



# The Star

Volume 56, No. 9

November 2013

## “Lord of the Harvest”

In an age before supermarkets and seed catalogs the harvest season could be an anxious time of year. The quantity and quality of the harvest often determined the fate not only of individuals, but also of entire communities. A succession of failed harvests brought famine and death while good harvests provided adequate food to sustain the community over the winter and quality seed for planting the following Spring's crop. Jesus' hearers would have been acutely aware of all this as they listened to his parable.

“The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field; but while everybody was asleep, an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and then went away. So the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well. And the slaves of the householder came and said to him, “Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come from?” He answered, “An enemy has done this.” The slaves said to him, “Then do you want us to go and gather them?” But he replied, “No; for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. Let both of them grow together until the harvest; and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.”

(Matthew 13: 26-30)

The weeds in question are most probably darnel – a toxic plant which resembles wheat. Mixing darnel in with the wheat crop was an act of indiscriminate agricultural terrorism. Having toxins mixed in one's flour was bad enough. Having toxic seed mixed with good seed for next season's sowing was a disaster in the making for the whole community. Sensible farmers purified both land and crop with fire whenever they detected darnel.

Jesus' parable suggests that God cares for the Kingdom of Heaven in much the same way that a farmer cares for his crops and fields. That which is unholy and evil cannot be permitted to destroy that which is righteous, holy, and good. For imperfect sinners such as ourselves the good news is that God will not render judgment until the harvest is gathered in. There is still time for each person living to choose whether to cultivate weeds or wheat in his or her life. We cannot earn salvation, yet our life choices do matter. In part, we each self-select a destiny as chaff for the fire or wheat for the barn.

“and all were judged according to what they had done. ... and anyone whose name was not found written in the book of life was thrown into the lake of fire.”  
(Revelation 20:13-15)

Happy Thanksgiving,  
Pastor Derek



## Preschool News

By Mary Kay Brezinsky

The leaves are changing, the weather is turning colder and every November just before Thanksgiving a group of Pilgrims and Indians dressed in their native attire gather together and share a feast at our Preschool. They prepare some of the foods themselves, learning to measure, pour, bake, and cook until it is time to sit together and enjoy a wonderful feast. Parents of these little pilgrims and Indians provide the rest of the feast and help serve it. All of the children in our school create a special placemat to use at their class feast and take home to use for their family Thanksgiving. In the days leading up to the feast, the children learn about the first Thanksgiving. Our preschoolers also learn to thank God for the many blessings in their own lives including family, friends, home, school, church and other things they might be thankful for. Thanksgiving is a wonderful opportunity to remind us all of all the blessings we should truly be thankful for.

There are two other important dates to remember in the month of November:

- ❖ We are thankful for the freedoms we enjoy as a nation and the privilege of voting on Tuesday, November 5, 2013.
- ❖ We are thankful for all the men and women who have served our country in the military, some giving their lives, and we remember them on November 11, Veterans' Day.

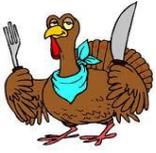
I would also like to thank everyone who participated in the Preschool Fall Fundraisers. Your support is very much appreciated and the children will benefit from your efforts.

## Youth News

Mark your calendars and consider pitching in to help us out with one of the many upcoming Board of Christian Ed "Holiday Happenings". "The more, the merrier!"

- **Sunday November 24:** "Hanging of the Greens" children's crafts and activities. Rachel Shook will be coordinating Christmas crafts and activities to keep little hands busy while the larger kids of all ages prepare the rest of the church for the Christmas season. Come out and enjoy this all family event!
- **Sunday December 1:** Our Sunday School Advent collection begins. This year we will be supporting the guests of the EHMC sheltering program. See flyer in this newsletter.
- **Sunday December 15:** Shepherd's Journey; the night of fun when we are reminded of the "Reason for the Season" as we recreate the streets of Bethlehem on the night that Jesus was born. Please see Annemarie Soska if you are willing to be a part of the "show". Watch for registration forms at church and Sunday School (form included in this newsletter) and **SPREAD THE WORD** for this meaningful event.
- **Sunday December 22:** Sunday School Christmas presentation during the 11:00 am worship service. Please see Ann-Louise Taylor if you would like to help with this.
- **ONGOING:** There is a continued need for help with the Christian Education of our youngest members in the areas of teaching Sunday School and serving on the Board of Christian Education. Please see Pastor French, Linda Adams or a member of the Sunday School Supervisory Team if you have a little time to spare for great reward!

## Christian Fellowship News & Opportunities



### 2013 Harvest Dinner

Please plan to join us for the 2013 Harvest Dinner on **Saturday, November 16**, at 6:00 pm, which benefits our congregation's food ministry program. This year's menu will include: Turkey, Ham, Pennsylvania Dutch Potato Bread Stuffing, Vegetable Style Rice Pilaf, Sweet Potato Pie, Green Beans, Sweet Corn, Cranberry Relish, Salad, Rolls, Iced Tea, Coffee, Hot Tea, and Dessert Bar. After dinner, stay and dance to music by JB & the Sidecars! Cost: Adults - \$10/Children (6-12) - \$5/Children under 5 - free. **Please purchase tickets in advance** by contacting Bob Wingrove @ 610-867-0537 or the church office @ 610-868-6481.

### Women's Fellowship

The evening group will meet on **November 5** at 7:00 pm at the church and hostess will be Nancy Kichline with Sue Kriebs leading the Bible study. Please call Nancy at 610-381-8040 if you plan to attend. The morning group will meet on **November 6** at 9:30 am in the church kitchen and hostess will be Yvonne Gerlach. Please call Yvonne at 610-868-0483 if you plan to attend. Both groups will study Lesson 2 – "Faith: A Heart Religion of Devotion to the Savior". We will also discuss the **November 10** fellowship times after both worship services when the Women's Fellowship will hold a bake sale and the WhyKnots will have beautiful toddler/infant knitwear for sale. The Women's Sunday Service will be held on **November 17**, and we will need women to help with the service. Also, we will be discussing the Christmas dinner and program which will be held on **December 3** at the church.

**Fellowship Time November 10:** Be sure to join in the fellowship time after both services on **Sunday, November 10**, when the WhyKnots will have beautiful handmade infant/toddler knitwear for sale and the Women's Fellowship bake sale will have delicious goodies for sale while you browse. Thank you for supporting these ministries of East Hills!

### Christmas Poinsettias

Once again, poinsettias are available for purchase for placement in the Sanctuary for the Christmas Eve services. They may be taken home after the last service Christmas Eve. Plants are \$9.00 each and orders must be placed by **December 1**. Order blanks will be available in the Sunday bulletins, in the Narthex, on the EHMC website, and in this newsletter. For more information, contact Jim or Anna Koehler at [nyaapa@aol.com](mailto:nyaapa@aol.com) or 484-256-5697.



### Christmas Putz Preparations

Hard to believe, but preparations to celebrate Christmas at East Hills are beginning, and working on the Putz is a great way to prepare you for Christmas! We will start construction of the Putz on **Sunday, November 17**, at 2:30 pm and continue **Monday (11/18)** and **Tuesday (11/19)** evenings at 6:30 pm. You are invited to help roll newspaper, layout moss, and develop the scenes for our putz. On Sunday, we break around 5:30 pm for a meal, and work concludes about 8:00 pm. We continue on Monday and Tuesday evenings beginning with a light meal at 6:00 pm. Please contact Peter Diehl @ 610-435-4651 or Ken Stauffer @ 610-691-1430 with questions or to volunteer.

### ShareCare Fundraiser

**Wednesday, November 6**, at noon at Texas Roadhouse, 4463 South Mount Way, Bethlehem. Tickets-\$20 advance or \$25 at door. Call 610-867-2177.



### **Food Bank Needs**

The food pantries at Northeast Ministries and New Bethany are experiencing shortfalls, and we can help whenever we shop for our own food supplies. Bring purchased items to church, and Mission & Outreach will deliver them. Thank you!  
New Bethany – peanut butter, jelly, cereal, and canned soups.  
Northeast Ministries – canned fruit/veggies, tuna, beans, canned/dry spaghetti, and rice.

### **EHMC Dart Baseball League**

Practice starts at 6:45 pm; games begin at 7:30 pm. Anyone is welcome to come and play or if you prefer, just “dart” in to watch! For more info, contact Wayne Gruver at The schedule for our league is as follows: Home (H)/Away (A)

**Nov:** 4-Fritz Wesleyan (A); 11&12 tournament @ Christ UCC (A); 18-Holy Trinity (A); 25-First UCC (Hellertown) (A)

**Dec:** 2-Bethany UCC (A); 9-Christ Lutheran (A)

### **Church Safety**



Please remember to lock our doors and check to make sure that they latch when you leave. It is always better to err on the side of caution than to leave the building unsecured and potentially compromise the safety of others using it.

**When in doubt – please lock up!**

### **Building Usage Reminder**

The ministries of East Hills Moravian Church are the first priority for building usage; therefore, all ministry coordinators/leaders are encouraged to complete a building reservation form for all meetings and events. This will ensure that your required space is available and reserved for your particular event. Thank you for your cooperation.

### **Moravian Travelers**

Two trips remaining for this year. Call Stan Maculesky at 610-866-1352 for information.

**12/3 – Only 5 seats left.** American Music Theatre/"2013 Christmas Show"-\$95.00.

Lunch at Shady Maple.

**12/19 – Seats still available.** Sight & Sound/"Miracle Of Christmas"-\$99.00.

Lunch at Shady Maple.

### **Victory House Benefit**

A “Salute The Troops” concert by the Allentown Band will be held at 3:00 pm on **Sunday, November 10**, at Northeast Middle School, 1170 Fernwood St., Bethlehem, to recognize and honor our Veterans and Armed Forces worldwide. Tickets are \$10.00 and proceeds will benefit **Victory House** of the Lehigh Valley. Contact Gary Hartney at 610-882-2466 or [glhartney@aol.com](mailto:glhartney@aol.com) for tickets and/or information.

### **Thank You**

To the East Hills Moravian Community,

Thank you for your caring response following the loss of both Steve's father, Robert Thompson, and our brother-in-law, Mike Murray. We were comforted by your cards and kind expressions of sympathy and are grateful for the support of our Christian family.

Blessings to all, Steve and Lucy Thompson

## **Star Newsletter**

Beginning with the next issue (which will be a combined December/January issue), the deadline for information to be published in the Star will change to the **TENTH** of every month. We **MUST** have all information by this date or it will not be published. If appropriate, we will hold the information and publish it the following month. Please remember to keep information as brief as possible due to space limitations. Thank you for your cooperation!

## **New Custodian/Sexton Position**

The Joint Board and the Personnel Committee have changed the position of custodian to sexton. The position now includes all of the custodian responsibilities plus opening/closing of the building for building use events. Don and Joni Wambold have resigned their positions of custodian. We would like to thank them for their years of service and dedication to our church. The Joint Board appreciates all they have done to keep the building neat and clean. We wish them all the best as they move forward. The Personnel Committee advertised the opening of the sexton position. The committee interviewed the candidates, and we are proud to announce that one of our members, Joe Csrenko, has been appointed sexton. He began his position on October 9. Joe has been the longtime substitute for the Wambolds whenever it was needed. Please welcome Joe to this new position. We look forward to working with Joe as he keeps our building clean, safe, and locked up.

## **Building Use Coordinator Position Is Open**

Peter Diehl has resigned his volunteer position of Building Use Coordinator. The Joint Board would like to thank Peter for his many years of service. This position is responsible for coordinating the many events that take place throughout the year. This service to the community brings in funds to help maintain the building. We wish Peter well as he takes on other areas of leadership in our church. Randy Emmons and Phil Turton have taken on this position as temporary coordinators. They would like to see another member of the church take on this volunteer position. If you are interested in doing this position, please contact Randy at 610-442-8484 or [randye@ptd.net](mailto:randye@ptd.net).

## **Thanksgiving Dinner Distribution**

Each year Northeast Ministry distributes Thanksgiving meals to families in need in the Marvine-Pembroke low income community in Bethlehem. Last year we distributed over 250 meals and would like to reach as many families again this year. If you would like to help, please contact Zach Borghi, Program Director at Northeast Ministry at 610-691-3355. Donations of the following items are needed: turkeys, canned vegetables, boxed mashed potatoes, boxed stuffing, pie filling, pie crust mix, grocery store gift cards, and monetary donations. We will be accepting donations through **November 25**. Thank you for considering this outreach ministry!

## **Training for Emergency Sheltering Volunteers**

**(UPDATE)** - Training for volunteers in our emergency sheltering ministry will be offered on **Saturday, November 2** from 10:00 am to noon. If you are a team leader or volunteer in this ministry and missed the training session on October 15, please plan to attend this training session. This training session will be held at St. John's Windish Church, 617 E. Fourth St. in Bethlehem. Please register by contacting Pastor Debra Hess at 610-739-4926 or [pastordkhess@yahoo.com](mailto:pastordkhess@yahoo.com). If you are interested in learning more about this special ministry of hospitality, please contact our Site Coordinator, Jay Larson at 610-691-6334 or [jwlarson1@aol.com](mailto:jwlarson1@aol.com).

## Time To Order Magazines

### For magazines:

- ✓ **RENEW** your existing subscriptions, **ORDER** a new title, or **GIVE** the gift of reading!
- ✓ **Our church will receive 40% of each order!**
- ✓ Find best-sellers like People, Readers' Digest, Sports Illustrated, National Geographic Kids, Good Housekeeping, Every Day with Rachael Ray, and over **600 other offers!**
- ✓ **DIGITAL SUBSCRIPTIONS – Download onto your e-readers or I-Pads**
- ✓ To view our digital offerings, go to **store.gafundraising.com** and follow steps 1-3 listed below. Then click on “Digital Magazines” under the Easy Access Tabs on the left side of the page. Ordering any of these selections gives the customer both the print and digital edition.
- Gift items available such as: **personalized gifts, wreaths, gift wrap, jewelry, college and sports team items** (such as pillows and blankets), **custom plaques**, and much more.
- To view the gift items, follow steps 1-3 listed below and then select your gift category under the Easy Access Tabs on the left side of the page.
- **Our Church earns 40% on all sales!**  
For example: Under the gift tab, select “Inspirational”; then select “simple faith cross necklace”. The cost is \$13.50, the church earns \$5.40 from this sale alone, and you get a beautiful cross necklace!

### **TO ORDER: Go to STORE.GAFUNDRAISING.COM**

**Our NEW Church ID: 2768554**

Then Follow the easy steps outlined below:

1. Click on “Shop Now!”
2. Under ‘School or organization online ID’ write: **2768554** (that is our church ID)
3. Under ‘Support student of your choice’ write: **Your First and Last Name**
4. Select your magazine and pay by credit card. Please print a copy of your order.
  - You will receive a quarterly statement in the mail showing the amount of your donation to East Hills Moravian Church. (This can be used for taxes.)
  - Shop online 24-7, pay by credit card, and save 4-6 weeks delivery time
  - It’s easy, safe, and secure to go green and support our church!
  - If you do not have a computer and want to order magazines and/or gifts, or if you have any other questions, contact:

Denise Kohn-Lesko at [dkohnlesko@gmail.com](mailto:dkohnlesko@gmail.com) or phone 610-867-8467.

Customers can contact the toll-free online customer service number at 1-800-251-1542.

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## All Things Moravian

### **Teen Fellowship Group**

Teens In Motion (TIM) invites all teens 13 and over, regardless of church affiliation, to come together to grow in faith, enjoy fellowship, find support as they face the challenges of the teenage years, and offer service. Currently, the group is meeting **at 1:30 pm on Saturdays** at Advent Moravian Church, 3730 Jacksonville Road, with transportation available if needed. For further information, contact Andrea Mosley at [ma1639@gmail.com](mailto:ma1639@gmail.com) or check out the Facebook page-<https://www.facebook.com/groups/165032020365521/>.

### **CROSSROADS**

CROSSROADS Lay Leadership at Moravian Theological Seminary will be holding an Info Session on Saturday, **November 9** at 10 am. Learn more about non-credit courses available for lay people to fulfill their call in local congregations and the community. Everyone is welcome especially those who feel that education is not possible for them. We will explore options with you and explain the program format. There are no educational requirements to enter CROSSROADS and the assignments can be geared to individual abilities. If you desire to improve your skills or knowledge, this intro session is for you. Registration is now open for winter (Preaching, Discipleship and New Testament) and spring (Spiritual Formation, Congregational Care and Church History) courses. Connect with Dr. Jill Peters at [jpeters@moravian.edu](mailto:jpeters@moravian.edu).

### **Prayer Shawls for Northern Province Synod**

The Prayer Shawl Ministry of the United Brethren's Church on Staten Island hopes to provide one prayer shawl for each delegate for Provincial Synod in **June 2014**. A total of 250 shawls are needed and we have commitments for close to 100. If anyone is interested in helping with this endeavor, please contact Kate Reynolds at [ksrcreate@embarqmail.com](mailto:ksrcreate@embarqmail.com).

### **Travel To Our Historical Moravian Roots**

Central Travelers and the Moravian Archives present a trip to Moravian roots in the Czech Republic and Germany **June 30 to July 11, 2014**. Contact Craig Mosebach at 610-625-4576 or [cmosebach@rcn.com](mailto:cmosebach@rcn.com) for more information.

### **Pork & Sauerkraut Dinner**

**Saturday, November 9**, 4-7 pm at College Hill Moravian, 72 W. Laurel St., Bethlehem. Take-out is available. Adults-\$11; Children (4-11 yrs.)-\$5; under 4 yrs.-free. Call 610-867-8291.

### **Holiday Craft Show**

**Saturday, November 2**, 9 am-3 pm at Emmaus Moravian Church, 148 Main St., Emmaus. Over 40 crafters and vendors will be present plus light lunch will be available.

**\*\*Please note the next Star will be a combined issue for December/January and the deadline for information will be November 10.\*\***



## **NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS**

**11/1**

Betty Heft

**11/3**

Barbara Shimer

**11/4**

Kyle Peters

**11/5**

Cory Kohn-Lesko

**11/6**

Olivia Kuhns

Doris Rice

**11/7**

Amanda Gbur

Mikela Ortwein

Elizabeth Reynolds

**11/8**

Gerry Kichline

Mary Ellen Rudolph

**11/9**

David Bieber

**11/11**

Linda Adams

Victoria Creamer

**11/13**

Cayden Creamer

Andrew Emmons

**11/15**

Lucy Thompson

Donald Zeitner

**11/16**

Jean Bennett

**11/17**

Katie Pinter

**11/18**

James Epler

Patricia Kuhns

**11/20**

Kim Donatelli

Brian Yost

Macy Yost

**11/21**

Rosemary Morgan

**11/23**

Elmer Brogdon

Edna Marshall

Lois Meixell

Mark Trapp

**11/24**

Madalyn Smith

Emily Turton

**11/25**

Sandra Gribbin

Megan Latham

**11/26**

David Sommers

**11/27**

Robert Hauck

Eric Pinter

**11/29**

Mark Gibson

Anna Koehler

Caroline Radchuk

**11/30**

Katrina Lehman

Thomas Walz

## **NOVEMBER MINISTRY**

### **SACRISTANS**

**3** John/Connie Fuchs

**10** Jim/Jane Regina

**17** Steve/Lucy Thompson

**24** Bob/Lynn Greenawald

### **ELDER ON DUTY (8:30)**

**3** Joe Mixon

**10** Joe Conzola

**17** Amy Frantz

**24** Jay Larson

### **ELDER ON DUTY (11:00)**

**3** Linda Marsh

**10** Carol Grace Hicks

**17** Jon Burcaw

**24** Lucy Thompson

### **FLOWER VISITOR**

**3** Marcia Mielnik

**10** Bruce Montgomery

**17** Jan Schanck

**24** Bob Stewart

### **USHERS (8:30)**

**3** John/Ellen DeStasio

**10** Jon Burcaw/Charlene Trux

**17** Bill/Debbie Spinney

**24** Earl/Lou Jackson

### **USHERS (11:00)**

**3** Sharon/Christopher &  
Zachary Beamer

**10** Jim/Jane Regina

**17** Dave/Patti Evans

**24** Jeff Adams/Bertie Knisley

### **SANCTUARY FLOWERS**

**3** Mary Jane Reimer

**10** Clark/Norma Snitker

**17** Jim/Jane Regina

Brian/Tanya Yost

**24** Steve/Jenni Kuhns

### **COUNTERS**

**3** Bill Matz/Steve Cooke

**10** Bill Matz/Dwight Taylor

**17** Bill Matz/Jack Skillman

**24** Jim Eberly/Jane Burcaw

### **LITURGIST (8:30)**

**3** Catherine Moyzan

**10** Jean Bennett

**17** Eileen Ackerman

**24** Dave Hendricks

### **LITURGIST (11:00)**

**3** Jon Burcaw

**10** Jodi Evans

**17** Jay Larson

**24** Peter Diehl

**Worship – 8:30 & 11:00 am**  
**Sunday School – 9:45 am**