

Great Kills Moravian Church Herald

July/August 2025

Volume 7, page 1

July 1, 2025

In my parents' home church they sing the Lord's Prayer each Sunday to a tune I've only heard at one other church. It was in Pennsylvania, back when I was in college, a long time ago. Years later I remember visiting Montana with my husband when he was at a conference. Another spouse and I visited a local church where we sang a complicated hymn, "The heavens are telling the glory of God." I located the hymn in an old hymnal and enjoyed teaching myself that melody to the words from Psalm 19.

At a family reunion in Pennsylvania a few years ago we worshiped at an AME church and sang, "When we all get to heaven, what a day of rejoicing that will be. When we all see Jesus, we'll sing and shout the victory." It's a tune that stays in your head. I also remember a family reunion in Virginia when I was little. We went to Free Union Baptist Church where the service began at 11:00 am. Then we broke for a luncheon feast that the church supplied, followed by more church. It's a happy memory. We only went there once, though. My mother said it lasted too long.

More recently, when my husband and I spent weekends out on the end of Long Island, I would go to the Whalers' Church in Sag Harbor. The pews all have doors on the ends that you have to open in order to go in and sit down. Members there got to know me, and I them. Once at a coffee hour I wondered aloud if the slice of cake I was being served was made from scratch. The lady standing beside me assured me that it was, she had opened the box of cake mix herself!

Most often when I am unable to attend Great Kills Moravian on Sunday morning, I participate on Zoom. I'm grateful for the convenience of turning on my iPad and finding my community. During the pandemic, Jim and Tracy delivered communion supplies to my house. Riddick Weber sent me a copy of a sermon that I asked for. Sometimes, though, I miss visiting a different church and finding something new. This summer while you're on vacation, whether you visit local churches, or if you connect to Great Kills via Zoom, please remember that the financial needs of Great Kills Moravian Church continue whether we are here or not. Bills still need to be paid. Please remember to continue the support that you have budgeted in your heart and mind for your home church.

Charlott Bramwell

A MESSAGE FROM THE EASTERN DISTRICT BOARD:

As your congregation enters this period of pastoral transition, we offer this information explaining the process of call for the Moravian Church, Eastern District.

The Moravian call system is neither appointive (the pastor is not assigned by the denomination) nor congregational (that is, elected by the vote of the congregation). Ours is a confidential system in which denominational officials and the local Joint Board confer in order to find the pastor that will meet the needs of the congregation. We believe the leading of the Holy Spirit is clearly part of our call process. Steps in the process are:

1. The District Board is responsible for initiating the call process. Its representatives meet with the Joint Board to help identify the needs of this parish. Through congregational assessment, the District Board will carefully match the needs of this church with the strengths of the ordained women and men who might be available for call. The Joint Board can also suggest names, which the District Board will then review to discern their appropriateness and availability.
2. The next step is for the District President to meet again with the Joint Board in order to present biographical and evaluative material on the recommended clergy decided upon in Step 1.
3. Following in-depth discussion, a secret ballot will be cast. When two thirds of the total board membership agrees on a potential pastor, and after working out the terms of the call (such as salary, housing, travel expense, continuing education, etc.), the District President issues the call to the pastor in the name of the Moravian Church, Northern Province. Please note that the Joint Board serves as the personnel committee; the congregation does not vote to call a pastor. It must be noted that the Joint Board and the District Board will keep the choice secret so that the pastor is free of external pressures in seeking the Lord's direction. Members of the congregation must respect the need for secrecy by not pressuring the Joint Board for advance information.

4. Unless the called pastor feels no leading by God to the congregation, a ministry dialogue will take place with the calling Joint Board and the called Pastor. A member of the EDEB will be present.

5. Following the ministry dialogue meeting, the Joint Board will vote to reconfirm (or not) the original call to the Pastor. This also requires a 2/3 vote of the total membership of the Joint Board. The Pastor will be notified of the Joint Board action.

6. Should the call be reaffirmed, a written reply to the call is requested by the District President and the Joint Board will be notified of the response. If the call is accepted, that will be announced to the congregation. If it is declined, the District President and the Joint Board will meet again to pursue the process further, returning to step #2. Long experience with the call system indicates:

1. That it is democratic in nature.
2. That democracy can move slowly sometimes.
3. That the local church benefits from the help which the denomination can give and a real partnership can develop.
4. Responsibility and choice are shared by the local church, the denomination, and the pastor.
5. That if the pastor who is called declines the call, it does not imply a negative judgment on the congregation but, rather, a sense of no clear leading of the Lord to accept.
6. That the leading of the Holy Spirit has repeatedly been demonstrated to be active in the call process.

"In essentials, unity; in non-essentials, liberty; in all things, love."



Great Kills Moravian Church

Phone: 718-317-7788

Fax: 718-356-2826

*Office: Mon- Thurs 9am - 1pm

*office hours subject to change

Office Administrator: Michael Cipolla

Email: office@greatkillsmoravian.org

Website: www.greatkillsmoravian.org

We are also on Facebook

Email: pastor@greatkillsmoravian.org

Elders:

Liz Reres, Vice Chair

Karen Maskuli

Debra Jelonek

Charlott Bramwell

Todd Hallett

Muriel Timari

Trustees:

Nancy Burri, President

Mike Crea, Vice-President & Treasurer

Claudia McGloin, Financial Secretary

Janice Hermansen

Stan Timari

Jim Jimenez

Ministries and Events:

Sunday Worship Services: We continue to hold worship services on Sunday at 11am **in person and via Zoom**. Worship aids and worship services are available for Zoom on our website, www.greatkillsmoravian.org. If you missed a service click on the Watch Now button under Previous Services and then click on the service you would like to view.

Communion Services: **Monthly Communion cups** can be delivered if you plan to join a communion service on Zoom.

The Joyful Noise Offering: Children collect a joyful noise offering every second Sunday. This summer, those coins will support Camp Hope. The children enjoy the sounds of coins clinking, so bring in your coins. They will accept cash and checks also.

Greeters: We are looking for Greeters to help with Sunday morning Service. All you have to do is arrive at 10:30 a.m., smile, and say, "Welcome." If you are interested tell Debra Jelonek when you can help!

Prayer shawl ministry: Prayer shawls are knit or crocheted for those who are in need of comfort or those who are celebrating something. If you are interested in volunteering to help make shawls or if you know someone who would like a Prayer Shawl, please contact the church office.

Celebrations: If you'd like birthday or anniversary wishes, let the church office know and they will be added to the monthly newsletter.

Christian Education:

Children's Chat: Children's Chat is held the second Sunday of the month during worship.

Sunday School: Sunday school is on vacation until September. Pam and Veronica will let us know when it will resume. The children look so happy when they join the congregation after Sunday School. Thank you, parents, for coming early with your children, Thank you, Pam and Veronica, for your dedication to teaching, Thank you, children, for sharing your love when you sing for us.

Confirmation Class is available. So far, Gabriel Sanchez, Todd Hallett and Liz Reres are enjoying the process. Contact the church office if you know of anyone else who is Interested in confirmation.

Bible Study: Bible Study group meets after worship about 12:15 Sunday mornings. We are still studying the gospel of Mark in Bible Study after church on Sundays. All are welcome!

Joint Board news:

Elders will meet August 21st at 11:00am.

The financial secretary asks that you write your envelope number in the memo section of your check.

Trustee Bookkeeping Report For June

Income. \$4330.00

Expenses. \$5338.14

Surplus. -\$1008.14

Events Happening beyond GKMC:

Vanderbilt Community Dinner: The next community dinners are Saturday, July 19 & August 16th, 4:00pm to 6:00pm. We are invited. If you would like to help in any way or need more information, contact Muriel Timari. I want to thank everyone who has been working so hard to provide the desserts for the dinner. The dinners are always held on the third Saturday of every month. This month we provided cookies for eighty clients.

A big shout out of thanks goes to Pam Bailey, Vianey Hallett, Debra Jelonek, Jim Jimenez, Angela Jordan, Donna and Charlie Montanti, Liz Reres, Stan Timari.

We will be responsible for the desserts for August and straight through to the end of the year. If you would like to help with this community mission, please let me know. We will be incredibly happy to welcome you. Well done everyone!

-Blessings, *Muriel Timari*

S.I. Moravian Picnic: On September 27, 2025, on the grounds of The Parish House of New Dorp Moravian Church grounds from noon to 4:00 pm we will have our picnic Sponsored by The Central Board of Elders. With lots of food from John's Catering. Some of the food includes, hamburgers, frankfurters, baked beans, chicken, pulled pork, corn on the cob, freshly made salads, watermelon, and drinks. The food will be served inside the hall. We will have a cake and make your own ice cream sundaes. There will be a lot of games for ALL ages to enjoy, music and crafts too. (Next Page)

Please come out to enjoy fellowship with each other, a lot of laughter and fun. Please bring your lawn chairs and a blanket or both to enjoy the festivities outside. If you do not have a lawn chair, please let us know and we will provide a chair for you. Please see Muriel or Liz for the tickets. Tickets are \$10 per person, eleven and under are FREE.

-Blessings, *Muriel Timari*

Festival Days: John Hus Festival and August 13 Festival are two days of celebration unique to the Moravian Church. John Hus, considered one of the first Moravian theologians was martyred for his faith, burned at the stake, in 1415. Grace Moravian Church in Queens will hold the local John Hus Festival on July 6 at 3:30.

August 13 is considered the “Spiritual Birthday” of the Moravian Church. On that day in 1727, members of the Herrnhut community experienced a profound outpouring of love during worship. Count Zinzendorf sent them food from his manor house. Food offerings in worship became lovefeasts.

Outdoor Ministry Service: On June 22, 2025, we all enjoyed being involved with the Camping Theme service. It was an inter-generational service. We heard reflections of camping from Gabriel, Peter, Maggie, Stan, and me. We all participated in a Love Feast of s'mores, pretzels, water, and juice. We sang camp songs, read scriptures, and enjoyed one another in Fellowship.

I want to thank everyone who helped set up and break down the Chancel area into a camp site. To everyone who participated in the service I appreciated it very much. Thank you for agreeing to being involved in the service. All of you made this service to be very spiritual and meaningful.

-Blessings, *Muriel Timari*



Email Address: If you have an email address, can the church have it? We send the monthly Church Herald & Weekly Worship aid out by email. If you can not attend Sunday worship and elect to follow the service online, you will have the worship aid on hand ahead of time.

Directory: Do you want church friends to contact you? Give your phone number and email address to the church office for inclusion in the next edition of the church directory.

GKMC Prayer List: To add someone, send a request to the office. Request forms are in a basket in the Narthex. Otherwise contact Louise Brackett.

Prayers For: Anna Maria V, John Ducey, Bill and Carol Burt, Charlee, Samantha Catania, Patrick Calcagno, Linda Golino, Susan C, Frank and family, Nicholas Falvey and his family, Joanne K, Joyce Fernandez, Captain J. King, Mark Chin, James Peterson, Madeline M, Doug Wycoff, Sean and his mom Sue, Thora Mae and family, Amanda, Dr. Krelensteri and Florence.

July Birthdays:

7/3 Deborah Koop
 7/4 Daniela Korbeci
 Camryn Lodato
 7/5 Harold Erwood
 7/8 Blondel Jones-Grant
 7/9 Nancy Doran
 7/13 Janice Hermansen
 Rocco DelGiudice
 7/14 Charles Montanti
 Lauren Crea -Ricco
 7/16 Jake Clifford
 7/18 Nancy Walker
 7/24 Diana Montanti
 7/26 Lilac Hallet
 7/27 Vanessa D'Avino

August Birthdays:

8/2 Sandra Fogarty
 8/3 Lily Price
 8/8 Lily Hansen-Price
 Lydia Ruocco
 8/19 Julia Ruocco
 8/21 Gail Coury
 Tom Emery
 8/25 Besnik Korbeci
 8/26 Parker Crea
 8/28 Thomas Pisano, Jr.
 8/29 Elise Leccese
 8/30 Zachary Koop
 8/31 Ethel Ducey

July Anniversaries:

7/13 Stan and Murial Timari
 7/25 Zakariah and Peace Ali
 7/26 Rocco and Robbin DelGuidice

August Anniversaries:

8/2 Todd and Vianey Hallett
 8/4 Guy & Georgine Norbury
 8/5 Luis & Mathilde Guterrez
 8/7 Gary & Diane Hansen
 8/12 Jerry and Charlott Bramwell
 8/24 Vincent & Leslie Bruzzese

Camp Hope is our Moravian camp in Pennsylvania. There is a schedule of camping sessions. Camp is expensive. However, our church will help defray the cost. Parents, get together and decide when your children would like to go. Their cousins and friends can also attend.

2025 Summer Camps

Musical Theatre Camp: 6/29-7/5 - \$550

Completed 5th-9th Grade this year

Primary Camp: 7/6-12 - \$520

Completed 3rd or 4th Grade this year

Midler Camp: 7/13-7/19 - \$520

Completed 5th or 6th Grade this year

Junior High Camp: 7/20-7/26 - \$520

Completed 7th or 8th Grade this year

Senior High Camp: 7/27-8/2 - \$550

Completed 9th, 10th, 11th or 12th this year

Swim Camp: 8/3-8/9 - \$550

Completed 3rd - 6th Grade this year

Pre-Primary Camp: 8/3-8/6 - \$345

Completed 1st or 2nd Grade this year

July 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>6</p> <p>11:00am Worship In-person and Zoom Communion</p> <p>12:00pm Fellowship</p> <p>12:15pm Bible Study</p> <p>John Hus Festival 3:30pm.</p> <p>Grace Moravian Church, Queens.</p>	7	8	9	10	11	12
<p>13</p> <p>11:00am Worship In-person and Zoom Joyful Noise Offering</p> <p>12:15pm Bible Study</p>	14	15	16	17	18	19
<p>20</p> <p>11:00am Worship In-person and Zoom</p> <p>12:15pm Bible Study</p>	21	22	23	24	25	26
<p>27</p> <p>11:00am Worship In-person and Zoom</p> <p>12:15pm Bible Study</p>	28	29	30	31		

August 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3 11:00am Worship In-person and Zoom Communion 12:00 pm Fellowship 12:15 am Bible Study	4	5	6	7	8	9
10 11:00am Worship In-person and Zoom Children's Chat Joyful Noise Offering Fellowship 12pm 12:15pm Bible Study	11	12	13 August 13th Festival	14	15	16 Vanderbilt Community Dinner 4pm-6pm
17 11:00am Worship In-person and Zoom 12:15pm Bible Study	18	19	20	21 Elders Meeting 11am	22	23
24 11:00am Worship In-person and Zoom 12:15pm Bible Study	25	26	27	28	29	30
31 11:00am Worship In-person and Zoom 12:15pm Bible Study						

Great Kills Moravian Church
62 Hillside Terrace
Staten Island, N Y 10308

Great Kills Moravian Church Worship Weekly Scriptures

If you miss our In-Person worship service you may join in the recorded services available on our church website 24/7.

July 6 - Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

Isaiah 49:1-7; Psalm 135:1-13; 1 Corinthians 1:18-24; Mark 8:34-38

July 13 - Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

Deuteronomy 30:9-14; Psalm 25:1-10; Colossians 1:1-14; Luke 10:25-37

July 20 - Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

Genesis 18:1-10a; Psalm 15; Colossians 1:15-28; Luke 10:38-42

July 27 - Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

Genesis 18:20-32; Psalm 138; Colossians 2:6-15, (16-19); Luke 11:1-13

August 3 - Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

Ecclesiastes 1:2,12-14,2:18-23; Psalm 49:1-12; Colossians 3:1-11; Luke 12:13-21

August 10 - Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

Genesis 15:1-6; Psalm 33:12-22; Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16; Luke 12:32-40

August 17 - Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

Jeremiah 23:23-29; Psalm 82; Hebrews 11:29-12:2; Luke 12:49-56

August 24 - Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

Isaiah 58:9b-14; Psalm 103:1-8; Hebrews 12:18-29; Luke 13:10-17

August 31 - Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

Proverbs 25:6-7; Psalm 112; Hebrews 13:1-8,15-16; Luke 14:1,7-14

