



THE COVENANT MESSENGER

The Newsletter of Covenant Moravian Church

AUGUST 2020

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In essentials

unity,

In non-essentials

liberty,

In all things

love.

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

Greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ!

As I write to you this month, I am thinking of all that we have been through since the start of this Covid-19 pandemic and I know that we are not out of the woods yet. As of now we are still under the phase 2 of reopening our state and we are not sure if that will continue or if things will get better and we can progress to phase 3. But in the present, time marches on. This month we would normally see parents and children getting ready for going back to school and the summer fun wrapping up for the season. But this year is different, going back to school is different for our students this year because of the risk involved with contracting Covid-19. Going to school already carries so many unknowns for a student, for example, will the student do well, make friends, stay well. Some students love school and some not so much. And now the normal way of attending school has changed for the present. Just recently, New Hanover County Board of Education voted to start the new school year online for the first grading quarter. I could only imagine what this will be like for all involved from teachers to students to parents. My heart goes out to all whose lives have been turned upside down by this pandemic that we are living through, but praise God for those who are living through it, many have not. For a time I did not think that I would know of someone who has contracted the virus, but now I do, friends of Cat and I are dealing with it now. Considering the current state of things let us pray for the healing of those who are sick, that a cure be found and that we can be safe again.

Gracious God we come to you during this time to ask for your help. Be with those who are sick with this virus and be with those who have lost loved ones due to it. Be with those who must make the tough decisions about things to keep us safe. Be with those who will be returning to school this month, may they be safe and have all that is needed to teach and to learn. Lord for teachers and administrators whose calling is to better the lives of people through education we pray that you give them all that is necessary during this time to keep up their calling. For those who will be learning remotely, we pray that you be with them as they are apart from other students, and the schools they are a part of. May the Holy Spirit be with student and parents alike during this time as things may be difficult with students home. Lord as we celebrate going back to school please keep all safe and in your care. This we pray in Jesus name, Amen.

Know that during this time and always we are never alone, Christ is with us. He Said... "And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age." (Matthew 28:20)

Love in Christ,

Pastor Jeff

NEWS FROM THE CMC BOARD

CMC Board Meeting Minutes – July 15, 2020

Attendance – Pastor Jeff Jones, Kathy Britt, Deb Elam, Judy Atkinson, Lori Bartels, Pat Staton, Priscilla Donathan and Sheri Holland. Devon Baldwin was absent.

Pastor Jeff called the meeting to order at 7pm with a reading from the Daily Text and led the devotion.

New Business:

- ◆ The Board voted in agreement to wait until we are in Phase 3 to have the Quadrennial Review.
- ◆ The Board is following recommendations from the PEC for re-opening for Sunday Worship.

Pastor Report:

Pastor Jeff is exploring a “Lovefeast to Go” for the Christmas Eve Service.

He also gave an update on the Zoom meeting he attended about World Unity from the Moravian Ministry Association meeting.

Christian Ed:

Deb Elam is waiting to hear back from Beth Hayes about doing an online Christian Ed class.

Congregational Care & Healing:

Kathy Britt has been calling members and sending cards to members and friends.

Facilities:

Priscilla Donathan reported that Danny Donathan has estimated the cost to repair the windows in the fellowship hall to be approximately \$150 ea. The arched windows in the sanctuary need painting. Danny inserted metal framing around Pastor Jeff’s office window.

Fundraising/Stewardship:

Pat Staton has ordered ribbon for the Advent wreaths. Paper for trimming candles still needs to be ordered. The board is looking into ways to possibly have an online format for Candle Tea.

A gift of \$500 was given to the food pantry. The board members voted to send \$250 to the Food Bank of North Carolina. The remaining \$250 will be used to restock our food pantry in the fall.

Hospitality:

Lori Bartels will mail and deliver cards with mission masks and the Daily Bread Devotional to Covenant family and friends.

Worship & Music:

Sheri Holland reported the board voted to pay Jude Foushee \$150 per service (2x a month) during the month of July and August. They also talked about the possibility of continuing one service until the church can reopen safely.

A motion to adjourn at 9:00 pm

Closing prayer by Kathy Britt

Next meeting date: August 19, 2020 at 7:00 pm

2020 CHILDREN'S FESTIVAL & LOVEFEAST



Sunday, August 16, 2020

2:00 PM~ONLINE

Due to the uncertainty of the COVID-19 pandemic, we have moved this year's Children's Festival to a virtual format.

Gather your little ones and those young at heart for a virtual Children's Festival and Lovefeast! We are excited to be offering this event for the 7th year, especially during this uncertain time!

Together, we will learn the history of a Moravian tradition that we all hold dear to our hearts: our lovefeast! We will participate in a unique litany, sing songs with some special guests, and get our bodies moving with a Story and Stretch!

In August, we will release a special Children's Festival and Lovefeast YouTube link. We ask that you gather supplies for a lovefeast at home (juice box, milk, cookies, or bun) and watch the video with us on Sunday, August 16th, 2020 at 2:00 PM ET. While the video could be watched at any time, we encourage you to view it at this day and time so we can all gather (virtually) in the Spirit together.

Brief History of the Children's Festival and Lovefeast in the Southern Province

In 2014, a task force put together the Children's Festival and Lovefeast to commemorate the Moravian children's spiritual renewal to be held each year on the Sunday closest to August 17. We began in 2014 at the first North Carolina Moravian settlement, Bethabara, moving in order of date established, visiting Bethania, Salem, Friedberg, Hope, and Friedland. At each location, we taught the history of the Moravian Church and what made each settlement and church unique! Various activities were held in the afternoon, followed by a children's lovefeast with celebratory mini-mugs. In keeping with the Moravian tradition of record-keeping, we created a commemorative art piece for each event that was presented to the Moravian Archives to be displayed for people to see.

While the circumstances of 2020 have thrown us a curveball, we are excited to keep with the tradition of the event and offer a virtual festival and lovefeast! We will be able to remember this unique time with our collective coloring pages that will be added to the Moravian Archives. Next year, we will resume our festivities in-person at St. Phillips Moravian Church.

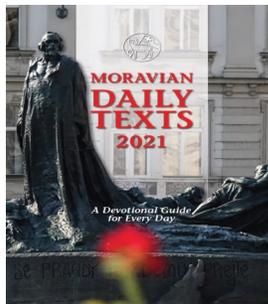


IN HONOR OF THE CHURCH BUILDING COMMITTEE



THANK YOU TO TOM AND NANCY MCKOON
FOR THEIR DONATION OF BIBLES AND TWO BEAUTIFUL
HARRY JARMAN PRINTS
IN HONOR OF THE CHURCH BUILDING COMMITTEE.

DAILY TEXT ORDER



The Daily Text order deadline has been extended!

If you would like to order the 2021 Daily Text, please call the church office or email your order to covenantmoravianwilmington@gmail.com by Friday, August 7th.

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS & PRAYER CONCERNS

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

August 14 Roger Culler

August 17 Libby Tamson

August 18 Selden Baldwin

August 30 Sarah Styers

PRAYER CONCERNS

George Elam, Sandra Cantrell, Linda Flipp, Betty McDaniel,
Charlie Jones, Sarah Chisenhall, Lori Bartels,
Bonnie Landreth, Kelton Cofer, Chuck & Barb Maki,
Mary Hayes, Jiacamo Appice, June Brown, Mary Wilson,
Lib Schultz, Peg Jolls, Brad Hoss, Ian Carpenter.



FOOD PANTRY UPDATE



CMC's Food Pantry had a lot of food from the 2019 Fill The Pantry Event and due to few requests coming into CMC for food and COVID-19, we thought we could help those in need in Pender County. Pat Staton volunteered to load up the food and take it to Pender Christian Services to be handed out to the local Pender county children. Thank you to those who helped fill our pantry.

Pray Every Day~ August 2020

- 1.The same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on Him. Pray for Safiatu Braima.
- 2.Sunday. His compassion is over all that He has made. Pray for Moravians in Peru.
- 3.In humility, regard others as better than yourself. Pray for the Thiessens in Mexico.
- 4.In the great congregation, I will bless the Lord. Pray for the Teshes in Kenya.
- 5.The Lord pardons those who seek Him. Pray for the Moravian Church in Honduras.
- 6.We are saved through the grace of the Lord, Jesus. Pray for Armando Rusindo Foundation.
- 7.On Him who rescued us, we set our hope. Pray for Justin Rabbach(BWM).
- 8.My eyes are ever toward the Lord. Pray for the Sineaths in Campus Outreach.
- 9.Sunday. Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Pray for Annie B Mission (Star Mt).
- 10.It is not those who commend themselves who are approved. Pray for Steve & Ann Marx (MAF).
- 11.Rejoice always in the Lord. Pray for the Harrisons with Greek InterVarsity.
- 12.Let your eye be open to the plea of your servant, oh Lord. Pray for the Unity Women,s Desk.
- 13.Aug.13 Festival. By His stripes, we are healed. Pray for the Hoffmans in HIV/AIDS Ministry.
- 14.Whom have I in heaven but you ? Pray for Brian and Heather Marx (MAF).
- 15.God chose what is low and despised in the world. Pray for Jenna and Andrew Craver in Alaska.
- 16.Sunday. Let all the people praise you, O God. Pray for Allan and DeeDee Iobst in France.
- 17.Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. Pray for Kevin and Charity in the Middle East.
- 18.His steadfast love endures forever. Pray for Charlie and Vickie Brent with Bridges International at
TX A&M .
- 19.God called you through the proclamation of the Good News. Pray for Dr. Benno and Teresa Marx, WA.
- 20.Hatred stirs up strife, but love covers all offenses. Pray for Moravian volunteers.
- 21....unless you become like children, you will not enter the kingdom of heaven. Pray for Adopt-A-Village,TZ.
- 22.At the name of Jesus, every knee shall bow. Pray for those still suffering loss due to disasters.
- 23.Sunday.Trust in Him at all times. Pray for Moravian ministers and churches needing them to bring God's word.
- 24.You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies. Pray for the food programs taking care of children without good nutrition.
- 25.Lord, I rejoice in your salvation. Pray that our government will turn back to God.
- 26.He has reconciled you by Christs physical body through death. Pray for Hayley Geis and Veterinary Missions.
- 27.I am with you always, to the end of the age. Pray that our government will turn back to God.
- 28.Let anyone who is thirsty come to me. Pray for médical personnel serving in the war against Covid-19.
- 29.Being healed, only one turned back and praised Him. Pray for PEC members and other church leaders.
- 30.Sunday.The effect of righteousness will be peace. Pray for Police and Fire Fighters.
- 31.In Him, we live and move and have our being. Pray for government officials and leaders.

This Month in Moravian History

Issue 67, August 2011

“We Learned to Love”: August 13, 1727

The events of August 13, 1727, when at the conclusion of a Holy Communion service in Berthelsdorf the residents of Herrnhut united into the Renewed Brethren’s Church, are traditionally considered the spiritual birthday of the Moravian Church. Here, in a modern English translation, is the full description of those events as they were recorded in the Herrnhut diary:

“August 13, 1727. The profound and highly uplifting Communion was held on August 13. Beforehand, as we were on our way to church, everyone was talking with each other and here and there pairs were found among the Brethren, willing to unite. The church service started with the hymn: “Deliver Me, My God,” whereby a wicked person,

watching the ceremony, was totally overcome. Afterwards Pastor Rothe, supported by the congregation, bestowed a true apostolic blessing upon the two confirmations. Then the congregation fell down before the Lord, and started to cry and sing at the same time: “My Soul Before Thee Prostrate Lies.” One could hardly tell whether we were singing or crying, but it happened with such grace that the officiating minister (because Pastor Rothe celebrated Communion among the congregation) was also totally perplexed by it. After the hymn was finished some of the Brethren prayed with divine power, laying before the Lord the plight of the congregation and especially that they were at a loss at what to do with those who had left us, doubting they would succeed without sectarianism or separatism, since both are not the right way for the Lord’s house. We also prayed childlike and modestly, that He should teach us the true nature of His church and how to live and walk in His law; that we remain unsullied and inoffensive, so that we don’t become solitary but fruitful, and neither violate the loyalty and obedience sworn to Him and His Word nor injure the common love through trivialities. We prayed that He would fully bestow on us the holy order of His grace, and not allow our souls to be led from the blood-and-cross theology, on which our sole salvation depends. We laid before Him especially the worrying circumstances of our neighboring Brethren and of hundreds of souls that were awakened through our household, but now are partly led astray, partly fail to grow in the spirit and only want to burden themselves with knowledge. Afterwards, as a great anointment flowed over us and we felt not far from Him, we prayed in faithful assurance that He should let our two Elders, Christian David and Melchior Nitschmann (who were in Sorau with good intentions but with a tragic ending), be powerfully drawn into our fellowship and experience what we were experiencing. Following the absolution, communion was held with humbled and strengthened hearts, and each of us went home, feeling quite beside ourselves. On the way back to Herrnhut a wasp flew at the overseer [Zinzendorf] with rage and stung him hard on the hand just as he was in the process of trying to win over a separatist. We spent this day and the following in calm and joyful composure and learned to love. ... August 28. Christian David and Melchior Nitschmann came back from Sorau and at once asked us what we had been doing on the morning of August 13. They had been in the orphanage at Sablatt and at 10 o’clock in the morning they received a strong urge to pray. They went up into the house’s small tower with David Schneider, threw themselves down before the Savior, and were overcome with hundreds of tears and sweet thoughts of the congregation. They had never felt like that in their entire lives; they thought, what is happening in our congregation? If they could only know our circumstances!”

Sources Image: the church in Berthelsdorf near Herrnhut. Herrnhut diary, quoted in Hans-Christoph Hahn and Hellmut Reichel, eds., *Zinzendorf und die Herrnhuter Brüder: Quellen zur Geschichte der Brüder-Unität von 1722 bis 1760* (Hamburg 1977), 106-108. www.moravianchurcharchives.org



AUGUST CALENDAR

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 10 AM Joint Worship (Sanctuary) <i>Birthday Sunday</i>	3	4	5	6	7	8
9 10 AM Joint Worship (F. Hall)	10	11	12	13 August Thirteenth Festival	14	15
16 10 AM Joint Worship (Sanctuary) <i>Online Virtual Children's Festival</i>	17	18	19 Board Meeting 7:00 pm	20	21 Moravian Mission Founded, 1732	22
23 10 AM Joint Worship (F. Hall)	24	25	26	27	28	29
30 10 AM Joint Worship (Sanctuary)	31					

The Rev. Jeffrey Jones, Pastor

moravian_dude@yahoo.com

Charles Woodward, Interim Music Director

Crystal Baron, Church Administrator

covenantmoravainwilmington@gmail.com

Office Hours:

Tuesday - Friday

9:00 am - 4:00 pm

COVENANT 2020 WATCHWORD

Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering,

Persevere in prayer. Romans 12:12

COVENANT MORAVIAN CHURCH
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WILMINGTON, NC
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