


LOVING HEARTS UNITED


*A Moravian
Guide for
Family Living*



NEW FAMILY RESOURCE!

From the Interprovincial Board of Communication
Moravian Church in North America

Loving Hearts United – A Moravian Guide for Family Living

Each book includes 52 weeks of activities as well as a CD of music containing 29 tracks designed to work together with the activities in the book, for the family to enjoy in the car, during the day, or before bedtime.

EXPECTED ARRIVAL: End of November, Early December 2009

Price per book & CD Combo: \$19.95

**Price per book, CD, and a paperback *Moravian Daily Texts*
Combo: \$24.95**

Pre-Orders can be placed by calling 800.732.0591 or online at www.moravian.org/publications/catalog
Shipping and handling rates apply.

**PRE-ORDER today and start a family tradition of bringing
spirituality into your home in 2010**

“As parents, remembering that our children are the property of the Lord Jesus Christ (Acts 20:28; 1 Peter 1:19), we will bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord (Ephesians 6:4) and take all possible care to preserve them from every evil influence. For this reason we will seek to approve ourselves as followers of the Lord Jesus Christ, setting an example for our children. We will give faithful attention to the spiritual development of our children, both in the home and in the church. We will endeavor to conduct regular family devotions.” – Moravian Covenant for Christian Living, Section III. B., paragraph 24

OVERVIEW - The 2006 Synods of the Northern and Southern Provinces of the Moravian Church in North America passed a resolution calling for the creation of a family devotional. Loving Hearts United is the result of that mandate and is a collaborative work between the two Provinces. This Moravian Guide is designed to assist families in the spiritual development of children, to encourage ritual, and to enable each family member to be more aware of God’s presence in all aspects of daily life. Interspersed throughout the book are “sidebars” that provide more information about Moravian history, customs, and practices. The Appendices contain additional information to help your family carry out the weekly options. The activities designed for each week further reflect the heart of Moravian theology.

NEEDS - To use Loving Hearts United, your family will need a Bible and a Moravian Daily Texts. Each day calls for reading the Watchword for the Week from the Daily Texts. Although not required for use with this Guide, a Moravian Book of Worship is recommended strongly and will greatly enhance your family’s use of this guide.

At various weeks in this Guide, you will be invited to create three resources to use throughout the year — a worship center, a family journal, and a special “formation container.”

DAILY USE - This Guide is created around six formational elements of a family's day: Greeting the Day, Mealtime, Gathering, Serving, On the Road, and Closing the Day. Each week will include these elements and will be found on two facing pages throughout the book. The 52-week section of the book contains activities that can be used any time during a year. A special section with Liturgical and Seasonal weeks is included.

It is suggested that the book stay open throughout the week and, as your family views the six options, select one for each day of the week that best suits your family and the time available. Choose a simple one for busy days and use one that is more involved during the weekend. Select a different option for your family's use each day from the six listed or repeat the same one for more than one day or for the entire week.

The material is not dated, so your family may begin using this book at any time during the year. With the variety of options available, Loving Hearts United should serve your family well for many years to come. Your family may want to write comments on the weekly pages or note the date when a particular option was used, to allow you to track your use of the various weekly elements.

Loving Hearts United is centered on the use of six elements of a family's day for intentional spiritual formation. These elements are:

Greeting the Day – Begin the day with God and each other. These sessions focus on the scriptures of the Moravian Daily Texts, the Watchword of the Week, prayers to lead your family into the day, and activities to provide connection with each other before beginning work, school, other activities, or simply going about your day.

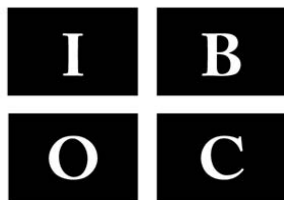
Mealtime – Share gratitude, fellowship, and enjoy God's good gifts in a meal together. These sessions provide time together to share table blessings, stories, everyday meals, special meals, and hospitality with each other.

Gathering – Connect with one another as a family community of faith. Gathering time sessions include activities to help facilitate family community, faith discussions, worship, devotions, and the simple enjoyment of time spent together.

Serving - Use your family's gifts to put Christ's call into action. Service activities provide a family the opportunity to develop the family's gifts in doing mission, giving to others in and outside the family, and serving Christ as a family.

On the Road – Capture moments together as a family while traveling or in motion. As your family moves through the week, use "travel time" as a time to learn, listen, care for each other, and think about and celebrate God's creation.

Closing the Day – Take time for benediction and resting in God. Family members preparing for the night can reflect on the day and their life together through praying, giving thanks, listening to each other's stories or concerns, and acknowledging God's constant kindness and care.



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For more information on the book or how to pre-order,
please contact the Interprovincial Board of Communication
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