

Schoeneck Moravian Church



Sunday Worship

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

9:15 AM Sunday School
for Children, Youth &
Adults

Pastor: Rev. Ian Edwards

Director of Music Ministry:
Ryan Morrow

316 N. Broad Street, Ext.
Nazareth, PA 18064-9522

610-759-0376

Email: office @
schoeneckmoravianchurch.org

www.schoeneckmoravianchurch.org



The Joyful Noise Newsletter February 2026

Writer's Block

As I write this I'm 6 or 7 days past the deadline to hand in my newsletter piece, and I've got a bad case of writer's block. It's a good thing I'm not actually a professional writer, and there are lots of ways for me to do my job without submitting 400 or 500 words to the newsletter. It's a little different from procrastination, I wrote my final paper in undergraduate psychology on that...the professor said to study and write about something I know that is important to me.

The key causes of procrastination are thinking something is too easy, so you can *put it off and dash it off*, or it is too hard, you're not going to get it done so what's the point of starting. There are lots of techniques to overcome procrastination but again, this feels different. I don't think it's too easy, I actually put much thought into this and plan ahead, I don't think it's too hard, I enjoy doing it, and getting to share about something I think is important or relevant is a privilege.

I think it may come from having too much to say and not enough to say at the same time. Here are some of the prompts I've been noting as worthy of expansion in a newsletter piece...

Relationship between politics and religion, and the line that needs to be walked in a prophetic, truth-telling faith.

Introduction to my thoughts on the book of Matthew and the nuances of the writer's theology, what's the relevance for today's Christian?

Theology and religion as expressed in the utopian fiction of Star Trek, expanding on research and commentary I looked at in response to the illustration I used in a sermon a few weeks ago.

Thoughts on the weather and how Canadians love to talk about it, and how life can be a struggle against the ice and snow that takes all your energy and care, compare and contrast with a life of faith.

Some of the prompts, see, too much to say. Relevance to people's lives, what they see on the news and what is going on in their family and personal life.

One of the techniques regarding procrastination is to just start something, maybe you'll figure it out as you go. I was hoping for that, think and write about my process and maybe something faith-related will make itself apparent. Maybe that is the faith message in all this, start something, make it important in the moment, and be open to sharing.

One last prompt I had in my notes: say a special thanks to Cindi for all the work she has done through and for the church. Blessings in whatever comes next.

Pastor Ian

2026 WATCHWORD TEXT FOR THE SCHOENECK CONGREGATION

"For we did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we had been eyewitnesses of his majesty."

2 Peter 1:16

Worship the Lord with Us!

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

Annual Church Council meeting after the 10:30 service.

Fourth Sunday after Epiphany is focused on Christ's public ministry, with themes of God's guiding love, hearing His call, and living by His word.

"For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God."

1 Corinthians 1:18, Watchword



Sunday, February 8, 2026

Fifth Sunday after Epiphany is highlighted by Jesus' powerful ministry, calling people to follow Him, and themes of being sent out to spread His light.

Mission Lovefeast

"For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ, and him crucified."

1 Corinthians 2:2, Watchword

Sunday, February 15, 2026

Last Sunday after Epiphany is always celebrated as Transfiguration of our Lord, a pivotal day marking the revelation of Jesus' divine glory before His Passion, serving as a bridge from the Epiphany season to Lent.

"God said, " This is my Son, the Beloved; with him I am well pleased; listen to him!""

Matthew 17:5, Watchword

Wednesday, February 18, 2026

Ash Wednesday hosted by Nazareth Moravian Church. Ash Wednesday is the start of Lent services that focus on repentance, prayer, and reflection with prayers and themes around mortality and living a life of love.

"Let your steadfast love come to me, O Lord, your salvation according to your promise."

Psalm 119:41, Watchword

Sunday, February 22, 2026

Holy Communion In Celebration of the Atonement

First Sunday in Lent signifies the celebration of the Eucharist on the first Sunday of the Lenten season, which is a significant time for Christians to focus on repentance, prayer, and fasting, and where the readings often center around Jesus' temptation in the desert, marking the beginning of his public ministry.

"Be glad in the Lord and rejoice, O righteous, and shout for joy, all you upright in heart."

Psalm 32:11, Watchword

Wednesday, February 25, 2026

Lenten Meal & Service hosted by Nazareth Moravian Church.

"I am the Lord; I have called you in righteousness; I have taken you by the hand."

Isaiah 42:6, Watchword

Future Worship Services

Sunday, March 1, 2026—Second Sunday in Lent

Wednesday, March 4, 2026—Lenten Meal & Service hosted by Nazareth Moravian Church.

Sunday, March 8, 2026—Third Sunday in Lent

Wednesday, March 11, 2026—Lenten Meal & Service hosted by Nazareth Moravian Church.

Sunday, March 15, 2026—Fourth Sunday in Lent

Wednesday, March 18, 2026—Lenten Meal & Service hosted by Nazareth Moravian Church.

Sunday, March 22, 2026—Fifth Sunday in Lent

Wednesday, March 25, 2026—Last Lenten Meal & Service for the 2026 Lenten Season hosted by Nazareth Moravian Church

Sunday, March 29, 2026—Palm Sunday

ELDERS PERSPECTIVE

What's in Your Future?

As we begin 2026, all of us will question what will happen in the new year. Will I need a new car? Will I have a medical issue that will need to be resolved? Will I have a new addition to my family?

At the start of 2025, I too had similar questions, not knowing that I would be presented with challenges....open heart surgery, having a child and his family relocate out of the country. Although I knew the possibility of surgery and the notice of our son moving, I did not anticipate these challenges to create such an impact on my life. We need to remember that God is with us for every step in our lives and helps us navigate through these challenges as stated in Jeremiah 29:11, “For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the Lord, “plans to prosper you and not harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.”

Do you have a specific Bible verse that inspires you and keeps you grounded? My verse is Joshua 1:9, “Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.” This verse helped me understand and adjust to the challenges presented to me last year. Although being scared and nervous about my open-heart surgery, I felt God’s presence all the time, protecting me and being with me during surgery, eight (8) weeks of recovery followed by many cardiac rehab sessions. For my son and his family moving out of the country, I trusted God would take care of them no matter where they go or what they do. Now in 2026 as I transition away from being vice-chair for the Board of Elders, I know God has plans for me. I need to be open to what is in my future, trusting God along the way – Proverbs 3:5, “Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding.”

I pray that each and every one of you remain open to what God has planned for you this year. Listen to His “small voice,” trusting in the message from Jeremiah 29:11.

Jim Makovetz
Vice-chair (former) - Board of Elders

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

January Board of Elders meeting:

- ⇒ Reviewed attendance records 2023 - 2025
- ⇒ Love offering for Jamaica Hurricane relief will be collected for 2 Sundays
- ⇒ Special Thank You to outgoing Board members

Board of Trustees

January Board of Trustees meeting:

- ⇒ Discussed the year-end financial report
- ⇒ Bid farewell to departing Trustees Bob, Dwayne and Sue
- ⇒ Learned who is being nominated as Trustee
- ⇒ Considered leadership for the coming year

CHURCH NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

ANNUAL CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING

You are invited to the annual meeting of our Church Council at Schoeneck on Sunday, February 1, 2026, at 12:30 PM. (or following the luncheon). There will be only one worship service that day, at 10:30 a.m. After the worship service, we will enjoy a covered dish luncheon in the Fellowship Hall.



Bring your favorite dish to share. The business meeting will follow the lunch. Key items on the agenda are the election of church officers and adopting the 2026 church budget.

ATTENTION EVERYONE AT SCHOENECK



The Eastern District Executive Board (EDEB) is hosting a series of Zoom webinars entitled “Pray & Lay Leadership” to help deepen your prayer life, strengthen your leadership and enrich our community.

This webinar series is open to everyone at Schoeneck, whether you are a lay leader, musician, educator or a member of our congregation.

The series began January 28 but there are two (2) remaining webinars; February 24 and March 25. Both webinars start at 7:00 PM. See the information below for more details and registration information.

Jim Makovetz,
Vice-Chair (former) - Board of Elders

Prayer & Lay Leadership: A Three-Part Educational Webinar Series

Deepen your prayer life. Strengthen your leadership. Enrich your community.

Join us for a three-part series of 90-minute live webinars via Zoom exploring how prayer shapes personal faith and congregational life. Each session offers a unique perspective—its theology, creativity, and role in leadership—led by gifted Moravian educators.

Join one, two, or all three sessions—each stands alone while contributing to a richer understanding of prayer.

Who Should Attend: Lay leaders, worship assistants, educators, musicians, and anyone seeking to deepen their understanding and practice of prayer.

Hosted by: The Eastern District Executive Board

Session 1: The Heart of Prayer

Led by the Rev. Dr. Jennika Eckhaus and Theresa Fisher

Date: January 28, 2026, at 7:00 p.m.

Explore the foundations and expressions of prayer. Learn simple, practical ways to deepen your spiritual life—whether you’re new to prayer or seeking renewal.

Session 2: Preparing Meaningful Devotions

Becky Lepore & the Rev. Mikayla Sauerbrey

Date: February 24, 2026, at 7:00 p.m.

Asked to offer devotions at a gathering? Looking to provide spiritual grounding for your group? Learn practical tools for creating meaningful moments of prayer and connection.

Session 3: Prayers for Worship

Led by the Rev. Dr. Riddick Weber

Date: March 25, 2026, at 7:00 p.m.

Wondering how pastoral, intercessory, and invocation prayers differ or what to say in an offertory prayer? Learn the purpose of key worship prayers & simple ways to craft them.

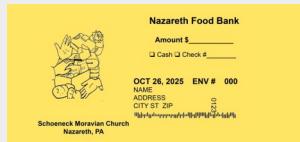
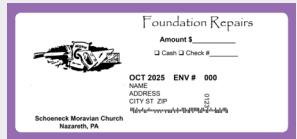
Scan the QR Code to Learn More & Register
Visit our website at www.moravian.org/equip
For questions email amy@mcnp.org



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.



The envelope for the Nazareth Food Bank provides funds to help feed some of our neighbors.

thank you

A big Thank You to those who restored the wall going up the stairs to the sanctuary (by the old restrooms): Mike Koehler for installing the new wall board and trim; Trustee Lori Deutsch for picking up paint and supplies and leading the painting effort; Lori Deutsch, Kim Samsel, Sue Dreydoppel and John Deutsch for painting. Much more than just the new wall board was painted; they also spackled holes and cracks and painted other walls and door frames throughout the narthex behind the sanctuary, down the stairs, and the room at the bottom of the stairs.

Thanks to all those who took down the Christmas decorations in the sanctuary in record time, so that another event could take place later that morning: Francine Messinger, Melody Stocker, Jack Breidinger, Judy Breidinger, Dennis Guldner, Ralph Barthold, Anthony Stampf, Lori Deutsch, Pam Stampf, Cindi Kessler, Sue Dreydoppel, Tammy Mehlig.

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.

THANK YOU



Dear Schoeneck congregation,

Please accept my sincere thanks for the lovely Christmas gift. Your kindness is greatly appreciated.

It is an honor to serve as your Financial Secretary. Please don't hesitate to reach out with any questions throughout the year.

Warm regards,
Ann Dalton

Dear Members of Schoeneck Moravian Church,

It is with a heartfelt sense of gratitude I say farewell as your Administrative Assistant. My time here has been an enriching and meaningful part of my journey.

I am thankful for the warm and gracious welcome you extended to me from the very beginning. The support, collaboration and friendship I have experience will follow me as I embrace my new journey.

My sincere best wishes for the continued success, growth, and prosperity of Schoeneck Moravian Church.

Fondly,
Cindi Kessler

Christian Education... for all ages

CEM is planning the Annual Birthday Social for 2026. If you are having a birthday this year, please join us!

SAVE THE DATE

February 22, Fellowship Hall
Immediately following the **10:30** worship service
ALL ARE WELCOME & BRING A FRIEND

Join us for a potluck lunch
Old time birthday games
Party Bags
AND
12 BIRTHDAY CAKES
(a cake for each month)

Look for sign-up sheets on the CEM bulletin board!
Attendance sign-up
Potluck sign-up
Birthday Cake and month sign-up!

Hope to see a great crowd!
HAPPY BIRTHDAY FOR 2026 TO ALL

Sunday School classes continue to welcome new members whether you have come last year or not. Make that your New Year's resolution to try something different at church. We would be happy to have you join us.

Happy New Year and New Year's Blessings!

Pam Stampf
Sunday School Coordinator

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



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



Schoeneck Moravian Health Ministry
Blood Pressure Screening will be
Sunday, February 15, 2026
after each Worship Service.



The next Women's Fellowship meeting will be February 11, 2026 11:00 AM in Fellowship Hall.

Upcoming 2026 Jr. Youth Activities!

Jr. Youth Group is open to all kids Grades 3-6, and we are planning some fun events for the months ahead! Please mark your calendars and join us!

Due to weather the Snowtubing at Camelback Ski Resort with Sr Youth was canceled and will be rescheduled. Tickets are FREE but RSVP needed for this event!



Sunday 2/1 - Make Valentines for homebound members during Church Council, followed by a youth activity
TBD



Saturday 3/7 - Serve dinner for Safe Harbor



Sunday 4/19 - Attend matinee of NAHS "Grease" the musical and support Sr. Youth in the play!

Please contact Lanie Yaswinski or Courtney Schnyderite with questions or to RSVP.

2026 Lent Schedule

**Lenten Meals will be hosted
by Nazareth Moravian Church**

This year it is our sister congregation Nazareth Moravian Church
to host the midweek Lenten dinners and services.

**The dinners (6:00 p.m.) and services (7:00 p.m.) will start on
Ash Wednesday, February 18, and continue for 6 weeks.
The last dinner and midweek service will be March 25.**



Wednesday, February 18 ~ Ash Wednesday
Wednesday, February 25
Wednesday, March 4
Wednesday, March 11
Wednesday, March 18
Wednesday, March 25



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

The Lord is Risen!



The Lord is Risen indeed!

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



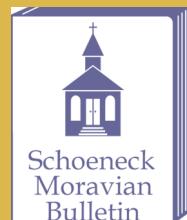
SPONSORS FOR THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY

FLOWERS - \$10.00

2/1 Open
2/8 Open
2/15 Bob & Marianne Schweitzer
2/22 Kevin & Sandy Love

BULLETINS - \$10.00

2/1 Open
2/8 Open
2/15 Open
2/22 Open



FEBRUARY ELDER(S)

Shared

FEBRUARY TRUSTEE

Sue Dreydoppel

FEBRUARY SAFE HARBOR

Trustees

FEBRUARY RECYCLING SPONSOR(S) \$45

Melody Stocker

FEBRUARY LOVEFEAST \$100

Mission Lovefeast ~ February 8, 2026

Sponsor(s): Open

Baker: Open

NO LOVEFEAST IN MARCH

Date	Time	Ushers	Greeters	Scripture Readers	Nursery
February 1, 2026 4th Sunday after Epiphany Church Council Meeting	10:30 AM	Ralph & Jane Barthold	Mary & Bruce Schweitzer	Brenda Makovetz	Sharon Schuler & Gayle Searock
February 8, 2026 5th Sunday after Epiphany	8:00 AM 10:30 AM	Mary Schweitzer Amy Lirag	Louis Murante Catherine Hahn	Open Open	Catherine Hahn & Lorena Roberts
February 15, 2026 Last Sunday after Epiphany Transfiguration Sunday	8:00 AM 10:30 AM	Dean & Cindy McAllister Roger & Laurie Woolley	Terry Berger My Lirag	Ryan Morrow Open	Mike & Allene Rampulla
February 22, 2026 First Sunday in Lent	8:00 AM 10:30 AM	Open Open	Tim & Barb Messinger Open	Open Laurie Woolley	Andy & Brenda Loiacano

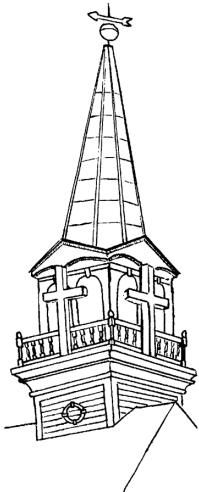


FEBRUARY

2026

Happy Valentine's Day

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
4th Sunday after Epiphany 9:15 AM Sunday School for All 10:30 AM Worship Service Followed by Annual Church Council Meeting (luncheon before meeting) Joyful Noise 2:00 PM GS Troop 81144, R6	1 2 6:00 PM Elders Rm 6	3 6:00 PM Prayer Shawl, R6 7:00 PM Men's Bible Study, Rm 6	4 9:00 AM Women's Bible Study, Rm 6 6:15 PM Jr Handbell 6:45 PM Sr Handbell 7:30 PM Sr Choir	5 9:00 AM Women's Bible Study, Rm 6 6:15 PM Jr Handbell 6:45 PM Sr Handbell 7:30 PM Sr Choir	6 10:30 AM Shake n' Boogie, FH	7
5th Sunday after Epiphany 8:00 AM & 10:30 AM Worship 9:15 AM Sunday School for All 2:00 PM GS Troop 8220, R10	8 6:00 PM GS Troop 8435, Rm 6	9 7:00 PM Trustees Zoom	10 11:00 AM Women's Fellowship, FH 7:00 PM Men's Bible Study, Rm 6	11 9:00 AM Women's Bible Study, Rm 6 6:15 PM Jr Handbell 6:45 PM Sr Handbell 7:30 PM Sr Choir	12 9:00 AM Women's Bible Study, Rm 6 6:15 PM Jr Handbell 6:45 PM Sr Handbell 7:30 PM Sr Choir	13 10:30 AM Shake n' Boogie, FH
Last Sunday after Epiphany 15 Transfiguration Sunday 8:00 AM & 10:30 AM Worship 9:15 AM Sunday School for All Health Ministry Blood Pressure Screening after each service. 2:00 PM GS Troop 86, Rm 11 2:00 PM GS Troop 893, Rm 10 2:00 PM GS Troop 81144 R6	16 6:00 PM Mission & Evangelism, Zoom	17 Ash Wednesday At Nazareth Moravian 6:00 PM Lenten Meal 7:00 PM Lenten Service	18 Ash Wednesday At Nazareth Moravian 6:00 PM Lenten Meal 7:00 PM Lenten Service	19 9:00 AM Women's Bible Study, Rm 6 6:15 PM Jr Handbell 6:45 PM Sr Handbell 7:30 PM Sr Choir	20 10:30 AM Shake n' Boogie, FH 6:00 PM GS Troop 8435, FH Overnight	21 GS Troop 8435 will be leaving FH by 10:00 AM CEC will setup for Birthday Social, FH
1st Sunday in Lent 8:00 AM & 10:30 AM Worship 9:15 AM Sunday School for All 11:30 AM Birthday Social 2:00 PM GS Troop 8220, R10 2:00 PM GS Troop 86, Rm 11	22 6:00 PM GS Troop 8435, Rm 6	23 7:00 PM Visitation & Caring, Rm 6	24 At Nazareth Moravian 6:00 PM Lenten Meal 7:00 PM Lenten Service	25 9:00 AM Women's Bible Study, Rm 6 6:15 PM Jr Handbell 6:45 PM Sr Handbell 7:30 PM Sr Choir	26 10:30 AM Shake n' Boogie, FH	27 28



Schoeneck Moravian Church

316 North Broad Street Extension
Nazareth, Pennsylvania 18064-9522

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Rev. Ian Edwards, Pastor
Ryan Morrow, Director of Music Ministry

office@schoeneckmoravian.org
www.schoeneckmoravianchurch.org
610-759-0376



Schoeneck Moravian Church

Our mission is to follow the example of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ to love and serve all.

February

2026