

Christ's Community Moravian Church

March 2019

Lent is a forty-day period before Easter. It begins on Ash Wednesday (this year March 6th). In the Western Church the Sundays are not counted in the forty days, because Sundays commemorate the Resurrection of Jesus Christ. Lent officially ends at sundown on Holy Thursday (this year April 18th).

Lent is a season of soul-searching and repentance, where one reflects and takes stock of himself or herself. Lent originated in the very earliest days of the Church as a preparatory time for Easter. By observing the forty days of Lent, the individual Christian imitates Jesus' withdrawal into the wilderness for forty days.

In many countries, the last day before Lent (called Mardi Gras, Shrove Tuesday, Fat Tuesday, or Carnival) has become a last fling before the solemnity of Lent. For centuries, it was customary to fast by abstaining from meat during Lent, which is why some people call the festival *Carnival*, which is Latin for *farewell to meat or the flesh*. Often times people will choose to fast the day of Ash Wednesday, not taking a meal until after the service. Others may choose to abstain from certain foods during the course of the Lent season, beginning with Ash Wednesday. If you are looking for some great Biblical teaching on fasting check out Isaiah 58. It ties in great with James and the concept of not being double minded :) The sixth Sunday of Lent is Palm Sunday (this year April 14th), the beginning of Holy Week or Passion Week.

A Moravian custom is read the Passion story from the biblical texts during Holy Week, culminating with the Tenebrae: A Service of Shadows on Maundy Thursday. In Moravian churches, the decorations for Lent are **Violet/Purple, the royal color, to prepare for the King**. The Moravian Church celebrates Lent for it is convinced that Jesus Christ went through this period of renewal in prayer and fast on our behalf.

We will begin the 2019 Lent season on Wednesday, March 6 at 6:30 P.M. with our Ash Wednesday Service. We will be following the A.C.T.S. of prayer (Adoration, Confession, Thanksgiving and Supplication) through a combination of song, scripture and prayer.

Please join us! It will be a fun, albeit a bit more solemn time of worship – until the end when we, as always, kick it up a notch to praise our Lord!

Brad

Bibliography:

<http://moravians.net/joomla/about-us/34-moravian-moments/210-moravian-moment-92>
<https://worship.calvin.edu/resources/resource-library/tenebrae-a-service-of-shadows/>



Christ's Community Moravian Church
Breakthrough Prayer

Prelude to Prayer

The Lord speaks to you: "So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."
Isaiah 41:10 (NIV)

Breakthrough Prayer

God of perfect love, power and justice, we put our complete trust in You. Break through our limitations, our failures, and our fears to show us Your Way. We lift up Christ's Community Moravian Church. Open the doors to new vision and vitality for ministry and give us the



Daily at 1:25pm, members of the congregation are invited to recite the Breakthrough Prayer, wherever you are, with other CCC members and family. Why 1:25pm? It is 13:250 military time; 13250 is our church address, an easy time to remember and a breakthrough connection to our church family.

NEWS FROM THE JOINT BOARD



2019 Congregational Watchword

"I will recount the gracious deeds of the Lord, the praiseworthy acts of the Lord, because of all that the Lord has done for us."

~Isaiah 63:7

Our Mission

Core Values

Discipleship
Come as you are!
Family
Community Outreach
Children/Youth

Vision

We see Christ's Community Moravian Church as a caring and accepting church, equipping people to serve, reaching out to the community, and sharing God's love as we invite people into the family of God.

Purpose (currently under revision)

Our purpose statements will be revised as part of our Phase 2 consulting sessions with Susan Nienaber.

The Joint Board will meet with the Western District Executive Board (WDEB) on Sunday, 03.10.19 to review candidates considered for CCC's Call Process.

The Call Process...

In most Protestant faiths, a Pastor is appointed to the local congregation by the regional executive board, mostly without input from the local Joint Board or members. The Moravian Call Process is different from other denominations in that the Joint Board is very involved in the process along with the executive board, our Western District Executive Board (WDEB). The Moravian Call Process includes the following phases:

1. The Joint Board completes an extensive assessment of the life, health and future visioning of the congregation, this could be described as a "resume" of CCC.
2. The WDEB then selects candidates based on our "resume". These candidates generally are pastors currently serving a congregation and have either expressed an interest in entering the Call Process or they don't know that they are being considered for call to a particular congregation. The WDEB representatives to CCC are Rev Bruce Nelson and Judy Anderson, Lay Leader at Main St Moravian in Northfield.
3. The WDEB has a meeting with our Joint Board and together we review resumes of candidates considered for CCC's Call Process.
4. After discussion, the Joint Board votes on a candidate and then we draft a proposed Compensation package. The WDEB approves the Compensation package and writes a Call letter, similar to an offer letter, to the candidate.
5. The Call letter is personally delivered by the WDEB representative to the candidate for consideration. Then, the Candidate generally has a 2 week window to ask additional information about the position and our church life and then either accepts an invitation to personally visit with the Joint Board, similar to a personal interview, or declines the Call.
6. After the Candidate meets personally with the Joint Board, then the Joint Board will affirm the Candidate for the Call Process.

Our Call Process...Why is it Taking So Long?

We were advised at the beginning of the Call Process that it likely will take some time to find a candidate to Call, for a few reasons. There are less graduates from seminary compared to a few years ago and there are more congregations with a pastoral vacancy due to recent retirements. We were encouraged to think beyond the idea of a traditional Pastoral position, consider becoming more Lay Leadership focused and most importantly, focus intentional prayer for our Permanent Pastor and family.

The Joint Board has previously considered candidates and we will again on Sunday in the WDEB meeting. We know that God has a plan for CCC, we put our complete trust in him and are encouraged that we will experience a Breakthrough into our Church.

February 2019 Worship Attendance

Date	Kids	Staff	Adult	Total
Feb. 3	1	1	30	32
Feb. 10	1	2	18	21
Feb. 17	2	1	22	25
Feb. 24	0	0	8	8

General Fund/Operating Account

Month	Beg. Balance	Receipts	Disbursements	Balance
January	\$21.67	\$7,290.03	\$7,005.68	\$306.02
February	\$306.02	\$14,650.65	\$7,675.38	\$7,281.29
YTD	\$21.67	\$21,940.68	\$14,681.06	\$7,281.29

Fund Receipts

	Balance 1/31/2019	February Receipts	February Expense	Balance 2/28/2019
KidPack Fund	\$18.59	\$151.94	-----	\$170.51
Mission Fund (Simpson Sandwiches)	\$1,199.91	\$500.00	\$97.55	\$1,602.36
Parsonage Rental Fund	\$1,856.00	\$1,911.00	-----	\$3,767.00

Current on all other monthly obligations except denominational quotas.

KidPack has adequate funding through May.

Joyful Noise Offerings will continue to go to the KidPack Fund.

Simpson Sandwiches program has enough funding for another year.

The Joyful Noise special offering for the KidPack Fund collected \$101.94 on February 17th. Thank you!

INSIDE CCC

Worship Information

The Study of James, beginning March 10th

March 3 "Running with Dignity"

-message by Theresa Henry
 9:30 am: Worship/Sunday School/Choir
 10:30 am: Snak & Yak
 10:45 am: Adult Education

March 10 "Paul"

-message by Brad Carlson
 9:30 am: Worship/Sunday School/Choir
 10:30 am: Snak & Yak
 10:45 am: Simpson Shelter sandwich making
 10:45 am: Adult Education

March 17 "Martin Luther"

-message by Brad Carlson
 9:30 am: Worship/Joyful Noise Offering/Sunday School
 10:30 am: Snak & Yak
 10:45 am: KidPack packing
 10:45 am: Adult Education

March 24 "Sister Monica"

-message by Brad Carlson
 9:30 am: Worship/Sunday School/Choir
 10:30 am: Snak & Yak
 10:45 am: Adult Education

March 31 "Jeanne Guyon"

-message by Brad Carlson
 9:30 am: Worship/Sunday School
 10:30 am: Snak & Yak
 10:45 am: Adult Education



Daylight Savings begins Sunday, March 10!!!

Kim will be out of the office for vacation March 25-28.

Happy Birthday

2-Hudson Kalland (7)
 5-Paul Straumann
 11-Dave Glasser
 14-Sarah Johnson
 15-Kelly O'Rourke
 19-Brady Hawks
 19-Joni Cragoe
 19-Finley Robinson (7)
 24-Milo Straumann (2)
 25-Jenn Straumann
 26-Barb Kalland
 26-Butch Jarvis

Connect with Us

Christ's Community Moravian Church
 13250 93rd Ave N
 Maple Grove, MN 55369
 763-420-7187
 christcommunitymoravian@gmail.com
 Kim Rapp, Church Administrator
 Office Hours: Monday-Thursday 9:30-2:30
 Newsletter submission deadline: 20th of month



website address
www.ccc-mg.org



CCC's app
 1. Download The Sharefaith App
 2. Search for CCC Maple Grove MN



Facebook Page
 Christ's Community Moravian Church

If you or a member of your family is in need of Pastoral Care, please contact an Elder, Deb Hjermstad, Bob McIlveen, or Brad Carlson.

March Volunteer Schedule					
	March 3	March 10	March 17	March 24	March 31
AV Support	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	Karen O.
Usher/Greeter	Karen O./Kay G.	Linda T./Brenda E.	Kristi B./Barb K.	Brenda E./Kay G.	Barb K./Kristi B.
Snak & Yak	Barb K.	Bev J.	Linda T.	Deb H.	Bev J.

The volunteer schedule is also posted on the bulletin board above the drinking fountain.

Contact Kim as soon as possible if you need to reschedule.

OUTREACH OPPORTUNITIES

CROSS

For the month of March, CROSS food shelf needs
Jello/Pudding/Hamburger Helper

You may place your donation items in the grocery cart
near the activity room entrance.

Christians Reaching Out in Social Services
serving the Maple Grove, Osseo, and Rogers areas



Empty Bowls
Art Fest with CROSS

THURSDAY, MARCH 7, 2019
4:00 pm to 7:00 pm
Maple Grove Community Center
12951 Weaver Lake Rd, Maple Grove, MN

JOIN US & HELP FIGHT HUNGER IN YOUR COMMUNITY.
12915 Weinand Circle | PO Box 574 | Rogers | MN 55374 | P: 763.425.1050
For more information about CROSS, visit CROSSservices.org

The poster for the Empty Bowls Art Fest features a central photograph of several people gathered around a table, preparing bowls. The text is arranged around the photo, with the event name at the top, the date and time in the middle, and the location at the bottom. A black banner at the very bottom contains contact information and a call to action.

Cost to attend this event: \$10 for adults, \$5 for students, or
\$25 for a family. Pre-event registration is not needed.

Restaurants providing food samples: The Lookout Bar &
Grill, Costco, Nothin Bundt Cakes, Rock Elm, Dehn's Country
Manor, Silvercreek, and Daily Dose

thank you!

Bruce Kalland for shoveling the sidewalks at church

YOUTH

Sunday School for Kids!

Sunday School will be held during the church service, following
the Children's Chat. The lessons will follow the scriptures from
the sermon series.



KidsZone! is our Youth Fellowship program for kids
grade K through grade 5 which typically meets 2

Tue, Mar 12, 6-7pm



The Body Life Game

Bible Theme

Meet Yourself In The Parables



2019 Camps—Moravian Western District

Theme: Won't You Be My Neighbor?

Camp Mindy-June 16-19, 2019

Chetek-July 14-20, 2019

Winmor-July 21-27, 2019

Junior Camp-July 28 – August 1, 2019

4M-August 5-7, 2019

Sign up at: wdcamping.com

Sunday Messages from the Book of James

James – with a twist :)

You may recall Pastor Dave leading us in a Study of James last fall. It was AWESOME. It was so good in fact that I thought we should revisit James – with a twist!

Beginning this week we will dig a little deeper into what James has to say to us today. But we will look through the lens of some wonderful historical characters. Saul of Tarsus leads us off (thanks Bruce!). Who would have thought that he and James, the brother of Jesus, would have so much in common?

I encourage you to read the Book of James this week. It is a short 5 chapters written by the Pastor of the First Church in Jerusalem. As you read, think of Pastor James delivering this “sermon.” He may seem a little harsh to begin with. But give him a few chapters and you will see that in the end he is full of encouragement.

This coming Sunday we will take a close look at James 1:1-18. In these few verses we will come across the “Key Verse” of the week and a “Key Theme” that is repeated later in the book—and also Isaiah 58 if you are interested in fasting for Lent! See if you can pick them out! The key theme should be a bit easier since it is repeated, either in words or in thought. The key verse is more of a personal preference, so you might have to think like me – which is a bit crazy. Good luck with that!

I also encourage you to join us for our Ash Wednesday service, March 6 at 6:30 pm. The Flourish Team has put together a great time of worship to prepare our hearts for the Season of Lent.

Brad Carlson

Lent & Easter

Ash Wednesday Service
March 6 @ 6:30 pm

Sunday Messages from the Book of James
Sundays, March 10 - April 7 @ 9:30 am, Brad Carlson speaking

Palm Sunday Communion Worship Service
April 14 @ 9:30 am, Reverend Bruce Nelson preaching

Holy Week Readings
April 15, 16, 17 @ 6:30 pm

Maundy Thursday Service of Shadows
April 18 @ 6:30 pm

Easter Sunday
April 21
7:00 am: Sunrise Service @ CCC with visit to Maple Knoll Cemetery
7:45 am: Easter Breakfast
8:15 am: Easter Egg Hunt
9:00 am: Worship Service, Pastor Dave preaching

Once a quarter I am the Moravian representative at a gathering of fifteen to twenty men and women for box lunch at a church somewhere in the area. This gathering started some twenty years ago as an effort to bring together persons from denominations, mostly smaller or more conservative groups, who for various reasons were not part of the state council of churches. The group now at any meeting includes some smaller or more conservative groups, some mainline groups, and the Roman Catholic and Greek Orthodox churches. The program is simple: lunch, a half hour of free prayer, eight-minute sharing of personal faith journeys by two individuals, and one eighteen-minute presentation of some program of one of the denominations.

At the congregation I am part of, every committee or board meeting starts with everyone sharing what is going on in their own lives, in their families, in their work, in their leisure or travel (It is OK to pass). Sometimes this becomes the most time-consuming item of the agenda.

My wife and I are part of a group of six families and two unmarried persons who meet once every three weeks in one of our homes, with host providing the main course and everyone providing something else. After a little singing we spend an hour sharing where our families are and praying together. Members of the group have helped one another move, at times helped one another financially, and supported one another at times of death and disappointment. The group's roots are in a few persons, from a variety of religious backgrounds, who attended college together.

What these three vignettes have in common is the importance of sharing our stories with both those close to us and those not so close. We often discover that even those with whom we have strong differences of experience and conviction also have much in common with us. I have read that one reason our U.S. Congress is less productive is that members of the two parties spend less time socializing than they did in the past.

When I moved from my first parish to my second, the local Catholic priest, two decades my senior, came to my farewell. He said it was the first time he had ever been in a Protestant church building. Fortunately that relationship has changed. But there are many areas where, as individuals, congregations, and a denomination, we can grow by sharing with and listening to others.

Lord Jesus, you came that we may have abundant life. Help us to discover some of that abundance by learning from others, and help us to share the ways in which you have brought abundance to us. Amen.



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
3 9:30 am: Worship/Sunday School/Choir -message by Theresa Henry 10:30 am: Snak & Yak 10:45 am: Adult Education	4 9:30 am: Flourish Team Meeting	5 6 Ash Wednesday 6:30 pm: Worship 7:30 pm: Choir Rehearsal	6 6 Ash Wednesday 6:30 pm: Worship 7:30 pm: Choir Rehearsal	7 6:30 pm: Elders Board Meeting 6:30 pm: Trustees Board Meeting 7:30 pm: Joint Board Meeting	8 2:00 pm: CCC delivers KidPack to school	9 9 8:00 am: Men's Breakfast at Lynde's Restaurant in Osseo
10 *Daylight Savings* 9:30 am: Worship/Sunday School/Choir -message by Brad Carlson 10:30 am: Snak & Yak 10:45 am: Simpson Shelter sandwich making 10:45 am: Adult Education TBD: Joint Board with WDEB	11 6:00 pm: KidsZone! The Body Life Game	12 7:00 pm: Choir Rehearsal	13 7:00 pm: Choir Rehearsal	14 7:00 pm: Choir Rehearsal	15 7:00 pm: Choir Rehearsal	16 7:00 pm: Choir Rehearsal
17 9:30 am: Worship/Joyful Noise Offering/Sunday School -message by Brad Carlson 10:30 am: Snak & Yak 10:45 am: KidPack packing 10:45 am: Adult Education	18 20 1st Day of Spring 7:00 pm: Choir Rehearsal	19 20 1st Day of Spring 7:00 pm: Choir Rehearsal	20 1st Day of Spring 7:00 pm: Choir Rehearsal	21 6:30 pm: Elders Board Meeting 6:30 pm: Trustees Board Meeting 7:30 pm: Joint Board Meeting	22 2:00 pm: CCC delivers KidPack to school	23 2:00 pm: CCC delivers KidPack to school
24 9:30 am: Worship/Sunday School/Choir -message by Brad Carlson 10:30 am: Snak & Yak 10:45 am: Adult Education	25 Kim on vacation Office closed	26 7:00 pm: Choir Rehearsal	27 7:00 pm: Choir Rehearsal	28 7:00 pm: Choir Rehearsal	29 7:00 pm: Choir Rehearsal	30 7:00 pm: Choir Rehearsal
31 9:30 am: Worship/Sunday School -message by Brad Carlson 10:30 am: Snak & Yak 10:45 am: Adult Education						