



TRINITY NEWS

For Family & Friends of Trinity Moravian Church

June, 2022 *Special Synod Edition*

From the Pastor

We held this issue of the *Trinity News* so that we could report on synod – and I’m so glad we did! After the 2018 synod and some of the disputes in recent years, many of us were expecting a confrontational meeting. But as one of the attendees said, “The Holy Spirit showed up!” The committee meetings and plenary sessions were quite peaceable and respectful, and much was accomplished.

Prior to each synod, people ask me who might be elected PEC president, and this time I truly had no idea. Chris Thore, who has been interim PC president, declined to run, as did Nola Knouse, who is preparing for retirement. I would not have guessed that Neil Routh would be elected, but was very glad when he agreed to serve. But the other big news is that we have elected the first person of color to serve on the PEC – the Rev. Dr. Dion Christopher, pastor of King of Kings Moravian Church in Miami, Florida.

We passed a number of amazing proposals (some are detailed in this newsletter) and set an inspiring direction for our province even in these challenging times. As the Rev Jim Hejl (from the Texas Brethren) said to the assembly, “The Moravian Church Southern province clearly has a role to play and a job to do!”

- **Pastor John**



2022-2026 PEC (from left to right): rear, Rev Dr. Dion Christopher, Rev Dr. Neil Routh, Rev Dr Riddick Weber, Keith Kapp; front, Deborah Aboudara, Andi Williams, Rev. Christie Clore.

One of the primary duties of our quadrennial synods is to elect a Provincial Elders’ Conference, a group of seven clergy and laypersons who are charged with supervising the work of the Province between synods. The PEC president is first elected by “ecclesiastical ballot,” which must achieve 2/3 majority. There are no nominations; each round every delegate can vote for any ordained clergy person. After the PEC president has been elected, we proceed to electing the three clergy and three laypersons. We are blessed to have elected an excellent and visionary group. Dion Christopher brings the experience and knowledge of the diverse groups in the Florida-Georgia District; Riddick Weber, who is a professor at Moravian Theological

Seminary, brings a depth of understanding of our heritage but also a vision for our future; Christie Clore has extensive training in mediation skills; Andi Williams (New Philadelphia) is both an author and leadership trainer; Deb Aboudara (Home) is a CPA and specialist in retirement plans; and Keith Kapp, who is an attorney, brings an extensive knowledge of law and procedures. Br. Kapp is the only “carryover” from the previous PEC.

Inside:

- **Synod Resolutions**
- **New PEC**
- **Freedom School**
- **Anniversary**

Synod Resolutions

While there were many routine organizational resolutions -- revising language of the Book of Order, affirming the change of the Board of Cooperative Ministries (BCM) to the Center for Congregational Development (CCD) -- there were many resolutions that will directly impact the life of our congregations and the future of our ministry together.

Racism and Reconciliation: The Moravian Team for Racial, Cultural, and Ethnic Reconciliation was reauthorized to continue its work. Several resolutions encouraged increased diversity and representation in leadership.

Housing Justice: Recognizing the huge problem with homelessness and near-homelessness, synod authorized a team to work for solutions to this problem.

Structure and Vision: The Provincial Organizational Core Team was reauthorized and charged with continuing the work of a new structure for different forms of ministry, working with the CCD, and how each category will relate to the Provincial budget.

Provincial Assessment: A new, fairer, and more realistic structure was approved for the Provincial Assessments.

Children, Youth, & Family: CYF ministry was emphasized, encouraging continued cooperation with the APCE (Association of Partners in Christian Education).

Young Adult Ministry: Recognizing the important changes that happen in senior high, college, and transition to adult life -- and the massive departure of Gen Y and Gen Z from organized churches -- synod authorized a new position for a Provincial Director of Youth/Young Adult Ministry.

Ordained Ministry: recognizing that many of the current pastors will retire in coming years, there was a resolution calling for intentional recruitment of candidates for ministry, Synod also authorized broader use of licensed lay pastors in roles previously reserved to ordained clergy.

Benefits Review: recognizing that the burden of medical insurance is crippling for congregations and the

Province, the synod authorized the PEC and PSSB to explore a common insurance fund with the Northern Province and our (much larger) ecumenical partners. A larger group will result in better coverage for less.

LGBTQIA: Synod called for continued Christian dialog with LGBTQIA persons and for the CCD to make available materials and training that would help churches minister with LGBTQIA folks.

New & Emerging Ministries (such as Anthony's Plot) will be recognized and will have specific guidelines for how they can achieve representation and vote at the 2016 synod.

We did not complete review of all the proposals, so a large number were referred to the new PEC for consideration and action. All the resolutions that were passed should be available soon for public review at www.mcsp.org.

Unity Synod 2023: Delegates elected were the Rev. Adam Craver and Donna Hurt; alternates are Evon Crooks and Christy Clore.

Coming Soon...

Anniversary!

On Sunday, July 10, we will celebrate our congregation's 110th anniversary. Plans will be announced soon, but SAVE THE DATE and plan to join us!

SAVE YOUR SHREDDING!

The Spagh Class will be holding a shredding event this fall -- so save those receipts and miscellany and support the church through your shredding!



You Can Help!

On Sunday, May 22 our Women's Fellowship held a wonderful congregational lunch that raised \$500 for the ministry of the church. Pastor John presented a program after the lunch on the many volunteer opportunities we have at Trinity.

Building Repairs

- Painting
- Suspended Ceiling
- Water Fountains
- LED Bulbs
- Renovate Nursery

Archives

- Cataloguing
- Documenting
- Digitizing

Helping Others

- Bagging Rice
- Meals on Wheels

Children

- Volunteer on Nursery Corps

Others

- Usher/Greeter
- Volunteer in Office
- Webcast

For more information, please visit our website and click on the "You Can Help" gadget on the right or go to:

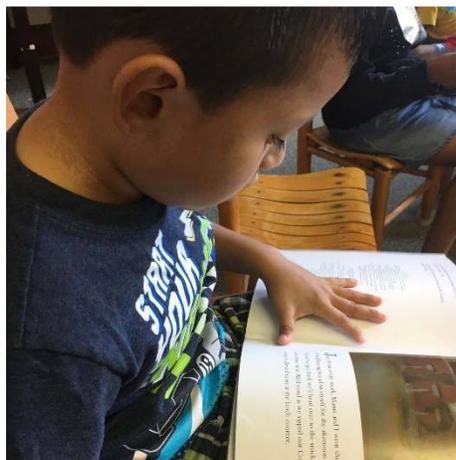
Trinitymoravian.org/content/youcanhelp



Rt. Rev. Sam Gray prepares to speak at the Lovefeast on the Square on May 15!

Freedom School

Freedom School begins on Monday, June 20th and runs through July 28. The whole building will be hustling and bustling Monday through Friday with fifty scholars from the neighborhood and their facilitators. Freedom School is a program of Children's Defense Fund, and helps disadvantaged children improve reading and other skills over the summer. But it's more than that; the kids receive training in many life skills, including how to de-escalate a confrontation – something that will be of profound use!



From Christie Hall

Dear Trinity Family,

I want to sincerely thank every one of you who helped in any way with Mom's service on May 9th. There could not have been a more beautiful day in God's Acre that Monday afternoon! And the service itself was a blessing to our family. Everyone, Pastor John, those who read Scriptures, the music provided by the always faithful Trinity Band, Sara and Sara, the meaningful prayers and those who shared stories of Mom, the hymns sung, everything fit Mom's wishes! Also, many thanks to the Seekers' Class, Women's Fellowship, and all who helped in preparing the wonderful family meal! And if I have left anyone out, Thank You!

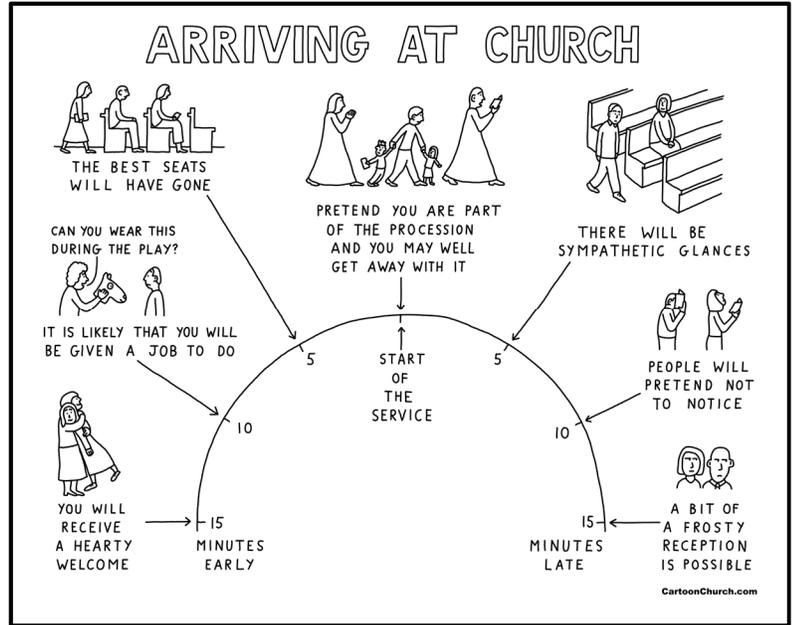
With love,
Christie Hall, Bill Allen,
Becky Allen McCall, and all of
Jeannine Allen's Family.



Frank and Peggy Sisk celebrated their 72nd wedding anniversary on Friday, June 10.

UPCOMING SCHEDULE

- June 5 Pentecost Communion
- June 12 Trinity Sunday
- June 19 Fathers' Day
Luke 7:1-10
Caleb Carter Preaches
- June 26 "How Can God Let
Children Die?"
Luke 7:11-17
- July 3 John Hus Communion
- July 10 Anniversary



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*In essentials unity,
In non-essentials liberty,
In all things love.*



Return Service Requested



Trinity Moravian Church
220 E. Sprague Street
Winston-Salem, NC 27127