MORAVIAN CENTER OF LANCASTER

In essentials unity; in non-essentials liberty; in all things Love.





A P R I L • 2 0 2 4

School Bells are Ringing!



It's that time again. On April 2nd, I will begin the last regular course of my doctoral work at Lancaster Theological Seminary, before beginning my writing year. I was asked to write a brief summary of my project to date this month and thought it would be a good way to share with all of you

Pastor Mandy Mastros

how the work is going. Before you read the report (below), let me tell you why this work is important. I believe God has given us all gifts to share with the broader community. I believe that our life experiences make us all experts in our own right. Jesus' ministry is all about meeting people where they are and giving them the opportunity to speak into what they need and want. This is why I believe that no group should make decisions or create programs on behalf of other groups without including representatives of those other groups, especially when members of those groups will be so greatly impacted during every part of the process. People who have been unhoused are the experts on how best to serve and create programs that will be effective for unhoused individuals. It is for this reason that I have created a curriculum that equips unhoused individuals to serve on the boards of non-profits that work with unhoused people, and to equip boards to receive unhoused members onto their boards. I am more than pleased and excited about how this work has taken shape, and the great things that the group has been doing. This work has been life changing and inspiring!

Report on the Lived Experience Group and the Homeless Advocacy Board: March 2024

Lived Experience Group: The Lived Experience Group completed its second mock board meeting on February 27, 2024. This was the final meeting for this group. Eight people completed the program which was comprised of eight regular sessions and two mock board meetings.

Six of these individuals are in various stages of working toward board or committee membership with the following groups: Office for the Coalition (O4C), Community Engagement Team of the O4C, Tempo Clubhouse (through CSG), ECHOS, Columbia Dream Center, PA Furniture Mission, and Meals on Wheels. Additional contacts are being made with PRIDE Lancaster. Two of the eight individuals are taking a break before beginning this step.

I have met with each of the boards to explain the program and outline expectations. Boards have voted to accept a person to their board and have chosen a mentor who will meet with me and the participant prior to attending meetings. After three board meetings, the mentor and the participant and I will meet for an evaluation meeting before official program completion.

There are enough funds left in the program budget provided by the O4C to ensure that all participants have transportation to any board meetings or events for the first year of board membership.

Jen Koppel from Community Solutions did two Bridges Out of Poverty trainings at the Moravian Center this month with board members of all participating organizations invited/encouraged to attend. The hope and expectation was that at least one member from each participating board would attend a training. Twelve individuals attended the two trainings.

The Lived Experience Group has decided that in addition to serving on other boards, they wanted to create their own board to advocate for individuals experiencing homelessness. They have chosen the name Homeless Advocacy Board.

Homeless Advocacy Board: The group has (continued on page 2)

(continued from page 1)

decided on the name Homeless Advocacy Board. They officially began meeting on February 13th. They also have designed and adopted a logo. Currently meeting bi-weekly with eight official members and six regular attendees. Meetings are held at the Moravian Center of Lancaster.

The group met with Tim Dzurilla, expert on nonprofit formation in February. His focus was on visioning and strategies for next steps. He gave the group a template for creating a mission and vision statement.

Goals of the group include being available to other groups for consultations, educating the community on the realities of homelessness, and reducing the stigmas associated with it.

The group met with SOWE representatives to give their input on how to structure a locker program in March.

They are currently working on designing a 3x5 card with the most necessary and userfriendly resources for unhoused persons. The goal is for local businesses/organizations to put them on

their counter and/or for staff to have them readily available to persons who come.

The group has been working on video impact statements to submit to the National Homeless Law Center for the Johnson v. Grants Pass Supreme Court case in April.

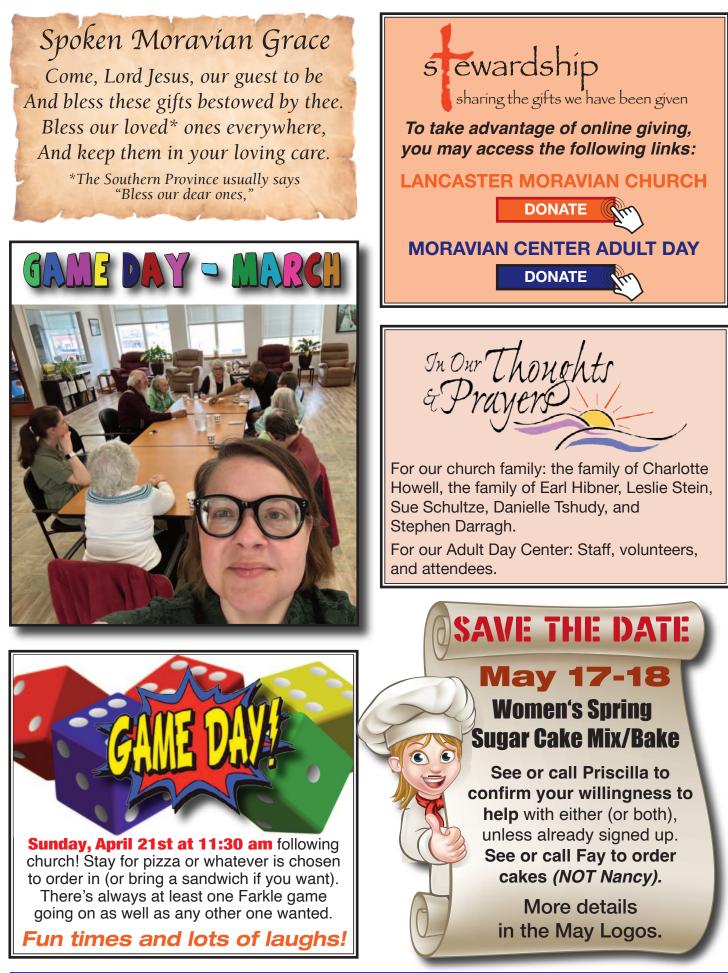
We are continuing to work on Mission Statement, Vision Statement, and by-laws, as well as seeking a parent organization if and when the group starts seeking out grants or donations. I will initially continue to facilitate group meetings, with the intent of slowly backing off into a consultant/advisor role as seems appropriate.

Many Blessings! Pastor Mandy

2024 Congregational Watchword:

Philippians 1:9-11: "And this is my prayer: that your love may abound more and more in knowledge and depth of insight, so that you may be able to discern what is best and may be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ-to the glory and praise of God."

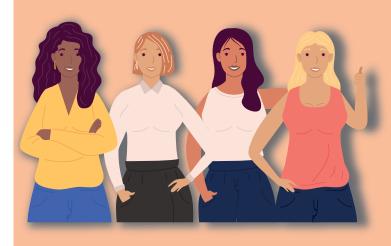






4

Moravian Women



Thursday, April 4th at 1:00 pm at Schulter's home and on Zoom.



We will be continuing our study of James, focusing on James 3:13 - 18. This passage looks at the wisdom of Solomon and the wisdom of God.

The mission study for April will look at "God's call to the Disciples." This lesson looks at the women who followed Jesus and how we are all called to be disciples of Christ and proclaim God's good news of His kingdom.

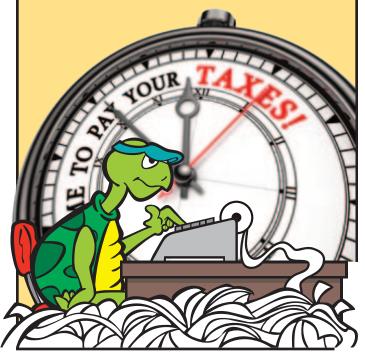
Please join us for an afternoon of fellowship and understanding of God's word in our lives. Please notify Nancy Sturgis, (717) 538-0488, if you wish to join on Zoom or have any questions.



3140 LITITZ PIKE



SAVE THE DATE





Support Our Fundraiser

Our organization earns 15% of all Dine-In, Take-Out, Catering and Gift Card Orders.*

Sunday, April 14, 2024

To Benefit

Lititz Moravian Retreat Committee

At Isaac's

Lititz

4 Crosswinds Dr.

ONLINE ORDERS - Enter "Fund" in the box on the payment page.

TAKEOUT ORDERS - Let Isaac's team member know you are part of our fundraiser when placing your order.

*Sorry, we cannot accept coupons, discounts or Loyalty perks on Fundraising orders.



LMC Book Club

Monday, May 6, 2024, at 3:00 pm on Zoom



We are not meeting in April. Resuming in May, our discussion will continue with our book...

How to Walk Away by Katherine Center

All are invited to join us!

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7276959529 meeting ID # 7276959529



2024 INCOME & EXPENSES

	MARCH	YTD
Operating Income	\$10,106.21	\$29,543.83
Operating Expense	\$18,003.84	\$40,145.91
Gain/ <loss></loss>	-\$7,897.63	-\$10,602.08
	A	



Service is held on the 2nd Floor Beginning at 10:00 am

ALL ARE WELCOME!

MORAVIAN CENTER

Lancaster Moravian Church 227 N. Queen Street Lancaster, PA 17603

717-397-9722

www.lancastermoravian.org

Rev. Mandy M. Mastros, LSW Email: pastor@lancastermoravian.org



Dave & Diane Herber

April 30



Greta Rymar

April 11

UNIFIED BOARD

Priscilla Weidman (Vice Chair) Joe Schulter Wayne Kautz Fay Hill Jan Stein Arlene Hibner Dave Herber (Associate)

STAFF

PASTOR Rev. Mandy Mastros, LSW

BOOKKEEPER Lee Farr

OFFICE HOURS AT MORAVIAN CENTER

Tue. & Thu., 9:30 am - 12:30 pm

PASTOR'S OFFICE HOURS:

Tuesday & Thursday 9:30 am – 12:00 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.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR APRIL 2024

 Monday 	1	11:00 am	Easter Reading at the ADS	
• Wednesday	3		No Spirit Time	
 Thursday 	4	1:00 pm	Women's Fellowship at Schulter's Home	
Saturday	6	10:00 am	Celebration of Life – Earl Hibner – St. John Herr Estate	
 Sunday 	7	10:00 am	Worship	
Monday	8		Office Closed - Pastor Mandy Off	
• Tuesday	9		Pastor Mandy Off	
Wednesday	10	2:00 pm	Spirit Time at ADS - Lillian Pastor Mandy Off	
Thursday	11	4:30 pm	ADS Board Meeting (Hybrid) Pastor Mandy Off	
 Friday 	12		Pastor Mandy Off	
Sunday	14	10:00 am	Worship Isaac's Lititz Fundraiser for the Retreat	
Monday	15	TAX DAY	Office Closed - Pastor Mandy Off	
Wednesday	17	2:00 pm	Spirit Time at ADS - Devin	
 Saturday 	20	9:00 am	Prayer Walk	
 Sunday 	21	10:00 am	Worship with Games After at 11:30 am	
 Monday 	22		Office Closed - Pastor Mandy Off	
Wednesday	24	9:30 am 2:00 pm	Breakfast Knight and Day Diner Spirit Time at ADS - Pastor Mandy	
Thursday	25	11:00 am	Unified Board Meeting	
 Sunday 	28	10:00 am	Worship	
 Monday 	29		Office Closed - Pastor Mandy Off	

8