THE ADVANCE

West Side Moravian Church 402 Third Avenue –
Bethlehem, PA 18018 Church office: 610-865-0256
Church email: westsidemoravian@gmail.com
Pastor Tammie Rinker

2026 Congregational Watchword
Psalm 91:9
9 The Lord is my refuge.

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Upcoming Events

October 1st Seniors and Friends @ 11:30
October 4th World Wide communion @ 10:45

Brian Dixon, Nasel Ephraim elected bishops by 2026 Northern Province Synod



The Body of Christ gathered at the Synod of the Northern Province of the Moravian Church in America, held in Minneapolis, MN June 25th & 26th, 2026 and elected Brian Dixon & Nasel Ephraim a bishop of the Unity. The power and presence of God's Holy Spirit was evident throughout the election process. They will be serving as bishops of the worldwide Unity and undertaking the privilege of praying for the church and its servants throughout the world.

You are cordially invited to attend their Consecration services, if you are unable to be present in person, we covet you and your congregation's prayers for Brian & Nasel and their families and for those who gather to witness this spiritual event in the life of our denomination.

Brian Dixon consecration service will be held on Saturday, October 31st at 2 pm at Emmaus Moravian Church in Emmaus, Pennsylvania.

The service will be live-streamed on Zoom at: https://zoom.us/j/4429489211

Nasel Ephraim consecration service will be held on October 18th at 4:00 p.m. at Redeemer Moravian Church in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. There will be ample parking and light refreshments after the service.

The streaming can be seen on Redeemer's Facebook page:
https://www.facebook.com/redeemer.moravian.phila?mibextid=wwXIfr&mibextid=wwXIfr

The occasion of consecrating a bishop is a powerful event in the life of the new bishop. It also represents an opportunity for the whole church to ask God to shape our life and witness so that we may more faithfully participate in God's ongoing mission to the world.

Sunday	Counters	Liturgists
10/04/2026	*Jim Kleintop & The Wanamakers*	*Pastor Tammie*
10/11/2026	*Jim Kleintop & The Clugstons*	*Peter Collier*
10/18/2026	*Jim Kleintop & The Wanamakers*	*Ralph Wanamaker*
10/25/2026	*Jim Kleintop & The Clugstons*	*Audrey Wanamaker*



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.)*

Online Giving

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-pa-donation-form/

Essentials CAFE

Pay-it-Forward with a Wooden Nickel



Wooden Nickels offer an opportunity to provide a meal for someone else.

Stop by the cafe and pick up wooden nickels for a suggested price of $12.00 each. Each **wooden nickel** can be redeemed for a nourishing meal.

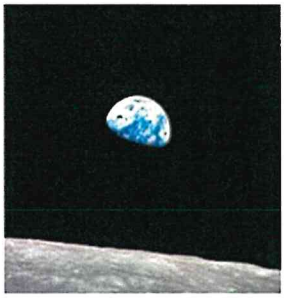
Two ways to provide meals to thers:

*Place **wooden nickel** in our counter jar. This jar is kept at the counter, paying it forward for our guest that may not be able to make a donation for their meal. OR *You can take the **wooden nickel** with you and give it to a friend in need, or a neighbor who may be working hard and simply too tired to cook, or give as a gift for someone that gave you a helping hand, sharing with them your experience at Essentials Cafe.

Seniors and Friends
October 1, 2026 at 11:30 AM

BRING a Friend & a Sandwich
Beverage and Dessert will be Provided!

"Great Photographs and The Stories They Tell" by Tom Repasch





Since the beginning of the photographic era, certain images have captured the attention and admiration of people all around the world. Tom tells the stories behind a selection of photographs that experts generally regard as among the most memorable and influential, from the raising of the flag on Iwo Jima" to the photo of the moon from the Apollo 8 spaceship.

Please Join Us For Our Annual

HALLOWEEN PARTY

Join us for tricks and treats.
Costumes are appreciated but not necessary.
For more information, call the church office:
610-865-0256

Music / Food / Fun

Sunday November 1·
4-7 PM

West Side Moravian Church
402 Third Ave
Bethlehem, PA 18018





Spiritual Direction



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.





Operation Christmas Child

The West Side Moravian Church is participating in Operation Christmas Child. We are asking the congregation and friends to pack shoeboxes for children around the world so they will have a Christmas gift.

Last year we packed 29 boxes- thank you all!

If you would like to pack a shoebox there are 3 options:

- Pack a shoebox. Decide if the box will go to a boy or girl and what age, cut out your girl/boy label and attach the label to your box.
- Make a monetary donation and we will pack a shoebox for you. The donations must be in by **October 25th.** Please make checks payable to West Side Moravian in memo put in care of "OCC". Boxes cost between $30 - $35, but any amount is appreciated.
- Go to samaritanspurse.org/occ and pack a shoebox online.

The shoeboxes are due at the church by **Sunday November 22th**
Thanks for your support!



Upcoming Events

SEEKERS

Sundays at 6:30 PM,

Advent Moravian Church, Christmas Hall, 3730 Jacksonville Rd., Bethlehem PA 18017. A new, non-traditional faith formation opportunity for the "God curious" or anyone seeking peace and love amidst life's challenges. Led by Rev. James Joniec in an informal, welcoming environment.



Please join us!

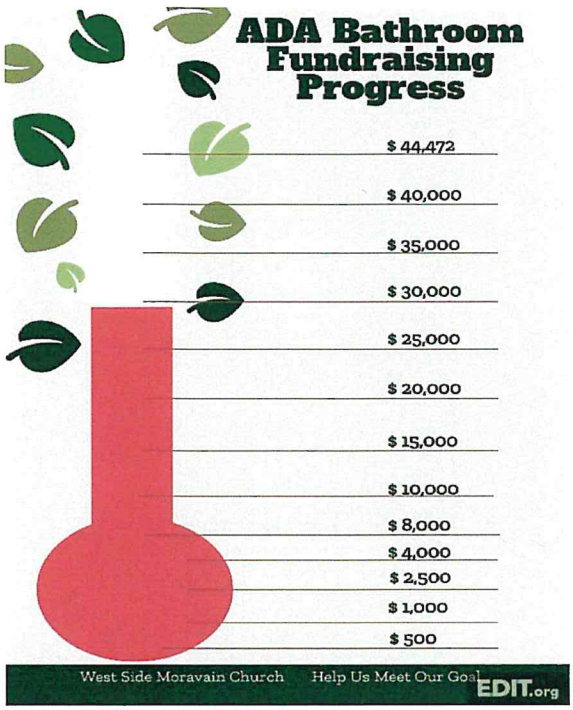
East Hills Moravian Church
Presents
Ministry Fair 2026

October 18, 2026
11:30am
EHMC Family Center

Are you looking for ways to connect, grow, or give back?

Stop by the ministry fair to learn more about our diverse programs, meet team leaders, and find out how you can get involved in our local community.





ADA Bathroom Project

Fundraising for an upper-level ADA restroom is underway.
Please support this effort as generously as you are able.

Checks can be made out to:
West Side Moravian Church
402 3rd Ave
Bethlehem, PA 18018



Trombone Choir Announces New Director



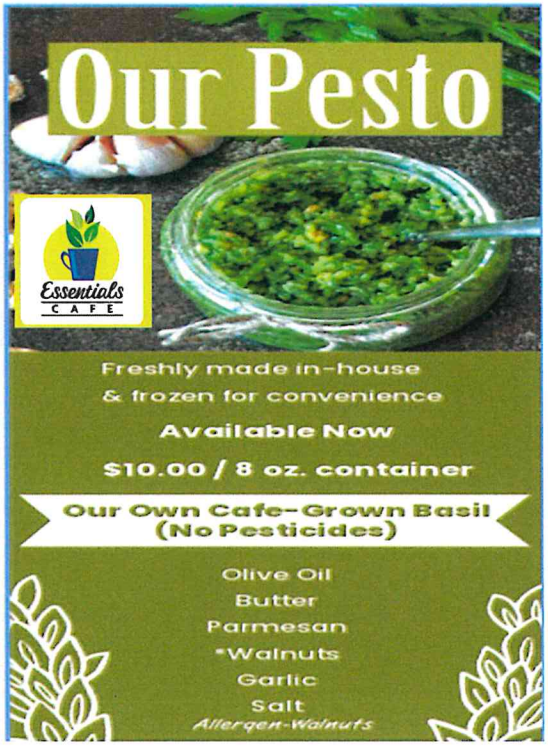
The Bethlehem Area Moravian (BAM) Trombone Choir is pleased to announce Caitlin Heckman as its new director. Caitlin brings experience, a passion for Moravian music, and a dynamic vision to continue the Trombone Choir's long legacy. Caitlin will take over leadership from Donald Kemmerer, who led the group for over 40 years.

Don Kemmerer was born and raised in Bethlehem. After graduating from Liberty High School, he completed his musical education at West Chester University, majoring in trumpet and French horn. After college, Don taught instrumental music in public schools, eventually becoming a full-time professional musician. Don has performed with many of the bands in the Lehigh Valley Area and is often featured as a guest soloist. He has been a member of the Bethlehem Municipal Band for over 40 years and was its director from 1989 until 2025. Don has also been active in the Moravian Music Foundation, including serving as a clinician and Trombone Choir Director for multiple Moravian Music Festivals and Moravian Music Weekends.

Caitlin Heckman is a graduate of Moravian College (now University) and has been in the music education field for 15 years. She currently teaches elementary band and orchestra in the Easton Area School District. Caitlin also keeps a busy performance schedule, playing principal trombone with The Allentown Band, America's oldest civilian band. A lifelong member of Central Moravian Church, Caitlin began playing with the BAM Trombone Choir in 2006. She is also the director of the Central Church brass ensemble, has sung in the Central Choir, participated in several Moravian Music Festivals, and previously served on the board of trustees for the Moravian Music Foundation.

The BAM Trombone Choir is the oldest continuously operating musical organization in the United States, tracing its origins back to 1754. The Trombone Choir began as a functional ensemble, announcing births, deaths, festivals, and worship services, and continues to play for church services, funerals, and community events. The group performs with a full consort of soprano, alto, tenor, bass, and contrabass trombones, preserving the unique history of the ensemble. All inquiries and requests regarding the BAM Trombone Choir can be directed to Caitlin Heckman at caitlin.g.heckman@gmail.com or 610-393-9891.







Essentials Cafe will have awesome chili made by our own Bill Melcher. Come vote for the Cafe!



Please Pray For:

Health: Lorraine, Lori, Hunter, Sam, Joyce, Dawn, Jason, Pat
Comfort: Penny
Bereavement: Blasé Family, Glagola Family

Lifting up our friends & neighbors 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.

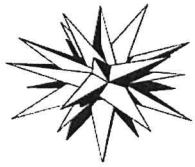
Weekly Watchwords for October

Week of October 4
Psalm 118:22-23
22 The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone.
23 This is the Lord's doing; it is marvelous in our eyes.

Week of October 11
Isaiah 25:1
25 O Lord, you are my God; I will exalt you;
I will praise your name, for you have done wonderful things,

Week of October 18
Psalm 96:2
2 Sing to the Lord; bless his name;
tell of his salvation from day to day.

Week of October 25
Leviticus 19:2
2 You shall be holy, for I the Lord your God am holy.



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. The Unified Board will also be informed of your prayer request.

Tammie Rinker - 484-626-1363 Nancy Wanamaker 610-868-7865
Please remove this page from THE ADVANCE, ***and pray daily.***