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Herrnhuter Mission *aktuell*

Nachrichten der Herrnhuter Missionshilfe

Ausgabe 2025-14 vom 17. Juli 2025

Baking without electricity – donations sought for a brick oven for training at the AWTC



At the Atsikana Walani Technical College (AWTC) in Malawi, young women receive practical training in food production. Bread and pastries are just as much a part of the curriculum as hygiene, ingredient knowledge, and economic efficiency. However, one key element has been missing until now: a suitable oven. An electric oven is out of the question – the AWTC is not connected to the public power grid, and solar

technology alone is not sufficient for continuous operation. The plan is therefore to build a brick outdoor oven that can be fired with briquettes. This would not only enable continuous training, but also be used to feed the students and staff and contribute to self-sufficiency. Bread and pastries can also be sold at the market, generating a small income for the next food purchases. Around €900 is needed for the construction, plus funds for the initial purchase of fuel. We are therefore looking for supporters who can help make this dream come true for the young women. With your donation, you will help make the vocational training at the AWTC practical and future-oriented.

Three young women from South Africa arrive in Germany as volunteers



Faith (23), a young woman from Bredasdorp on the southern tip of South Africa, was nominated by the Moravian Church in South Africa (specifically by the Moravian Sunday School Union in South Africa) for a volunteer position in Germany. Through the Ecumenical Volunteer Program of the Evangelical Mission in Solidarity

(EMS), she left for a twelve-month assignment at the Johannes Kindergarten in Ettlingen near Karlsruhe. See [here](#). Her sister Zingce (23) from Whittlesea near Queenstown (now Komani) in South Africa's Eastern Cape region is completing a year of voluntary service in the ecumenical community of the Moravian Church on the Herrnhaag near Büdigen in Hessen. See [here](#). And Anasteen (24) from the Western Cape region is working for a year as a volunteer at the Evangelical Family Center Schillerstraße in Heilbronn in day care and at the affiliated kindergarten. See [here](#). God's blessings to all three young people for their service in Germany.

The Johann Wavenza Nursing and Midwifery Institute in Mbozi



The Mbozi Province of the Moravian Church in southwestern Tanzania is one of the youngest provinces of the worldwide Moravian Church, although its beginnings date back to the 19th century and the Niesky pioneer missionary Traugott Bachmann (1865–1948). On July 7, 2025, the province proudly presented one of its facilities on Facebook: the *Johann Wavenza*

Nursing and Midwifery Institute in Mbozi, Songwe Region. Some current pictures can be found [here](#). The institute, which was founded in 1995, offers certificate and diploma courses in nursing and midwifery to a high standard. The institute's mission statement reads: "We are one of the country's leading training institutes in the field of health care and related sciences. We strive for excellence in education, research, practice, and service." The institute is named after Johann Lukas Wavenza, who was elected the first bishop of the newly formed Southwestern Province of the Moravian Church in Tanzania in 1982. More about him [here](#).

Svend Løbner recounts many encounters in Tanzania



Svend Løbner from the Moravian Church's missionary organization in Denmark reported on many impressive encounters in Tanzania in June 2025 for the Fünener Landzeitung (Fyns Amts Avis). See in Danish [here](#). He was particularly impressed by the helpfulness and charity shown by the people of the country. Among other things, he writes about his

meeting with Erord Simae, the head of the Moravian Church in the Rukwa province: "It was good to talk to the wise church leader who, despite having lost his wife to a heart attack a week earlier, took the time to talk to me. 'The church is growing steadily, and the secret is peace,' he said. Our peace attracts people who are confronted with all kinds of hardships in their daily lives. Peace is achieved through works of love. When we love one another and people feel loved, they find peace and tranquility enters their lives."

“Moravian Youth Convo 2025” ends in Miami



The Moravian Youth Convo 2025 in Miami, Florida, came to an end on July 7, 2025. With the theme Mission in Action, it was an unforgettable week of fellowship, learning, worship, and fun for everyone involved. People from Jamaica, Antigua, Barbados, Trinidad & Tobago, and the USA (St. Thomas, Florida, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, New York, Maryland, and

Wisconsin) took part. The program sessions and worship services were led by Rev. Dr. Riddick Weber, Rev. Brian Dixon, and staff from the Board of World Mission of the Moravian Church in North America. The young people stayed at both the New Hope Moravian Church and the Prince of Peace Moravian Church. They also visited prominent tourist sites. Much of the convocation was spent with program times, worship services, singing, and sharing experiences from their respective home areas, so that participants gained new and useful resources. A group photo can be found [here](#).

Dutch Army Medical Corps returns to Suriname



For the fourth time, members of the Dutch armed forces provided medical assistance in the interior of Suriname. The online forum waterkant.net reported on June 30, 2025: "Two women and a man from the Dutch Army Medical Service have been working tirelessly for the past eight weeks in the ambulance of the Medical Mission in Suriname in Brownsweg in the

tropical rainforest. Despite limited resources, the team, together with local staff, managed to provide essential nursing care under difficult conditions. The temporary deployment of the army team not only relieved the Surinamese health care system,

but also trained the Dutch team's ability to improvise, according to the Dutch Embassy in Suriname. Seven more medical soldiers from the Netherlands are expected to arrive in Suriname soon. See [here](#).

About the land disputes in the Moravian Church of Goedverwacht



In several Moravian Church communities in South Africa, families from the indigenous population are striving to acquire as personal property the land they have been using for 200 years, mostly free of charge, but which ultimately belongs to the Moravian Church in South Africa. On June 29, 2025, the weekly online magazine Mail & Guardian published a very long

article about these disputes in the Moravian Church community of Goedverwacht, which has about 2,000 inhabitants, is located 150 kilometers west of Cape Town, and was founded in 1810. The article in English is entitled Moravian Church legal battle at heart of indigenous land rights. See [here](#). The article states: "The Moravian Church does not just own church buildings, bells and items for worship. It controls entire villages – mission stations – and hundreds of thousands of hectares of land. It also has its own financial services and property management company. Almost three centuries later, the people who lived on the land, mostly Khoi, want to control and govern the land their ancestors worked and which some consider their natural property."

Young soccer players from the Moravian Church in South Africa visit Sweden



The South African NGO called [Lifezone International Soccer Club](#) wants to help young people aged 6 to 13 in socially disadvantaged areas lead better lives by promoting soccer. The founder and volunteer director of the NGO for the past twelve years is Dr. Jeremy Wyngaard from the Moravian Theological Center in Cape Town-Heideveld. On June 19, 2025, Jeremy

Wyngaard set off for a training camp in Sweden with three talented young soccer players from the Moravian Church in South Africa: Riley Sickle (Maitland Moravian Church), Lucah Abels (Belhar Moravian Church), and Samuel October (Kuil River

Moravian Church). Photo [here](#). On Facebook, the Moravian Sunday School Union in South Africa writes: "May this be a life-changing experience for the boys, helping them to progress and bringing them joy and inspiration. Many thanks to Rev. Dr. Jeremy Wyngaard for his commitment."

Education symposium with the Kaapse/Cape Forum in Genadendal



The Mission Museum of the Moravian Church in Genadendal and the non-profit South African *Kaapse/Cape Forum* joined forces on July 8, 2025, to organize an educational symposium in Genadendal. The forum's goal is to "improve the living conditions of all congregations in the Western Cape by promoting community autonomy, self-help activities, strengthening democracy, and further developing federalism." Nearly 100 committed participants, including teachers, school principals, education experts, and community leaders, experienced what is possible when people come together to achieve a common goal during a multi-hour event in Genadendal. The atmosphere was lively, hopeful, and marked by meaningful conversations that will resonate far beyond the walls of the venue. More [here](#). The day ended with the honoring of the Cape Champions, individuals and institutions that have shown particular commitment to promoting their communities through educational work.

New church in Uvira nearing completion



On July 9, 2025, the Eglise Morave au Congo, the Moravian Church in eastern DR Congo, presented the exterior of its new church building in Uvira (South Kivu province) on the northern shore of Lake Tanganyika in a short video. See [here](#). It then posted two photos from inside the church with the comment: "We have now resumed work on the interior of the church!" See [here](#) and [here](#). The Moravian Church in eastern DR Congo was founded in 1980. It emerged from the Moravian Church in Tanzania's Western Province. Its founders were Congolese refugees who had fled to Tanzania as a result of a civil war and then returned to their homeland. Since 2015, the Moravian Church has been running an orphanage for 60 physically disabled children near Uvira, with an

attached school and workshops.

The Moravian Church in Happy Valley wants to tidy up its cemetery



The Moravian Church in Happy Valley, Labrador, is planning a special project for the summer of 2025. It wants to tidy up its cemetery. On Facebook, it wrote: "We want to put crosses on graves that have no nameplates or whose nameplates need to be replaced in the Moravian section of the cemetery in Happy Valley. If you know anything about a grave without a

nameplate, please contact the community leadership at 896-3119 or send an email to hvmoravianchurch@bellaliant.com. We need the help of the relatives of the deceased so that we can clarify how the congregation should mark the graves." More [here](#). The first meeting at the cemetery, at which the problematic graves were examined and agreements were made, took place on June 7, 2025, at 9 a.m. The project is sponsored by *[Ikajuttiget Board Inc.](#)*

Summer news from Latvia



- The Christian David School near the Latvian village of Barkava recently received a visit from a police officer from Riga named Romans. The officer gave an exciting lesson and also presented the school community with some gifts. Nine pictures [here](#).
- In the summer of 2025, several former students who are now studying at Latvian universities or colleges gathered at the school. They spent a happy day together with the children who still live at the boarding school on the school grounds and in the surrounding area. 30 pictures [here](#).
- A few months ago, the children at the Christian David School served as judges for an award for newly published Latvian children's books. In return, the school has now received a large package of books from the state, which the children were delighted to receive. Nine pictures [here](#).
- Ivita Dāme, a member of the Moravian Church in Smiltene, Latvia, posted a photo of a ruin formation (old field barns) near Smiltene-Kalnamuiža, reminiscent of the

Neolithic stone circle at Stonehenge in southern England. See [here](#).

From the XII Summer Day of the Moravian Church in Estonia in Kuusalu



On June 14, 2025, the 12th Summer Day of the Moravian Church in Estonia took place in the wooden prayer hall of the Estonian Moravian Church in Kuusalu. The theme of the day was "With the creed into the world." The main speaker was missionary and church teacher Magne Mølster. The entire day was filled with music, listening to God's Word, and prayers. The

men's choir ensemble of the Moravian Church in Harku sang, and Ott Indermitte and Paul Daniel gave a short concert at the end of the day. More than a dozen people— young and old—shared their testimonies of faith that day. There was also group work, opportunities for individual counseling, and, of course, plenty of fellowship over good food in the countryside. On Facebook, someone wrote: "Many thanks to all the volunteers at the Kuusalu Prayer Hall for a very warm welcome! And we thank God for everything! 55 photos [here](#)."

Former students attend church services at St. Thomas



The Memorial Moravian Church on the US Virgin Island of St. Thomas had the pleasure of welcoming participants from two class reunions to its services on two consecutive Sundays. First, on June 29, 2025, all those who had graduated from *Charlotte Amalie High School* and *Ivanna Eudora Kean High School* in 1985, 40 years ago, came together. Everyone was dressed in red.

Photos [here](#). A week later, on July 7, 2025, the 45th reunion took place for all those who had left Charlotte Amalie High School in 1985. Everyone was adorned with the same colorful scarves. Photos [here](#). On these occasions, as well as on several other occasions, the Memorial Moravian Church offered its newly commissioned congregation T-shirts in blue and green (each with and without a collar). See [here](#).

Shristi Academy honored poet Bhanu Bhakta Acharya



On July 13, 2025, children, young people, and teachers from the International Kindergarten & Shristi Academy of the Moravian Church in Kathmandu, Nepal, took part in the celebrations for the national holiday Bhanu Jayanti, which is celebrated every year on the 29th day of the Nepalese month of Ashadha. This day is dedicated to the outstanding Nepalese poet Bhanu Bhakta Acharya (1814-1886), who

researched the Hindi epic Valmiki Rāmāyaṇam and translated it from Sanskrit into the vernacular Nepali. Without his achievements, the Nepalese language would not exist. The school's Facebook page stated: "Bhanu Bhakta Acharya's efforts have greatly enriched our communication and brought us closer together as a people. Let us continue to cherish and promote our rich linguistic heritage!" Some photos can be found [here](#). The poet is nicknamed Adikavi, which means "the first poet ever."

Zinzendorf bust in Genadendal is "Object of the Month"



The Mission Museum of the Moravian Church in Genadendal, South Africa, has selected as its Object of the Month a bronze bust created in 1903 by German sculptor Alfred Reichel (1856-1928), depicting Count Nikolaus Ludwig von Zinzendorf as the visionary founder of the Moravian Church. See [here](#). Alfred Reichel is not the only sculptor to have emerged from the

Moravian Church, but he is one of very few. Born in Gnadenfeld, Silesia, the artist enjoyed a comprehensive and thorough education from 1868 onwards at the boys' school and pedagogical college of the Moravian Church in Niesky. This was followed by studies at the Dresden Art Academy and later at the Berlin Art School. At the end of the 1880s, Reichel settled in Berlin, where he lived and worked until his death in 1928. In the spring of 2016, an [exhibition in Herrnhut](#) was dedicated to Alfred Reichel.

News in Brief

1. On July 1, 2025, the spiritual leaders of the Moravian Church in Suriname once again played soccer against each other. They have been doing this occasionally for seven years. Two teams competed against each other: The Lions and The Eagles. All players proudly wore the lamb logo on their jerseys: "Our Lamb has triumphed, let us follow Him." The fun way of being together created a new sense of community among the spiritual leaders. 40 photos [here](#).
2. From July 7 to 18, 2025, the individual Moravian Church congregations in Antigua and Barbuda (Unity Province of West India East) invite you to a joint children's camp in St. John's at the Spring Gardens Moravian Church. The theme is: A Journey Through the Parables of the Bible.
3. On June 30, 2025, Nicaragua celebrated National Teachers' Day. In Bluefields, the Moravian High School also honored its teachers with a small ceremony and a communal meal. An auditorium named after Nicaraguan educator Alice Ebanks was inaugurated. Some pictures can be found [here](#). A short video can be found [here](#).
4. The children from the kindergarten of the Shristi Academy of the Moravian Church in Kathmandu, Nepal, who come mainly from urban backgrounds and whose parents belong to the upper classes, recently went on an outing to learn about rice cultivation, one of the country's main sources of livelihood. On Facebook, it said: "Our children had a lot of fun planting rice! The joy of nature and learning about agricultural processes are priceless. Join us on our muddy adventure!" See the [here](#).
5. The Moravian Messenger (07-2025), the magazine of the Moravian Church in Great Britain, introduces Janice Leung-Jacobsen from Hong Kong, wife of Danish missionary Mads Jabobsen. The couple has been working in the Rukwa Province of the Moravian Church in Tanzania for almost seven years, sent by the Brødremenighedens Danske Mission. Read the article [here](#) (page 79).
6. Several organizations in the Netherlands (Stichting Nederland Wordt Beter; GroenLinks-PvdA; radio station FunX; The Black Archives) are campaigning to make the Surinamese slave liberation day Ketikoti (July 1, 1863) an official holiday in the Netherlands every year. They believe that this does not necessarily have to be a day off work. See [here](#).
7. Under the theme I am the vine, you are the branches (John 15:15), this year's Bible Youth Camp of the Moravian Church in Albania will take place from July 17 to 20, 2025, at the Moravian Church campground in Pogradec-Buçimas. See [here](#).
8. On July 19, 2025, starting at 7 p.m., the Moravian Church Youth Center in Paramaribo, Suriname, is hosting another Power Hour, a so-called praise party. See [here](#). The trio Raff Chanco, Kennia Domini & Eugene Main will be performing. Admission is free.

9. On Facebook, the Moravian Church Mission Society in the Netherlands is once again focusing on an important social institution in Suriname, the so-called Transitional Home in Paramaribo, which it has been supporting for a long time. The transitional home provides shelter for pregnant women from the structurally weak interior of the country when their pregnancy or impending birth is at risk. In 2024, 15 healthy children were born in this way. Four pictures can be found [here](#). A video can be found [here](#). Women from the interior who needed chemotherapy also stayed at the transitional home for several weeks for treatment.
10. A student, whose name has unfortunately not been released, from the Moravian High School in Bluefields in the far southeast of Nicaragua won the city championships in tournament chess in her age group on July 5, 2025. A photo of the winner can be found [here](#).
11. The Bethlehem Moravian College in Malvern/St. Elizabeth, Jamaica, is specifically targeting foreign students on Facebook: "Your global journey starts here! We look forward to welcoming international students from all over the world to our vibrant and inclusive campus! Come join us and find a supportive community, a first-class academic education, and a home away from home. From comfortable student residences to high-speed internet and a culturally diverse environment, everything is designed to help you succeed. Learn, discover, connect: grow with us, because education knows no boundaries." See [here](#).
12. On the evening of July 11, 2025, a group of energetic men were invited to help with work on the extensive grounds of the wooden prayer hall of the Moravian Church in Riņģi near Blome, Latvia. Eighteen men accepted the invitation and accomplished a great deal. Some photos of the work and the spiritual and social gathering can be found [here](#).
13. The Moravian Church in Suriname invites you to a General National Youth Conference on July 19, 2025, at the Youth Center in Paramaribo. In the invitation, they ask: "Are you already active and want to make a difference in children's and youth work? Then come join us!" The theme is "Leadership Begins with Testimony." Register [here](#). A poster is available [here](#).
14. The Annual Pastors' Conference took place on July 7, 2025, at the Mount Tabor Moravian Church in Barbados. Pictures from the festive service with Holy Communion can be found [here](#), [here](#), [here](#) and [here](#).
15. Under the title Meine Berufsreise (My Calling Journey), the Moravian Church's missionary organization in Denmark presents the Albanian pastor of the Moravian Church, Dena Fortuzi, in a 20-minute podcast. Listen [here](#).
16. The Unity Women's Desk, based in Winston-Salem, North Carolina, has once again given one of its scholarship recipients a voice on its Facebook page: psychology student Shereke Quest from Jamaica. She emphasizes that she

owes her entire career to the pastor of her home church, Bethabara Moravian Church, Joan Smith (who passed away in 2023), who believed in her potential and encouraged her to pursue her studies. See [here](#).

17. A two-hour video of the opening of the 34th Provincial Synod of the Unity Province of West Indies East on July 13, 2025, on the island of Trinidad & Tobago is available [here](#). The synod is taking place at the *Regent Star Hotel*, not far from the airport on the main island of Trinidad.

Impressum

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