

First Moravian Church

319 N. Walnut Street, Dover, Ohio 44622

December 15, 2024

10:00 A.M.

Greeters	Gary & Sandy Martin
Nursery	Brian & Melanie Cronebach
Welcome	Elizabeth Snider, Elder V-Chair
Advent Candle Lighters	A.J., Alexis, Maddax & Colt Crilow
Liturgist	John Stubbins
Director of Music	G. Randall Gibbs
Director of Faith Formation	Carolyn Menapace
Custodian	Sam Paden
Administrative Assistant	Karen Baker Office: 330-364-8831
Web Site	www.doverfirstmoravianchurch.org

Call to Worship: *Chimes*

Watchword for the Week: In Unison *The Moravian Daily Texts*
Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Luke 3:8

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude "Savior of the Nations, Come" *arr. Kerr*

* **Hymn** "Rejoice, Rejoice Believers" **H. 256**

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

"People in Darkness Are Looking for Light" **H. 266, vs. 3**

* **Liturgy for Advent** **Pages 49-53**
The "Hosanna" will be omitted.

Anthem "Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming" *arr. Shafferman*
Chancel Choir

Prayers of the People

"The Lord's Prayer" **H. 828**

Holy Scriptures

Epistle Lesson: **Philippians 4:4-7** **Page 212**
Gospel Lesson: **Luke 3:7-18** **Page 61**

Anthem "Carol of the Bells" *Leontovych*
Julia Kandel, Flute
Christa Roberts, Harp

Children's Moment

Carolyn Menapace

Hymn "I Am Jesus' Little Lamb" **H. 723, vs 1**
During the singing, children are invited up for the Children's Moment.

Hymn "Savior of the Nations, Come" **H. 265**

Message: "...and again I say..."
The Rev. Dennis G. Rohn

Prayer

* **Hymn** "Let the Earth Now Praise the Lord" **H. 261**

* **Benediction**

Please be seated for our Quiet Meditation.

Quiet Meditation "Reverie" *Grandjany*
Christa Roberts, Harp

* *Please stand if you are able.*

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Check in with us at First Moravian Church: We ask you to sign and pass the register in your row. Visitors: Please check the box marked "Visitor" and include your complete mailing address.

Please note: If you have a cell phone, please turn it off during the worship service. If you would like to recycle your bulletin, place it in the box near the ushers' table at the back of the sanctuary.

Coffee Hour: Pam Duncan

Special Thanks to **Denny Rohn** for bringing the message. Our **thanks** to **all who helped with the service** by sharing their talent for the Lord and God's people today.

Flowers

The two vases of flowers are in memory of Doris Espenschied, given by her daughters, Holly, LaRene, and Melanie.

One Call Now ~ 330-364-8831

Terry and Susan Corder are sponsoring our One Call Now this week.

One Call Now Sponsors are needed for the following weeks: **Mar. 2, 9, 23 & 30.** If you desire to sponsor one week or more, please call Karen Baker in the church office, 330-364-8831. **Cost: \$15 per week.**

Lessons & Carols Livestreamed

If you were unable to attend *Lessons & Carols* at St. Joseph's Catholic Church last Sunday, go to their website: <https://stjosephdover.org> and scroll down to Lessons & Carols, to view the service.

Attendance from Last Sunday

Sunday School 32 Worship ~ 10 AM 92
Schoenbrunn Village Christmas Lovefeast Service 67

Prayers for the People

Amberwood: Laura Colvin; **Hennis** (Dover): Bonnie Auman;
Park Village (Dover): Joyce Brewer, Bill Cozart, Suzanne Rinderknecht, Milly Sudduth.

Birthday and Anniversary Daily Prayer Support

- Dec. 16 Ashley Brown, Daniel Pfeiffer
Anniv: Theron & Tricia Everett, Samuel & Ellie (Rondinella) Bernardo,
Congratulations! Terry & Susan Corder – 52 yrs.;
Rick & Peg Holmes – 40 yrs.
- Dec. 17 Linda Hayman, Kyle Gerber, Jenna Walter, Russ Kornis
- Dec. 18 Josh Miller, Theodora Compton
- Dec. 19 Rachel Pfeiffer, Josh Kimble
- Dec. 20 Laura Colvin, Deb Yeager
- Dec. 21 Scott Smith; Anniv: Fred & Janet Foutz

\$ Financial Giving \$

As we approach another year end, the Trustees would like to remind the congregation of some tips around financial giving.

We are blessed to be able to support so many missions and projects in the life of our congregation and beyond. Some of these require separate bank accounts and reporting. Any support for **Sole Purpose, Memorial Fund, Music Memorial Fund, Helping Hand and Minister's Aid Society** should be given in a separate check if at all possible. Checks can be made out to "First Moravian Church" with the fund noted in the Memo line of the check. This allows more streamlined processing for the Trustees and Cooper Accounting.

If you would like to contribute to the **special projects** of church flooring replacement and updates to the parsonage, the Trustees appreciate any assistance you can provide. We hope to be able to "repay" some of the distributions that were drawn from our Investments in the Moravian Ministries Foundation of America (MMFA).

The Trustees would also like to remind you of the opportunities for electronic giving. This not only ensures stability for the church finances, but it reduces costs and time required in preparing financial records. We partner with Vanco for a safe and reliable service for electronic church giving.

Thank you for your continued support at Dover First!

The Board of Trustees

2025 CONTRIBUTION ENVELOPES ARE AVAILABLE to pick up. If your name is on a check or on a plain envelope, you are given credit for your giving. If you would like to give electronically, or update your electronic giving, a form is available in the church office. If you have any questions, (regarding electronic giving, envelopes or statements) please call or text Julie Williams at 330-933-9707 or email at

juliewill1411@gmail.com

All giving must be received by 9:00 AM on Monday, December 30, to be counted toward your 2024 contributions.



Joint Board Chair: Julie Williams

Joint Board Members

Board of Elders

Jennifer Peveto	2022-2024, 1 st Term	330.243.1493
Leslie Seats, Secretary	2022-2024, 1 st Term	937.479.4028
Elizabeth Snider, V-Chair	2022-2024, 1 st Term	330.802.0822
Brian Cronebach	2020-2025, 2 nd Term	330.340.5549
Pamela Duncan, CEC Rep.	2023-2025, 1 st Term	330.340.7476
John Stubbins	2023-2025, 1 st Term	330.987.0144
Scott Minor	2024-2026, 1 st Term	330.432.7036
Steve Rondinella	2021-2026, 2 nd Term	330.827.4513

Board of Trustees

Seth Corder	2022-2024, 1 st Term	330.204.4820
Julie Williams, President & Fiscal Officer	2019-2024, 2 nd Term	330.933.9707
April Yoder, Vice-President	2019-2024, 2 nd Term	330.401.2873
Karol Jones, Sec./CEC Rep.	2020-2025, 2 nd Term	330.343.8236
Gary Martin	11/2023-2025, 1 st Term	330.204.1926
Greg Miller	2023-2025, 1 st Term	330.340.3861
Bev Antonelli	2024-2026, 1 st Term	330.340.2522
Brenda Crilow	7/2023-2026, 2 nd Term	330.243.6682
Daniel Yeager	2021-2026, 2 nd Term	330.364.6951

When members are hospitalized or need a special visit, please contact Karen Baker in the church office, **330-364-8831**. Karen will contact the Elders. The Elder assigned for the day will contact the Backup person or another Elder if they are not available.

The Dover Moravian Messenger

Sunday 11:30-12:30 PM Christmas Pageant Rehearsal ó Bsmt/SH/Sanct.
 Monday 8:00 AM Sugar Cake Set-Up ó Kit. & S. Hall
 9:00 AM Staff Meeting ó Church Office
 9:00 AM Counting ó Living Room
 4:00 PM Sugar Cake Mixing ó Kit. & S. Hall

Tuesday All Day Sugar Cake Baking – Kit. & Social Hall


10:00 AM Zoom Bible Study

Buckeye Adult Classes: W – GED 9-N; T & Th – ESOL 9-N & 6-8:30

Wednesday 10:30 AM Praying in Color ó Church Living Room
 4:00 PM Sugar Cake Mixing ó Kit. & S. Hall
 6:00 PM Menø Bible Study ó Living Room
 6:30 PM Chancel Choir ó Choir Loft

Thursday All Day Sugar Cake Baking – Kit. & Social Hall

Thursday 24-Hour Unity Prayer Watch
Thursday, December 19




The world could use some extra kindness and prayers. Today is our time to pray. Join us for the Unity Prayer Watch; take a pink sheet home, pray when you can. For those who prefer to come and pray in the sanctuary, it will be open from 8:00 a.m. to 4 p.m. on this day.

Saturday 8:00 AM Book Club @ Missions Café
 9-11:00 AM Menø Breakfast ó Kit. & Social Hall
 10-Noon Christmas Pageant Rehearsal ó Bsmt/SH/Sanct.
 Smith Family Gathering ó Kit. & S. Hall

Sunday 8:30-9:45 AM  Childrenø Pageant Reh. ó Bsmt.
 9:00 AM Chancel Choir ó Loft
 10:00 AM Worship/Childrenø Pageant ó Sanct.

A Note of Thanks!



The Reeves Bell Choir wishes to thank the Tango and Gatti Company for the loan of their trailer for the Advent Vespers service at St. Joseph's Church. It was a blessing.

Our Worship Opportunities



Third Sunday of Advent



Dec. 15 ~ Third Sunday of Advent

10:00 a.m. Worship

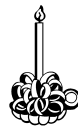
Dec. 22 ~ Fourth Sunday of Advent

10:00 a.m. Worship & Children's Christmas Pageant

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Dec. 24 ~ Christmas Eve Services

5:30 & 8:00 p.m.

Each worshipper will receive
a beeswax candle with a red frill.



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Dec. 29 ~ Worship ~ 10:00 a.m.

Jan. 5 ~ Worship & Holy Communion ~ 10:00 a.m.

Worship with Us...Sundays at 10:00 A.M.

Bring your family and friends!

Our Music Opportunities

Christmas Caroling

The CEC is changing things up this year!

We will go **Christmas Caroling** during the **"Twelve Days of Christmas,"** in the time between Christmas Day and Epiphany. Join us for an afternoon of caroling followed by pizza and hot chocolate at the church. All ages and singing abilities welcome!

Saturday, December 28

- ♪ **4:00 PM:** Gather in the Social Hall
- ♪ **4:15 PM:** Set out to spread Christmas cheer
- ♪ **6:00 PM:** Return to the Social Hall for Dinner



Our Mission and Outreach Opportunities

Calling All Sugar Cakers!!



Tues. & Thurs., Dec. 17 & 19

Price \$7.00 each

We are blessed with an abundance of orders in December, so we will be adding an extra day of baking.

If you are available to help on any of those days, please contact Lorrigan Booth at 330.340.4702. We truly appreciate everyone who gives of their time and energy, making this not only a successful fundraiser for the Moravian Women, but a joyful outreach to our community!

Please place an order by calling Susan Paden, 330-364-7101.



24-Hour Unity Prayer Watch



Thursday, December 19

Each year we have the privilege to be in prayer for the Unity of the Moravian Church. These prayers stretch out over 27 provinces throughout the world. Our date for this year will be **Thursday, December 19**, which has been designated as Dover First's Day of Prayer. We will share these duties with our sisters and brothers in the Moravian walk from Fry's Valley, Gnadenuhnten, Uhrichsville, and Church of the Redeemer in Columbus.

Our time slots remaining for Dover First are as follows:

2-3 AM; 7-8 AM; 11-1 PM; 5-6 PM; 10 PM-12-Midnight.

Pick a time and spend some quality time away from all distractions and pray. Information sheets are available on the clipboard being circulated today.

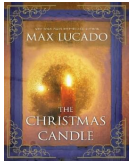


Men's Fellowship Breakfast

Saturday, December 21, from 9-11 AM
First Moravian Church of Dover ~ Social Hall

This ecumenical breakfast is for all men in the community.
Bring your appetite and enjoy a delicious breakfast!
There will be great food and fellowship!

Our Christian Education Opportunities



Breakfast Book Club: Join us **Saturday, Dec. 21, at Missions Café at 8:00 a.m.** as we discuss Max Lucado's book, "The Christmas Candle." This story of a Victorian English village contains a timeless message that will warm your heart this season.



All Ages Sunday School

Church members and friends of all ages are invited to celebrate the "**Twelve Days of Christmas**" together on **December 29**. Join us in the Social Hall at **9:00 a.m.!**

VBS Donations

Are you getting rid of an old artificial Christmas tree this season? Donate it to the church and help us create a forest for VBS 2025! With or without lights is fine – lights do not have to work.

We're also collecting clean 5-gallon buckets. Contact Carolyn Menapace to coordinate drop-off.

Note: Trees and buckets will not be returned



Christmas Gift-Giving Ideas

Get your shopping done early by purchasing



Moravian Advent & Christmas Stars...
Great Gifts throughout the Year!

The white plastic electric **Advent stars** are available in two sizes (**21-inch ~ \$30; and 12-inch ~ \$25**) in the church office. **The 12-inch star is designed to be used as a tree topper or hanging star.** These stars make great gifts year-round: birthdays, weddings, showers, etc. Complete instructions for assembly are included.

To Remind You



Annual Church Council Reminder...

All reports are due in the church office by **9 A.M. on Thursday, January 2, 2025.**

The report should include a summary of what took place during the year, mention of membership, plans for the coming year, as well as a financial report. Financial reports should show both income and expenses. E-mail your report to:

admin.assistant@firstmoravianchurch.org

Your cooperation in meeting this deadline will be appreciated in order to have the annual report packets ready for distribution on January 12. Thank you.

VISION 2025:

The Church Council will give direction for Vision 2025 and beyond by:

- Electing three Elders to the Board of Elders
- Electing three Trustees to the Board of Trustees
- Electing a member to the Christian Education Committee
- Electing a representative to the Sperling-Zimmerman Home Committee
- Electing two representatives to the Ohio Moravian Ministries Commission (OMMC)
- Receiving reports from all ministries
- Approving the ministry budget for 2025

