

The Joyful Noise Newsletter

Schoeneck Moravian Church
January 2025

Happy New Year!

It's that time...to look back and look forward. The news is full of lists of best of 2024 and what to look forward to in 2025. Side note, what are they thinking putting out best of the year lists in the first week of December, don't they think anything interesting might happen in the last month of the year? It's the 25th anniversary of Y2K, so there are a bunch of nostalgic looks back at what could have happened but didn't, and weren't we all a little disappointed that nothing fun happened? Another side note: I was working for a software company at the end of 1999, and nothing fun happened because a bunch of tech folks who knew about the problem for years put in 100+ hour work weeks in December so that the year turning over could be uneventful. Just in case though I grabbed my 10 favorite CDs, a box of batteries for my Discman, and hopped a flight to spend the holiday with my girlfriend in Los Angeles. I figured that if something was going to happen, Los Angeles was a good bet, and at least I'd be there for the adventure.

As noted, it's not just about looking back, the calendar turning over is a chance to look forward. To take stock of where we've just been and what's to come. For Schoeneck the look back includes the calling of a new pastor (yay!) and all that comes along with it, the embracing of traditions, a letting go of some ways of doing things and the revival of a few we haven't experienced in a while. Looking forward, how are the balance of firsts for me going to play out? By the time you read this, we'll likely be about to go through our inaugural Christmas together...or be just on the other side of it, how did it go? Church Council, Lent, Holy Week and Easter are all to come. We're preparing to live our faith as God's people in the midst of unpredictable political and economic conditions, anyone who says they know exactly what is going to happen will likely miss the mark, We do know that, as much as any time in history, our neighborhood, community and nation needs us to be the gospel people God has called us to be.

That may be the message imbedded in my nostalgic look back at Y2K. No, not the drop everything and run off to sunny California part, the steady incremental work of making things better, bit by bit. My co-workers writing code at that long ago computer company absolutely loved the challenge of making things right, I invite us as to do likewise, prepare ourselves with an openness to grace, and make our part of the world better for the sheer joy of being part of God's plan.

Oh, and if New Year's Eve is still ahead of you as you read this, shout and sing extra loud as the calendar flips over, for the sheer joy of being part of a new number on the calendar, and because it's just good to bring light into the dark time of the year.

Pastor Ian

HAPPY NEW YEAR
2025!

Worship the Lord with Us!

In the birth of Christ, God shone His light not just for those living nearby, but those in far off lands. His star shined across the lands so that many would see and come. The season of Epiphany reminds us of this, that the Lord came to bring salvation not just to a select group, but to all people. Let us journey with the Wisemen from a distant land to come see the Christ Child.

Sunday, January 5—Worship Services—8:00 AM & 10:30 AM. Joyful Noise.

Second Sunday after Christmas. Epiphany Holy Communion.

"God has made known to us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure that he set forth in Christ."
Ephesians 1:9 Watchword

Sunday, January 12—Worship Services—8:00 AM & 10:30 AM.

First Sunday after the Epiphany.

"God said, "Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine.""
Isaiah 43:1 Watchword

Sunday, January 19—Worship Services—8:00 AM & 10:30 AM.

Second Sunday after the Epiphany.

"Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same spirit; and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord."
1 Corinthians 12:4-5 Watchword

Sunday, January 26—Worship Services—8:00 AM & 10:30 AM.

Third Sunday after the Epiphany.

"Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable to you, O Lord, my rock and my redeemer."
Psalm 19:14 Watchword

February Worship Services

Sunday, February 2—Worship Service—10:30 AM.

Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany.

Church Council Meeting after Worship Service.

Sunday, February 9—Worship Service—8:00 AM & 10:30 AM.

Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany.

Mission Lovefeast.

Sunday, February 16—Worship Service—8:00 AM & 10:30 AM.

Sixth Sunday after the Epiphany.

Sunday, February 23—Worship Service—8:00 AM & 10:30 AM.

Seventh Sunday after the Epiphany.

Lent



The Season of Lent will begin on Wednesday, March 5, 2025 with Ash Wednesday. Schoeneck Moravian Church will be hosting the Lenten meal every Wednesday from March 12 to April 9, 2025. Palm Sunday will be on Sunday, April 13 and Holy Week will begin on Monday, April 14 with Easter on Sunday, April 20, 2025.

ELDER PERSPECTIVE

Matthew 2:1-2 “Now Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem saying, “Where is He who has been born King of the Jews? For we have seen His star in the East and have come to worship Him.”

I am writing this for Epiphany January 6, 2025. The hymn “We Three Kings of Orient Are” comes to mind. John Henry Hopkins, an Episcopalian minister, news reporter, and stained glass artist, wrote the text for this hymn in 1857. Within the five stanzas, the text so simply explains the significance of the gifts the kings brought to honor Jesus.

Stanza one tells us of the king’s journey through varied lands to follow The Star. The refrain shows how special this Star is. “Royal beauty bright...Guide us to that perfect light!” To me the perfect light refers to the baby Jesus. Stanza two is the gift of gold. The gold symbolizes the crown. “Crown Him again, King forever...to reign over us.” In stanza three, we find the gift of frankincense. Did you know that frankincense is one of the ingredients of the incense used by Jewish priests in their worship of God? “Worship him, God on High.” Stanza four tells us of “Myrrh...a bitter perfume.” This verse will fit quite well in our Holy Week Readings. The entire Passion of Christ during Holy Week is summed up in just twenty-two words. The last ten words being, “Sorrowing, sighing, bleeding, dying, Sealed in the stone-cold tomb.” Stanza five, is a glorious verse which perfectly describes the joy of Resurrection! “Glorious now behold Him arise.”

So, you see now, how this hymn is not just an Epiphany hymn. Through this hymn, we see how the gifts of the Magi tell the story of our Saviour Jesus Christ. From birth to suffering, suffering to death, death to the glorious Resurrection.

My prayer for you all is that God will Bless you and protect you and your loved ones! Amen

Bill Heiser

Joint Board Members

Board of Elders

Pastor Ian Edwards, Chair
Jim Makovetz, Vice Chair
Melody Stocker, Secretary
Elaine Bittner
Brian Dishong
Bill Heiser
Linda Meylach (in memoriam)
Mike Rampulla
Pamela Stampf
Ann-Louise Taylor

Board of Trustees

Sue Dreydoppel, President
Bob Sweitzer, Vice President
Sue Anascavage, Secretary
Lori Deutsch
Pastor Ian Edwards, ex-officio
Marisa Graver
Andrew Majczan
Dwayne Moyer
Kim Samsel
Troy Schoeneberger

PRAYERFULLY CONSIDER LEADERSHIP

Are you or someone you know being called to serve in church leadership?

The Nominating Committee asks that you prayerfully consider whether you or someone else might be called to serve in one of the following roles:

ELDERS are the spiritual leaders of the church, working alongside the pastor to facilitate the growth of the congregation, discerning how God is calling the congregation and deciding how we can respond to that call. (3-year term)

TRUSTEES are the stewards of the church’s building and grounds, determining how our money and property can be most effectively used in order to further God’s mission for the church. (3-year term)

If you are interested or want to suggest a candidate, please speak to any member of the Nominating Committee: Pastor Ian Edwards, Bill Heiser, Ann-Louise Taylor or Troy Schoeneberger.

Board of Elders

December Board of Elders meeting:

1. Preparing for Advent and Christmas Eve services.
2. Looking for members who might be willing to assist with getting Communion set up as needed. (See any Elder if you’re interested).
3. Serving Safe Harbor meal on 1/4/25.
4. Looking for members who might be interested in being on the Communication committee. (See any Elder if you’re interested).

Board of Trustees

December Board of Trustees meeting:

1. Approved the 2025 budget for Schoeneck
2. Reviewed the congregation’s invested funds with Moravian Ministries Fund of America (MMFA)
3. Is considering a possible change of insurance carrier
4. Have applied for a Risk and Vulnerability Assessment of our building security from the PA State Police

CHURCH NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

ANNUAL CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING



You are invited to the annual meeting of our **Church Council** at Schoeneck that will take place on **Sunday, February 2, 2025, at 12:30 PM**. After the 10:30 worship service, we will enjoy a covered dish luncheon in the Fellowship Hall. Bring your favorite dish to share. The business meeting will follow after the lunch. Key items on the agenda will be the election of church officers and consideration of 2025 church budget.



CEM wishes you all a very Happy New Year!

Our Advent Workshop that was held in December while the sanctuary was being decorated was a fun congregational gathering. Troy made us delicious peanut brittle and Lorena with the help of Cookie, Gloria, and perhaps some others that I missed made us delicious “Stone Soup”! Thank you all who brought ingredients to add. Between the members that helped in the Fellowship Hall and those in the sanctuary, we had approximately 30 people. Sorry to say though that the sanctuary helpers did not come to enjoy the soup, but there was enough left to be delivered to the sick and shut-in. Also, we only had 3 children present with all the activities that JoAnn had planned, so the adults that were in the Fellowship Hall started crafting, coloring and making paper chains to decorate the tree for the hall. Perhaps we will get better attendance next year if we make this a yearly event.

Our Children’s Sunday School program held on December 15th, 10:30 AM service was well attended by both students from all classes and the congregation. We learned more about the Putz made by Pastor Ledbetter and had areas highlighted with lights so we could follow along from scene to scene. Thank you again, Sarah Hriniaik for putting this all together for us, for Ryan playing for our service, for the girls singing the solo part of Morning Star, for Jillian’s solo prelude and Anthony’s saxophone offering music. AND.....thank you for all the students that read parts and helped make this successful once again.

Have a Blessed New Year!
Pamela Stampf
Sunday School Coordinator



All are welcome.

Men’s Bible Study, Wednesdays at 7:00 PM.
Women’s Bible Study, Thursdays at 9:00 AM.



Please let the church office know if your home address, home/cell number or email address has changed recently!

Thank You



Will be meeting on
Wednesday, January 22, 2025
In the Fellowship Hall
At 11:00 AM

PLEASE NOTE OUR SNOW POLICY

If the conditions are hazardous (ice, excessive snow, winter weather emergency conditions, etc.), please consult any of the following to find out whether worship has been cancelled, or the schedule altered:

- WFMZ, Channel 69 (Check the crawl on television, but they have indicated to us that they will only post the announcement on their website, www.wfmz.com, unless there are “extreme weather conditions”).
- The church voicemail message (610-759-0376)
- Social Media—Facebook & Instagram

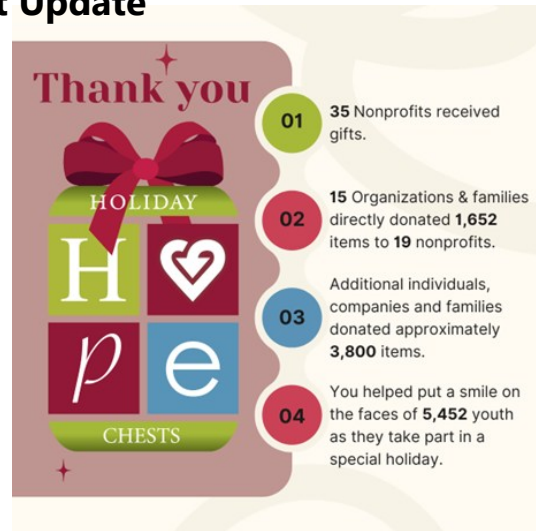
We will make every effort to arrive at an appropriate decision prior to 7:00 AM on Sunday mornings.



Shoebox Project Update

Thank you Schoeneck family! Because of your generosity we were able to donate 37 shoeboxes and 24 gift cards to the Holiday Hope Chest program. All gifts have been delivered to the Volunteer Center of the Lehigh Valley and were distributed to 61 children in our area.

Received From: Volunteer Center of the Lehigh Valley



Dear Schoeneck,

I would like to thank everyone that sent the beautiful Thanksgiving Day cards to me. I really was very happy to receive them.

Thank you,
LaRue Beil

Friends at Schoeneck,

Thank you for the cards, gift bag and Poinsettia. Happy Holidays!
Mae Kline

To Schoeneck Congregation,

I would like to say thank you for all your cards and calls during my recovery and looking forward to seeing everyone in church.

Sue Gehris



Greetings,

Thank you for your support of the work of the Board of World Mission (BWM). Your generous gift of \$2,700 dated November 5, 2024, for the Moravian Disaster Response (MDR) Fund to support hurricane relief efforts in Jamaica, in Memory of The Rt. Rev. Hopeton Clennon, helps us continue to make a difference in the lives of our Moravian brothers and sisters and their communities.

Also, for your generous gift of \$200 dated November 12, 2024 for the Moravian Disaster Response (MDR) Fund to support hurricane relief efforts at Laurel Ridge Camp and Conference Center located in Western North

Carolina, to house and feed those interested in assisting with the rebuilding efforts.

As the Moravian Church continues to grow each year, and new prospective mission areas are identified, we know that we could not be as effective as we are without your support. Thank you for helping us to be Faithful to our commitments to the Great Commandment and the Great Commission!

Thank you again for your support,

Peace and blessings,
Sue Adams,

Dear Members of Schoeneck Moravian Church,

On behalf of the Board of Directors of Essentials Café, thank you for your generous donation of \$200 to Essentials Café from your proceeds of your recent Community Dinner. Your donation will go towards helping alleviate food insecurity and help build a community where all are welcome to have a seat at a table and enjoy a nutritious meal in a warm, hospitable environment.

Best Regards,
Dawn Fenner, Executive Director, Essentials Café

Dear Parishioners,

We are writing to thank you for your generous donation of \$675 from your mission project. This donation allows Visions of Eagles to continue to help residents and organizations in the Nazareth Area School District. We are very happy at this time of the year to help families with our Visions of Joy program which provides wrapped gift to local children. Thank you again for thinking of Visions of Eagles. Our committee wishes you all safe, healthy and blessed Christmas and 2025!

Sincerely,
Sally F. Jablonski, VP and Treasurer

Worship Helpers This Month



SPONSORS FOR THE MONTH OF JANUARY

FLOWERS - \$10.00

1/5 TBA
1/12 TBA
1/19 TBA
1/26 TBA

BULLETINS - \$10.00

1/5 TBA
1/12 TBA
1/19 TBA
1/26 TBA



2025 Flower & Bulletin Sponsor sign-up sheets are posted on the bulletin board outside the church office.

JANUARY TRUSTEES

Lori Deutsch

JANUARY ELDERS

Pam Stampf

JANUARY RECYCLING SPONSOR \$43

TBA

JANUARY SAFE HARBOR

Board of Elders

LOVEFEAST

**2025 Lovefeast sign-up sheet is posted on the bulletin board outside the church office.
Sponsors (\$100) & Bakers Needed!**

Date	Time	Ushers	Greeters	Scripture Readers	Nursery
Sunday, January 5 2nd Sunday After Christmas	8:00 AM & 10:30 AM	Dave & Barb Butz Tammy & Braden Mehlig	Kathy Makoul John Beitel	Bill Heiser Laurie Woolley	TBA
Sunday, January 12 1st Sunday after Epiphany	8:00 AM & 10:30 AM	Joanne Smith & Kathy Makoul Frank & Gayle Searock	Mary Schweitzer Ann-Louise Taylor	TBA Frank Searock	TBA
Sunday, January 19 2nd Sunday after Epiphany	8:00 AM & 10:30 AM	Bob & Carol Hunt Sally Huber & Mike Koehler	Joanne Smith Lois Zibulnik	Cindy McAllister TBA	TBA
Sunday, January 26 3rd Sunday after Epiphany	8:00 AM & 10:30 AM	Dean & Cindy McAllister Darl & Bev Houck	Mary Schweitzer John Beitel	Bill Heiser Laurie Woolley	TBA

Ushers & Greeters



Usher & Greeter Coordinator
Sandy Love's contact information
610-349-5848

Email—sandylove1965@icloud.com

Scripture Readers Coordinator
Cindi Kessler contact information
610-753-0376
schoeneck@schoeneckmoravian.org

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
2nd Sunday after Christmas 5 8:00 & 10:30 AM Service Joyful Noise 9:15 AM Sunday School for All 2:00 PM GS Troop 8106, R 10 2:00 PM GS Troop 81144, R 11	6 5:30 PM GS Troop 8435, R 6 6:00 PM GS Troop 81043, R 10	7 7:00 PM Elders Meeting, R6 & Zoom	8 1:00 PM AFSCME, R11 6:30 PM CEM, R 10 7:00 PM Men's Bible Study, R 6	9 9:00 AM Women's Bible Study, Rm 6 7:00 PM Joint Board Meeting - FH	10 10:30 AM Shake n' Boogie	11 9:00 AM Take down decorations in Sanctuary
1st Sunday after Epiphany 12 8:00 & 10:30 AM Service 9:15 AM Sunday School for All 2:00 PM GS Troop 8220, R 10 2:00 PM GS Troop 893, R 6	13 5:30 PM GS Troop 8435, R 6	14 7:00 PM Trustees Meeting, Zoom	15 7:00 PM Men's Bible Study, R 6	16 9:00 AM Women's Bible Study, Rm 6 6:15 PM Jr Handbell 6:45 PM Sr Handbell 7:30 PM Sr Choir	17 10:30 AM Shake n' Boogie	18 Family Event – Birthday
2nd Sunday after Epiphany 19 8:00 & 10:30 AM Service 9:15 AM Sunday School for All 2:00 PM GS Troop 8106, R 10 2:00 PM GS Troop 81144, R 11	20	21 6:00 PM Mission & Evangelism, Zoom	22 11:00 AM Women's Fellowship - FH 7:00 PM Men's Bible Study, R 6	23 9:00 AM Women's Bible Study, Rm 6 6:15 PM Jr Handbell 6:45 PM Sr Handbell 7:30 PM Sr Choir	24 10:30 AM Shake n' Boogie	25
3rd Sunday after Epiphany 26 8:00 & 10:30 AM Service 9:15 AM Sunday School for All 2:00 PM GS Troop 8220, R 10 2:00 PM GS Troop 893, R 6	27 6:00 PM GS Troop 81043, R 10	28 7:00 PM Visitation & Caring Meeting, R 6 & Zoom	29 7:00 PM Men's Bible Study, R 6	30 9:00 AM Women's Bible Study, Rm 6 6:15 PM Jr Handbell 6:45 PM Sr Handbell 7:30 PM Sr Choir	31 10:30 AM Shake n' Boogie	

The Joyful Noise



Schoeneck Moravian Church
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Nazareth, Pennsylvania 18064-9522

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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



Schoeneck Moravian Church

Our Lamb has conquered, let us follow him.

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



Rev. Ian Edwards, Pastor
Ryan Morrow, Director of Music
Cindi Kessler, Administrative Assistant

Our Mission Statement

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

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

