



Fairview Moravian Church

I command you: be strong and steadfast! Do not fear nor be dismayed, for the Lord, your God, is with you wherever you go.

Joshua 1:9

October 2021

The Pastor's Corner

Essential Relationship with Jesus

I have been running a chainsaw for many months now (dropping about 400 pine trees): it has a tank for the two-cycle gas mixture and a separate tank for the chain bar oil. Each tank has a different sized cap. I sure messed things up when I put gas into the bar oil tank. Fortunately, I realized it before I used the saw and straightened out what could have been a real mess, perhaps even an explosion as the bar oil hits a very hot chain. This reminded me how incompatible things are best separated into neat compartments. On the other hand, Christians are in an interdependent relationship—all those trees make a fine forest only when together.

Thinking about our lives of faith, if a three-sided coin existed, the labels on the sides might read discipleship, evangelism, and stewardship. As followers of Jesus, I imagine Jesus does not separate these because they are terms that represent the same thing: *our lives of faith in relationship with Jesus*. When we truly give our lives to Jesus, we are his disciples for the rest of time. This action of the Holy Spirit, which Jesus gives us, cannot be undue—we belong to him, we obey him, we follow him—we are disciples. As disciples, because of our relationship with Jesus, we share our faith (evangelism) in all that we say, in all that we do, at all times. There is no switching off our faith—we are disciples and evangelists. When I visited a member at the hospital recently, she told how she shared small aluminum crosses with strangers who looked in need of an uplifting. She balked at the evangelist label I gave her. I told her big words and long Scripture citations are not needed to share her faith in Jesus Christ which is the Good News of Jesus: *essential evangelism!* Sharing who Jesus is to us is all that is needed.

As disciples and evangelists (which is all of us) who share our faith, we are members of the Fairview congregation. We were called into and accepted a relationship with Jesus as we became members of Fairview. In the Confirmation Service, as an affirmation of faith, we are asked: “*Do you in this faith turn away from sin, evil, and selfishness in your thoughts, words, and actions; and do you intend to participate actively in Christ’s church, serving God all the days of your life?*” We express our devotion to Jesus as a pledge of covenant relationship: “*I do.*” As a covenant, the congregation is asked: “*Do you affirm these children of God as members of this [Fairview] congregation, and accept your obligation to love and nurture them in Christ?*” The congregation responds: “*We do.*”

Although we talk and teach discipleship, evangelism, and stewardship separately, they are interdependent aspects of our Christian spirituality: they are mutual and simultaneous. Discipleship, evangelism, and stewardship represent our response to God’s love and grace that we know and experience in Christ Jesus.

As we enter our fall Stewardship emphasis, please consider how our free and acceptable gift of time and talent

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and treasure is *primarily a spiritual offering to God*. I intentionally did not write an extensive paragraph about stewardship; as a follower of Jesus, the Holy Spirit will be your inspiration and guide, which will be the theme of my stewardship sermon. There is no greater spiritual joy than our enacted-love, freely and fully given to Christ Jesus *for His* ministry through Fairview. When we gather in October for Commitment Sunday, look around at the disciples, evangelists, and stewards in the sanctuary. When I look around at you all, I give thanks to God. One Spirit, many gifts!

Yours in Christ Jesus,

Pastor Tony



Alice Bess, Kimberly and Jody Brendle, Roger Carmichael, Bob Dalton, Anna Frances Dull, Anna Faircloth and her Mission Team, Riff Footland, Ruth and Everett Freeman, John Harrold, Marjorie Humbert, Betty Johnson, Nancy Manuel, Ann Marcus, Tom Nicholson, Doris "DG" Noell, Harry Sapp, Gwen and Bill Shields, Sandy Smith, Terri Southern, Larry Sprinkle, Pam Tatum, Lindsay Tise, Nancy and Ken Tomberlin, and Diane Wright.

Shut In:

Sam Hardister, Jolleen Johnson, Nancy Manuel, Ann Marcus, Opal Miller, Lucy Millikan, Doris Noell, Ruby Pulliam.

Nursing Home:

Betty Beeson, Marjorie Humbert, Barbara Giesler, Eleanor Swaim, Lillie Mae Joyce, George Brannock.

The newsletter deadline is Monday, October 18th at Noon.



The Women's Fellowship will sponsor a Food Drive on Saturday October 9th from 11:00 am - 1:00 pm. You may drop off food items (please make sure food is not expired). Canned foods, cereals, dried beans, all are needed. The food is being sent to Bethabara Moravian for their food pantry. Please try to make your way down to the church in the lower parking lot and someone will meet you to take your donations. Also, monetary donations may be made as well. Checks can be made payable to Fairview Moravian Church or to Bethabara Moravian Church. Cash is always welcomed!

The Women's Fellowship General Meeting will be held on Saturday, October 9th at 10:00 am in the Fellowship Hall. All ladies in the church are invited to come! We will wear masks and social distance as requested.

Dear Fairview Members and Friends,

The Joint Board offers its prayers and consolations for you during this time of unprecedented challenge. May we all know the grace of God who “*heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds*” The Board met and has determined that improved conditions allow a moderated re-opening schedule. The Reopening Committee synthesized extensive information and recommended worship begin on October 3rd. The Joint Board, with much prayer and thought, discussed the many opportunities for worship, ministry, and mission, which we hold dear and seek to participate in. The Board sought a balance to ensure our health, while acknowledging the growth and vitality we experience when we all are together.

We recognize that:

- Meeting in groups without masks and social distancing led to the small outbreak.
- COVID infections were breakthrough cases.
- Current hospitalizations and deaths are trending down in Forsyth and surrounding counties, North Carolina, and the USA.
- We must remain vigilant to evolving concerns and will adjust our policy as needed to keep our members safe on the Fairview campus.
- Restrictions in activities and safety precautions must be followed.

With these key points and other information, the Fairview Joint Board will lead the reopening implementation as follows:

- **Masks** are required and must be always worn inside any building.
- **Social distancing** is always required for worship, all ministry events and meetings, and all fellowship events and meetings.
- **In-person worship will restart this Sunday October 3**, with communion modified for COVID.
- **Sanctuary Sunday School and post-worship Fellowship will not** be offered at this time.
- The **Chancel Choir will not** lead worship at this time.
- The **Maggie Styers Mission Chapter Lovefeast (with COVID modifications) will be held** at during our 10 am worship on Sunday October 10. Sister Safiatu Braima, who is serving as a Provincial Acolyte in Sierra Leone, will be our guest speaker. Those worshipers who would like to participate in a discussion time will remain in place. Those who leave worship will be led to exit the building to ensure social distancing.
- **All other ministry events and meetings will resume** with masks and social distancing required.
- The Board of Elders **will continue its oversight** to approve building use case-by-case.

The Joint Board appreciates your conformance to measures that will allow us to continue our worship and ministry. The Board will continue to evaluate evolving conditions of the pandemic. The next Joint Board is October 18th at 7:00 pm. Please contact Pastor Tony, any Elder or Trustee with your affirmations and concerns. If you would like to speak to the Board at any meeting, please contact Pastor Tony to include you on the agenda.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the Joint Board in the Service of our Lord,

Pastor Tony

When the cares of my heart are many, your consolations cheer my soul. Psalm 94:19



October

2. Sharlene Medley, Cliff Venable
4. Barry Self
7. Victor Cannon, Tom Joyce, Bill Oehman
8. Lucy Millikan
10. Katyna Phillips, Sandy Smith
11. Gary Hope
12. Gabby Byerly, Mollie Rascoe
13. Carolyn Neal
15. Kierstyn Krause
16. Jerry Byerly
20. Liz Venable
24. Linda Mathers
28. Penny Ratermann

Moravian Birthday Song

With your presence, Lord, our
Head and Savior,
bless us all, we humbly pray;
our dear heavenly Father's love
and favor
be our comfort every day.
May God's Spirit now in each
proceeding
favor us with his most gracious
leading;
thus shall we be truly blessed
both in labor and in rest.



The Women's Fellowship is sponsoring a Shredding Event on Saturday, October 2 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon. You don't have to get out of your car; we will unload for you. This is a great opportunity to get rid of your old papers and documents in a safe way. Please tell all of your friends and neighbors about it! A donation of \$5.00 per file box or bag is requested. We look forward to seeing you on October 2!

The Nominating Committee is starting the initial process of finding representatives for this year's nomination for the Board of Elders and the Board of Trustees. If you should feel led to help guide the decision process of Fairview over the next three years (or have a recommendation of someone), please reach out to one of the nominating committee members. This year's nominating committee members are: Cynthia Faircloth, Chair, Eugenia Ivy, Jane Hilker, Dorcas Hauser, Pat Sapp, and Charlie Martin.

Around the Province....



Moravian Disaster Response Update on Haiti, Hurricane Ida Impacts, and Afghanistan Refugee Resettlement September 16, 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



The remains of one of the Moravian Buildings in Haiti

The worst effects of the August 14 earthquake and the tropical storm that followed it are over. However, in Haiti, transportation is difficult, political tensions are high, and rival gangs control large areas of the country. Having spoken to leaders in Haiti, they are thankful that the \$17,500 already sent from the Board of World Mission is on its way, but they also tell us that this will be a long-term process and will take lots of prayer, patience, and persistence. People who lost their homes are still living in the streets, water and food are scarce, and medical care is hard to come by. Please pray for the Moravian Church leaders and their members.

Hurricane Ida Impact on the Gulf Coast & Northeast



Hurricane Ida was a major Category 4 hurricane when it made landfall in Louisiana, and damage assessments are high. Loss of life is now at 153, most of these occurring with the flooding in New Jersey and New York. We have continued discussions with our ecumenical partners are still evaluating how we can best be of assistance. 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

The US and Canada refugees fleeing this war-to follow the Biblical call these families as they BWM is partnering with to support this complex work with refugee respected for its work with assisting Afghan families military

McCoy, New Jersey
Mexico at Dona Ana

Fort Bliss, Virginia at Quantico & Fort Pickett, Indiana at Camp Atterbury. If your congregation happens to be near one of these bases, you can go to the Team Rubicon website at <https://teamrubiconusa.org/resettlement> for information. In these places, you can drop off things such as toiletries, clothing, food, and water. For assistance with establishing this outreach in your congregation, please email Jill Kolodziej at jill@moravianmission.org.



Afghan families seeking safe shelter

continue to see rising numbers of Afghan torn country. We encourage congregations to welcome to the foreigner by helping begin their new lives in North America. The Church World Service and Team Rubicon effort. CWS has long been known for its resettlement and Team Rubicon is well refugee families. They are currently who are being relocated to the following US bases: Wisconsin at Volk Field & Fort at Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, New Range / Holloman Air Force Base, Texas at

You can assist the BWM in all of our efforts to bring relief to those in need by sending your donations to: Board of World Mission, 1021 Center Street, Bethlehem, PA 18018. You may also make your donation online at <http://moravianmission.org/give/> and click on the green "Donate Now" link at the top of the page. Please indicate that your gift is for "MDR". Your support changes lives



Board of World Mission

Moravian Mission Coffee is now available for preorder. 12 oz. bags of ground coffee or whole beans sourced from Uganda are currently available at MoravianMissionCoffee.org, with hopes to provide more offerings as Moravian Mission Coffee expands. ☕ Each bag purchased will support Mission Grants, which are a great way for the Board of World Mission (BWM) to address specific needs and ministries as they are identified by our partners.

☞ Order your coffee today by going to MoravianMissionCoffee.org and clicking the big navy buttons for ground or whole bean coffee. ☞ #moravian #boardofworldmission #coffee #coffeeoracause