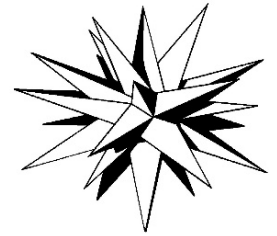


# A Publication of East Hills Moravian Church

1830 Butztown Road  
Bethlehem, PA 18017  
610-868-6481



# The Star

Volume 64, No. 7

July-August 2021



## *A Word from Pastor Linda Wisser*

Eastern District Synod News and Reflection

On June 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>, delegates from across the Moravian Church Eastern District met on Zoom in the gathering for the 2021 Eastern District Synod. The theme for Synod was “Into the Word...this is the challenge of our mission.” I had the great joy of representing our congregation together with our elected delegates: Jon Burcaw, Laura Kemmerer and Jay Larson.

The primary purpose of District Synods, according to the Moravian Church Book of Order, is to bring people together for spiritual renewal and fellowship. This was accomplished well, even though the gathering was completely online. Our worship and teaching was based on Paul’s letter to the Philippians, and we reflected on Paul’s words to the early church...he was in prison, and the church had great concern for him. But Paul pointed out that his imprisonment was actually helping to spread the gospel. As a prisoner of the imperial guard, Paul now had access to people in high places and word was spreading about this prisoner and his teachings. Paul encouraged the Philippians to rejoice in all circumstances because God was at work, and the gospel was being shared. This was a wonderful encouragement for the churches represented at Synod. Our circumstances this past year have seemed less than something to rejoice in. Rev. Lynnette Delbridge invited delegates to consider how the gospel was spread through our ministries this past year despite the circumstances we were in. Central Moravian Church adapted their food bank collection to a drive-by drop off and now they receive triple the amount of food and not only from church members but from neighbors and community

groups as well. And the gospel is shared! Many churches, like East Hills, have learned to host online worship and have seen a marked increase in the number of people attending...some worshippers who we will never meet in person have sent emails to let us know they are touched. And the gospel is being shared! Other churches were able to serve through food ministries, mask making, offering space for vaccination sites. And the gospel is being shared!

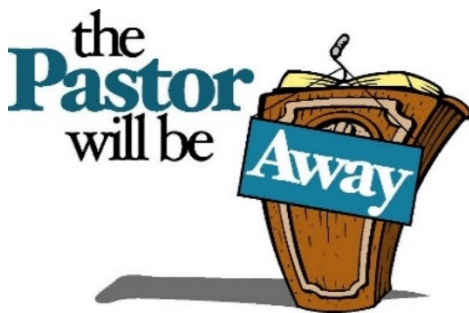
I want to encourage all of us to take a good look at our website, this newsletter, the Thursday emails, and take notice at all the opportunities we have to bring Christ's love "into the world" where Christ Jesus sends us. The gospel is being shared!

Take a look at Moravian.org website and see the many churches and organizations that make up the Moravian Church and the ministry that is happening worldwide. East Hills is an important part of the larger church. The gospel is being shared!

For this reason, as Paul, our ancestor in faith once put it, "I thank my God every time I remember you, constantly praying with joy ...because of your sharing in the gospel."

Together with you in faith, in all circumstances,

*Pastor Linda*

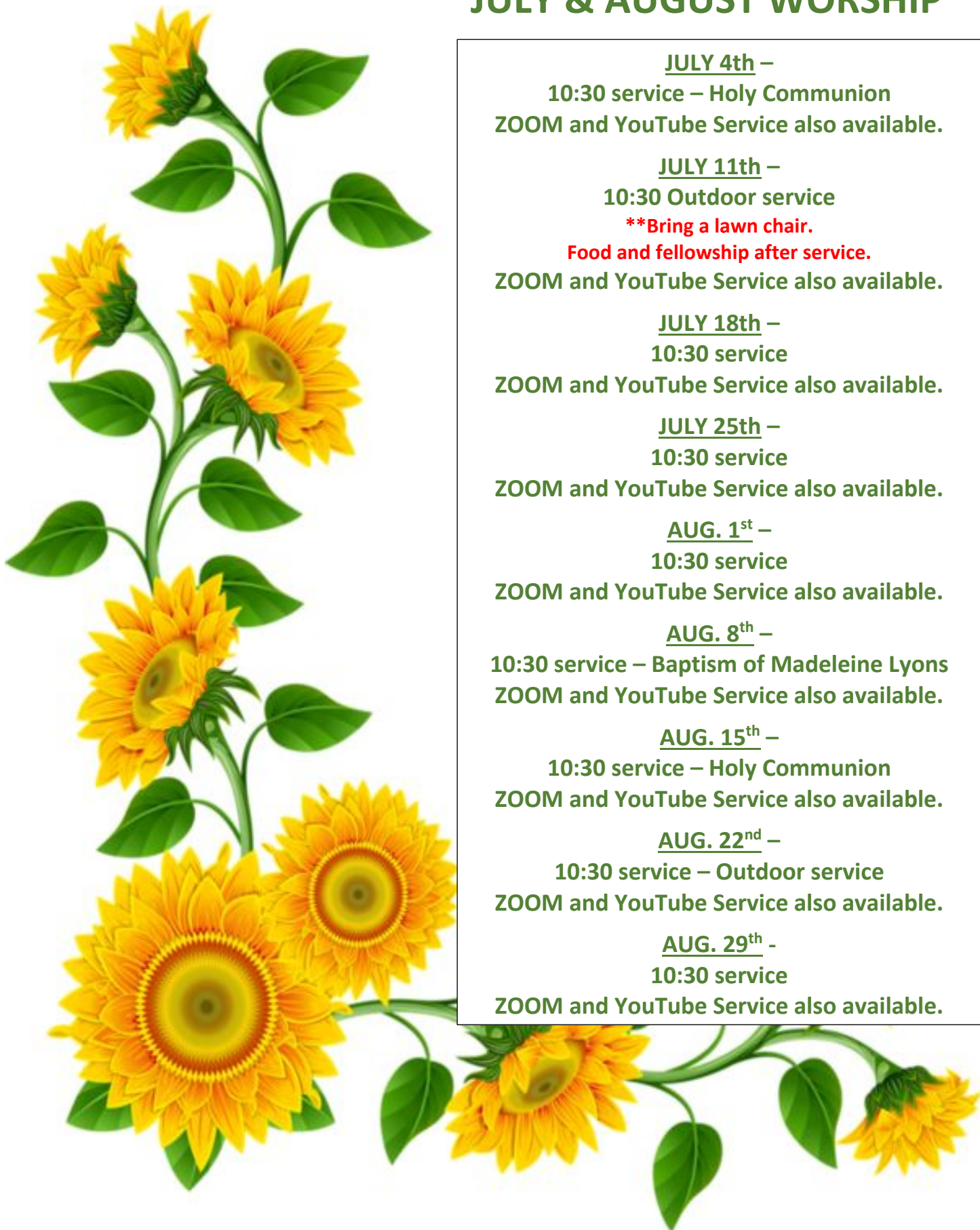


**Pastor's Vacation** - Pastor Linda and Matt will be on vacation from July 12th - 25th. Worship will be led by Bishop Blair Couch on July 18th and Bishop Chris Giesler on July 25th. There will also be emergency on call coverage while Linda and Matt are away. Please call Sandy at the office if the need for crisis care arises and she will put you in touch with our supply pastor. Thank you.



**For Pastoral Care:** Contact Pastor Linda via email at [pastorlinda@easthillsmc.org](mailto:pastorlinda@easthillsmc.org), via phone or text message at 484-764-8629.

# JULY & AUGUST WORSHIP



JULY 4th –

10:30 service – Holy Communion  
ZOOM and YouTube Service also available.

JULY 11th –

10:30 Outdoor service

**\*\*Bring a lawn chair.**

**Food and fellowship after service.**

ZOOM and YouTube Service also available.

JULY 18th –

10:30 service

ZOOM and YouTube Service also available.

JULY 25th –

10:30 service

ZOOM and YouTube Service also available.

AUG. 1<sup>st</sup> –

10:30 service

ZOOM and YouTube Service also available.

AUG. 8<sup>th</sup> –

10:30 service – Baptism of Madeleine Lyons

ZOOM and YouTube Service also available.

AUG. 15<sup>th</sup> –

10:30 service – Holy Communion

ZOOM and YouTube Service also available.

AUG. 22<sup>nd</sup> –

10:30 service – Outdoor service

ZOOM and YouTube Service also available.

AUG. 29<sup>th</sup> –

10:30 service

ZOOM and YouTube Service also available.

# Christian Fellowship News & Opportunities



**Worship with us every Sunday at 10:30 am in person, on ZOOM, or on YouTube.**



The church office is open Monday - Thursday from 9:00 – 3:00.



## **ZOOM link -- Dial-in by phone -- YouTube recordings**

Weekly Worship will be available live on ZOOM **Sunday mornings at 10:30 a.m.**

You may also dial in by phone or check YouTube for pre-recorded services and sermons each week.

**Zoom Link:** <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83858077423?pwd=UFIBRD13cG5jTHNNaGNtakhnU05vdz09>

Meeting ID: 838-5807-7423

Password: 175584

**YouTube Link:** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oF67kjDFPgY>

**Dial-in by phone:** For anyone without a computer, tablet, or smartphone, wishing to join the Church Service may do the following. This will be the audio only for landlines and cellphones.

1. Call 1-929-205-6099 (New York - other cities available on request)
2. At the prompt for the Meeting ID enter 838-5807-7423 followed by #
3. At the prompt for your Participant ID enter #
4. At the prompt for the Password enter 175584 followed by #



**EHMC Sunday Morning Coffee Class** - EHMC is inviting you join us via ZOOM. Please use the URL below to join the meeting with your computer, tablet or phone with a microphone and webcam. If you need to download the app, please approve it and join the meeting with computer audio. **Every week on Sun. at 9:00 AM** Eastern Time.

**New Zoom Link:** <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83108556340?pwd=aXNBVlItalp1ZjZtWFgvckVvaFJYUT09>

Meeting ID: 831 0855 6340

Passcode: 094254

Dial in for audio only: +1 929 205 6099

**Dial-in by phone:** For anyone without a computer, tablet, or smartphone, wishing to join the Church Service may do the following. This will be the audio only for landlines and cellphones.

1. Call 1-929-205-6099 (New York - other cities available on request)
2. At the prompt for the Meeting ID enter 831 0855 6340 followed by #
3. At the prompt for your Participant ID enter # and enter password 094254 followed by #





# Vacation Bible School 2021

## *"River of Life"*

Offered by Advent, Central,  
and East Hills Moravian Churches

Dear Families,

As COVID19 restrictions are being lifted and we make plans to return to more and more in-person activities, you may have been wondering whether we will have VBS this year and what it might look like.

The answer is "YES." We are offering an exciting new format for our annual Joint VBS which will include both you and your children. We will meet in the early evening starting at 5:45 p.m. at Advent Moravian Church for large group time and then time for children and their loving adults to move together through several different stations including story-time, arts and crafts, music, and science and games. All our stories will have something to do with water - from water at creation to Jesus washing his disciples' feet with cool, clean water.

Our gatherings will take place on Sunday and Wednesday evening in August - helping us all get geared up and excited again for Sunday School and regular school. The dates are:

- August 8, Sunday
- August 11, Wednesday
- August 15, Sunday
- August 18, Wednesday
- August 22, Sunday

The program is open for children who are old enough to have completed three-year old preschool through 6<sup>th</sup> grade. To help us with planning, please register letting us know which evenings your child(ren) and accompanying adult(s) will attend. (You don't have to come every night in order to participate.)

You may register in one or two ways.

Use the following link <https://forms.gle/38Lc9WZdfJs8cheM8> and register on-line or use the registration form included in this letter. You can fill it out and mail it to Advent Moravian Church, 3730 Jacksonville Road, Bethlehem, PA 18017. While we will not be charging a registration fee, donations for VBS would be appreciated. If you choose to make a donation, please make your check out to Central Moravian Church and put on the memo line, "VBS 2021." Mail you donations along with your registration forms to Advent Moravian Church.

We hope you and your child will join us for this in-person family adventure which will help us stay connected with each other, with our families, and with God.

Peace, Your Enthusiastic VBS Planning Team



Vacation Bible School 2021

“River of Life”

Family Registration and Media Release

Register by July 15, 2021

Parent(s) or Guardian(s) Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Home phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell: \_\_\_\_\_ Alternate #: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Preferred contact method for communication and updates: \_\_\_\_\_

Family Church/Religious Affiliation: \_\_\_\_\_

Name and number of emergency contact (not attending): \_\_\_\_\_

Names of Adults attending: \_\_\_\_\_

Total attending for your family: \_\_\_\_\_

For each child (put any additional on back):

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade completed in school: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade completed in school: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade completed in school: \_\_\_\_\_

Dates we plan to attend:

\_\_\_\_ August 8

\_\_\_\_ August 18

\_\_\_\_ August 11

\_\_\_\_ August 22

\_\_\_\_ August 15

We will be taking pictures of VBS activities which may include your child. Do we have permission to use photographs of your child for uses such as bulletin boards, newspaper articles, church website, and church publications? \_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_ No

Donation enclosed \_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_ No (Make checks payable to Central Moravian Church with VBS 2021 on the memo line and mail to Advent Moravian Church.)

Parent or Guardian signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Advent Moravian Church
3730 Jacksonville Rd.
Bethlehem, PA 18017
610-868-0477
www.adventmoravianbethlehem.org

Central Moravian Church
73 West Church St.
Bethlehem, PA 18017
610-866-5661
www.centalmoravian

East Hills Moravian Church
1830 Butztown Rd.
Bethlehem, PA 18017
610-868-6481
www.easthillsmc.org



# BOARD OF WORLD MISSION

of the Moravian Church • North America



## **2021-JULY-BWM- Mission-Minute**

Did you know..... BWM staff have once again started to travel!!! With the wider availability of a vaccine, and loosening travel restrictions in some parts of the world, BWM staff members are getting on the move! Executive Director, Justin Rabbach, was able to attend the recent Synods of both the Honduras Unity Province and Mission Province in person. This opportunity to renew contacts and discuss topics such as the ongoing theological education and medical work supported by the BWM with leaders was invaluable.

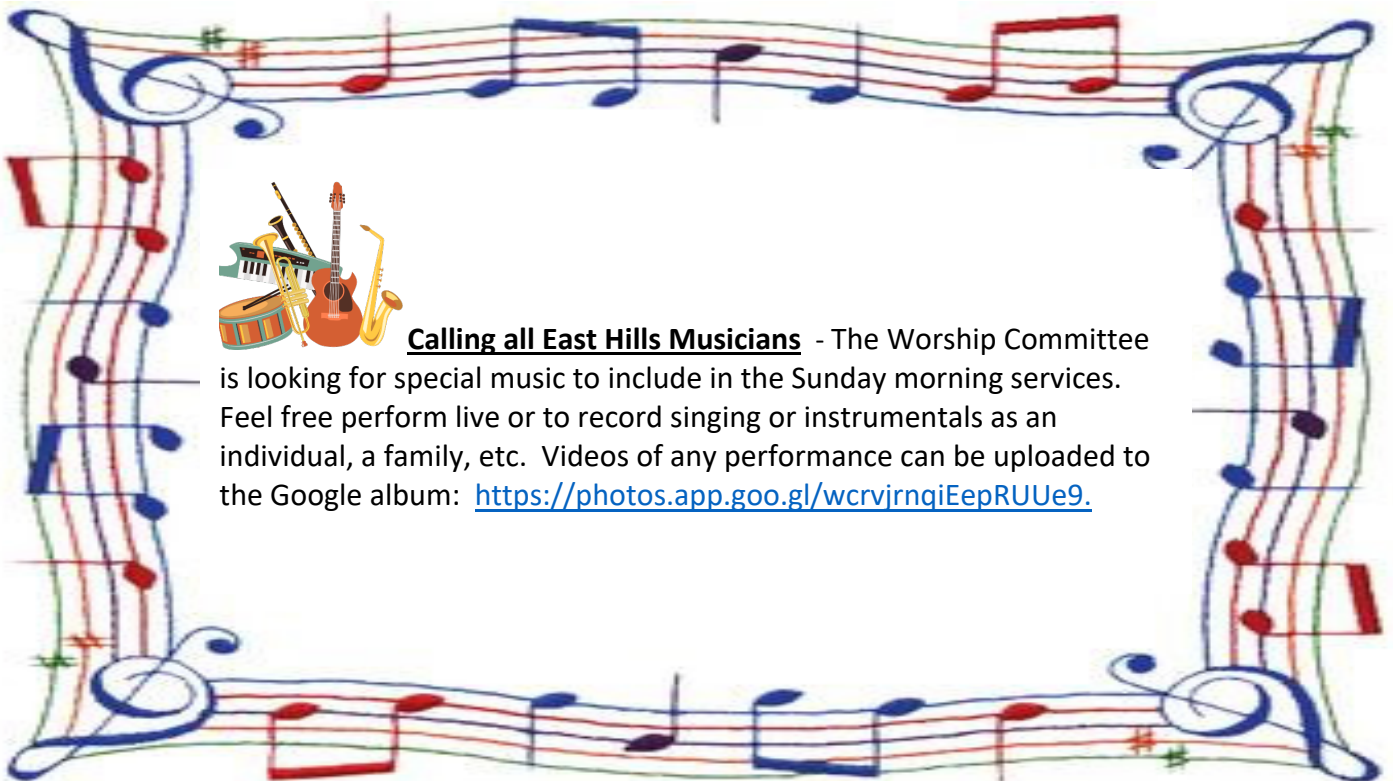
If your congregation would like a BWM staff member to offer a mission moment, lead a program, workshop or worship service, virtually or in-person, please be in touch! We would love to start receiving invitations to come share about mission and will work with you to abide by all local health and safety guidelines in place!

## **CAMP HOPE FAMILY CABIN RENTALS AND MORE:**



We are EXCITED to offer 8 weekends of IMPROVED Family Cabin Rentals. All of the details can be found on Camp Hope's website.

**Grants are available for Camp Hope!!** - Grants are being offered by BAM to **any member** of a BAM congregation or Iglesia Esperanza who would like to rent a cabin for the weekend at Hope Center this summer. **The grant amount is \$400 which covers the full cost of a 2-day rental** and we encourage people to use this grant. Contact the camp office to register and let them know your congregation. As an added incentive, if you bring camp-aged kids to a weekend rental, they will each get \$10 off of the registration cost for 2022, when we are planning to be back up and running for Camp Hope's 75th Anniversary Celebration. We hope to see YOU at camp this summer!!! <https://www.camphope.org/family-cabin-rentals>. In yet another year where we will not have traditional camps, this is a wonderful way to support Camp Hope.



**Calling all East Hills Musicians** - The Worship Committee is looking for special music to include in the Sunday morning services. Feel free perform live or to record singing or instrumentals as an individual, a family, etc. Videos of any performance can be uploaded to the Google album: <https://photos.app.goo.gl/wcrvjrnqiEepRUUe9>.

## **More Eastern District News:**

The Synod elected The Rev. Melissa Johnson to serve as Eastern District President for the next inter-synodal period. We pray for our siblings in Christ at Advent Moravian Church and for Melissa during this time of transition.

We had a chance to say “thank you’ and bless Rev. David Bennett for his years of service as District President. We pray for David as he transitions to his next ministry.

The Synod was presented with a District Budget that was affirmed. The Finance Committee was challenged to fund district ministries with the current level of resources available. “Painful” decisions were made to decrease funding to important ministries such as Hope Conference and Renewal Center as well as funding for the District staff positions of Director of Christian Education and Director of Youth and Young Adult Ministries. The incoming District Executive Board is now charged with determining how these staff positions will be structured to support the needs of our congregations within the budget constraints.

The keynote address was given by author, speaker, musician, David Lamotte who talked about change and how we are shaped by certain narratives. One illustration he offered is that on a trip from North Carolina to California...one turn can land you in Mexico instead... making one decision can impact our direction and where we end up. He also talked about how our worldview is rooted in narrative. Our culture sells the ‘hero’ narrative but in the church, a ‘movement’ narrative has greater and sustaining impact.

There’s much more to be shared, and if you are interested, please go to [Moravian.org](http://Moravian.org) website where you can read more about District Synod!

## **East Hills Moravian Church Contextual Outreach UPDATE:**

Each month in this section of the newsletter we will be providing you with important news about community connections and outreach opportunities we are discovering as we seek to connect to our neighborhood.

On June 16<sup>th</sup> the Joint Board and other members at large met with Charles Dinifrio, President and CEO of Lehigh Valley Childcare Centers, and Jessica Nasatka, Vice President of Early Education and Childcare. We met to learn about LVCC and the programs they provide to local families. These programs include childcare, preschool, after school care and other services. We are exploring the potential for East Hills to establish a relationship with Lehigh Valley Childcare Services which would allow for these programs to be held in our building. This could allow us to become one of their community partners and support the good work they are doing, and for East Hills to serve neighborhood families and support healthy learning environment for local children.

We are still in the exploration stage of this conversation, and no decisions have been made. At our next Contextual Outreach meeting we will discuss how this relationship would help us fulfill our mission, ‘to know Christ and to make Him known”, how might it help us build relationships with neighbors, what risks are involved and are we willing to take them, what potential blessings are there and are we willing to give them and receive them?

If you have questions about our Contextual Outreach work, if you are curious or want to get involved, please speak to any Board member or to Pastor Linda.





**Ready for an inspiring read this summer?** Then consider reading the recently published book, Hope In Times of Fear by Dr. Timothy Keller throughout the summer months and join a one-time-only Zoom book discussion group with EHMC fellow readers for a dynamic evening of conversation on **September 13th @7:00 PM**.

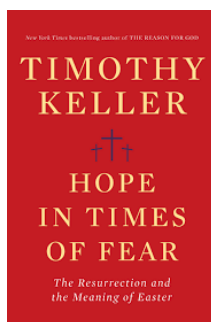
The following is a synopsis of the book from Penguin Random House...

*Hope in Times of Fear is a book that unlocks the meaning of Jesus's resurrection for readers. Easter is considered the most solemn and important holiday for Christians. It is a time of spiritual rebirth and a time of celebrating the physical rebirth of Jesus after three days in the tomb. For his devoted followers, nothing could prepare them for the moment they met the resurrected Jesus. Each failed to recognize him. All of them physically saw him and yet did not spiritually truly see him. It was only when Jesus reached out and invited them to see who he truly was that their eyes were open. Here the central message of the Christian faith is revealed in a way only Timothy Keller could do it—filled with unshakable belief, piercing insight, and a profound new way to look at a story you think you know. After reading this book, the true meaning of Easter will no longer be unseen.*

#### ABOUT THE AUTHOR

**Timothy Keller** was born and raised in Pennsylvania, and educated at Bucknell University, Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary, and Westminster Theological Seminary. He was first a pastor in Hopewell, Virginia. In 1989 he started Redeemer Presbyterian Church in New York City, with his wife, Kathy, and their three sons. Today, Redeemer has more than five thousand regular Sunday attendees and has helped to start over 250 new churches around the world. Also the author of *Every Good Endeavor*, *The Meaning of Marriage*, *Generous Justice*, *Counterfeit Gods*, *The Prodigal God*, *Jesus the King*, and *The Reason for God*, Timothy Keller lives in New York City with his family.

Add **September 13th** to your calendar to join friends in the lively discussion of Dr. Keller's book. Ask a friend to read and join as well!



Hard copies, audio books, and e-books available at Barnes & Noble and Amazon

\*Contact the church office if you have questions about funding the purchase of the book.

#### A few tips for discussion preparation:

- \*While reading, pause to notice places where you lingered to let the text stay with you a bit longer. Those may be worthy places to return to for launching or sustaining discussion.
- \*Post-its can be helpful for holding thinking when you find yourself deeply interacting with the text, or simply to mark a place in the book for reference during the discussion.

## A Note from a Friend...

June 2021

Dear East Hills Moravian Church friends,

My wife Lou and I want to thank you for all of your thoughtfulness with your cards and phone calls during this stage in our lives when we can no longer get out and attend church or go pretty much anywhere. Lou is in advanced stages of Alzheimer's and doesn't speak very much but always has a nice smile and her sweet personality shines through. I am now on hospice with pretty much around the clock care as cannot walk by myself or get myself out of a chair. I am on oxygen most of the time now and when I am sitting in my recliner, reading, I am quite comfortable. But, we think it is highly unlikely that we will be able to attend Church service in person again. However, it has been such a joy to be able to attend weekly Zoom services and to still feel an active member of the church.

Our children have been of a great help as have been the wonderful caregivers that we have for Lou and now for me too during the night. Your phone calls and cards have meant so much to us and wanted you to know how grateful we are for them, and for keeping us in your prayers and good wishes.

East Hills Moravian Church has been the most welcoming church to us since our early days in Bethlehem over 40 years ago and continues to be, even while most of my contemporaries are no longer with us. It's been a shock to lose so many of them this past year, and I know they are deeply missed.

Thank you and our Pastor Linda for the multitudes of kindness and thoughtfulness; Lou and I are deeply appreciative.

*Earl*



**Congratulations and Blessings to Our EHMC 2021 Graduates!!**



**On Sunday, June 27<sup>th</sup> we officially received Trevor into the East Hills congregation!**

Trevor was born and raised in Bethlehem and attended a small prep school in Exton, PA. He attended Moravian College.

Please join me in welcoming Trevor and his family!



**Prayer Requests:** Have a prayer request? Please email the “Detail Form” to the church office at [office@easthillsmc.org](mailto:office@easthillsmc.org). Only first names will be mentioned during worship since the YouTube broadcast is literally available to the world.



**Online Giving:** Please visit our website for online giving at <http://www.easthillsmc.org/online-giving/>. You can donate using your checking or savings account, debit card from your financial institution, or Visa, Mastercard, Discover, or American Express credit card. If you’re donating for the first time, you’ll be asked to set up a profile with your email address and financial information. Then you can schedule a one-time donation or weekly or monthly recurring donation. Your financial information is completely secure.

**Mailing donations:** You may also send pledges to the office at the church. The mail is being checked daily so that no money or checks are sitting in the mailbox for long. 1830 Butztown Rd., Bethlehem, 18017

**Cash Cards** - [ShopWithScrip.com](http://ShopWithScrip.com) has cash cards for moms, dads, and grads. And for you too! When you purchase physical cards or e-cards at face value, EHMC receives a percentage of that purchase. Consider retailers such as 1-800-FLOWERS, Shutterfly, eBay, Wayfair, Target, Walmart, L.L.Bean, Dick’s Sporting Goods, Xbox, Sony PlayStation, Hulu, Uber, UberEATS, Instacart, or over 750 others for giving or your own shopping. Use enrollment code 8897CBD34973 to create an account at ShopWithScrip.com or on the RaiseRight app. Cards for Giant, Wegmans, and Valley Farm are available as well. Please call the office.





**CHURCH IS  
OPEN!**

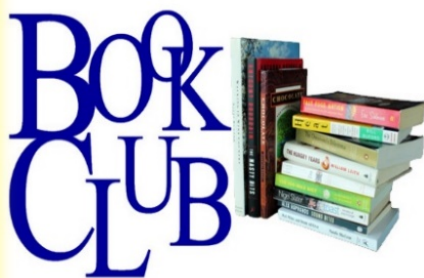
The church is open for worship and small group gatherings. Contact Sue Larson, Building Usage Coordinator, for scheduling.



**Women's Fellowship** Summer schedule - no meetings in July and August. We will resume meeting in September. All women are invited to join our evenings of study and fellowship.



**Men's Fellowship:** As we continue to open areas of the church and our lives, the Men's Fellowship Group wants to let you know we are still here. Many of our fundraising events were canceled and we had to scale back our donations to causes that we earmarked funds for. Men's Fellowship is available to assist members whenever possible. We have an email chain setup so that if a member needs some sort of assistance, an email can be sent out looking for the proper assistance. For example, if a member becomes ill and needs some temporary jobs/outside chores completed he/she can let one of us know and we can try to find a volunteer to help accommodate that need. As of now, social distance and safety guidelines need to be met to safeguard each of us.



**EHMC Book Club:** Everyone is invited to join the East Hills Moravian Church Book Club on Tuesday, **August 18<sup>th</sup> at 7pm** (Location TBD) to discuss Susan Wigg's "Lost and Found Bookshop."



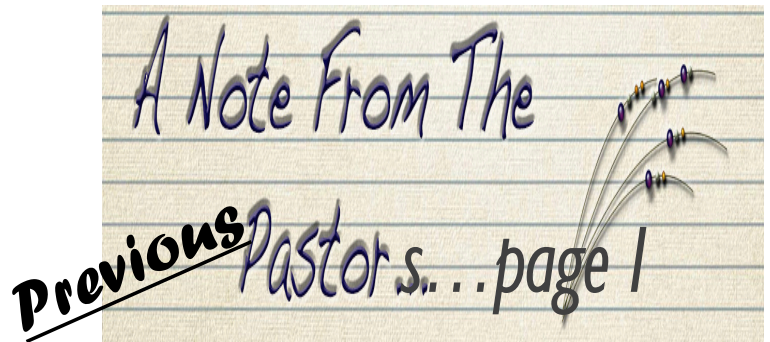




**WHY KNOTS** – WHY KNOT members meet year-round on the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of each month, and we are ready to MEET IN PERSON IN THE PARLOR at 7 pm. We work on a variety of different projects, making baby layettes and quilts, as well as knitted, crocheted, woven, and quilted items for a variety of uses and ages, and always welcome newcomers to our group. To view our current inventory on our church Facebook page, select “Albums,” or “Media” and then “Albums” to access pictures, complete with prices and descriptions. All proceeds from our sales are donated to EHMC.







On June 6<sup>th</sup> we celebrated the 64<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the East Hills Moravian Church. Pastor Linda invited previous EHMC pastors to write a letter or memory to share with the congregation. Please enjoy these memories:

In 1957, the 500th year anniversary of the founding of the Moravian Church in Bohemia and Moravia, The Moravian Church, Northern Province, set out to establish a congregation in the East Hills section of Bethlehem, PA.

With little budget and a somewhat fuzzy vision. The District Board funded the purchase of a house on Butztown Road, chartered the congregation and called the first Pastor, The Rev. Larry Lindemuth. Many were unsure there was enough strength to begin such a work and at least one church leader said, "if the congregation doesn't make it we can always sell the house."

Well, obviously those who were lukewarm or timid about the need for East Hills, didn't know the Holy Spirit had other plans. A strong group of deeply faithful Charter Members stepped up and powered the first years of East Hill's dynamic life. While Pastors have come and gone the outstanding Christian service among lay members of the congregation has always been its strength. In waves they have come, and in each new era other faithful, energetic leaders have carried forward the mission.

One of the things that most characterizes the mission at East Hills is the continued emphasis on reaching out in mission today, not a reliance on past achievements. Serving those who others might not think deserve service, reaching out in love and service to those in pain or need, humbly loving and caring for all people, have been key characteristics for the mission of East Hills. My family and I have been blessed by being part of the East Hills mission and are deeply grateful for your love and care. I have every conviction that the one who began a mission with you in 1957 will bring it to ever fuller richness and fruitfulness.

May the Lord bless and keep you all,  
**Roger A. Knisely**, Principal

Dear Members of the East Hills Moravian congregation,

It is a joy to bring you greetings on this anniversary celebration. East Hills has a very special place in my heart; I was privileged to serve as student pastor in 1983, and later called to serve as pastor in 1990- my first call to parish ministry.

Reflecting back to the years 1990 through 1994, I am flooded with memories: sites, sounds, tastes, people, and relationships.

I remember the site of the hundreds of buses and thousands of visitors coming to the church to experience the Putz, and the faces of visitors as they experienced this meaningful telling of the Christmas story.

I remember the joyous sounds of Vacation Bible School, which attracted many families from the community, several of whom became members and subsequently leaders of the congregation.

I still hear the voices of the children singing enthusiastically at the conclusion of each day of Bible school, overpowering my barely proficient guitar playing.

I remember the sounds of the choir. I remember the sweet scent of beeswax candles on Christmas Eve. I remember the tastes of those amazing community Italian dinners.

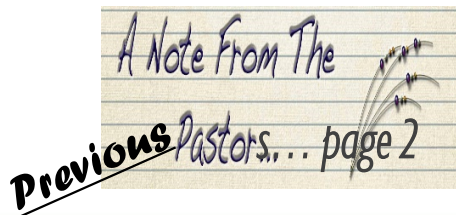
During my years at East Hills, the narthex was enlarged to accommodate the fellowship needs of the congregation. A few years later, another building project expanded the church offices behind the church, which also included additional Sunday school classroom space.

Above all else, I remember the warmth of the fellowship and the relationships I was privileged to share.

In the 27 years since our time together, the world which God calls us to serve becomes increasingly complex, unsettling, uncertain, and divided.

May you continue to follow the call of God to minister to a hurting world, that others may experience the sights, the sounds, the tastes, and the love of your community. May God continue to bless you richly.

In the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, **Ted Burcaw**



Dear friends of East Hills,

I had the honor and privilege of serving as Pastor of East Hills from the summer of 1995 through the early winter of 2004. After eleven years of Provincial work and now in retirement, Linda and I are pleased to be back in membership and part of the East Hills family.

God continues to extend the invitation to East Hills Moravian Church to be a blessing to neighbors and neighborhoods through our shared ministries. Our ministries cannot be performed by one person or group alone. Our ministries require the participation of each of us, ministries we are collectively responsible to help fulfill. Through our relationships with one another and in this place, we strive to fulfill our mission together.

But to the point of sharing a single memory, well, that is a challenge as there are many I can pick from. To be honest, over those 8 ½ years it felt like we were together in the right place at the right time as we experienced some growth of membership, ministries, and financial support that allowed us to expand our facility and campus through the construction of the Family Center, kitchen, classrooms, and office spaces. Together we inspired, challenged and encouraged one another to do what we knew would require our very best for the sake of the ministry being revealed to us by God.

I will always remember with a smile what Bob Stewart said when the huge back hoe began to dig, and I paraphrase, "There is the start of the big hole that will lead to something far bigger than the building." He was so very correct.

What we are about is not what we have built and renovated. What we are about in this place is service to neighbors and neighborhoods.

May God bless us that we will more deeply know Christ and, with greater intention, make Christ known.

Rev. Gary Marsh

Dear sisters and brothers of EHMC,

Peace and blessing!

Our years at East Hills were such a blessing to us. From August of 2004 through 2009 ( as I took the call to Ohio in January and Christine stayed on and served through June ) God was gracious and allowed us to be in shared ministry with the fine and faithful folks of East Hills.

I especially appreciated the mission trips and events: giving and receiving

with youth on the Eastern shore of Virginia; serving at the Ahuas Clinic in Honduras, meals at Victory House, and hurricane relief on the Gulf Shore. The ministry of the senior adult choir providing music and worship leadership with joy, laughter, harmony and unity was always enjoyable.

Our congregation's 50th anniversary was a great period to mark God's faithfulness and move with hope into the future. We were blessed by the fellowship shared through church softball, volleyball and basketball. Surely, the exercise byproduct was helpful to my, (Darrell's) then, 40 something year old body! 😊

The stewardship ministry of the congregation was an impressive witness in its creativity, vulnerability, hopefulness, and grace.

The adult Sunday night Bible study group blessed my soul with years of discipleship, devotion, prayerfulness and the deep connections developed.

I was also blessed by Christine's work with those large, energetic and faith-growing teenage confirmation classes. The creation of their own colorful statements of faith scrapbooks were amazing as the youth opened our eyes to ways the Lord impacted their developing lives. I so appreciated the numerous ways the Couch Family center was used to facilitate ministry, offer space for the community and neighborhood, be a flexible space for creative worship, fellowship, and learning opportunities.

As you all continue in the journey with Joy in Jesus, we offer you continued support and prayers!

Press on!

Revs Christine and Darrell Johnson



*A Note From The*  
**Previous Pastors... page 3**

East Hills Moravian Church, and the family of faith I found here, will forever hold a place of fond remembrance in my heart. As a former pastor, I cherish the memories of how you welcomed me, Kat, and Anna, and made us feel so at home. Of course, many congregations do a fine job of welcoming pastors and their families. The real challenge is in welcoming others who come with no formal connection to the church – Sunday visitors and especially those who come seeking sanctuary, shelter, or aid.

Though I saw many instances of Christian hospitality during my time at East Hills, two stand out in my mind. The first was the congregation's decision to host the Bethlehem Emergency Women's shelter which I experienced as a wonderful response to Jesus' words in the 25th chapter of Matthew's Gospel: "...for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me ...". The second was when the congregation welcomed the good folks from Jesus Saves ministry into our church home. In both cases the church, as a community of faith, stepped out from its' comfort zone a bit. It looked at situations from the perspective of "How do we honor God's call," rather than "How does this benefit us?"

Such decisions are a faithful expression of the Apostle Paul's words to Christians in Rome two millennia ago. By "the mercies of God ... present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind ...". It is when we share ourselves and the resources God has entrusted to us as a living sacrifice for the well-being of others that those who do not share our faith in Jesus Christ may best be able to see him reflected in ourselves - both individually, and as a community of Christian faith.

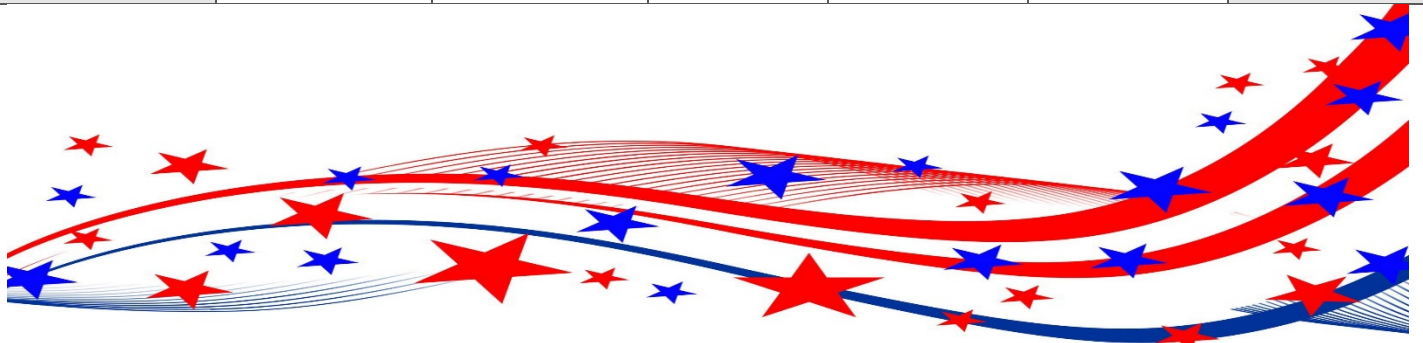
DEREK FRENCH



# JULY

## What's Happening This Month at EHMC:

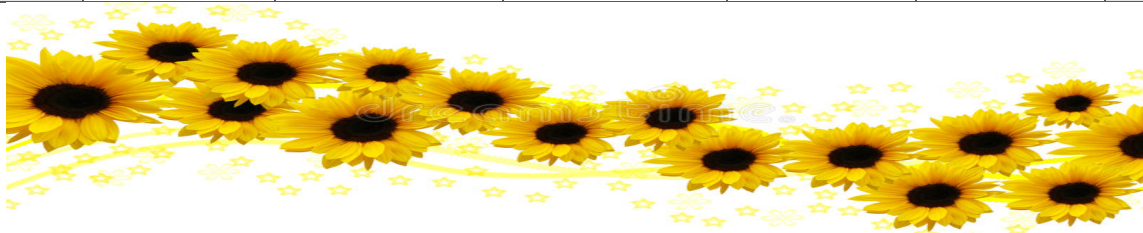
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednes	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27 9:00 Sunday Morning Coffee Class 10:30 Worship	28	29 5-6:30 PM Jesus Saves - Parlor	30	1	2	3
4 9:00 Sunday Morning Coffee Class 10:30 Worship	5 Office Closed for Independence Day	6 5-6:30 PM Jesus Saves – Parlor	7	8	9	10 MC Northern Province Special Synod
11 9:00 Sunday Morning Coffee Class 10:30 Worship – Outdoor Service	12 Pastor's vacation begins	13 5-6:30 PM Jesus Saves – Parlor 7:00 Worship & Music Committee	14	15	16	17
18 9:00 Sunday Morning Coffee Class 10:30 Worship	19	20 5-6:30 PM Jesus Saves - Parlor	21	22	23	24
25 9:00 Sunday Morning Coffee Class 10:30 Worship	26 Pastor returns from vacation	27 5-6:30 PM Jesus Saves – Parlor 7:00 Trustees	28 7:00 – Why Knots (ZOOM)	29	30	31 9:30 am VBS Planning mtg at Advent



# August

## What's Happening This Month at EHMC:

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesda	Thursday	Friday	Saturda
1 <u>9:00 Sunday Morning Coffee Class</u> <u>10:30 Worship</u>	2	3 5-6:30 PM Jesus Saves - Parlor	4	5	6	7
8 <u>9:00 Sunday Morning Coffee Class</u> <u>10:30 Worship</u> <u>6-8 VBS</u>	9 7:00 pm - Stewardship	10 5-6:30 PM Jesus Saves – Parlor 7:00 pm – Worship Committee	11 <u>6-8 VBS</u>	12	13	14
15 <u>9:00 Sunday Morning Coffee Class</u> <u>10:30 Worship</u> <u>6-8 VBS</u>	16	17 5-6:30 PM Jesus Saves – Parlor 7:00 pm - Elders	18 <u>6-8 VBS</u>	19	20	21
22 <u>9:00 Sunday Morning Coffee Class</u> <u>10:30 Worship - Outdoor Service</u> <u>6-8 VBS</u>	23 7:00 pm - Joint Board	24 5-6:30 PM Jesus Saves – Parlor 7:00 pm - Trustees	25 7:00 – Why Knots (ZOOM)	26	27	28
29 <u>9:00 Sunday Morning Coffee Class</u> <u>10:30 Worship</u>	30	31 5-6:30 PM Jesus Saves - Parlor	1	2	3	4





**DONATION OPPORTUNITIES**



**A Can A Week and Joyful Noise** - Thank you for your recent donations to A CAN A WEEK! The diapers and wipes were greatly appreciated by several young families this week! JOYFUL NOISE and A CAN A WEEK are two important ministries that continue to help stock the shelves at the Northeast Community Center Foodbank. We have resumed A CAN A WEEK and appreciate your donations of personal care items at this time, especially shampoo, toothpaste, diapers and baby wipes. During the first 5 months of this year, your JOYFUL NOISE donations enabled us to purchase a variety of foods including pasta, meat, chips, and eggs, as well as some personal care items. Thanks for your ongoing support. (JOYFUL NOISE donations may be sent to the church office.)



**Northeast Community Center:** VOLUNTEER HELP IS GREATLY NEEDED AT THE NORTHEAST COMMUNITY CENTER FOODBANK! Each Wednesday morning, deliveries of food are received and help is needed to load and off-load the food. Community Service is available for any high school students who participate. For information, contact Susan Kriebs (610-867-5971), or call NECC directly and speak with Executive Director Paula Johnson. A CAN A WEEK DONATIONS are always appreciated! At this time, the most-needed items continue to be diapers and baby wipes, and we are also seeking toothpaste. JOYFUL NOISE donations may continue to be sent to the church office, and those funds will be used to make any last-minute purchases for the Foodbank.

[There is an urgent need for Food Pantry volunteers - email Paula Johnson at johnsonp@necbethlehem.org!](mailto:johnsonp@necbethlehem.org)



**Drive-By Food Pantry at Central Moravian Church** with much needed items for our next food distribution. Pull in front of our church office building at 73 West Church Street on **July 11<sup>th</sup> and August 1<sup>st</sup> from 1 pm to 3 pm.** Items needed remain the same: chicken or beef soup/broth, fruit cocktail, pears, ketchup, baking mixes, salad dressing, sugar, flour. We are also needing anything that is low sodium. Look at the label and if it lists sodium at 10% DV or less, we are saying that is "low sodium."  
We are asking that donations come in paper bags (doubled) or cardboard boxes. Those can be recycled or repurposed. We will accept donations in any form, but believe plastic is not the best for our environment.





## **MEDICAL EQUIPMENT LOANER CLOSET**

East Hills is starting a Medical Equipment Loaner Closet to help those with short term and long-term needs for smaller items that are often not paid for by insurance. It is also the answer for those who would like to unload usable equipment from their basements that are left over from prior needs.

### **First, the ground rules:**

1. NO HOSPITAL BEDS OR REGULAR SIZED WHEELCHAIRS. All equipment must be clean and in safe, working condition.
2. Acceptable items include bath seats, raised toilet seats and commodes, portable bed rails, walkers, crutches, travel wheelchairs, reachers (grabbers), sock aides, long shoehorns.
3. Donors can reclaim their equipment at any time if they need it.
4. Items will be accessed only by closet coordinator(s) in order to keep track of inventory availability and condition.
5. Contact the church office if you wish to donate or have a need for equipment. We have a retired Occupational Therapist with vast home care experience, and will help you determine your needs, help set the equipment up properly, and ensure that you can use it safely.
6. She is also trained in home safety assessments for recommendations for modifications and is happy to help you with these needs as well.
7. East Hills is not liable for any injuries incurred while using the equipment.

### **Current inventory includes:**

- a car swivel disc
- commode
- raised toilet seat
- portable bed rail
- shower seat
- tub transfer bench
- rollator walker (with seat)
- travel wheelchair
- long shoehorns
- sock aide
- compression sock aide



We are looking for a back-up coordinator. This person would be instructed in the use and set up of devices.

**Contact the church office for more information.**

## TREX Plastic Challenge Update – BAM Churches – 2020



### TREX update 6/21/2021

### Have you seen it?

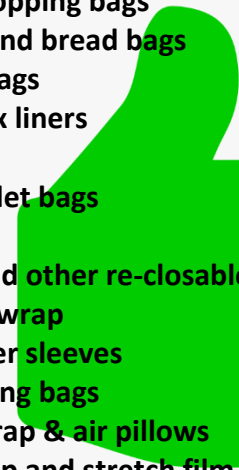
Our Trex bench has arrived! It is currently located in the Narthex. This reward is a handsome and comfortable addition to our facilities made possible by the cooperative collections of our members and the other participating BAM congregations. Stop by and give it a try!

As we continue to expand gatherings on our campus, our plastics collections and recycling marches on. Please continue to be vigilant in recycling acceptable materials as previously communicated. Your recyclables can be dropped off during normal Church Office hours and Sundays, before and after worship.

**Please include only acceptable materials! To protect our continued eligibility for the program and the safety of the East Hills members who process the recycled materials, please observe the following criteria for acceptable goods.** Look for the recycling symbols 2 or 4 printed on the packaging. Please limit other recycling to items on the list of acceptable materials. The plastics MUST NOT be contaminated with any foreign material or chemicals. The only exception is small paper labels. We recently received Fresh Step packaging that was clearly marked that it is NOT acceptable for this program. Please inspect ALL packaging for the acceptable recycling symbols 2 or 4. Any materials that do not have these symbols or are not in compliance with the list of acceptable materials must be separated and discarded by our volunteers. Your considerate recycling is most appreciated.

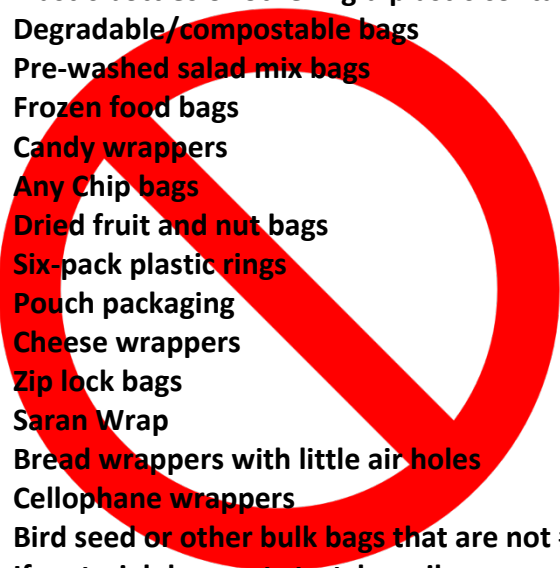
Keep Recycling! ~ Barb

#### **ACCEPTABLE PLASTICS**



- Plastic shopping bags
- Produce and bread bags
- Grocery bags
- Cereal box liners
- Ice bags
- Wood pellet bags
- Salt bags
- Ziplock and other re-closable bags
- Case overwrap
- Newspaper sleeves
- Dry cleaning bags
- Bubble wrap & air pillows
- Pallet wrap and stretch film

#### **NOT ACCEPTABLE PLASTICS**



- Plastic bottles or other rigid plastic containers
- Degradable/compostable bags
- Pre-washed salad mix bags
- Frozen food bags
- Candy wrappers
- Any Chip bags
- Dried fruit and nut bags
- Six-pack plastic rings
- Pouch packaging
- Cheese wrappers
- Zip lock bags
- Saran Wrap
- Bread wrappers with little air holes
- Cellophane wrappers
- Bird seed or other bulk bags that are not #4
- If material does not stretch easily
- If material is shiny & crinkles or crunches

**\*\* All plastic must be clean, dry and free of food residue. \*\***

## July & August Calendar Celebrations

### July 4th – Independence Day



### July 7th – World Chocolate Day



### July 13th – National French Fry Day



### July 25th – National Wine & Cheese Day



### July 29th – National Chicken Wing Day



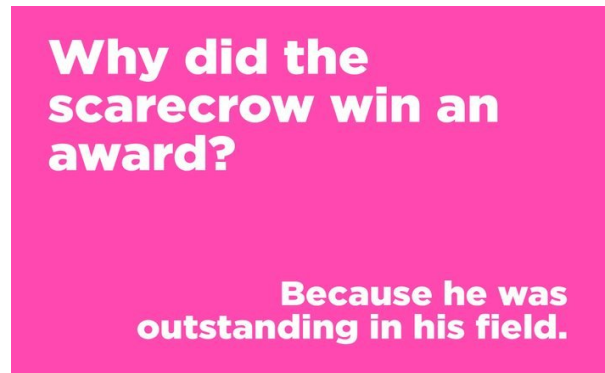
### Aug. 1st – National Friendship Day



### Aug. 3rd – Watermelon Day



### Aug. 16th – National Tell a Joke Day





**Aug. 24<sup>th</sup> – National Waffle Day**



**Aug. 30<sup>th</sup> – National Beach Day**



**Every Day...**



**EHMC 2021 WATCHWORD**

God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ dies for us.  
(Romans 5:8)

He left his Father's throne above –  
so free, so infinite his grace –  
emptied himself of all but love,  
and bled for Adam's helpless race!  
What mercy this, immense and free,  
for, O my God, it found out me!  
What mercy this, immense and free,  
for, O my God, it found out me! (773)





Happy  
Birthday!



*Happy Birthday*

**TO ALL OUR JULY AND AUGUST BABIES  
(BIG AND SMALL!)**

❖ Please contact the office if anyone is missing or needs to be removed. Thank you!