



# SCHOENBRUNN COMMUNITY MORAVIAN CHURCH

2200 East High Avenue New Philadelphia, Oh 44663

[330-339-1940](tel:330-339-1940)/[pastor@scmchurch.org](mailto:pastor@scmchurch.org)

Rev. Benjamin Lippert, Pastor

Greetings Schoenbrunn Family,

This is your update on how the church is progressing in the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter of 2020. I have to say it is frustrating how much the pandemic still keeps us from a return to a “normal lifestyle”, but the church has been a blessing for many people in these difficult times.

We have been blessed with congregational members and friends of the congregation who continue to step-up in times of need. Our worship team remains committed to providing a moving worship experience every Sunday. I want to give a special thanks to Denny Drumm who graciously moves all around our audio/visual equipment whenever we change settings and Emily Lippert, who livestreams our services on Facebook and You Tube every Sunday. Our Food on the Fly team remained committed to serving meals every second Wednesday, even when it felt like the hottest day of the summer months, always fell on the second Wednesday. We have also been blessed with incredible stewardship from the entire congregation. We are on pace to have our 5<sup>th</sup> and final year of debt forgiveness from the Province paid off by Thanksgiving. We owe less than \$2,000. Well done good and faithful servants!

In the life of the church, we will be returning to worship in the sanctuary on October 11<sup>th</sup>.

We will still be social distancing, refraining from singing, and asking all people in the building to wear masks.

But we are excited to return to our worship home.

On Saturday, October 3<sup>rd</sup>, we will have our Fall Festival from 4pm-6pm. For \$5 you can get a delicious drive-thru meal from the church. You can't beat that!

Also on Sunday, October 4<sup>th</sup>, we will begin an every other week Zoom Sunday School for the entire family from 8:30 to 9:15 am. You can join us at this link, <https://zoom.us/j/8022223798>

Unfortunately, this Advent season there will be no Advent Communion service at Sharon Moravian or our traditional Lovefeast at Schoenbrunn Village. We also do not have any Christmas plans established at the church, but ideas are already being formulated. I think we will need to be as flexible with our Christmas traditions as Mary and Joseph were the very first Christmas.

I hope this letter finds you and your loved ones well. This winter may be a tough one, but I have a feeling we will still see many reminders that God is still in charge. Proverbs 19:21 said, "Many are the plans in the mind of a man, but it is the purpose of the Lord that will stand. May God's purpose for you and his entire church be strengthened by the faith, love, and hope of his disciples in these coming days. Amen!

Please feel free to give Pastor Ben or anyone of your joint board members a call with any prayer concerns or joys you may have during these stressful times. It is important now more than ever that we stay in touch with each other. May God continue to bless you and your loved ones.

Blessings,

Pastor Ben & SCMC Joint Board

