

Faith Prints

CASTLETON HILL MORAVIAN CHURCH

18th June, 2026



We have a New Pastor! Welcome to Father Omar Reyes!

Dear Castleton Hill Moravian Church Family,

I want to begin by saying how deeply thankful I am that you have called me to serve as your pastor. It is a true honor to walk with you in worship, prayer, service, and mission. This call is also a historic one. As the first Episcopal priest to serve in a Moravian church, I see this as a beautiful sign of the unity between our two churches — a relationship that began more than twenty years ago and continues to grow. As Psalm 133:1 reminds us, "How very good and pleasant it is when kindred live together in unity!"

For those still getting to know me, I was born in Brooklyn, the son of Dominican immigrants. I served in the United States Army and am a proud graduate of Brooklyn Technical High School.

New York is in my bones. I love this city, I love Staten Island, and I am excited for what God will do among us.

My family is also grateful to be part of this church family. Jennifer, my beautiful wife, and I will celebrate 29 years of marriage this July.

Our sons — Azriel, our oldest; Tennyson, our middle child; and Vadim, our youngest — are glad to share in this new chapter with us.

I look forward to working with our Elders, Trustees, staff, preschool, and every member of Castleton Hill as we strengthen our church and serve our neighbors with the love of Christ.

With gratitude and hope,

Father Omar Reyes
Pastor, Castleton Hill Moravian Church

In this newsletter you can expect:

Our New Pastor !

Community News

Volunteer Opportunities

Event News

Staff Profile Highlights

Why we celebrate pride month



Community News

On Sunday, May 31, 2026, Castleton Hill Moravian Church was blessed to celebrate the holy baptisms of Riley, Richard, and Maxwell. It was a beautiful and joyful day in the life of our church as we witnessed these beloved children of God being welcomed into the household of faith.

Baptism is one of the Church's most sacred gifts. In the waters of baptism, we are reminded that God's grace comes before us, surrounds us, and sends us forward in love. As Scripture says, "As many of you as were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ" — Galatians 3:27.

What a blessing it is to see new members join the Church and begin this journey of faith. Though Riley, Richard, and Maxwell live in Upstate New York, they are very much part of our extended church family. Distance does not weaken the bonds of Christian love. We will continue to pray for them, encourage them, and do everything we can to support them as they grow in faith, hope, and love.

After the service, we also enjoyed a wonderful time of fellowship in the parlor, where members, family, and friends gathered to celebrate, share conversation, and give thanks for the joy of the day. These moments of fellowship remind us that the Church is not only a place of worship, but a family gathered by Christ's love.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to their family and loved ones for allowing us to share in this sacred moment. We also give thanks to God for the joy of seeing the Church grow, not simply in numbers, but in grace, commitment, and love.

As Jesus commanded his disciples, "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit" — Matthew 28:19. On this baptism Sunday, we were reminded that the mission of the Church is alive, beautiful, and still unfolding.

Please keep Riley, Richard, Maxwell, and their family in your prayers. May the Lord bless them, guide them, protect them, and help them grow daily in the love of Christ.

COMMUNITY Dinner

♥ FOOD. FELLOWSHIP. FAMILY. ♥

SATURDAY JUNE 20TH

5:00 PM

CASTLETON HILL MORAVIAN CHURCH
Main Hall

DINNER IS Free!

We just want you and your family to enjoy an evening of fellowship and food.

We need YOU! We also have volunteer opportunities to help **set up** and also **cook**.

If you have any questions, please get in contact with **Patricia King**
office@castletonhill.org

"They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer."
— Acts 2:42

➤ Hope to see you there! <

Leadership and Staff Profile Highlights



Nichole Frustaci Elder

Nichole Frustaci, one of our church Elders, shares beautifully about how this church has always felt like home. For Nichole, the church is not just a building; it is a place woven into her life and family history. She speaks warmly about knowing the rooms, the hallways, and even the small details that carry memories of her parents, her grandfather, and generations of love. Her story reminds us that a church becomes holy not only through worship, but through the people, prayers, service, and memories that fill it over time. Nichole also reflects on how the church has changed through the years. While our traditions and Moravian heritage remain deeply important, she recognizes that change is part of keeping the church alive and meaningful for today. Her words remind us that we honor the past best when we carry its love forward — by remaining welcoming, faithful, and open to the work God is still doing among us.

As Scripture reminds us, "One generation shall commend your works to another, and shall declare your mighty acts." — Psalm 145:4 Nichole's story is a beautiful reminder that faith is passed from generation to generation, and that each of us has a part in carrying that blessing forward.



James O'Donnell Custodian

It is a joy and a blessing to have James as part of our church and preschool staff. James serves as our custodian, helping to care for both the church building and the preschool spaces with dedication, kindness, and a joyful spirit. His work helps make our church a clean, welcoming, and safe place for worship, learning, fellowship, and ministry.

James is a born-and-raised Staten Island native and attended Susan Wagner High School. When asked what he enjoys most about his job, James said, "It's an absolute joy working here, especially being around the kids!" That joy shows in the way he serves each day, and we are grateful for the important role he plays in the life of our church and preschool community.

As Scripture reminds us, "Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord." — Colossians 3:23 We give thanks for James and the faithful care he brings to our church family.



A Few Notes To Remember

- New member classes are starting in September ! If you are interested, Contact Rev, Omar at pastor @castletonhill.org
 - We will Start having a time of prayer Once a week Starting July First At 7pm Via zoom. we ill spend time in Sceipture and praying for the needs of each other and the Church.Stay tuned for more info!
 - Remember to be kind to our staff. They are mostly Volunteers, so a little kindness goes an long way!
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Why We Celebrate Pride Month as Moravians By Father Reyes

As Moravians, we believe that faith is not only something we confess with our lips, but something we live through love, grace, humility, and community. Pride Month gives us an opportunity to remember that every person is made in the image of God and deserves to be treated with dignity, kindness, and respect. Jesus said, “I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another.” — John 13:34 That commandment is at the heart of who we are as Christians and as Moravians. Our calling is not to decide who is worthy of God’s love, but to reflect the love of Christ to all people.

We know that throughout history, Scripture has sometimes been used in harmful ways. People of color were once enslaved and oppressed by those who claimed the Bible supported it. Today, we clearly see that such beliefs were wrong, painful, and contrary to the love and justice of God.

That history reminds us to approach one another with humility. It teaches us to be careful when faith is used to exclude, wound, or silence people. The Gospel should never be used as a weapon; it should be shared as good news.

For Moravians, love of neighbor is not a slogan. It is part of our spiritual DNA. We seek to be a church where people can find welcome, fellowship, prayer, and the gentle presence of Christ.

So we celebrate Pride Month not because we are trying to make a political statement, but because we believe Christ’s love is wide, deep, and strong enough to hold us all. In a divided world, we choose love. In a hurting world, we choose grace. And in the name of Jesus, we seek to welcome one another as beloved children of God.

<p>CASTLETON HILL MORAVIAN CHURCH</p>	<p>+1 (718) 442-5215</p>
<p>www.castletonhill.org</p>	<p>1657 Victory Blvd, Staten Island, NY 10314</p>

Thank you for reading!