

Provincial Ties

A Different Kind of Synod

The 2010 Synod Planning Committee is envisioning a different kind of Synod for this coming September 9-12 at Blue Ridge Assembly in Black Mountain, NC. In keeping with some of the recommendations of the Provincial Administration/Ministries Task Force and the Synod Study Commission, as well as the actions of the Special Synod of 2009, the 2010 Synod will focus on discernment of God's vision for the future ministry and mission of the Southern Province. The result that is expected will mean perhaps fewer resolutions related to purely "tactical" or administrative matters and more direction or "vision" for the Province for the next four years.

Of course, some aspects of Synod will not change. As the "supreme legislative power of the Province," the Synod will elect persons to the Provincial Elders' Conference and other elected boards and agencies, consider resolutions related to church government and finances, and generally attend to the necessary "business" of Synod.

However, the majority of delegates' work at Synod will take place in one of four Covenant Partner Groups, each of which will discuss important questions about where and how God is at work in the church and in the world, and where God is leading His church. The discernment of each Covenant Partner Group will also explore the connection between God's leading and the characteristics of congregational health as identified by the Provincial Administration/Ministries Task Force and affirmed by the Special Synod of 2009. The work of the Covenant Partner Groups will provide strategic direction and priorities which will guide the PEC and our congregations in our mutual ministry over the next intersynodal period.

While the 2010 synod will have a new look in many ways, one thing will definitely remain the same - opportunities for inspiring worship and rich fellowship together as sisters and brothers in Christ.

Delegates to the 2010 Synod are reminded of the pre-synod meeting on **May 1** at Kernersville Moravian Church, Kernersville, NC. This pre-synod meeting will mark the beginning of Synod's discernment of the leading of our Lord who says, "See, I am making all things new." (Rev. 21:5)

(submitted by Wayne Burkette)

Synod 2010

Behold I am Making All Things New: God's Gifts for God's Vision

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

“BLESSED IS THE ONE WHO COMES IN THE NAME OF THE LORD!”

MARK 11:9

OUR PRAYERS ARE WITH . . .

Deaths:

Brother **Chris Weber**, brother of **Riddick Weber**-Pastor and MTS professor, passed away on March 4 in Seattle, Washington.

Bishop **Stanley Thomas**, a longtime Staten Island, New York resident passed away on March 6 of complications from injuries suffered in a January car accident.

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

Illness:

Brother **Hal Cole**, Moravian Minister
Sister **Jill Sawyer**, wife of **Bob Sawyer**, Moravian Minister

Our prayers are with these.

Pastoral Changes:

Brother **Gerald Harris**, Pastor of Home Moravian Church, has requested and been granted permission to retire from the active ministry of the Moravian Church effective April 4, 2010. He has served pastorates in Wisconsin, New York, Maryland, and at Home Church for the past 14 years. We express deep appreciation to Jerry and Sherri for more than 32 years of service to the Moravian Church and pray for them God’s blessing for the future.

Brother **Scott Venable** has accepted the call to become pastor of Fairview Moravian Church in Winston-Salem, NC. For the past 12 years he has served as an associate pastor at Home Moravian Church in Winston-Salem, NC. Brother Venable will be installed by Bishop Wayne Burkette on April 18.

Congratulations!

Ordination Anniversaries

April

George Chiddie.....	57 years
Richard Spaugh.....	43 years
Phil Bauguess.....	35 years
Keith White.....	31 years
Terrence Alspaugh.....	22 years
Wayne Byerly	13 years
Riddick Weber	8 years



Congratulations and God Bless You!

Births:



Micah and Kristen Christman of Eden, North Carolina have been blessed with the birth of a son, **Reed William Christman** on February 26. Proud grandparents are **Arlean and John Christman**, Moravian Minister.

Stacy Brown and Evan Morgan Israel have been blessed with the birth of a daughter, **Abigail Grace Israel**, on March 7 in Asheville, North Carolina. Proud grandparents are **Jerry and Willie Israel**-Pastor of Rolling Hills Moravian Church in Longwood, Florida.

David and Christy Clore-Associate Pastor at Home Moravian Church, have been blessed with the birth of a son, **Miles Lewis Clore**, on March 28 in Winston-Salem, North Carolina. Proud grandmother is **Audrey Parsons**, Moravian Church Certified Educator.

Congratulations!

PEC REPORT:



The Provincial Elders' Conference met on March 2 and 16, 2010. All members of the Conference were present for both meetings, and each meeting began with sharing of contacts with pastors and congregations followed by a time of intercessory prayer. The March 2 meeting was an all-day session with much of the time devoted to discussion and planning for the 2010 Synod.

Various concerns and opportunities were discussed related to congregations, fellowships and personnel in the Province. Cheryl Cottingham has accepted the call to serve as pastor of Immanuel-New Eden and was installed on March 14. She will be ordained on April 18 by Bishop J. C. Hughes at Kernersville Moravian Church. The Rev. Scott Venable, Associate Pastor of Home Church, has returned to pastoral service from his medical leave of absence and has accepted the call to serve as pastor of the Fairview Congregation. He will be installed at Fairview on April 18. The PEC continues to work with the Joint Boards of Hopewell through the call process. The Rev. Gerald Harris, Pastor of Home Church, has requested and been granted permission to retire from the active ministry of the Moravian Church, effective April 4, 2010. The PEC expresses gratitude to Bro. Harris for more than 32 years of ordained service to both the Southern and Northern Provinces of the Moravian Church in America. Bro. Alphonso Gaydon was approved and received as a congregational acolyte at St. Philips Moravian Church. A Triennial Review is scheduled at Mt. Bethel for April 12.

PEC received reports on the work of the Structure Implementation Steering Committee, the Commission on Ordained Ministry and the Planning Committee for the stated Synod of September, 2010. PEC referred to the bishops the concern for how to stay in closer contact and communication with the retired pastors in the Province, and the bishops have agreed to formu-

late and implement a plan. Moravian Church Educators serving in the Province have been offered scholarships by the PEC to attend the October meeting of the Association of Presbyterian Church Educators which will be held at Laurel Ridge.

There was discussion concerning the best time for the annual joint meeting of the PECs - Southern Province and Northern Province - following the 2010 synods of both provinces. Burkette will represent the Southern Province PEC as an advisory delegate to the Northern Province Synod in June, 2010.

Various other matters, as well as requests and questions from congregations and pastors, were discussed and information shared concerning the ongoing ministries of the Province. The next scheduled meeting of the PEC will be on April 15, 2010.

(submitted by Wayne Burkette)

Hope on the Inside

Friday, April 9

Forsyth Jail and Prison Ministries' annual Hope on the Inside outreach will feature national speaker and author of Championship Fathering, Carey Casey. His storytelling and passion to encourage men to be championship fathers will inspire men and women. Come hear Carey speak on Friday, **April 9th**, 7:00pm at First Presbyterian Church's Worship Center, 200 N. Cherry Street, Winston-Salem. An offering to support Forsyth Jail and Prison Ministries' mission of using Christ's love and forgiveness to transform lives and break the cycle of crime and punishment will be received that evening. Call the ministry's office for more information, 336-759-0063, or visit the website:

www.forsythjpm.org .

(submitted by Robert Wolfe)

Great Sabbath Service of Music

Saturday, April 3, 7pm

Home Moravian Church

Everyone is invited to attend!

Drake Flynt, Conductor;

Mary Louise Peoples, Organist

(sponsored by Salem Congregation)

Mission Awareness Dinner

Sunday, May 2

Fulp Moravian Church, 1556 US 311 Hwy S., Walnut Cove, NC 27052 will be the host for the annual Mission Society Mission Awareness Dinner on Sunday, **May 2**, 5:00pm.

We are honored to have several missionaries to share their stories with us. Justin Rabbach from Wisconsin will share about his ministry with New Strength Youth Teams and the Antioch Project. Justin will be serving in Costa Rica this summer as a coordinator for teams working at the School of Music and Worship there. The Haiti Medical Team, led by Susan Cook of New Philadelphia, traveled to Haiti in March and will share about assistance provided to the earthquake victims. The young adult team, led by Leah Weatherman, which traveled to Honduras the first of the year will share about their many interesting experiences. Our times of music and worship will be led by Provincial musicians, coordinated by Bishop Sam Gray, and the Fulp Moravian Praise Group, coordinated by the Rev. Dan Nelson. The Moravian Band, coordinated by Ted Kimball, will play chorales beginning at 4:30pm.

Please come and join us for a delicious meal prepared by the Women's Fellowship of Fulp Moravian beginning at 5:00pm. Make your reservation by sending a check for \$9.00 to Sheila Beaman, 500 S. Church St., Winston-Salem, NC 27101. For more information, call 336-773-1732.

(submitted by Sheila Beaman)

Psst, June 6: 'D-Day'

June 6 will be D-Day. That's "Daniel Day" at the Archie K. Davis Center in Salem.

The Davis Center will hold open house 2-4 p.m. Sunday, **June 6**.

Everyone is invited. And it's all in honor of the 40th anniversary of Archivist C. Daniel Crews's ministerial service to the Moravian Church.

More to come. See you June 6.

(submitted by Richard Starbuck)

Piedmont Wind Symphony Benefit Concert

Thursday, April 8—7:30pm
Home Moravian Church

Proceeds to benefit piano purchase for sanctuary and relief work in Haiti. Tickets: Adults—\$15 in advance (\$20 at the door), Students \$10. Contact Lynda Alexander at Home Church for tickets or additional information, 336-722-6171 or

lalexader@homemoravian.org.

(submitted by Lynda Alexander)

3rd Annual Mayor's Healthy Lifestyle Day For Seniors

Wednesday, April 21

9am – Noon at

Salemtowne

If you are age 55 or older, join us for a FREE fun & informative event — Mayor Allen Joines will kick off the day!

- Evaluate your physical condition through various tests administered by students from WFU Dept. of Health and Exercise Science.
- Learn simple ways to stay physically active
- Hear nutritional advice from Dietician Julie Lanford of Cancer Services, Inc.
- Great door prizes including a personal training session with the mayor and his personal trainer and a Wii video game system
- Try balance exercises, yoga, Wii bowling, and more

Sponsored by: Salemtowne, City of Winston-Salem, WFU Dept. of Health and Exercise Sciences and the Forsyth County Aging Services Planning Committee

Concert Benefiting Hospice

On Saturday, **April 17 @ 4pm**, Macedonia Moravian Church in Advance, NC will host a concert by Steve Gray and family benefiting Hospice. This concert is in memory of Heather Revis with all proceeds given to hospice.

Evangelism Cafe

Conversation: April 24

The Evangelism Committee is hosting an informal "cafe conversation" Saturday, **April 24** from 9am until 10:30am. You are invited to join in as we listen, share, and learn what others are doing in the area of outreach and sharing the Good News. And, we're buying your first cup of coffee!

Location: Chelsea's Coffee Shop and More, 533 N. Trade Street, Winston-Salem. Space is limited! Please RSVP to reserve your spot: behm@mccsp.org.

Living Invitations: Sharing the Good News

Save the date! Saturday, **October 2, 2010** is scheduled for our second "Living Invitations" evangelism event. The Rev. Fred Lehr, Director of Church Planting, Moravian Church Northern Province will be our speaker and program leader. Watch for details in the months ahead.

Latino Ministries Gathering

Twenty-eight participants and nine leaders from 20 congregations gathered at Bethabara Moravian Church March 20 for "La Familia Morava Comparte la Mesa Con Todos" (The Moravian Family Shares the Table Together). Fourteen of the participants were from our Florida District churches and fellowships. Dr. Maria Teresa Palmer preached at the opening worship on the theme: "From Hostility to Hospitality". Green Street United Methodist Church shared what they are doing in Latino ministry, and also the important work of the Institute for Dismantling Racism. Bethabara Moravian shared stories from their journey into ministry to Spanish-speaking neighbors, including the challenges and blessings they have experienced along the way. Judith Justice and Illovis Gonzales, from New Hope Moravian Church (Miami), explained the efforts at New Hope to reach out to Latinos in their multicultural context. The program concluded with small group sharing about insights, challenges, and next steps in Latino min-

istries in our Province. A delicious lunch of Peruvian, Mexican, Salvadoran and American foods was accompanied by live, bi-lingual music provided by members of the Regalado family.

Senior Friends Retreat at Laurel Ridge

The annual retreat for older adults, sponsored by the Senior Friends, will be **April 26-28, 2010** at Higgins Lodge, at Laurel Ridge. Our speaker will be the Rev. Jon Boling, pastor of Ardmore Moravian Church. His topic: "The Longer I Serve Him: Celebrating Jesus Year after Year." Come to the mountains to enjoy fellowship, worship, learning, recreation and good food. Experience the beauty of God's creation and celebrate our Moravian heritage. Cost: \$130 for Salem wing with private bath; \$110 for Bishop's wing, two rooms share one bath. Registration deadline: April 15. For information and registration materials: <http://moravianeveligism.org/?p=422>.

Earth Day Sunday

April 25, 2010

The Eco-Justice program of the National Council of Churches has published an Earth Day Sunday resource: **Sacred Spaces and an Abundant Life: Worship Spaces as Stewardship**. The blessings of God are evident all around us, including in the sacred spaces that make up our houses of worship. Even as we are blessed as communities of faith with gathering places for our worship and ministry, we have responsibilities to be good stewards of these sacred spaces. The 300,000 houses of worship in the United States spend more than \$2 billion on energy each year. The congregations in our Province spent a collective total of \$1.2 million on utilities in 2009. To download this resource: <http://ncecojustice.org/resources/#earthdaysundayresources>.

(submitted by David Guthrie)

From The Provincial Treasurer's Office

Health Insurance – Good News, Bad News!

We have renewed our health insurance contract with Aetna effective April 1, 2010 and the Good News is that we did a good job of estimating the increase in rates when setting the budget rates for 2010. We anticipated a 15% increase and we got a 15.3% increase. The Bad News is that it is a 15.3% increase! This is driven almost entirely by our ever increasing claims costs, especially with respect to prescription drugs. We did solicit competitive bids from other providers, most notably BlueCross BlueShield, United Health Care and CIGNA but their increases were even more than Aetna's.

Provincial Share Support – Despite the state of the economy and its impact on our churches, we closed 2009 in pretty good shape. Said another way, I guess it could have been worse. We ended up with 17 churches falling short in 2009 (versus 15 in 2008) for an overall shortfall of 9%. When we started 2009, I was afraid it could have been much worse. Our contingency plans at the Provincial level (i.e. salary freeze, spending cuts, etc.) allowed us to absorb this revenue shortfall.

2009 Church Audits – Audits of all churches are due in the Treasurer's Office by May 15, 2010. Instructions and forms went out to all Church Treasurers and Trustee Chairs in February. If no one at your church seems to have gotten this information, please just give us a call and we can send you another copy.

(submitted by Ted Leinbach, Provincial Treasurer)

Ministers Care Plan

Confidential pastoral counseling and referral for ministers and their families

Call CareNet at 336-716-7339 for the center closest to you.

Sunnyside Ministry Participates in Feinstein Challenge

Sunnyside Ministry is participating in the 13th annual Feinstein Challenge to be held during March and April of this year. We are very excited to be part of this generous event. Each year, Alan Feinstein donates \$1 million to be divided among agencies nationwide who work to prevent hunger.

How does it work? The Feinstein Challenge is a matching program. Donations received from March 1st through April 30th will be matched. This includes monetary donations and food items (valued at \$1.00 per pound). Our share of the \$1 million will be based on the donations we receive during the challenge.

How can you help? Consider making your annual donation, or an extra donation, during March or April. Ask your club or church group to collect non-perishable food items for Sunnyside. Donating during the challenge will make your contribution go farther!

Please note "Feinstein Challenge" on your checks and food donations so they can be counted for this campaign. All donations must be received by April 30th to be matched.

Go to www.feinsteinfoundation.org to learn more.

Salem's Musical Meinung

The "Lunchtime Lecture" series of the Moravian Archives and Moravian Music Foundation will take another break in April from its "Moravian Ideals" theme to present a guest speaker and topic. Philip Dunigan, retired School of the Arts flute instructor now avid Music Foundation rummager, will speak on "Alexander Meinung, Salem Musician" at 12:15-12:45 p.m. April 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.

Newsletter Notes

From around the Southern Province

Leaksville is going green by not buying or providing paper or plastic plates and eating utensils for church functions. The plates, glasses, and flatware in the church kitchen can be used instead. That should save space in landfills. Now Leaksville needs a commercial dishwasher. Cost: about \$4,000.

New Philadelphia's columbarium will have a new wrinkle for us old Moravians: opportunity to suspend the Choir system. It will have 96 niches with "shared" space for two people. Otherwise, the existing graveyard regulations will apply with minor modifications.

Did you know there are two couples buried together in the Salem God's Acre: Frederic William and Hedwig Marshall and Edward and Mary Rondthaler. Br. Marshall was our "Senior Civilis" (administrator) and town builder of Salem in the 18th century, and Br. Rondthaler led the Southern Province in its years of greatest growth in the early 20th century. The Marshalls and the Rondthalers are buried together, except that the central walkway assures that they are in their proper Choirs. So here too the Choir system applies, as it generally does throughout Salem God's Acre.

As Easter approaches, **Raleigh** sets up its "Easter Putz," which depicts scenes of Holy Week and each day changes to reflect the events through the Resurrection. A comment heard one Easter Sunday from a youngster inspecting the tomb: "Yup, he's out!"

Last month's note about **Raleigh's** "first annual Putzing Advent-ure" drew a phone call from Keith Hege of **Calvary**, who frankly would find it difficult to transport his Putz to the capital city. Br. Hege's Putz sits on six 4x8-foot sheets of plywood for a total of 192 square feet. It has an entire town, with a church and a mill and of course a nativity scene with a Moravian star. P.W. Blum did the pond and bent metal to make the stream, and yes, said Br. Hege, "there's actual water."

— *Richard W. Starbuck, Moravian Archives*

Easter 'firsts'

Here is a seasonal question with a tricky answer.

When was the first Easter Sunrise Service in Salem? Answer: March 31, 1771.

BUT it wasn't held outdoors. God's Acre had not yet been consecrated with a burial. Besides, it rained. So the service was held in the two-story house ("Second House") on the northwest corner of Main and Bank Streets.

The next year, 1772, the service was again held indoors. The graveyard had been consecrated with a burial, but once again it rained.

The first Easter Sunrise Service in Salem on the graveyard was April 11, 1773.

Of course it was Bethabara which had the first Easter services in Wachovia: April 14, 1754, and March 26, 1758, on the graveyard after the first burial.

Next question: Does the band play the same chorales on the early Easter rounds and to accompany the congregation to God's Acre? Answer: Nobody knows. Not even Nola Reed Knouse, director of the Moravian Music Foundation. Most likely the band then was too busy playing to write it down.

Over the years we have fine tuned a bit. The service itself has added a few hymns more than our 18th-century hymnals. Beethoven's "Creation Hymn" was probably added shortly after the Civil War. Four or five years ago Bands 1 and 2 added a couple of tunes to their antiphonal playing.

But basically bands now and then could recognize and play most of each other's tunes. And probably we would agree to begin the early Easter rounds with 230 A: "Wake, awake for night is flying. . . ."

— *Richard W. Starbuck, Moravian Archives*

*Deadline for the May Issue of
Provincial Ties is April 29*



Address Book

Ramona Spencer:
pastorr.r.spencer@bellsouth.net

Hope Moravian Church:
www.hopemoraviannc.org

Mountain Laurel Moravian Fellowship - Meeting at Transou UMC, Laurel Springs, 2nd and 4th Sunday, 11 a.m.
Mr. **Mike Warren**, Coordinator
124 Pendry Dr, Laurel Springs, NC 28644
336-359-8161 (h) 336-359-2951 (LR)
mrwarren@skybest.com
Contact person: **Teresa Baldwin** 336-982-6098

For Your Calendar

Holiday.....	Apr 5
Lunchtime Series-Davis Ctr-12:15pm	Apr 8
Provincial Women's Board Meeting.....	Apr 8
PEC Meeting.....	Apr 15
Provincial Women's Spiritual Life Retreat@ Laurel Ridge.....	Apr 16-18
S.Venable installed@Fairview 10am.....	Apr 18
Cottingham ordination@Kernersville-3pm...	Apr 18
MTS Trustees.....	Apr 20-21
Moravian College Trustees	Apr 22-23
Prayer Day-Bd of Evangelism & Hm Missions...	Apr 25
Senior Friends Retreat at Laurel Ridge.....	Apr 26-28
Pre-Synod Meeting@Kernersville Moravian Church, 8:30am-3:30pm	May 1

Provincial Ties

*Moravian Church in America, South
Provincial Elders' Conference
459 S. Church Street
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