

REDEEMER MORAVIAN CHURCH

NEWSLETTER

SEPTMEBER - 2026

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2026 CRMC Watchword:

“Those who love me will keep my word, and my Father will love them,
and we will come to them and make our home with them.” John 14:23

The Apostle Paul commands the Thessalonians to pray without ceasing in 1 Thessalonians 5.17 and many of us use this teaching to reinforce a need to be constantly busy. This concept of discipleship leads to an over-booked calendar and a wearied spirit!

Howard Thurman explores the vital connection between work and rest in his reflection titled, *Work and Rest are One Entity* (from Meditations of the Heart). As we prepare for the Labor Day holiday and fall activities begin to fill our calendars, it is an appropriate reflection for this season. At first glance, the idea seems simple enough, yet we do not often consider how deeply these two realities intersect.

Thurman writes:

“We are accustomed to recognizing the interplay between work and rest in making or healthy living. This is expressed in many ways. We know that we cannot keep going if we do not refuel by eating and by sleeping. Over and over again, we provide for a change of pace in our life routine to the end that we shall not burn out or rust out. A music score that provides for no rests, no devaluation of whole notes, would be unbearable at long last. Here we are face to face with a life principle. ...a very urgent function of the quiet time is to provide a breather for the spirit, opportunity for catching up, reorganizing and re-evaluating the endless activities in which we are involved daily and hourly. “

Most of us understand the necessity of food and restorative sleep. We recognize their importance for physical well-being. Yet we often fail to listen to the quiet voice that invites us to pause and acknowledge the presence of God in our day. Is God present in the pause – or in the activity that flows from our prayer? Thurman invites us to recognize the spirit of God in both: carrying the value and meaning of our labor into moments of rest and integrating the value of a pause amid of the activities of daily life. The two pursuits are not opposites. They are connected. Together they represent the wholeness of a faithful and spiritual grounded life.

The invitation before us is not to choose between work and rest, action and prayer. Rather it is to discover how each gives life to the other. In quiet moments, God renews and redirect us. In our work, God’s presence accompanies and sustains. Together, work and rest become part of a faithful rhythm through which we encounter the Spirit and share God’s love with the world.

How do you sense when you need to pause and when it God is calling you into action? The following are some suggestions for finding your own daily rhythm for a spirit-filled life:

Begin the day with a pause. Before checking email, new, or your to-do list, spend a few minutes in reflection or prayer. Instead of asking, “what do I need to do today?” Consider, “what kind of person is God calling me to be today?”

Take a “breather”. Thurman spoke of quiet time as an opportunity for “catching up, reorganizing, and re-evaluating.” Plan an intentional pause of a minute or two between meetings, phone calls, appointments, or activities. Take a deep breath. You might try using a sacred word or phrase from scripture. You could whisper a reminder of God’s presence such as the following: “Breathing in, I welcome the Spirit (or simply “welcome”). Exhaling, I am sent by the Spirit (or simply “sent”). Try weaving this pause into ordinary moments: while driving, waiting in line, preparing a meal, before responding to a challenging email or phone call.

End the day with reflection: Before sleep, take a few moments to review the day asking: Where did I experience God’s presence? When did I feel most alive? When did I feel hurried or disconnected? How did I experience or share gratitude?

These simple daily practices help ground our work in God’s purpose and fill our times of rest with gratitude. May Christ bless you in your labor and your rest.

Pastor Tracy



40th YEAR CHALLENGE AUGUST UPDATE

November 2025 - November 2026

1. FOOD PANTRY COLLECTION

August – Unsweetened Applesauce
Collected – 49 packages!

2. NEW VISITORS

August - 4
(44 total)
40th year GOAL – 40!
We did it!

3. ABOVE and BEYOND FUND

August = \$300
Total = \$18,181
40th year GOAL = \$40,000

SEPTEMBER COLLECTION - **RICE** - REDEEMER CHURCH

If you are interested in Electronic Giving for regular offering or our Above and Beyond account you may use the this QR code.



AUGUST BOARD REPORT

Pastor's report was given.

Financial reports approved.

- 40th year Challenge progress reported
- Parsonage repairs and tree removal discussed. Total of 17 people for workday!

Grateful to all who cut and hauled, bagged, entertained children, brought snacks/water & took bags to the curb for pickup.

- Phone providers for church discussed.
- AC unit on left side of sanctuary needs replacement. Estimated cost \$11,659. Board researching grant and payment options.
- Seeking solutions regarding removal of groundhog under concrete equipment pad at back of office.
- Hosting stewardship lunch & learn Aug 30th.
- Joint Board long-range planning meeting September 5th 1-4pm in fellowship hall.

2026 CHURCH BOARDS

Members serving on the Joint Boards for 2026 are:

Elders:

Dee Brooke
Gail Dufford - Jt. Brd. Secretary
Jenny Hammond
Susan Heeter
Karen Jackson
Vicki Minard - Vice Chair

Trustees:

Carl Dufford - President
Don Gerbig
Marcie Hoffman
Michael Kilmartin
Dan Minard - Vice Pres.
Keith Schneider

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

The adult Sunday School class will continue our Bible series: "Story-Tellers, Poets, and Prophets." **This fall we will encounter the end of the Moses narrative and begin the transition to Joshua's story!** Follow along with the Israelites as they transition from nomadic life in the wilderness to one of settlement in the Promised Land. You are always welcome to join us **in the library on Sundays at 9:30 am** for coffee/tea and conversation. Bring a friend and your favorite Bible (or borrow one from the library if you forget).

MINISTRY TO CHILDREN – LAMB JAM!



An addition to our worship service is "Lamb Jam". Evie Blum is offering an option for ministry to children that will allow the children to stay in the sanctuary and allow their parents a moment to worship with a little less distraction, while keeping the children involved in the day's worship theme.

Each week, she provides an activity at a small table placed over to the side of the sanctuary. Each week's activity is themed with the scripture/sermon focus for the week.



PRAYER CONCERNS: Fordham family, Nepal, Steve Gray cancer, Penny Surber, Susan's brother, Fran's mom, all ESL students and teachers, Vicki's co-worker Amber, Karen's sister-in-law Lori, Keith Schneider, Jenifer Russell, John Hammond, Vicki's mother Mitzi, Joan Daley, Marsha's family, Mike (cancer), Joe and Judy (tumor and blood disorder), Elizabeth Rendi (transplant list), all healthcare staff, Ukrainians, the Middle East, Slovenians

PRAISE: Those who give freely to assist in the church, diverse people gathering together, those who serve faithfully.



NORTH CAROLINA MISSION TRIP REPORT – September 20 JOIN US!

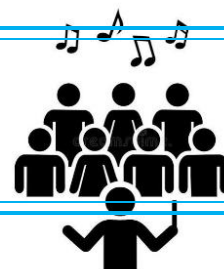
Mission team members from the trip to North Carolina in July will share details about the trip. Please join us during worship on September 20 for this informative presentation.

THE CHOIR IS BACK!

Choir has resumed practices on Thursdays at 7:00pm.

Ever wish you were in the choir? Now is the time to start!

Directed by Dave Blum.



ESL CLASSES

Classes have resumed this month. Classes meet Wednesdays at 7:00PM in the church library.

The REV. DAVE BENNETT – OCT. 4

On Sunday, October 4, The Rev Dave Bennett, the President of the Provincial Elders Conference Moravian Church (North), is joining us for worship and Holy Communion at 10:30. We will share in a potluck lunch after worship in the fellowship hall. Please sign up for lunch on the side bulletin board. Come join us!

**HAPPY SEPTEMBER!
THE WORLD SHALL NOW
TRANSFORM INTO
PUMPKIN EVERYTHING.**

– KEITH WYNN



SEPTEMBER CALENDAR

SEPTEMBER

2 Wednesday ESL 7:00
5 Saturday Joint Board Workshop 1-4
6 Sunday Worship 10:30
8 Tuesday Joint Board 7:00
9 Wednesday ESL 7:00
10 Thursday Choir 7:00
13 Sunday Adult Sunday School 9:30
Worship 10:30,
Holy Communion &
Moravian Service Day
16 Wednesday ESL 7:00
17 Thursday Choir 7:00
20 Sunday Adult Sunday School 9:30
Worship 10:30
Mission Trip Presentation
23 Wednesday ESL 7:00
24 Thursday Choir 7:00
27 Sunday Adult Sunday School 9:30
Worship 10:30
29 Tuesday Hanamizuki 12:00
30 Wednesday ESL 7:00

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

8 Vicki Minard 20 Tracy Pryor-Poole
11 Trent Reynolds 21 Joan Daley
12 June Stoycheff 25 Jenny Hammond
19 Mark Heeter

SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

9 Beth & Chris Lute
30 Jamie & Trent Reynolds-19

FOOD PANTRY



Redeemer has an ongoing collection for food pantry items. We continuously give to the Smoky Row Food Pantry. Your donations are always appreciated.

Any nonperishable, unopened, unexpired items will be accepted.
Monetary donations also accepted, payable to Smoky Row Food Pantry.
You can drop your items off at the church.

EARTH and CUP

Earth and Cup is a nonprofit 501c3 ministry co-founded by Pastor Tracy and Mike with a holistic approach to healing and transformation. Redeemer Moravian partners with Earth and Cup by offering classroom space for movement classes and activities. Earth and Cup offers group classes, private sessions, and workshops for the community on a pay-as-able basis. All are welcome!

Find out more and discover upcoming classes/private session/workshops at <http://earthandcup.com/>
You may also email them directly at: earthandcup@gmail.com.
