

Pray for our Church Family:

Alex Black, Ken Carden, Joy Cole, Dinah Howell, Kay Huneycutt,
Evan Huss, Don Matney, Bill Parks, Kitty Roberts,
Terry Sink, Kasey Smith, Richard Williamson., Alan Sowers

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)

A Pastoral Letter from the Bishops of the Moravian Unity in North America

March 18, 2020

We greet each of you at this time of considerable uncertainty with the grace, mercy, and peace of the great shepherd of the sheep, Jesus Christ. In the 6th chapter of the Gospel of Mark we read that just after Jesus had taken his disciples across the Sea of Galilee, he stepped off the boat, saw a large crowd, and had compassion on them because they were like sheep without a shepherd. We are confident that today Jesus' heart of compassion is extended towards a world that is indeed a worried one. We are part of a health crisis that is touching all parts of our Moravian world, so we extend our prayers in all directions and invite you to humbly pray in like manner. It is during these times of uncertainty that we are most thankful for moments when we can rest our souls in God's presence. We come assuring you that the Holy Spirit surrounds us, fills us, opens our hearts to receive God's love, and empowers us to share this blessing with others. We come in faith, knowing that nothing can separate us from God's love. We are thankful for the hope that God brings us even when all else seems senseless. May you feel God's sustaining love beneath you, lifting you to make the most of the days that are ahead of us. We want you to know that together we pray:

We pray God's blessings on all those who have already fallen ill to this virus. We pray for their healing and wholeness, but most notably, we pray that they will be comforted in knowing that they are not alone. We pray for their families who worry and wonder how best to care for them. We pray for God's solace to be upon the families who have lost a loved one to this disease.

We pray God's blessings on the medical professionals who are working tirelessly to care for the sick. We pray for God's guidance upon the scientists who are now laboring to contain the outbreak.

We pray that the comfort of the Holy Spirit might encourage those who are afraid. We pray most fervently for our children who are experiencing these days in their most impressionable years.

We pray for wisdom, compassion, and humility for our governmental leaders as they seek to marshal resources to where they are most needed and make decisions that will benefit the common good, especially those on the margins of our societies.

We pray for God's hand to be upon our provincial and district leaders, pastors, board members, and our congregations as together we seek to BE the church in new and creative ways. Keep us ever mindful of those for whom this crisis is a threat to mental, spiritual, and physical health.

Even as we are asked to keep our social distance from each other, we pray that God might draw us closer to one another in faith, in love, and in hope. In these days may we gain a deeper understanding of God's love for us in Jesus Christ in whom all things can be made new.

What's Happening at



8300 Concord Church Road
Lewisville, NC 27023
Telephone: 336-945-3801
www.unitymoravian.org

Our world-wide vigil to weaken the coronavirus continues...

No Sunday Services for March 22, and 29.

Please be safe.

Spend a quality Sabbath hour alone with God this Sunday morning. It will be good for your soul.

And, if you want to watch a "live-stream" ...

At 10:00am Sunday morning, Home Moravian will be holding its service with clergy and music staff only.

Just go to the following link to their website:

<https://www.homemoravian.org/index.php/live-broadcasts/>

And

You may also want to join "Moravian Church Without Walls" **at 11:00 a.m.** through a [Zoom webinar](#) service with the Rt. Rev. Sam Gray. Bishop of the Moravian Church. To join the service, click this link: <https://zoom.us/j/310492867>

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	Choir and Band Director	Dennis Fort dennisfort@hotmail.com
Acolytes	Kim Felton timbokk@yahoo.com	Nursery	Amy McKay
	Randy Noftle moffte@gmail.com	Believers Music Leaders:	Ruth Burcaw and Randy Noftle
Organist	Donna Shore D1M2Shore@gmail.com	Treasurer	Lee Christensen Leec@unitymoravianchurch.org

Perspective

There is a story of two men in an art gallery. They are strangers to each other, but both are looking at a piece of art hanging on the wall. One says to the other, “Little pictures leave me cold. It is the grand, big canvas that I like.” The other man says to him, “I take it that you are an art critic?” “No,” replied the first. “I make picture frames.”

Life is both a collection of small “snapshots” of everyday life for families and individuals, and at the same time, it is a vastly gigantic mural of life being lived by families and cultures around the world. Things can happen, even in remote corners of the globe that can affect us all. This coronavirus has emerged like a tsunami touching every life on our planet in some form or fashion.

The uncertainty of how long this nightmare will last and how it will end, spans the spectrum of being fearfully overwhelming to some, and just a regretful inconvenience to others... mostly depending on which end of the economic scale you live.

So, how are you coping so far? Who can you talk to? How does your faith inform your opinions and attitudes about the current state of affairs?

Often we have discovered that the control we want over our own lives is so elusive, that we find ourselves asking God, “What’s going on?” We are frightened of illness; of economic ruin; of the death of a way of life that we enjoy and are accustomed to; and we ask, “What’s going on?”

If we get anything out of our understanding of scripture and in the understanding of the history of human cultures... we come to the realization that we can’t ever really know what is going on. Our Creator knows... but, we are destined to learn to live with uncertainty in our lives. And our Christian tradition teaches that even though we have limited control, we are still responsible for living in this uncertainty. You and I cannot use the uncertainty principle as an excuse for irresponsible behavior.

I believe this is the mission of the church – to find the way to see

the miracle in life – to discover the language that we need from our faith, our tradition, that will enable us to make sense out of something that often seems senseless – to see the miracle in living.

No doubt that in the days ahead, there will be blaming going around. Most everyone will feel as though they have been treated unfairly – either by God or by the government.

Does faith in Christ’s message play a role in how you respond to this monumental interruption of life? Some will use religion to blame and deepen the human urge to perceive groups as “us” and “them.” Some will use religion to deceive the vulnerable and enrich themselves. But my hope is that people of Christ’s way will continue living sacred lives, lives of service.

We are all part of this incredibly magnificent mural painted by our Creator. And when we look at this mural and try to understand it, the more the mystery is revealed. And when the mystery is apparent, the more we reach for faith in what is good. I believe this is what Jesus is trying to say to us when He said to his disciples, *‘Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat, or about your body, what you will wear. For life is more than food, and the body more than clothing. Consider the ravens: they neither sow nor reap, they have neither storehouse nor barn, and yet God feeds them. Of how much more value are you than the birds! And can any of you by worrying add a single hour to your span of life? If then you are not able to do so small a thing as that, why do you worry about the rest? Consider the lilies, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin; yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these. But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, how much more will he clothe you—you of little faith! And do not keep striving for what you are to eat and what you are to drink, and do not keep worrying. For it is the nations of the world that strive after all these things, and your Father knows that you need them. Instead, strive for his kingdom, and these things will be given to you as well.* Luke 12: 22 - 31

Helping Hands in Unity



Single Moms' Conference.

May 3, 2020

Sponsored and hosted by Unity Moravian Church

This will be free of charge to women who are raising their children alone. Our goal is to provide a faith-based forum with information on career counseling, legal issues, tech safety for children, and other topics of particular concern to this group. Childcare will be provided.

The **Helping Hands Project for March** will be to support this conference with the food, childcare, door prizes and gift bags which will be purchased for the women attending. There is no other source of funding. As we try to assist these women of our community with information and moral support, along with opportunities to network, we reach out to the church community to provide the financial support. Doing this in March gives us time in April to make the needed purchases. Any financial contributions you make will be appreciated. Please see Linn Parsons if you have questions about the project.



16 Timothy Felton
Beverly Merritt
Dot Faircloth
23 Xander Garcia
24 Jennifer Beard
Dee Lawrence

25 Linn Parsons
26 Maynard Surratt
27 Louise Black
Mary Conover
David Pfitzer
Chase O'Brien

UNITY FAMILY