

Dear Friends in Christ:

TABLE OF COMPARISON

MORAVIANS

LUTHERANS

TEACHINGS

1. Accept major statements of faith of the early church as well as major confessions of Lutheran and Reformed traditions as valid expressions.
2. Great emphasis on Christ as the revelation of God.
3. Affirm the inspiration of Scripture, but much latitude here.
4. Baptism and Holy Communion are practiced but defined only in biblical terms. Each believer interprets those terms.
5. Believe in the necessity of individual regeneration and in salvation through Christ.

1. Accept the creeds, the *Augsburg Confession*, and Luther's *Small Catechism* as basic summaries of the faith. Recognize the remainder of the *Book of Concord* as valuable.
2. Same
3. Accept the Bible as the written witness to God's revelation of saving action through Jesus Christ.
4. Baptism and Holy Communion are practiced as means of God's grace. Real presence of Christ in Communion affirmed.
5. The baptized Christian lives in the covenant of his or her Baptism, dying to sin and rising again to faith in Christ.

TYPE OF WORSHIP

Semi-liturgical. Liturgies are available for every type of need but are not compulsory. All liturgies are very Christ-centered. Continue to celebrate love feast.

Liturgical, following the classic pattern of the Western church.

GOVERNMENT

Modified episcopal.

No prescribed form, although congregational in U.S.

CHARACTERISTICS

Major emphasis on Christian living as a result of Christian experience. Emphasis on individual interpretation of doctrine: "In essentials unity, in non-essentials liberty, in all things charity." Leaders in all major movements for cooperation.

Christian living seen as an expression of Christian faith. Strong emphasis on doctrine. Cautious about co-operative movements, but aware and involved for wide ministry.

*It is not the largest of denominations but one of the few worldwide churches. In 2000 the ELCA and the Moravian Church entered into full communion. It is they who claim the challenge of transcending all differences including political systems and skin color. During the Reformation contact was made with Martin Luther while it already supported over 175,000 Moravians. Known as the *Unita's Fratrum* or *Unity of Brothers* such contact with the Reformer lead to the publication of its confession of faith with Luther himself writing the preface.*

The unique contribution of the Moravian Church is that it has maintained a worldwide unity since the 18th century. It embraces over nineteen provinces and missions located on every major continent. The church is strong in Tanzania as well as South Africa, Surinam, Guyana, the West Indies, Central America, Europe, the United Kingdom, and North America.

*It began when a Bohemian priest/scholar John Hus, was burned at the stake at the Council of Constance in 1415. Failure to purify the existing church the followers organized their own body in 1457. The *Unity*, as it was called, prospered, and soon was persecuted only to be reborn. A band of refugees from Bohemia were permitted to settle on the lands by Count Zinzendorf under whose leadership they worshiped as Lutherans in the parish church.*

Their worship is varied offering freedom of expression. There is a deep relationship between the Moravian church and Lutheran Pietism as well as Christian living. Their overriding principal is, "in essentials unity, in non-essentials liberty and in all things charity."

Neighbors in Faith,

Pastor Hal

CONTACT INFORMATION

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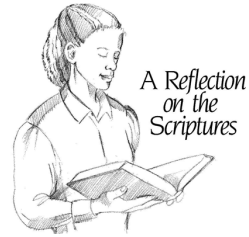
If you are hospitalized, know someone who is, need pastoral assistance, a prayer request, home visit, private communion, or other pastoral service contact Pastor Hal at any of the above.

BAPTISM

Sawyer Jaxon Westphal

WEDDING

Sierra Jo Hawkins & Tyler James Wolfe



Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

July 02, 2023
Matthew 10: 40-42
"Your Welcome"

Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

July 09, 2023
Matthew 11: 16-19, 25-30
"What Do You Want From Me"

Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

July 16, 2023
Matthew 13: 1-9, 18-23
"The Seed and the Soil"

Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

July 23, 2023
Matthew 13: 24-30, 36-43
"Dealing with the Weeds"

Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

July 30, 2023
Matthew 13: 31-33, 44-52
"More Kingdom Stuff"

HAPPY AND SAFE 4TH



At the June meeting the council decided to move their meetings to 7:30 p.m. on the Second Wednesday. The every other month meeting will remain the same. The joint council meets first then break into individual council meetings. Meetings are held in the months of February, April, June, August, October, December.

As these will occur after confirmation classes the meeting will be held for the entire year at the church where confirmation classes are held. The August 09, 2023 meeting will be at Barum 7:30. Starting with October 11, 2023 the meeting will be at Big Elk Creek and continue there at the same time in months noted above. Having the meetings on the designated church night we hope to facilitate greater participation.

We encourage members to attend these important meetings and fulfill the commitment and obligation you made when you agreed to serve on the council. These meeting are for all who have a position of leadership.

