

Service of the Ordination of
Dana Gough Myers

As a Deacon of the Moravian Church
HOME MORAVIAN CHURCH
October 2, 2022
3:00 p.m.

BAND CHORALES

PRELUDE - *Jesus Makes My Heart Rejoice*Margaret Vardell Sandresky (1994)
Jonathan Williams, Organist

WELCOMEThe Rev. Ginny Hege Tobiassen

We greet you as we join with our Savior in the ordination of Dana Gough Myers as a deacon in the Moravian Church.

(Standing)

HYMN 530 - *Praise to the Lord, the Almighty*.....T. *Lobe den Herren*
(Remain standing)

LITURGY FOR THE ORDINATION OF A DEACON

We praise you, O God, our Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer; your saving work shines through all the ages.

You have never turned away from us, even when we have turned away from you; but in your covenant of salvation, you call us through the law and the prophets to be your holy people.

We thank you for fulfilling your covenant through the eternal ministry of Jesus Christ, our only Lord and Savior.

Christ freely accepted our human nature to live, teach, suffer, die, and rise again for the forgiveness of sins, that we might share in eternal life.

We thank you for the ministry committed by Christ to the whole church to proclaim the gospel.

Through the gifts of your Holy Spirit, you call each of us into the church and empower us to make the saving work of Christ visible on earth.

We thank you that you call individuals from among us to the ordained ministry of Word and Sacrament.

They serve among us to lead, strengthen, challenge, and nourish our ministry together in Christ.

Especially on this day we thank you for your call to Dana Myers and for her dedication to serve in your name.

To you be glory, praise, adoration, and thanksgiving, both now and forever. Amen.

(Sitting)

SPECIAL MUSIC - *Servants of Peace*.....K. Lee Scott
Jonathan Sidden, Tenor

THE SCRIPTURE LESSONS
Song of Solomon 8: 6-7Gabrielle and Cassidy Stevenson
Psalm 18: 1-6, 16-19The Rt. Rev. Graham Rights
Luke 12: 22-24.....The Rt. Rev. Graham Rights

SERMONThe Rt. Rev. Carol Foltz

(Sister Deborah Aboudara representing the Provincial Elders’ Conference, the Reverend Dr. Craig Atwood representing the clergy, and Sister Shirley Yoder representing the laity escort Sister Myers to the chancel as the following hymn is sung. According to tradition this text was written for the ordination of the first Moravian ministers in 1467.)

Come, let us all with gladness raise
A joyous song of thanks and praise
To God, who rules the heavenly host,
God, Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

God gave us faithful ones to lead
And help us in our time of need;
But, Lord, all power is yours alone,
And you the work must carry on.

Father in heaven, fulfill your word;
Grant us the Spirit of our Lord,
That through your truth, which cannot fail,
We may o’er every ill prevail.

(Sister Aboudara addresses the bishop.)

On behalf of this province of the Moravian Church, we request that Dana Myers be ordained as deacon.

We believe this candidate is sound in doctrine and faith and has a sincere intention to serve Christ and the church through the power of the Holy Spirit.

(Bishop Foltz responds.)

In response to your request, it is my joy to carry out this ministry of ordination on behalf of the whole church.

(The representatives return to their seats.)
(Bishop Foltz addresses Sister Myers.)

Sister Dana, do you trust that you have been brought by divine grace to know Jesus Christ as your Savior?

This is my humble trust.

Do you believe in the truth of the Old and New Testaments, as inspired by the Holy Spirit?

I do.

Do you freely accept the obligations of an ordained minister to study, pray, care for souls, preach, teach, and administer the sacraments in Christ’s church?

I freely accept them.

Do you accept the commission to evangelize and give witness to the saving grace which is found in Jesus Christ?

I do.

Do you solemnly promise, as you serve in our Unity, to give obedience to the faith and order of the Moravian Church as these are formulated under Scripture and the Holy Spirit by our Synods and constituted authorities?

I solemnly promise obedience to them.

(Bishop Foltz addresses the congregation.)

Brothers and sisters, as representatives of the Body of Christ, will you uphold, affirm, and encourage Sister Dana in this ministry?

We will.

(Bishop Foltz continues)

In the presence of God and this congregation I acknowledge these testimonies with gratitude and praise to our Savior.

(Sister Myers kneels as the “Veni, Creator Spiritus” is sung. This hymn has been used at ordinations in the Christian church since the 9th century.)

HYMN.....T. *Veni, Creator Spiritus*

Come, Holy Ghost, our souls inspire,
And lighten with celestial fire;
Thou the anointing Spirit art,
Who dost thy seven-fold gifts impart.

Thy blessed unction from above
Is comfort, life, and fire of love.
Enable with perpetual light
The dullness of our blinded sight.

Anoint each heart and cheer each face
With the abundance of thy grace,
Keep far our foes; keep peace at home:
Where thou art Guide, no ill can come.

Teach us to know the Father, Son,
And thee, with both, to be but One
That through the ages all along
Thy praise may be our endless song.

(The congregation stands and Bishop Foltz offers the prayer of ordination.)

Eternal God, in wisdom you govern all things, and from the beginning you have chosen faithful people to serve you in ministry, calling some apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, to equip all your people for the work of ministry and for the building up of the Body of Christ. Now bless and sanctify by your Holy Spirit your servant Dana, whom we, in your name and in obedience to your will, by prayer and with the laying on of hands, ordain for the ministry of the church.

(Bishop Foltz lays hands on Sister Myers and continues to pray.)

Eternal God, through your Son, Jesus Christ, pour out your Holy Spirit upon Dana; fill her with grace and power, and make her a deacon in your church.

O Lord, give to this your servant the grace and power needed to serve you in this ministry. Bless her proclamation of the word and administration of your sacraments so that your church

may be gathered for praise and strengthened for service. Make her a wise pastor, a patient teacher, and a faithful witness. Grant that in all things she may serve without reproach, that your people may be renewed, and that your name may be glorified in the church; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever. Amen.

The Lord bless you, and keep you;
The Lord make his face shine upon you, and be gracious unto you;
The Lord lift up his countenance upon you, and give you peace;

In the Name of Jesus. Amen.

(Sitting)

Choir: Glory be to your most meritorious ministry.
 Christ, the Servant of the true tabernacle,
 who did not come to be ministered unto,
 but to minister, to minister.
 Amen, Hallelujah, Hallelujah,

All: **Amen, Hallelujah!**

(Sister Myers stands and Bishop Foltz gives her a personal charge.)

THE CHARGE

(Standing)

HYMN 799 - *Jesus, Still Lead On*.....T. *Seelenbräutigam*

FESTAL DOXOLOGY.....The Rev. Dana Myers

Unto the Lamb that was slain,
and has redeemed us out of all nations of the earth;
unto the Lord who purchased our souls for himself,
unto that friend who loved us, and loosed us from our sins by his own blood;
who died for us once,
that we might die unto sin;
who rose for us,
that we might also rise;
who ascended for us into heaven,
to prepare a place for us;
and to whom are subjected the angels, and powers, and dominions; to him be glory at all times,
in the church that waits for him, and in that which is around him,
From everlasting to everlasting,
Amen.

BENEDICTION

The Lord bless you, and keep you;
The Lord make his face shine upon you, and be gracious unto you;
The Lord lift up his countenance upon you, and give you peace;

In the Name of Jesus. Amen.

POSTLUDE - *Join We All with One Accord*.....Károly Köpe (1926-2002)

The Women’s Fellowship of Home Moravian Church invites the congregation to a reception after the service. Everyone is cordially invited to greet the Rev. Dana Myers and other guests who are with us.

The Rt. Rev. Carol Foltz, *Presiding Bishop*
The Rev. Ginny Hege Tobiassen, *Pastor*
The Rev. Andrew L. Heil, *Associate Pastor*
Glenn Siebert, *Director of Music*
Jonathan Williams, *Organist*

Sister Dana Gough Myers

Dana Myers has not always been Moravian, but she came “Home” as quickly as possible, becoming a member of the Home Church congregation in 2017.

Dana was born into the Huntsville community of eastern Yadkin County. She attended Immanuel Baptist, Calvary Baptist and Union Grove Baptist Christian schools before receiving an Associate Degree from Forsyth Technical Community College in 2001.

Returning to school as an adult student, she graduated from East Carolina University with a Bachelor of Science in Middle Grades Education. She taught sixth grade before attending Luther Seminary.

Dana completed Luther’s MDivX program as a member of Cohort 2 (the “Quarantine Cohort”) and graduated with a Master of Divinity in June 2022. In May of 2022, Dana also graduated from Moravian Seminary with a Certificate in Moravian Studies. Alongside her Seminary education, Dana completed a unit of Clinical Pastoral Education through Park Nicollet HealthPartners. She is also an instructor for the Question-Persuade-Refer (QPR) Suicide Prevention method and a facilitator for Prepare-Enrich relationship and pre-marital education. Dana loves all things Moravian, but especially youth ministry, Candle Tea, the Children’s Festival and Laurel Ridge.

Dana is married to Matt, a sixth grade Language Arts teacher, professional mentor and cross country coach at Southeast Middle School. Their daughter, Raine, is a sophomore at Salem Academy, president of the QSA and vice-president of Film Club. Dana enjoys writing, all kinds of movies and hiking the NC state parks with her family. She can’t wait to see what God’s Next Step is for her in life and ministry.

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