



# THE ADVANCE

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

2026 Congregational

Watchword

Psalm 91:9

<sup>9</sup> The Lord is my refuge.

Published Monthly

January 2026

Volume XXXV Issue No 1

## Upcoming Events

Holy Communion January 4

**Moravian Seniors and Friends** January 8 @ 11:30 AM

Winter Dinner January 18 following worship



## Watchwords are a Moravian tradition

It is an opportunity to reflect on the past year and look forward to the new one. An important part of the New Year is the drawing of a Bible verse from the upcoming year's Daily Texts to serve as "watchword" for the next 12 months.

The idea of a watchword to accompany one through their day (or in this case, year) came from the renewal of the Moravian Church in Herrnhut, Germany, in the 1720s. Settlers in the Herrnhut community on Count Nicholas Ludwig von Zinzendorf's estate came together for morning and evening devotions each day. On May 3, 1728, during the evening service, the count gave the congregation a "watchword" for the next day to accompany them through the whole day. Thereafter, a member of the congregation went to each of the 32 houses in Herrnhut to bring them the watchword for the day. This tradition grew to the Moravian Daily Texts we know today.

2026 Watchwords are available the first 2 Sundays of 2026 in the back of the church sanctuary.

Sunday	Flowers Given by	Counters	Liturgists
01/04/2026	Open	Jim Kleintop & The Clugstons	Pastor Tammie
01/11/2026	Open	Jim Kleintop & The Wanamakers	Os Matthew
01/18/2026	Open	Jim Kleintop & The Clugstons	Emily Bolmer
01/25/2026	Open	Jim Kleintop & The Wanamakers	Peter Collier



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/>



*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](mailto:maggiewellert@gmail.com) or 610-417-2803.



### 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.)

**Seniors and Friends**  
**January 8, 2026 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. \*\*\*\*



**Barbara Morgan-Hatley will be instructing us  
on making are own personalized tote bag  
with stencils, and fabric paint.**

**If anyone has stencils and wishes to share,  
bring them with you...**

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



**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 others:**

\*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.



**COMMUNITY  
YOGA**

with Angela

Beginner friendly - all are welcome!  
\$5 suggested donation

SATURDAYS 9AM

ALT. WEDNESDAYS 7PM

West Side Moravian Church  
402 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue  
Bethlehem, PA 18018

For more information visit:  
[www.sweetrootlife.com](http://www.sweetrootlife.com)



**Breakfast with Santa 2025@  
West Side Moravian Church**

Thank you to all the volunteers  
who made this a success!  
We had a wonderful turn out.  
We had over 60 people attend;  
the food was delicious and we had  
lots of smiling children.

We are looking forward to having  
it again next year!





**The Freezer Ministry  
& Garden Gatherers**

### ***The Freezer Ministry Future Donation Change Notice***

Thank You to all who have contributed to the Freezer Ministry mission in the past via East Hills Moravian Church.

We are happy to announce that the Freezer Ministry has gained its own 501(c)(3) Non-Profit status and are looking forward to an even brighter future. We continue to operate out of East Hills Moravian Church; however, our finances are now independent.

Therefore, all future donations will need to be directed accordingly –

**Checks:** Payable to – The Freezer Ministry and Garden Gatherers (we are now known as)

Mail to -1830 Butztown Road, Bethlehem, PA 18017

**Venmo:** The Freezer Ministry now has its own Venmo –

Freezer Ministry and Garden Gatherers Inc @Freezer-Ministry



**SAVE THE DATE:** Sunday, January 18; 2-5 pm. Community MLK Day Celebration in Foy Hall. Opening reception 2 p.m. in lobby. Light refreshments. 3 p.m. Foy Hall Auditorium program. Co-sponsored by Second Baptist Church, Central Moravian, BIG, & BAM.

Second Baptist Church is continuing its long-standing tradition of celebrating the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and has partnered with Central Moravian, Bethlehem Area Moravians (BAM), Moravian Theological Seminary, and Bethlehem Interfaith Group (BIG) to create a community-wide celebration this year on Sunday afternoon, January 18, in Foy Hall. Beginning at 2 p.m. in the lobby of Foy Hall, journey through history while enjoying light refreshments as young members of Second Baptist embody historical figures including Harriet Tubman, Rosa Parks, and Dr. King.

At 3 p.m. presentations celebrating Dr. King's interfaith legacy begin in Foy Hall Auditorium with speakers from Jewish and Muslim traditions sharing their insights. Music and dance performances on stage will follow as well as a renowned performer presenting Dr. King's oratory.

Parking is available in Moravian University's lot on South Campus and in the Spring Street lot.



## *Christmas Poinsettias*

### *In Memory of*

David G. Hall & Luther Keck.....Betty Lou Hall  
Terry Kleintop.....Jim Kleintop  
Our Parents.....Os & Tammie  
Pastor Keith Harke.....West Side Moravian Congregation  
Lisa L Bryd .....Linda L. Kopinga  
Judith Yochum.....Paul Yochum  
Mr. Ralph J. Wanamaker Sr (Father).....Darcy & Nan Ryder  
Mamboo, Pop Kleintop.....Linda McBride with much love  
Loved Ones.....Sandy & Chris-Speck  
Robert P. & Helen P. Snyder.....Sally & Emily Bolmer  
Walter & Gloria Bolmer.....Sally & Emily Bolmer  
Jason Albanese.....Sally & Emily Bolmer  
Loved Ones.....Cindy Durbin  
Timothy Stephen Branscom.....Megan Branscom  
John Joseph Breslin.....Jonalan Breslin

### *Presented By*

### *In Honor Of*

Our Children.....Os & Tammie  
The Joy & Beauty of Christmas.....Carol & Reed Acheson  
Nancy L. Wanamaker (Mother).....Darcy & Nan Ryder  
Sandra L. Albright (Godmother) .....Darcy & Nan Ryder

# New Year Word Search

Y R I N G Q C A L E N D A R A I G E  
E S G G O N C E L E B R A T I O N U  
A U D O N H X P Y O D I F O H A R Q  
R R I M I D N I G H T Q R Y D O C I  
S B B O K O K P Y L G B J S J C O L  
P X S C O U N T D O W N A T C G N G  
A U N O B Y E W Y O V V Z R P K F O  
R X S Z H A P P Y R Z R G E L X E W  
K Y B W V M B J G J F E B A X Z T H  
L F I R E W O R K S A S K M S P T O  
E L C G K S Y T W Q A O F E A E I L  
R J B G Q K C N Z U P L G R K V G O  
P Y A W C H E E R S Z U R S F G R T  
A I L O Y D S M X Z Q T L Y X O D O  
R K L Q K P A R T Y M I B H M A M A  
A O O Y X V F T B L Z O V A I L O S  
D C O P P C L O C K C N F T Z S Q T  
E K N G T J A J R D L C K S W N U D

RESOLUTION  
CELEBRATION  
COUNTDOWN  
PARTY

BALLOON  
SPARKLER  
TOAST  
STREAMERS

MIDNIGHT  
CONFETTI  
CHEERS  
HATS

CALENDAR  
FIREWORKS  
CLOCK  
PARADE

RING  
GOALS  
HAPPY  
YEAR

**Please Pray For:****Prayer list:****Health:** May, Patricia, Sally, Lori, Nancy, Pat**Bereavement:** Brensinger Family, Gardner Family, Speck Family, DiMenichi 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 January****Week of January 4***Psalm 148:13*

*<sup>13</sup> Praise the name of the Lord, for his name alone is exalted;  
his glory is above earth and heaven.*

**Week of January 11***Isaiah 42:3*

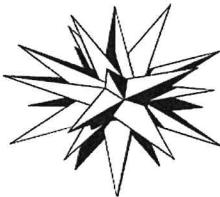
*<sup>3</sup> A bruised reed he will not break, and a dimly burning wick he will not quench;  
he will faithfully bring forth justice.*

**Week of January 18***1 Corinthians 1:9*

*<sup>9</sup> God is faithful, by whom you were called into the partnership  
of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.*

**Week of January 25***Psalm 27*

*<sup>1</sup> The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear?  
The Lord is the stronghold of my life;  
of whom shall I be afraid?*



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.***