

Leaksville Moravian Church
712 McConnell Street
PO Box 35
Eden, North Carolina 27289

In essentials Unity;
In non-essentials Liberty;
In all things Love.



Leaksville Moravian Church



December 2020

PO Box 35
Eden, NC 27289
Church Office: (336) 623-9440
Leaksvillemoravian@gmail.com
www.LeaksvilleMoravianChurch.org

Rev. John Rainey, Appointed Interim Pastor

Jeff Mericle, Vice-Chairperson, Board of Elders
Jesse Williams, Chairperson, Board of Trustees
Melissa Mericle, President, Women's Fellowship
Mike Hurd, President, Men's Fellowship



The psalmist writes, "When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion, we were like those who dream." This Advent and Christmas, we may ask the same question: what does it look like to live like those who dream? Throughout scripture, especially during Advent and Christmas, we read stories of dreamers—prophets and psalmists; John the Baptist, Mary, Elizabeth, Joseph, Simeon, and Anna; shepherds and Magi. Each of these characters found in scripture received, discovered, and responded to God's dream for the world. In the season of Advent, we are invited to step into the mystery and awe of God's dreams and pray they shape our reality—what is God's dream for us in this moment in human history? This Advent and Christmas season at LMC is for the dreamer in all of us—those who dream of a deeper connection with God and those who dream of a more just world for all. This season is for anyone who dreams of comfort and for anyone who has given up on their dreams. It's for those of us whose dreams have been crushed in this past year— a year of disorientation, loss and grief. And this season is for those of us who know that dreams take time.

My prayer for you this Advent and Christmas is that you will step into the mystery and awe of God's dreams for us in this moment, to trust God's deep wisdom that will guide us from the disorientation we have felt this past year, and to pray and work for the dreams we dream to shape our reality.

Pastor John



As of the publishing of this newsletter, we are still unsure of our re-opening status for Leaksville Moravian Church. Please continue to monitor the emailed Weekly Greetings that go out each week and listen for One Call Now

updates. If you are not on that list and would like an update, please call the church office at (336) 623-9440. Be sure and leave a message.

Leaksville Moravian Church—Mission Statement

To teach the Word of God.
To experience the salvation of Jesus Christ.
To offer Christian fellowship, and
provide opportunities to serve others.

Aging Well in a Pandemic World

November 2020

Getting A Good Night's Sleep

We all crave sleep – just like we hunger and thirst, we have the need for sleep. Sleep strengthens our immune systems, our memories, and our ability to learn. Seven to eight hours of sleep a night is considered optimum and restorative.

As we age, getting a good night's sleep can become more difficult. We have more trouble quieting our minds, forgetting all the bad news, and turning off the day. Researchers estimate that about half of adults over the age of 65 have sleep issues. Sleep problems can significantly interfere with older adults' daily activities and reduce our quality of life.

We have to learn to think and act like good sleepers. AARP's Healthtools website offers excellent solutions for good sleep: <https://healthtools.aarp.org/sleep>

Here are a few tips from the experts for getting a better night's rest:

Exercise is one of the best things older people can do for their health:

Older people who exercise regularly fall asleep faster, sleep longer, and report better quality of sleep. The National Institute of Aging (www.nia.nih.gov) offers helpful tips for exercising safely as an older person.

Reduce bedroom distractions:

Televisions, cellphones, and bright lights can make it more challenging to fall asleep. Keep the television in another room and try not to fall asleep with it turned on.

Avoid substances that can discourage sleep:

Like alcohol, tobacco, caffeine, and even large meals late in the day can make sleep more challenging. Try reducing or eliminating caffeine intake and eating dinner at least four hours before bedtime.

Keep a regular sleep schedule:

Remember that aging makes it more difficult to recover from lost sleep. Avoid sudden changes in sleep schedules. Try going to bed and waking up at the same time every day and being careful about napping too long.

Develop a bedtime routine:

Find activities that help you relax before bed. Many older people enjoy a bath, reading, or finding some quiet time with devotions or meditation before getting into bed.

~The Aging Well Team



A drive-thru Christmas experience
at Laurel Ridge Camp!

Friday & Saturday
December 4-5
5:00- 8:00 PM

As you drive through Laurel Ridge, you will be transported to Bethlehem to witness the miracle of Jesus' birth! Your experience will culminate with a safe visit to the Laurel Ridge shop, along with hot cocoa and maybe even a glimpse of some fella in a red suit!

Admission is free with a suggested donation of canned food items to support our local community!



MORE INFO:
LAURELRIDGE.ORG



Accommodations are available at Higgins Lodge!
Bishop Wing \$55.00, Salem Wing \$65.00

Brothers and Sisters of Leaksville Moravian Church,

Greetings from the Board of Elders. We hope this letter finds you all healthy and safe.

With the end of the year approaching rapidly, we wanted to let you know what decisions are being made regarding worship and church activities.

The COVID-19 pandemic continues to pose a significant threat in Rockingham County. Current trends being tracked by the state as benchmarks for moving through the various phases of "re-opening" are not moving in a positive direction. COVID cases are expected to continue to increase until at least December.

In North Carolina, Governor Roy Cooper has moved us to Phase 3, however the indoor gathering limit has moved back to a maximum of 10 people. Considering the upward trend we expect, efforts to contain the spread of COVID-19 need to remain in place. The Elders, with help from the PEC, will continue to monitor the situation during these next weeks. Sadly, the Board has not been able to schedule regular in-person worship. As we approach the holiday seasons, this decision is especially hard. The Women's Fellowship has already decided to cancel the Candle Tea and Bazaar. We have been in touch with the bakers for Lovefeast buns and have been told that due to COVID they are not planning on baking for churches this year. The Board has discussed our Thanksgiving and Christmas Eve Lovefeasts and with the gathering limits that we expect to be in place and the limitations imposed by social distancing, with a heavy heart, we do not see where it will be feasible to hold a traditional Lovefeast this year. We are hopeful that we can return to in-person Sunday worship by Christmas.

Another consideration for end of the year is Church Council and election of new board members. With recommendations from the PEC and Joint Board discussions, at this point we do not feel that a Church Council is feasible. We have decided to hold off Church Council until conditions permit us to meet. All current Board Members have agreed to maintain their current positions until a new election can be held.

Many of us are weary of the demands and hardships the presence of corona virus have placed on our communities, our personal lives, and of the limits to our being able to enjoy the normal range of church activities, especially larger group gatherings for worship and fellowship. Protecting the safety and well-being of our families, church friends, neighbors, those that we serve and the wider community remain a priority, and part of our Christian witness.

Keep us, good Lord, under the shadow of your mercy in this time of uncertainty and distress. Sustain and support the anxious and fearful, and lift up all who are brought low; that we may rejoice in your comfort knowing that nothing can separate us from your love in Jesus Christ our Lord. (Church of England)

In Christian love,
Board of Elders

Leaksville Moravian Church Job Opening

Leaksville Moravian Church is now accepting resumes for the position of Administrative Assistant. Leaksville Moravian Church seeks an organized, self-motivated individual with excellent computer and interpersonal skills, basic financial competency, and writing/editing/proofreading ability to staff the church office approximately 12 hours per week (Monday-Thursday, 9:00 am-noon). Ability to handle personal information confidentially is essential. Necessary skills include proficiency in Microsoft Office suite and Quicken Financial Management software. Previous experience in a church setting is a plus. Detailed qualifications and responsibilities are available from the church office. Resumes may be sent to the attention of the Chairperson of the Trustees, Jesse Williams, at Leaksville Moravian Church, P.O. Box 35, Eden, NC 27289 or emailed to jlwilliams0104@gmail.com.



Women's Fellowship



The Women's Fellowship is currently selling Moravian stars, Moravian beeswax candles, and Dewey's Moravian cookies and sugarcake. Order forms were mailed out to church members. If you did not receive one, contact another church member or send an email to the church office (leaksvillemoravian@gmail.com). Orders have to be in the church office by **December 6th**. Your payment must be included with your order. Orders will be available for pickup on Saturday, December 12th. The time for pickups will be determined once we know when the items will be delivered.

2020 Watchword for Leaksville Moravian Church

*The earth, O Lord, is full of your steadfast love;
teach me your statutes.*

Psalms 119:64

A JOURNEY THROUGH ADVENT
MORAVIAN ONLINE READING SERVICES

Mondays | 7:00 PM ET
Nov. 30, Dec. 7, Dec. 14, Dec. 21, & Jan. 4
PLUS pre-recorded services for Christmas, Dec. 28, and New Year's Eve

VISIT MORAVIANCHRISTMAS.ORG FOR MORE INFO!
Interprovincial Board of Communication | Board of Cooperative Ministries | Moravian Church Without Walls

Once again The Board of Cooperative Ministries, Moravian Church Without Walls, and the Interprovincial Board of Communication (along with members of the Interprovincial Moravian Christmas Task Force) have partnered to host a series of virtual Advent Reading Services beginning on Monday, November 30. We'll be reading through exciting new materials curated from our Advent/Christmas/Epiphany lectionary and combined to be very similar to Readings for Holy Week.

These readings services, crafted by the Rev. Brian Dixon, of Emmaus Moravian Church and David Blum of the Moravian Music Foundation, combine Bible verses for Advent with Moravian hymns to offer a new take on the season.

The services will be live via Zoom each Monday evening throughout Advent: Nov. 30, Dec. 7, Dec. 14 and Dec. 21. In addition, several additional prerecorded readings services will be available for Christmas, Dec. 28 (first Sunday after Christmas) and New Years Day. A final live service will be held Jan. 4 for Epiphany.

To participate via Zoom, <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88999379638>. Note you will need Zoom installed on your computer. Services can also be viewed on Moravian Church Without Walls Facebook page; recordings will be featured on MoravianChristmas.org.

**Beethoven's Pastoral Sextet
String Sextet Concert
Dec. 16, 2020
7:30pm
Live-Streamed**

Musicians of the Winston-Salem Symphony will perform the String Sextet version of Beethoven's Sixth Symphony "Pastoral" from parts in the Salem Collegium Musicum Collection of the Moravian Music Foundation. Also featured, a performance of *Drei Equale* by Beethoven (three chorales for four trombones).

Tickets available at:
<https://beethovensextet.bpt.me/>

More information at:
<https://moravianmusic.org/beethoven-pastoral-sextet/>

Or, call 336-725-0651 during weekday hours to order a ticket.

Tickets purchased through these links (Brown Paper Tickets) - or, directly through the MMF office - will benefit the Moravian Music Foundation.

Concert Tickets only \$20

~ one ticket needed per household or device ~

Online Items of Interest:

While we are all staying home, here are some online resources that might interest you:

Old Salem Exploratorium: A series of 5- to 10-minute experiences that will bring you in direct visual (but not physical!) contact with Old Salem master craftsman and educators.

<https://www.oldsalem.org/calendar-programs/exploratorium/>

Museum of Early Decorative Arts: Watch selected videos from the MESDA program:

<https://mesda.org/programs/program-videos/>

Moravian Music Foundation: Click this link for Moravian Music Foundation's YouTube Channel, full of free videos of lectures, music, music education, and concerts.

<https://www.youtube.com/user/MoravianMusicFndn/playlists>

Mission Committee News

The Mission Committee sent \$250.00 to Samaritan's Purse to help with Operation Christmas Child even though we were not able to gather to assemble shoeboxes as a church. They donated \$250.00 to CCM to be designated for the Christmas ham giveaway. They will be adopting a family for Christmas. Please get in touch with Arlean Christman for more details about this. If you happen to know of someone that has a need, please let a member of the Mission Committee know and they will try to help. Mission Committee members are: John Rainey, Arlean Christman, Myra Phillips, Sandy Johnson, Liz and Will Chriscoe, Gail and Rocky Turner and Lynne Young from the Board of Elders.



PRAYER LIST



Barbara Calhoun
Renee Carroll & Baby
Darlene Dyer
Rhonda Elliot
Jesse Edwards
Mark Ellis
Betty Gatewood
Roy Kasten
Chris Lyle
Sherrill Malnofski
Charles Marlowe

Anna Martin
Barry, Marie & Butch Martin
Chris Martin
Pastor John Rainey
Donna Rainey
The Family of Robert Simyon
Martha Smith
Cathy Tucker
Tony & June Walker
Boston Yanotti

Please forgive us if we have left anyone's name off of this list. If you would like to leave a prayer request for someone, please fill out a Prayer Request form located in the pew pockets and place in the offering plate or visit our website at www.leaksvillemoravianchurch.org and click on the Prayer Request icon.



Caring and Sharing



Please remember in your prayers:
Our prayers are with:

- ...Marilyn Pennebaker, who's husband, Robert Simyon, passed away on Thursday, November 26th.
- ...Betty Gatewood, who tested positive for COVID-19
- ...all Moravian church leaders
- ...our congregation
- ...our families
- ...our neighbors
- ...our medical care-givers
- ...our communities – both near and far



Final Goals for 2020

*For everything there is a season,
and a time for every matter
under heaven.*

2020 has been a time for change, a time for reflection, a time for growth, a time for something completely unexpected. For many, it has been a year of adjustment, and for some, it has been a year of loss. For the Board of

World Mission, it has been a year of planning, a year of organizing, and a year of evaluating. While we know what this year has been, we ponder what the new year will bring. Will it be a season of working from home? Will it be a season of hugging your loved ones? Will it be a season of hope?

Even as the pandemic continues and our hurricane relief in Central America begins, we choose to believe that 2021 is a year of hope and we are ready to spread that hope all around the world, even if it means doing so from our own living rooms. Help us reach our last 2020 goal of gaining 20 new monthly donors who give at least \$20 a month. To be a part of our mission visit moravianmission.org and click "Give."

December Birthdays

4	Janice Hall
14	Ron Reynolds
17	Marilyn Pennebaker
17	Michael Gee
24	Betty Gatewood
24	Jeff Mericle
28	Libby Joyce
29	Anna Martin

Happy Birthday



If anyone knows of any additions/corrections that need to be made to this list, please call the church office at 336-623-9440.

December Anniversaries

10	Mr. & Mrs. Ron Reynolds
20	Mr. & Mrs. Micah Christman



PREVENTING ILLNESS

The Steps to Prevent Illness suggested by the Centers for Disease Control are still important:

- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Stay home when you are sick, except to get medical care.
- Wear a cloth face cover when you are around other people.
- Maintain social distancing when in public – 6 feet between yourself and others.
- Cover your coughs and sneezes with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially after going to the bathroom; before eating; and after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing. If soap and water are not readily available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces and objects daily.

COVID-19 Self-Assessment

All members that are planning on attending worship should perform the following self assessment prior to leaving home:

- Do you have any new muscle aches not related to another medical condition?
- Do you feel like you have an elevated temperature? (greater than 100°)
- Do you have a sore throat not related to another medical condition?
- Do you have a new or worsening cough?
- Do you have shortness of breath not related to another medical condition?
- Do you have a recent loss of smell or taste?
- Do you have a new onset of vomiting or diarrhea?
- Do you have repeated shaking or chills not related to another medical condition?

If you can answer yes to any of these questions please stay home and follow up with your medical provider.

Pray Every Day—December 2020

1. Live in reverent fear during the time of your exile. Pray for pastors ministering under difficult circumstances.
2. Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Pray for charities trying to meet food needs.
3. Give as you are able, according to the blessings God has given you. Pray for Moravian camps and staff.
4. Your Father knows what you need before you ask Him. Pray for Adopt A Village in Tanzania.
5. God makes a home for the lonely. Pray for the program to feed school children in Sierra Leone.
6. Sunday-He will feed the flock like a shepherd; carry tiny lambs in His arms. Pray for teachers and children in these difficult times
7. On behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. Pray for Benno and Teresa Marx {MAF}.
8. The day of the Lord is coming. It is near. Pray for Steve and Ann Marx (MAF).
9. God did not withhold His own Son but gave Him up for us. Pray for the leaders of our churches and our country.
10. The Glory of the Lord shall be revealed. Pray for medical personnel fighting the war against Covid-19.
11. Jesus Christ is the same today, yesterday and forever. Pray for the food programs taking care of those needing good nutrition.
12. O Lord, be gracious to me, for I have sinned against you. Pray for Kevin and Charity in the Middle East.
13. Sunday-May the Lord of peace sanctify you entirely. Pray for Jenna and Andrew Craver in Alaska.
14. People learn righteousness from your judgments. Pray for the Hoffman's in HIV/AIDS Ministry.
15. Blessed be the Lord God for He has looked favorably on His people. Pray for Unity Women's Desk.
16. You are the God who works wonders. Pray for Alan and DeeDee Lobst in France.
17. There is hope for your future, says the Lord. Pray for the Harrisons with Greek InterVarsity.
18. Repent for the kingdom of heaven is near. Pray for flood victims in Florida and Louisiana.
19. Rejoice that your names are written in heaven. Pray for disaster victims in Nicaragua.
20. Sunday. May those who love your salvation say, "Great is the Lord." Pray for the Sineaths in Campus Outreach.
21. Let us love, not in word, but in truth and action. Pray for BWM Disaster relief.
22. Gods remains the same, and His years will never end. Pray for Armando Rusindo Foundation and people in Cuba.
23. Anyone who will not receive the kingdom of God as a child, will not enter it. Pray for those in Honduras affected by hurricanes.
24. My soul thirsts for the living God. Pray for the Theisens in Mexico.
25. Christmas. To you is born this day in the city of David, a savior who is Christ the Lord. Pray for the Teshes in Kenya.
26. I will heal my people and let them enjoy abundant peace and security. Pray for Moravians in Peru.
27. Sunday. Happy are those who make the Lord their trust. Pray for Safiatu Braima and school leaders in Sierra Leone.
28. Console those in affliction with the consolation with which God has consoled. Pray for Charlie and Vickie Brent in Croatia.
29. All who believe in His name He gives the power to become children of God. Pray for Michael and Brenda Brent in Texas.
30. Hear my prayer, Lord, listen to my cry for help. Pray for the clinic in Ahaus, Honduras.
31. Ask and you will receive, so that your joy may be complete. Pray for police and firefighters everywhere.

Cooperative Christian Ministries

September

New 7
Families 42
Adults 81
Children 39

CCM Food Bank

CCM is operating a Drive-Up Food Pantry for its clients on Thursday mornings from 9:30am-12:00pm. We want to continue to serve the needs of our community as long as possible while keeping our volunteers, clients and church staff safe.

With limited supplies and area shortages, we still need your food donations. If you can donate, you can bring your donations to the church office on ****Thursdays from 9:30 am—12:00 pm.**** Please call before you come and we will meet you outside and take your donations.

Needs for December:

Canned vegetables (mixed veggies, potatoes, carrots, etc.),
canned sweet peas, spaghetti pasta, Jiffy mix.

CCM Christmas Ham Giveaway

Cooperative Christian Ministries is planning our Annual Christmas Ham Giveaway for our clients at the CCM Food Pantry. Again this year, during the month of December we will try to give everyone extra items of food to help make a complete dinner. Our goal is to raise enough money to help cover a portion of these expenses. The last several years have been a huge success thanks to the generosity of so many wonderful individuals, businesses, organizations and churches. Again, we are asking for extra support in funding this worthwhile project.

With the church still not open to meeting in person at this time, we will not be able to take up a special offering for CCM. If you would like to make a monetary donation to the CCM Ham Giveaway, you may send a check made out to CCM Food Pantry with a notation "Ham Giveaway" to PO Box 931, Eden, NC 27289-0931. Donations may be dropped off at the CCM Food Pantry located in the basement of Leaksville Moravian Church any Thursday from 9:30—Noon. Let's make this year another success and help provide for the people who are less fortunate.

Thank you and God bless,
Lynne Young, President
Bill Smith, Vice President
Melissa Mericle, Secretary-Treasurer



Leaksville Moravian Church - December 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
All events are TBD. We will be following the guidance of the PEC and the NC State mandates. We hope to be together soon! Please watch for weekly email updates.						
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		