

New Moravian Worship Resource Exploration Committee
Survey for Congregation Members
(Not Directly Involved in Worship Planning)

The Provincial Elders' Conferences of both Northern and Southern Province have asked us to explore the current usage of the *Moravian Book of Worship* to help determine whether it may be time to begin work on a new hymnal or worship resource for the Moravian Church in North America.

The Moravian Church was the first Protestant church to produce a hymnal (1505). The ancient *Unitas Fratrum* produced hymnals at an amazing rate, often in the face of persecution when they had to dismantle and move their printing presses. The renewed church in Germany also produced hymnals very often – sometimes several hymnals or supplements within less than a decade! Nicholas Ludwig von Zinzendorf wrote, “The hymnal is a kind of response to the Bible, an echo and an extension thereof. In the Bible one perceives how the Lord communicates with people; and in the hymnal, how people communicate with the Lord.”

The 20th century in America is rare in Moravian history in only producing 3 hymnals – 1923, 1969, and 1995. Work on the 1995 *Moravian Book of Worship* began with a survey of congregations and pastors in 1985, and the hymnal committee was appointed in 1987; thus it took 8 years to produce the hymnal, once the committee was formed and started to work. The 1995 book was never intended to be a long-lasting book; the committee saw it as a transitional book, to lead the Moravian Church in North America into the 21st century, since we had no idea what this century might bring. However, if our recommendation is to produce a new hymnal or worship resource, and the 2018 synods approve it, the next one is likely to come out in 2023-2025 – thus making the 1995 *Moravian Book of Worship* almost 30 years old!

Throughout our Moravian history, even in times of most uncertainty, financial difficulties, distress and even persecution, it seems that periods of spiritual revival and awakening, and mission activity, are often accompanied by a flourishing of new liturgies, hymns and worship songs. In the Moravian Church in North America, we are witness to widespread creative energy in missions, and in new songs and liturgies. It's a great time to explore what our congregations are using now, and what they see as the needs for Moravian worship through the middle of the 21st century! Thank you for contributing!

Personal

1. What is your age?

- 13 to 17
- 18 to 24
- 25 to 34
- 35 to 44
- 45 to 54
- 55 to 64
- 65 to 74
- 75 or older

2. What church do you attend?

3. How often do you attend worship?

- More than once a week
- Once a week
- Once or twice a month
- A few times a year
- Other (please specify)

4. How many years have you worshiped there?

5. In which ways have you participated in congregational worship?

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Brass band | <input type="checkbox"/> Choir Director |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Band (guitar, keyboard, bass, etc.) | <input type="checkbox"/> Band Director |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Instrumentalist | <input type="checkbox"/> Handbells director |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Choir | <input type="checkbox"/> Sacristan/usher |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Handbells | <input type="checkbox"/> Diener/ Coffee Maker |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Scripture reader | <input type="checkbox"/> Attend service/pew participant |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Liturgist | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify): |

6. How valuable are the following to your development as a Christian?

	Extremely important	Very important	Important	Somewhat important	Not very important
visual art					
recorded music					
live music					
writing your own music					
architecture/décor					
vestments					
congregational worship music					
interactive / experiential prayer					
olfactory (smell) experience					
liturgy					
scripture readings					
sermon					
other (please specify)					

Music Creation

7. Do you read music? Yes No

8. If not, would you like to learn? Yes No

9. Have you ever written a liturgy, hymn, song or poem that you'd like to share with brothers and sisters in the Moravian world? Yes No

If so, please consider leaving your email or contact information here so that we can follow up with you!

10. Would you attend a hymn/song-writing workshop? Yes No

Music Experience

11. Have you ever been to a Moravian Music Festival? ___ Yes ___ No

12. What are the most meaningful/significant parts of worship for you?

13. Please describe the style of music and worship you most appreciate.

- ___ Traditional Moravian ___ Contemporary (with a worship band)
 ___ Folk or gospel style ___ Other (please describe)

14. Please rate these aspects of the music of worship according to their importance to you:

	Extremely important	Very important	Important	Somewhat important	Not very important
Style					
Text					
Tune					
Quality of the presentation					
Thematic continuity of the service (do the hymns, sermon, scripture, etc., complement each other?)					
Other (please specify)					

15. What instrument(s) would you like to have used in your worship?

- | | | |
|----------------------------------|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Guitar | <input type="checkbox"/> Percussion | <input type="checkbox"/> String instruments |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Organ | <input type="checkbox"/> Brass band | <input type="checkbox"/> Steel drums |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Banjo | <input type="checkbox"/> Band (guitar, lead | <input type="checkbox"/> Cowbell |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ukelele | singer, drums, | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Drums | keyboard, bass, etc.) | |

16. What media do you use for congregational singing in your worship services?

- Book Projection Recorded audio Other (please specify)

17. What media would you like to use for congregational singing in your worship services?

- Book Projection Recorded audio Other (please specify)

18. If you use worship resources other than the *Moravian Book of Worship* (1995 blue hymnal) in your congregation, what do you use?

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Singing from the Heart</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> Online resources |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Sing to the Lord a New Song</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (other denominational hymnal?
other technology?) Please describe: |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Holy Week Manual | <input type="checkbox"/> Book |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Supplemental Communion services
booklet | <input type="checkbox"/> Projection |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Projected songs or hymns | <input type="checkbox"/> Recorded audio |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Songs/hymns printed in bulletin | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify) |

19. What is the best part of the music at your congregation (i.e., new music, learning new songs, singing familiar music, singing in other languages, etc.)?

20. Have you experienced different types of worship? Yes No

21. If yes, what was memorable about those services?

Liturgies

22. Does your church use liturgies regularly? Yes No

23. Does your congregation use the Psalms and Canticles in the *Moravian Book of Worship* (1995 blue hymnal)? Yes No

24. Would you like more or fewer liturgies to choose from? More Fewer

25. Describe the importance of liturgy to you.

26. Have you ever written a liturgy or responsive reading that you'd like to share with brothers and sisters in the Moravian world? Yes No

If so, please consider leaving your email or contact information here so that we can follow up with you!

Miscellaneous

27. Which of these worship aids would be most appealing to you?

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> app | <input type="checkbox"/> information about composers and authors |
| <input type="checkbox"/> recording of the tunes (with or without vocals) | <input type="checkbox"/> the story behind the songs |
| <input type="checkbox"/> more detailed indexes | <input type="checkbox"/> art to accompany scriptures |
| <input type="checkbox"/> audiobook | <input type="checkbox"/> other (please specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> podcast | |

28. Do lay people help lead worship in your congregation (scripture or liturgy readers)?

- Yes No

29. How important is using a *Moravian* worship resource to your congregation's sense of identity?

30. What is the relationship between your congregation's *worship* and its *sense of mission*?

31. In what ways do you think it would or would not be helpful to have a new Moravian worship resource within the next five to ten years?

32. Any additional comments?

Please return your completed survey *by July 1, 2017*, to:

New Worship Resource Exploration Committee
c/o Nola Knouse, Moravian Music Foundation
457 S. Church Street
Winston-Salem, NC 27101