

Christ Moravian Church

Christ Church Watchword for the Year 2021

Psalm 42:1

"As the deer longs for flowing streams, so my soul longs for you, O God."

Moravian Daily Text Watchword for the Week

I will praise the Lord as long as I live;

I will sing praises to my God all my life long.

Psalm 146:2



Sunday September 5th ~ Outdoor Worship on the Lawn!

Bring a lawn chair, and please continue to practice physical distancing measures.

Hello friends.

This is Pastor Matt Gillard writing to you this week. I'm having 6 months of district service as I wait upon a new call, and so I'm going to be spending some time at Christ Church to help out where I can. On Sunday mornings, you'll notice my family along with me. Beth and I have been married almost 10 years (coming up in October), and we have 2 kids, Rachel (5) and Rhys (pronounced Reese, who just turned 2 this summer). Beth's parents and brother also will be with us most of the time, and their names are Randy, Dee, and Adam.

Being in the Moravian church is a wonderful thing because we get to know so many of you from camp and some other district projects. But even though we might know a few of you, it'll still take us a while to remember names, so we're thankful for your patience as you introduce yourself a few times.

This week, as you might have heard, is back to school week. I've been walking Rachel to her first days of Kindergarten, where she is bursting with excitement. It's fun to see the excitement in the kids' faces (mask covered of course) as they prepare for a day of learning. I think the real excitement comes with all the possibilities about the places we go and what they hold, the people, the knowledge, the hope, the peace, the love that we experience when we arrive. With life having been so different due to this pandemic, I'm feeling that same excitement as we drive into church, that our faith might be brought to life through the relationships we build in this place.

Even though this pandemic continues to take its toll, it is the church and the growing of our faith which gives us the tools and hope to make it through. My family and I look forward to getting to know you over these next few months.

Rev. Matt Gillard

CMC Welcomes Pastoral Partnership with Rev. Matt Gillard

Christ Moravian Church welcomes Rev. Matt Gillard into a Pastoral Partnership with Pastor Gohdes and the congregation. Matt has recently transitioned from the ministry of Good Shepherd Church, and CMC welcomes his specialized involvement into various areas of worship and ministry for the upcoming months. We welcome Matt's partnership and are grateful for the gifts he'll bring to CMC and the Canadian District.

Upcoming Events

"Bible Buddies" meet on Sunday, September 5th at 8:30 am

Zoom details for this Bible Study Class are on the Events page of your e-mail



“One Day Garage Sale” at the CMC Parking Lot. CANCELLED !!!

Due to concerns surrounding health issues, we are cancelling the planned one-day Garage Sale.

September 5th ~ Worship will be Outdoors

Kick-Off Sunday on September 12th ~ Outdoor Worship with Marty Antonini

Financial Stewardship Update:

Envelope Steward Ken Schultz reports financial giving up to this point in the year.

At the end of August our budget for envelope income is \$126,875 and as of that date we have received \$112,670.

Please continue to pray for the ministry of CMC as the fall season leads us forward.

Annual General Meeting News !

September 19th, 2021 @ 1:00 pm via Zoom

You will have received the agenda, past Church Council minutes and Zoom link in an e-mail sent from the church office on September 2nd.

News from the Moravian Board of World Mission

**Moravian Disaster Response Update on Haiti, Hurricane Ida Impacts,
and Afghanistan Refugee Resettlement**

August 31, 2021

Please see the Moravian Board of World Mission attachment to this e-mail for more information and instructions on how you can help.

Statement on Vaccinations at CMC

“Christ Moravian Church will not close its doors to those who have not been vaccinated for COVID-19; however, the Church Executive Board and Elders strongly encourage everyone to get vaccinated.

Medical professionals have assured us that research shows vaccinations are safe and the most effective way to protect yourself from serious illness. Unvaccinated people make up the greatest number of patients hospitalized with COVID-19.

Having as many people immunized as possible is the best way to protect those who have been vaccinated as well as the children who are not eligible for vaccination. This is also the best way to help prevent the emergence of new variants that may be resistant to vaccines.

If you have not already done so, please consider vaccination as a way to protect yourself, others you care about and society as a whole.”

Weekly Reminders...

- Please know that you may call the church office for any needs that may arise. Feel free to phone (403-271-2700) to speak with us or leave a message. Another option is that you may contact the church office by e-mail at moravian@nucleus.com [this is monitored daily] with any questions or communication.
- **If you require assistance in getting to your COVID-19 vaccine appointment, please call the office.**
- Indranie Perera continues to receive recycling for support of Sri Lanka. She wishes to express sincere thanks to all who contribute to this worthwhile cause.

In All Things Love...

Children's Worship Bulletin

Coloring Page

Playing Favorites

James 2:1-12

Word Search Puzzle

B R O T H E R S N B A S W R R
Y L P X N E E E G F O I Z F I
O Q U H G C S G O S G S B I N
U Y M D Y O U F L B L T W L G
I T U H H V M M D V F E O T W
I J D C W C F C P O O R H H D
P R O D C L O T H E S S C Y T
G D I S C R I M I N A T E I E
E Y Y C L U W E N E Z H O T J
P D U E H E P F S O T L I T J
N E I G H B O R F B P R K B K
C P T X H N T P I X O H Y Q I
X L S Z R F K Y E V W M D P T
S B Z K N K Z M A G U I L T Y
F X X O A T X F E K I I X P R

RICH	FAVORITE	FILTHY	DISCRIMINATE	GOLD
CLOTHES	BROTHERS	NEIGHBOR	JUDGE	POOR
EXPLOIT	CHOSEN	SISTERS	GUILTY	RING

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I can make others feel welcome by being friendly.

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Standard Publishing, www.standardpub.com, 1-800-543-1301.

Multiple Choice

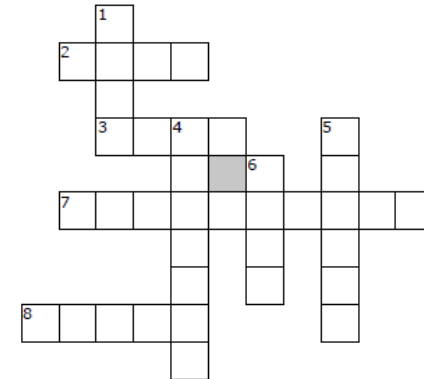
Choose the word that best matches the definition.

- ___ 1. A yellow metal often used in making jewelry
A. gold B. judge C. poor D. favoritism
- ___ 2. Articles of dress; wearing apparel; garments
A. clothes B. poor C. ring D. rich
- ___ 3. Deserving of blame
A. guilty B. clothes C. ring D. gold
- ___ 4. A small band of precious metal worn on the finger
A. favoritism B. poor C. judge D. ring
- ___ 5. Having great material wealth
A. gold B. guilty C. rich D. clothes
- ___ 6. Having little or no wealth and few or no possessions
A. judge B. poor C. gold D. favoritism
- ___ 7. To form an opinion about something or someone
A. ring B. poor C. rich D. judge
- ___ 8. Showing partiality toward a person or group
A. favoritism B. clothes C. ring D. guilty

My brothers and sisters, believers in our glorious
Lord Jesus Christ must not show favoritism.

James 2:2 (NIV)

Crossword Puzzle



ACROSS

2. A yellow metal often used in making jewelry
3. Having great material wealth
7. Showing partiality toward a person or group
8. To form an opinion about something or someone

DOWN

1. Having little or no wealth and few or no possessions
4. Articles of dress; wearing apparel; garments
5. Deserving of blame
6. A small band of precious metal worn on the finger

rich	ring	poor	favoritism
gold	clothes	judge	guilty



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Focus on Mark 7:24–37

WHAT is important to know?

—From “Exegetical Perspective” by Douglas R. A. Hare

How can Christians appropriate this story? First, it reminds us of our debt to Israel. As Krister Stendahl proposed, in Paul’s view we Gentile Christians must consider ourselves “honorary Jews.” The Gentile woman humbly acknowledges the priority of the “children,” even as she presses her request to be fed from the same table. Second, the woman’s boldness inspires us to be bold in our prayers of intercession and petition. Even though our basic principle is “Your will be done,” we must not prematurely abandon our prayers for healing, thinking they are futile.

WHERE is God in these words?

—From “Theological Perspective” by Loye Bradley Ashton

To be the Son of God, the Messiah must suffer, not only at the hands of those of us who do not understand him, but also under the conditions of existence, the challenge of the human condition itself. To be otherwise would not allow Jesus to be fully human. Furthermore, according to the tenets of process and liberation theologies, if he is also “fully God,” Jesus cannot avoid this suffering either. Mark provides an interesting way of seeing how the divine and the human can be completely combined in the life of Jesus of Nazareth, a kind of “Ephphatha Christology.” Jesus is fully God and fully human only if he can faithfully “be opened” to both at the same time.

SO WHAT does this mean for our lives?

—From “Pastoral Perspective” by Amy C. Howe

Perhaps it is too much to ask that a homeless person could interrupt the dinner of the president of the United States to ask a favor, but it is not too much to ask humanity to recognize that there are no walls made of withered hands, deaf ears, or troubled minds separating us from God or us from each other. Status is a product of our own imaginations, invisible to God. Once we acknowledge that there are no walls separating us, love and mercy flow unfettered, and all people are deemed equally valuable.

NOW WHAT is God’s word calling us to do?

—From “Homiletical Perspective” by

Dawn Ottoni Wilhelm

Most of us are reluctant to share our faith with others and we find very good reasons to keep quiet: we may believe that our actions speak more loudly than our words, we may be afraid of the inadequacy of our speech, or we may fear that we will make a mistake and alienate those to whom we are speaking. Yet the healed man is every bit as insistent as the Syrophenician woman. He and his companions give voice to God’s presence and power among them. The characters in both stories embolden us to share whatever glimpse of God’s mercy, love, and truth we have witnessed. Their stories and words remind us to focus our attention on God and to keep pointing others toward the reign of God proclaimed by Jesus Christ.

Outline of Mark's Gospel

There are various ways to outline this Gospel. The following is an adapted, abbreviated version highlighting upcoming lectionary texts from Mark in the *Interpretation Bible Commentary* by Lamar Williamson Jr. (Louisville, KY: Westminster John Knox Press, 1983), vii–ix. Upcoming lessons covered are in italics with the dates that they will be discussed in parenthesis. Please keep this sheet and bring it to class while studying these texts.

Mark is concerned with the kind of Messiah Jesus is and with discipleship appropriate to following him. Mark repeatedly insists (1) that Jesus is the Son of Man who must suffer humiliation and death by human hands, (2) that his followers either would not or could not accept Jesus' divinely appointed mission or its implications for their own, and (3) that Jesus challenged his disciples' confusion with clear instruction, stressing self-sacrificial service in Jesus' name and for the gospel's sake.

Prologue Mark 1:1–13

From the Call of the First Disciples to the Plot of Jesus' Opponents

Mark 1:16–3:6

From the Naming of the Twelve to Rejection by His Own People

Mark 3:7–6:6

From the Sending of the Twelve to Misunderstanding by His Disciples

Mark 6:7–8:21

6:7–13	The Sending of the Twelve
6:14–29	The Death of John the Baptist
6:30–44	The Feeding of the Five Thousand
6:45–56	Walking on Water and Healings at Gennesaret
7:1–23	Controversy About Tradition
7:24–37	<i>The Syrophenician Woman and the Deaf-mute of the Decapolis (September 5)</i>
8:1–21	The Feeding of the Four Thousand: "Do You Not Yet Understand?"

Discipleship: The Way of Jesus Mark 8:22–10:52

8:22–26	The Blind Man of Bethsaida
8:27–38	<i>Caesarea Philippi: First Passion Prediction (September 12)</i>
9:2–13	The Transfiguration
9:14–29	The Boy the Disciples Could Not Heal
9:30–37	<i>Capernaum: Second Passion Prediction (September 19)</i>
10:2–16	<i>Teachings About Marriage and About Children (October 3)</i>
10:17–31	<i>Teaching About Riches (October 10)</i>
10:32–45	<i>On the Road: Third Passion Prediction (October 17)</i>
10:46–52	<i>The Healing of Blind Bartimaeus (October 24)</i>

Jesus in Jerusalem Mark 11:1–13:37

11:1–12:37	Entry into Jerusalem and Addressing Questions
12:38–44	<i>Religious Hypocrisy and the Poor Woman's Offering (November 7)</i>
13:1–8	<i>The Temple and the End-time (November 14)</i>
13:9–37	Foretelling Persecution and the Destruction of the Temple

The Passion of Jesus

Mark 14:1–15:47

The Resurrection

Mark 16:1–8

The Longer Ending of Mark Mark 16:9–20



Moravian Disaster Response Update on Haiti, Hurricane Ida Impacts, and Afghanistan Refugee Resettlement August 31, 2021

The Moravian Board of World Mission continues to invite your prayers for the children of God worldwide that are suffering from hunger, natural disasters, war, and injustice. We would like to provide you with information on three areas of concern.

Haiti Earthquake and Hurricane Relief Efforts



*Food and materials being distributed
in Anse de Nau, Haiti*

On August 14, a devastating 7.2 magnitude earthquake hit southwestern Haiti. At present, the death toll is over 2,200 persons, with over 12,000 injured. Haiti is a Mission Area of the Moravian Church with a dozen congregations and is jointly supervised by the Eastern West Indies and Jamaica Provinces. Moravians in the capital city of Port-au-Prince have already sent teams into Jacmel and

Anse de Nau to provide emotional and spiritual support, food, and materials to those in need. The Moravian church buildings in those villages are heavily damaged, and with homes destroyed, most people are sleeping in the streets or vacant properties. Thanks to the support that we have received so far, the BWM has sent \$17,500 to Haiti. Special thanks to the Armando Rusindo Mission Foundation for their partnership in this effort.

Hurricane Ida Impact on the Gulf Coast



*Hurricane Ida makes landfall in
Louisiana*

As this report is being prepared, reports of damage from Hurricane Ida are just beginning to come in. This was a major Category 4 hurricane when it made landfall in Louisiana, and damage assessments are expected to be high and likely loss of life. We have initiated discussions with our ecumenical

partners in the Evangelical Lutheran and the Presbyterian Churches, who have extensive networks in the area. As this storm system moves from the Gulf shore up into the Northeastern US, we anticipate flooding issues all along its path. At this time will be sending funds to help with emergency outreach and will begin to look towards long-term rebuilding efforts when we can send teams in safely.

Afghanistan Refugee Resettlement

With the withdrawal of military personnel and foreign citizens from Afghanistan now complete, many Afghans are seeking to find refuge in the US and Canada. As Christians, we share in a calling to welcome those who are seeking safe shelter. In this effort, the BWM is partnering with Church World Service to support this urgent need. We encourage congregations to work with the local agencies that might be sponsoring resettlement efforts in their area. This would include providing help with housing and utilities, providing English language and job training, and providing money to purchase clothing and items needed for setting up their new home. We invite everyone to join in prayer, love, and action to protect those fleeing violence and persecution.



Afghan families seeking safe shelter

You can help to support all Moravian disaster relief efforts by sending your donations to: Moravian Church in Canada, 600 Acadia Drive SE, Calgary, AB T2J 0B8. Interac e-Transfer donations may be sent to treasurer@moravian.ca. In the comments section, please mark this donation as "MDR" (Moravian Disaster Response) and include your name and address to receive a tax receipt. Your support changes lives.