a success that will continue to support the clinic financially for years to come. The Mission Grants program transformed to offer new types of grants and opportunities to our global partners. Lastly, the Moravian Disaster Response program sent financial support to numerous area despite covid restrictions prohibiting teams from going into the field. These are just a few of the notable ministries your support made possible in 2021!

Much of our focus for 2022 was Ukrainian relief efforts. Our generous donors have given over \$300,000 to date! This has allowed us to send support to multiple Moravian Congregations in Europe as well as school programs for Ukrainian refugees. In 2022, we also participated in a Conference for our Spanish Speaking Partners which allowed us to meet in person with the leadership of Provinces and Mission Areas throughout the Caribbean, Central and South America.

Each financial gift we receive allows us to grow our impact and allows our global partners to dream bigger and be even more creative as we accompany them in this work. The list of new project ideas being discerned, funded and completed is ever changing. Please check our website ([www.MoravianMission.org](http://www.MoravianMission.org)) for the latest updates! As the Moravian church continues to grow each year, and new prospective mission areas are identified, we know that we could not be as effective as we are without your support. Thank you for helping us be faithful to our commitment to the Great Commandment and the Great Commission!

Thank you again for your support.  
Peace and blessings,  
Sue Adams, administrative Assistant

**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!

