



Bethabara Bells

A monthly publication of Bethabara Moravian Church

Volume 19, Issue 2 February 2007

Leadership Focus 2007

Tools for Christ's Ministry in the Local Church

Saturday, February 17, 2007

at

New Philadelphia Moravian Church

9:00 am – 3:30 pm



Registration fee is \$10/per person and includes lunch and three workshops. Please send checks to:

Moravian Church, Southern Province
c/o Becky Honeycutt
459 South Church Street
Winston-Salem, NC 27101

There is a flyer on the bulletin board outside of the office.

Please consider attending this excellent training opportunity. I hope to see you there.

Tripp May, Pastor

Church-wide Super-bowl party

Bring your favorite snack or dessert
and come see the game

on a BIG SCREEN in the fellowship hall
Sunday, February 4th at 5:30 pm
(This is our 1st Sunday Fellowship for February)

WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS

Cesar And Maria Jimenez

20581 Bethabara Rd. Apt. 67

Winston-Salem, NC 27106 Phone: 577-1745

Email address: jimenez.72@hotmail.com

His birthday April 4

Her birthday November 22

Anniversary October 25, 1995

His hobbies football and soccer

Her hobbies knitting and crocheting

Mario Ramirez

4180 James St. Apt 2

Winston-Salem NC 27106 Phone: 473-0056

Birthday May 29

Anniversary September 11, 1997

He works for the NC DOT

His hobby vacation.



The Founding of the Unity

March 1, 1457, is the traditional date for the founding of the Unitas Fratrum, or Moravian Church. It was then more than forty years since the martyrdom of John Hus at Constance, and during those intervening years the lands of Bohemia and Moravia (the modern Czech Republic) had been decimated by bloody wars between the Hussites and the Catholic Imperial forces. Finally, there had even been bloodshed among various Hussite factions themselves.

Many in the Czech lands were wondering how such atrocities could be, and asking, “Isn’t there a better way? Whatever the Kingdom of God is, it surely isn’t this!”

It was from such people that a small group of men and women decided to withdraw from all the competing factions and form a group of their own which would seek to abstain from the religious controversies which had shattered their people and would mirror as closely as possible the pattern of the church given in the New Testament. They hoped to live in quietness and peace and to devote their lives to active and dedicated following of the “Law of Christ.”

They came from varied backgrounds. One, Gregory (who became their leader), was the nephew of the Hussite Archbishop-elect of Prague. A few were university trained, and some were city born. Others were simple peasants and merchants. They were united, however, by a driving desire to follow Christ not only in word, but also in deed and in truth. They hoped that their secluded rural setting would keep them not only out of the public eye (thereby avoiding persecution), but also away from many of the temptations so prevalent in public life around them, especially in the crowded cities. And so they gathered at a little place called Kunvald on the estate of Litice, where the local nobleman allowed them a place to settle.

Their decision to form a separate group was not easy. They never said they were the only true Christians, and from the beginning sought other like-minded Christian groups with whom they could have fellowship or

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even join. They had been inspired by sermons of John Rokycana, the conservative Hussite leader, but he was too wedded to the establishment to lead them further where they needed to go. He had sent them to a pious lay person, Peter of Chelčický, and they had learned much from him about simple Christian living, but Peter was not the one to lead them in the close fellowship they desired. Thus at Kunvald they banded together as “Brothers and Sisters of the Law of Christ,” determined to give their all to the service of Christ and the living out of God’s law.

For a time they were served by pious Catholic priests who sympathized with their aims. News of their community also spread to others who were seeking a simpler and deeper Christian life, and soon other small groups around the country joined with them as “The Unity of Brethren” (Czech: Jednota Bratrská; Latin: Unitas fratrum). With the spread of their reputation greater attention and eventually persecution also came their way, and in 1467, with the help of the Waldensians, they established their own ministry to ensure an adequate supply of “shepherds” for the growing flock.

Over the course of years this Unity had to come to terms with how to be “in” the world but not “of” the world. It welcomed the Lutherans, Reformed, and others of the later Protestant Reformation, and sought to have fellowship with them while avoiding doctrinal wrangling and maintaining its own theological and practical insights. It was persecuted and reviled more often than not, but developed a rich devotional life and discipline. Theologically they stressed the essential relationships flowing from the good will of God for our salvation, the saving work of Christ, and the gifts of the Holy Spirit, to which humans are called to respond with faith, love, and hope.

The Unity was practically wiped out in the Thirty Years War (1618-48) as an ecclesiastical institution, but its survivors were instrumental in founding a renewed Unity in Germany, which developed into our Moravian Church of today.

The Rev. Dr. C. Daniel Crews, Archivist
Moravian Archives, Southern Province



CHRISTIAN CONCERT AND WORSHIP

Last year at this time, our youth attended “Winterjam” as a group. I hope parents will consider allowing their youth to go.

Mary Ridings, our joint youth worker, will be in charge of the event. The group (including Providence youth) will leave the

Bethabara parking lot at 3pm on SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2007. Call Tripp May to let him know if you are coming.

TIME FOR CANDLEMAKING!

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 10TH

8:30 AM IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL.

THIS IS A PERFECT TIME TO LEARN HOW TO MAKE
MORAVIAN CANDLES!



Middle/Senior High Moravian **RALLYFEAST**

Sunday, March 11, 2007 (3:00pm—5pm)

New Philadelphia Moravian Church

Featuring Christian Songwriter **MATT WEISER**



- | | |
|---------------------|--------------------|
| 1 John Welch | 17 Tommie Choplin |
| 3 Rev. Tripp May | Betty Wooten |
| 4 Sandy Blackburn | 19 Richard Fox |
| Kim Ellis | 20 Jesus Ramirez |
| 5 Robert Boyles | 25 Peggy Colyer |
| Fern Hunter | Patsy Lineback |
| 6 Doris Segraves | 26 Edna Blevins |
| 8 Andy Harmon | 28 Roberto Ramirez |
| 11 Chuck Harmon | 29 Gay Nell Reich |
| 12 Conrad Fox | 30 Becky Sapp |
| Phillip Sapp | |
| 13 Shannon Lineback | |

Happy Anniversary
 9 Rick and Becky Sapp

Nursery Attendants

4th Edna Blevins
11th Suzie LaVenture
 18th Kristy Sapp
25th Shannon Lineback

USHERS

Ernest Holland
 Joel Lineback
 Joey Lineback
 Joel Sapp

SAVE THE DATE

1st Sunday of March
 Musical group
Wing in a Prayer
 During morning worship

February

Flower Calendar

- 4Th Britt, Terry, and
Chrstitopher Orrell
- 11th The Sapp Family
- 18th Bethabara Band
- 25th Britt, Terry, and
Christopher Orrell



- 4th Jim & Paulette
Kuzmanovich
- 11th Dalton & Cheryl Everhart
- 18th Dick & Eva Morgan
- 25th- Marion Yokley & Edna
Blevins

MEMOIRS of our members are a part of Bethabara's permanent records, stored at the Moravian Archives, Southern Province. Copies may be obtained from them.



2100 Bethabara Road
Winston Salem, NC 27106

TRIPP MAY, Pastor

336-971-4725 *CELL*

336-924-8689 *HOME*

924-8789 *OFFICE*