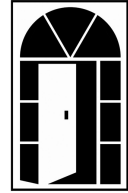


Planning your trip to Moravian Open Door
347 E. 18th St., New York, NY 10003
212-995-5810



This planner provides information for your trip to Moravian Open Door. We encourage you to bring any group, but recognize that this trip may appeal especially to a Youth Group, Confirmation Class, or other group from your church.

Please contact MOD's director well in advance (2-3 months) for planning purposes.

Transportation to New York City:

Bus from Pennsylvania: The Bieber bus (www.biebertourways.com) for travel from Reading, Kutztown, Wescosville, Hellertown or Transbridge bus (www.transbridge.com) for travel from Allentown, Bethlehem, Easton, Phillipsburg, provide convenient alternatives to driving to New York. Both take you to the Port Authority Bus Terminal at 42nd St. and 8th Ave. that connects to a subway station. The A, C, E as well as Q, N, R trains are available there—see more details on MOD's web page about directions if you are taking a subway train.

Renting a van or driving yourself: If you are bringing a meal or other donations to MOD, it will be difficult to bring this on the bus and subway. Or if you are unfamiliar with the subways and have a limited amount of time, it may be better to drive right to MOD and park in a garage for the day, using public transportation once you get there. Parking fees are steep in NYC, so it is best to alert MOD staff of your estimated time of arrival so that they can help you find on-street parking near MOD or a nearby garage that is not too expensive. Coming from New Jersey, there is a choice of using the Lincoln or Holland tunnels into Manhattan. The Holland tunnel is closer to MOD, but lets out into a crowded and busy area of lower Manhattan. The Lincoln tunnel lets out into midtown Manhattan. Best to check with mapquest or another directions app for directions and updates on traffic. MOD is located on 18th St., which is one-way travel east; MOD is near the corner of 1st Ave., which is one-way travel north.

What to do when you're at MOD!

As you plan your trip, here are several options for things to do at MOD.

1) ***Get a tour!***

A member of the MOD staff might be available to give you a tour of the facility. It is wonderful to get a sense of what MOD does, and it will help your friends and church members appreciate how their donations really help others! Please contact MOD first to schedule a tour— they will not be prepared for you if you just drop in!

2) ***Bring Donations!***

There are always items that MOD needs and perhaps your group could bring some of those with you. Contact the Director to get an accurate idea of what items they may need at this time.

3) ***Provide a service!***

Perhaps there are special skills in your congregation (painting, helping with technology, making minor repairs, etc.) and MOD may be able to use these skills to help their facility. Contact the Director to see if a project can be designed for your group to carry out.

4) *Provide a Meal!*

Groups have provided great meals— sandwiches, salads, lasagna, pizza are a few of the favorites, plus dessert and beverages. It definitely takes planning to get food for a large group into NYC, but is fun for everyone! You can prepare some things in advance, and MOD has a good, but small, commercial kitchen with an oven where items can be heated up.

If you do chose to provide a meal, contact the Executive director first to schedule a date and clear the meal options. Residents will be asked to sign up, and near to your arrival date you will get a general idea of how many people you will be providing for (usually around 30 plus your group). Some residents are diabetic; there might be other considerations as well. You do not need to bring silverware, cups or plates!

5) *Provide entertainment!*

Plan to enjoy playing games such as bingo, board games, or games you bring. Get to know some of the residents as you play—hear their stories, and tell them your stories.

Things to do on the New York City visit

There are lots of great places to visit in New York City, which is a walking city, so wear very comfortable shoes. You can begin your day at Moravian Open Door with a visit or end it with a visit and a meal. In between, consider visiting: the Statue of Liberty and Ellis Island, South Street Seaport, Stock Market on Wall St., a ride on the Staten Island ferry (free!), a museum (there are lots of these!). A new museum is MoMath, a hands-on fun museum of mathematics, at 26th St. and Madison Park, within walking distance from MOD. Further downtown is the new World Trade Center and Memorial Museum.

Also, in the immediate area of MOD are 2 fun places:

Veniero's Pastry Shop at 1st Avenue and 11th St. (7 blocks south of MOD). This place is both take out and a sit down Italian pastry/dessert shop that has everything from cookies, cakes and gelato to flavored coffee and cappuccino. They make the best cheesecake in NYC, and have a cooler full to take home as well.

Union Square has its northern edge at 17th St. and Park Ave. With a large park to stroll in and many shops that ring the park, it is an area frequented by NYU students.

If your group would like to consider an overnight trip, consider contacting First Moravian Church, 154 Lexington Ave., or connect with one of the Staten Island Moravian Churches. Some groups have brought sleeping bags and “camped out” on the floor of one of these churches. For a small group, Menno House, located on 19th St. behind MOD, has inexpensive hostel-like accommodations (www.mennohouse.org).