



HOME MORAVIAN CHURCH

Welcome Home



HomeMoravian.org

Sunday, April 26, 2026

Founded 1771

Fulfilling Christ's call to love God, live in community, and serve our neighbor.

*"Let thine eye be opened toward this house night and day,
even toward the place of which thou hast said, My name shall be there."*

- Text for the day on which the Site of Salem was selected.

Salem Square

Winston-Salem, NC

**FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
APRIL 26, 2026
WORSHIP SERVICE – 10:00 A.M.**

WATCHWORD FOR THE WEEK: *Jesus said, “I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved and will come in and go out and find pasture.”* John 10:9

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS.....The Rev. Dr. Craig Atwood

PRELUDE:

Prelude on *Rhosymedre*.....Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)

CALL TO WORSHIP

LITURGY: *Education*, pages 127 – 132

EDUCATION

(Standing)

We praise you, Lord! We give thanks to you with our whole heart!

Great are your works, full of honor and majesty and studied by all who delight in them.

The works of your hands are faithful and just.

Your precepts are trustworthy.

Our reverence for you is the beginning of wisdom.

You are to be praised forever.

GOUDIMEL (205 A)

Let the whole cre - a - tion cry, "Glo - ry to the Lord on high!"

The first system of musical notation consists of a treble and bass staff. The treble staff contains a melody with lyrics underneath. The bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment with chords and moving lines.

Heav'n and earth a - wake and sing, "Praise to our al - might - y King!"

The second system of musical notation continues the melody and accompaniment from the first system.

Praise God, an - gel hosts a - bove, ev - er bright and fair in love,

The third system of musical notation continues the melody and accompaniment.

sun and moon, lift up your voice, night and stars, in God re - joice.

The fourth system of musical notation concludes the hymn with a double bar line.

EDUCATION

All-knowing Creator, from whom comes every good and perfect gift, we praise you for the wisdom, power, and love displayed in the natural universe and in humanity, whom you have placed within it to care for it and nurture it.

All glory to you, omniscient God!

Light of the world, we praise you for being the eternal truth.

All glory to you, Christ our teacher!

Revealer of the deep things of God, we praise you for your gifts of awe and wonder which lead us on the path of true wisdom.

All glory to you, Holy Spirit!

JOANNA

Great God of all wis - dom, of sci - ence and art,
O grant us the wis - dom that comes from the heart.
Tech - nol - o - gy, learn - ing, phi - los - o - phy, youth -
all leave us still yearn - ing for your word of truth.

TEXT: © by Jane Parker Huber

Let us pray:

(Kneeling or sitting)

God of vision and wisdom, we confess our short-sightedness and folly in our search for knowledge and understanding. For our pride in pursuing and using knowledge in ways that make us think we are superior to others, we ask your forgiveness.

For our misuse of science and technology, leading to the oppression of people and the abuse of creation, we ask your forgiveness.

For our failure to ask hard questions and our willingness to be satisfied with easy answers, for our ignorance of history and tradition, and for our stubborn resistance to new insights of both heart and mind, we ask your forgiveness.

We neglect the study of Scripture, the foundation of all true learning. Although your splendor has illuminated our path, we have chosen to walk in darkness.

Although your guidance is always available, we have relied upon our own will.

Although you have given us wise counsel, inspired writers, and thoughtful teachers, we have turned to our own ways.

Gracious God, you forgive us through Jesus Christ. In humble acknowledgement of your love revealed in him, we give you thanks, and pray the prayer he taught us:

Our Father, who art in heaven,

hallowed be thy name.

Thy kingdom come.

**Thy will be done on earth
as it is in heaven.**

Give us this day our daily bread.

And forgive us our trespasses ——— OR ———

as we forgive those

who trespass against us.

And lead us not into temptation,

but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom,

and the power, and the glory,

forever and ever. Amen.

Our Father in heaven,

hallowed be your name,

your kingdom come,

**your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.**

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins

as we forgive those

who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial

and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power,

and the glory are yours

now and forever. Amen.

(Sitting)

EDUCATION

IN BABILONE

In the crowds that came to Je - sus, teach - ing up and

down the land, there were some who scorned and mocked him,

some who did not un - der - stand. But the ones who

lis - tened hum - bly learned to trust him and o - bey,

learned to love and be for - giv - ing, and be - lieve in Je - sus' way.

TEXT: © by W. L. Jenkins

EDUCATION

Divine Teacher, to you we commend all who learn: infants tasting and touching, children exploring in play, youth testing and challenging, and adults continuing the quest.

Bless our learning with your Spirit.

In the disciplined mastery of subject and skill, in the reflection on life experience, in the practical wisdom of long years,

Bless our learning with your Spirit.

At every age and in every circumstance of life,

Bless our learning with your Spirit.

Give patience and understanding to those who teach. Give perseverance and openness of heart and mind to those who learn.

Bless our learning with your Spirit.

Spirit of truth, to you we commend all the educational ministries of the church. Guide us in the search of the Scriptures, in the study of creation, and in the pursuit of truth. Give to parents your wisdom and thoughts, that with love and understanding they may guide to Christian maturity the young lives entrusted to their care. May congregations nurture faith in children, youth, and adults.

Hear our prayer, Spirit of truth.

Bless all those responsible for education in our community and country: teachers and administrators, custodians and clerks, students and families. For their gifts and their service,

We give you thanks.

For all the diversity of human study and knowledge — for science and art, for literature and drama, for labor and play — for all the teaching experiences of life,

We give you thanks.

EDUCATION

(Standing)

HYMN TO JOY

God of wis - dom, truth, and beau - ty, God of spir - it, fire, and soul,
 God of dra - ma, mu - sic, danc - ing, God of sto - ry, sculp - ture, art,
 God of sci - ence, his - t'ry, teach - ing, God of fu - tures yet un - known,

God of or - der, love, and du - ty, God of pur - pose, plan, and goal:
 God of wit, all life en - hanc - ing, God of ev - 'ry yearn - ing heart:
 God of hold - ing, God of reach - ing, God of pow'r be - yond each throne:

grant us vi - sions ev - er grow - ing, breath of life, e - ter - nal strength,
 chal - lenge us with quests of spir - it, truth re - vealed in myr - iad ways,
 take the frag - ments of our liv - ing. Fit us to your fin - est scheme.

mys - tic spir - it mov - ing, flow - ing, fill - ing height and depth and length.
 word or song for hearts that hear it, sketch and mod - el - forms of praise.
 Now for - giv - en and for - giv - ing, make us free to dare and dream.

TEXT: © by Jane Parker Huber

To the God of lasting wisdom, to the God of relentless change, to God be glory,
 majesty, dominion, and power,

Now and forever. Amen.

SCRIPTURE LESSONS:

Psalm 23

The Lord is my shepherd;

I shall not want.

He makes me lie down in green pastures; he leads me
beside still waters;

He restores my soul.

He leads me in right paths for his name's sake.

**Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no
evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff—
they comfort me.**

You prepare a table before me in the presence of my
enemies;

You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of
my life,

**And I shall dwell in the house of the Lord my whole life
long.**

1 Peter 2:19-25

John 10:1-10

During the next hymn, children aged 3 through 3rd grade may follow
Children's Worship leaders to continue with worship in CE-106.

HYMN 662 - Jesus Makes My Heart Rejoice.....T. Hayn

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION AND NURTURE

662 Jesus Makes My Heart Rejoice

1 Je - sus makes my heart re - joice, I'm his sheep and
2 Trust - ing his mild staff al - ways, I go in and
3 Should not I for glad - ness leap, led by Je - sus

know his voice; he's a Shep - herd, kind and gra - cious,
out in peace; he will feed me with the treas - ure
as his sheep? For when these blessed days are o - ver

and his pas - tures are de - li - cious; con - stant love to
of his grace in rich - est meas - ure; when a - thirst to
to the arms of my dear Sav - ior I shall be con -

me he shows, yea, my ver - y name he knows.
him I cry, liv - ing wa - ter he'll sup - ply.
veyed to rest. A - men, yea, my lot is blessed.

TEXT: Henriette Louise von Hayn (1776). Tr. Frederick W. Foster (1789), alt.
TUNE: Herrnhut (c. 1740); C. Gregor Choralbuch (1784)

Alternate translation, hymn 723
7.7.8.8.7.7. Trochaic
HAYN (82 D)

LESSON: Acts 2:41-47.....The Rev. Ginny Hege Tobiassen

SERMON: *For You and for Your Children*

HYMN - *Our Children, Lord, in Faith and Prayer** T. Dove of Peace

*1. Our children, Lord, in faith and prayer,
we baptize in your name.*

*Let them your cov'nant mercies share
as we our faith proclaim;
as we our faith proclaim.*

*2. Such children you did once embrace
while dwelling here below;
and now may we, O Lord of grace,
the same compassion show;
the same compassion show.*

*3. May we who love these children so
be moved in heart to care
for these young lives, that they may know
the faith we're called to share,
the faith we're called to share.*

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY INVITATION Rev. Dr. Atwood

The offertory provides an opportunity to reflect on the many ways that we can express our gratitude in response to God: with time, treasure, talents, and testimony. For financial giving online: Use the Moravian Ministries Foundation giving portal at <https://mmfa.info/giving-portal/>. Click the DONATE tab on any page of the Home Church website. For more information, go to homemoravian.org/donate. You can make one-time or recurring gifts. Text HOME to 73256 on your phone.

ANTHEM: *The Chorister Prayer*..... Philip Stopford (2021)
Home Church Choir

(Text: School of English Church Music, 1934)

Bless, O Lord, us thy servants, who minister in thy temple. Grant that what we sing with our lips, we may believe in our hearts, and what we believe in our hearts, we may show forth in our lives. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

DOXOLOGY

OFFERTORY PRAYER

PRAYERS FOR THE CHURCH AND THE WORLD..... Rev. Tobiassen

HYMN 665 - Bless All Those Who Nurture Children.....T. Hymn to Joy

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION AND NURTURE

665 Bless All Those Who Nurture Children

1 Bless all those who nur - ture chil - dren, shar - ing knowl - edge,
2 Je - sus taught both by ex - am - ple and with words of
3 Bless these lives of ded - i - ca - tion - days and sea - sons,

ORG.
show - ing love; who by faith - ful words and ac - tions lead young lives to
last - ing worth; Christ has giv - en ways to sam - ple hints of heav - en
weeks and years, spent in serv - ing con - gre - ga - tions, spread - ing joys and

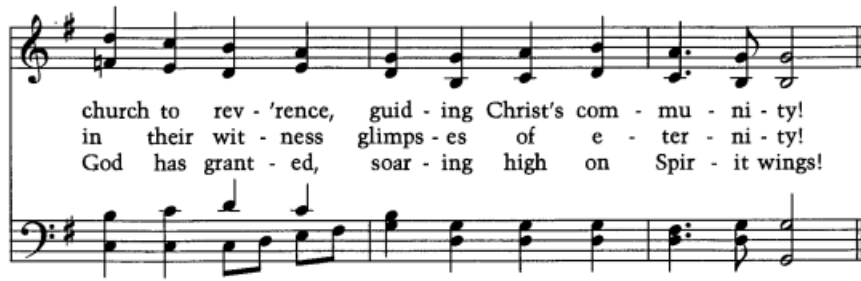
ORG.
God a - bove! Bless all those whose voice and pres - ence,
here on earth! In the same way Chris - tian teach - ers
sooth - ing tears! Bless these lives so firm - ly plant - ed

deep de - vo - tion, dig - ni - ty, mo - ti - vate the
mod - el true hu - man - i - ty, dem - on - strat - ing
in the grace the Sav - ior brings, flour - ish - ing as

TEXT: John A. Dalles [1993, modified 1994]. ©1994 by John A. Dalles
TUNE: Ludwig van Beethoven [1824]. Arr. David Lewis Crosby [1994]
Arr. ©1994 by David Lewis Crosby

Alternate setting, hymn 544
8.7.8.7.D.
HYMN TO JOY

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION AND NURTURE



church to rev - 'rence, guid - ing Christ's com - mu - ni - ty!
in their wit - ness glimps - es of e - ter - ni - ty!
God has grant - ed, soar - ing high on Spir - it wings!

BENEDICTION

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE – Hymn 832, *The Grace of Our Lord*

*While singing, we extend the right hand of fellowship.
We invite you to continue your fellowship as you exit during the postlude.*

SERVICE MUSIC

832 **The Grace of Our Lord**

The musical score for 'The Grace of Our Lord' is presented in three systems. Each system consists of a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are: 'The grace of our Lord Je - sus Christ, and the love of God, and the com - mu - nion of the Ho - ly Spir - it, be with us all, be with us all. A - men.'

TEXT: 2 Corinthians 13:13
TUNE: Christian Gregor (1763)

Irregular
(540 E)

Postlude:

Fanfare and Celebration on *Hymn to Joy*... Pamela Robison (2025)

**Our Children, Lord, in Faith and Prayer* text verses 1-2 by Thomas Haweis (1734-1820), alt.; text verse 3 by Virginia Hege Tobiasen

SUNDAY EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMMING

CHILDREN'S WORSHIP, CE-106, 10:20 a.m. (aged 3 and up), *Jesus Appears to Thomas*

There will be no Sunday School Classes today. We invite you to join us in the fellowship hall for the reception honoring Jonathan Williams and Glenn Seibert.

Announcements

We extend a cordial welcome to all visitors this morning and invite you to join us again whenever possible. Please take a moment to sign the Friendship Register, pass it both ways in your pew, and greet those near you.

The flowers are placed in the Sanctuary today by Drew Pollander Nagy and Mary Beth Pollander in loving memory of their mother, *Geri Pollander*; grandmother, *Geraldine Dixon*; and cousin, *Camille Hall Brown*.

You are invited to a reception immediately following worship today at 11:00 AM in the fellowship hall. We will honor Music Director Glenn Siebert and Organist Jonathan Williams for their years of dedicated service to Home Church and send them off with our best wishes for the future. They will be deeply missed.

All are invited to hear biblical scholar Bart Ehrman speak at Knollwood Baptist Church on Monday, May 4, at 6:30 pm. Dr. Ehrman's newest book, *Love Thy Stranger: How the Teachings of Jesus Transformed the Moral Conscience of the West*, traces how Jesus' ethic of altruism — commanding his disciples to love even those who are strangers — has shaped our world and our lives.

Forsyth Jail & Prison Ministries invites you to join the annual "Pray Around the Jail" on Friday, May 1, from 5:30–6:00 PM. Arrive at the Forsyth County Detention Center (corner of Church St. & 2nd St.) by 5:15 PM. Groups from across the community will gather for a time of unstructured prayer. No volunteer approval is required—everyone is welcome. Our presence is seen and deeply appreciated by many inside. We hope you'll take part in this meaningful time of prayer.

Home Church is hosting the Winston-Salem Street School's 2026 graduation on Thursday, May 28 at 6:30 pm, and we need outside greeters to guide guests from parking to the sanctuary. If you know the way, you're ready to help. You will be done by 8:00 pm! Contact Mark Wright at allcomm21@gmail.com or 336-618-1962. The Street School provides an alternative path for students to earn their high school diploma.

We welcome organist Edwin Walker! Beginning today, he will be our interim organist. Edwin earned his Bachelor and Master of Music degrees in piano performance from Millsaps College and Southern Methodist University. He studied organ with Donald Kilmer and privately with Thomas Froehlich. He served as organist in Methodist and Presbyterian churches from 1976 until retiring in 2023. After moving to Winston-Salem in 2024, he has continued subbing for churches in the Piedmont Triad. In addition to music, Edwin is also a Certified Court Reporter in Texas and works part-time covering remote depositions.

Save the Date! The Annual Church Picnic will be held on Sunday, May 31, following worship. It will be a potluck meal in the Fellowship Hall followed by dessert on The Square. More information will be announced.

CALENDAR

- Sunday - 10:00 am Worship Service
11:00 am Celebration for Jonathan Williams and Glenn Siebert, Fellowship Hall
- Monday - 5:00 pm Youth Ministry Team Meeting, CE-101
5:30 pm Christian Formation Team Meeting, CE-101
- Tuesday - 1:30 pm Living Faith, Club Room
5:00 pm Building and Grounds Committee Mtg., Club Room
6:30 pm Beginner Band, RB-5
7:30 pm Chorale Band, RB-5
- Wednesday - 7:00 am Breakfast, Cagney's Restaurant
4:00 pm World Missions Team, Club Room
5:45 pm Wednesday Night Fellowship Meal
6:30 pm Children's Program, CE Building
6:45 pm Wednesday Night Program, Fellowship Hall
- Thursday - 5:30 pm Gregor BellChor, Bell Room
6:30 pm Choir Rehearsal, RB-5
- Friday - 9:30 am Needle Point Guild, Club Room
- Next Sunday - 10:00 am Worship Service
11:15 am Educational Programming
(No Youth or Children's Sunday School Classes)
11:30 am Lunch for Graduates & their Families, Fellowship Hall
2:00 pm Salem Walk, Saal

Youth News: Please join us at Lot 63 to discuss Youth Sunday on May 3rd!

Scripture Meditation 4/26/2026

“Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit.” – John 10:1

As a society, we often ask the question, “Do the ends justify the means?” In other words, is it ok to do something that you think is morally wrong if it has a positive result? It’s a conundrum we all run into in life. You may be tempted to let a friend copy your answers to the homework because they say they need your help, or you may be tempted to lie because you want to protect someone’s feelings.

In this verse, Jesus emphasizes how important intentions are in the way we act and how we treat other people. He says that the only real way to union God is through him; to recognize Jesus as the gatekeeper is to search our own hearts and try to put Jesus’s teachings at the center of our intentions.

I often find that good intentions go a long way toward solving difficult situations. A friend who wants to copy the answers to homework needs someone that will spend time with them and help them learn the material properly—cheating is often not a result of laziness but a lack of understanding. A friend who comes to you for advice doesn’t need a white lie that will protect their feelings; they need someone who is courageous enough and cares about them enough to share the truth. A person with intentions guided by God can usually navigate tricky moments because the other person knows that they are loved. Thinking about Jesus as the gatekeeper helps us tether our intentions to God and make good choices for us and the people we care about. – Philip

RECEPTION



Today (following worship)
11 AM



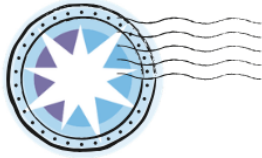
Fellowship Hall

Honoring

**JONATHAN WILLIAMS
& GLENN SIEBERT**

Please join us as we thank them for their years of service at Home Moravian Church, and wish them happiness as they forge new paths in their lives.

Heavy hors d'oeuvres and cake will be served.



CALLING ALL PARENTS AND GRANDPARENTS OF HOME MORAVIAN CHURCH HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES AND COLLEGE STUDENTS AND/OR GRADUATES.

"A Caring Word" would like contact information about your students!

We are excited about establishing a directory so that we can send notes of encouragement and congratulations throughout the year to your students.

Please provide: Name (preferred name) prospective and/or attending high schools, colleges/universities; addresses; and any other news of interest that we can include in a note to your student.

Send this information to Debbie Drake at: debbtide75@gmail.com or (336) 414-1910

thank you!

Wednesday Night Fellowship - April 29

- 5:45 PM - Meal in the Fellowship Hall
- 6:30 PM - Children's Program in the CE Building
- 6:45 PM - Program in the Fellowship Hall

Menu: *End-of-the-Year Tapas Extravaganza!*
Baked Ziti, Assorted Sides, Salad, Bread & Assorted Desserts

Program: *A Night of Service: Community Connection*
Sarah Jennings, presenter



Adults & Children 13 and older – \$5;
Children aged 4 to 12 – \$3;
Children aged 3 and under – Free
(payable at the door; cash or check only)

To reserve your spot, call the church office at:
#336.722.6171 by 5PM on Monday
(or fill out the form below, tear it off, & place it in the collection plate.)

Weekly recurring reservations are available upon request.



Name(s): _____

- *Standing Reservation: (#)___ Adult (#)___ Child*
- *This Week Only: (#)___ Adult (#)___ Child*
- *Dietary Needs (#) ___Gluten Free (#) ___ Vegetarian*

**Home Moravian Church
Graduation Sunday**

May 3, 2026
10:00 am



Home Moravian Church would like to honor its graduates on Sunday May 3 during “Youth Sunday” morning worship. If you would like your graduate to be included in this special recognition, please RSVP with Graduate information to bhodes@homemoravian.org.

Graduation Lunch RSVP

May 3, 2026
11:15 am

Home Moravian Church would like to invite our graduates and their families to a celebration lunch on Sunday May 3 following “Youth Sunday” morning worship. RSVP to bhodes@homemoravian.org number of attendees.

Submission Deadline Monday, April 27.

On Sunday, April 26, congregational members will have an opportunity to write a quick note or sign a favorite hymn in the Moravian Book of Worship, which will be gifted to each graduate on Graduation Sunday. Books will be in the Coffee Fellowship Area to the left of the sanctuary following worship. Books will also be available in the fellowship hall for Wednesday Night Fellowship on Wednesday April 19 for signing/writing messages to our graduates.

End of Year Wednesday Night Fellowship Show & Tell



Wednesday Night Fellowship 2025-2026 has been a blast! We would like to end our year on Wednesday May 6 with a program showcasing our Home Moravian talents.

How can you participate?

We have 5 spots left! (can you sing, dance, act, juggle, mime, do comedy? – the sky is the limit!)

If you would rather celebrate your gifts with a display of your photos or artifacts, we would love for you to bring your items to be displayed for others to see. (Are you an artist, photographer, pottery maker, plant landscaper, weaver, wood worker?) We will provide display tables on which to showcase your talents.

What do you do to sign up?

- **Talent “acts”** contact Becky Hodges at bhodes@homemoravian.org to join the show. Please provide your talent/title of presentation, a brief description, and the participant names with your email.
- **To request a table** to display your gifts, contact Becky Hodges at bhodes@homemoravian.org. Please provide a brief description of the items you wish to display and if you will need a whole table or half table for your showcase.

We hope that you will consider participating in this very special evening celebrating the gifts that God has given us through our time and talents. It promises to be a wonderful time of fun, fellowship, and celebration!

WNF Team Members: Dave Bombick, Becky Hodges, Mallie Graham, Cynthia Campbell, Cathryn Morse



JOIN US FOR THE HAPPY HILL COMMUNITY ASSESSMENT!

Saturday, May 2 | 1:00 - 4:00 pm

Shotgun House Legacy Site ~ 716 Humphrey St

Please register at: bit.ly/HH-Assessment2026

Join 100+ Happy Hill residents and other Forsyth IAF leaders to:

- Learn about this neighborhood's living legacy, and
- Document conditions that require attention (streetlights, sidewalk repairs, etc) -- to be presented for action at the Founding Assembly!

**Scan here
to register!**



Today is Moravian Archives Sunday!

The **Moravian Archives** is the official repository of and serves as the institutional memory for the Moravian Church in America, Southern Province. It serves the Church, its members, and the public by fostering curiosity and discovery through access, preservation, and education.



Arriving as German-speaking immigrants in 1753 at Bethabara, NC (now part of Winston-Salem), building a faith-center community at the mid-eighteenth-century American frontier, Moravians kept detailed records to maintain ties with Church leadership in both Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, and Herrnhut, Germany. In diaries of church and daily life, reports from missionary work with the Cherokees, and life stories of a community of church members, Moravians recorded their living witness to the surrounding world.

The **Moravian Archives** offers research appointments Monday-Thursday from 10AM – 4PM. Staff also offer remote research assistance, reprographic services, and transcription and translation services. Many resources can be found on the Archives' website, including links to digital resources, such as the expansive collection of over 14,000 memoirs. Ongoing programming includes monthly lectures given on a variety of topics and monthly themed Vault tours giving a look behind the scenes. The Archives also offers workshops on creative writing, bookbinding, and photography preservation. Information about all this and more can be found on the website, Facebook, and Instagram pages, or via the emailed newsletter.

The Provincial Elders Conference, Southern Province, has designated the last Sunday of April each year as **Moravian Archives Sunday**. Members of our Southern Province churches are asked to support the Archives with their financial contributions and their prayers! If you have not yet contributed to this valuable repository of information about our church, we encourage you to do. And if you have already contributed, please consider additional support! The Archives' \$435,000 annual budget is funded by the churches of the Southern Province (20%), Salem Congregation (20%), and contributions of individual donors (10%), including both Moravians and non-Moravians. Continuing economic realities make support from individuals like you even more important.

Gifts to the Archives can be designated for any of the following funds:

- Unrestricted fund
- The Reverend Dr. C. Daniel Crews Friends Fund
- Technology Fund (for necessary software support)
- Book Fund (for collection maintenance)
- Endowment Fund

Online contributions may be made by going to the following:

- Archives site: www.moravianarchives.org/donate
- Moravian Ministries Foundation:
www.mmfa.info/Giving Portal

If you would like to receive a contribution card,
please contact the Archives at:
457 S. Church Street, Winston-Salem, NC 27101
(336) 722-1742
sparchives@mcsp.org
Thank you!

Abundant Living

When so many are plagued by a scarcity mind-set, today's passage reminds us that Jesus does not want us to be limited in any way, but wants us to have life and to have it to the fullest. We hear about sheep, the shepherd who protects them, and the strangers, thieves, and bandits that come to steal and destroy. What are the things that get in the way of living abundantly? The thieves and bandits are often our own worries, fears, and feelings of inadequacy, and thinking small.

I work with many unhoused people. Often, because of challenging circumstances they have lost their ability to dream. They must focus on survival. They may be able to think about today or tomorrow, but the ability to think or plan a week out seems frivolous and almost impossible. Another way that I have seen this play out is during job searches with people. My first questions are, What would you like to be doing? What brings joy? Most struggle with those questions. Their concern is not enjoyment or fulfillment; it is paying bills. While that is necessary, making some type of connection between employment and enjoyment is a step toward abundant living. Allowing space for that conversation often feels foolish.

A week after our regular pianist gave me her vacation dates, I was overjoyed when in one of these conversations a person mentioned that playing piano used to bring joy. They were able to step in and play, and it led them to apply for other church musician positions.

Jesus does not want us to fall prey to tangible bandits or those in our minds. Jesus wants us to remember that he will supply all of our needs and so much more. Jesus will provide all that is necessary for an abundant life. All we have to do is dream and trust.

***Mandy Mastros, pastor, Lancaster Moravian Church,
Lancaster, Pennsylvania***

The Moravian Church

Fourth Sunday of Easter

April 26, 2026



HOME
MORAVIAN CHURCH

Welcome Home

Virginia Hege Tobiassen, *Pastor* Craig Atwood, *Associate Pastor*
Glenn Siebert, *Director of Music* Edwin Walker, *Interim Organist*

Becky Hodges, *Director of Christian Formation*

Philip Montgomery, *Youth Ministry Coordinator*

529 S. Church Street, Winston-Salem, NC 27101, 336-722-6171

home1771@homemoravian.org

www.homemoravian.org

(10 a.m. Morning Worship is broadcast on WSJS-AM 600)