

Lancaster Moravian Church Logos



2019 Congregational Watchword:

“But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.” Acts 1:8

March 2019

Each year, at the end of February, our church is required to submit an annual report to the Province to let them know how we are doing. This report includes a number of things including our budget for the coming year and our treasurer’s report for the year past. It includes an assessment of the Unified Board regarding the health of our congregation, it includes the reports from our church council, and a directory of those in leadership within the congregation. It also includes attendance and membership records. I’m sure it doesn’t require a hard look at the books to know that membership numbers continue to decrease. Since I have come here 15 months ago, three strong women of the church have died, and several more are unable to get to church regularly.

The church is changing, and the emphasis and draw of church membership is also changing. Lancaster Moravian Church is not alone in this. The mainline Protestant churches across the nation are experiencing this as a whole with few exceptions. As I have talked to so many of you, as conversations have come up at meetings or casually, the number one concern that I hear about the health of our church is our size, and the lack of new attendance or membership. We’ve had visitors, but none who were really looking for a new church home. I want you to know that I hear you! The viability of Lancaster Moravian Church as it exists now will come into question in upcoming years if the current trends continue as they have.

There are no easy answers. Honestly, there are more questions than there are answers? What does church growth really look like? Attendance? Membership? Giving? Strengthened relationships with God? Strengthened relationships with community? A combination of all of the above? To answer some of those questions, I want to pose a few questions for each of us to ponder? What is it that first brought you to Lancaster Moravian? Was it through birth? Marriage? A personal invitation? Location? Second, what makes you stay? Why do you choose to wake up on a Sunday morning and come to church? Why do you choose to invest in the church with your tithes and offerings? Why do you volunteer to be a greeter, to sing in the choir, to read scripture, to attend prayer walks? To serve on a board? Why is this an important part of your life?

It is clear that for those of us that call Lancaster Moravian home, it is important. Out of 48 members, 8 of which are homebound, our average Sunday attendance for 2018 was 33 people. That means just about 3/4 of our members who are able to attend regularly. I can also tell you that of those active members 100% participate in some way other than attending Sunday worship. Those are pretty remarkable statistics!

Numerous studies have shown time and time again that the number one way to get new people to come to church is by a personal invitation from a friend, family member, or acquaintance who is involved in their church. It makes perfect sense! If you find value in it, if you speak highly of it, if it has meaning to you, that will shine through you. When you invite others to something that brings your life joy and meaning, they are more likely to check it out. Do the people you come in contact with know how important your church is to you? Do they know how important Jesus is to you? Why or why not?

Have you invited your friends, your acquaintances, your family to come with you some Sunday morning?

This month's Dialogue is with Michael and Arlene Brauner. If you would like to share any concerns with your Unified Board, just let them know and they'll be happy to meet you in the Quiet Room.

2019 Income & Expenses

	<u>January</u>	<u>YTD</u>
Operating Income	\$ 5,806	\$ 5,806
Operating Expense	<u>\$ 9,016</u>	<u>\$ 9,016</u>
Gain/<Loss>	<\$ 3,210>	<\$ 3,210 >



MORAVIAN WOMEN

Moravian Women will meet on Thursday March 7th at 1PM at the home of Susie Evans. We will continue our study of "Our Guiding Light". Our lesson will be on "Seeing the Light on the Faces of Others".

Our mission study will be "Esperanza for Bethlehem".

Please join us for fellowship and spiritual growth.

Call Nancy Sturgis @ 717-569-7678 for questions.



Next Lancaster community Prayer Walk:

Saturday, March 16th, 9:00 AM

Come prepared for the weather, and meet outside the church entrance.

*Prayer is the most powerful
against trials, the most effective
medicine against sickness and
the most valuable gift to
someone we care for.*



Save the Date – The Lititz/Lancaster Fall Retreat will be November 8-10, 2019. More details to follow. See Nancy Sturgis or Pastor Mandy with questions.

Opportunity to Serve: Every Sunday afternoon at 2:30 PM residents gather for worship at Moravian Manor in Steinman Hall chapel. Volunteers are urgently needed to help serve as greeters, to hand out orders of service, and to help transport residents to and from the services. If you are able and willing to help, please contact Chaplain Rich Thierolf at (717) 625-6139, or volunteer coordinator, Robin Work at (717) 625-6005. Thank you for your consideration. Joanne, Emma, and Cindy all attend this service, and it would be a great opportunity to visit with them.



January Highlights



PASTORS

A'

PLENTY

January 27th we were blessed to have 3 pastors on tap.

Rev. Dr. Betsy Miller

Rev. Dean & Janis Easton

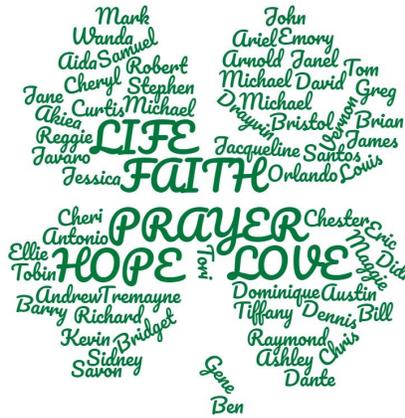
And our own Rev. Mandy Mastros



Behold, how good it is when...



OTHER TIDBITS



Please pray for these individuals that have reached out to us.

JOIN US FOR OUR “Community Day” FUNDRAISER



ISAAC'S

On Sunday, March 31, 2019, **LITITZ ISAAC'S** will host a fundraiser to aid Lititz/Lancaster Moravian Congregations' retreat! Bring your family and friends to enjoy great food, while supporting our upcoming retreat. Twenty-five percent (25%) of the cost of your meal will go directly toward the expenses of this year's event. Please come and support us!

WHERE: **LITITZ ISAAC'S** – Valid at this Isaac's only.
4 Crosswinds Drive, Lititz
(behind Pizza Hut on Rt. 501)
Call 717-625-1181 for takeout orders

WHEN: **Sunday, March 31, 2019. 11:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.**

HOW: Bring this flyer with you or show it on your phone, complete the information and hand in when paying.

**This form can be used for Dine-In, Takeout & Online Orders at www.isaacrestaurants.com.
Use coupon code **FUND** for online fundraiser orders.**

Please complete this information for your server.

Name: _____

of People in Party: ____ **Cost of Meal (excluding tax):** _____

In order to maximize the amount of donation for the organization, we ask our Loyalty members to refrain from using their number during fundraisers. Meal Deals, Coupons, Discounts, and Loyalty Perks are not valid during Fundraisers.

Want to help us earn even MORE? Add an Isaac's **Gift Card** to your check and **15%** of the gift card sale will be added to the fundraiser! Gift card must be used on future visit.



“Injustice” by Daniel Gwynn

BETHLEHEM, PA —Incarcerated individuals tell their stories through art in the thought-provoking exhibition *Hope in Hard Times: Prisoners’ Art for Social Justice*, an installation at the Banana Factory that seeks to shed light on important questions about humanity and generate discussion about criminal justice system. The exhibition, which is presented by Art for Justice, The Moravian Church’s Eastern District, Moravian Seminary and ArtsQuest, runs March 1–April 7 in the Crayola Gallery of the Banana Factory Arts Center, 25 W. Third St., Bethlehem.

“Art can tell stories about the human experience through the lens of an individual deep within the criminal justice system – or prison. Viewing the art can open conversations about collective justice and individual worth in our times,” says Ann Marie Kirk, co-founder of Art for Justice.

Lancaster and Lititz Moravian churches will be partnering to take a field trip to visit the exhibit and to attend the following special event:

March 24, 2-4 p.m.

Vigil for Hope in the Criminal Justice System at the Banana Factory

Keynote speaker: Chester Hollman, Jr. - Telling the story of his son Chester Hollman III’s wrongful conviction and sentence of life without parole in Pennsylvania.

Schedule

10:00AM – 11:00 AM – Worship Lancaster Moravian Church

12 Noon – Depart from Lititz Moravian Church if you wish to ride in the mini bus.

(OR drive separately and meet us at the gallery at 2PM)

2-5 PM – Attend event and View the Exhibit

5PM – Dinner at a venue in Bethlehem (TBD)

6:30PM – 8PM - Return Back to Lititz

*****Sign-up sheet is located in the back of the church.*****

The Intersection of Faith and the Movies

Tuesday, March 5

7:00 - 8:30 pm

Led by Penn Ketchum, Founder and Co-owner of Penn Cinema IMAX

Join us for a discussion about faith and modern day storytelling in the movies. Find out about at the business behind the movies and learn how traditionally "faith-based" messages are woven into the fabric of the best movies.



An Evening with Brian McClaren

Saturday, April 27

7:00 - 8:15 pm

Highland Presbyterian Church, Lancaster, PA

Join us for an evening with bestselling author, speaker, and public theologian Brian McLaren. McLaren is the founding pastor of Cedar Ridge Community Church, an innovative, nondenominational congregation.

Nicholas Kristof calls McLaren, “**Provocative and powerful.**” Richard Rohr writes, “**Anything written by Brian McLaren is always filled with insight, courage, and creative theology, refining the meaning of orthodoxy in our time.**”

Lancaster City Events March 2019

Bruno Miguel, Friday, March 1st, 5-9PM – FREE – PA College of Art & Design – 204 N. Prince Street.

Bruno Miguel is a Brazilian artist who makes art from found objects. Miguel has a talent for transforming junk into art in a playful way and is influenced by Brazilian Tropicália, Pop Art, and Rio Carnival.

A Million Dreams: Songs of Inspiration. Friday March 1st, 7PM, Saturday March 2nd, 3PM and 7PM, and Sunday March 3rd 3PM – Pay what you will. The Trust Performing Arts Center – 37 N. Market St.

A heartwarming and stirring concert featuring a wide variety of uplifting songs. This blend of stunning harmonies and solo vocal arrangements will lift your spirits and make your heart sing!

Larry Hershey Organ Concert – Friday, March 1st, 8 PM – Free - First Reformed Church – 40 E Orange St.

Join Organist Larry Hershey on First Friday, March 1 at 8 pm as he plays a 30 minute concert of classics on the mighty vintage 1958 analog Allen organ at historic 1854 First Reformed Church.

Lancaster City Restaurant Week – March 4th – March 10th – www.lancastercityrestaurantweek.com

This week, diners can choose meal breakfast, brunch, lunch & dinner deals from over 35 Lancaster City restaurants and cafes (and counting) featuring diverse cuisines including American, African, Asian, Ethiopian, Irish, Indian, Italian, Jamaican, Latin, Mexican, Nepalese, Trinidadian and Vietnamese.

Early Music at Saint James – Tuesday March 5th – 7:30 PM- \$5-\$20 – St. James Episcopal, 119 N Duke St. “Playing of real distinction that combines stylishness with thrilling musicianship” (Europadisc) accounts for Chiaroscuro Quartet’s meteoric rise to fame, while Kristian Bezuidenhout—“arguably the most brilliant of today’s fortepiano players.

Prayer Walk Lancaster – Saturday, March 16th, 9AM – Free – Lancaster Moravian Church

Join us as we walk through the streets of our lovely city praying for all those who live, work, and visit here.

Concert by the Lititz Moravian Collegium Musicum (chamber orchestra)

Sunday, March 31, 2019, 7:00 pm. Lititz Moravian Congregation Fellowship Hall, Church Square, Lititz, PA. Tickets: \$12 per ticket for adults, \$6 for students, available only at the door beginning at 6pm on the evening of the concert. Church Office, 717-626-8515; office@lititzmoravian.org Dr. Jeffrey Gemmell, Music Director and Conductor.

For a List of Lancaster City History Events and Tours go to <https://visitlancastercity.com/attractions-activities/history/>

For a list of Performing Arts locations and opportunities go to <https://visitlancastercity.com/arts-culture/performing-arts/>

Feed My Starving Children (FMSC) is a Christian organization founded in 1987. Through MobilePack events, FMSC is able to partner with local community organizations to send healthy, safe meals to malnourished children around the world. Thanks to volunteers packing and covering the expense of the meals, each meal costs only 22 cents to produce. Since 1987, FMSC has distributed more than 1.5 billion meals in nearly 70 countries.

The **6th Lancaster County Feed My Starving Children MobilePack** will take place **Friday-Sunday, March 29-31, 2019**, at **Willow Street Mennonite Church, Willow Street, PA**. Online registration will begin in mid- February 2019. 1,500 volunteers will pack 300,000 meals to help alleviate world hunger! To date, our meals have gone to Somalia, Haiti, Belize, Malawi and the Dominican Republic. Working together over the last 5 years, more than 5,000 volunteers from our community have come together to send more than 1 million meals to those most in need around the world!

If you are age 5-205, WE NEED YOU!!!!

How does it work? 1,500 volunteers work during 2 hour shifts to pack 300,000 meals in 3 days. The volunteers come from churches, businesses, friends, relatives, co-workers and anyone else who would like to participate. It is an awesome opportunity for families and friends to volunteer and spend time together for a great cause!

Can anyone do it? For safety and efficiency, required student-to-adult ratios are put in place:

K-2nd grade 1 student to 1 adult

3rd-6th grade 3 students to 1 adult

7th-9th grade 4 students to 1 adult

10th-12th grade 5 students to 1 adult

Sit down jobs are available as needed.

Does it cost to participate? Every individual who signs up for a packing shift is encouraged to make a personal goal of contributing a minimum of \$50. At the price of 22 cents a meal, this covers the cost of 1 box of packed meals (216 meals) which is the average amount a single volunteer packs in a 2 hour period. Whether a person can contribute 22 cents or \$220, we welcome you to participate in the MobilePack event.

Donations may be submitted on-line for our event at:

<https://www.fmsc.org/ways-to-give/donate-to-a-mobilepack> or mailed to:

Feed My Starving Children

ATTN: MobilePack #1903-013MI

401 93rd Avenue NW

Coon Rapids, MN 55433



Make checks payable to FMSC. Write "MobilePack #1804-019MI" in the memo line.

Learn more: Check out FMSC at www.fmsc.org/mobilepack/events

Plan to volunteer in the future! You can make a positive difference in the world!!!!!!

LANCASTER CITY MARCH HAPPENINGS



ABOUT FIRST FRIDAY

There's nothing like a First Friday in Lancaster City! Join in Lancaster's highly popular arts extravaganza each and every First Friday, 5 to 9 pm. You'll be swept up in the creative energy that pervades the city. Discover innovative exhibitions, performances and perhaps a few surprises as you walk our attractive streets lined with trees and distinctive architecture. Unique boutiques and excellent restaurants complement the art galleries, artisan studios, museums, performing groups, professional theater, symphony orchestra, and art college that comprise Lancaster's arts community.

2019 DATES

MARCH 1	MAY 3	SEPTEMBER 6
APRIL 5	JUNE 7	OCTOBER 4
	JULY 5	NOVEMBER 1
	AUGUST 2	DECEMBER 6



"On behalf of the Ephrata Middle School students I would like to thank everyone who collected and saved plastic caps. The school has been able to have 4 benches made entirely from recycled caps! We will no longer be collecting them after March 1st, due to lack of space. They are piled up in contractor bags in the media center reaching to the ceiling! Thanks again for supporting our school in this very rewarding endeavor."

Thanks again for your willingness to jump into the project with us!

Diane Herber

Lancaster Moravian Church

227 North Queen Street, 2nd Floor
PO Box 1327, Lancaster, PA 17608
Phone: 717-397-9722

Website: www.lancastermoravian.org

Email: pastor@lancastermoravian.org (Rev. Mandy Mastros)
office@lancastermoravian.org (Donna)
books@lancastermoravian.org (Therese)

Sunday Schedule

10:00 AM Worship Service
11:00 AM Coffee, Cookie &
Conversation

Prayer Concerns

Pam Kalogiros; Emma Snavely; Elaine Sturgis;

Homebound Members

Susie Meals, Bonnie Tshudy, Emma Snavely (hospice), Joanne Zimmerman, Cindy Campbell; Marion Kutz

Unified Board

Elder committee

Eddie Graybill (2019)
Barb Schulter (2018)
Elaine Sturgis (2020)
Arlene Brauner (2019)

Trustee committee

Addison Rymar (2019)
David Herber (2019)
Mike Brauner (2018)
Charlie Graybill (2018)

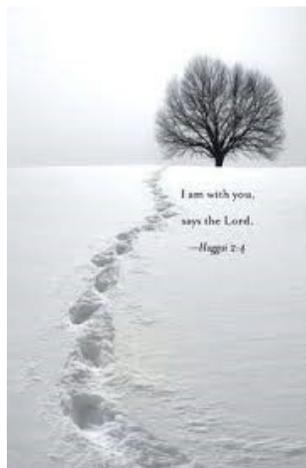
Staff

Pastor - Rev. Mandy Mastros
Donna Schilke, Admin Assistant/Editor

Office Hours at Moravian Center

The office is open: M-F, 9:30 AM-12:30 PM
Pastor's office hours: Tuesday 9 AM-1 PM
Wednesday 1-4 PM

other times by appointment.



Articles and items appearing in the newsletter are due by the second Monday of every month. Material & comments should be submitted to the church office.



Worship Attendance

January	27th	45
February	3rd	26
February	10th	27
February	17th	31
February	24th	33

March Anniversaries

None to Report

March Birthdays

Annetta McCardell	March 02
Cindy Campbell	March 05
Wayne Kautz	March 07
Susan Hibner	March 18
Addison Rymar	March 18
Gianna Miranda	March 24

** Member of the 90+ Club

What's on the Horizon?

March 01	World Day of Prayer
March 03	Unity Offering; Jesus, Still Lead On
March 06	Ash Wednesday
March 07	Moravian Women @ 1 PM
March 10	Lent 1 w/Communion; DST begins
March 16	Prayer Walk: Lancaster @ 9 AM
March 17	Lent 2 / Jesus, Still Lead On
March 24	Lent 3 / Joint trip w/Lititz
March 31	Lent 4; Jesus, Still Lead On

*For more information, please check our website: www.lancastermoravian.org or check us out on Facebook.