



PROVINCIAL TIES

August 2016

— LATEST NEWS & EVENTS —



2018 Provincial Synod

Plans are underway for the next Provincial Synod, April 19-22, 2018, to be held at YMCA Blue Ridge Assembly, Black Mountain, NC. The PEC has appointed Bob Hunter and Ginny Tobiassen as Synod co-chairs. The Synod Planning Committee begins work this month and includes: Ruth Burcaw, Cheryl Cottingham, Carol Foltz, Andrew Heil, Willie Israel, Judy Knopf, Aaron Linville, David Marcus, Margaret Norris, Tim Sapp, Neil Routh, Scott Venable, and Riddick Weber. Their areas of focus include: Nominations, Leadership, Synod Program, Delegate Preparation, Worship, and Facilities and Logistics. Save the dates for: a pre-synod conference, Feb. 24-25, 2017; and the synod delegate gathering, Sept. 22-23, 2017.



Moravian Music Foundation News

MORAVIAN MUSIC NEWS & EVENTS

James V. Salzwedel Award for Excellence in Church Music presented to Bob Clark

Sunday, July 17, 2016 at Oak Grove Moravian Church, the award (along with a *50 Years of Service to Moravian Music* pin) was presented to Charles Robert (Bob) Clark, longtime Moravian band director, Director of the Winston-Salem Community Band, tubist extraordinaire, and most-dedicated teacher. *"With true dedication to life-long learning and life-long enjoyment of playing a musical instrument, you have been influential in the lives and careers of many Moravian musicians. Throughout your ministry of music, you have modeled humble servanthood with your life and your musical gifts and have used music as a catalyst for building community and goodwill."*

Moravian Music-related Events

August 8 ~ Sounds of Summer Pipe Organ Recital [Series](#) – Friedberg Moravian Church, Winston-Salem, NC. Free. Laura Agner, Wilson Smith, and Mary Lou Kapp Peeples

August 11 ~ Bethabara Band Concert, 7:00pm, Bethabara Park, 2147 Bethabara Road, Winston-Salem, NC. Free.

August 11, 12, 13 ~ 250th Anniversary Celebration in Old Salem. *Illuminate Salem* 7:30 p.m. Salem Square (corner of Academy and Main Street) In celebration of the [250th Anniversary](#) of the founding of Salem, NC, enjoy a concert each night on Salem Square followed by a magical light show that tells the story of Salem. Each night, a trombone quartet will play chorales to announce the light show. FREE. The public is encouraged to bring a non-perishable food donation to benefit [Sunnyside Ministry](#)

August 13 ~ 250th Anniversary Community Day, 9:30 am - 4:30 pm, most of Old Salem will be open for self-guided tours (**FREE**) Home Moravian Church open for extended hours, interpretation, and refreshments; worship and music events in the sanctuary with Salem Congregation pastors presiding **Archie Davis Center ~ OPEN** (Moravian Archives and Music Foundation) Concert on the Square featuring **Salem Band** at 7:30 p.m.

August 21 ~ Singstunde Commemorating the Arrival of the Moravian Sisters to Salem. 3:00pm, Gray Auditorium, Old Salem Visitor Center, 900 Old Salem Rd, Winston-Salem, NC. Free. **Susan Keck Foster**, organ. **Rev. Nola Reed Knouse**, presiding.

August 21 ~ Sounds of Summer Pipe Organ Recital [Series](#) – Winston-Salem, NC. Free. **Ardmore United Methodist Church**, Susan Bates, Dreama Lovitt, and Timothy Olsen

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August 25 ~ Music of the Wachovia Settlements - New Winston Museum 2016 Salon Series Lecture/Presentation by Erik J. Salzwedel, Moravian Music Foundation, 5:30pm, 713 South Marshall Street Winston-Salem, NC 27101, **724-2842** newwinston.org

August 28 ~ Salem Community Orchestra Concert - Sunday at 7:30 p.m. at Unity Moravian Church, 8300 Concord Church Rd., Lewisville, NC. James Basta. Free

August 29 ~ Salem Community Orchestra Concert – Monday at 7 p.m. in Fellowship Hall of Home Moravian Church, 529 S. Church St., Winston-Salem, NC. Free.

2016-2017 Lunchtime Lecture Series Announced

Lectures are held at 12:15 p.m., on the second Thursday of the month, in the Spaugh Lecture/Recital Hall of the Archie K. Davis Center in Winston-Salem, NC. [DIRECTIONS](#) FREE

September 8, 2016 ~ **The Girls School Goes Radical** - Richard W. Starbuck
October 13, 2016 ~ **250th Anniversary of Salem Wraps It Up** - Richard W. Starbuck
November 10, 2016 ~ **The 2016 Unity Synod** - Southern Province Delegates: David B. Guthrie, John D. Rights, Craig S. Troutman
December 8, 2016 ~ **The Date Which Will Live in Infamy** - Richard W. Starbuck
January 12, 2017 ~ **Moravian Music Elsewhere, Part 1** - Nola Reed Knouse
February 9, 2017 ~ **Even More Fun Finds in the Vault** - Nola Reed Knouse
March 9, 2017 ~ **The Last Wachovia Pioneer** - Richard W. Starbuck
April 20, 2017 (3rd Thursday) ~ **Elm Street and the Sunday School Movement** - Richard W. Starbuck
May 11, 2017 ~ **Have We Heard It All Yet?** - Nola Reed Knouse

Submitted by Erik J. Salzwedel, Moravian Music Foundation

From the Provincial Financial Office

Housing Allowances – Now that we are half way through the year, it is a good time to recheck how much of your minister’s compensation is designated as a “housing allowance.” If your minister has had a significant increase in housing related costs, such as unexpected repairs, major remodeling, new appliances, loan prepayment, etc., then the amount you have currently designated may be too low. There are limitations on how much a minister can claim as a housing allowance but, if appropriate, increasing the amount designated costs the Church nothing and potentially saves the minister from paying needless federal and state income taxes. There is the common misconception that housing allowances can only be changed at the beginning of the year. This is not true. They can be changed at any time during the year. Obviously, any change needs to be approved by your Church Board and properly reflected on the Church’s monthly payroll voucher. If you have any questions in this area, please give us a call.

New Retiree Medical Policy – Please read the following new Retiree Medical Policy.
-- Retiree Medical benefits are a partial reimbursement for Medicare supplement premiums including Part D (prescription drug coverage). To qualify for benefits, the recipient must first be retired and on Medicare.

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Also, the recipient must have at least 10 years of service to be eligible. The reimbursement amount is prorated dependent on the years of service. The maximum reimbursement is \$300 per month for a pastor and spouse (i.e. \$300 each). The recipient gets 1/3 benefit after 10 years of service, and full benefit after 30 years of service.

Recipient submits to the Provincial Financial Office records showing the cost of coverage. These documents are required annually on the effective date of the policy renewal or if premiums change other than on the policy renewal date. Recipient then submits the reimbursement voucher to the Provincial Financial Office on a quarterly basis for payment. **Qualified expenses up to 15 months old will be eligible for reimbursement. Expenses greater than 15 months will not be accepted for payment.**

The Provincial Financial Office will accept qualified expenses not reimbursed that are greater than 15 months old up to December 31, 2016. After that date, expenses greater than 15 months old will not qualify for reimbursement.

Property, Liability and Workers Compensation Insurance – As of this writing, we are still trying to finalize the quotes for our property and liability insurance coverages. It appears that the good news is that there will be a slight decrease in our insurance rates for property and liability insurance for the 2016-2017 fiscal year. We are still trying to compare two competitive quotes and make sure that we have an apples to apples comparison of coverages. We have finalized our Worker's Compensation coverage renewal. We have switched to Key Risk as the carrier and BB&T Insurance Services as the agent. Thanks to all employees for practicing good safety habits. We have a decrease in these premiums. Please make sure an accident report is turned in to Donna Hampton promptly following an injury.

Submitted by Robyn Glance, Chief Financial Officer

Unity Women's Desk

Please join the Unity Women's Desk for a "Kit Packing Event" on August 21, 2016 at 3:30-5:00 PM at Kernersville Moravian Church. We will be packing Birthing Kits, Layettes of Love, and Reusable Sanitary Pad Kits to send to Tanzania.

Everyone is welcome to join us as we get to know one another better and benefit our sisters around the world.

Submitted by Patty Garner

Newsletter Notes from Around the Southern Province

Come and Worship, our “coffeehouse church,” has a new home: **Fairview**’s activity building. That helpful arrangement is temporary, though, while it looks for a more permanent place to gather. Come and Worship has met in several locations in Winston-Salem for a number of years. Its most recent was Liberty Arts Center on Liberty Street.

Oak Grove held a groundbreaking for its new kitchen and updated bathrooms on July 10. It is the first major construction since the sanctuary was completed in 1957.

New Philadelphia’s Women’s Fellowship is trying something new November 6, a Christmas Décor White Elephant Sale. Members are asked for donations of new or gently used fall and Christmas decorations. It will be a “great way to de-clutter while helping Women’s Fellowship support some great causes.”

Friendly note from **First Greensboro**: “Are you aware there is a **Moravian Archives** in Winston-Salem? In addition to research materials, the Archives has a vault that is about the size of our sanctuary where materials are maintained. Some of the things that we as a congregation have to supply throughout the year or at the end of the year are:” And First lists minutes of Congregation Council, Boards, and Committees; memoirs and membership lists (directories); church budget and year-end financial reports; and annual reports of church organizations.

The purpose of all that is to give your church a history in the future. For example, when **Oak Grove** wanted to know about its beginning, we could look up founding minister Christian Lewis Rights’s account of it on September 25, 1887, in the **Kernersville Diary**.

Submitted by Richard W. Starbuck, Moravian Archives

PEC News for August, 2016

The Provincial Elders’ Conference met July 11, 18 (brief, called meeting), and 25 with all members participating, except July 25, when Joyce Vance and Chris Thore were on vacation, and Ron Bell was in Raleigh, NC for the birth of a granddaughter.

SYNOD / STRATEGIC DIRECTION

The PEC completed appointments to the 2018 Synod Planning Committee. Bob Hunter and Virginia Tobiassen will serve as co-chairs of this Synod. PEC affirmed plans of the Resolution 12 Steering Committee to create a video series on biblical interpretation, and to arrange a series of prayer services in the Province.

CHURCHES AND LEADERS

The PEC conducted activity related to call processes for Friedland, Grace, Home, Mayodan, Moravia, and New Philadelphia (Associate); reviewed and adjusted the official directory of ministers (per the Book of Order); discussed leadership needs at

Peace church (as Keith Copeland concludes his service as intentional interim); outlined a program for congregational development and discussed its implementation; and, continued work on revisions to the call process.

BOARDS, COMMITTEES, and COMMISSIONS

PEC set priorities for 2016-2018 for the Board of Cooperative Ministries in the areas of congregational development, leadership development, and assisting the PEC in implementing the 2014 Synod resolution on new and emerging (“manna”) ministries; and invited two individuals to join the Candidacy Committee. PEC received a report of the ongoing work of the PSSB Human Resources Committee about human resource staffing needs.

UNITY AND ECUMENICAL

PEC arranged a meeting of our Unity Synod delegates (Craig Troutman, John. D. Rights, David Guthrie) to prepare for this Aug. 12-20 gathering of the worldwide church; and received information about a missional church conference being planned by several denominations – including our Province -- for Feb. 2-4, 2017.

OTHER MATTERS

PEC discussed both the focus and funding of its staffing needs, given Joe Moore has concluded work as Assistant to the PEC President; reviewed preliminary information about income to the 2017 Provincial budget; and decided to implement changes recommended by the Provincial Support Services board for the pension plan effective Jan. 1, 2018.

The Provincial Elders’ Conference meets August 29.

Submitted by David Guthrie, PEC President

For Your August Calendar

11-20.....Unity Synod, Jamaica
14.....Children's Festival, Bethania
17.....Being Mortal, End of Life Care, 6:30 Fries Memorial
19-19.....Moravian College, MTS Trustees Meeting
29.....PEC Meeting

Concerns and Celebrations

Deaths:

Brother **Mark Leinbach**, Facilities Manager, Salem Congregation, entered the more immediate presence of his Lord and Savior on July 27, 2016. A funeral service was held at 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, July 30, at Bethania Moravian Church with the Rev. Brad Bennett and the Rev. David Merritt officiating. Please remember his wife, Molly and children, Hannah and Stephen in prayer.

Pastoral Change:

The Rev **Joe Moore** has accepted a call to become Associate Pastor at New Philadelphia, after having served, with Kelly, as co-pastor at Fries Memorial since 2011. Joe concludes ministry at Fries Memorial Sept. 18 and begins this new work Oct. 3. A service of installation is planned for Oct 9.

Ordination Anniversaries for August, 2016

Frank Barker.....53 years
Worth Green.....39 years
Donald Griffin.....33 years
Suzanne Miller8 years
Tracy Pryor.....17 years
James Salzwedel.....55 years
Richard Shamel.....62 years
Arkon Stweart.....26 years
Sandra Thigpen.....24 years
Scott Venable.....37 years

Congratulations and God Bless You!

Latest BCM News and Events

Family Fun: 2016 Children's Festival & Lovefeast

The third annual provincial event commemorating the 1727 Moravian children's spiritual renewal in Herrnhut.

Sunday, August 14, 2016

Salem Square | Home Moravian

Church Children's Activities 2pm - 4:30pm Storytelling, music, games, photo booth, crafts, face-painting, puppets, St. Phillips Church, pottery, tours of provincial buildings, and more!

Lovefeast 4:45pm

Church bells and a Moravian band will call us to gather in the sanctuary for a special interactive children's message.

Bring a picnic lunch to enjoy on the grounds of Salem before the event! Event will be held rain or shine!

Sponsored by Moravian Roots & Wings, Moravian Board of Cooperative Ministries (BCM), and Salem Creek RCC

Bulletin inserts and promotional resources at MoravianBCM.org.

Free Film Screening: Being Mortal

FREE film screening

Wednesday, August 17, 6:30PM

Fries Memorial Moravian

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Join us for a free screening and discussion of the PBS FRONTLINE documentary Being Mortal. Based on the bestselling book by Dr. Atul Gawande, this film explores the hopes of patients and families facing terminal illness and their relationships with the doctors, nurses and family members who care for them.

See the film and be part of a national conversation taking place in our community that asks: "Have you and your family had these important conversations and planned ahead?"

Film length is sixty minutes followed by sixty minutes for discussion.

Event sponsored by Fries Memorial Moravian and the Aging Well Team of Moravian BCM

Along with The Rev. Keith Stirewalt,

Chaplain for Clinical Engagement, FaithHealth NC, WFBMC

Bulletin inserts and promotional resources at MoravianBCM.org.

Intergenerational Sunday School Resource

Want to try something new for your Sunday School? Looking for a resource to finish up the summer before the new curriculum year begins in September?

This 4 week model is based on the lectionary passages for the month of August. It is intended to be an intergenerational mixing of all ages. Trends for successful Sunday School options indicate that the blending of many ages is beneficiary for all involved. If you have any questions, give Beth Hayes a call at **336-722-8126**, or email her at bhayes@mcsp.org.

Find the resource at the top of our [Additional Resources & Links](#) webpage at MoravianBCM.org. Or just click the links here below!

- [Week One](#)
- [Week Two](#)
- [Week Three](#)
- [Week Four](#)

Anthony's Plot School Supplies Drive

It's that time of year again! Anthony's Plot is beginning its collection of school supplies. The Moravian Board of Cooperative Ministries office is a drop off point. Just come in the office anytime Monday to Friday between 9am and 5pm and place your donation in our collection box by our door. We will make sure Anthony's Plot receives your generous donation! More information can be found at Facebook.com/AnthonysPlot.

Moravian BCM Blogs

Living Faith Small Group Ministry Blog by Tim Byerly

o Part 5, read [here](#)

o Part 6, read [here](#)

Spotlight Blog: It's Time to Be Bold - Part Two by Ruth Cole Burcaw

o Read [here](#)

Spotlight Blog: Generations Learning Together by Beth Hayes

o Read [here](#)

Spotlight Blog: Summer Camps Making a Difference by Doug Rights

o Read [here](#)

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Sermon: *In Celebration of Truth* by Wayne Burkette
o Read [here](#)

Submitted by Andrew Cox

An Update from the Resolution 12 Steering Committee

Southern Province Synod Resolution 12 called for the province to “provide leadership, resources, and a process for a conversation about homosexuality in the church that includes diverse viewpoints, and opportunities for open and honest discussion, study and discernment. This process of dialogue and discernment should take into account similar efforts made, and decisions that have been or may be reached by our sister provinces within the Unity, as well as any actions of the 2014 Unity Board and 2016 Unity Synod. Fulfilling that mandate of Synod, the Provincial Elders Conference appointed a Steering Committee in the summer of 2014, which has been studying, praying, and working actively ever since.

Activities relating to Synod Resolution 12 since 2014 have included ...

Fall 2014: planning; preparation of resource list

Winter/spring 2015: conversations of “like-minded” small groups: some 200 participants

October 2015: a forum presenting 2 contrasting views of homosexuality in the church: 220 persons attending; the video is online

January 2016: a forum presenting guidelines for Moravian interpretation of Scripture; 350 persons attending; the video is online

Spring 2016: meals and conversations with those of differing perspectives: 250 participants, many who did not take part in the first round of meetings

What is the purpose or “agenda” of the Resolution 12 Steering Committee? Given the directive of Synod, we have determined that *Our agenda is to encourage dialogue and provide new opportunities for the people of the Southern Province to discern more of the leadership of the Holy Spirit in our continued differences concerning homosexuality in the church. We believe through the study of scripture, the discipline of prayer, and the faith sharing of believers the Holy Spirit can provide each of us greater insight and clarity moving each of us to a deeper relationship with our Savior. In our deeper relationship with the Savior unity grows within our Province and our differences become smaller. In this task, we remember the words of Zinzendorf: “the nearer each one comes in knowing the Savior, the more enriched, more glad of heart, and more unwavering grows the communion among his members.”*

Three upcoming activities relating to Resolution 12 include ...

I. Meetings with RCC’s. The Resolution 12 Steering Committee would like to meet with RCC’s to talk about what we’ve been doing and what the next steps in our process will be.

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Each RCC can determine whether we meet only with the congregational representatives or with members of the congregations in a larger gathering. This won’t be a discussion about what we feel about homosexuality, but rather a chance to bring everyone up to date and hear one another’s questions and concerns as we move forward.

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2. A series of worship and prayer services, to be planned and led by bishops residing in the Southern Province. These will not specifically address homosexuality, but rather be opportunities for worship and prayer together, seeking the guidance of the Holy Spirit not only in regard to homosexuality in the church but in all things. We seek to rejoice together in the things that bind us together as brothers and sisters in Christ, serving Christ and the world through the Moravian Church; we seek to worship our faithful, loving, and gracious Triune God; and we seek the wisdom, grace, and peace to know and follow God's will for the Moravian Church in all things. ***The first of these services will be held on Sunday, September 25, at 3:00 p.m. – location to be announced soon.***

3. Preparation of a six-part study/conversation guide for congregations and groups. Five of these sessions will include a 25-30-minute video with questions for discussion, and for the sixth session there will be questions for conversations. Session one is an introduction to the work of the steering committee thus far, the purpose of talking about and studying homosexuality in the church, the risks and benefits of doing so, and some guidelines as to how we might do so gracefully and effectively. Session 2 will explore the ***theological*** aspects. What does this conversation, this topic, teach us about who God is? How do people discern what the Holy Spirit is teaching us as individuals, especially with regard to Holy Scripture? Can I learn something from a brother or sister who discerns a different leading from the Holy Spirit than I do? How can we as a body learn what the Spirit wants us to hear? And so, what do we learn about our relationship with our Savior, Jesus Christ, and about our role in the church?

Sessions 3 and 4 will consider the ***biblical*** aspects. In session 3, you'll hear Moravians discuss the Old Testament texts most often cited in regard to homosexuality, and in session 4 you'll hear those same people discuss New Testament texts. You'll hear diverse interpretations and have a chance to explore your own.

Session 5 will consider the ***pastoral*** aspects. How do we as Moravians maintain close relationships of brotherly and sisterly love and care with others who think so very differently from ourselves on a question that sparks such passionate responses on all sides? How do we offer Christian care, and how do we *receive* Christian care, from someone who doesn't see it the same way I do? In other words, how do I continue to love and work with someone I think is wrong?

And our final session will be an opportunity for you to review what we have learned and where we, as belonging to the Body of Christ in the Moravian Church, go from here as we seek to serve Christ together in the world.

We invite you to continue in prayer, that we all may be open and receptive to the presence and guidance of our Lord, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, as we work together as brothers and sisters in God's Moravian Church, Southern Province.

Widow's Society News

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE WIDOW'S SOCIETY THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 22 7:00 PM HOPE MORAVIAN CHURCH

This is a very important meeting, as there is the possibility of major adjustments in the program. Current members are encouraged to bring your spouse.

Now is an excellent time to join the Society. This year, 62 widows will receive \$630.00. Some ladies have been receiving checks for over 35 years. And, these checks will continue, until she dies, or gets married again. (It often happens!)

A one time cost (NOW) of \$100.00 is all it takes to join. Plus \$5.00 per year for those over 50. After one is 61, it's TOO LATE.

Applications are available at mcsp.org, or by calling Rev. Bill Campbell at 336 403 3209.

(Churches, please post in your bulletins and newsletters)

Submitted by Rev. Dr. Bill Campbell, Sr.

Deadline for submission of articles for the September Issue of Provincial Ties is August 26.

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