

The Joyful Noise Newsletter

Schoeneck Moravian Church
March 2022

Our Need for God

We are entering the season of Lent, a season of the church year in which God calls us ever more deeply to stop and consider our sinful ways, to deny ourselves, and to meditate on the gift of Christ's death on the cross that brought us salvation.

The season begins with a Scripture lesson from the life of Jesus in which the Spirit called Jesus into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. During this trial, Jesus fasts from food and drink for forty days. The devil then comes and tempts Him with all the comforts of the world. The experience pushes Jesus to the max, but in the end He denies all the devil's attempts to snatch Him away, declaring boldly to the face of the enemy, "Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God" (Matthew 4:4).

Author Maggie Combs questions what we often consider to be a need for an "escape" in our lives.(1) It could be a vacation, a sneak-away to our cupboard for a piece of chocolate, a bubble bath. All these can be good things, she says, but the problem comes when we elevate these "escapes" to a need. Considering them needs, we start to fight for them. When we don't receive them, we get angry, short-tempered, bitter. These needs, Combs argues, come to take the throne in our lives in place of our need for God.

Jesus' departure to the wilderness is a challenge for us. It's a challenge for us to look deeper at what we think our needs are. Yes we need food; yes we need clothing; yes we need rest. Our Heavenly Father knows we need these things (Matthew 6:32). But what other things, what other so-called needs, have come to take the place in our lives for our need for God? While Jesus may have hungered, while He may have had no place to lay His head (Matthew 8:19), while He was betrayed and rejected, Jesus was never lacking. He was never alone. Why? Because He had God (John 16:32). "And my God will supply all of your needs according to His glorious riches in Christ Jesus" (Philippians 4:19). There are some things that the human heart requires to survive that only God can provide.

What "need" has come to take the place of God in your life? This Lent, consider putting it aside so that you might find all that you truly need met in God.

Amen.

(1) Maggie Combs, "Soul Care for Stressed Moms," *Family Life Today*, podcast audio, February 2, 2022, <https://www.familylife.com/podcast/familylife-today/soul-care-for-stressed-moms/>.



One-Third of the Way There!

(and an easy one-day painless way to increase your gift!)

As of the February 6th offering, the Organ Restoration Fund has received \$40,000, one-third of our goal of \$120,000. That amount in only four months is a fantastic achievement and one of which we should all be very proud.

Of course, that leaves \$80,000 to go, so we need to keep working and giving. Remember the story of the tortoise and the hare? In the end, it was the slow and steady tortoise that completed the race. Our “race” is not to get to the goal quickly, it is to take the time to have the organ restored properly and well, and to raise the necessary funds over the time that we have. Small amounts given regularly by many people, over time, will be just as effective as one or two large gifts. It will take all gifts, those large, those small, to complete this project.

There is an opportunity to increase your gift and its impact, but it is for ONE DAY ONLY. Tuesday, March 1 is the second annual Moravian Day of Giving. On that day, donors who sign on to the Moravian Ministries giving portal and make a contribution to a church will have their gifts matched dollar for dollar if they are within the first \$10,000 to make a contribution. (That amount is for gifts to all congregations, not just Schoeneck.) Here’s how to do it:

- Go to <https://mmfa.info/schoeneck-moravian-church-donation-form> on March 1.
- Fill out the brief form with the amount you wish to give. If it’s for the organ fund, please leave a comment “for organ fund.” If it’s for Schoeneck’s regular offering, no comment is necessary. If you want to give to both, note how much for each as a comment.
- There is no charge to Schoeneck or to you to use this site.
- Make your contribution early in the day. If your gift to Schoeneck is among the first \$10,000 given to all churches on that day, your gift will be doubled when Schoeneck receives it!
- Only gifts made through this site on March 1 will count for the matching amount. (You can make a contribution to Schoeneck on this site at any time, of course, but it won’t be matched.)
- All donors on March 1 will be entered into a drawing for free gifts!

While you are on that site, you can also make donations to Camp Hope, Moravian Open Door, Esperanza, and Field of Interest Funds, which make grants to Moravian projects dealing with hunger and thirst, housing and shelter, clothing, and more. The direct link to those is <https://mmfa.info/giving-portal/> . Gifts to Field of Interest funds will be matched up to \$25,000. You can make one contribution and have it divided into many recipients by leaving a comment with who and how much.

Worship the Lord with Us!

Lenten Sermon Series:

For the season of Lent we will be exploring what it means to live as citizens of the kingdom of God. As believers, we are called to be holy, set-apart. We are not to be conformed to the world but to be transformed by the renewing of our minds (Romans 12:2). When the world reacts with hatred, revenge, and prejudice we are to respond with patience, justice, and respect. We are to put on Christ and not gratify the desires of our flesh (Romans 13:14). In short, we are to be citizens of the kingdom of God and not citizens of the world. Learn how we are to live up to the calling of our identity as “Christians” each Sunday during the season of Lent.

March 6, 2022: This year, March 6 marks the first Sunday in Lent, the season in which remember more passionately in our hearts the great sacrifice Jesus made to save us from our sins and give us life both now and forever. On this first Sunday, we will celebrate Holy Communion in remembrance of the life Jesus shared and the blood He shed for us.

Midweek Lenten Services:

This year’s Midweek Lenten series will explore the topic of Morality. How do we determine what is right as wrong? Who do we look to as an example for the right way to live our lives? How do we as Christians live as examples for the world? Nazareth Moravian Church will host us for all of our Midweek Lenten services held each Wednesday night during the six weeks of Lent at 7:00 P.M., with a fellowship meal open to all at 6:00 P.M. March 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, and April 6.

Highlights from the Board of Elders and Board of Trustees

Board of Elders -

- Scheduled in-person leadership training for Elders for March 5.
- Developed duty roster for Elders for the coming year, through February 2023.
- Continued work on the 2022 congregational theme.
- Continued the work of caring for our congregation as Elders.

Board of Trustees -

- Trustees welcomed our newest member Sue Anascavage.
- Elected new officers
- Appointed Treasurer (Brenda Makovetz), Assistant Treasurer (Marianne Sweitzer), and Financial Secretary (Carolyn Hertzog)

Time, Talent and Treasure

JANUARY MONTHLY FINANCIAL SUMMARY 2022

JANUARY ACTIVITY

JANUARY	TOTAL	REVENUE	\$27,915
JANUARY	TOTAL	EXPENSES	<u>-\$27,070</u>
JANUARY	NET	REVENUE	\$845

YEAR TO DATE ACTIVITY

YTD	TOTAL	REVENUE	\$27,915
YTD	TOTAL	EXPENSES	<u>-\$27,070</u>
YTD	NET	REVENUE	\$845

UNPAID COMMON MINISTRIES IN JANUARY-\$3000
JANUARY REPRESENTED A FIVE SUNDAY MONTH

ORGAN REPAIR FUND BALANCE AS OF 1/31/22-\$23,957

JANUARY SPECIAL OFFERINGS

Provincial Administration	\$2,250
New Year's Eve	\$35
Christmas Eve	\$25
Communion & Lovefeast	\$190
Fuel	\$100
Moravian Open Door	\$77
Nazareth Food Bank	\$535
Initial Offering	\$460
Snow plowing	\$110
Organ/Roof Repair Fund	\$2,055
Memorial Gifts-Jeff Samsel	\$500
Memorial Gifts-Mel Messinger	\$745
Memorial Gifts-Betty Warner	\$1,055
Total	\$8,137

SPONSORS FOR MARCH 2022

FLOWERS - \$10.00

3/6 OPEN
3/13 OPEN
3/20 Louis Murante
3/27 OPEN

BULLETINS - \$10.00

3/6 Elaine & Jerry Bittner
3/13 Melody Stocker
3/20 OPEN
3/27 OPEN

MARCH SAFE HARBOR

Ann Dalton

MARCH RECYCLING SPONSOR

Catherine and Robert Hahn

ELDER DEVOTION

Matthew 6:16-18-"And whenever you fast, do not look dismal, like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces so as to show others that they are fasting. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. But when you fast, put oil on your head and wash your face, so that your fasting may be seen not by others, but by your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you."

During my 3 years as an Elder, Pastors Garritt and Sanette have challenged us on several occasions to fast in order to feel closer to God. I have tried fasting during Lent a few times, but I fear I am too human and have never made it all the way through 40 days. Now, medical reasons make it not possible for me to forego meals. One of Schoeneck's former Pastors, Ray Schultz, suggested that instead of giving up something for Lent, we should take on something more. After all, that is a sacrifice which requires extra effort on our part. More prayer, doing more for others, giving more (not just money), devoting more time to Bible study-all things that require more of our most precious commodity, our time.

Last year, my dear friend, Pastor Roy Ledbetter, posted this list on Facebook. It is attributed to Pop Francis and is about fasting. I saved it because I thought it shed light on a different way to look at fasting. This is the kind of fasting I can TRY to do. Maybe I can continue to fast this way even after Lent. Maybe I can feel closer to God if I could do this. Even if I only succeed at one of the suggestions, I think will have pleased my Lord.

"And so, if you want to fast this Lent-

Fast from hurting words and say kind words,

Fast from sadness and be filled with gratitude,

Fast from anger and be filled with patience,

Fast from pessimism and be filled with hope,

Fast from worries and trust in God,

Fast from complaints and contemplate simplicity,

Fast from pressures and be prayerful,

Fast from bitterness and fill your heart with joy,

Fast from selfishness and be compassionate to others,

Fast from grudges and be reconciled,

Fast from words and be silent so you can listen."

Your Sister in Christ,

Linda Meylach

ACTIVATE OUR PRAYER CHAIN

Contact Elaine Bittner at text or call
484-695-4501, bittnere281@gmail.com, or call
the church office. **For same day or next
day
prayer requests, please call or text**

WANTED

**SCRIPTURE READERS!
NOW SCHEDULING FOR
MARCH DATES.**
Please contact Lisa Moyer to select your date.
610-657-3530, lisa274@ptd.net or
via Facebook.



Thank you to the Jeff Samsel Memorial Fund for the purchase of a perpetual memorial board. If you are interested in adding a plaque for a previously given memorial, please see any Trustee.



RUMMAGE SALE NEWS

Save the date for June 11, 2022.

It is our hope that we will be able to hold the rummage sale on Saturday, June 11, with set-up beginning on Sunday, June 5. We will need lots of help so please mark your calendars. More information to follow.

Thank you to everyone for your continued plastic recycling donations! Together we can reach our goal!



EASTER FLOWERS



Spring Flowers to Brighten the Easter Morning Services

Please return this form to the church office or place it in the offering plate with money/check attached for each order. **Your order must be received no later than Sunday, March 27.**

Number of plants ____ @ \$10.00

Please Print:

Presented by _____

In Memory of _____

In Honor of _____

Please check one of the following options below to help us with ordering.

____ I do want to take the plant(s) home after the last Easter Morning Service. **OR**

____ I do not want to take a plant. Your donation will be made to our church general fund. (Your personal dedication will still be included in the bulletin.)

Our Church Family

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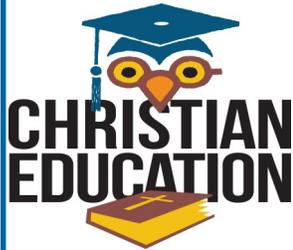
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With respect for the rights each one has to privacy, please secure an individual's permission before adding them to our prayer list, or sharing their concern during worship. **Please remember to contact the church office when names should be removed*

--

**significant
Birthday ending in
a "5" or "0".*

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March is here, spring is around the corner and it is already Lent. Hard to believe how fast time flies by.

In-person Sunday School continues but attendance is “poor”! For three Sundays in a row in February the Pre-K through 3rd grade class had zero (0) attendance. What has happened to all our children? Our 4th through 8th grade class has had 1-2 children in person and 1-2 children on zoom! This is concerning! The CEM has been prayerfully contemplating how we can encourage our children (and their parents) to return them to in-person Sunday School. We want them and their families to know that we miss them and haven’t forgotten about them and want them to continue to be learning about the Bible. Several members of the CEM have gotten together and made a Lenten Calendar with a Bible verse for each of the 40 days of Lent for these two groups of children. We are hoping they will be in the hands of all the children by Ash Wednesday. Please encourage your child/children to read aloud the Bible verse daily or even find it in their own Bible before consuming the treat in the envelope! The 40 days of Lent do not include Sunday, so no envelope or treat for Sunday, that day should be spent with God at Sunday School and church. We prayerfully hope that in their absence from Sunday School this will continue to keep them connected to the Bible, until they return to us on a Sunday.

The Confirmation, High School class, and 2 Adult Sunday School classes continue with their studies and also welcome any new comers to the classes at any time.

Blessings to all this Lenten season!
Pamela F Stampf
Sunday School Coordinator



Jr. Youth Group Leaders Needed!

Christian Education Ministry is in search of a leader and assistant for the Junior Youth Group. Jr. Youth Group Ages: school age children up to 6th grade

Requirements:

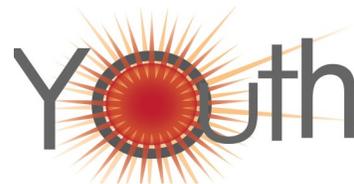
LOVE GOD

LOVE CHILDREN

LOVE FUN

MEET ONCE A MONTH

If interested, contact Pam, JoAnn, or the Pastors.





Lenten Schedule for 2022
Nazareth Moravian Church

4 S Main St, Nazareth, PA 18064

All services will be held in person & online.

Dinner in Fellowship Hall at 6:00pm

Services start at 7:00pm

Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God – what is good and acceptable and perfect.

(Romans 12: 2 NRSV)

March 2 What is Morality?

Ash Wednesday

Pastor Sanette Fleming

March 9

Jesus As the Embodiment of Morality

(John 1:1-18)

Pastor Derek French

March 16

Jesus As the Embodiment of Love

To be determined

March 23

Jesus as the Embodiment of Righteousness

Pastor Jeff Gehris

March 30

Jesus as the Embodiment of Justice

Chaplain Otto Dreydoppel

April 6

Our Moral Formation as Followers of Jesus

Pastor Garritt Fleming



MARCH 2022



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1st. <i>Sunday in Lent</i> 8:00 AM Worship Service 9:15 AM Sunday School 9:15 AM Adult Apologetic 10:30 AM Worship Service 2:30 PM GS 707 & GS 8325	6 5:30 PM GS Troop 81107	7 6 PM Webelos 7 PM Trustees Meeting	8 6 PM Lenten Meal 7 PM Lenten Service	9 1 PM AFSCME Retirees 6 PM Lenten Meal 7 PM Lenten Service	10 9 AM Women's Bible Study 6:15 PM Handbell Choir 7:00 PM Senior Choir	11 6:30 PM GS Troop Rm #11 6:30 PM Pack 78 Den Meeting
6th <i>Sunday after the Epiphany</i> 8:00 AM Worship Service 9:15 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Worship Service 2:30 PM GS 707 & GS 8325	13 5:30 PM GS Troop 81107 6:30 PM GS Troop 81043	14 6 PM Webelos 7 PM Men's Bible Study	15 6 PM Lenten Meal 7 PM Lenten Service	16 6 PM Women's Bible Study 4:00 PM GS Troop 86 6:15 PM Handbell Choir 7:00 PM Senior Choir	17 6:30 PM GS Troop Rm #11 6:30 PM Pack 78 Den Meeting	18 1 PM to 4 PM Private Event
7th <i>Sunday after the Epiphany</i> 8:00 AM Worship Service 9:15 AM Sunday School 9:15 AM Youth Adult Apologetic 10:30 AM Worship Service 2:30 PM GS 707 & GS 8325	20 5:30 PM GS Troop 81107	21 6 PM Webelos 6:30 PM Visitation Ministry	22 6 PM Lenten Meal 7 PM Lenten Service	23 6 PM Women's Bible Study 4:00 PM GS Troop 86 6:15 PM Handbell Choir 7:00 PM Senior Choir	24 6:30 PM GS Troop Rm #11 6:30 PM Pack 78 Den Meeting	25 1 PM to 4 PM Private Event
8th <i>Sunday after the Epiphany</i> 8:00 AM Worship Service 9:15 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Worship Service 2:30 PM GS 707 & GS 8325	27 5:30 PM GS Troop 81107 6:30 PM GS Troop 81043	28 6 PM Webelos 7 PM Men's Bible Study	29 6 PM Lenten Meal 7 PM Lenten Service	30 11:00 AM Women's Fellowship (FH) 6 PM Lenten Meal 7 PM Lenten Service	31 9 AM Women's Bible Study 4:00 PM GS Troop 86 6:15 PM Handbell Choir 7:00 PM Senior Choir	

The Joyful Noise



Schoeneck Moravian Church
316 North Broad Street Extension
Nazareth, Pennsylvania 18064-9522

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

schoeneck@schoeneckmoravian.org
<https://schoeneckmoravian.org>
610-759-0376



Schoeneck Moravian Church

MARCH 2022

Our Lamb has conquered, let us follow him.

In Essentials, Unity; In Nonessentials, Liberty; In All Things, Love.

Rev. Garritt Fleming, Pastor
Rev. Sanette Fleming, Pastor
Ryan Morrow, Director of Music
Michelle Hynes, Administrative Assistant

Our Mission Statement

“To follow the example of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ to love and serve all.”

8:00 AM & 10:30 AM Worship in
the Sanctuary and Livestream

