

Provincial Ties

Southern Province Approves New Structure at Special Synod

On September 11-12, 2009, the Southern Province of the Moravian Church in America held a Special Synod at New Philadelphia Moravian Church, Winston-Salem, North Carolina to review a proposed Provincial Structure Reorganization.

As background, the Synod of the Moravian Church Southern Province 2006 mandated Resolution 55. Resolution 55 states "...that the PEC appoint an impartial task force that will be charged with systematically and critically examining all aspects of our provincial administration and ministries including PEC, boards and agencies and their relationships with local congregations." The task force on provincial administration, chaired by Bro. Powell Winstead, worked diligently for more than two years systematically gathering information in order to educate themselves about all aspects of the province, including administration and ministries, PEC, boards and agencies and their relationships with local congregations. The task force held numerous meetings and conducted interviews and surveys throughout the Province. After all the information was critically examined, they concluded that a new framework for shared ministry in the Province would best address the issues at hand and then proposed a new organizational structure. The new structure was presented to the PEC who unanimously endorsed the new structure proposal in December, 2008. The Task Force and PEC sponsored town hall meetings throughout the Province to provide information and answer questions about the proposed structure, as well as an all-day Special Synod delegate workshop on August 15, 2009.

The Special Synod was held to consider the proposed structure and if approved, to create a steering committee who along with the PEC will lead the Province through phases of implementation.

On Saturday, September 12, 2009, the Synod was convened first as a committee of the whole on government to discuss the proposal at hand, deciding whether or not as written it was to go to the Synod floor for consideration. On that day, 209 official delegates were in attendance with 12 advisory delegates (non-voting) on hand for discussion. After some discussion it was moved that Resolution #1 on Provincial Structure Reorganization would go to the Synod floor for vote. After some discussion a ballot vote was taken with the result being that 172 were in support of the new structure, 35 were against, and 1 abstention was made. This

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Congregations and Fellowships

Advent
Ardmore
Bethabara
Bethania
Bethesda
Calvary
Christ
Christ the King
Clemmons
Community Fellowship
Covenant
Crooked Oak
Enterprise
Fairview
First Moravian (GA)
First Moravian (NC)
Friedberg
Friedland
Fries Memorial
Fulp
Good Shepherd
Grace
Home
Hope
Hopewell
Immanuel-New Eden
Kernersville
King
King of Kings
Konnoak Hills
Leaksville
Little Church on the Lane
Macedonia
Margate Fellowship
Mayodan
Messiah
Mizpah
Moravia
Morning Star Fellowship
Mountain Laurel Moravian Fellowship
Mt. Bethel
New Beginnings
New Covenant Fellowship (Palm Beach)
New Hope (FL)
New Hope (NC)
New Philadelphia
Oak Grove
Olivet
Palm Beach
Palmetto Fellowship
Peace
Pine Chapel
Prince of Peace
Providence
Raleigh
Rayaka Ingnika Fellowship (Sarasota)
Rolling Hills
Rural Hall
St. Philips
Suriname Fellowship
Tampa Fellowship
Trinity
Union Cross
Unity
Willow Hill

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Concerns & Celebrations



“And let us not grow weary in well-doing, for in due season we shall reap, if we do not lose heart.”

GALATIANS 6:9

OUR PRAYERS ARE WITH . . .

Deaths:

Brother Edward Rondthaler III, son of Bishop Howard and Dorothy Rondthaler, passed away on August 19 in Cedar City, Utah. He was born in Bethlehem, PA but grew up in Winston-Salem, NC where his father was President of Salem Academy and College from 1909-1949. His paternal grandfather was Bishop Edward Rondthaler.

Brother Philip Pfeifer of Raleigh, NC and an Approved Candidate for Ordination in the Southern Province, passed away on September 9 in Raleigh, NC. He was enrolled at Wake Forest University Divinity School with plans to attend Moravian Theological Seminary in the fall of 2010.

We express our love and sympathy to their families and friends.

Illness:

Sister **Polly Applefield**, Moravian Minister

Brother **Hal Cole**, Moravian Minister

Our prayers are with these.

Pastoral Changes:

Brother James Demby, a May 2009 graduate of Moravian Theological Seminary, has accepted the call to become pastor of the Pine Chapel Moravian Church in Winston-Salem, NC. Brother Demby will be ordained at Advent Moravian in Winston-Salem, NC on October 11, 2009 by Bishop J.C. Hughes. He will be installed at Pine Chapel on October 18, 2009. Brother Demby is the son of J. W. and Louise Demby of Winston-Salem,

Ordination Anniversaries October

Cedric Rodney50 years
 William Kerner47 years
 Bob Peterson.....33 years
 Tripp May33 years
 Dan Nelson22 years
 John G. Right13 years
 Jeff Carter11 years
 Judy Knopf..... 4 years



Congratulations and God Bless You!

Prayer Day for World Mission **October 11, 2009**

The second Sunday in October has been designated as a special Day of Prayer for World Mission. Pray for the ministries in our partner Provinces – Alaska, Central America, Eastern West Indies, Honduras, Labrador, Nicaragua, and Western Tanzania. Remember the BWM ministries, including the Antioch Project, Likewise Ministries, MDR, Schools of Music and Worship in Costa Rica and Nepal, and the Bethlehem Moravian Mission Community. Pray for our retired missionaries as they continue serving in ministry.

For specific information for your prayers about these and other new and continuing ministries, please see the BWM web site, www.moravianmission.org, or contact the mission offices at 610-868-1732 (lisa@mcnp.org) or 336-773-1732 (sbeaman@mcsp.org).

PEC REPORT:



The Provincial Elders' Conference met on September 15, 2009. Burkette, Hunter, Hurt, Sapp, Sides and Sparks were present for the meeting. The meeting began with sharing of contacts with pastors and congregations, reflection on John 17:1, 6-11 and prayer.

Various concerns and opportunities were discussed related to congregations, fellowships and personnel in the Province. Bro. James Demby has accepted the call to serve as pastor of the Pine Chapel congregation and will be installed on October 18. The St. Philips boards continue to discuss with PEC the possibilities for interim pastoral service. Bro. Steve Wilson, pastor of Little Church on the Lane in Charlotte, began a 10 week sabbatical on September 7. Bro. Gregorio Moody (King of Kings, Florida) and Bro. Mohamed Braima (Sierra Leone) were reappointed as Provincial Acolytes. Revised Rules and Regulations for the Oak Grove congregation were reviewed by PEC.

PEC discussed follow up to the Special Synod which approved the proposal for a new provincial structure presented by the Provincial Administration/Ministries Task Force. PEC continued discussion of plans and appointments for the stated Synod of September, 2010. The next meeting of the 2010 Synod Planning Committee is scheduled for October 15 in Winston-Salem.

PEC reviewed the status of current candidates for ordained ministry. Those enrolled at Moravian Theological Seminary this fall are: Zach Dease (New Philadelphia), Betty Helms (Friedberg), Jeff Jones (Rural Hall) and Russell Williams (Trinity). PEC noted with much sadness the unexpected death of Bro. Philip Pfeifer (Raleigh) who was an approved candidate for ordination enrolled at Wake Forest University Divinity School.

Various other matters were discussed and information shared concerning the life and ministry of the Southern Province, including a very positive report on the Moravian Music

Festival held this past July (179 registrants) and approval of a request to publicize a clergy appreciation dinner in Winston-Salem sponsored by CareNet.

The next scheduled meetings of PEC will be on October 6 and 27, 2009.

(submitted by Wayne Burkette)

World Mission Lovefeast

Sunday, **November 1**, 3 pm

Advent Moravian Church, 1514 W. Clemmons-ville Rd., Winston-Salem, NC 27127 will be the location for the World Mission Lovefeast on Sunday, November 1, 2009 at 3 pm, Prelude beginning at 2:30 pm. The Rt. Rev. Samuel J. Gray will bring the message to encourage us in mission outreach. Lisa Mixon, Director of People in Mission, and Roman Brady, recent Antioch Servant in Costa Rica, will share information regarding the BWM Antioch Project. A brief update on the Likewise AIDS Ministries will be presented by Ms. Kim Bartholomew. Participants of the Feet First Youth Summit in Charlotte will also join us for the celebration. Special music will be presented by the Advent Choir and Provincial Musicians. Attendees will have the opportunity to view mission displays and meet 2009 mission teams. We look forward to seeing you at this special time of worship, learning, and fellowship.

2009 Lay Seminary

**“The Problem of Evil:
A Christian Perspective”**

Friday, **November 6**, 7-9 pm — Saturday, **November 7**, 9am-4pm at Fries Memorial Moravian Church. Presenter will be Heather Vacek and cost is \$35, which includes Saturday lunch and materials. Register by October 30 to the Board of Christian Education (BCE), 336-722-8126 or on the BCE web site:
www.moravianboardofce.org.

(sponsored by the Board of Christian Education)

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82% majority result was more than the two-thirds majority needed for adoption.

Next a steering committee was elected to implement the new structure and make provision for transition issues. As stated in the resolution the task force on provincial administration would appoint two of its members to the steering committee (Sandy Baldwin and The Rev. Neil Routh) and the PEC would appoint two of its members to the committee (The Rt. Rev. Lane Sapp and Donna Hurt). In addition the Synod would elect five members who were nominated prior to the Special Synod. The result of two rounds of voting was as follows: Gary Kniskern of Grace Moravian, Mt. Airy, North Carolina; Mike Hurd of Leaksville Moravian, Leaksville, North Carolina; Tamra Thomas of Home Moravian, Winston-Salem, North Carolina; Joyce Vance of Peace Moravian, Charlotte, North Carolina; and The Rev. John D. Rights of Konnoak Hills Moravian, Winston-Salem, North Carolina. Bro. Gary Kniskern has subsequently been appointed by PEC to chair the Implementation Steering Committee.

The new structure will take the cooperative efforts of leaders, pastors, and lay members and will likely take two-three years to phase in completely as directed by the steering committee.

The Special Synod was mixed with purposeful worship throughout to allow the Chief Elder to be fully present while making human decisions with regard to the work of the church.

For more information on the specifics of the restructure, visit—www.moravianstructure.org. The entire resolution #1 with appendix will also be posted on the provincial website, www.mcsp.org.

(submitted by Deanna Hollenbach, Executive Director of the Interprovincial Board of Communication for the Moravian Church in North America and Wayne Burkette)

The Mathias Concert

Saturday, **November 7**, 2009 at
7:30 pm; Hanes Auditorium, Salem Fine Arts
Center, Winston-Salem, NC

Living Healthy Workshop at Salem towne

Are you age 60 or older dealing with a chronic disease such as arthritis, heart disease, COPD, or fibromyalgia? If so, the *Living Healthy* program may be your answer for a better quality of life.

The *Living Healthy* program is a six week education group designed to help people like you learn to live a healthier life. You'll find the support you need, learn practical ways to deal with pain and fatigue, discover better nutrition and exercise choices, and learn better ways to talk with your doctor and family about your health.

Put **LIFE** back into your life. Consider the *Living Healthy* workshop.

Tuesdays at 3:00 pm
October 6 – November 10
Workshop is Free

Facilitated by: Master Trainers, Dianne Limbaugh, Salem towne Wellness Coordinator, & Dr. Althea Taylor-Jones. To reserve your space for this free workshop, please call Alexis at 336-608-3568.

MISSION/POSSIBLE

October 4, Christ Moravian, 6 pm

Speaker: Sarah Atwood-Costa Rica-Short Term Mission Trip; Music by Ted Kimball

Feet First Youth Mission Event

October 30-November 1

Little Church on the Lane, Charlotte, NC

For young adults, ages 18-27; Antioch Servants share stories; cost \$20; contact Billy Flippin 704-201-5411, billy@littlechurchonthelane.com or call the Mission Office 336-773-1732.

From The Provincial Treasurer's Office

2010 Provincial Budget Presentation – On behalf of the Provincial Financial Board and the Provincial Treasurer's Office, I want to thank New Philadelphia Moravian Church for hosting this year's Provincial Budget Presentation. I also want to thank all those who attended. We had many of the Synod delegates attending and for some, it was their first time attending a budget presentation.

2010 Provincial Budget – In case you were not able to be at the Budget Presentation, I have summarized the Province's 2010 and 2009 operating budgets as follows (dollars in thousands):

	<u>2010</u>	<u>2009</u>	<u>% Change</u>
Missions and Outreach	\$ 861	\$ 954	(9.8)
Services and Support for Congregations	2,160	2,208	(2.2)
Recruiting, Preparing and Supporting Ministers	826	787	5.0
Supporting Services	228	263	<u>(13.4)</u>
Total Budget	<u>\$ 4,075</u>	<u>\$ 4,212</u>	<u>(3.3)</u>

On average, about 33% of the Provincial budget is supported by "outside" sources of income such as conference and camper fees at Laurel Ridge, use of designated or restricted funds, support from Salem Congregation, investment income, etc. The remainder of the budget is supported by the churches through Provincial Share payments. For 2010, these Provincial Share payments total \$2.7 million, a \$48 thousand, or 1.7%, decrease from 2009.

The above numbers reflect efforts to cut operating costs in almost every area; however, the recommended contribution into the Ministers' Pension Plan for 2010 more than doubled due to investment losses sustained in 2008. The Province's 2010 operating budget and Provincial Share amounts reflect only about one third of this recommended increase while churches have been asked to contribute to the remaining amount needed on a voluntary basis.

The allocation of the Provincial Share to a particular church is based on the size of a church's membership and operating budget in proportion to the total size of all the churches' membership and budgets.

A more detailed copy of the 2010 Provincial Budget and the related PowerPoint presentation used at the Budget Presentation are available in both electronic and hard copy formats from the Provincial Treasurer's Office. They are also available on the Province's website (mcsp.org) under "Resources." The Province's 2008 audited financial statements are also available via the website. I encourage you to get copies of this information and to share it with your congregation.

(submitted by Ted Leinbach, Provincial Treasurer)



In Celebration of the 75th Anniversary of the **NC Council of Churches**
 Sunday, **November 8**, 3-5 pm, Lutheran Church of the Epiphany in
 Winston-Salem, NC

Come help kick off a time of celebrating 75 years of the work of the
 Council in forging bonds of Christian unity and advocating for social
 justice!

Latino Ministry Update

Thanks to God for the privilege of being an observer for the Special Synod on September 11-12 of this year. It was my first experience and I enjoyed seeing all the Southern Province Congregations and Fellowships, and leaders at work as one in mission and spirit.

It was also a great opportunity to meet, listen and share experiences with some pastors and leaders from Florida, Charlotte and Winston-Salem, who are involved with Latino ministries in their congregations. I could see their big interest, work and dedication in this ministry.

Education has always played a vital part in Moravian Church life. In this update I continue sharing with all of you some more information and news about Hispanic people in the USA.

The idea is to prepare more our hearts and minds for the people who are around us and guide them to Jesus Christ in this difficult time. There are many different ways and strategies we can use in our churches with the help of each other.

This information is official according the Census in 2008, according to the Pew Hispanic Center:

- Of the Hispanics living in the US from the following countries of origin, here are the percentages that are already US citizens: Puerto Rican 99.4%, Cuban 74.1%, Mexican 68.9%, Dominican 67.7%, and Salvadoran 52.9%.
- The Nation's 11.9 million unauthorized immigrants are more geographically dispersed than in the past. The new report finds that the recent rapid growth in the undocumented immigrant labor force has come to a halt and estimates that the nation's 8.3 million unauthorized immigrant workers in March made up 5.4% of the labor force.
- The surveys also find that Latino Immigrants are more likely to speak English very well and to use it often, if they are highly educated, arrived in the USA as children or have spent many years here. Puerto Ricans and South Americans are most likely to say they are proficient in English, Mexicans are the least likely to say so.
- In three surveys (2002, 2006, 2007), language skills was chosen more often than the other

options as a cause of discrimination.

- In the census of 2008 about three – quarters (76%) of the nation's unauthorized are Hispanic: Mexico (59%), Asia (11%), Central America (11%), South America (7%), the Caribbean (4%), Middle East (less than 2%).

In future newsletters I will share with you some Latino ministry strategies we can use in the church. Let's pray for the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

Hilda Regalado - Latino Ministry Coordinator, BEHM; hregalado@mccsp.org

Prayer Day for Children

(any Sunday in October)

In October of each year, in coordination with the Children's Defense Fund, national religious denominations and organizations have intentionally sought to focus more attention and resources to children's needs. The world has not always been a safe place for all of God's children. They need our prayers. For Christians, an important part of advocacy for children, who are vulnerable and powerless, is to seek God's will and guidance in prayer and meditation. Each year, in October, many churches and synagogues observe a Children's Sabbath. Some churches plan a day of worship, education and service with the entire faith community where they attend to one particular area of need in the lives of children. Some churches place their emphasis upon a specially designed worship service which reflects upon God's word and our call to discipleship on behalf of God's children.

Should you want to know more about a Children's Sabbath we have some wonderful resource books, full of worship materials and we can put you in touch with other churches who have been observing this special Sabbath in the past years. Please visit our website at http://www.moravianboardofce.org/about/for_a_sample_litany.

(submitted by Lisa Mullen, BCE)



Newsletter Notes

From around the Southern Province

Br. Worth Green of **New Philadelphia** reports an unexpected down side to the recent Unity Synod. Five delegates from Tanzania and the entire Suriname delegation were refused admission into the United Kingdom, where the Synod was held. It seems the government, fearing illegal immigrants taking resources and jobs from citizens, refuses to admit those without permanent employment, property, and active bank accounts in their home countries. So, Br. Green reports, Unity Synod “charged Unity Board to see that this kind of thing could not happen in the future.”

Calvary is putting together an “Assimilation Team,” which will help orient, involve, and incorporate new members into the life of the church. The team will consist of the pastors and five lay members appointed annually by the Board of Elders. Given how convoluted our congregations can seem to newcomers, it just could be a wise step in helping them feel right at home.

Some words you hardly expect to see in a church newsletter. Like “The Womanly Art of Wrestling Alligators.” But that is the gist of the book title by Ana Tampanna, who will be guest speaker at **Calvary’s** “Festival of Tables” on October 9. That reminds us of Br. Bill Campbell’s alligator round-up days as pastor of New Hope in Florida. (Read all about it on page 762 of *With Courage for the Future*, the 250th anniversary history of the Southern Province.)

What’s the best growth engine of the Moravian Church? That’s right. YOU (we) are. Let us remind ourselves that it is our joyful duty to reach out Christ’s love to others as the Southern Province holds its second “Invite a Friend” Sunday on October 18. (Some churches have scheduled it on another Sunday.) Speak to a neighbor, coworker, friend, and let’s fill every pew in the Province.

Clemmons got an unexpected (and happy) surprise for the construction of its new Christian education building. The low bid came in at \$2,519,000, a gratifying \$881,000 less than the projected cost of \$3.4 million. With more than \$1.7 million already in hand, construction

should now be well under way.

Union Cross has already raised \$69,872.69 toward its \$100,000 building fund goal by year’s end. And that is before the September 26 plant sale fund-raiser. Besides, this is a can-do church. And it is getting 60 tons of rock donated for the new driveway. Can — no — will do.

After Christmas, **Konnoak Hills’** organ will go silent for about three months for a \$16,200 upgrade. The new features will enhance the quality of the instrument.

— Richard W. Starbuck, *Moravian Archives*

‘Moravian Ideals’ (part 1)

What makes us Moravians so Moravian? Archivist Daniel Crews and Moravian Music Foundation Director Nola Knouse give their take on “Moravian Ideals” with “Devotion to the Savior,” the “Lunchtime Lecture” 12:15-12:45 p.m. October 8 at the Archie K. Davis Center in Old Salem. The lecture is free and open to the public who are invited to bring their lunch (it isn’t provided). Parking is free in the Salem College Fine Arts Center parking lot off Salem Avenue.

Get historical with Society

The Wachovia Historical Society invites Moravians to two events this fall.

- The Society’s 114th annual meeting at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, **October 20**, at the Old Salem Visitor Center will feature items and artifacts of the Society’s 255-year collection, presented by Johanna M. Brown of Old Salem. Visitors are welcome, free.
- *Preserving the Past* is the Society’s sixth annual bus trip on Saturday, **November 7**, visiting the old Boys School, Salem Tavern, Sisters House, and other sites and collections that the Society has supported over the years. For reservations, pricing, and further information, telephone Kitty Walker of Old Salem, 336-721-7337.

The Wachovia Historical Society is the oldest historical preservation society in North Carolina, founded by Moravians in 1895. The Society welcomes any interested person into its membership.



The new Moravian Youth Camp and Worship Song CD on sale now at Laurel Ridge, the Board of Christian Education, and from Regional Youth Council representatives. Cost is \$12.

For Your Calendar

- Mission:Possible @ Christ..... Oct 2
- Board of World Mission in NP Oct 2-3
- Evangelism Conference@Friedberg Oct 3
- Demby Ordination@Advent 4pm..... Oct 4
- Fall Middle/Sr High Youth Rally..... Oct 4
- PEC Meeting..... Oct 6
- Prayer Day-World Mission Oct 11
- Provincial Financial Board Oct 13
- Senior Friends Rally@Advent Oct 13
- 2010 Synod Planning Meeting..... Oct 15
- Demby Installation @ Pine Chapel..... Oct 18
- Invite A Friend Sunday Oct 18
- Seminary Trustees..... Oct 20-21
- Moravian College Trustees Oct 22-23
- Senior Friends Advisory Council..... Oct 21
- PEC Meeting..... Oct 27
- Moravian Widow's Society 7pm, Cedarhyrst..Oct 29

Advent Spirituality Centers

Hope, Peace, Love and Joy

If your church is interested in having the Advent Spirituality Centers in your church for a week during Advent, please contact Beth Hayes or Judy Knopf at BCE—336-722-8126. Act now to reserve.

Mediation Skills Training Institute for Church Leaders

November 16-20 at New Philadelphia Moravian

This is a 40-hour training event for conflict transformation and mediation. New Philadelphia is hosting one of the five Institutes being presented across the country in 2009. The deadline for “early bird” registration at \$650 is October 19. Register at:

<http://www.Impeacecenter.org/MSTI.09Brochure.pdf>

*Deadline for the November Issue of Provincial Ties is **October 29***



*Moravian Church in America, South
Provincial Elders' Conference
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