

Pray for our Church Family:

Ken Carden, Joy Cole, Kay Huneycutt, Evan Huss, Don Matney, Bill Parks, Kitty Roberts, Gay Sharon Brothers, Terry Sink, Richard Williamson
Our deepest love and sympathy go to the family of Judy Seivers who died Tuesday afternoon. Memorial plans will be forthcoming.

Remembering Members Who Find It Difficult to Attend:

Jennifer Beard, Jere Dailey, Dot Faircloth, Lou Utt, Dee Young

Pray for our Family and Friends:

Linda Bean (sister of Anita Hughes and Carol Tatum)
Freida Belcher (friend of Judy Duke)
Janice Blackburn (friend of Linn Parsons)
Caris Carswell (great-great niece of Dinah and Mel Howell)
Larry Cook (friend of Will Smith)
Jackie Cregger (niece of Teresa Perry)
Pam Cregger (sister of Teresa Perry)
Margo Ehlers (neighbor of Judy Duke)
Polly Fishel (aunt of Lynn Williamson)
Sam Freeman (neighbor of Judy Duke)
Nadine Haydon (relative of Kim Felton)
Ron Johnson (son of Bob and Judy Johnson)
Tami Kipple (cousin of Beth Basta)
David Langill (friend of Henry and Jean Pearce)
Maude Martin (mother of Joyce Carden)
Tyler, Staci and Easton Matthews (friends of the Wonsavages)
John Noftle (brother of Randy Noftle)
Steve Parks (son of Bill Parks)
Louise Poindexter (mother of Janet Sowers)
Brenda Proffitt (friend of Becky Surratt)
Martha Riddle (friend of Jayne Parks)
Katie Schreiber (granddaughter of Joy Cole)
Patricia Vance Starbuck (sister-in-law of Kay Vance)
Clark Steed (brother-in-law of Teresa and Art Perry)
Kimberly Stewart (friend of Ashley Garcia)
Wells Vance (son-in-law of Rachel and Wayne Yancey)
Phyllis Wilcox (neighbor of Judy Duke)
Frank Wolfe and family (friend of Garcia family)
Nancy Yerigan (cousin of Kay Vance)

Serving in Missions: Andrew Craver & Jenna Nodine (Bethel, Alaska)

This Week's Calendar

Easter Sunday, April 12th 11:00 a.m. Worship (Live-stream)

- Tuesday (4/14) 7pm Bible Study through Zoom (contact Brendan Garcia)
- Wednesday (4/15) 7pm Unity "Happy Hour" via Zoom (watch your e-mail for the log-in)
- Thursday (4/16) 7pm Unity Board Meeting (via Zoom)
- Sunday, April 19** 11:00 a.m. Worship (Live-stream)
- Tuesday (4/21) 7pm Bible Study via Zoom (contact Brendan Garcia)
- Wednesday (4/22) 7pm Unity "Happy Hour" (via Zoom)

April Birthdays

- | | | |
|-------------------|---------------------------------|------------------|
| 2 Gordon Cranfill | 10 Becky Norman | 20 Henry Fansler |
| 3 Kitty Roberts | 17 Shirley Atkinson | 21 Don Harkness |
| 4 Daniel Yancey | 19 Nancy Jackson | 22 Jessie Burcaw |
| 5 Betsy Betsacon | 23 Celeste Lowder | 26 Cam Lane |
| 8 Bill Parks | 27 Brenda Pugh & Brandon Noftle | |

Links to viewing the services:

Live: <https://www.facebook.com/unitymoravian/live/>
Replay: <https://www.facebook.com/pg/unitymoravian/videos/>

Live: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oFcQPYnFqkI>
Videos: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC-gFmqf09qQVbvTTalvyCiQ/videos>

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For online giving: Use the "Tithely" application you downloaded on your smartphone, or, we now have the Moravian Ministries Foundation giving portal available to us at: <https://mmfa.info/giving-portal/>
And, you may send a check via U.S. Mail to the church.

What's Happening at



8300 Concord Church Road
Telephone: 336-945-3801

Lewisville, NC 27023
www.unitymoravian.org

Easter Sunday, April 12, 2020



Livestream Worship at 11:00 a.m.

Scripture Text: John 21: 1—14

Message: "The Easter Challenge"

Next Sunday, April 19, 2020

Scripture Text: John 20: 1—8, Luke 24: 1—12

Message: "The Marys in Jesus' Life"

Watchword Text for the Year:

Yes, everything is for your sake, so that grace, as it extends to more and more people, may increase thanksgiving, to the glory of God.

II Corinthians 4:15

Staff:

- Pastor: Rev. Barry Foster barryf@unitymoravianchurch.org
- Acolytes: Kim Felton timbokk@yahoo.com
Randy Noftle rnoftle@gmail.com
- Organist: Donna Shore D1M2Shore@gmail.com
- Choir and Band Director: Dennis Fort dennisfort@hotmail.com
- Believers Music Leaders: Ruth Burcaw and Randy Noftle
- Treasurer Lee Christensen Leec@unitymoravianchurch.org

The Virtue of Patience

“Lord give me patience to deal with this ‘stay at home mandate’... and give it to me now.” Amen.

Many of us feel as if we need to “do something.” As industrious Americans, we do not feel at home (pun intended) without goals, deadlines and lists. And I would add, that it is doubly difficult for energetic Christians to be constrained like this. It is counter to our spiritual and care-giving natures.

The guilt we feel for not being out there and helping people is real. And it is healthy to embrace these feelings of guilt and non-participation. We have been brought up with the mindset that we dare not be caught “doing nothing.”

Paul Harvey tells of the young lawyer who was sitting in his new office waiting for his first client. When he heard the outer door open, he quickly tried to sound very busy.

As the man entered his office the young lawyer grabbed the telephone on his desk and started talking: "Bill, I'm flying to New York on the Mitchell Brothers thing; it looks like its going to be a biggie. Also we'll need to bring Carl in from Houston on the Cimarron case. Bill, you'll have to excuse me, somebody just came in...." He hung up and turned to the man who had just entered. "Now how can I help you?"

The man said, "I'm here to hook up your phone."

Patience is definitely a virtue, perhaps the most important one of all. It is amazing how far a little patience or impatience can go to change a moment, a life, lives, or even history. Usually people are impatient when the moment calls for patience, but sometimes people can be too patient when the moment calls for a little impatience in order to put an early end to what eventually may become a disastrous situation.

The Jewish Talmud teaches this in a somewhat poetic way: *Anyone who tries to push off the moment will be pushed off by the moment.*

Anyone who is pushed off because of the moment, the moment will be pushed off for him.

My current interpretation of this is:

Maybe we were a little too patient in the beginning and should have engaged in more intentional preparation, but now, maybe we should not try to bring about desired results prematurely and put people at risk. We desperately want get back to the life we knew and were comfortable with; but, the pandemic has taken a life of its own. The virus is now in control.

Ralph Waldo Emerson states:

Adopt the pace of nature; her secret is patience.

18th century British politician, George Savile states: *A man who is a master of patience is a master of everything else.*

The writer of Psalm 37 says:

Be still before the LORD, and wait patiently for him; do not fret over those who prosper in their way, over those who carry out evil devices. Refrain from anger, and forsake wrath. Do not fret, for it leads only to evil.

The Apostle Paul says in his letter to the congregation in Rome: *We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labor pains until now; and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.*

Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words.

In his gospel, Luke records Jesus saying: *Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom; there will be great earthquakes, and in various places famines and plagues; and there will be dreadful portents and great signs from heaven. By your endurance you will gain your souls.*

Jesus' life of servanthood and obedience to God's Torah says something to us loud and clear:

**The world does not owe us a living—
rather it is we who owe the world a living.**

When we turn to Christian faith to explain why we must suffer and die... what we find is an answer to why we must live.

Every person's life impacts another.

This Holy Week and Easter, if I asked: What are you most worried about? Living in fear of the unknown? Dying from the coronavirus? Losing someone you love? Living through an economic depression? Begin forbidden to show physical love and care to others?

We might answer: “All of them and more.”

This pandemic has pushed the world to a new place.

What this new place will look like for us next year and the years to come is unknown.

That first Easter pushed those scared, anxious, followers of Jesus to a new place.

What will happen to them in the coming years?

Through patience and prayer, the Holy Spirit led them.

And the Holy Spirit will lead us.

May God grant us patience to endure.