



FEBRUARY 2024

THE LAMPLIGHTER

YORK FIRST MORAVIAN

AS WE GO INTO FEBRUARY, THE MONTH OF LOVE, WHEN WE CELEBRATE ST. VALENTINE'S DAY, I WANTED TO SHARE WITH YOU THE WORDS IN THE HYMN BELOW. THIS HYMN WAS SUNG IN OUR JANUARY 28TH SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE. CLIFF BERGSTRESSER WAS OUR PREACHER AND CHOSE THIS SONG AS ONE OF THE HYMNS FOR THE SERVICE.

WHAT A WONDERFUL REMINDER, THAT THE GREATEST LOVE STORY THAT TRANSCENDS ALL TIME, IS JESUS CHRIST WHO DIED FOR EACH AND EVERY ONE OF US SO THAT OUR SINS COULD BE FORGIVEN AND WE WOULD HAVE EVERLASTING LIFE. HIS LOVE SPANS THE WHOLE WIDE EARTH!

"IN CHRIST THERE IS NO EAST OR WEST" BY MICHAEL PERRY

IN CHRIST THERE IS NO EAST OR WEST, IN HIM NO PRIDE OF BIRTH; THE CHOSEN FAMILY GOD HAS BLESSED NOW SPANS THE WHOLE WIDE EARTH.

FOR GOD IN CHRIST HAS MADE US ONE FROM EVERY LAND AND RACE; HAS RECONCILED US THROUGH THE SON, AND MET US ALL WITH GRACE.

IT IS BY GRACE WE ARE ASSURED THAT WE BELONG TO HIM: THE LOVE WE SHARE IN CHRIST OUR LORD, THE SPIRIT'S WORK WITHIN.

SO BROTHERS, SISTERS, PRAISE HIS NAME WHO DIED TO SET US FREE FROM SIN, DIVISION, HATE AND SHAME, FROM SPITE AND ENMITY!

IN CHRIST THERE IS NO EAST OR WEST - HE BREAKS ALL BARRIERS DOWN: BY CHRIST REDEEMED, BY CHRIST POSSESSED, IN CHRIST WE LIVE AS ONE.

JEANNETTE SPRENKLE
ELDER'S SECRETARY



WHAT IS HAPPENING WITH OUR SEARCH FOR A PASTOR?

OUR JOINT BOARD HAS HAD SEVERAL MEETINGS WITH THE JOINT BOARD AT COVENANT MORAVIAN AS WE LOOK FOR A NEW PASTOR WHO WILL SERVE BOTH CHURCHES. WE ARE CURRENTLY LOOKING AT AN ORDAINED CANDIDATE WHO IS WELL QUALIFIED, BUT NOT ABLE TO COME AT THE PRESENT TIME.

WE ARE PLEASED THAT OUR MEMBER CLIFF BERGSTRESSER HAS BEEN TAKING ONLINE COURSES AT MORAVIAN THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY AND HAS JUST BEEN APPROVED AS A LICENSED LAY PASTOR FOR FIRST MORAVIAN AND COVENANT MORAVIAN CHURCHES. THE ELDERS AND TRUSTEES AT FIRST MORAVIAN ARE WORKING ON A CONTRACT FOR BROTHER CLIFF TO SERVE US AS AN INTERIM LAY PASTOR UNTIL WE ARE ABLE TO SECURE AN ORDAINED PASTOR. AS A LICENSED LAY PASTOR HE WILL BE ABLE TO SERVE COMMUNION AND BAPTIZE WHEN NEEDED. THE ONLY SERVICE A LAY PASTOR CANNOT PERFORM IS OFFICIATING AT A MARRIAGE.

IF THE DETAILS OF A CONTRACT WITH CLIFF CAN BE WORKED OUT WITHOUT DELAY, OUR DISTRICT PRESIDENT, THE REV. MELISSA JOHNSON, WILL INSTALL HIM AS OUR LICENSED LAY PASTOR AT FIRST MORAVIAN ON SUNDAY, MARCH 3. WITH A LAY PASTOR CONTRACT, CLIFF WILL CONTINUE TO PREACH MONTHLY AND THE REV. TERRY FOLK WILL PREACH TWO TIMES PER MONTH. WHEN THERE ARE FIVE SUNDAYS, CLIFF WILL PREACH TWICE IN THAT MONTH. HE WILL ALSO VISIT OUR SHUT-INS, SERVE HOLY COMMUNION TO THEM, MAKE HOSPITAL VISITS AND OTHER PASTORAL VISITS. HE IS ALREADY TRAINED AND EXPERIENCED IN PASTORAL CARE BECAUSE HE RECEIVED TRAINING AS A STEPHEN MINISTER IN THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH. STEPHEN MINISTERS ARE TRAINED TO USE LISTENING AND CARE GIVING SKILLS.

HAVING CLIFF SERVE AS OUR LAY PASTOR WILL HELP TO BRIDGE THE GAP UNTIL WE CAN FIND A SUITABLE ORDAINED MINISTER AND WE ARE HAPPY THAT HE IS WILLING TO HELP US.

FIRST MORAVIAN CHURCH
BOARD OF ELDERS

ELDERS NEWS

THE ELDERS MET ON TUESDAY, JANUARY 9, 2024 AT 7:00 PM VIA ZOOM. WORSHIP SERVICES WERE REVIEWED. THE SCHEDULE FOR GUEST PASTORS FOR THE UPCOMING MONTHS WAS DISCUSSED. PASTORAL CARE FOR OUR SHUT-INS WERE REVIEWED. STEVE SHARED AN UPDATE FROM REV. MELISSA JOHNSON REGARDING PASTORAL CANDIDATE. CONTRACT FOR CLIFF BERGSTRESSER TO BECOME A PART-TIME LAY PASTOR WAS DISCUSSED. STEVE WILL GO OVER THE REVISED CONTRACT WITH CLIFF BEFORE FINALIZING. ELDER NOMINATIONS FOR CHURCH COUNCIL-KASI STEINBRENNER HAS AGREED TO SERVE A THREE-YEAR TERM. JOHN HAS RENEWED HIS THREE-YEAR TERM. PLEASE PRAY FOR PASTORAL LEADERSHIP FOR FIRST AND COVENANT CHURCHES AND FOR ALL CHURCHES WITHOUT PASTORS. OUR NEXT MEETING WILL BE HELD ON TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 13 AT 7:00 PM VIA ZOOM.

TRUSTEES NEWS

THE TRUSTEES MET ON TUESDAY, JANUARY 23, 2024 AT 7:00 PM VIA ZOOM. ACTIVE PROJECTS FOR THE PARSONAGE, ANNEX, AND CHURCH WERE DISCUSSED AS WELL AS REPAIRS THAT CAN BE COMPLETED AT A LATER TIME. DETAILS FOR WINDOW AND LIGHTING REPLACEMENTS IN THE CHURCH WILL BE SUBMITTED TO THE EASTERN DISTRICT AND NORTHERN PROVINCE FOR POSSIBLE GRANTS. OUR BOOKS TO BE AUDITED BY MARLIN BUPP FROM COVENANT. INSURANCE FOR THE PARSONAGE, ANNEX, AND CHURCH TO BE REVIEWED. THE NEXT WORKDAY WILL BE IN APRIL. OUR NEXT MEETING WILL BE HELD ON TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 27 AT 7:00 PM VIA ZOOM.

-FIRST MORAVIAN CHURCH HAS A NEED FOR A MEMBER TO SERVE ON THE TRUSTEE BOARD. IT IS A THREE-YEAR COMMITMENT, AND WE MEET ONCE A MONTH, USUALLY VIA ZOOM, THE FOURTH TUESDAY OF THE MONTH 7:00 PM. I TRY TO KEEP THE MEETING TO ONE HOUR. WE HAVE ABOUT SIX WORKDAYS A YEAR, BUT THEY TYPICALLY ARE NOT ALL-DAY AFFAIRS. PLEASE CONTACT CLIFF BERGSTRESSER WITH YOUR QUESTIONS AND CONCERNS AT CBERGSTRESSER@VERIZON.NET OR 301-466-3775 CELL.

CHURCH CALENDAR

2/14 - ASH WEDNESDAY

2/18 - FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT

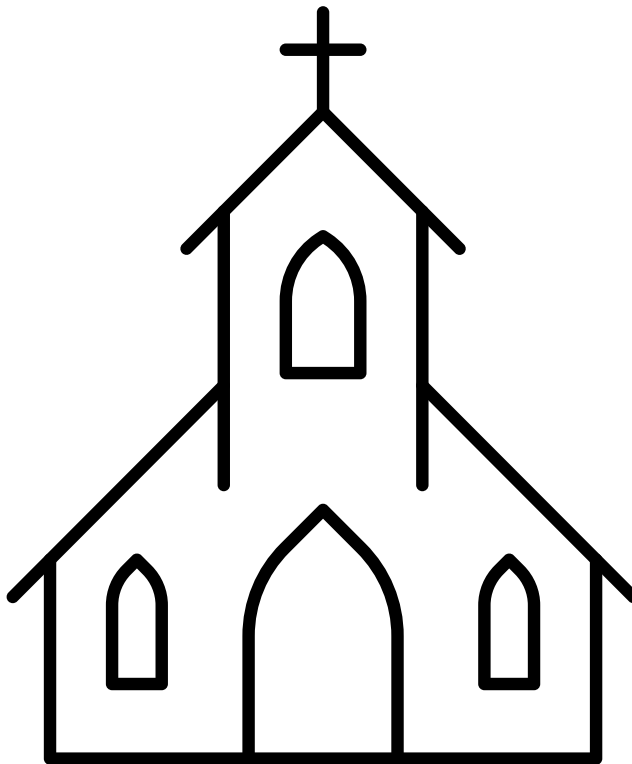


**TOTAL INCOME & OFFERINGS FROM
SUNDAYS 1/7/2024 - 1/28/2024**

\$5,750.80 GENERAL FUND
200.00 REFURBISHING FUND
80.00 EMERGENCY NEEDS FUND
50.00 PARKING RENTAL
1,000.00 PARSONAGE RENTAL
253.49 PARSONAGE UTILITIES PAID INCOME

\$7,334.29 TOTAL INCOME FOR JANUARY

\$8,076.69 TOTAL EXPENSES FOR JANUARY



February Birthdays

- 4 Jim Rabine
- 7 Paul Shouck
- 9 Presley Shealy
- 17 Cliff Rowell
- 19 Rev. Norman Prochnau
- 22 Hadessah Lippincott
- 23 Joan Henkelmann
- 24 Myla Robinson
- 27 Jennifer Heffner



February Anniversaries

- 12 Cameron & Sherry Campanella
- Timothy & Annette Tyson



Prayer Concerns

- Mary Jones
- Kathie Nicholas
- Karrie Rishel
- Cliff Rowell
- Ruth & Clair Seiple
- Jemon Grant
- Gary Paules
- Elaine Patrick

Please contact any of the Elders for Pastoral needs:

- Steve Nicholas - 717-755-7412
- John Knokey - 717-848-9220
- Keith Rishel - 717-472-6793
- Jeannette Sprenkle - 717-424-5636
- Kasi Steinbrenner - 717-965-2032

February Schedule for Guest Pastors

- 2/4 - Rev. Terry Folk
- 2/11 - Cliff Bergstresser
- 2/18 - Rev. Terry Folk-communion
- 2/25 - Bishop Blair Couch

Did you know...

We have an online giving portal! If you prefer to worship via Zoom you can send your offering online!

Just go to:

- mmfa.info
- click Giving Portal at the top
- Click 'F' and select First Moravian Church - York, PA

If you prefer to mail your offering, you can send it direct to:

Wanda Hendricks
3715 Fox Chase Drive
Dover, PA 17315

First Moravian Church
39 North Duke Street
York, PA 17401

717-843-2239

www.yorkfirstmoravian.org



2023 Watchword

"And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus."

Philippians 4:7