

## Easter Band

Calling all windy musicians. Pastor Rick is looking for anyone who would like to play in the Easter Band for the Easter Sunrise Service. All skill levels are welcome. If you are interested please contact Rick.



## Joint Board



Our next meeting will be held on **Tuesday April 9** in the Board Room at **7:00pm**

## Book Club



We are meeting on Wed April 24 at 10:30 am. The book for April is: "Something Is Always On Fire" by Mesha Bruggergosman. All Welcome

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

Happy reading-Ethel

## Easter Lilies



Don't forget to order your Easter Lilies. We will be taking orders from March 31 & April 14. These Lilies are used to decorate the church on Easter Sunday and can be taken home after the service. Please give your forms and money (\$10.00) to June Wright.

## Shepherd Group



The next Shepherd meeting will meet on Wednesday April 17 at 1:00 PM in the Fellowship Rm.

## Entertainment by Robb Mann



Yeah! It's finally Spring!  
Senior Social at Good Shepherd  
6311 Norfolk Drive NW across from  
the Esso Station on 64<sup>th</sup> Avenue NW

**Friday, April 12<sup>th</sup> at 1pm**

This is our last social until September so please join us.  
For further information contact: Church Office @ 403-274-4888

In February the United Methodist Church, with which the Moravian Church is in full communion, which among other things would facilitate exchange of pastors, voted to maintain traditional standards barring LGBT Methodists from ordination and Methodist pastors from officiating at same-sex weddings. Many observers believe this will lead to a division of one of the largest Christian groups in the United States.

The Moravian Church deals with this issue also. In 2014 Northern Province synod approved a more welcoming, more flexible position, and the Southern Province did the same in 2018. (Some denominations, like Methodists and Presbyterians, divided around the Civil War over the issue of slavery and reunited in the twentieth century. Moravian division dates from the 1750s, when horseback was the quickest form of travel and communication between Moravian centers in North Carolina and Pennsylvania.)

Both Moravians and Methodists find that Africans (about 40 percent of the United Methodist Church) in their denomination tend to be more traditional or conservative on the issue of sexual orientation. The majority of Moravians in the world live in a country where I am told it is illegal to discuss the issue, but they are not part of the Northern Province.

Throughout its history the Christian Church has lived with a tension between unity and justice. Today, in relation to LGBT issues, some liberals feel they cannot stay in a church that is not welcoming; some conservatives feel they cannot stay in a church that they believe is not faithful to biblical standards; some liberals and conservatives rejoice when they do not have to deal with those with whom they differ; some liberals and conservatives mourn the loss of the unity of the church, for which Jesus prayed (John 17:21), and which they see as one of God's gifts to a fractured world.

On the First Sunday in Lent, when the Gospel text was the temptation of Jesus (Luke 4:1–13), I heard a sermon that said our main temptation is to think that anything in life can make us safe or secure except our God as we know God in Jesus. Sometimes that temptation takes the form of our desire to be only with people who agree with us.

As Moravians we are Easter People. Perhaps as important as other issues, and as disappointing to God, is that all of us, liberal and conservative and in between, by concentrating on other matters, fail to live with joy that our Lord is risen, and that ultimately we are in the hands of God.

*Lord Jesus, we pray for the unity of your church as together we seek to serve you, in many different ways. May our joy as your people invite others, and may the light of that joy brighten your world. Amen.*

Hermann Weinlick  
Ecumenical Officer  
Moravian Church, Northern Province

## April 13, 9:30 AM Men's Fellowship



We had a wonderful gathering of men last month and a great breakfast provided by Garry Campbell. April is a full month with Easter falling on the third weekend, so the Men's Fellowship will meet the second Saturday of the month (Apr 13). Join us for a light "feast", great conversation, planning for Stampede Sunday and prayer.

## ***Readings for Holy Week* Audio Edition, a new way to experience Holy Week**

*Readings for Holy Week* represents a harmony account of the sufferings, death, resurrection and ascension of the Lord Jesus Christ as it is found in the New Testament. Moravians have shared a version of this moving collection for more than 250 years and continue to use it in services leading up to Easter each year.

Our new *Readings for Holy Week* Audio Edition brings this much-loved tradition to life in an audio format ideal for use by small groups, congregations, or those who may not be able to attend local services in their congregation because of distance, infirmity, conflicts in schedule, etc.

This five-CD set includes the complete narration and hymns that make up the printed editions of *Readings for Holy Week*. Each narration section and hymn appear on separate tracks to allow listeners to access them in a variety of ways. Recorded at Lititz Moravian Congregation in 2006, with additional recordings at College Hill Moravian Church in 2018, this beautiful audio version of *Readings for Holy Week* offers a new way to experience the last days and resurrection of Jesus.

Available now from the Interprovincial Board of Communication, a ministry of the Moravian Church in America, for only \$25.00 plus shipping. Printed versions of *Readings for Holy Week* also available in music, large print and regular editions.

Order by April 8 for delivery by Holy Week!\*

Visit <https://store.moravian.org> or call Jill Bruckart at 1.800.732.0591, ext. 38!

*\*U.S. addresses only; we ship via USPS Priority Mail, with 2-3 day service.*

## **Important Meeting for the Congregation April 14**



Pastor Rick Beck is retiring on August 31. A Discernment Committee has been organized to assist the transition to a new pastor. We are fortunate to have time to involve the congregation in conversation to prepare for the change. The Committee of Bob Hawkesworth, Greg Weir, Ann Tyrell and Anita Jones has been planning a process to engage our congregation in conversation. The congregation's input is very important to prepare for the Call Process that will start once Pastor Rick is officially retired. The information gathered will also be most helpful for our next Pastor.

On Palm Sunday, April 14, everyone is invited to spend an extra hour after the service to participate in a guided conversation. We need your input. Good Shepherd Church is our church, and here we want to continue our spiritual journey.

These 5 questions will help to guide our conversation:

1. What elements of our ministry at Good Shepherd provide you with the greatest meaning?
2. What stresses and needs are in our community that God is calling us to pay attention to?
3. Are there some ways in which we might discern God's calling for our congregation that we have not yet explored?
4. What would you identify as Good Shepherd Congregation's most significant gifts and assets?
5. Do you have any additional insights, observations, or concerns to share?