

***The Riverside Moravian
July/August 2021***



FIRST MORAVIAN CHURCH

*“A Christ-Centered Protestant Church serving Riverside,
Delanco, Delran, and Neighboring Communities”*

Denomination Founded March 1, 1457

Congregation Organized December 31, 1865

228 E. Washington Street

Riverside, New Jersey 08075-3629

Office Telephone: (856) 461-0132

E-Mail: riversidemoravianchurch@gmail.com

Rebecca Sisley, Pastor

610-360-5444



Greetings Congregation

At the June 21st Joint Board Meeting, the members of the Board have come up with the following plan to move forward with indoor worship.

Thanks to the Fundraising Committee, generous donors who have matched funds and other donations. We are pleased to report that we are able to proceed with the upgrades to the HVAC system as well as an initial deep clean of the sanctuary. The HVAC repairs will be done on Friday, June 25. We are still waiting to schedule the deep clean of the sanctuary. Once these two pieces have been completed, we will be ready to open our sanctuary and resume indoor worship services. Please note that we do not have a schedule open date because we are in the process of making these phone calls and scheduling the work and as soon as there is a timeline, all communications will be updated.

We will now be having 2 worship services on Sundays as well as streaming our services. Indoor worship will be at 9am every Sunday and Outdoor worship will be at 10am with current weather guidelines in place. Zoom worship will still be offered as well as services being uploaded to our webpage.

For indoor worship, we will be adhering to lessened restrictions based on the best practices as laid out by the Moravian Church Northern Province and the Moravian Music Foundation as well as the CDC.

Masks: Though we are no longer requiring or mandating mask wearing for vaccinated people, we do ask that people, regardless of vaccine status, continue to wear masks indoors. We will not be asking for vaccine status nor denying entry to the church for any person. However, by remaining masked, the Moravian Music Foundation relays that it is safer for people to sing together and speak the liturgy in communities of non-vaccinated and vaccinated individuals. By remaining masked, this will allow us to have a worship service with which we are more accustomed, rather than a service of simply spoken words by leaders and the pastor.

Social Distancing: We will be loosening restrictions for social distancing. Instead of 2 pews between individuals and 6 feet of social distance, there will be 1 pew left between seats and 3 feet between groups. This again allows us to have a service that is more familiar rather than one of spoken word only.

Volunteers: We will still need people to help us block off the pews, sanitize the sanctuary after worship, and clean the bathrooms. If you are willing to volunteer for these positions please reach out to Jason Pippin, or another member of the Board of Trustees. We also need people who will sign in worshipping members each week so that we can have a list if contact tracing is needed. Volunteers will be needed for contact tracing as well. If you are willing to serve in these roles please contact the church office.

Entering and Exiting the Building: We will still be entering the sanctuary through the ramp doors and exiting through the front doors facing Bridgeboro St. As you enter, your name will be recorded in the book by a volunteer so we can have accurate account of those people who are worshipping with us if contact tracing is needed. We will still not be allowing social congregating before or after the service and you will be dismissed after the postlude.

Nursery and Child Care: At this time, we are still not able to safely offer Nursery accommodations. Children are welcome to be present indoors for worship, however they will need to remain with their designated childcare provider.

For Outdoor Worship: We will continue with our guidelines of when we will gather outside based on weather and temperatures being above 50 degrees. We are removing mask restrictions for all people as you are comfortable. Worship outdoors will be at 10am.

At this time, we are not opening Hahle Hall for gatherings outside of small groups and the Pop-Up Pantry. The Joint Board has submitted a grant proposal to the Society for Promoting the Gospel and are still looking for other grant funds to upgrade the HVAC system and do a deep clean of Hahle Hall. We are hoping to have the work completed in Hahle Hall for a September open of the program season

We are thankful for the continued prayers of the congregations as the Joint Board struggles and discerns the path forward that is safest for our congregation. We recognize that the changes are happening rapidly and we will continue to assess the situation as it unfolds.

If you have any questions or concerns, please reach out to a member of the Joint Board.

In Continued Partnership and Christian Respect.
The Joint Board of First Moravian Church Riverside

Giving Portal Transaction Fees Are On Us

The Moravian Ministries Foundation in America will begin paying the third-party processing fees for online gifts made through the Moravian Giving Portal. Beginning July 1 the Foundation itself has never charged any kind of fee. But, the backend processor, Blackbaud Merchant Services, charges a financial, processing fee similar to others who perform this service. This fee has been deducted from the gift, so the receiving congregation or agency got the net balance of the gift after the fee.

While Blackbaud Merchant Services continues to charge the fee, MMFA will pay it beginning July 1. The receiving congregations, agencies and ministries will now receive the full amount of the donor's gift.

"Many congregations and agencies may now find the fee-free online giving service provided and maintained by MMFA more attractive than their own third party provider. This removes the last roadblock for online gifts through our portal and we are extremely thankful to our donors and investors who make this possible," said MMFA president and CEO Chris Spaugh.

Given that fees still get charged, we encourage donors to consider direct debits (of a checking or savings account) vs credit card transactions whenever possible. MMFA only absorbs a 75-cent fee for direct debits while card transactions are 2.79% of the donation amount.

Concurrent with its decision to cover the transaction fees, MMFA will also make some other changes to Giving Portal service to the Moravian Church in America:

- MMFA will provide reports and payments to the recipients on a monthly basis the Foundation was doing this twice monthly, during the past year.
- MMFA will establish counts for all the Moravian agencies, including those who have their own pre-existing online giving tools on their websites. During its first two years the Giving Portal simply redirected visitors from the Portal to the agency's page to make the gift there. Maintaining the redirection links has been challenging, so MMFA will now enable all gifts directly through the Portal (as it has been doing for the congregations).

Church Administrator

The Joint Board informs the congregation that our Church Secretary, Sister Ginny Lyon, has given us her letter of retirement. We extend our thanks to Sister Ginny for her service to the congregation since 2017. Sister Ginny will be ending her time as the Church Secretary on December 31, 2021. A search committee has been put together by the Joint Board to begin the process of hiring a Church Administrator. More details of this position and how we will be proceeding will be available in the coming weeks. Details for the position, how we will proceed with hiring will be available in the coming weeks. Please join us as we bless Sister Ginny and thank her for her service to our congregation.



Home Communion

Beginning in August if you would like to receive home communion, a schedule will be set up with Pastor Rebecca, members of the Joint Board and the visitation committee. If you are a shut-in of our congregation, you will be contacted the week of Holy Communion to set up a time on that Sunday following worship. Members of the Joint Board and Visitation committee will call and schedule you after worship and will meet you at your home for communion outdoors. If you would like to assist with at home communion, scheduling, or be put on the home communion list, please contact the church office. Our first home communion will be on August 15. Available times will be between 11am—12:30pm



Dates I will be out of the office and other important dates:

July 4	Holy Communion Jan Hus
July 9-13	Pastor Rebecca at Hope Conference
July 10	Special Provincial Synod
July 11	Andrea Peart preaching



Combined Lovefeast August 15

Combined Lovefeast with Palmyra Moravian Church 10am outdoor service at First Moravian. Indoor service will have Holy Communion in celebration of the Spiritual Renewal of the Moravian Church. Pastor Darrell Johnson, Palmyra Moravian Church, will be preaching a message of good news for our congregations. Please join us outdoors for partnership with our congregations.



MORAVIAN MUSIC FESTIVAL

July 18-24, 2021
FREE PUBLIC CONCERTS



Tune in during Festival week to enjoy music each evening beginning with a prelude and/or devotions. Free and open to the public. Please visit moravianmusicfestival.org and click on "For Audience" or "Public Concert Info"

Sunday – July 18
Festival Opening Worship
Christian Hearts In Love United

CONCERTS

Monday – July 19
I Have Chosen You

Tuesday – July 20
Pipes & Pedals

Wednesday – July 21
Summer Serenade

Thursday – July 22
Resounding Brass

Friday – July 23
Service of Word and Music
We Are Members of Christ's Body

There is still time to register for Festival if you would like to participate in all the sessions and activities, social events, games, virtual ensembles, and receive the Festival SWAG!

Children and Youth are free, and will participate in a musical youth theatre production, ACTS!

A project of the Moravian Music Foundation [www.moravianmusic.org]



Summer Hours

for

July/August 2021

Indoors July 18, 9:00am and Outside 10:00AM

Worship Services On Zoom

Meeting ID 852 9437 9849

Password 285008



Multilingual Worship Service

Join us on the 4th Tuesday of the month for July, August, and September for a multilingual worship service led by Pastors Waleska Trinidad (Dobbins Methodist Church), and the Rev. Rebecca Sisley (First Moravian Church). This will be open to all people not only in our congregations but in the Riverside, Delanco and Delran communities. There will be free food, activities for kids, prayers and discussion, and music. All activities will be held outdoors. Join us outdoors from 6pm—8 pm. Please bring chairs. Masks not required, but strongly recommended for love of neighbor and the most vulnerable. Check the webpage and Facebook page for weather updates.



Join us for Youth Group!! Please take note Youth Group will be changing to Wednesday nights from

6-7PM . We will meet at Dobbins United Methodist Church in Delanco

Make sure to bring a mask!

Board of Elders

Rev. Rebecca Sisley Pastor

Kathie Shaffer Vice Chair [2021]

Hope Sanderson, Secretary (2023)

Dale Lucas (2021)

Sharon Clauss (2021)

Nick Zataveski (2023)

Board of Trustees

Jason Pippin, President [2023]

Rich Dreydoppel, Vice President (2023)

Ben Lightfoot, Secretary (2021)

Andrea DeFlaviis [2021]

Diane Schroeder (2023)

*Kathy Shaffer, Treasurer

*Anne Wallace, Financial Secretary

*Not a member of the Board

DEADLINE



for the **July/August 2021 Newsletter** is Friday,
August 18th. Please submit articles to be included
in the newsletter anytime during the month but
no later than the above date. Articles received after
the above date will be included in the September newsletter.



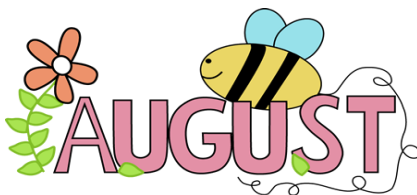
- | | |
|-----------------------|----------------------------|
| 4 - Colleen Lightfoot | 17 - Kristen Corridori |
| 5 - Sarah Baker | 21 - Keith Adams |
| 7 - Dawn Fegley | 23 - Kristin Hightower |
| 12 - Ian Kershaw | 24 - Pastor Rebecca Sisley |
| 13 - Ann Pfau | 25 - Craig Austin |
| 15 - Paul Schiehle | 27 - Colleen Bruckart |
| 16 - Tyler Kohn | 27 - Michelle Valentine |
| 16 - Tina Lorenz | 28 - John Nixon |
| 16 - Morgan McBrearty | 30 - Julia Adams |
| | 30 - Robert Probeck |
| | 30 - Laura Salter |

Anniversary

- 15 - Walter & Lori Zataveski

Please note: If you have additions or corrections to either list for future newsletters please call Ginny at the church office

The Singers will be back in
September.



- | | |
|----------------------|-------------------------|
| 4 - Samuel Adams | 12 - Debra Czarzasty |
| 4 - Kyle Baumann | 15 - Giovanni Gagliardi |
| 4 - Marge Hassler | 17 - Mel Lucas |
| 4 - Brenda McGee | 19 - Joseph Geyer |
| 4 - Sharon Potts | 19 - Olivia Powell |
| 5 - Linda Lucas | 26 - Dylan McMullen |
| 5 - Amanda Probeck | 28 - Steven Lightfoot |
| 9 - Ronald Bush, Jr. | 28 - Cathy Sherfessee |
| 10 - Lucas Baker | 29 - Cerena Roberts |
| 10 - Sandy Jaskowiak | 30 - Terry McGee |
| 11 - Jeff Van Orden | 31 - Heather Adams |
| | 31 - Gregory Bolanos |
| | 31 - Marlene Ercolani |



- | | |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
| 6 - Keith & Karen Adams | |
| 12 - Dave & Cynthia Geyer | 18 - Daniel & Brenda McGee |
| 16 - Bob & Sandra Jaskowiak | 23 - Dale & Betz Lucas |

Please Remember in Prayer . . .

. . . . Those With Special Needs

Eleanor Barnes	Jackie Young	Carol Stamets
Dolly Besegli	Bryanna	Susan Hackett
Rev. Richard Bruckart	Diane Renner	Celeste Taylor
Pat Chapman	Jeff Pippin	Rick Bulicki
Esther Flizak	Roger Stillman	Chris Shafer
Baby Beckett Williams	Mary	Louis
Greg Coe	Corrine Murphy	Bill Buzard
Marge Henderson	Chrissy Lucas	Nello DeFlavis
Pamala McLaughlin	Tyler Kohn	Olga Olhovsky
Walter Simmons	Tyra Lyon	Rev. George Richmond
Wally Zataveski	Bob Calhoun	Jean Markovitz
Jim Libby	Bernard & Family	Hale
Barbara Stanley	Jim Libby	Michael Hutchinson
Mark Zataveski	Lili Meyers	Ryan
State & County	Students of Delran	Rick Jones
Susan Mendoza	Fallon George	Karen Adams
Donna Damalas	Christina DeFlece	Lisa Valentine
Employees of Target	Ken Pippin & family	Family of Kevin/Becky Harney & Morgan Family
Baptist Home	Family of Dorothy Rabb	Family of Joyce Brader
Tamika Fritz	Marggy Schoeneberger	Joint Boards
Mike Sanderson	Terry LoStracco	Bill McGrady

. . Our Home-Bound Friends

Joan Wright - Masonic Home

The Boards and Committees of The First Moravian Church, Riverside and the boards of the wider Moravian Church	The Eastern District Executive Board
The Norther Province Provincial Elders Conference	The Western District Executive Board
	The Canadian District Executive Board

***To add, update, or remove a name from the Prayer List, please use a written slip from the back of the sanctuary. Names will be retained on the prayer list until the requester asks they be removed, or for 4 weeks after the last written update. received.
Thanks for helping to keep the prayer list accurate and current.***