

BETHANIA GAZETTE

For the Week of August 23, 2020

Watchword for the Week of August 23:

Let the people praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you (Psalm 67:5).

AUGUST Schedule

Sundays, August 23 and 30 at 10:30 AM:

Facebook Live at the Picnic Shelter (*Please see below, Are You On Facebook?*)

Masks are required of us as well as physical distancing.

Attending face to face is voluntary, only come if you feel comfortable.

Here is a little background information on the August 23 Liturgy, *Examine*. The "Examen" is a spiritual exercise, written by Ignatius of Loyola (1491, Spain) and later published in 1541. About his life's work, *Book on Exercises*, Ignatius says he developed, "some spiritual exercises by which one is led to the possibility of conquering oneself and deciding on a way of conducting his/her life that is free from harmful attachments." (The *Spiritual Exercises of Saint Ignatius*. Pierre Wolff, translator. Triumph: Liguori, Missouri, 1997.) In the act of praying our scriptures in The Examen, we are invited to look back over our week and reflect on our own lives (not others), by following these movements:

Give praise and thanksgiving to God!

Ask for his grace to know us and expel our sins;

Question our souls about thoughts, words, or actions (sins) in our lives;

Ask God for forgiveness for our offenses;

Commit our lives once again to the Lord and with his guidance, make a new plan for living with others in peace.

August 23, 7:15 PM: Last Bible Study (in this series) on Zoom. Text: Mark 5:1-20.

Wednesday, August 26: 10:30 AM, Spiritual Journey @ Picnic Shelter

We are using the resource book, *Jesus Still Lead On*, by Craig Atwood, a study on The Moravian Covenant for Christian Living and The Ground of the Unity. This week we will study, paragraph 10, Stewardship.

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Intro to an August 13 Message from PEC President, David Guthrie - Video below

We have a new church start in downtown Winston-Salem, a joint partnership between the NC Lutheran Synod and the Moravian Church Southern Province. It has been named The Dwelling, with the Rev. Emily Norris (Lutheran) called as pastor. In the spring of 2020, 57 of the most medically vulnerable were sheltered in place in a Winston-Salem hotel. Funds for this were provided by the United Way, local service providers, and community partners. During this four-month period, these folks have received "spiritual care, concentrated health care, mental health and addiction services, and housing case management." All of this is in an effort to offer a step up into longterm housing. What a blessing for the homeless!

Here is the direct link to the page with the video:

<https://www.moravian.org/southern/2020/08/august-13-message-from-david-guthrie/>

Welcome Home Kits

During this pandemic many things have changed. One thing that did not change is the need to help the homeless. The desire of some of our congregation to keep doing what they could do to help these people did not stop.

"For over two years, items for Welcome Home Kits have been provided to the Community First Center which is part of City with Dwellings. The kits have been donated by Bethania Moravian Church. Ours is one of only two churches who are providing the kits to men and women who

are transitioning from homelessness into housing. Our donations have come from church members and friends of our church as well as other sources. We have been able to provide approximately 89 complete kits. Thirty-two kits have been taken since the restrictions began in March due to COVID19." - Noel Fulcher

We want to thank the church members who have contributed new and gently used items as well as money for this church outreach. The mission continues and donations are always welcome and appreciated. - The Elders

Are You On Facebook? If not...Good News!

If you are not on Facebook, we have news to share. You no longer need to be a member of Facebook to watch Bethania's worship service! You can join us without logging in. All you need to do is go to this link on the Internet: facebook.com/BethaniaMoravianChurch . You will receive a message to log-in. Ignore those directions and scroll on down until you see a live video. Click on it, and you will be allowed access to our livestream worship service. Thank you to Scott for researching this link for us! If you cannot access us for some reason this Sunday, please contact Scott during the week next week.

Virtual Office Hours with the Pastor

I am available to meet with you via Zoom, Wednesdays at 1:30 pm. Please contact me to make an appointment. If this particular time doesn't work, or you'd rather bring your lawn chair and sit at the portico, we can work that out, too. - Judy

Safety Measures for Services at the Picnic Shelter

- **Masks are required**, and they will also be available.
- The **worship liturgy** will be available to you in three modes--in this email, on our website, and also at the picnic shelter.
- **Singing and Liturgy** will be offered by Scott and/or choir members on behalf of the congregation.

With the new information we have received about the spread of COVID-19 through aerosol from human breath, in respect for one another, we are refraining from extending our voices in song or liturgical response for the time being. Leaders who are speaking and singing will be standing more than 6 feet from the congregation.

- **Ushers** will be at the picnic shelter to answer questions and to assist and direct your coming and going from the shelter.
- **Offering baskets** will be with designated ushers. Ask when you arrive.
- **Water bottles** will be available.
- **Seating** will be at designated seats at the picnic tables with 6 feet of separation between individuals and/or family groupings. Space is available for your lawn chairs in the picnic shelter.
- **Summer Weather and Dress:** The seating area in the picnic shelter is completely shaded during the morning hours. Please wear comfortable clothes for worship.
- **Facebook Live:** If you cannot attend, the service will be broadcast using Facebook Live. We are exploring other options for future services, as we are aware that everyone cannot access Facebook.