

A photograph of the Unity Moravian Church building, a brick structure with a prominent steeple, set against a blue sky with scattered white clouds. The building has a large arched entrance and several windows. The text "UNITY MORAVIAN CHURCH" is overlaid in large, white, serif capital letters.

# UNITY MORAVIAN CHURCH

September Newsletter

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## OUR GUIDING PRINCIPLE

In essentials, unity;  
In non-essentials, liberty;  
In all things, love.

## UNITY MORAVIAN CHURCH

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## UNITY'S WATCHWORD FOR 2023:

"My people shall be satisfied  
with my bounty, says the  
Lord."

(Jeremiah 31:14)

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SEPTEMBER 2023

# From the Pastor's Desk

Dear Unity Church,

Another school year is upon us. Thus, another year of worship, service, and learning begins for Unity Moravian Church. Now I know that we don't stop worshipping or serving or learning during the summer months. However, it seems that the rhythm of our ministry coincides with the start and the end of school. It is quite natural for a church's activity to be guided by that school year calendar. As we have kids, and they go through their school year, we become accustomed to that routine of time. Even though we continue in activity during the summer, things really start happening in August and September.

In about a week, several from our congregation will travel to Laurel Ridge for a retreat. The theme of the retreat is "Reconnect and Renew as Disciples." I know that not everyone will be able to attend; however, for those attending, my hope is that we reconnect with each other and God and renew our call to discipleship. Hopefully, we will bring down the mountain a renewed sense of calling to share with the rest of the congregation. As I have mentioned earlier this year, our board has undertaken an opportunity to revise and refresh a new mission statement for the congregation. During the retreat, participants will have a chance to hear about the board's work and to think about where they might see themselves in that mission. A similar opportunity was afforded to our Summer Sunday School class on August 27th.

If you have been unable to attend the Summer Sunday School or the retreat, I will be offering a separate opportunity to hear about the board's work in developing a new mission statement. **On Tuesday, September 12 at 11 AM**, you are invited to join me in the Fellowship Hall to hear about the development of this mission statement and provide some feedback. We are still in a development stage of this process. You will hear more in the coming months.

We begin this new program year at Unity with excitement and opportunity for the future. You will see many things happening. I encourage you to participate in as much as possible. There will be opportunities for discernment for mission work. There will be studies for us to grow as disciples. There will be fellowship opportunities for us to connect with each other and our neighbors. There will be worship opportunities that will feed our hearts and minds with prayer and praise in gratitude for God's blessings. There will be time to pray for each other and our world. I encourage you to participate and to invite others to join with the worship, ministry, and mission of Unity Moravian Church.

We are called to be disciples!

In Christ,

Pastor Scott Rainey



## **Special Called Church Council Sunday, September 24 (immediately following worship)**

On **Sunday, September 24** immediately following worship, we will have a called Church Council for the purpose of presenting revisions of our current church bylaws. Over the past several months, the board has undertaken the process of reviewing our bylaws. One of the major changes that the board proposes is for a change to our board structure.

In 2007, the Church Council of Unity Moravian Church approved the move from a two-board system to a one-board system consisting of nine members. Since that time, the Church Board has provided leadership, oversight, and guidance for the spiritual and financial resources of this congregation. The board has done so by the assistance of committees and teams of people helping to provide ministry support and leadership for our various ministries. The Church Board has also overseen two pastoral call processes since 2008.

Over the past few years, we have experienced a lot of change. Coming out of the pandemic over the past two years has been challenging and exciting. The Church Board has done a great job at managing this transition and leading in the last pastoral call process. Yet, we have noticed that it becomes increasingly difficult to manage both “Elder” and “Trustee” responsibilities within one board. Therefore, the church board is proposing the change to a two-board system for Unity Moravian Church. We are proposing to have two, five-member boards: a Board of Elders and a Board of Trustees. We think that this is in the best interest of the congregation in addressing our current spiritual, missional, and financial needs, and we also think that this change will help our move into the future as a vibrant and Christ-centered congregation in ministry and mission here in Lewisville, NC.

The second proposal is for a change to our church council quorum, which is currently set at 33 1/3% of membership. The board is proposing a change in quorum requirement to 20% of membership.

In preparation for our called Church Council on September 24, a copy of the proposed bylaw revision changes will be made available to you by September 10th. If you have questions or concerns, you are more than welcome to contact a member of the Church Board or you may contact, Pastor Scott Rainey. You may also bring any questions or concerns to the Church Council.

In Christ’s Service,

The Church Board of Unity Moravian Church





### *Originated*

The idea for the Moravian Day of Service sprang from the 2018 Synods of the Northern and Southern Provinces. The Synods recognized that coordinated efforts of Moravians can help engage others in service and ministry and raise awareness of the Gospel message; that Moravians have always celebrated their faith through service and mission work locally, regionally, and globally; and that Moravians derive a sense of common unity and identity from serving together and with others.

The Synods resolved to set aside a day, every year, for individuals and congregations to get involved in mission work in their communities and share their work across the Moravian Church in North America.

The Day of Service isn't a one-time thing but an annual event; it is not to replace the great local mission work already going on in our congregations but to help celebrate it. The Day of Service offers a chance to rethink how your congregation interacts with your community and encourages you to make local missions an enduring part of your congregation's identity.

### *A Way to Participate*

This year **Unity Moravian Church** will have Melony Brown, coordinator of the Lewisville Community Assistance Program bring a Mission Moment during our worship service September 17th. **There will also be a special collection of shampoo, conditioner, deodorant, and bar soap on September 17th.** We ask everyone to bring one or more of these items on September 17th, so that we can help stock that section of the LCAP pantry.

## Worship on September 10th

**On September 10th**, there will be a worship service at 11 AM here at Unity led by Rev. Ray Burke. Pastor Scott Rainey will be at Laurel Ridge leading worship for the retreat attendees. If you are not going on the retreat and would like to join us for worship on the mountain, you are welcome to do so. Please see Scott Rainey or Kay Vance for time and information.

## Watkins Fund Disbursements 2023

The Watkins Fund of Unity Moravian Church established through the generosity of Erma and Lois Watkins provides opportunity for our congregation to reach out to the needs in this world. For the first ten years of the fund's existence with Unity Moravian, the annual income will be distributed to organizations and/or individuals who are affected by homelessness, disasters, and other related concerns. This year the fund granted \$2400.79 each to the Board of World Mission, Habitat for Humanity, the Mental Health Association of Forsyth County, City with Dwellings. There was also one grant given to Lewisville Community Assistance Program in the amount of \$500. The Watkins Fund is a great gift and tool of service and compassion to our world.

We received several thank-you notes for these grants. You can read these letters in their entirety on the bulletin next to the church office.

*Thank You*

**(from the Board of World Mission):** *Thank you for your support of the work of the Board of World Mission (BWM) for the Moravian Disaster Relief Fund that will help continue to make a difference in the lives of Moravian brothers and sisters and their communities. Natural disasters take no breaks, and areas of the La Mosquitia region of Honduras and Nicaragua that were impacted by Hurricanes Eta and Iota in 2020, were, once again hit by a hurricane and tropical storm in 2022. The BWM has responded to severe flooding and have partnered with Feed the Hungry to distribute emergency food packs in the region and worked to clean out flooded wells and restore safe drinking water.*

**(from City with Dwellings):** *We are most grateful for your generous contribution... your gift makes a real difference for our neighbors struggling with homelessness and housing insecurity. It ensures we can provide services grounded in trauma-informed care, healing, and harm reduction that elevate the lived expertise of people experiencing homelessness. It helps provide safe spaces, foster belongings, and connect people to next-step resources... Your generous support enables us to continue cultivating a community of care so that people can move with dignity from trauma and homelessness to healing and housing stability.*

**(from Habitat for Humanity of Forsyth):** *Your generous donation through the Erma and Lois Watkins Fund of Unity Moravian Church supports our work to provide low-income families with the opportunity to become homeowners. When a family helps build or improve the place they call home, they are also building a better community and a better life for themselves. Thanks to your support, we built 11 new homes in FY23, and completed 15 critical home repair projects, giving senior homeowners the chance to age gracefully and safely in their own homes. Moreover, Habitat has helped over 600 Forsyth County families in these ways since the affiliate was founded in 1985.*

**(from Lewisville Community Assistance Program):** *Thank you for your generous donation to LCAP [through the Watkins Fund]. This donation will be used to help Lewisville families that are either experiencing a crisis situation or food insecurity within their family.*

# Together we Pray

## Unity Family Prayer List

Beth Basta  
Jennifer Beard  
Kay Brown  
Sharon Dailey  
Dot Faircloth  
Tim Felton  
Dottie Sayers  
Richard Williamson  
Janice Wilson  
Dee Young

## Friends and Family Prayer List:

Edith Ammons (former member)  
Gay Sharon Brothers (Former member)  
Jim & Mary Anne Downey (friend of Arthur Perry)  
Jodi Gray (friend and co-worker to Jessy Burcaw)  
Bob Groce (grandfather to Ashley Garcia)  
Abbey Guy (friend of Susan Dozier)  
David Langill (friend of Henry and Jean Pearce)  
Roger Mackie (friend of Dan & Brenda Pugh)  
David McElveen (son of Bill and Carol McElveen)  
Jeff McMahan (friend of Sandra and Rick Madison)  
Brenda Welch (cousin of Dinah Howell)  
James Merritt (nephew of Ed and Beverly Merritt)

Nancy Montgomery  
(friend of Frank and Nancy Wonsavage)  
Dick Sheek (former member)  
Reta Vestal (Hilda Vestal's sister-in-law)  
Morgan Walters (Nancy Jackson's niece)



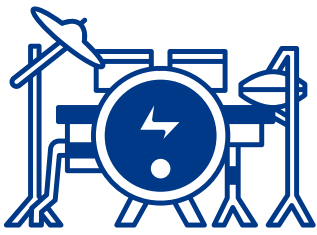
## Annual Prayer Circle

**Friday, September 15, 5:30 p.m.**

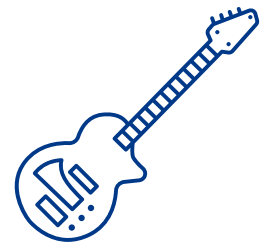
Construction around the jail has been completed which opens all streets surrounding the jail for prayer partners. Our annual prayer circle will be Friday, September 15th at 5:30p.m., at 201 N. Church Street. The estimated number of adults and children needed to cover the four streets is 500 people. Please pray for inmates and staff inside the jail.

This year, inmates at the jail will receive a copy of A Genesis to Revelation Guide to Prayer.

Those who would like to give toward the cost to providing this book for distribution to inmates can visit the ministry's website, please visit the ministry's website <https://forsythjpm.org/donate/>.



## TUESDAY NIGHT BAND



**Beginning Band Class** will start on Tuesday September 5, 2023, at Home Moravian Church. Sponsored jointly with Salem Congregation, Beginning Band Class will once again be offered under the leadership of Robah Ogburn and Connie Merritt. Each Tuesday night, the class will meet at 6:30 p.m. for all ages 6th grade and up (we have had students starting in their 80's). If you do not know what instrument you want to learn, the leaders will help you make that decision on the first night.

**Salem Congregation Chorale Band** will meet at 7:30 p.m. each Tuesday and is open to all interested players. This group will use both green and blue Moravian Chorale books and perhaps some band arrangements. This group is targeted for all players that have at least completed Beginning Band as well as those that have played for many years.

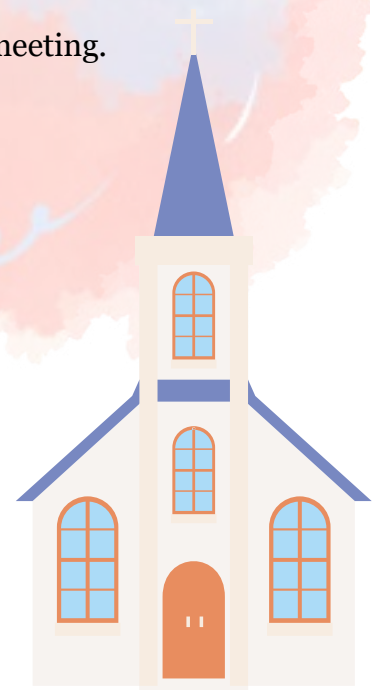
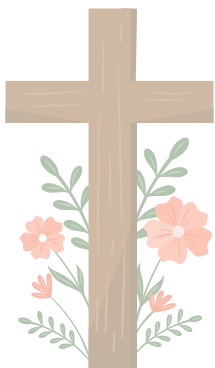
Both the Beginning Band Class and the Salem Congregation Chorale Band will meet in the Rehearsal Room on the lower level of the Rhondthaler building. Please contact Connie ([kapwing@triad.rr.com](mailto:kapwing@triad.rr.com)) or Robah ([RobahOgburn@Yahoo.com](mailto:RobahOgburn@Yahoo.com)) if you have questions or need additional information.

# Happy Birthday

Pat Crowell	9-01
Vickie Long	9-01
Erin Pearce	9-07
Michael Lowder	9-09
Jon Lowder	9-13
Bari Fort	9-14
Randy Nofle	9-17
Hannah O'Brien	9-18
Rachel Yancey	9-19
Eric Dozier	9-19
Katie Rainey	9-20
Dale Cox	9-24
Joe Cox	9-25
Lynn Williamson	9-27
Betty Jane Fansler	9-27
Terry Spainhour	9-27
Wayne Yancey	9-27
Janice Wilson	9-28

# Upcoming Events

- September 4 Labor Day - **Office closed.**
- September 4 11:00 AM - **Prayer Partners**
- September 5 7:00 PM - **Bible Study**
- September 8th to the 10th - **Church Retreat at Laurel Ridge.**
- September 12 11:00 AM - **Mission Statement Feedback with Pastor**  
Join the pastor in the Fellowship Hall to hear about the development of this mission statement and provide some feedback.
- September 14 7:00 PM - **Church Board Meeting**
- September 17 11:00 AM - **Moravian Day of Service Worship**
- **Smoked Pork Lunch on September 17** immediately following worship. The Men's Fellowship will be hosting this Fellowship event. If you are able to help with preparation (September 16), set-up, serving, clean-up, please sign up on the sheets in the Narthex or you may contact Bob Morrell to inform him of your willingness to help. Individual pork butts will be for sale. There is sign-up sheet for that in the Narthex, too.
- September 17 4:00 PM - **Unity Kids** - Snacks will be provided at each meeting.
- September 24 4:00 PM - **Unity Kids** - Snacks will be provided at each meeting.
- September 24 11:45 AM – **Special Called Church Council**
- September 29 9:00 AM - **Chicken Pie Workday**





# Unity Moravian Church

# LCAP

(LEWISVILLE COMMUNITY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM)

# DONATIONS

August/September



## Requested Items

- Cake Mix/Icing
- Canned Salmon
- Beanie Weenies
- Ketchup
- Ranch dressing



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## Art show to Benefit Historic Bethabara Park's Medicinal Garden

WINSTON-SALEM, NC-a new body of work created by local artist Carrie Leigh Dickey will be on display in the Historic Bethabara Park Visitor Center from September 5 through September 23. Entitled, "And then I saw the garden," the show reflects the inspiration and healing that Carrie finds within her garden. Carrie shares: "It is the place where I experience peace. I talk to birds. I watch the bees and butterflies. I grow. I thrive. I listen."

So that others might experience the rejuvenating effects of a garden, Carrie is donating proceeds from the sale of her art towards the restoration of the Park's Medicinal Garden. Designed by Doctor Hans Martin Kalberlahn in 1756, the garden is the first European Medicinal Garden planted in America.

"And then I saw the garden," is free to the public and can be viewed during the Park's normal operating hours. An Opening Reception for the show, which is also free and open to the community, will be held on Sunday, September 10, from 2:00 p.m. until 4:00 p.m. Artist Carrie Leigh Dickey and the Park's acting director, Diana Overbey, will be available during the reception to answer questions about the art and the Medicinal Garden.

For more information, please contact Diana Overbey at [dianao@cityofws.org](mailto:dianao@cityofws.org) or (336) 397-7587.

Historic Bethabara Park, a National Historic Landmark, is the 1753 site of the first Moravian settlement in North Carolina and the birthplace of Winston-Salem and Forsyth County.

Images of the artist, art, and Medicinal Garden, are available upon request.

## Lewisville's Special Events

The Town of Lewisville's Parks and Recreation program offers a wide variety of events and activities throughout the year, the majority of which take place in downtown Lewisville's Shallowford Square. Come join us for a fun-filled events season at Shallowford Square!

### Movie Night

Paddington II will be playing on Friday September 15, and will begin at dark. Concessions will be available for purchase. The Rain date will be Friday, September 22.

### Music under the Stars

Chicago Rewired - Chicago Tribute Band  
Saturday, September 9 from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Eyes of Silver - Doobie Brothers Tribute Band  
Saturday, September 23 from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

## Moravian Music Foundation Serenades - Concert Series #3

### An Evening of Songs from the Heart

Dr. Bruce Earnest, baritone, and Dr. Tyler Smith, tenor, will present an intimate evening of German Art-Song (Lieder) and Moravian music celebrating life, love and the journey of faith. They will be accompanied by Jonathan Williams.

Friday, Sept. 15, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.

Calvary Moravian Church

600 Holly Ave., Winston-Salem, NC

Special VIP reception for season subscribers, following the concert.



## **Save the Date: Sunday October 1st 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.**

The Kyiv Symphony Orchestra and Chorus (KSOC) will be in concert at Friedberg Moravian Church. You will be touched by the high-caliber music and truly amazed by their Christian faith testimony. KSOC music is both a profession and a calling for these touring 30 world-class musicians. Music makes a difference in our church and around the world. Come enjoy and share in this ministry that transforms lives. There is no cost to concert admission, but the opportunity will be given for a love offering. Contact Pat Atkins (patkins1@bellsouth.net) should you have questions. Check out [musicmissionkiev.org](http://musicmissionkiev.org) for more information and understanding of the mission.



## **The Apple Festival at Historic Bethabara Park**



### **Saturday, September 23, 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.**

Spend the first Saturday of fall visiting with artisans, listening to regional musicians, exploring history with eighteenth-century craftsmen, playing colonial games, cheering for Robinson's Racing Pigs, eating a meal from a local food truck, and more!

## **Opportunities to Serve**

### **Blood Drive**

Saturday, September 9, 9:00 a.m.  
Shiloh Lutheran Church  
703 Lewisville Vienna Rd  
Lewisville, NC 27023

### **Forsyth Jail & Prison Ministries**

For over 45 years, Forsyth Jail & Prison Ministries has worked with volunteers from churches across our community to share Christ's love and compassion as a path to new life with thousands of incarcerated men and women, many of whom found not only a new life in Christ, but also a new life and second chance in the community after release. For ways to get involved please go to Forsyth Jail and Prison Ministries.

