Great Kills Moravian Church Herald

November 2026 Volume 10, Page 1

Our Lamb has conquered. Let us follow him.

Years ago, when I told my father and sister that I'm afraid of "Born Again Christians," they laughed. These days I think they might agree with me. Sometimes I think the term "Christian" should be in the public domain. One person's Christian practices are antithetical to another's. Jesus was specific though. We are to love God and love our neighbors as we love ourselves. We are instructed to love each other as Jesus loves us. Our Moravian Northern Province has made available a talk on "Christian Nationalism: a resource for congregations" for anyone who wants to learn what Christian Nationalism is and is not. Here is the link: https://vimeo.com/1214371990/2f033c8142?fl=pl&fe=sh

At a different church, years ago, I heard that "there are some problems that have no solution." There's also the promise that, "God will make a way where there is no way." Neither phrase is a quote from the Bible, but both describe some of my fears and hopes.

In Bible Study we finished reading the first few chapters of *Revelation*, reviewing how the Spirit (of Jesus) walks among the seven churches. When *Revelation* was written, people did not have the United States Post Office to deliver individual letters. Rather, the whole packet of letters circulated among the churches where everyone heard all the messages, and could review each other's strengths and weaknesses, and learn from them. Next, we read about the Lamb opening seals on scrolls. Do you know what I'm talking about? Join us for Bible study after church on Sunday mornings where we will take time to answer questions and discuss meaning and context. All are welcome.

Charlott Bramwell

Watchword for 2026: *And Jesus said to Simon and Andrew, "Follow me and I will make you fishers of people." Mark 1:17*

"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: Elizabeth Loveridge
Email: office@greatkillsmoravian.org
Website: www.greatkillsmoravian.org We are also on Facebook
Email: pastor@greatkillsmoravian.org

Elders:
Muriel Timari, Vice Chair
Liz Reres
Karen Maskuli
Debra Jelonek
Charlott Bramwell, Secretary
Todd Hallett

Trustees:
Nancy Burri, President
Mike Crea, Vice-President & Treasurer
Claudia McGloin, Financial Secretary
Janice Hermansen
Stan Timari
Jim Jimenez

Central Board of Elders
Liz Reres
Muriel Timari

Central Board of Trustees
Nancy Burri
Michael Crea

Ministries and Events:

Regularly scheduled ministries and events:

Sunday school: 9:30am.
Sunday Worship: 11:00am
Bible study: Sundays at 12:15pm.
Holy communion: Monthly as announced;
Children's Youth disciple time and Joyful Noise offering: Second Sunday;
Fellowship hours: as announced;
Vanderbilt community dinner: third Saturday;

Prayer chain: The prayer chain ministry is for urgent concerns when community members need immediate prayer support. If you know of a situation, contact Karen Maskuli or Muriel Timari who will notify our prayer team. Prayer chain concerns may later appear on the prayer lists that are published in the Sunday bulletin and the monthly newsletter, or they may remain private.

The Prayer List is published Sundays in the bulletin and Monthly in the newsletter. To add someone to the prayer list, that's published Sundays and monthly, send a request to the church office. Request forms are in a basket in the Narthex. Please remember to remove names from the prayer list as necessary.

Prayer Shawl: We have members who knit or crochet prayer shawls for people who need comfort. If you or someone you know would appreciate a shawl, contact Donna Montanti or the church office. If you knit or crochet and would like to make shawls, contact Donna or the office.

Sunday Worship Services: We continue to hold worship services on Sunday at 11am **in-person and via Zoom**. Worship aids and worship ser vices 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. Contact the church office.

Christian Education:

Youth Disciple Time: Youth Disciple time is held the second Sunday of each month during worship. Usually Muriel preaches a short interactive sermon for the children. Then the children collect a Joyful Noise Offering. They like coins that make noise when they hit the collection cans, although they will also accept cash or checks. This quarter, the Joyful Noise Offering will support Moravian Open Door, a not-for-profit (501-c3) that provides transitional housing and supportive services to the homeless, distressed, and underserved population of New York City.

Sunday School:

Sunday School members continue to celebrate their birthdays with a donation to "birthday child's chosen charity."

Christmas play practice will start November 8th with organist and music director, Stan Timari.

Leading up to the Advent season they will explore stories from the first book in the Bible, Genesis. Ironically the older folks of the church are studying the last book of the Bible, Revelation.

Thought? Maybe an informal quiz style competition, kids versus adults….Genesis versus Revelation…..once both groups have finished with their studies.

Bible Study:

Bible Study, meets after worship on Sundays. They are studying *Revelation* the last and most confusing book of the Bible, using the Bible and Bruce Metzger's book, *Breaking the Code*. Todd Hallett and Frank Gargano teach. All are welcome.

Meditative and calming practice:

Todd plans to teach breathing exercises before church service in the next couple of weeks. More information will be coming.

Trustees News:

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

Income $2,460.00

Expenses $6,777.00

Surplus -$4,317.00

Trustees performed the following:

- Replaced DVR replaced in Parsonage which was under warranty;
- Increased DVR video capacity of video cameras;
- Had exterminator service in church and parsonage;
- Exterminated a bee nest in front door of church;
- Cleaned Parsonage;
- Conducted bi-annual inspection of stove suppression system;
- Conducted weekly check of property.

The Elders's Corner

Highlights from our October 29 Meeting:

On Thursday, October 29, 2026, the Board of Elders gathered for their monthly meeting. Sister Charlott led the opening devotions and closed our time together. The board engaged in productive discussions spanning key church ministries, including worship logistics, Christian education, media, and ushering.

We discussed an upcoming presentation by PSS Circle Care. It will be opened to all the Moravian churches on Staten Island and to Christ Lutheran. This group is dedicated to supporting caregivers who provide care for loved ones. They offer free resources, guidance, and emotional support, helping caregivers to be able to navigate the challenges of caregiving with confidence and compassion. Be on the lookout for more information on this group.
Respectfully submitted, Sister Muriel Timari
Vice-Chair, Board of Elders

Happenings at Great Kills Moravian Church

Women's Service Day

Join us on **Sunday, November 8, 2026**, for "Women's Service Day." Muriel is organizing this special service for women. If you would like to be involved, please reach out to Muriel to let her know!

New Women's Group

Back in April, Muriel and several women from our church attended the Eastern Women's Rally at New Dorp Moravian Church, where the group donated $100 to help kick-start women's ministry at the Great Kills. Muriel is now launching a new Women's Group right here at our church! The group will focus on fellowship, mission work, and a book study centered on *When Women Preach: Voices Called By God,* a devotional study guide written by the Provincial Women's Boards of the Moravian Church in America, Northern and Southern Provinces. One of the devotionals was written by Sister Blondel named, *What Are We Called: And What Are We Called to Do?* If you are interested in joining or learning more, please contact Muriel.

Learn to lead

The Moravian Church Northern Province, Eastern District offers opportunities for members to learn leadership skills. Last week, *Part one* of the EQUIP series, on *Lay Leadership and Adaptive Change,* was held on Zoom. Three of our six Elders attended. *Part two: Conflict and Change,* will be offered on November 30 at 7:pm on Zoom. It's free. You are invited. Ask Muriel, Charlott, or Todd how to register.

Thanksgiving Baskets

We have a lot to be thankful for, even though we've been tightening our belts as the cost of food has gone up lately along with everything else. Each year our church collects food to fill Thanksgiving baskets for people with food insecurity in our community. If you know of anyone who needs food, please let the church know. If you can contribute to the food drive, please bring your donations to church where we'll place them on the front table. Let's fill that table! For this Thanksgiving, we especially need: turkey gravy, cranberry sauce, stuffing mix, boxes of instant mashed potatoes, shelf stable milk and cans of: yams, vegetables, fruit, and frosting mix. Thank you.

Vanderbilt Community Dinner

The Community Dinner is always held the third Saturday of every month. If you would like to help bake or donate something for the dinner that would be much appreciated.

For **November**, Rosemarie Beepath, her daughter Ariana, Charlott Bramwell, Pam Bailey, and I will be providing the goodies.

In **December**, we'll be supplying cookies. If you'd like to assist with this ministry for December, please contact me.

Respectfully,
Muriel Timari Coordinator, Vanderbilt Moravian Community Dinners

The Vanderbilt Winter Warmth Drive

As we prepare for the December Vanderbilt Community Dinner, we are collecting new mittens, gloves, scarves, and hats for our guests. Our goal is to gather 100 cozy items to help children and adults stay warm through the winter months.

Donations can be placed on the Christmas tree located in Fellowship Hall by the piano. We will be collecting items through Sunday, December 13.

Respectfully submitted,
Sister Muriel Timari

November Birthdays:

11/11 Michael Crea
Casey Fogarty
Debra Jelonek
Ariana Sanchez

Pastors and co-leaders for November

Nov 1: All Saints Day: Pastor Jesus Laguerra/ Brother Jim Jimenez

Nov 8: Women's Service Day: Sister Muriel Timari

Nov 15: Chief Elder Festival and Holy Communion: Pastor Patricia Honszer/ Sister Muriel Timari

Nov 22: Pastor Chris Giesler/Brother Todd Hallett

Nov 29: First Sunday of Advent: Pastor Jesus Laguerra/ Sister Normalee Mallawaarachchi.

Prayers list:

- *The family of Joan Cutting,*
- *Bill Ducey and Family,*
- *Jesus Laguerra and Family,*
- *Janet Buell,*
- *John Ducey,*
- *Bill and Carol Burt,*
- *Linda Golino,*
- *Susan C,*
- *Joanne K,*
- *Joyce Fernandez,*
- *Karen,*
- *Laura Hepworth,*
- *Sean, his mom Sue and stepdad Bill,*
- *Ryan,*
- *Susan,*
- *Marge Van Nostrand,*
- *Pastor Honszer's brother Art*

November 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 9:30am Sunday School 11:00 Worship 12:00pm Fellowship Luncheon for Pastor Laguerra 6pm 12 Step NA	2	3 **Election Day**	4 3:00pm Eastern Star	5 6:30pm GK Lodge	6	7 10am-4pm NDMC Christmas Fair
8 9:30am Sunday School 11:00am Worship 12:15pm Bible Study/Fellowship Hour 6pm 12 Step NA	9	10	11 **Veterans Day** 6:30pm Eastern Star	12 10am AARP 11am Elders Meeting 6:30pm GK Lodge	13	14
15 9:30am Sunday School 11:00am Worship 12:15pm Bible Study/Fellowship Hour 6pm 12 Step NA	16	17	18	19	20	21 4:30pm Vanderbilt Community Dinner
22 9:30am Sunday School 11:00 Worship 12:15pm Bible Study/Fellowship Hour 6pm 12 Step NA	23	24	25	26 **Thanksgiving**	27	28
29 **First Sunday of Advent** 9:30am Sunday School 11:00 Worship 12:15pm Bible Study 6pm 12 Step NA	30					

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

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.

November 1 – Twenty-Third Sunday after Pentecost
All Saints
Micah 3:5-12; Psalm 43; 1 Thessalonians 2:9-13; Matthew 23:1-12

November 8 – Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Pentecost
Amos 5:18-24; Psalm 70; 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18; Matthew 25:1-13

November 15 - Twenty-fifth Sunday after Pentecost
Zephaniah 1:7,12-18; Psalm 90:1-12; 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11; Matthew 25:14-30

November 22 – Reign of Christ
Ezekiel 34:11-16,20-24; Psalm 95:1-7; Ephesians 1:15-23; Matthew 25:31-46

November 29- First Sunday of Advent
Isaiah 64:1-9; Psalm 80:1-7,17-19; 1 Corinthians 1:3-9; Mark 13:24-37