

# THE ADVANCE

West Side Moravian Church 402 Third Avenue - Bethlehem, PA 18018 Church office: 610-865-0256

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Pastor Tammie Rinker

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Bethlehem, PA 18018

610-865-0256



# Unity Prayer Watch December 8, 2024

West Side has 30-minute time slots available. If you are interested, please call the office.

Use the prayer watch to:

- 1. Emphasize the importance of prayer in the life of every Christian and every congregation;
- 2. Remember before God one's personal needs, the needs of your congregation, and the needs of the world;
- 3. Bring before God the concerns of the worldwide Moravian Church. Our church is located in

areas of the world experiencing both challenge, conflict, and significant opportunities for the gospel of Jesus Christ. Reflect prayerfully on these as you follow the enclosed prayer suggestions.

Sunday	Flowers Given by	Counters	Liturgists	
12-1-2024	Open	Jim Kleintop & The Wanamakers	Audrey Wanamaker	
12-8-2024	Open	Jim Kleintop & The Clugstons	Os Matthew	
12-15-2024	Open	Jim Kleintop & The Wanamakers	Emily Bolmer	
12-22-2024	Open	Jim Kleintop & The Clugstons	Sandy Kuder	
12-29-2024	Open	Jim Kleintop & The Wanamakers	Duffy Snyder	



Please remember to update the church office of any changes of address with us if you are moving or have moved recently. Home address, email address and/or phone number changes are needed. Please call 610-865-0256 or email to <a href="mailto:westsidemoravian@gmail.com">westsidemoravian@gmail.com</a> with updates.

## 2024 Congregational Watchword

Let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. Hebrews 12:1-2



West Side Moravian Church now has online giving enabled through the Moravian Ministries Foundation.

Online giving can be a way for people to support your church from afar, make memorial gifts in lieu of flowers, honor a loved one, schedule tithing, and more.

https://mmfa.info/west-side-moravian-church-padonation-form/



One of the ministries offered within West Side Moravian Church is that of Spiritual Companionship, more commonly known as Spiritual Direction. Pastor Maggie Wellert meets with individuals in a ministry of deep, confidential, holy listening. In a safe, sacred space, you explore the invitation God offers to be in a deep relationship with you. We notice God's Presence, The Spirit's movement in your life, and explore the open doors Spirit offers for you to stretch and grow. God longs for us as much as we long for God, the true Director of this holy conversation. If you'd like to explore, reach out to Maggie at maggiewellert@gmail.com or 610-417-2803.

December 2024

# Seniors and Friends December 5, 2024 at 11:30 AM



BRING a Friend & a Sandwich

Beverage and Dessert will be Provided!

\*\*\*\*The front door located on 3rd Ave. will be open for easier access to our meetings. \*\*\*\*

### **Christmas Program by Richard Miller**

"What Happened at a Victorian Christmas Celebration" (foods, games, music - drawing on Dickens' Christmas Carol)

Please bring a gift to exchange not exceeding \$10.00.

West Side Moravian Church 402 3rd Ave Bethlehem PA 610-865-0256



# Order Form for Christmas Poinsettias

Please order \_\_\_\_ poinsettia plant(s) for me/us for placement in the sanctuary this Advent season.

The sheet containing the list of contributors should read:

(PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY.)



In Memory of:	PRESENTED BY:
In Honor of:	PRESENTED BY:
The cost of each plant is \$10.00. Your orders must be placed of the your orders at the Church Office or call the office at (610) 80 collowing the Christmas Candlelight Vigil Service.	

\_\_\_\_\_ poinsettias @ \$10.00 = \_\_\_\_\_

Payable to: West Side Moravian Church

# Moravian Disaster Response to Hurricanes Helene and Sara 11/19/24 Update



The Board of World of World Mission continues to coordinate emergency funding and mission teams seeking to assist residents impacted by severe flooding caused by the remnants of Hurricane Helene. The BWM is cooperating with Laurel Ridge, the Moravian Camp and Conference Center located in Western North Carolina, to house and feed those interested in assisting with the rebuilding efforts. If you are interested in participating, we encourage you to fill out a volunteer data form at MoravianMission.org/MDR/. If you have any questions, please contact Butch Sawtelle at mdr@moravianmission.org.

The BWM is also aware of the flooding in Honduras caused by Hurricane Sara, which stalled just to the north of the country and caused extended heavy rains. Many airports are closed, and roads are impassable, making life very difficult for those who live there. We will be sending aid shortly as the needs become more defined.

You can assist us with our disaster response efforts at MoravianMission.org/Give/ (scan QR code). Please designate your gift to "MDR". If you wish to mail your donation, please make the check payable to "Board of World Mission" and send it to one of the following addresses:

U.S. Donors: Board of World Mission, 1021 Center Street, Bethlehem, PA 18018

# The Moravian Music Foundation announces the 27th Season of the Unitas Chorale



Singers Wanted: All voices welcome! No audition required!



Concert Theme: One in Faith and One in Love

First rehearsal: Sunday, January 5, 3:00 - 5:00 pm;

College Hill Moravian Church; 72 West Laurel Street, Bethlehem, PA

Rehearsals are held January through April at College Hill on the **first**, **third**, and **fifth** Sundays of the month.

Final concert: Sunday, May 4, 2025, 4:00 pm; location tbd

Gwyneth Michel, Director; gwynmichel@aol.com MMF office: 610-866-3340 (PA); 336-725-0651

(NC) https://moravianmusic.org/category/unitas/





# **Collect Plastic to Recycle**



Through the *Trex* Plastic Recycling Program, West Side is still collecting plastic to be recycled and made into outdoor benches. Please call the church office to arrange a drop-off time. Here's a reminder of accepted plastics: Accepted plastics include: pallet wrap and stretch film, grocery bags, bread bags, case overwrap, dry cleaning bags, newspaper sleeves, ice bags, wood pellet bags, ziplock bags, produce bags, bubble wrap and air pillows, salt bags, and cereal bags. (NOTE: All plastic must be clean, dry, and free of food residue.)



BCM's Annual Gingerbread House Event Date: Saturday December 7, 2024 Time: 2 - 4 PM Location: 402 Third Ave., Bethlehem, PA Venue: West Side Moravian Church

**Event Summary:** Time to let your confectionary architectural skills shine at our popular annual event – we'll provide all the fixings you need to create your own Gingerbread House!

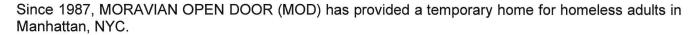
When you register, you can choose to build it at our event (\$15 per kit), or you can pick up your kit to create at home (\$20). This activity is fun for all ages! Watch for the registration link in our social media, and in our next newsletter! If you don't want to miss it, you can drop us a note at MOVE@bethlehemcoopmarket.com and we'll send it out when available.

We are very excited to host a screening of **Sight & Sound Theatre's production of "Miracle of Christmas"** in our sanctuary on Saturday, <u>December 7<sup>th</sup> at 3pm</u>. Dinner will follow in the Fellowship Hall. There is no charge for this event, but we do need reservations to be made by calling or emailing the office (info is on the attached flyer).

#### "A SERVICE OF REFLECTION ON THE LONGEST NIGHT"

A Blue Christmas Service will be offered on Saturday, <u>December 21 from 4 to 5 pm</u>. This time of reflection and prayer for "The Longest Night" is open to all. This year we are pleased to welcome Jim Dronenburg who will play the harp for the service. We especially pray that those who are grieving or for whom this time of year is accompanied by sadness will find comfort and hope in the readings and music of this evening. Please gather in the sanctuary. The service will also be available via Zoom. By phone: Dial (301)715.8592 [then enter meeting ID and passcode when prompted. Meeting ID: 997 5374 8227, Passcode: 544713.] If you need assistance, please call the church office at (610) 258-6317.

### There was no room at the inn...





This ministry provides safe and affordable transitional housing for 40 homeless adults. MOD provides a healthful breakfast and supportive social services to rebuild our residents' lives. MOD helps them to obtain jobs and benefits, with the goal of finding permanent affordable housing and learning the life skills to maintain it.

Residents at Moravian Open Door pay a small monthly fee for their room and services (often much of their limited income); this covers only about 50% of the operating costs for the facility and its full-time staff of three.

Moravian Open Door receives *no government funds*. Donations from individuals, congregations, and other private sources must cover the rest of operating expenses.

Your gift this Advent season can help the vital ministry of MOD, the only transitional housing ministry of the Northern Province of the Moravian Church.

## Please consider a generous financial gift to MOD.

Moravian Open Door347 E. 18<sup>th</sup> Street, New York, N.Y. 10003 www.moravianhouse.org

#### **West Side Giving and Expense Totals**

October expenses:

\$16,489.31

October income & giving:

\$7,621.00

#### Watch Sunday Morning Worship on Zoom

Tammie Rinker is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: West Side Sunday Service

Time: Sundays at 10:45 AM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

### A few important notes:

- \* We are still meeting in person, this is an addition to Sunday morning worship
- \* This is not a livestream, just a simple Zoom
- \* The camera only captures the chancel area, pews/people are not on camera
- \* Those on Zoom are not visible to the congregation

#### Join Zoom Meeting

https://zoom.us/i/97555114627?pwd=dHBXLzRRZ2MyTS9xM0szNFd5Ymd6QT09

Meeting ID: 975 5511 4627 Passcode: 226626

Find your local number: https://zoom.us/u/aexCiQbkDS

worship with us







# **News from Camp Hope**





# **Our new Property Manager!**

It is with great joy that we welcome **Micah Henning** to our Camp Hope community! Micah is no stranger to Camp Hope, and brings an incredible wealth of gifts along with his experiences as a camper, counselor, and staffer. Welcome, Brother Micah!

Blessings upon your work with us at Camp Hope.

Moravian Church Northern Province
Racial Justice Team
New Way of Being Advent Series 2024
The Doctrine of Discovery: What It Is and Why It Matters
December 4, 11, and 18 7:30-8:30 pm ET

Northern Province Racial Justice Team
New Way of Being Advent Series 2024

The Doctrine of Discovery:
What It Is and Why It Matters
An Advent Study Toward Racial Justice and Healing

The Moravian Church Northern Province Racial Justice Team is pleased to present its *New Way of Being* Advent Series for 2024. This year's theme is, "The Doctrine of Discovery: What It Is and Why It Matters." There will be three one-hour sessions on December 4, 11, and 18 at 7:30 pm ET. All sessions will be on Zoom. We will welcome a guest presenter each week. The session on December 4 will include a short film or the Doctrine of Discovery from the Episcopal Church's Sacred Ground curriculum. Also included in the sessions will be prayer, scripture readings, and time for reflection. The series is open to all. Participants are encouraged to read the 2023 MCNP Synod legislation entitled, "Repudiation of the Doctrine of Discovery and Terra Nullius and Initial Steps Towards Reconciliation and Healing of the Church's Relationships with Indigenous Peoples."

The Zoom access for all three sessions is <a href="https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83789192982?pwd=Jw3uYBKL8lot4QUK6XVZlqdB4lpsMO.1">https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83789192982?pwd=Jw3uYBKL8lot4QUK6XVZlqdB4lpsMO.1</a> Meeting ID 837 8919 2982, Passcode 718545

An accompanying four-week Bible Study and Advent devotional are available. For complete speaker bios, the 2023 MCNP Synod Legislation, Bible Study and Devotional, visit: https://www.moravian.org/northern/2024/11/13/newwayofbeing2024/

December 4 The Doctrine of Discovery - What It is and Why It Matters

Guest presenter: The Rev Canon Debbie Royals, Pascua Yaqui

Canon for Native American Ministry, Episcopal Diocese of Arizona

Short Film, The Episcopal Church Exposes the Doctrine of Discovery

December 11The Doctrine of Discovery – Why It Matters

Guest presenter: **The Rev Dr Winelle Kirton Roberts**, native of Barbados, Caribbean missiologist and Church historian, researcher and author; secondment Pastor of Geneva Moravian Fellowship, Geneva, Switzerland

December 18The Doctrine of Discovery – Why It Matters

Guest Presenter: **Mrs. Erica Rios**, Member of the Board and youth leader of the Morongo Moravian Church, Banning, California

For questions about the Advent series, please contact suekoenig@mcnp.org.

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## Please Pray For:

Prayer list:

**Health:** CQ, Cathy, Lori, Brian, Henry, Brett, William, Katherine, Mamous, Tim, Skylar, and Barbara. **Bereavement:** Fehnel Family, Stouffer Family, Richards Family, and Breslin Family.

Lifting up our shut-ins and others that are homebound or living in retirement communities: God of us all, share your love with us all. We ask a special blessing for those who are not able to get to church.

## **Weekly Watchwords for December**

### Week of December 1

Luke 21:33

<sup>33</sup> Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

#### Week of December 8

Luke 1:68

68 "Blessed be the Lord God of Israel,
for he has looked favorably on his people and redeemed them.

#### Week of December 15

Luke 3:8

8 Bear fruits worthy of repentance.

#### Week of December 22

Luke 1:52

<sup>52</sup> God has brought down the powerful from their thrones and lifted up the lowly.

#### Week of December 22

Psalm 148:13

13 Let them praise the name of the Lord, for his name alone is exalted;
his glory is above earth and heaven.



The Prayer Chain can be activated by any member of West Side Moravian Church. Simply call any member of the Prayer Chain with your joy or concern and that information will be passed on so that your joy or concern will be held in prayer. As the Board of Elders is especially charged with the spiritual welfare of the congregation, they too will be informed of your prayer request.