

Ash Wednesday Pot Luck Dinner and Devotion March 6, 2019, 6:PM

This Lent begins with Ash Wednesday. This year we will focus on preparing the soil of our hearts. Bring your best Pot Luck dish to pass. Bring your best self to share. Beverages, buns and the blessing of God will be provided. After our meal we will move to the sanctuary to continue the journey of Lent. Bring friends. Bring family. Bring strangers. Share the message that can change lives.



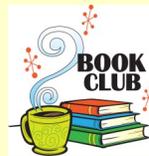
Shepherd Group

The next Shepherd meeting will meet on Wednesday March 20th at 1:00 PM in the Fellowship Rm.

Joint Board



Our next meeting will be held on Tuesday March 12th in the Board Room at 7:00pm



Book Club

March 27: "Braiding Sweet Grass"
by Robin Wall Kimmerer

April 24: "Something Is Always On Fire"
by Mesha Brueggergosman

Idea's for May will be welcome. I thought we could do a movie and lunch. (Maybe the movie "Book Club".)

Happy reading-Ethel

From the Ecumenical Officer

March 2019

Once a quarter I am the Moravian representative at a gathering of fifteen to twenty men and women for box lunch at a church somewhere in the area. This gathering started some twenty years ago as an effort to bring together persons from denominations, mostly smaller or more conservative groups, who for various reasons were not part of the state council of churches. The group now at any meeting includes some smaller or more conservative groups, some mainline groups, and the Roman Catholic and Greek Orthodox churches. The program is simple: lunch, a half hour of free prayer, eight-minute sharing of personal faith journeys by two individuals, and one eighteen-minute presentation of some program of one of the denominations.

At the congregation I am part of, every committee or board meeting starts with everyone sharing what is going on in their own lives, in their families, in their work, in their leisure or travel (It is OK to pass). Sometimes this becomes the most time-consuming item of the agenda.

My wife and I are part of a group of six families and two unmarried persons who meet once every three weeks in one of our homes, with host providing the main course and everyone providing something else. After a little singing we spend an hour sharing where our families are and praying together. Members of the group have helped one another move, at times helped one another financially, and supported one another at times of death and disappointment. The group's roots are in a few persons, from a variety of religious backgrounds, who attended college together.

What these three vignettes have in common is the importance of sharing our stories with both those close to us and those not so close. We often discover that even those with whom we have strong differences of experience and conviction also have much in common with us. I have read that one reason our U.S. Congress is less productive is that members of the two parties spend less time socializing that they did in the past.

When I moved from my first parish to my second, the local Catholic priest, two decades my senior, came to my farewell. He said it was the first time he had ever been in a Protestant church building. Fortunately that relationship has changed. But there are many areas where, as individuals, congregations, and a denomination, we can grow by sharing with and listening to others.

Lord Jesus, you came that we may have abundant life. Help us to discover some of that abundance by learning from others, and help us to share the ways in which you have brought abundance to us. Amen.

Hermann Weinlick-Ecumenical Officer
Moravian Church, Northern Province



Good Shepherd Senior social
 Friday, March 15th at 1 p.m.
 Open to all seniors. Invite a neighbor and
Come celebrate St. Patrick's Day
 With entertainment by
Greg Rumpel



Men's Fellowship March 16, 9:30 AM

As boys, we have big dreams about our future. Sometimes our dreams actually come true. This month we'll share the dreams we had, the changes to those dreams that we couldn't control and the blessings we couldn't have dreamed of. Make Men's Fellowship a regular part of your faith experience. Join your brothers for a time of heart-warming friendship.

Unity offering 2019



The **Moravian Church in South Asia** is made up of growing communities across India and Nepal, energetic and excited to see the spread the Good News – from remote rural vil-lages to major cities.

In Assam, the work is based from Binnakandi with work continuing to develop in Latingkhal and Haflong.

Haflong is a Hill station around 130 km from Binnakandi, the journey takes 5 hours by road. The community originally built a bamboo church to meet in, however it has started to subside down the hillside. Over the last five years, the Church in Binnakandi have supported Haflong in raising funds to buy a new plot of land. The 2019 Unity Prayer Day of-

fering will be committed to the building of a permanent Church and facilities that will enable the new congregation to focus on their mission to reach out, provide education and enrich the community. Special envelopes marked "Unity Offering" will be available in the bulletin to receive your offering each Sunday of March. It is our desire to support our brothers and sisters in India as we journey in faith together.

