

Schoeneck Moravian Church



Sunday Worship

8:00 AM & 10:30 AM
In-Person
10:30 Livestream

9:15 AM Sunday School
All Ages

Pastor: Rev. Ian Edwards

Administrative Assistant
Cindi Kessler

Director of Music Ministry
Ryan Morrow

316 N. Broad Street, Ext.
Nazareth, PA 18064
610-759-0376

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The Joyful Noise Newsletter January 2026

2025 WORDS OF THE YEAR

Every year the editors of various dictionaries select a word or phrase of the year. It signifies a cultural marker, sometimes for popularity, or because it describes or labels something we recognize.

For 2025, some of the Words of the year are...

~Oxford English Dictionary: rage bait, online content deliberately designed to provoke anger and drive engagement.

~Cambridge dictionary: parasocial, the one-sided relationship between a fan and a media personality, like how I think I know the presenters of my favorite Youtube channels and podcasts.

~Collins dictionary: vibe coding, apparently that has something to do with AI and computer coding using natural language.

~dictionary.com: 6-7, no, nobody knows what it means. Best I've heard is it means absolutely nothing, but its really really popular and kind of fun.

Some of these words and phrases will stick around, some will just identify a moment, others will be taken and twisted and used as a divisive wedge, perhaps through intentional misunderstanding or misdirection...like how *theory* is applied in one way for science and is used completely differently in casual conversation, but folks use the meanings interchangeably.

Actually, that's a good illustration, some of these words of the year will be given qualifiers, the most common being just...you're just rage baiting, that's just a parasocial relationship, that's just a theory. Scientists, including those in the social sciences realm, can work diligently on refining a theory, Show "locked-in" results demonstrating the relationship between facts and outcomes, and still have folks say: well that's just a theory.

Time will tell on the 2025 selections. I'd love it if rage bait wasn't a thing, meaning we wouldn't need a term for it. I'm aware of the need to limit the number of parasocial relationships in my life...although certain podcasters still feel like friends. Six-seven? I love needing to have no clue about something the kids are saying, it's refreshing to know that everyone is just as clueless as me.

I wonder if we can identify a word of the year for Schoeneck? There are the perpetual *should*, and *who*, we say those about and around church a fair bit...you know we really *should*...somebody *should*...great idea, *who* can do that, *who should* do that? Seems a bit of a downer though, maybe our Advent themes: Hope...Peace...Joy...Love. If you had to pick one of those, which would you say best identifies or exemplifies Schoeneck this year? I'm going with joy, no wait hope, ok all of them fit. I know it won't be rage bait, and our relationships definitely aren't parasocial... maybe I'll just go with six-seven for the church too.

Pastor Ian

Worship the Lord with Us!

2026 January Worship Services

Sunday, January 4—Worship Services 8:00 AM & 10:30 AM

Second Sunday after Christmas. Epiphany Holy Communion.

The Moravian church views the Epiphany Communion as an experience of *unity and fellowship with Christ and other believers*, emphasizing self-examination, God's grace, and the universal mission of the church.

"Praise the name of the LORD, for his name alone is exalted; his glory is above earth and heaven." Psalm 148:13 2026 Watchword

Sunday, January 11—Worship Services 8:00 AM & 10:30 AM

First Sunday after Epiphany marks the beginning of Christ's public ministry, focusing on Jesus' Baptism, which manifests his Messiahship and signifies entry into new covenant Fellowship.

"A bruised reed he will not break, and a dimly burning wick he will not quench; he will faithfully bring forth justice." Isaiah 42:3 2026 Watchword

Sunday, January 18—Worship Services 8:00 AM & 10:30 AM

Second Sunday after Epiphany focuses on Christ's manifestation to the world, featuring readings about God's call, light, and global love, with themes like sharing gifts, finding Christ in unexpected places, and discipleship, using green liturgical color for growth.

"God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord." 1 Corinthians 1:9 2026 Watchword

Sunday, January 25—Worship Services 8:00 AM & 10:30 AM

Third Sunday after Epiphany observes Jesus's public ministry, often using green liturgical colors for growth, with readings highlighting God as refuge and the call to follow Christ's message, featuring themes like God's steadfast love and calling people to be lights in the world.

"The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?" Psalm 27:1 2026 Watchword

Future Worship Services

Sunday, February 1, 2026 ~ Only one Service at 10:30 AM

Fourth Sunday after Epiphany. Annual Church Council meeting after the 10:30 service.

Sunday, February 8, 2026

Fifth Sunday after Epiphany.

Sunday, February 15, 2026

Last Sunday after Epiphany.

Wednesday, February 18, 2026

Ash Wednesday hosted by Nazareth Moravian Church.

Sunday, February 22, 2026

First Sunday in Lent ~ Holy Communion



ELDERS PERSPECTIVE

As we walk into another year ... we leave the good, the bad, and the ugly of 2025 behind us.

As a church family we lost many of our dear beloved friends... Marietta, LaRue, Katie, Bill, Dale, and Sue. As individuals we have all lost people who meant the world to us.

We've celebrated births, baptisms, confirmations, first communions, graduations, weddings, other joys and milestones, and celebrations of life.

Many song lyrics come to mind – Blessed Assurance, Just as I am, Should auld acquaintance be forgot, All my life's a circle – sunrise and sundown, and Goodbye my friend.

And now, it's time to look forward. In 2026 we will celebrate our country's 250th anniversary – our "Semi-quincentennial". In 2026, Schoeneck Moravian Church will celebrate our 264th anniversary. That is amazing!! We have weathered many storms and by the grace of God we have not only survived but we have prospered.

Again, song lyrics come to mind – He Leadeth Me, In the bulb there is a flower, He will raise you up on Eagles' Wings, and What a friend we have in Jesus.

God blesses us every single day in so many ways. It is time again to look into and to listen to your heart to see or hear where God is calling you to be active in our church. How will you use your God given time, talents, testimony, and treasure?

Think of 1 Peter 4:10 - "Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms."

Wishing everyone a Blessed, Happy, and Healthy 2026.

Melody Stocker, Elder

Joint Board Members

Board of Elders

Pastor Ian Edwards, Chair
Jim Makovetz, Vice Chair
Melody Stocker, Secretary
Elaine Bittner
Laura Cook
Brian Dishong
Louis Murante
Mike Rampulla
Pamela Stampf
Ann-Louise Taylor

Board of Trustees

Sue Dreydoppel, President
Bob Sweitzer, Vice President
Lori Deutsch, Secretary
Pastor Ian Edwards, ex-officio
Marisa Graver
Andrew Majczan
Dwayne Moyer
Kim Samsel
Roger Woolley
One Vacancy

Board of Elders

December Board of Elders meeting:

- ⇒ In search of Hospitality Coordinator starting January 2026
- ⇒ Insuring that all worship services for Advent, Christmas and New year are all planned
- ⇒ In search of members willing to serve on Elders starting 2026
- ⇒ Highly successful food drive by Mission & Evangelism Ministry and in partnership with Community Dinner Staff
- ⇒ Launching brand new website for Schoeneck

Board of Trustees

December Board of Trustees meeting:

- ⇒ Approved the 2026 budget for Schoeneck
- ⇒ Considered wall coverings for the stairway to the sanctuary
- ⇒ Updated our information with Moravian Ministries Foundation
- ⇒ Accepted the resignation of Cindi Kessler, Administrative Assistant

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 1, 2026, 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 2026 church budget.



Shoebbox Project 2025 Wrap-Up

Thank you Schoeneck family! Because of your generosity, donations totaling 43 shoeboxes/gift bags and 28 gift cards were delivered to the Sixth Street Shelter in Allentown. The staff at the shelter was so grateful as John and I carried the packages into the building. I felt so blessed to represent all of you that morning. Thank you for the opportunity to serve in this capacity.

Lori Deutsch



Schoeneck Moravian Health
Ministry Blood Pressure
Screening will be
Sunday, January 18, 2026
after each Worship Services.



We want to thank everyone for helping make our November food drive so successful. We took over 300 lbs. of food, plus many monetary donations and gift cards to the Nazareth Area Food Bank.

Thank you for helping to combat food insecure in our area.

Mission and Evangelism Committee

Dear Pastor Edwards,

Thank you to the generous members of Schoeneck for supporting the Food Bank. The collection and donation of nonperishable food during the autumn months is a wonderful benefit to our client families. We consider every gift from you among the Food Bank's many blessings.

Thank you again,
Kellee Oliva, Director



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)
- Schoeneck's social media.

We will make every effort to arrive at an appropriate decision prior to 7:00 AM on Sunday mornings. If you are unsure about safe travel conditions, please stay home and watch the service on livestream.

Searching for Hospitality Committee Coordinator

After serving as coordinator for Schoeneck's vibrant Hospitality Committee for a number of years, Sharon Schuler has stepped down from this important role. Therefore, we are looking for someone, or maybe a few people, to take over this responsibility. The coordinator of this committee is responsible for scheduling all dining activities, whether it be a potluck lunch, funeral luncheon, or a church celebration. In addition, the coordinator will need to maintain a sufficient supply of paper products for the scheduled activities. The Hospitality Committee has a number of congregation members that would be willing to assist in this effort that could 'divide and conquer' all associated duties.

Sharon will continue to oversee our Community Dinners.

If you are interested in taking over this responsibility, please contact a Board of Elders member. If you want an additional explanation of this role, please connect with Sharon as she is willing to provide more detail. I hope and pray that someone, or a few members, will listen to God's small voice and volunteer to serve as the Hospitality Committee Coordinator.

"There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit. There are different kinds of service, but the same Lord. There are different kinds of working, but the same God works all of them in all."

Blessings of peace and joy,
Jim Makovetz
Vice-chair, Board of Elders



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)

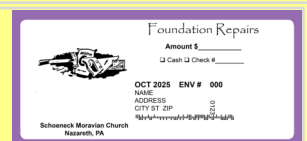
If you are interested or want to suggest a candidate, please speak to any member of the Nominating Committee: Pastor Ian Edwards, Elaine Bittner & Bob Sweitzer.



FROM THE TRUSTEES

Special Envelopes:

The special envelope for January and February is for **Foundation Repairs**. The discovery late in 2025 of powder post beetles infesting the paneling going up the stairs to the sanctuary (by the old restrooms) led to the realization that there was a moisture problem in that area as well. A historic masonry specialist was scheduled to repair some cracks in the stone foundation in January, but his schedule changed and he was able to do the repairs in November. Proceeds from this envelope will reimburse the congregation's Deferred Maintenance Fund for that expense.



Snow Plowing

Amount \$ _____
Q Cash Q Check # _____
OCT 24, 2025 ENV # 000
NAME _____
ADDRESS _____
CITY ST ZIP _____
Schoeneck Moravian Church
Nazareth, PA

The envelope for **Snow Plowing** will help pay for salting, sanding, and plowing the parking lot in inclement weather.

Christian Education... for all ages

Happy New Year! That past year went by pretty quickly, or was it just me? December just flew right by here at Schoeneck.

Our 2nd Advent Workshop at the beginning of December, again, was poorly attended. JoAnn, Allene and Mike and I made the ornaments that were intended to be made by the Sunday School children for the Sick and Shut In. Loraine Rice made sure that they were distributed. The Christmas tree in the fellowship hall was decorated the following day by the High School Sunday School class. Thank you, Mike, for undertaking that so it would get done. There was a good turnout for decorating the sanctuary and about 10 or so of them stayed for lunch to enjoy homemade soup by Allene and Mike.

Thank you to all the children and youth that took part in the Sunday School Christmas Program. A special thank you to our wonderful Sarah Hriniak for organizing and planning the entire service. Hope it was enjoyed by all.

New Year's Blessings!
Pamela Stampf

Men's Bible Study
Wednesdays at 7:00 PM.



Women's Bible study
Thursday mornings from 9:00 AM

SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR ALL AGES

Christian Education Ministry

JoAnn Heckman, Co-Chair
Tammy Mehlig & Gloria Floyd, Co Secretary
Won by One (Adult) – Carol & Jeff Faust
The Discoverer's (Adult) – Donna Francisco
God's Class (High School) – Mike Rampulla
Men's Bible Study – Louis Murante
Women's Bible Study – Gayle Searock
Confirmation – Allene Rampulla, Brian Dishong
Representatives
Lori Deutsch – Trustee
Tammy Mehlig & Ken Kirst - Congregation

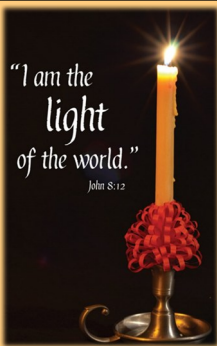
Children & Youth Ministry

Sunday School Coordinator – Pam Stampf
VBS Coordinator – Pam Stampf
Cradle Roll – Donna Francisco
Nursery Coordinator – Allene Rampulla
Junior Youth Fellowship (Grades 3-6) –
Lanie Yaswinski & Courtney Schnyderite
Senior Youth Fellowship (Grades 7-12) –
Mike & Allene Rampulla

Schoeneck's Sunday School is a faith education program which focuses on classes for all ages, Bible study, Moravian heritage and growing in faith through creative activities, discussions and community services. Schoeneck encourages spiritual growth, connection, and applying faith to daily life.

<https://www./search?q=Moravian+sunday+school>

Come grow with Us!



At our Christmas Eve services, each worshipper receives a candle, made of beeswax and trimmed in red, symbolizing the blood of Christ shed for us on the Cross. The lighted candle reminds us that Jesus Christ is the Light of the World, and so he encourages us to be the same, letting our light shine before others.

We invite you to join us this Christmas to worship our Savior. It is our prayer that we can help to enrich your life and add meaning to your family's Christmas celebration this year. Come celebrate the real reason for the season!

Christmas Eve Lovefeast & Candlelight Services

December 24, 2025

4:00 PM ~ Christmas Eve Children's Lovefeast & Candlelight Service

6:30 PM & 8:30 PM ~ Christmas Eve Lovefeast & Candlelight Vigil

Schoeneck Moravian Church

316 North Broad St. Ext

Nazareth, PA

610-759-0376



2026 Lent Schedule

Lenten Meals will be hosted
by Nazareth Moravian Church

Wednesday, February 18 ~ Ash Wednesday

Wednesday, February 25

Wednesday, March 4

Wednesday, March 11

Wednesday, March 18

Wednesday, March 25 (last Lenten Meal for the Lent Season)

Schoeneck Moravian Church



Sunday, March 29 ~ Palm Sunday Services ~ 8:00 AM & 10:30 AM

Monday, March 30 ~ Holy Monday Service ~ 7:00 PM

Tuesday, March 31 ~ Holy Tuesday Service ~ 7:00 PM

Wednesday, April 1 ~ Holy Wednesday Service - 7:00 PM

Thursday, April 2 ~ Maundy Thursday/Holy Communion Service ~ 7:00 PM

Friday, April 3 ~ Good Friday ~ 1:45 PM Holy Communion, 2:30 PM

Saturday, April 4 ~ Great Sabbath Lovefeast ~ 7:00 PM

Sunday, April 5 ~ Easter Sunday ~ Sunrise Service, 8:00 AM, 10:30 AM

Worship Helpers This Month

2026 SIGN UP SHEETS

The 2026 sign up sheets are posted on the church bulletin board: Scripture Readers, Flower Sponsors, Bulletin Sponsors, Recycling Sponsors, Lovefeast Sponsors & Bakers, and Dieners.

Thank you! Cindi Kessler



SPONSORS FOR THE MONTH OF JANUARY

FLOWERS - \$10.00

1/4 Open
1/11 Open
1/18 Open
1/25 Open

BULLETINS - \$10.00

1/4 Open
1/11 Open
1/18 Open
1/25 Open



JANUARY ELDER(S)

Open

JANUARY TRUSTEE

Lori Deutsch



JANUARY SAFE HARBOR

The Board of Elders



JANUARY RECYCLING SPONSOR(S) \$45

Open

FEBRUARY LOVEFEAST \$100



Mission Lovefeast ~ February 8, 2026

Sponsor(s): _____ Open _____

Baker: _____ Open _____

**NO LOVEFEAST IN
JANUARY OR MARCH**

Date	Time	Ushers	Greeters	Scripture Readers	Nursery
Sunday, January 4, 2026 2nd Sunday after Christmas Day	8:00 AM	Bob & Carol Hunt	Melody Stocker	Open	Open
	10:30 AM	Roger & Laurie Woolley	Open	Open	Open
Sunday, January 11, 2026 1st Sunday after Epiphany	8:00 AM	Ann Dalton & Kathy Makoul	Joanne Smith	Open	Open
	10:30 AM	Charisse Geiger & Ashley Stampf	Catherine Hahn	Open	Open
Sunday, January 18, 2026 2nd Sunday after Epiphany	8:00 AM	Bob & Carol Hunt	Beverly Houck	Open	Open
	10:30 AM	Sally Huber & Mike Koehler	Frank & Gayle Searock	Open	Open
Sunday, January 25, 2026 3rd Sunday after Epiphany	8:00 AM	David & Barb Butz	Kathy Makoul	Open	Open
	10:30 AM	Roger & Laurie Woolley	Tammy Mehlig	Open	Open

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						
2nd Sunday after Christmas 4 8:00 & 10:30 AM Worship Epiphany Holy Communion Joyful Noise 9:15 AM Sunday School for All 2:00 PM GS Troop 86, R 11 2:00 PM GS Troop 893, R 10 2:00 PM GS Troop 81144, R 6	5	Epiphany of the Lord 6:00 PM Elders, R 6	6:00 PM Prayer Shawl Ministry, R 11 7:00 PM Men's Bible Study, R 6	Church Office Closed 	Church Office Closed	3
1st Sunday after Epiphany 11 8:00 & 10:30 AM Worship 9:15 AM Sunday School for All 2:00 PM GS Troop 8220, R 10 2:00 PM GS Troop 86, R 11	12 6:00 PM GS Troop 8435/FH	13 7:00 PM Trustees Zoom	14 1:00 PM AFSCME, R 11 6:30 PM CEC, R 10 7:00 PM Men's Bible Study, R 6	15 9:00 AM Women's Bible Study, R 6 6:15 PM Jr Handbell 6:45 PM Sr Handbell 7:30 PM Sr Choir	16 Special Event 10:30 AM Shake n' Boogie, FH	17 Special Event
2nd Sunday after Epiphany 18 8:00 & 10:30 AM Worship 9:15 AM Sunday School for All Blood Pressure Screening after each Service 2:00 PM GS Troop 893, R 10 2:00 PM GS Troop 81144, R 6	19	20 6:00 PM Mission & Evangelism, Zoom	21 7:00 PM Men's Bible Study, R 6	22 9:00 AM Women's Bible Study, R 6 6:15 PM Jr Handbell 6:45 PM Sr Handbell 7:30 PM Sr Choir	23 10:30 AM Shake n' Boogie, FH	24
3rd Sunday after Epiphany 25 8:00 & 10:30 AM Worship 9:15 AM Sunday School for All 2:00 PM GS Troop 8220, R 10 2:00 PM GS Troop 81144, R 11 Prayer for Retired Pastors	26 6:00 PM GS Troop 8435/R 6	27 7:00 PM Visitation & Caring, R 6	28 Private Event Fellowship Hall Reserved 7:00 PM Men's Bible Study, R 6	29 9:00 AM Women's Bible Study, R 6 6:15 PM Jr Handbell 6:45 PM Sr Handbell 7:30 PM Sr Choir	30 10:30 AM Shake n' Boogie, FH	31

The Joyful Noise



Schoeneck Moravian Church

316 North Broad Street Extension
Nazareth, Pennsylvania 18064-9522

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

office@schoeneckmoravianchurch.org
<https://schoeneckmoravianchurch.org>
610-759-0376



Schoeneck Moravian Church

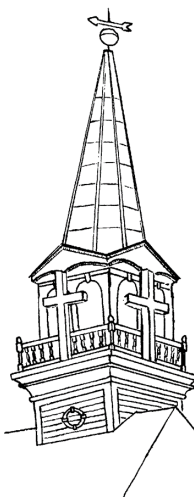
Our Lamb has conquered, let us follow him.

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



Our Mission Statement

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



Rev. Ian Edwards, Pastor

Ryan Morrow, Director of Music Ministry

Cindi Kessler, Administrative Assistant

Regular Worship Service

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