

Provincial Ties

Preparing for the Special Synod

As our Province approaches the Special Synod on **September 11-12** to consider a proposed new provincial structure, let me offer several ways that each delegate should prepare himself or herself for this important decision time. These are also ways that every person and every congregation can join in support of those who will attend the Synod as delegates.

1. Be informed. Already through town hall meetings and the delegate workshop on August 15, each delegate has had opportunity to become educated regarding the proposal before the Special Synod. Additional information, including the full report of the Task Force and a comprehensive list of questions and answers from the delegate workshop, is now posted on the website: moravianstructure.org. Become as familiar as possible with the information now available.
2. Approach the Special Synod with an open mind and heart. In every Synod I have attended in over 40 years of ordained ministry in the Southern Province, I have learned something I did not know before. Often I have experienced the Holy Spirit moving a Synod in marvelous ways to reach important decisions. The Spirit works best with minds and hearts that are open and receptive to the Spirit's leading.
3. Pray for personal guidance. Don't pray for God to lead other people to think the way you think. Pray for God to guide you to speak and act in ways that build up the Church and further God's mission. Pray for God to guide you to make decisions that will please God.
4. Pray for the gathered community – the Synod itself. Pray for a spirit of unity of purpose to prevail; pray for mutual love and respect to be the standard among all in attendance; pray for God to bless the ministry to which we are called as the Church of Jesus Christ.
5. Give thanks to God. Every Synod offers us an opportunity to experience all of the congregations and fellowships of our Province at work as one in mission and ministry. It is a privilege to have that opportunity, so give thanks to God.

May the Chief Elder bless our Synod and be present among us in our gathering.

(submitted by Wayne Burkette)

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

“AS GOD’S CHOSEN ONES, HOLY AND BELOVED, CLOTHE YOURSELVES WITH COMPASSION, KINDNESS, HUMILITY, MEEKNESS, AND PATIENCE. COLOSSIANS 3:12

OUR PRAYERS ARE WITH . . .

Deaths:

Sister **Gertrude Trodahl**, widow of Moravian Minister **Harry Trodahl**, passed away in Watertown, Wisconsin on August 5. Together they served the Moravian Church for many years.

Sister **Jewel Vance**, mother of **Beth Frack** (Moravian Minister **Kevin Frack**) passed away on August 6 in Kernersville, NC.

Brother **Terry Stewart**, brother of **Arkon Stewart**-Pastor of Providence Moravian Church, passed away on August 28 in Lexington, NC

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:

Sister **Wilma “Willie” Israel**’s consecration as presbyter at Rolling Hills Moravian Church in Longwood, Florida has been rescheduled for January 24, 2010.

Congratulations!

Ordination Anniversaries September

Bill McElveen 51 years
 John Jackman 27 years
 Will Sibert 23 years
 Bert Chin 18 years
 Patty Garner 11 years
 Ramona Spencer..... 4 years



Congratulations and God Bless You!

Marriages:



Russell Williams and **Jessica Rhyne** were married on August 8 in Boone, NC. Russell is a third year Moravian Theological Seminary student and an Approved Candidate for Ordination in the Southern Province. The couple will live in Bethlehem, PA.

Congratulations!

Provincial Women’s Board Fall Celebration 2009

All women of the Moravian Church are invited to the Fall Celebration on **September 19**, 9am at Konnoak Hills Moravian Church. Lunch is \$8 with reservation no later than September 11. For more information contact the PWB at 336-722-4911.

PEC REPORT:



The Provincial Elders' Conference met on August 11 and 25, 2009.

Burkette, Hunter, Hurt, Sapp, Sides and Sparks were present for both meetings. The meetings began with sharing of contacts with pastors and congregations and intercessory prayers. Prayer was also offered for God's presence and blessing upon the upcoming Special Synod. PEC also met with the officers appointed for the Special Synod and the chair of the Provincial Administration/Ministries Task Force on August 25 to plan the agenda for the Special Synod.

Various concerns and opportunities were discussed related to congregations, fellowships and personnel in the Province. The call process continues at Pine Chapel, and possibilities for interim pastoral service at St. Philips were discussed.

PEC continued discussion of plans for the Special Synod scheduled for September 11-12, 2009 and discussed feedback from the workshop for all Special Synod delegates and alternates which was held on August 15. PEC continued discussion of additional plans and appointments for the stated Synod of 2010.

At the recommendation of the Salem Academy and College Board of Trustees, PEC appointed L. Duane Davis to the Academy and College Board of Trustees for a six-year term ending in 2015.

PEC agreed that Hurt and Burkette and the Rev. Worth Green, who were the three Southern Province delegates to Unity Synod, July 27-August 8 in London, England, will present a report on Unity Synod to the Moravian Ministry Association at the annual MMA retreat in September. PEC will also hold an open forum for discussion at the retreat. Bro. David Guthrie was appointed to represent the Province at the annual meeting of Christian Churches Together in January, 2010, when the meeting focus will be on evangelism. Bishop Sam Gray was appointed to serve on the Interprovincial Faith and Order Commission, replacing Bishop Lane Sapp.

Various other matters were discussed and information shared concerning the life and ministry of the Southern Province, including appointment of a three-person Response Team which would be convened if needed to implement the Sexual Misconduct Policy for Clergy of the Southern and Northern Province as contained in the Book of Order, revisions to the Annual Report forms required of congregations and pastors, and agenda items for the joint meeting of the PECs of the Northern and Southern Provinces, August 28-29 in Bethlehem, PA.

The next scheduled meetings of PEC will be on September 15 and October 6, 2009.
(submitted by Wayne Burkette)

Cup of Covenant Services

We hope all clergy, church educators and spouses will have the opportunity to attend a Cup of Covenant service as we together renew our covenant with Christ Jesus our Chief Elder.

A Cup of Covenant service will be held on Monday, **September 21** at the Moravian Ministry Association (MMA) Retreat at Laurel Ridge. Our retreat will be centering upon the reaffirmation of our ordination vows so it is fitting that we should have a Cup of Covenant service while on retreat reaffirming our commitment to the service of Christ in ministry. The MMA Planning Team also thought it would be a great blessing to celebrate Cup of Covenant at retreat with brothers and sisters who serve in other areas and are often unable to be with us when the Cup of Covenant is celebrated in the Winston-Salem area.

An additional opportunity to celebrate the Cup of Covenant will be offered at Calvary Moravian Church on Wednesday, **September 16** at 10 am. This service is offered especially for any of our retired brothers and sisters who may not be able to be present for the Cup of Covenant service at the MMA Retreat.

Reflections on Unity Synod 2009

The Unity Synod of the Unitas Fratrum (Moravian Church) met on July 27-August 7 at the High Leigh Christian Conference Centre, Broxbourne, Herts, UK. The theme of the Synod was “Discerning God’s Mission through Our Unity.” Delegates from the Southern Province were: Wayne Burkette, Donna Hurt and Worth Green.

Unity Synod meets only once every seven years and consists of elected delegates from all the Provinces of the worldwide Unity. The Church Order of the Unitas Fratrum (COUF) says concerning the Unity:

“The Provinces of the Unitas Fratrum are found in many areas of the world and are among many races and of many tongues....As a consequence, the Provinces of the Unity offer a wide variety of economic, social and political development. Yet all are one, without distinction, in their membership in the Unity. Because of this divergence in circumstances and development, some Provinces must of necessity look to other Provinces or to the Unity as a whole for assistance with workers and money, and for encouragement and advice....This support is given and received in a spirit of mutual love and concern, and is an essential feature of the fellowship of the Unitas Fratrum.” (COUF, Constitution of the Unitas Fratrum, paragraph 201)

“Support” and “fellowship” as mentioned in COUF were key components of the 2009 Unity Synod.

“Support” among the Provinces was expressed in terms of hearing and responding to reports from 19 Provinces and three Unity Undertakings, as well as from the Moravian Church Foundation. It was encouraging to hear about the growth of the church in Africa (especially Tanzania), while at the same time sadly recognizing the membership decline in Europe, Great Britain and North America. Delegates were made aware of the cultural differences and circumstances which present unique challenges and opportunities to each Province as it labors to proclaim in deed and word the good news of Jesus Christ.

“Support” was also expressed in the formulation and approval of the Unity Budget for 2010-2017, to which all Provinces contribute according to their ability and capacity. Provinces which enjoy a greater degree of economic development are called to support less economically developed Provinces through contributions to the Unity Budget, New World Witness (now part of a new Unity Mission Development Fund), and the annual Unity Offering.

“Support” was also a guiding principle in the actions of Synod toward internal reorganization and administration improvements including:

- consolidation of categories of Provinces into Unity Provinces and Mission Provinces
- the addition of Costa Rica as a Province and the following as Mission Provinces: Congo, Kigoma (Lake Tanganyika), Zambia, Malawi, Eastern Tanzania and Zanzibar, Northern Tanzania. Kenya, Peru, Burundi, Rwanda and Uganda were named Mission Areas
- creation of a Unity Mission Development Fund and an administrative board to oversee the Fund
- expansion of the Unity Office function to include the Unity Business Administrator position
- drafting the Unity Budget, New World Witness projects and Unity Offering recipients
- reduction of working days for Unity Synods from nine to six

“Fellowship” was a major component of both the time and purpose of Unity Synod. Personal relationships formed and renewed will likely remain a highlight of the Unity Synod experience among the 45 delegates, as well as the personal ties that bind our Provinces together. The “fellowship” of Synod was reinforced by daily worship and Bible study led by different Provinces and enriched

(Continued on page 5)

(Continued from page 4)

by informal (often intentionally humorous) presentations from delegates portraying some aspect of the various Provinces and cultures represented. (Your Southern Province delegates managed to get in a plug for chicken pies!)

On some potentially controversial issues, including the 2002 Unity Synod position statement on homosexuality and the moratorium “on additional changes by the Provinces in this matter,” the Synod took no action. It was apparent that the cultural and theological diversity represented among the Provinces could not be successfully accommodated by a single position statement beyond what the 2002 Synod had agreed upon. Indeed, on most social issues or doctrinal matters beyond the current affirmations of COUF, delegates seemed to agree to disagree and still remain in fellowship with each other. The Synod did approve continuation of the Standing Committee on Theology, but rejected a proposal to determine representation at Unity Synod on the basis of Provincial per capita membership instead of a provincial basis as at present. The Synod was encouraged when it heard the delegates from Honduras speak of the prospects for reconciliation of Moravians in their country – a goal which the official Moravian Church in Honduras delegates affirmed “would come in time.” In the meantime the previously unrecognized Moravian Church in Honduras was designated as a “Unity Undertaking.”

I was reminded at many points throughout the Unity Synod that it is truly the “fellowship” we share as Moravian followers of Jesus and our common heritage lived under the guidance of the Chief Elder that bind us together worldwide. We are not joined by finer points of doctrine or even uniformity of practice, but by our love and respect for each other and our desire to be united in simple devotion to Christ Jesus. In and of themselves, our “support” and our “fellowship” serve as a witness to the world. For it is by our love for each other that the world knows best that we are Jesus’ disciples. (John 13:35)

A complete list of resolutions passed by the Unity Synod may be found on the website: www.moravianunitysynod.org.

(submitted by Wayne Burkette)

Lutherans and Moravians Plan Ten Year Anniversary Celebration

Approximately a decade ago, following the affirmative vote in 1998 of both the Southern and Northern Provinces of the Moravian Church, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) also voted in 1999 to approve the full communion proposal between the two church bodies. It could have remained as words on paper, but in October of 1999, the Lutheran-Moravian Coordinating Committee was established to assist putting feet under the words and in January of 2000, a worship service celebrated the beginning of the new relationship.

The Lutheran-Moravian committee has met on a regular basis over these years, originally centering the discussions around the document, *Following Our Shepherd to Full Communion* and soon creating another document, *Principles for Orderly Exchange of Ordained Ministers of Word and Sacrament*. Four ongoing areas of emphasis have been: mutuality in mission, care of pastors, theological education, and fostering Lutheran-Moravian cooperation in other Lutheran church bodies and provinces of the Moravian Unity.

Now, ten years later, the committee is planning another celebration and worship service. On **January 27, 2010**, you are invited to Augsburg Lutheran Church in Winston-Salem, NC. Plans are underway to honor the ministry that has occurred in the last ten years and explore where God is leading Lutherans and Moravians together in the years ahead. There will be light refreshments at 5:30pm, followed by an informative program at 6:00pm which looks ahead to the future, and worship at 7:30pm.

For more information, please contact Becky Honeycutt at 336-725-5811, 1-888-725-5811, or bhoneycutt@mcs.org.

(submitted by Bob Hunter)

Older Adult Sunday

Sunday, **September 27** is the Day of Prayer for Older Adults in the Southern Province.

The Older Adult Committee has distributed planning ideas and resources for this day.

We encourage congregations to include a focus on older adults as part of worship on the 27th.

Living Invitations: Sharing the Good News!

Saturday, **October 3**, from 9:30am to 3:30pm, Friedberg Moravian Church is hosting an evangelism and outreach event, "Living Invitations: Sharing the Good News!" This is presented by the Evangelism Committee of the BEHM. The day includes: worship, workshops, presentations and discussions, lunch, and a time to 'share the learning' before concluding. Registration deadline: September 25.

Senior Friends Rally

Tuesday, **October 13**, at 12 noon, Advent Moravian Church is hosting the annual Senior Friends Rally. The program includes: a delicious lunch, a musical presentation by "Total Praise," and a great time of fellowship as older adults. Tickets have been mailed to Senior Friend chapter presidents or your congregation's older adult contact. Cost: \$9 for the meal. Canned and non-perishable food items will be received for Sunnyside Ministry.

Invite a Friend Sunday

October 18 is "Invite a Friend" in the Southern Province. Congregations and fellowship are encouraged to have their members invite a friend, relative, acquaintance or neighbor to join them in worship that day. The Evangelism Committee of the BEHM has prepared a guidebook and resources to help plan your congregation's participation.

Details, resources and information for the above events may be found at the BEHM website: <http://www.moravianeveligism.org>

(submitted by David Guthrie)

Latino Ministry Update

The NC Council of Churches is sponsoring "Immigration 101", a half-day workshop (9:30am to noon) for learning about various aspects of immigration in NC. This is a free event, but registration is required. The workshop will be offered in several cities: Charlotte, September 26; Burlington, October 24; Greenville, November 7; and Greensboro, November 14. Break-out session topics include: Immigration Law and Local Enforcement; Faith-Based Settings & Social Challenges facing Immigrant Communities; Immigrants & the Economy; and Immigrants & the Education System. Here is a link for further information and to register: <http://www.welcometheimmigrant.org/events/>

(submitted by David Guthrie)

Moravian Disaster Response

Volunteers needed!

Volunteers are needed now to help build a primary school building at the YWAM "Youth with a Mission" compound in Ahuas, Honduras. Classes at the school are scheduled to begin in February 2010 so there is no time to waste in building the school. Interested persons should have some construction skills.

Please contact Mark Ebert for more information: mebert@mcsp.org; cell-336-225-3540.

(submitted by Mark Ebert, Volunteer Services)

Lunchtime Lectures open September 10

Ask a room-ful of Moravians what is Moravian, and you get a room-ful of answers. Isn't it nice we are so united in our faith.

Two who can give expert perspectives on what is Moravian are C. Daniel Crews, Archivist of the Moravian Church, Southern Province, and Nola Reed Knouse, Director of the Moravian Music Foundation. And they will be doing just that with a new season of Lunchtime Lectures of the Moravian Archives and Moravian Music Foundation at the Archie K. Davis Center in Old Salem.

The series begins Sept 10 with a look at the next publication of the Archives on the Moravians' mission to the Cherokees.

The lectures are given 12:15-12:45pm the second Thursday each month, September through May. They are free and open to the public who are invited to bring their lunch (it isn't provided).

Here is the schedule for the 2009-2010 season of "Lunchtime Lectures":

- **Sept. 10:** "Cherokee Update" with Daniel Crews;
- **Oct. 8:** "Moravian Ideals 1: Devotion to the Savior" with Daniel Crews and Nola Knouse;
- **Nov. 12:** "Moravian Ideals 2: Simplicity and Stillness" with Daniel Crews and Nola Knouse;
- **Dec. 10:** "Moravian Ideals 3: Community and Fellowship" with Daniel Crews and Nola Knouse;
- **Jan. 14:** "Moravian Ideals 4: 'Chosen' but not 'Exclusive'" with Daniel Crews and Nola Knouse;
- **Feb. 11:** "Br. Reuter, Community Member and Wachovia Shaper" with guest lecturer William Hinman;
- **March 11:** "Moravian Ideals 5: Faith Manifested in Works" with Daniel Crews and Nola Knouse;
- **April 8:** "Alexander Meinung, Salem Musician" with Philip Dunigan, Moravian Music Foundation researcher;
- **May 13:** "Moravian Ideals 6: Looking Forward to Life Eternal in the Presence of the Savior" with Daniel Crews and Nola Knouse.

The Moravian Widow's Society Annual Meeting

All members are invited to attend the annual meeting of the Moravian Widow's Society on **October 29** at 7pm in Cedarhyrst Conference Room.

The Moravian Widow's Society is open for membership to all Moravian men who are married and have not attained the age of 61. The one time cost of \$100 is for men 50 and under. Those who are over 50 may join by paying the \$100 plus \$5 per year for every year over 50.

The widow of a Widow's Society member would receive two checks per year (March and September) as long as she lives. At present 71 widows receive checks for \$255, or \$510 a year. Applications are on the provincial web site at [mcp.org>Resources>Widow's Society] or mailed by calling the Treasurer's Office at 336-722-7922.

If you have questions, please call Dr. Bill Campbell at 336-403-3209.

(submitted by Bill Campbell)

The Mathias Concert

Saturday, **November 7**, 2009 at 7:30 p.m.
Hanes Auditorium, Salem Fine Arts Center, Winston-Salem, NC

The 5th annual Mathias Concert will feature a great variety of choral and orchestral works. The concert will feature Salem College Choirs and Orchestra as well as a guest Moravian Church Choir and a Salem Trombone Choir. The concert will culminate with combined choral-orchestral selections including the guest choir.

This annual concert is made possible by the William H. and Helen Olsen Mathias Endowed Music Excellence Fund. The fund was established by Ginger Bowman and family in 2003.

2010 Provincial Budget Presentation

Pastors, congregational leaders and **Synod Delegates** are cordially invited to this year's 2010 Provincial Budget Presentation to be held at New Philadelphia Moravian Church on Friday, September 11, 2009, beginning at 4:30pm. The presentation is taking place this year immediately before the Special Synod so that hopefully many of the out of town members who are here for the Synod will be able to attend when normally time and distance doesn't allow them to participate.

While many of those attending this year's presentation will also be attending Synod, everyone is welcome to stay for dinner starting at 6pm. If you are coming to the presentation and are **not** a synod delegate but would like to stay for dinner we need to be sure that we have you in our headcount for dinner. Reservation forms for indicating this have already been sent to all churches. Please return your forms no later than September 4, 2009. If you have not received your reservation form, please call Lynda Culler at (336) 722-7922.

Information on the 2010 Provincial Budget will be sent to all churches in advance of the presentation and we will again have an opportunity for questions and answers. Hopefully by getting this information ahead of time, those attending the presentation will be in a better position to get any of their questions or concerns addressed.

In that regard, we would appreciate receiving your questions ahead of time, if possible, so that the Provincial Financial Board and/or the Treasurer's Office will be prepared to answer your questions. Our goal is to share as much information as possible without overwhelming you with too much detail. Please feel free to ask questions about the budget process, about specific budgets or about the Province's audited financial statements. Questions should be sent to Ted Leinbach, Provincial Treasurer, via e-mail at "tleinbach@mcs.org" or mail to 459 South Church St., Winston-Salem, NC, 27101.

Please keep in mind that the 2010 Provincial Budget has been prepared without regard to any effects from the proposed restructuring. Synod

delegates are encouraged to attend the budget presentation though to gain a better understanding of what is currently supported by the overall Provincial budget and the challenges and benefits that the proposed restructuring plan may create. *(submitted by the Provincial Financial Board)*

From The Provincial Treasurer's Office

Unity Offering – I just wanted to say "Thank You" to the churches that collected money for the Unity Offering this year. This year's worldwide project was in support of "youth work within the Unity." Unfortunately, the amount of the Southern Province's support was down significantly, both in terms of dollars and in the number of churches that participated. This year we collected only about \$2,000 versus over \$10,000 last year. Also, this year we received contributions from only six churches (Home, King, Konnoak Hills, Macedonia, New Beginnings and Olivet) while last year 15 churches participated. It is a shame that all churches don't allow their congregations to support this world-wide second mile giving opportunity.

2008 Audited Financials of the Province

The 2008 audited financial statements of the Province are now available on the web at www.mcs.org. On the home page, use the link to "Resources" and then "Provincial Finances." While most people prefer the electronic version, if you need a bound copy of this report just let me know. It is 20 pages long and makes for interesting reading! (?)

(submitted by Ted Leinbach, Provincial Treasurer)

Newsletter Notes

From around the Southern Province

Kernersville is brightening its church property by installing outdoor lighting. Four lights are replacements; six are new. The cost will be added to the monthly electric bill.

Two more signs have been brought to our attention. **Unity** has a handsome brick one complete with arch and Moravian seal. And at last, at last, **Laurel Ridge** has a sign that we can see before we pass it on the highway. It's made of stone — very fitting for our camp and conference center in the mountains.

With almost \$400,000 raised or pledged, **Hopewell** has set about building a new fellowship hall. Demolition began in July, and the next week construction began. Hopewell is mindful of costs, and so it is acting as its own general contractor, either subbing out or calling on volunteers in the church.

Union Cross plans to “grow” its building fund with a plant sale and breakfast in September. Plant contributions gladly accepted. Kudzu need not apply.

Meanwhile, **Oak Grove** got a preliminary budget proposal from the contractor for its renovations and improvements — and it's back to reviewing plans. The idea is to be *prudent* with cost, yet *uncompromising* with quality.

A Barbara Giesler report (very bubbly, of course) on the first **Moravian Music Festival** of the Southern Province held outside Salem (it was at Belmont Abbey): It was wonderful! just wonderful! and all the concerts were marvelous, and many Winston-Salem churches sent bus-loads of members, so attendance was full every evening, and did you enjoy the dozen Rollins College music students that Festival Director John Sinclair brought to the **Archives**? Oh, yes, we replied, they had the run of the Davis Center for three straight days. And then to pay for their “nuisance,” they gave a mini-concert with the music that they had found in the **Moravian Music Foundation**. It was, to borrow a Barbara Giesler word, wonderful!

— Richard W. Starbuck, *Moravian Archives*

MISSION:POSSIBLE

The Southern Province Mission Society invites you to attend our first MISSION: POSSIBLE sharing time at Christ Moravian Fellowship Building at 6 pm on **September 13**, 2009. The ENYA Mission Team will share their experiences this summer at the Ray of Hope Orphanage in Kenya. Ted Kimball will lead us in music for our opening worship.

Formerly called the First Friday Prayer Gathering, MISSION: POSSIBLE will meet monthly on Sunday evenings at 6 pm as follows:

September 13 – Kenya

October 4 – Sarah Atwood – Costa Rica – Music by Ted Kimball

November 8 – Roman Brady – Costa Rica – Music by Roman Brady

December 6 – Rick Nelson – Honduras – Music by Escaping Inertia – Youth Praise

Please join us for heartfelt worship, inspiring mission news, and Spirit-led prayer for God's work around the world.

Glenna Tasedan has spent the last six months as a pastoral intern in Labrador. She will be sharing her experiences at:

- Clemmons Moravian Breakfast, **September 13** at 8:30am and at
- Bethabara on **September 20** at 9:45 am

Special Synod 2009
September 11-12
New Philadelphia Moravian
Church

Moravian Ministry Association Retreat

“The Vows We Make” - *Attending to the Call*

September 21-24, 2009

Laurel Ridge Camp & Conference Center

Guiding Scripture: Matthew 28:18c, 19, 20

Guiding Documents: “Liturgy for Ordination” & “A Christian Educator Manual”

The MMA Retreat is only a few weeks away now, and the MMA Team is hoping to see you there! “The Vows We Make” - *Attending to the Call*, is planned to consider the vows made at the time of ordination, stated in the “Book of Order.” They are: study, pray, care for souls, preach, and administer the sacraments. As such, they guide the life and work of the whole congregation through the leadership of the pastor, educator, and boards, etc. as well as provincial staff. We all work under these vows! They are the ones to which we, clergy, spouses, educators, youth leaders covenant each September at Cup of Covenant.

Spouses are welcome to attend the Appreciation Dinner and the Cup of Covenant. In order to help us prepare for the number of guests coming, contact hstevenson@mosp.org by September 9th if your spouse will be attending these two events. Contact the Laurel Ridge Office by September 9th if your spouse desires to reserve a room Monday night.

Sessions are planned to provide opportunity for theological, academic, educatory, and reflective discussions with the hope of being inclusive of all participants. Whole group, small group, and solitude time frames are built into various sessions. God willing, at least three of our bishops will lead! On each day, Tuesday and Wednesday, an optional session will be provided during the free time for pastors/educators on children’s sermon and Communion for Baptized Children. A resource table with resources for clergy, educators, and youth leaders will be available Tuesday and Wednesday for perusal. The complete schedule with time frames will be emailed to the MMA listing.

Schedule Overview:

Monday- Arrival

1:30 - 3:30pm - Registration

4pm - Introductions and Gathering Activities

4:45pm - "Joyful News" from **Compensation & Benefits**

5:30pm - Getting re-acquainted

6pm - Appreciation Banquet for clergy, spouses, educators, youth leaders, provincial staff and colleagues from the various agencies and institutions to which we hold dear.

7:15pm **Cup of Covenant – Leaders: David Guthrie, Rick Sides**

Tuesday **Study – Leaders: MMA Team**

Pray – Guided and free prayers for the Unity

Care for Souls – Leader: Lane Sapp

Special Events: Unity Synod Report and Conversations with PEC

Wednesday **Preach – Leader: Sam Gray**
Administer the Sacraments – Leader: Wayne Burkette
Special Events: Worship and Holy Communion

Thursday Morning- **Departure 9:30am**

What to Bring:

- Favorite Study Bible
- Work clothes for mission service at LR, if desired
- Afternoon opportunities may include bowling, shopping, crafting, hiking, napping, etc.
Golf is planned at Roaring Gap Club. Folks are more than welcome to play on Monday, September 21 or Wednesday, September 23. The club has existing conflicts on Tuesday and Thursday. There are no green fees and if you want a cart it is \$20 per person per 18 holes (i.e., \$40 per round for the cart).
- Crafts, Games and/or Band (Music) Instruments
- Favorite snacks to share at “Amazin’ Grazin’” Table
- **\$40 in cash or check made out to MMA (give to John G. Rights)**
(submitted by J. Knopf for the MMA Planning Team)

Registration

Please enclose a contribution of **\$40.00** (payable to MMA). Although some of the costs of the retreat are covered by an endowment, your contribution will help pay MMA expenses for the coming year.

Mail to: Laurel Ridge, 124 Pendry Drive, Laurel Springs, NC 28644 (888) 831-5922

Registration Due: No later than **September 9.**

Name: _____ Email: _____

Congregation: _____ Phone: _____

Lodging Preference **

_____ Bishops Wing	_____ Salem Wing	_____ Summer Camp
_____ Higgins Lodge	_____ Higgins Lodge	

Roommate: _____

Dietary or other concerns or requests: _____

Lodging in the New Wing (Salem Wing) of Higgins Lodge will be filled on a **first come first serve basis. Tise will not be used this year for lodging.

Laurel Ridge strives to honor all requests, but may have to adjust due to registrants’ health needs, ages, etc. Thank you for your compassionate understanding.



Address Book

Joe Hoover-DCE Rural Hall Moravian
nmpoppa@windstream.net

Richard & June Shamel:
PO Box 30174
Winston-Salem, NC 27130-0174
(house didn't change but address did)

Moravian Church, Western District:
www.MoravianWest.org

*Deadline for the **October** Issue of
Provincial Ties is **September 24***

For Your Calendar

Holiday	Sept 7
Provincial Financial Board Meeting	Sept 8
Provincial Women's Board Meeting@ New Philadelphia-Parlor-12:30pm.....	Sept 11
Provincial Stewardship Presentation, 4:30-6pm @New Philadelphia	Sept 11
Prayer Day-Christian Education	Sept 13
PEC Meeting.....	Sept 15
BEHM Meeting.....	Sept 17
Provincial Women's Board Fall Celebration...Sept	19
FL District Board	Sept 19
Clergy/DCE Retreat@Laurel Ridge.....	Sept 21-24
Prayer Day-Older Adults	Sept 27
Knouse Ordination@Home-4pm	Sept 27

Provincial Ties

Moravian Church in America, South
Provincial Elders' Conference
459 S. Church Street
Winston-Salem, NC 27101

www.mcsp.org

