

# *The Bethania Gazette*



*“I am Jesus’ Little Lamb”*

*(Photo courtesy of Sr. Renee Martin)*

## *Bethania Moravian Church*

*Serving God and Serving You Since 1759*

❄️ *April 2026* ❄️

# *A Thought from the Pastor*

## How to Keep Young All Your Life

With Scripture: Psalm 37: 1-9, 23-27

Nobody grows old by merely living a number of years. People grow old only by deserting their ideals. Years may wrinkle the skin, but to give up interest is what wrinkles the soul. Worry, doubt, self-distrust, fear and despair. These are the long, long years that bow the head and turn the growing spirit back to dust.

Whatever your years, there is in every being's heart the love of wonder, the undaunted challenge of events, the unyielding, childlike appetite for "what's next", and the joy and the game of life.

You are as young as your faith, as old as your doubt, as young as your self-confidence, as old as your fear, as young as your hope, as old as your despair. In the central place of your heart, there is a recording chamber; so long as it receives messages of beauty, hope, cheer, and courage. So long as you are young. When the wires are all down, and your heart is covered with the snow of pessimism and the ice of cynicism, then, and only then, are you grown old.

- General Douglas  
MacArthur

Let us pray:

*"Bestow upon me, O Lord my God, understanding to know thee, diligence to seek thee, wisdom to find thee, and a faithfulness that may finally embrace thee. Amen."*



The painting of the women's bathroom and the choir loft have been completed.

The church has decided to install a Wind Phone at the foot bridge between the graveyard driveway and the walkway. A Wind Phone is a phone connected only to your need to talk to those you can no longer call, or to God. The idea was first thought of by a Japanese man who lost loved ones and friends in a tsunami. He installed a phone in his garden to talk to those he had lost. He opened his garden to his neighbors, and it was well received and operates to this day. All over the world this idea has been replicated and well-loved. Google search Wind Phone, and I think you'll be surprised. It is our hope that this inviting act of love will bring people to church. And more importantly, help those in grief in some small way.

The Joint Boards have decided that the current no trespassing signs give the wrong impression to folks visiting our church. We have a historic graveyard, for example, and people come to visit their relatives who are interned there, or for any reason they might have to visit our church. The signs will be replaced with a more appropriate *"Be Respectful"*.

We will also place 2 delivery signs indicating where to leave deliveries. Drivers unfamiliar with our long church have left items in some interesting places. One sign will be at the bottom of the hill with an arrow pointing up. The second will be at the entrance to the main parking lot, arrow pointing left.

-Mike Todd, Trustees Chair



## The Bethania Walkers

Join the walkers for a time of fellowship and a little fitness. We meet at 9:00am, walk one or two miles and finish with a trip to a nearby coffee shop.

**Saturday May 8:** Bethania Trails

**Saturday June 12:** Tobaccoville Park

**Saturday July 10:** Hill Park

**Saturday August:** to be decided

If you would like to join, just meet at the location's parking lots, or contact Jo Anne Todd for more details!



## The Facilities Committee

Painting has been completed in several areas of the church buildings. The Railings and lamp posts on the sanctuary, the ceiling and crown moldings in the choir room, a wall and window in the lady's restroom off the sanctuary, the steeple ceiling, and three dormers above the Fellowship Hall all have been painted. The committee will be meeting again in early May to tour our buildings and schedule priorities. If there are areas of concern that need to be looked at, please contact Jo Anne Todd:

[jotodd142@gmail.com](mailto:jotodd142@gmail.com)

# **A Message from Br. David Conrad**

## Can You Help Locate These?

Around 2006 I recorded interviews with my mom, Frances Conrad, relating to her early memories of growing up in Bethania in the early 1900's. We ended up with well over 200 hours of interviews. We ended up with 11 CDs of history and stories of Bethania's houses, families, and the Church. I donated this recorded collection to the Bethania Historical Society so it would be available for anyone interested in the history of our village to borrow and listen to. Whether it was housed in the Visitor Center or the Museum back on the Lane, I am not sure, but I believe it passed through several hands over time. Five of the discs have turned up, but we are missing disks #1-5 and #7.

I am hoping that someone who sees our message in the Gazette might have these missing CDs or know where they are. I think it's important that we complete the set and preserve this spoken bit of Bethania history. Thank you.



## **Our Prayer Requests**

All of our sisters and brothers who are not able to be with us, Carmen Barnard, Faye Bricca, Tony Bricca, Barbara Cole, Calvin Conrad, Walter Craig, Janet Davis, Bob Delp, Darrell Gillespie, Scott Hankins, Frank Harvey, David Hunter, Judy Knopf, Dick Mock, Rosemary Mock, Bill and Rita Nye, E.J. Oehman, Judy Poole, Rhonda Wood, Lawana Yarbrough.

*Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayers. Amen.*

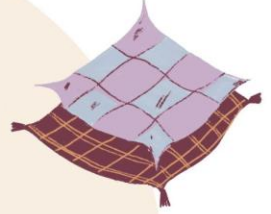
*(To add or remove from this list, please contact the church office.)*

## **What a Fellowship!!!**

On Sunday, March 14<sup>th</sup>, members of Bethania Moravian Church were graciously hosted by the members of United Baptist Church for a fantastic taco bar! Bethania Moravian, along with Mizpah Moravian, Bethania AME Zion, and United Baptist, has a long-standing tradition of alternating the Thanksgiving worship service between the churches. Fellowship helps us to better know one another outside of a worship setting.



# COMMUNITY YARD SALE



**BETHANIA MORAVIAN CHURCH**

**SATURDAY, MAY 2ND, 2026  
8:00 AM - 12:00 PM**

**LIMITED TABLES  
ONLY \$10**

**TO RESERVE EMAIL  
[BETHANIAMORAVIAN@GMAIL.COM](mailto:BETHANIAMORAVIAN@GMAIL.COM)**



***Tables FREE to members!***

# HAPPY BIRTHDAY

## April Birthdays

**2<sup>nd</sup>** Lloyd Flynn

**3<sup>rd</sup>** Dallas Martin

**4<sup>th</sup>** Beth Spieler

**4<sup>th</sup>** Rebecca Ogburn

**7<sup>th</sup>** Burke Bovender

**16<sup>th</sup>** Sarah Kapp

**17<sup>th</sup>** Tonya Bovender

**18<sup>th</sup>** Sue Underwood

**19<sup>th</sup>** Richard Kelley

**20<sup>th</sup>** Ann Hamby

**28<sup>th</sup>** Lori Bovender

**29<sup>th</sup>** Jerry Fulcher

With Your presence, Lord, our Head and Savior, bless them all, we humbly pray; our dear heavenly Father's love and favor be their comfort every day. May God's Spirit now in each proceeding favor them with His most gracious leading; thus, shall they be truly blessed both in labor and in rest.

Amen.