



Central Moravian Church

2024 Annual Reports

2025 Annual Church Council

Sunday, January 26, 2025, at 12:30 p.m.

Church Sanctuary

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Central Moravian Church

Annual Church Council

January 26, 2025

AGENDA

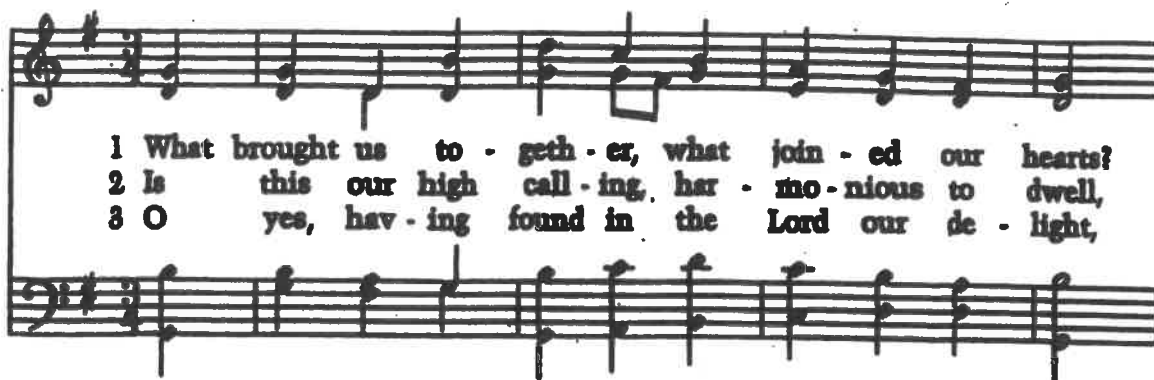
- a. Call to order – Janel Rice
- b. Prayer and Hymn # 675: *“What Brought Us Together”*
- c. Election of President and Secretary of Church Council
- d. Minutes of the last Annual Church Council
- e. Report of the Board of Elders – Janel Rice
- f. Report of the Board of Trustees – Mary Catherine Tachovsky
- g. Financial reports of the Board of Trustees for 2024 – Kris Wruble
- h. Presentation of the budget for 2025 – Jeff Mosebach
- i. Reports from other organizations, agencies, and societies of the congregation
- j. General business – Consider the Statement “Wherever you are in your faith journey and whatever your identity is, you are welcome at Central”. Ask yourself - as you have read the Annual Report and consider the ministries of Central, what are the top 1 or 2 challenges that Central is facing and what are the 1 or 2 best parts of our ministries or joys that you see? Take a few minutes to write these down on the paper provided to you or email these reflections back to Pastor Janel.
- k. Report of the Nominating Committee and Elections – Ann Raines
- l. Pastoral comments
- m. Adjournment

Congregational Watchword for 2025

Our hope for you is unshaken, for we know that as you share in our sufferings, so also you share in our consolation.

2 Corinthians 1:7

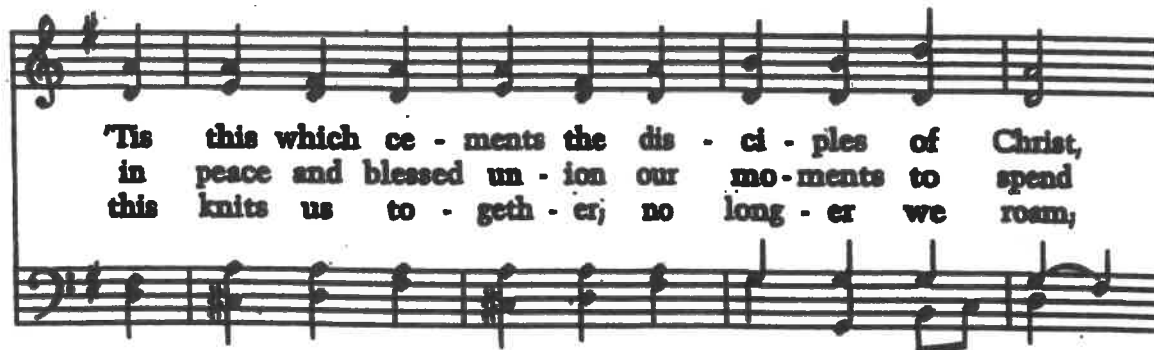
What Brought Us Together



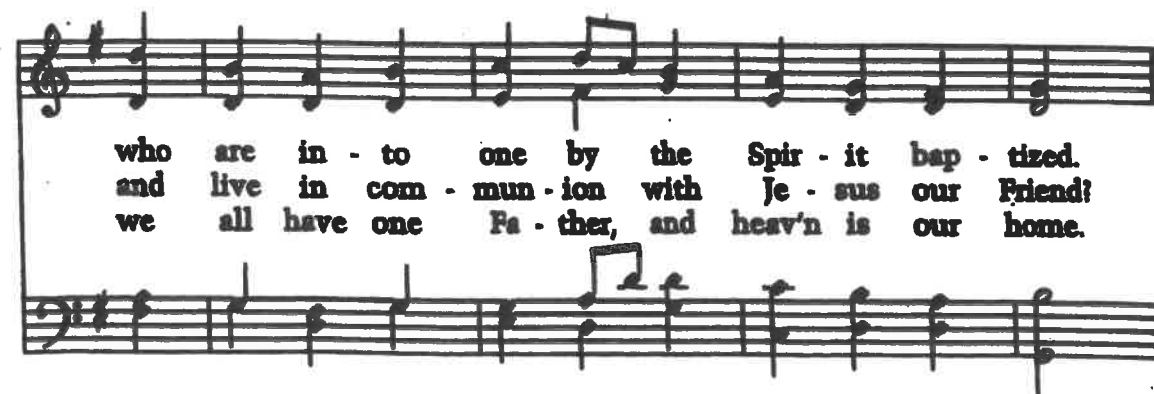
1 What brought us to - geth - er, what join - ed our hearts?
 2 Is this our high call - ing, har - mo - nious to dwell,
 3 O yes, hav - ing found in the Lord our de - light,



The par - don which Je - sus, our High Priest, im - parts,
 and thus in sweet con - cert Christ's prais - es to tell,
 he is our chief ob - ject by day and by night,



'Tis this which ce - ments the dis - ci - ples of Christ,
 in peace and blessed un - ion our mo - ments to spend
 this knits us to - geth - er, no long - er we roam,



who are in - to one by the Spir - it bap - tized.
 and live in com - mun - ion with Je - sus our Friend!
 we all have one Fa - ther, and heav'n is our home.

Nominating Committee

Church Council Officers

President: Barry Pell

Secretary: Martha Jones

Board of Elders

Nominee for 1st term: Michael Kane, Pat Herman,
Janice Ostock

Returning for 2nd term: Susan Noack, Bob Wascura

Continuing Elders:

Kelly Ahn, Karen Brady, Jane Leposa, Jane Persa,
Linda Wickmann, Kathy Williams, Anne Zug

Board of Trustees

Nominee for 1st term: Llyena Boylan, Susan Drabic,
Camie Modjadidi

Returning for 2nd term: Jennifer Ceneviva, Brenda
Hoelman

Continuing Trustees:

Jeff Biro, Beth Boyer, Pam Larimer, Jeffrey Long,
Hank Naisby, Barry Pell, Ann Raines, Beth Schlener,
Tom Tenges

Respectfully Submitted,
Ann Raines, Secretary

Minutes of the Annual Church Council January 28, 2024

The annual meeting of the Central Moravian Church Council was called to order at 12:35 p.m. on January 28, 2024. Pastor Janel Rice offered a prayer calling us to remember the joy of God's doing and for the building up of each other in the foundation of God's love. She reminded us of a new journey we are on, and paused with thanks for Hopeton Clennon – his joy, ministry, and connections. After a moment of silence, Janel blessed the leadership of Central and the loving acts of service we do. The congregation stood and sang Hymn 675 - What Brought Us Together. Ann Raines entered the names of Barry Pell and Martha Jones for the offices of Council President and Secretary, respectively. The election was unanimous and without opposition. Ann urged the congregation to take time to grieve the loss of Hopeton, to rely on the Lord and Janel to lead us through this time. As Hopeton would want, we need to continue to be the best versions of

ourselves. Reviewers of these minutes will be Kim Shively, Beth Boyer, and Richard Miller.

The minutes of the 2022 Church Council in January 2023 were approved without any change. The motion was made by Camie Modjadidi and the vote was unanimous.

Pam Larimer offered the report of the Board of Elders. Pages 5 through 8 of the Annual Report gives much detail for the work of the Board of Elders during 2023. Pam announced that as of the date of Church Council, there have been 8,973 views of the Memorial Service for Hopeton. Live Stream Worship in the Sanctuary remains an important and worldwide outreach to others. Pam drew our attention to the Mission work in Korea. The Board of Elders affirmed and approved Hyerin Kim as the leader of Central Moravian Church's Korean Ministry.

Mary Catherine Tachovsky gave the report of the Board of Trustees. Pages 24 through 26 of the Annual Report gives more detail on the work of the Board of Trustees for the year 2023. She reminded us that when the announcement was made of Janel's acceptance of the call issued to her, there was great applause in the sanctuary. Janel is a rock bringing us through challenging times such as these. Mary Catherine felt that the Communion service on January 7 was especially meaningful since we had just learned of Hopeton's illness. Soon after, Hopeton was in the nearer presence of the Lord. The story in Luke 10, of Mary and Martha reminds us to have no distraction in our tasks but to just be with Jesus. Mary Catherine gives thanks for the support for the Currents campaign. Pledges are just less than \$800,000, and money paid to the fund is near \$470,000. The cost of the ductwork is \$200,00 with installation double that figure. She encouraged groups in the church to offer financial support to this project.

The next part of the council meeting was the Financial Reports of the Board of Trustees for 2023. Kris Wruble reported that we ended the year 2023 with a minimal deficit of \$745 which will be carried over to 2024. Kris spoke about each line of income and expenses. There is more financial detail on pages 34 and 35 of the Annual Report.

Jeff Mosebach brought forward the report for the 2024 Budget. The overview and budget are shown on pages 36 and 37 of the Annual Report. Jeff thanked the

Board of Elders, Trustees, Sacristans, staff, and the congregation for ideas, donations and financial support which helps us all to trust in the future. Letters were sent to committees to see what funds are required for the new year. Jeff mentioned that on page 37, the column reading 2023 Budget should read 2023 Proposed. The total income for 2024 is budgeted at \$1,058,326. Since the budget came from the budget committee, Jeff Mosebach moved to accept the budget for 2024. A voice vote was unanimous in approving the budget.

Barry Pell thanked the many groups in the church – the lifeblood of our church. Other reports from groups in the church elicited no questions or comments.

General Business had no comments.

Ann Raines presented the report of the Nominating Committee. Nominees for a 3-year term to the Board of Elders are Karen Brady, Jane Persa, and Robert Phillips. The Elder returning for a second term is Kelly Ahn. Nominees for a 3-year term to the Board of Trustees are Pam Larimer, Hank Naisby and Tom Tenges. The Trustees returning for a second term are: Beth Boyer and Barry Pell. The Nominee to the Bethlehem Area Moravians Ministry Committee is Elke Rockwell. Nominees for the Eastern District Synod are Karen Brady, Brenda Hoelman, Steve Krawiec, Becky Lepore and Camie Modjadidi. Alternate delegates nominated are Lynne Brolly, Pat Herman, Connie Pierce, and Katie Royer. These nominations are from the nominating committee. This slate of nominations was approved unanimously by voice vote.

A question was raised by Mike Pragheimer as to whether the Lenten programs will be available on Zoom. We are asked to “stay tuned” for more information.

Pastor Janel Rice made some closing pastoral comments to the Council. She extended special thanks to Becky Lepore for all she does for the congregation. Janel offered thanks to the Sacristan Corps especially noting that Tim Brady will need time for healing. Nate Bissey and the others are doing a wonderful job continuing the work of the church. Josh Follweiler is going to return to us as a full-time student pastor at Central. There are many ways of connecting inside and outside the church – through community groups and food gatherings. We should remember that: Love does

build up and All will be Well.

Miriam Devey moved to adjourn the Council, all stood to second the motion and at 1:28 p.m. the Church Council was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,
Martha W. Jones, Church Council Secretary

Board of Elders

2024 started off with devastating news that none of us were expecting. Our beloved Senior Pastor, the Rt. Rev. Hopeton Clennon, was hospitalized suddenly on December 22, 2023, and passed away on January 7, 2024. The Board of Elders, called to care for the spiritual matters of the congregation, joined with the Board of Trustees, to both hold each other in grief, care for our greater congregation and community, and also attend to the practical matters of planning a memorial service and reception with highest attendance in any living memory. At this time, there are over 10,000 YouTube views of the service. The pastor of Congregational Care and Community Outreach, the Rev. Janel Rice, was called upon to take a lead in both the pastoral care of the congregation and also the coordination of the memorial service. There is no way to acknowledge all the leaders and helpers that stepped forward, but we are very grateful for the leadership of Ann Raines, Pam Larimer, Becky Lepore, and Mary Catherine Tachovsky and many more for helping with the Clennon family meals, planning the many parts of the memorial service and reception at ArtsQuest, etc. Hopeton’s final words to us included the familiar phrase “All will be well,” and as we held onto each other through tears and check-ins, this mantra guided us to know that our God was carrying us through.

Elders received attendance data, requests for baptisms, new members and transfer of members. One of the highlights as the chair of Elders this year has been our call to encourage and foster community through intentional gatherings. Often this will take the form of encouraging more people, as they are able, to worship together in-person and provide the parking, transportation, and programming that will bring people out to our gatherings. However, this can also take the form of encouraging and planning more virtual gatherings as has been done for inquirers’ classes, a

new Moravian Women's group, and other programs that are offered hybrid. There is no Christianity without community, and it is the church's - and often Elders' - role to maintain, foster and create opportunities for community.

Elders Highlights for 2024:

1) Pastoral Changes: Josh Follweiler joined the Elders as a student pastor, coming to finish his student ministry at Central, January - May 2024. With the call of the Joint Board, and permission of the Southern Province where Josh is under call, a call to serve as associate pastor for a one-year appointment was extended and accepted by Josh in May. He started May 28, 2024. Josh moved into the first floor office and helped extensively to prepare this space for this transition. Pastor Janel Rice was called in April as Senior Pastor of Central. A joint installation service was held for both Janel and Josh on June 23 as a way to celebrate new leadership. Much time was spent understanding their two distinct job descriptions as both Janel and Josh transitioned to new positions and roles.

2) World Heritage Designation and Extended Work with HBMS. This summer, after over 22 years of work by Charlene Donchez Mowers and other leaders in the city of Bethlehem, Bethlehem was one of four sites recognized as a World Heritage Moravian Church Settlements site. Central's two places of worship, the Sanctuary and Old Chapel, are two of the nine sites within this designation (along with God's Acre, and four ruins). This transnational recognition, shared with Christiansfeld, Denmark, Herrnhut, Germany, and Gracehill, Northern Ireland/UK was named at the UNESCO Meeting in India on July 26, 2024. A transnational worship service was held at Central (with our partners live-streamed) on August 4th as a celebration. Pastor Janel Rice has been appointed to serve on the World Heritage Council of Bethlehem, and represents Bethlehem at the Transnational Coordinating Group as well as the Moravian Church Transnational Advisory Group. Central welcomed hundreds of international and United States government dignitaries, church officials and guests over October 16 and 17 with tours, a worship service and other events to celebrate this designation. On behalf of Pastor Janel, a local management plan was signed as part of our agreement for governance.

2025 will serve as an organizational year for the

Bethlehem Council to determine the organization as we live into this new honor and distinction. Within Central, following the Strategic Plan recommendation, a World Heritage Readiness Task Force was set up this spring. Quickly we realized that this task force needed to be a standing committee, and the Rev. Dr. Betsy Miller was appointed as the chair. The Elders and our newly created World Heritage Committee will guide our church's role in interpreting both our history and living heritage as an active church community to visitors.

Already this committee designed tours and open houses, provided signage and approved safety protocols for the Old Chapel and Sanctuary; first as a pilot over the summer and then on a regular Friday and Saturday (2-4 p.m.) basis from September - December. These tours are hosted by a corps of dedicated and talented volunteers who share the history and architecture of our worship spaces. More importantly, they share the story of the active faith of living Moravians within an active congregation. We are also most grateful to the Rev. Carol Reifinger for her consistent presence and small gift store at the NE door. We hired an on-site tour coordinator, Greta Reifinger, as the one staff responsible for opening, closing and ensuring all signage, etc. was there for each time we are open. Donations covered the cost of this position. The intention is to restart these tours in mid-March 2025. Tour attendance (May - December): 1606 Sanctuary and 667 Old Chapel

With the approval of the board of Elders this November, and the appropriate contract and insurance, Historic Bethlehem Museum & Sites started World Heritage Saturday tours which include a brief visit to the Sanctuary and Old Chapel. Memorial services, Weddings or other special events of Central all will take precedence over the tours.

3) Worship and Mid-Week Lenten programs. A new communion service was introduced for Advent. Elders also reviewed and shared insights on Sunday Worship, and helped to plan and coordinate our Mid-Week Lenten programs, with the help of many of Central's groups for delicious dinners. Lenten programs focused on a spiritual aspect of following the apostle Peter's faith journey while also engaging in different forms of education such as learning through art, music, poetry and biblical scholarship.

4) Photography: The Elders discussed two different

types of photography policies; one for inside worship services where photographers are asked to either remain seated or in the balcony during the worship service, with no flash. The request to photograph on the church green was brought forward and will be discussed in further detail this year, but we agree that it is hard to enforce any policy outside.

5) Special Dedications on Church Green: With gratitude to Butch and Donna Coleman, a bluestone bench was donated and dedicated this fall just outside the Old Chapel in the Rt. Rev. Hopeton Clennon's memory. A tree was approved and dedicated on the north side of the lower Green to recognize Central and the Bach Choir's contributions to arts and music in the city of Bethlehem. This was part of a several tree planting and documentary program by Touchstone Theatre throughout the city.

6) New twist to Inquirers' Classes: With the request of several interested inquirers who lived out of state or were not physically able to come to inquirers' class in person, Pastor Janel led both a virtual inquirers' class and in-person class this spring. A regular in-person class was also led in the fall. The Elders discussed the ways that a member who isn't able to physically be in worship is still able to participate and contribute to the expectations of membership and our goal of enhancing virtual opportunities for ministries. We also recommended that all new members are considered full members of Central; regardless if they joined virtually or in-person.

7) Bethlehem Running Festival (October 20 weekend). The Board of Elders approved, after discussions with the Running Festival's organizers, having only one service at 11 a.m. on Sunday, October 20th. The planning with the race organizers was to inform the police department to allow worshippers to go through barricades at the race "breaks" in order to get to worship by 11 a.m. This communication did not get passed to all officers and thus many were not permitted to get to the 11 a.m. worship service. Despite our efforts at planning and assurances that the roads would be passable by 10:30 or 10:45 a.m. it proved difficult to get to worship that day. There was a follow-up meeting, but no plans made yet for moving or cancelling worship for this event in fall 2025. Pastor Janel led the conversation and sent a letter expressing our concerns to the city, race organizers and planning team.

8) Membership Review. Pastor Janel led an effort, with the Membership Committee, to review our members and reach out to inactive members with a phone call. Many phone numbers are no longer in service. A follow-up phone call was made by members of the Membership Committee. A decision was made by the Elders and Membership Committee to send a letter to all the people we were not able to reach by phone to invite them to upcoming worship events and encourage them to update their information for our church directory. The Board of Elders also decided not to remove anyone from membership unless it came per their request. We hope to continue this outreach in the new year and encourage all our members to reach out to anyone they haven't seen lately in worship.

9) Parking: Pastor Janel has been in touch with the city officials to encourage the regular parking enforcements of handicapped parking only on Heckewelder Alley on Sundays. We continue to try and provide the best opportunities for parking for our worship attendees and encourage visitors to learn about our two parking lots available for usage.

10) Transportation: In another effort to encourage more opportunities to worship in-person, and with the generous donation of the Hotel Bethlehem van, we approved and piloted a van service from Moravian Village to Central's 11 a.m. worship service throughout December, asking for sign-ups at the Moravian Village activity center. There was little interest among our members who live at the Village; and we will think about other ways to help identify and address transportation needs.

It has been an honor and privilege to serve as chair of the Board of Elders and minister with this wonderful group of individuals for the greater good of this congregation and larger community around us.

Respectfully Submitted,
Janel Rice

Strategic Plan Summary: 2022-2025

Below is listed the Strategic Priorities / Focus as developed by our Strategic Plan 2022-2025.
Italics is our updates per January 2025.

Develop relationships with individuals and

organizations in the community to communicate who we are and what we do

- Essentially a marketing / messaging focus to let the community (tourists, other Moravians, newcomers to the Valley, people who have been in the Valley forever) an understanding of who we are and what we do
- One intended goal is to attract new members into the congregation (suggested metrics in the detailed document)

- 1) Created a World Heritage Readiness task force, now a standing Committee, to provide tours and address additional ways to welcome guests and relate to the larger World Heritage Council of Bethlehem.*
- 2) Steady classes of between 10-20 people each year have joined Central.*
- 3) Brochures for the Sanctuary and General Brochure were created*
- 4) More marketing can be done to enhance telling our story.*
- 5) Social Media presence enhanced through Facebook and Instagram, revised existing website*
- 6) Outreach to inactive members done by Pastor Janel and Membership Committee, further follow-up can be done.*

Engage the congregation in service, fellowship, worship and education

- Attract more of the congregation into participatory roles (suggested metrics in the detailed document)

- 1) Governance Committee established to identify leaders and areas of need.*
- 2) More can be done to activate new/younger people into committees, short-term ministries/service work, and other volunteer roles.*
- 3) Restarted Church Family Life Committee with more opportunities for gatherings - 2024.*

Prepare for the requirements and responsibilities of participation in the (potential) World Heritage designation

- This may include facilities upgrades, opening our doors to tourism more frequently, more effective use of technology, etc.

- 1) Pastor Janel is a member of the World Heritage Council of Bethlehem, Transnational Coordination*

Group for World Heritage Sites, and continues to work as our liaison between the church and World Heritage development.

- 2) Pastor Janel has continued to connect with local Chamber of Commerce, Historic Bethlehem Museums & Sites and other local partners in the community.*
- 3) Buildings and Grounds continues to identify major building projects that might be a part of an overall World Heritage site improvement plan for potential grants and outside funding.*
- 4) History Committee developed the Pat Smith room and will continue to talk about preserving artifacts.*

Prepare for the design, installation and maintenance of a new heating and cooling system in the sanctuary

- This will require a capital campaign.

- 1) Currents Campaign started and raised over 1.2 of 1.6 million. HVAC system installed and being fine-tuned.*

Develop a strategy and the technology necessary for digital ministry and communications focused on outreach and feedback mechanisms

- Get the message out to a broad audience, whether it be use of the web, YouTube, Zoom, social media, etc.
- • Provide means for feedback from the audiences we serve and provide mechanisms for data mining (analytics)

- 1) Digital Ministry Committee formed 2022*
- 2) Smart Board purchased and more live-stream or Zoom opportunities added.*

Other parts of the strategic plan accomplished:

-Music Committee focused on *Grace Notes* and other ways of incorporating music into Lenten programs, etc.

-Christian Education: A pastor for congregational care and community outreach was hired with a focus on CE, now our associate pastor focuses on CE. We will need to continue a staff focus in this area in the future.

-Committees working together: Mental Health, Racial Justice, Care for Creation, CE and Congregational Care have been designing more programs to work collaboratively. With the pastoral presence, there

has been a guide to running programs from these committees, between 10-12 each year.

- Interfaith and Ecumenical (and BAM) cooperation. A pastor attends the Bethlehem Interfaith and BAM ministries meetings, and plans cooperative events. More can be done with BAM ministries as we look to expand both committee and ministries to the BAM churches.

Continue the outreach ministries: Food Pantry, service at shelters, etc. has all continued and expanded.

Respectfully Submitted,
Janel Rice

2024 Statistics

Births: 5

Zachary David Bechtold
Calvin Alexander Dean
Ada Sophia Heckman
More Okonkwo
Scottie Jo Pypiuk

Baptisms: 6

Zachary David Bechtold
Nathaniel James DePalma
Ada Sophia Heckman
Scottie Jo Mosebach Pypiuk
Sam Kenneth Rampolla
Gabriella Dahlia Schippang

Deaths: 13

Hopeton Clennon
Judith Dexter
Esther Evans
Gary Fiegel
Nancy Foster
Jane Frank
Margaret Gigon
Clark Hamman
David Henkelmann
Catherine Meckstroth
Arthur Roth
Althea Sell
Chuck Welty

Readmission: 1

Bill Eberman

Receptions: 22

Kevin Arnold Jr.
Patti Arnold
Linda and Paul de Vries
Charlene Donchez Mowers and George Mowers
Beth Ellis
Robert Homyak
Sara Hummel
Alex McCay
Betsy Miller
Larry Olejar
Tina Ormiston
Tammy and Chuck Post
Mollie and Rick Santee Jr.
Dolores Snyder
Barbara Vernoooy
Kristin Volchansky and Jeff Faubert
John Woltjen

Removals by Request: 8

Christine and Gary Davies
Justine and Steve Jamison
Tricia and Daniel Salabsky
Dawn and Ben White

Transfers: 5

Jeanne and Joe Bednarik Jr.
Jordan Naisby
Shristi Naisby
Timothy Naisby

Young Children of New Members: 1

Beau McCay

Average Weekly Attendance in 2024:

In-person Services: 257

Livestream Services: 191*

Combined In-person and Livestream Services: 448

* Livestream attendance is based on the accumulated number of views on the 6th sixth day after service.

Total Membership on December 31, 2024: 989

Care for Creation

One of the highlights for Care for Creation this year was working with the Sunday School teachers on a joint, intergenerational Earth Day program in April. We had 'experts' (many of them Central members) on birdwatching, beekeeping, pollinator plants, and recycling, lots of crafts for young and old, and healthy refreshments. Attendees left with pinecone bird feeders, T-shirt bags and seeds for plants to attract butterflies and other helpful insects.

TREX, our now 5-year project with the other BAM churches, continues to collect and recycle single-use plastic bags and film. The TREX corporation instituted a few new rules this year. We now photograph the bags we send to TREX via our community partner, Weis Markets on Crawford Drive. There also is a 1000-lb. requirement to earn a TREX bench (it used to be 500 lb.), so each church in the rotation is taking a bit longer to meet its goal. But, after a meeting in March, all 6 BAM churches indicated their interest in continuing with TREX collections. In fact, over these 5 years we have recycled over 13,000 lbs. of plastic! We all think it's important to keep as much plastic as possible out of our landfills. And we also hope people take steps to reduce the amount of plastic they use. Our thanks to Elke Rockwell, for her leadership of this project. And we welcome volunteers to spend an occasional 1st Sunday of the month with us, helping to process plastic for TREX.

We include many ideas about using less plastic and other environmental tips in our annual list of Green Texts. Each month you will find a list of helpful hints in *The Belfry* newsletter. And if you have a suggestion for a Green Text, we are always happy to hear it! Just contact a Care for Creation member with your ideas!

Our committee presented a Mission Moment in April, on reducing the amount of plastic in our lives. We gave lots of helpful suggestions on how to "use this, not that".

Care for Creation helped to organize two programs, open to the public about trees. In May, a Lehigh University senior, Gia Gast, gave a presentation on shade trees and tree equity within communities. We co-sponsored this program with the Citizens' Climate Lobby of the Lehigh Valley. In June, we welcomed Olivia Teel to Nitschmann Hall. She described the

responsibilities of her position as City Forester for Bethlehem.

With the help of a \$500 grant from the Elizabeth Johnston Prime Fund, we reprinted 200 copies of our popular Moravians & Mushrooms book. Books are sold in the Church Office, as well as the Historic Bethlehem Museums and Sites stores, the Moravian Archives and Moravian Historical Society. A portion of the profits goes back to future reprinting costs, and a portion from sales at the church office goes to the HVAC Capital Campaign.

Care for Creation assisted in welcoming John Thomas, tribal Elder from the Lenape Nation in Oklahoma. We began researching the Lenape Nation of PA because of its environmental practices and creation care. More recently, and with the leadership of the Social Action Committee and Racial Justice Team, we have focused more on racial justice issues for the Lenape Nation.

We welcome new members to our committee, as well as any ideas you have for program topics, guest speakers, or other presentations that will help educate our church community on how we can be better stewards of Planet Earth.

Respectfully Submitted
Joan Carson, Chair

Committee Members: Peg Church, Nancy Doyle, Ron Doyle, Josh Follweiler, Louisa Frey, Brenda Hoelman, Carol Holbert, Annie Jones, Margaret Krawiec, Karen Montgomery, Susan Noack, Connie Pierce, Janel Rice, Elke Rockwell, Rose Warner, David Wickmann, Linda Wickmann, Judy Williams

Christian Education Committee

This year we joyfully welcomed Pastor Josh Follweiler. We are blessed to have his spiritual guidance and commitment to Christian Education.

The Christian Education Committee is deeply grateful for our program leaders and Sunday School teachers whose commitment and diligence allowed us to provide meaningful Christian Education programs. We sincerely thank our families and program participants for their consistent support. The committee would also like to thank Cindy Gibson for her invaluable support.

This year has been a year of both sadness and disbelief alongside success and joy. With the sudden and unexpected loss of the Rt. Rev. Hopeton Clennon, at the beginning of the year, the CE Committee felt it was necessary to offer an opportunity for the kids to express their feelings. We hosted an evening with readings, activities, and a meal to allow kids and their families to begin grieving. We are grateful for the leadership of Laura Corcoran, our Sunday School superintendent, and the countless volunteers who play a positive role in the lives of Central's children.

Over the summer, the CE Committee met on the campus of Moravian University for a retreat. This retreat was a chance for us to brainstorm and discuss what was working well, what needed tweaking, and what we didn't offer but felt necessary. Following our lunch, we prayed together and spent the afternoon determining our priorities and finalizing our plan for the year. The CE retreat not only yielded a new vision for CE but also helped to solidify the CE Committee and teachers. The CE retreat will likely be a yearly occurrence. A new format for the 9 a.m. service and children's programming emerged through our conversations. Our 9:00 would "front load" most of the more child-friendly portions. We would have a children's message at 9:30, after which the kids would be dismissed to the children's choir or Pre-K time. Linda de Vries and Becky Lepore facilitated the children's choir, while Robyn Endress, assisted by Ruthie Ferrey, led our Pre-K Sunday School time. The Pre-K kids would have a lesson from 9:30-10:00 and then free play until 10:45. When the children's choir ended at 10:00, Sunday School would begin. This allows parents to focus on the sermon while giving the kids more time for singing and crafts. This new format has been well received, even by several new families. Our attendance has increased, and we are seeing consistent double-digit attendance. Our Children's Choir, Pre-K and K-5 Sunday School, and Friday Fun Night give Central a well-rounded Christian Education program that shares God's love in a fun-filled and age-appropriate manner.

We should not forget about our recent Sunday School "renovations." The old Sunday School lacked color and appropriately sized furniture. Thanks to money from the McKay fund, new colorful chairs, tables, and a rug were purchased for the Sunday School room. The chairs are sized correctly so that students can sit comfortably and reach the table's top. The tables have an easy clean top that doesn't stain and allows easy

cleanup after crafting projects. The rug brings a splash of color but also functions to separate the room and give students designated places to sit for story time, increasing learning while decreasing disruptions.

Four children were confirmed in 2023. Having some middle school-aged kids confirmed while others were not presented a logistical challenge. To overcome this hurdle, we merged the confirmation and youth groups into a hybrid group. The new group would meet twice a month, once focused on mission/service and the other on education. Given that no two preachers teach confirmation alike, the students would likely hear new information or reinforce their prior knowledge. There is more information below.

Since my installation over the summer, it has been a joy and privilege to work alongside some talented and dedicated people. From the CE Committee to the Sunday School teachers and Friday Fun Night assistants, it is unlikely that you will find a more faithful and caring group. There is a renewed feeling of excitement and energy surrounding CE at Central. Our progress together has set a strong foundation for continued growth. We look forward to what God has in store in the years to come. *Rev. Josh Follweiler*

Opportunities for Children and Youth

K-5 Sunday School: Sunday School continued to use the *Celebrate Wonder* curriculum from January through May. Lessons consisted of music, scripture, games, and arts and crafts. Our teachers were Laura Corcoran, Kelly Ahn, Hyerin Kim, and Eunice Kim. The school year culminated with a wonderful Easter egg hunt and workshop enjoyed by all ages and concluded with children's singing on Mother's Day.

Sunday School started up again in September. Our K-5 attendance ranged from 8 to 13 children each week. The teachers are Kelly Ahn, Hyerin Kim, Gayle Dimmick and Eunice Kim. We have been using the *Big Faith* curriculum of Cokesbury since September. We have learned about how creative the God of creation is, that he makes promises to his people and keeps them, and that he provides all our needs. We respond with gratitude and learn from his character. The Christmas season, which began with the Advent Workshop, was the journey of waiting for Christ, Baby Jesus. The birth of Baby Jesus was the fulfillment of God's promise, and the children learned about waiting with anticipation, and watching the Putz, we had a very meaningful time to experience the full story of

Jesus' birth all at once. We do this each week with opening activities, review and prayer, children's Bible stories, arts and crafts, and activities. In addition to the curriculum, Joan Carson from "Care for Creation" visited in September and guided the children in planting mums as a way to care for God's creation, and in November, we decorated stars and exchanged them with Croton Falls Community Church to be decorated on each church's Putz. In December, Pastor Tim Wagner and Richard Miller visited our Sunday School and gave readings of their new books. *Kelly Ahn*

Toddler Time: Toddler Time ended last June 2024, meeting under its old schedule of the second Sunday of each month. It began this September under the new leadership of Robyn Endress being assisted by Ruthie Ferrey. Every Sunday, children between the ages of 2-5 have Sunday School time from 9:30-10:00, where they learn Bible stories and create crafts. This is followed by free play from 10:00-10:50. The class meets in the nursery of the CE building and on average there are three children in attendance. *Katie Royer*

Preschool Sunday School: Preschool classes begin each Sunday after the children's moment at the 9 a.m. service, which usually occurs around 9:30ish. There have been three children who regularly attend (with two additional children who have come once or twice). One child goes with the older children to practice with the children's choir, while the others come to the preschool room for some playtime. Ruthie Ferrey retrieves the young singer around 10:00 and then we begin our daily lesson. Based on the day's theme, I find an age-appropriate video (usually lasting 3-5 minutes), read a book (if one is available on the assigned topic), then we complete an art project based on the theme of the day. Afterwards the children play until their parent picks them up. They are lovely, sweet, adorable little ones, who are a pleasure with whom to work. Each week, without fail, Ruthie Ferrey has been my assistant. She has been a gem! Ruthie has a lovely way with the children. Ruthie engages with the kids the entire time she's there, she always plays appropriately with them, redirects them to activities around the room, assists with all projects and jumps in to help clean up without being asked. She has been invaluable and I so appreciate all she does to make this program run smoothly. Creating lessons each week has been challenging. We are looking to change the format to one centered around monthly themes, which will reduce the workload, increase student learning, and continue to be engaging and enjoyable. *Robyn Endress*

Children's Choir: After the Christian Education summer retreat, the decision was made to have children's choir rehearsals from 9:30-10:00 each Sunday. The kids are dismissed following the children's message, which usually occurs around 9:30 or halfway through the early service. This allowed us to dedicate a full hour to Sunday School and gave me more uninterrupted time to rehearse with the sanctuary choir. We have been blessed to have Linda de Vries's exceptional leadership. She has added so much to our program including motions and recording videos for the kids to practice with at home. The Children's Choir performed at several services this year including Red Wagon Sunday, the second Sunday of Advent, and of course, Children's Lovefeast on Christmas Eve. We have consistently between eight and thirteen children in the choir and we look forward to more performances in the coming year. *Becky Lepore*

Friday Fun Night: 2024 was another successful year for our treasured Friday Fun Night program (FFN). We hosted an average of 10 children every third Friday from January through December with a summer break from May until August. We continue to see new and excited faces as we engage in games, food, crafts, and story time. FFN would not be a success without the dedicated assistance of Michella Cardoso and Pat Metcalf. This program continues to be a testament to Central's willingness to think creatively about how we can best meet the needs of our young families. We are excited about the future continuation and growth of this program in 2025 and beyond. *Rev. Josh Follweiler*

Youth Group/ Confirmation: From January through May, Rev. Janel Rice led the youth group and focused their time together around mission and service, including trips to Moravian Open Door and volunteering at the Bethlehem Emergency Shelter and a local animal shelter. In August Rev. Josh Follweiler began leading the group. As several kids had already been confirmed, the group was a hybrid youth group and confirmation class. We focused on service projects, biblical studies, and Moravian history. We baked homemade dog treats for our Blessing of the Animals and did crafts with the residents of King's Daughters House. We also study the books of Genesis, Exodus, and the beginning of the synoptic gospels. We meet twice a month and had between three and five kids in attendance. Our group will continue into 2025 and plan to have at least one person confirmed. *Rev. Josh Follweiler*

Vacation Bible School: VBS was held the week of July 8th at East Hills Moravian Church. East Hills, Central, and Advent Moravian Churches participated. Neighboring children were also welcome to attend. Our theme this year was “Camp Firelight” and we learned to trust God in the face of our fears. Our camp callout phrase was “Whenever I’m afraid, I put my trust in you” (Psalm 56:3). Bible verses highlighted Biblical people who trusted God even though they were afraid, and they went on to do great things. Many of Central’s children attended in addition to the adult and teenage volunteers. *Karen Brady*

Nursery: In 2024 the decision was made that a staffed nursery was no longer needed or desired at the 11:00 service. The nursery remains available for use by any parent and is regularly cleaned and refreshed. We continue to evaluate our needs and adjust accordingly. *Rev. Josh Follweiler*

Camp Hope continued to face staffing and facility challenges, and unfortunately, the Camp closed early. No one from Central chose to attend. *Rev. Josh Follweiler*

Opportunities for Adults

Comenius Tuesday is a reading group where members select stimulating books about the Christian faith and current contemporary issues. The books are discussed with candor and a respectful regard for all participants. New participants are welcome. *Jane Leposa & Steven Krawiec*

Adult Sunday School meets weekly in Zinzendorf Parlor on the lower level of the Christian Education building. The weekly conversations are focused around a particular book of the Bible. This year the epistle of James and compared it to Paul’s writing in Galatians, Romans, and Corinthians. We also examined the infancy stories of Jesus. The discussions are facilitated by Dr. Brigidda Bell, professor of New Testament at Moravian University and Theological Seminary. We welcome new members. You do not need any previous knowledge and can attend as your schedule permits with no long-term commitment.

Women’s Bible Study meets in the Church Office conference room on Thursday Mornings. We currently have 15 women enrolled and a attendance of 8 to 10 on a regular basis. This year we are studying I Timothy. At the end of this study we will do a Moravian

Women’s Bible Study entitled Rolling with the Rock, A Study of Peter. It is a joy and privilege to study with these Sisters in Christ. *Pat Herman*

Men’s Bible Study: The group has a contact list of 25 persons and an average attendance of 15 attending by Zoom and in person. We meet on each Wednesday at 7:15 a.m. Eastern time for food and fellowship and at 7:30 a.m. Eastern time for study and discussion. We adjourn at 8:30 a.m. Currently we are concluding the study of the book of Isaiah. Segments of the Book of Isaiah are found quoted in the Gospels and many parts of the books of the New Testament.

This year we had a significant discussion about the word “Men’s” in our title. We received a request from a woman to become a regular attendee. After a brief discussion, it was determined that the group would welcome anyone who would like to join our group. Thus far, we have not received an inquiry from anyone, but we remain open to that possibility and look forward to the day when it will happen.

Several of our members have led discussions this year and we look forward to continuing in that direction. Not all of the Bible Study participants feel comfortable leading the discussion, but thus far we have a group of 6 persons who have done an excellent job leading discussion.

We welcome anyone who would like to join us at 7:15 a.m. in Nitschmann Hall located in the Christian Education building, lower level, 40 W. Church Street, Bethlehem or on Zoom. Contact David Wickmann, the coordinator at wickmann.david@gmail.com for more information and the login code for Zoom. *Dave Wickmann*

Awakened Hearts: A Wisdom Way of Knowing Prayer Circle: Pastor Maggie Wellert led this group in contemplative spiritual practices of *lectio divina*, centering prayer, chant, and body prayer. We met monthly throughout the year. When we are together, we listen for God’s presence and guidance with our hearts, hear each other’s stories, and pray for one another between gatherings. *Rev. Maggie Wellert*

I would like to take this opportunity to express my deep gratitude to the members of this committee who have willingly given of their time, talents, and energy.

Committee Members: Kelly Ahn, Peter Behrens, Karen Brady, Michella Cardoso, Gayle Dimmick, Robyn Endress, Pastor Josh Follweiler, Caitlin Heckman, Pat Herman, Steve Krawiec, Becky Lepore, Jane Leposa, Katie Royer, Mary Catherine Tachovsky

Respectfully Submitted,
Camie Modjadidi, Chair and Rev. Josh Follweiler

Communications Committee

The Communications Committee oversees the internal and external content of information shared with the Central Moravian community. This includes in-house printed materials, press releases, and all electronic and social media. The goal of the committee is to effectively communicate to the public the identity and mission of Central Moravian Church. Ultimately, fostering closer relationships throughout our community, attracting new members, and leveraging assets of our congregation.

2024 brought significant change to our website. Our partner in this effort, First Generation, upgraded our digital profile to allow for mobile capabilities and visual enhancements of our church. Additionally, we improved the signage on Main Street and throughout Central's campus to promote our church services and programs. To further enhance the image of our church, we designed apparel (t-shirts, polos and quarter zips) for our staff and tour guides to provide a consistent view of Central. These items are also available for purchase. Finally, we continue to update our outreach flyers, brochures, and press releases in an effort to attract new members.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jane Persa, Chair

Committee Members: Peter Behrens, Josh Follweiler, Ray Holton, Craig Larimer, Becky Lepore, Jeff Mosebach, Rob Phillips, Janel Rice, Robert Wascura and Anne Zug.

Congregational Care Committee

The primary goal of the Congregational Care Committee is to care for members who need assistance and to help members maintain their connection to the church especially those with challenges of health, age or distance.

During 2024 committee members and pastors

1. continued visiting shut-ins; Pastors taking communion
2. reached out to a younger population - college-aged and twenty somethings with gift cards and Christmas Vacation get together
3. honored seniors on Senior Sunday in the fall
4. mailed and delivered Christmas Eve candles to shut-ins and out of town Senior members
5. provided two end of life educational programs focused on preparing your memorial service/funeral with the Church and legal issues such as living wills, trusts, professional advice from a local funeral director was also provided
6. started a transportation to Church service thanks to Hotel Bethlehem

We are grateful to Pastors Janel Rice and Josh Follweiler for their efforts visiting and connecting with our members. It is a vital ministry of our Church. Committee members, Brenda Hoelman, Beth Boyer, Becky Lepore, Linda Wickmann and Karen Brady each visited members and planned our events.

In 2025, the committee plans to continue visitations, reach out to members of the congregation as requested, continue Senior Sunday recognition, outreach to older youth, remember members with candles at Christmas and continue transportation services. The committee is also looking to provide a Spiritual Nourishment for Caregivers program.

Related to the work of Congregational Care is the efforts of the Birthday Card Ministry. We are very grateful for Linda de Vries taking the lead on this ministry mid-year, and her faithful crew of birthday card senders.

We'd love to have you join us in any of these efforts. If you are interested in participating, please reach out to Beth Boyer.

Respectfully Submitted,
Beth Boyer and Brenda Hoelman, Co-Chairs

Currents Capital Campaign

The *Currents* Capital Campaign, launched on October 1, 2023, to fund the replacement of the Sanctuary HVAC system, has made remarkable progress thanks to the generosity and dedication of our community.

Campaign Leadership:

Co-Chairs: Jennifer Ceneviva, Mary Catherine Tachovsky, Barry Pell, and Tom Tenges

Committee Members: Anne Zug, Beth Boyer, Martha Jones, Janel Rice, and Lee Williamson (consulting)

Campaign Milestones:

- **As of January 1, 2024:**
 - **Pledges Received:** 144
 - **Total Pledged:** \$742,600.84
 - **Amount Paid:** \$378,598.29
- **As of December 31, 2024:**
 - **Pledges Received:** 248
 - **Total Pledged:** \$1,202,105.14
 - **Amount Paid:** \$945,016.17

Included in these totals are generous grants from The Keystone Foundation and the Helen & RK Laros Foundation.

Grille Sponsorship Drive: The Grille Sponsorship drive was a tremendous success, with all 72 grilles sponsored at \$600 each. We are currently designing a display to be installed in the west hallway to recognize this achievement and the sponsors' generosity.

Thank you to everyone who has contributed to this campaign. Your support is instrumental in ensuring the comfort and sustainability of our sanctuary for years to come.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jennifer Ceneviva Co-Chair

History Committee

2024 marked the eighteenth year of work for Central's History Committee, and as usual, it was an active one. We were deeply saddened by the loss of Pastor Hopeton Clennon on January 7. Hopeton had served on the History Committee, and at the time of his death he was preparing to lead a History

Committee-sponsored historical and cultural tour of Jamaica. At Hopeton's request, Hank Naisby, Shelia Clennon, and Hopeton's sister Betty shepherded the travelers (February 1-8). At a luncheon on May 19, the group reported on their experiences and the ways in which they were able to help pay tribute to Hopeton, a native son of the island.

During the spring, the Committee focused on preparations for the very real possibility that the Bethlehem Moravian sites would be awarded World Heritage status in the summer. Many Committee members were involved with the newly-formed Central World Heritage Readiness Task Force, helping to plan regular weekly openings of the Old Chapel and the Sanctuary for public tours. It was also decided to offer regular readings of the *Moravian Daily Texts* in the Old Chapel, as well as a small gift shop at the northeast door of the sanctuary, managed by Carol Reifinger.

In July we celebrated the inscription of Bethlehem as one of three transnational sites to achieve World Heritage status. The World Heritage Readiness Task Force became the World Heritage Committee, led by Betsy Miller. In September we began offering tours of the Old Chapel and Sanctuary every Friday and Saturday from 2:00 to 4:00. The fall saw increasing tour numbers with the Christmas season, including the Putz and Bethlehem's Holiday House Tour, bringing in more visitors than ever before.

In 2024, we continued our partnership with Central's Racial Justice Team to offer the "Enslaved and Free" walking tours on the men and women of African descent in early Bethlehem. Four tours were offered, two in the spring and two in the fall, with one of the fall tours provided exclusively for Moravian Academy. We also helped host the visit of John Thomas, a Lenape Elder of the Delaware Tribe. After Thomas's talk in the Old Chapel, tours were given by History Committee members of the Nain House and God's Acre where some fifty graves of Indigenous Peoples can be found.

On September 21, the Committee sponsored a visit to Hope, New Jersey, which was founded by Moravians in 1769. We were hosted by Pete Peterson, who provided a fascinating walking tour as well as a tasty lunch. We closed out the year with a new Christmas exhibit in the West Room "Snow Over Bethlehem" featuring children's books about Moravian Bethlehem.

The exhibit celebrates two new books published this winter by Central member Richard Miller and Pastor Tim Wagner of the Croton Falls Community Church.

The committee meets every other month on the second Monday evening, usually on Zoom. Anyone who might be interested in our work is encouraged to contact Diane Shaw.

Respectfully Submitted,
Diane Shaw, Chair

Committee Members: Kelly Ahn (Elder), Mary Brown, Jan Cole, Charlene Donchez Mowers, June Griffiths, Jeffrey Long (Trustee), Richard Miller, Hank Naisby (Trustee), Susan Noack (Elder), Barry Pell (Trustee), Paul Peucker, Carol Reifinger, Janel Rice, Nancy Rutman, Priscilla Schueck, Bart Shaw, Diane Shaw, Bob Wascura (Elder)

International Mission Committee

The International Mission Committee of Central Moravian Church supports and provides oversight of international mission efforts. It is important to acknowledge that other church committees, groups, and individuals also share in helping this congregation fulfill its mission to love and serve others, especially those who are most in need. We express our appreciation to the Board of World Mission, and to all contributors and participants for their spiritual engagement. If you are interested in joining this committee, the following summary about the committee might assist you in your decision.

The committee manages funds supporting our partnerships in Tanzania and Nepal as well as assisting new ministries through an operating budget line item, additional gifts and church envelopes. Some members have traveled internationally to oversee and experience ministry.

We work in cooperation with the Board of World Mission to wire money as needed.

We generally meet twice yearly or as needed.

An interest in financial management as well as mission ministry is helpful for committee participation.

Tanzania: One of the most historic of Central Moravian Church's efforts is work in Tanzania. In the past, outreach has included aiding the building of

churches, supporting the construction and maintenance of wells, sending medical supplies, improving, and building facilities and caring for and educating youth. In recent years, the focus has been on the Adopt-a-Village Program and the support of education for orphans and the children of the Mamas who manage the program in Tanzania. Adopt-a-Village is a partnership with the Board of World Mission, Central Moravian Church, and many other churches. This partnership has been faithfully supervised by Central Members, especially Bill and Peg Hoffman. Special thanks to Justin Rabbach, Board of World Mission Executive Director, Rex Knowlton, Treasurer, and recently retired Chris Giesler, Director of Mission Engagement for their partnership. Rt. Rev. Dr. Amy Gohdes-Luhman now replaces Chris in his role. The committee looks forward to working with Amy in the future. Bill and Peg Hoffman have been unable to travel to Tanzania in recent years. However, the information we have received from Tanzania affirms that the work carries on, and Central Moravian Church continues to send financial support using funds donated and budget designated for this purpose. Although other churches also continue to make donations, these have decreased. Board of World Mission Treasurer, Rex Knowlton, shared these words with the committee.

"From the BWM perspective, we continue to receive smaller donations which you are aware of through monthly reports. We also continue to provide support as needed each quarter; often with backfill from the CMC resources to make it work. Rex Knowlton

Bill Hoffman offers the following words:

Dr. Benedict Ruhanya, the linchpin for funding between Bethlehem and Sikonge, died in 2023 from complications of long-standing diabetes. His wife and daughter, who had been assisting him since he became blind in 2018, have taken responsibility for the transfer of funds to the various programs that Central Moravian and others have been supporting there.

The orphan programs, both in the villages and the city of Tabora, have continued unimpeded. Our vehicle, which had been grounded due to insufficient funding from the Sikonge Moravian Hospital, has been restored to full service. Significant money remains in the Woodbridge Well Construction fund, but no requests were received in 2024. The government has significantly increased the size of the dormitories at the Sikonge Special Needs School for children who are blind, deaf, or "slow learners." Central Moravian and

others provide uniforms, school supplies, and medical care to any of these students in need of financial assistance. The Foreign Student Care Committee continues to fund Jane Misfiri's graduate education as she enters her last year of study for her nursing degree. The Delph Scholarship Fund is currently providing university education to three students, including one in law school. Parker scholarships are providing free education for six students at the Sikonge Lusangi Junior Bible School, which provides much needed assistant pastors to the churches in Western Tanzania.

Nepal: Jody Trostle and Sue Trimble, who have both traveled to Nepal, continue to be our committee representatives who stay in contact with Vani and Shanti Pradhan and bring news from the Shristi Academy to our congregation as it is received. The International Mission Committee is very grateful to the congregation for the support of ministry in Nepal. Shanti and Vani remain dear friends of Central Moravian Church, and they express their sincere gratitude for our help and prayers. Vani and Shanti traveled to the United States in May, and the committee provided supporting funds to assist them with this trip. The committee provided and enjoyed dinner and a presentation with the congregation. Many helpers in the congregation aided Vani and Shanti in planning, finding accommodations and entertaining our Nepal friends. Thanks to all the helpers who assisted to make the trip and congregational dinner successful. Jody provided a July mission moment and presented to the church a plaque sent from the Pradhans which will be displayed in the Vestry. A very recent request from Nepal to assist in completing the futsal facility was approved and \$4,500 will be sent to Nepal through the BWM.

Update from Vani and Shanti:

"Jai Mashī (Praise be to Messiah),
Every season of our lives is a precious gift from above, and we are grateful for the prayers, guidance, and encouragement of those who support us in serving God's people in Nepal.

We extend our gratitude to the Central Moravian Church for partnering with us in this ministry. The past months have been full of activity and blessings.

At school, we entered the second quarter of the academic year, with students gearing up for exams and engaging in enriching experiences, such as excursions

and service projects. There are 75 children in IKG, between the ages of 2 years and 6 years. At Shristi we have Grades 1 to 9 and a total of 121 students. Our second batch of grade 8 will be appearing for the District Level examinations in March 2025. Our futsal facility is nearing completion, awaiting the final installation of artificial turf to serve as a hub for community activities.

On the church front, we ask for prayers as we navigate new responsibilities, striving to serve faithfully in Nepal and beyond. Your continued support and prayers uplift us as we work to make a meaningful difference in the lives of those around us."
Love from both of us, Shanti and Vani.

New Ministry: Each year, the Mission Committee receives requests for support of new ministry opportunities. The Central Moravian Church Congregation generously supports International Mission in the Annual Budget in the amount of \$12,000. The distribution for 2024 was as follows: \$8,000 for Tanzania, \$2,000 for Nepal, and \$2,000 for New Mission Requests. Any money not used in a calendar carries forward to the following year. This allows the opportunity to fund requests greater than \$2,000. The committee continues to oversee and support our obligations in Tanzania and Nepal, but the opportunity to engage in important new ministry has been exciting. The following projects were funded in 2024.

David Lauer, Central church member, who is now a member of the committee, traveled to the Ahuas Clinic. He has a desire to use his experience in veterinary medicine to be helpful and hopes to visit the clinic again. He asks that the committee considers additional support to Ahuas. Bill Hoffman has also been to Ahuas in the past, and he also considers it an important ministry. The committee will find ways to increase support to the clinic in 2025.

As a result of a presentation by Rev. Dr. Tuntufye Mwenisongole, \$2,500 was sent to Mercy World Organization, through BWM. Rev. Mwenisongole visited Bethlehem July 20-25 and presented a Mission Moment on July 25, 2024. The Committee received a thank you from Bertie Knisely from Moravian University. Bertie is one of the members of the Bethlehem Community who have traveled to Africa to help the ministry of the Mercy World Organization.

Ken Kodama has accepted the role as the new Chair for International Mission Committee in 2025. Ken had served on the committee in its earliest days when all the work concentrated on Sikonge. The committee is grateful to Ken for offering his leadership.

The continued financial support and prayers of the congregation make this work possible. Thank you.

Respectfully Submitted,
Mary Catherine Tachovsky, Chair

Committee Members: Kelly Ahn, Peter Behrens, Eileen Biro, Jeff Biro, Rev. Josh Follweiler, Patricia Herman, Margaret Hoffman, William Hoffman, David Lauer, Ken Kodama, Susan Noack, Glenn Noack, Rev. Janel Rice, Mary Catherine Tachovsky, Sue Trimble, and Jody Trostle

**SIKONGE, NEPAL & OTHER MINISTRIES
INCOME, EXPENSES AND BALANCE
January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024**

	2023				Current
	Balance	Income	Expenses	Transfers	Balance
Orphans' Fund	26,541	7,167	(45,000)	8,000	(3,292)
Hoffman Travel	-	-	-	-	-
Hoffman Sikonge	-	3,400	-	-	3,400
Wells Fund	5,366		-	-	5,366
Nepal Fund	9,447	5,648	(16,092)	2,000	1,003
Mamas' Education Fund	697	-	-	-	697
Education Fund	6,200	-		-	6,200
Other Initiatives	2,999	-	(4,500)	2,000	499
Totals	51,249	16,215	(65,592)	12,000	13,872

Note - Merrill Lynch Account Balance as of 12/31/24 was \$27,944.14 for Tanzanian Orphans

Note - Moravian Ministries Fund Account Balance as of 12/31/24 was \$107,833.85 for Tanzanian Orphans

International Student Care Committee

We are blessed to continue this ministry with three students currently. Dalley Silwamba (Zambia) is a junior. Edina Mang'ombe (Tanzania) is a sophomore. Sharnell (Shanty) Hodgson Smith (Nicaragua) is a freshman.

We remain grateful for the support of this congregation, the continued partnership with Moravian University, and the endowed scholarship that Hank and Joanne Barnette have so graciously provided. We invite your continued prayers and support.

We remain grateful for the commitment of the committee members who dedicate time and loving care. Current Committee Members (Mamas and Papas): Jessie and Jim Bucchin, Myra Jones, and Carole Schachter (Edgeboro Moravian Church) and Central Moravian Church members Lyn Chynoweth, Shelia Clennon, Jeff Mosebach, Alex and Bob Newel, and Janel Rice. We look forward to welcoming Angelica Regalado Cieza (BWM) and Jennika Borger (Chaplain, Moravian University) to the committee.

Respectfully Submitted,
Lyn Chynoweth, Chair

Membership Committee

The Membership Committee's mission is to welcome and embrace new members while encouraging the involvement of all members in the life of the church through faithful worship. Service and fellowship. The committee also engages in outreach to attract visitors and new members.

In 2024 the committee reviewed our ministries with the goal of aligning them more closely with Central's five-year strategic plan.

As in the past, the committee organized two Invite-a-Friend Sundays, aided in the publication of the Pictorial directory and sent Christmas cards to distant members of our congregation. In addition, we worked with all of Central's committees to participate in a fall Volunteer Fair which helped to educate our members on the various volunteer opportunities. We continue to follow up on the feedback we received.

The committee worked with the Hotel Bethlehem and Moravian Village to provide transportation to members. We are hoping to extend this service to non-members who may be interested in attending our services.

For the coming year we will be conducting outreach to members who had recent baptisms, weddings, recently joined or have not been as active as they have in the past.

Respectfully Submitted,
Beth Schlener, Chair

Committee Members: Llyena Boylan, Jennifer Ceneviva, Lyn Chynoweth, Elissa Derbak, Josh Follweiler, Barry Kessler, Pam Larimer, Becky Lepore, Taylor Plinke, Janel Rice, Beth Schlener, Bob Wascura

Music Committee

The mission of our music program embraces the mission statement of Central Moravian Church as we strive to be an effective and living example of our Moravian heritage by creating innovative musical offerings with a standard of excellence in the spirit of evangelism. Gratitude to Ken Kodama for serving as chair.

Richard Miller, chapel organist and director of the chapel choir, enhances the Chapel service with his musical creativity, writing music and "Grace Notes", directing the choir, playing the organ and piano, and offering a vast variety of choir, ensembles, soloists, and instrumentalists.

The Central Brass Ensemble, under the wonderful direction of Caitlin Heckman, plays once a month for the 11 a.m. service. The Bethlehem Area Moravian Trombone Choir, under the direction of Don Kemmerer, played for our Easter Dawn Sunrise Service, Children's Christmas Eve Worship Service and for our New Year's Eve Service. The Mainstreet Brass played for Hopeton Clennon's memorial service, the 11 a.m. Easter service, Summer Concert on the Green, the Advent and Christmas Concert, Lessons and Carols, and Christmas Eve Vigils.

Special thanks to Will Schwab who has given our church countless hours in preparation and implementation of livestreaming our worship services. A big thank you to Paul de Vries, Chris Fiegel, Phil Corvino for assisting and substituting when needed.

The most challenging part of 2024 was the heartbreaking loss of our Senior Pastor, the Rt. Rev. Hopeton Clennon, who on January 7th, entered into the more immediate presence of his Lord and Savior. Hopeton had been a constant source of encouragement and enthusiasm for our music ministry. We are grateful for the many years and experiences we shared together, including a choir trip to Antigua and a choir trip to Jamaica. We rejoice in the Hope of the Resurrection and are reminded that “all will be well.”

Musical highlights from 2024 include:

- Our second annual Super Bowl Sunday Chamber Music Concert was presented on Sunday, February 11th at 2 p.m. An enthusiastic and at-capacity crowd enjoyed a wonderful hour of music by Two-Part Invention Plus One.
- Becky Lepore presented a Lenten program about music as a spiritual discipline in worship on Wednesday, March 22nd.
- SATORI presented a concert in the Old Chapel on Sunday, April 7, 2024.
- A music brochure was printed for the 2024-2025 season and included a QR code to the music webpage of CMC website.
- A Chamber Vocal Concert featuring Kim Leamon, Kelly Schmidt, Wendy Borst, violinists Mary Ogletree and Becky Brown, and pianist Becky Lepore, was held on Sunday, August 25th in the Old Chapel.
- A Concert on the Green was held on Sunday, September 15th at 2 p.m. and featured Mainstreet Brass to a very appreciative audience on a beautiful, early-fall afternoon.
- The first annual Donald Spieth Memorial Chamber Concert was held on Sunday, October 5th, 2024, featuring the the Béla Trio, winners of the Techné Music Festival.
- The Central Moravian Church Choir participated in the Transnational World Heritage Worship Celebration on Wednesday, October 16th.
- Members of the Central Moravian Church Choir provided special music for Moravian Hall Square’s afternoon communion service on Sunday, December 1st.
- An Advent and Christmas Concert was held on Saturday, December 7th at 1:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary and featured the Central Moravian Church Choir and the Mainstreet Brass with Kaylyn George as our Morning Star soloist.
- Our final Advent German-English Singstunde took place on Tuesday, December 3rd in the Old Chapel. We are grateful to Dr. Paul Peucker, Gwyn Michel, and to the Moravian Archives and the Moravian Music Foundation for their generous collaboration in presenting this event for almost 15 years.
- A Contemplative Christmas service was held in the Chapel on Monday, December 9th at 7 p.m. with Becky Lepore (piano) providing the contemplative music.
- A Service of Lessons and Carols was presented at both the 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. worship services on December 22nd. Special thanks to the Chapel Choir, Church Choir, and the Mainstreet Brass for blessing us with their glorious strains.
- On Christmas Eve, Kaylyn George, Sophie Rice, and Alexandra Goodman were our Morning Star Soloists. The Sunday School Choir, under the direction of Linda de Vries, presented their music at the 1 p.m. Christmas Eve Children’s Lovefeast. The Christmas Eve Vigils were blessed to have the Christmas Eve Orchestra, Mainstreet Brass, timpanist Steve Mathieson, and our outstanding choir! A huge thanks to head sacristan Tim Brady for providing boxed lunches for our Schmaus.
- Thank you to Richard Miller and Dave Charrier for providing our service music on Christmas morning, and to Gwyn Michel for playing our New Year’s Watchnight service.

As always, I am forever grateful to Pastors Janel Rice and Josh Follweiler, to the music staff, the church staff and the sacristan corps, as there is never a single musical event that doesn’t require their time, presence, wisdom, and assistance. I’m blessed beyond measure to be a part of this extraordinary congregation!

In God’s Service
Respectfully Submitted,
Becky Lepore, Minister of Music

Committee Members: Ken Kodama, Chair; Karen Brady, Mary Brown, Dave Charrier, Pam Larimer, Richard Miller, Hank Naisby, Becky Lepore, Llyena Boylan-Spieth, Tom Tenges, Linda Wickmann

Social Action Committee

We are grateful and encouraged by the dedicated members of our church who promoted new and ongoing partnerships with our community and church agencies and creative projects that raised awareness in the areas of environmental concerns, homelessness, hunger, mental health, racism and poverty. We continue to value and connect with the ministry of many agencies in the Lehigh Valley and beyond, and are fortunate to work with them.

SAC serves marginalized, underrepresented, and underserved populations. We are committed to understanding the injustices that are the source of these inequities, and the importance of seeking justice through education and advocacy to address these underlying social issues.

Our Community and Church Partners and our Ministry Together in 2024:

Bethlehem Emergency Shelter: Central continued its mission with the homeless at Bethlehem Emergency Shelter (BES) for the 2024 season. The shelter at Christ UCC shelters and feeds up to 70 men and women from November 1 to April 30th. On the first Saturday of each month, our team cooks, serves meals, cleans, and keeps the showers on schedule. We have also helped with other dates that needed filling. We have a core group of faithful volunteers, but we are happy to have new additions to the team. Special thanks to Hyerin Kim and the many cooks for the Korean dinner fundraiser in October, which was an amazing dinner that raised over \$1000 dollars for BES. For more information on our work with BES please contact Janice Ostock at janice.ostock@gmail.com.

Bread for the World: On April 20, 2024, Bonnie attended the local meeting for Bread for the World at First Presbyterian Church in Allentown where current issues were discussed. Michael and Bonnie, at that time, planned the postcards for the Bread for the World campaign for 2024. Postcards were prepared for Senators - Robert Casey, Jr. and John Fetterman, as well as Representative Susan Wild. Each person got three postcards. We thank Alex McCay and Taylor Schlener for doing our Mission Moment.

On June 9th we distributed 390 unstamped postcards to our congregation. On June 14, 15, 21, and 22 we

distributed 522 stamped postcards to our food pantry clients. A \$400 membership donation was given to Bread for the World. \$286.19 on stamps came from the SAC budget. Printing and paper were donated.

The results of our advocacy for passage of the 2024 Farm Bill was that the 2018 Farm Bill was extended for one year. This was a great disappointment as the proposed bill would have provided greater food security for millions of people here and around the world. *Bonnie Davis and Michael Brennan*

Care for Creation: see separate report.

Central Food Pantry: see separate report.

Central Santa 2024: Santa was Central to the season of sharing love and kindness to children! Clothing donations from over 70 congregation members and friends were received in just over 3 weeks of collections. The clothing items are distributed to children in need via Cynthia's Boutique. Donation items included warm hats and jackets, play clothes, slippers and boots.

To bring the joy of reading to young people, more than 438 books for ages 0 - 12 were donated (some with Brown Bear stuffies). Over 350 books and puzzles went to Community Services for Children. The Central Santa helpers prepared 25 gift bags of books and fuzzy warm socks for Esperanza children and their families. It was a delight to receive some books for both distributions that were in Spanish!

Additionally, \$2,170 was donated by many generous Central Santas. The committee decided to donate \$970 to Community Services for Children so that they can purchase additional books for Head Start and Early Head Start children. The additional \$1200 will be donated in early January to the Bethlehem Area School District, targeting 4 need-based elementary schools in the district. Each \$300 allocation will be used by building librarians to add to their collection for young students.

We thank our Central congregation and friends for their kindness and generosity as Central Santas. So many children will feel the joy of warm clothing and excitement of reading way beyond the Christmas season. We look forward to sharing photos...

With grateful hearts,

Joan Carson & Mollie Santee, Co-Chairs

Board of World Mission: \$500 was donated for water filters for the Blessings Flow Project in Honor of Rev. David Henkelmann

Church World Service: CROP Hunger Walks are community-wide events sponsored by CWS. Money raised ensures that people worldwide have access to nutritious, sustainable food sources. From combating droughts in Nicaragua to providing agricultural training in Indonesia, to stocking shelves in hundreds of food pantries across the U.S., this walk helps end hunger.

Currents Capital Campaign: \$305 was donated to this fund.

Cynthia's Boutique: 2024 was another year of growth for us. We served more families and individuals each month and fortunately received more donations which enabled us to keep up with demands. We continue to support the family whose wife/mother is still trying to get here from The Philippines. For the second year we distributed the generous gifts from The Central Santas which were so appreciated. *Charlotte McGorry*

Essentials Café: \$200 was donated to this organization.

Fair Trade Coffee Project: Michael Brennan, Bonnie Davis, Valerie Antonelli, and Scott Dawkins run the Coffee Ministry. We sell Equal Exchange Fairly Traded coffee, tea, and chocolate. We give special thanks to Val and Scott for their hard work.

We started 2024 with a balance of \$1188.62; we donated \$500 to Camp Hill Jamaica. Our current balance is \$977.82 *Bonnie Davis & Michael Brennan*

Lehigh Conference of Churches: \$300 yearly dues were paid. \$268.44 from SAC budget and a \$268 donation bought 25 backpacks for the back to school program. Many school supplies were donated by the congregation. Thanks to everyone for your generous donation of school supplies.

Lehigh Valley Pride Fest: \$200 paid for a booth and supplies for Moravian churches from the Lehigh Valley. Congregations donated water this year. Special thanks to pastors Byrnes Craig and Michaela Sauerbery who led this year's effort and staffed the booth.

Luminaria Night: \$80 for kits. At dusk on December 14th, along with over 4,000 others across the Lehigh Valley, we lit 80 luminarias along Church and Main Streets. Our participation not only contributed to the \$124,000 raised for the New Bethany Ministries but also reminded us of those in need throughout the holiday season. Once our luminarias were lit, we gathered in the Old Chapel basement for a potluck supper. Please plan to join us next year. *Connie Pierce*

Mental Health Awareness: The mission of the mental health awareness team is to provide programs and services in the areas of mental health education, awareness, and advocacy with the goals of stigma reduction and inclusion of individuals living with mental illness and their families in the life of the congregation. Adopted 2020.

The Mental Health Team works in collaboration with members of the Christian Education and Social Action Committees.

This past year, the Mental Health team planned and/or sponsored 5 programs:

- 3/6/24 Lenten Series - Dr. Micah Sadigh, social isolation and loneliness
- 8/24/24 Diane Kessler - Kintsugi Workshop
- 9/25/24 Wendy Littner Thomson - Navigating Grief 101: What Helps or Hinders the Ongoing Journey
- 10/9/24 Teri Haddad's - Close to Home: Street Medicine video and panel discussion
- 12/21/24 - Longest Night Service. Josh Follweiler led the service.

Much appreciation to Josh Follweiler and Steve Krawiec who spoke about Mental Health in a Mission Moment on 9/22/24. Many thanks to Camie Modjadidi for her inspirational leadership the second half of the year. Members of the MHT are Beth Boyer, Jennifer Ceneviva, Bonnie Davis, Josh Follweiler, Diane Kessler, Steven Krawiec, Jane Leposa, Camie Modjadidi, George Mowers, Janel Rice, Elke Rockwell, Mollie Santee, Kim Shively and Dick Williams. *Dick Williams*

Moravian Open Door: \$500 was donated.

Racial Justice: please see Christian Education report.

Victory House: \$200 was donated in underwear by SAC in December which Elke Rockwell purchased and delivered.

We greatly appreciate and sincerely thank our amazingly dedicated committee and congregation for a successful year of caring, sharing and action.

Respectfully Submitted,
Brenda Hoelman and Judy Williams, Co-Chairs

Committee Members: Beth Boyer, Bonnie Davis, Michael Brennan, Joan Carson, Josh Follweiler, Brenda Hoelman, Steven Krawiec, Jane Leposa, Janice Ostock, Connie Pierce, Janel Rice, Elke Rockwell, Mollie Santee, Rick Santee, Rose Warner, David Wickmann, Dick Williams, Judy Williams

Joint Board

Rt. Rev. Hopeton Clennon's death was the most devastating challenge for the Joint Board in 2024. It is always difficult to mourn the loss of a beloved pastor as we have in the past. However, the sorrow felt for the loss of an in-service pastor without any previous knowledge of illness or any prior preparation for such an immediate loss was truly overwhelming. Fortunately, we were blessed to have called **Pastor Janel Rice as Pastor for Congregational Care and Community Outreach** months before this tragedy. It was a special gift that Pastor Janel knew our congregation well from her prior service at Central Moravian Church, and she greatly helped the Joint Board navigate this sad chapter in our church history. We express deep gratitude to **Pastor Janel** for all her support, and to then **Vice President of Elders, Pam Larimer**, for their guidance and planning for Celebration of Life Service and the Reception following. Many family members and friends came to honor Hopeton. Many members of the Provincial Clergy came to say goodbye to their Bishop and dear colleague. Many local civic community people came to acknowledge the grace that Hopeton spread throughout Bethlehem and the Lehigh Valley. The **Central Moravian Church Congregation**, even though in a state of profound sorrow, graciously welcomed our visitors and provided hospitality in many ways. The Joint Board is very grateful for your support during January 2024 and the difficult months that followed.

The Joint Board of Central Moravian Church consists of the twelve members of the Board of Elders and the fourteen members of the Board of Trustees. Meetings are held on an as-needed basis for the transaction of

business that requires the united action of both Boards. It is the responsibility of the Joint Board to **engage in the process of calling a Pastor** in cooperation with **Melissa Johnson, President of the Eastern District Executive Board** and to **Linda Rapp, District Executive Board Member**. The Joint Board entered a time of prayer and listening to the leading of the Holy Spirit, for several months to enable them and the congregation to grieve our community loss and work toward acceptance of the change in our lives. During this time Pastor Janel, with the assistance of then Seminary Intern, **Josh Follweiler** managed the immediate pastoral needs of our members. In late spring, the Joint Board recognized the need for a time of careful discernment of how to move forward in providing pastoral leadership for our future. **Rev. Janel Rice** was formally extended and accepted the call to serve as **Senior Pastor**. Soon after, a second call process was begun to call newly ordained **Pastor Josh Follweiler** to serve a one-year appointment as **Associate Pastor**. A Joint Installation Service was held on June 23, 2024. Both Janel and Josh are sincerely thanked for their sensitive service to the congregation as we continued to live through our sorrow while knowing we needed to move forward with the work of ministry to the congregation, and to the local and global community.

Joint Board Responsibilities

The Joint Board of Central Moravian Church consists of the twelve members of the Board of Elders and the fourteen members of the Board of Trustees. Meetings are held on an as needed basis for the transaction of business that requires the united action of both boards. The Joint Board convenes each February after the Annual Church Council for orientation, board education, welcoming new board members and thanking members who are rotating off the board. In 2024, the Welcome and Orientation Meeting was held on February 11, 2024. Thank you to **Pam Larimer** and **Camie Modjadidi** for managing this event. The guest speaker was BAM Chief Executive Officer of the Bethlehem Area Moravians **Dan Soos**.

Some issues that are brought before both boards are handled at the regular separate meetings of Elders and Trustees. An example is the approval of the proposed 2025 Budget. It is customary to have a Trustee attend each Elders' Meeting and an Elder to attend each Trustees' Meeting. When special items are presented for review by both boards, additional board members

may attend as appropriate. Special thanks to **Jeff Mosebach**, Treasurer, and **Kris Wruble** for facilitating the budget adoption process.

The following is a summary of additional items the Joint Board approved:

Establishment of a World Heritage Committee after the announcement of the Inscription.

Establishment of a Tour Coordinator position and supporting the public tours of the Old Chapel and Sanctuary.

Approving a PA Sales Tax Policy for the church.

Supporting and monitoring of the *Currents* Capital Campaign

Between occasions of Joint Board Meetings, or the scheduled monthly Elders and Trustee meetings, the **Executive Committee** of the Joint Board, which includes the officers of Elders and Trustees, and the Pastors meet as needed to oversee any immediate concerns of the congregation. Executive Committee members in 2024 included Senior Pastor and President of the Board of Elders, **Rev Janel Rice**, Vice President of the Board of Elders, **Susan Noack**, Secretary of Elders, **Kathy Williams**, President of the Board of Trustees, **Mary Catherine Tachovsky**, Vice President Board of Trustees, **Ann Raines**, Trustee Secretary, **Jeffrey Long**, and Trustee Treasurer, **Jeff Mosebach**. **Pastor Josh Follweiler** joined the Executive Committee in July.

We express our appreciation to Minister of Music, **Becky Lepore** and Chapel Organist, **Richard Miller**, our sacristans led by **Tim Brady**, **Nate Bissey**, **Phil Corvino**, **Beth Boyer**, and **Ann Raines**, and to the many other dedicated volunteers who are responsible for our worship services, our buildings and grounds maintenance, our endowment, our program, and our fellowship activities. **Central Moravian Church** is indeed fortunate to have a church community committed to living its mission and vision with dedication in times of joy and in times of sorrow. Thank you, everyone.

Respectfully Submitted,
Mary Catherine Tachovsky, President, Joint Board

Board of Trustees

The Board of Trustees consists of 14 members of the

church, elected by Church Council. The Trustees meet monthly generally on the third Wednesday of the month; eight members constitutes a quorum. A president, vice president, treasurer, and secretary are chosen from among their number annually. The Trustees are especially charged with managing the temporal affairs of the church. Their duties include ensuring the prompt payment of all salaries, invoices, and Provincial and District obligations. Each trustee may serve a term of three years with eligibility for election to a second three-year term.

In February 2025, **Susan Trimble**, **Jeff Mosebach** and **Mary Catherine Tachovsky** will rotate off the Board of Trustees. Each year a challenge presents itself to the Board of Trustees. How will we ever manage without the board members who are completing their terms? This year is no different. Susan brings calmness and heart to the Board of Trustees. During her time as a Trustee, she has served on numerous committees including the Christian Education Committee and the International Mission Committee. Susan has a close relationship to our friends the Pradhans and keeps us informed about circumstances in Nepal. She traveled in the past to Nepal to work at the the Shristi Academy and IKG. Jeff Mosebach has used his business experience to assess new ways of presenting financial reports. He worked closely with our Financial Office Staff, Kris Wruble, Kelly Knapp, and Martha Jones and our pastors often solving ways to handle unbudgeted expenses. Jeff led the effort each year he served as Treasurer and Chair of the Budget and Finance Committee to create and fine tune the annual budgets. He presents the new budget each year at Church Council. As I complete my second term and fifth year as President of the Board of Trustees, I am grateful for the knowledge and experience of all the Trustees who shaped decisions to keep Central Moravian Church financially secure and facilities well maintained.

Pastors are important attendees at Trustees' Meetings as non-voting participants. The monthly agenda includes a report from the Pastors, and the rotating Elder assigned to meet with Trustees each month. A key focus of the agenda is the report of the Financial Secretary, **Kris Wruble**. The Financial Secretary is not an elected board member, has non-voting status, and attends meetings as invited. The Financial Secretary and the Treasurer receive, record, and deposit the receipts and disburse monies with the authorization of the Board of Trustees. The Trustees

also have oversight of all the funds of the Church, exercising the greatest of care to use the income prudently and properly. The Trustees must also keep all church owned and leased property in good repair and attractive condition. Investment Committee, and the Audit Committee are especially thanked for the work of these committees in supporting the responsibilities of the Trustees. **Don Brown** and **Beth Schlener** have our sincere gratitude for their leadership on each of these committees. We are also grateful to the Buildings and Grounds Committee, led by **Hank Naisby**, for their careful oversight of the condition of the campus and the detailed expenses incurred caring for the physical buildings and outdoor spaces. Also deserving thanks are those who served as officers this year, **Ann Raines**, Vice President, and **Jeffrey Long**, Secretary.

The Trustees are very grateful to **Kris Wruble** for her dedicated work fulfilling the duties of Financial Secretary. **Kelly Knapp**, as Financial Assistant, and **Martha Jones** as the Stewardship Coordinator. Our financial team is especially thanked for their extraordinary efforts in coordinating the *Currents* Capital Campaign. Central Moravian Church is fortunate to have financial resources that are the result of generations of careful managers and investors and a multitude of generous benefactors who entrust the current Board to use resources carefully for the present and for the future.

The work of the Board of Trustees is dependent on the constant support of the Senior Office Administrator, **Cindy Gibson**. The Trustees are also grateful for the work of our 2024 Facilities Manager, **Mike Repsher**. Mike took the lead in working with HVAC Project providers working with **Hank Naisby** and **Bobb Carson** and the other members of the project team of Worth & Company, the Stone House Group, and Snyder Hoffman Engineering. Special thanks to custodian, **Tammy Ace** for assisting ministry at Central through her dedicated work in maintaining our buildings. Our facility staff works in close cooperation with the Buildings and Grounds Committee.

Board of Trustee Highlights 2024

Coordinated with the Buildings and Grounds Committee to oversee the construction of the new variable refrigerant flow (VRF) system which heats, cools and ventilates the Sanctuary with outside air, and the invoices associated with the renovation. The goal

of the Campaign is \$1.6 million. At the end of December, pledges reached 1,200,000 and gifts paid are approaching one million dollars. **Martha Jones** has been extraordinary in many ways in managing the flow of gifts, reporting progress each week, and securing grants from foundations.

Approved new Church Office network and phone system after a storm permanently damaged the out-of-date existing system. Special thanks to **Will Schwab** for his guidance and implementation.

Approved a recommendation of the Buildings and Grounds Committee to establish a Deferred Capital Improvements Fund. For clarification purposes, approved changing the name of the Preservation Fund to the Preservation & Capital Improvements Fund.

Approved transition of IT support contract to Moravian University to realize both savings and the advantage of working with a church partner. Special thanks to **Becky Lepore** for leadership in this transition. Thanks to **Kathy Williams** for her oversight of the Memorandum of Understanding with the university.

Approved updated Emergency Response Manual.

Approved new site usage contracts with all partners.

Respectfully Submitted,
Mary Catherine Tachovsky
President of the Board of Trustees

63 W. Church St. Property Committee

Under the guidance of the Trustees, and in cooperation with the Buildings and Grounds Committee, the Property Committee provides oversight of the 63 West Church Street Central Church owned property, currently rented as a residence, and in the past used as the Central Moravian Church parsonage. When the Parsonage was not needed for current pastors in 2011, the decision was made by Trustees to rent the property. The Property Committee manages matters related to the lease, rent, and future planning. The Facilities Manager, who is a member of both committees, refers all maintenance needs to the Building and Grounds Committee. The Property Committee meets annually or on an as-needed basis. It is the intention of the

Trustees to continue leasing the property, so a new five-year lease agreement with the current tenants was negotiated in late June of 2022.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jeffrey Long, Chair

Committee Members: Jeffrey Long, Susan Noack,
Mike Repsher, Janel Rice, Mary Catherine Tachovsky,
Tom Tenges, Kathy Williams

Audit Committee

Central Moravian Church retained Campbell, Rappold, and Yurasits (CYR) to audit our financial records and practices for the 2023 fiscal year. CYR has been working with Central Moravian for a number of years and their knowledge of our organization continues to be very beneficial.

A clean report was issued for 2023 – as in prior years there are no concerns about our accounting and internal controls. The report was approved at the Trustees on November 20, 2024. A copy of the report is available from the church office for review. I would be happy to address any questions.

Respectfully Submitted,
Beth Schlener, Chair

Committee Members: Pam Larimer, Rob Phillips,
Beth Schlener and Kathy Williams

Buildings and Grounds Committee

The Buildings and Grounds Committee oversees maintenance and capital projects that involve the Moravian buildings cared for by the church. Implementation of these projects, and of regular, on-going tasks (e.g., cleaning, inspections, etc.) is carried out by the Facilities Manager, Mike Repsher.

Our major projects this year to maintain, improve and increase safety include:

Sanctuary

1. Replacing our heating and cooling systems has been a major project. Weekly meetings were held during this project as we worked closely with the engineers and the installers. The systems are

operational and continue to be tuned for the most efficiency and comfort. Thank you, Bobb Carson, for over-seeing this project, and to the congregation for your understanding and financial support of this important improvement.

2. The Belfry was inspected structurally. Part of the inspection was related to support for the star. New supports were installed, and the star was hung.
3. A contract was signed to continue work on the Belfry this spring. New railings will be installed. Part of the project will be restoration of the Lunettes at each end of the building.
4. Ground level windows at the East end of the church were painted.
5. Initial research has started concerning replacement of the roof.
6. The alarm system was replaced.

Chapel

1. A leak in the roof has been observed and we are determining how to respond.

Christian Education Building

No major projects this year.

Office

1. The phone system was replaced after a storm damaged the old system. Thank you, Will Schwab, for all of your help.
2. Brick and stucco repairs were made.
3. The windows were washed.
4. Additional lighting was installed in the parking lot.

63 West Church

Initial work is being done related to replacing the fence..

Church Green

1. A bench in memory of Hopeton was donated by the Coleman family. A pad and the bench were installed near the Chapel entrance.
2. Two benches were installed on the Green to cover and protect the new electrical box.

3. We are working closely with BAM and other Common Ground partners on issues pertaining to the grounds.

Thank you to Committee members for all that you do on the committee and in supporting the congregation in your quiet ways.

Respectfully Submitted,
Hank Naisby, Chair

Church Family Life Committee

The Church Family Life Committee had an incredible year. The Birthday Social was a success, with over 100 attendees enjoying the fellowship, a light lunch, and plenty of cake. We initiated numerous activities, including the monthly Dining Group and a Mini Golf and Ice Cream event. Both were well attended and will be continued in 2025. The numerous after-church luncheons were well attended. Highlights for 2025 include a February luncheon with a special mystery guest and an August bus trip to Sight and Sound to see the show Noah. Details will be shared in a later *Belfry*. It was my pleasure to lead the Church Family Life Committee.

Respectfully Submitted,
Rose Warner

Digital Ministry Committee

This committee grew from the Worship and Music Strategic Planning Committee, a sub-group of the Strategic Plan for Central Moravian Church. The purposes are to oversee live-streaming of worship services, educate the congregation on various technical platforms and assist those who lack technical knowledge and skills.

2024 Accomplishments:

- A Smart Board was purchased to be used for various educational purposes. Committee Chairs have and will continue to receive training on its potential uses.
- QR Code is available to those watching the live-stream of worship services to make donations to the church.

- During the Prelude, various upcoming activities are promoted in progressive slides as part of the live-stream.
- Articles were included in the Belfry and Constant Contact of the benefits of clicking “Like” and “Subscribe” to Central’s YouTube Channel.
- In April, IT oversight was incorporated into the Digital Ministry Committee’s responsibilities. In May, Moravian University was contracted as IT support for the church office staff.
- Cybersecurity education was provided to interested members of the congregation. This will be an annual program with updates of new scams and IT threats. A scam threat awareness article was placed in the church bulletin and Constant Contact. A “Scam Alert” Mission Moment was presented at the 11 a.m. service in December.
- After a powerful July storm, the phone system for the church office was knocked out. Under Will Schwab’s leadership and hard work, an overall upgrade and replacement of the system was completed.
- In collaboration with representatives of the Digital Ministry Committee and the Buildings and Grounds Committee, the church office computer system was upgraded in anticipation of future needs. This involved adding new equipment and rewiring of the church office. Funding was approved by the Buildings and Grounds Committee to be paid from the Capital Projects Fund.
- Paul de Vries volunteered to be a backup for Will as needed at the streaming hub.
- Central Church’s YouTube statistics for 2024:

- 1,002 subscribers
- 276 new subscribers
- 267 videos
- 29,900 views
- 719 “Likes”
- 562 “Shares”
- The most watched live stream and video with 4,287 hours watched was Bishop Hopeton Clennon’s Memorial Service.

My sincere thanks to Committee members Janel Rice, Josh Follweiler, Becky Lepore, Will Schwab, Llyena Boylan-Spieth, Paul de Vries, Camie Modjadidi, Susan Noack, Mary Catherine Tachovsky, Emily Wascura and Stephen Yorks for their support, enthusiasm and ideas.

Respectfully Submitted,
David Charrier, Chair

Emergency Preparedness Committee

In May 2020, Mary Catherine Tachovsky, President of the Trustees and Joint Board, established the Emergency Preparedness Committee as a new standing committee. The charge of the committee was to create a manual that outlined protocols to address a variety of potential emergencies. This committee will function in perpetuity as situations, best practices and accountabilities change.

The committee completed the 2024 annual Emergency Response Manual review. Revisions included updated contact information and review of policies and procedures with revisions as needed. Hard copies of the manual were placed at key locations and given to key Partners. The manual is also available on BoardEffect for the Elders and Trustees.

The committee will meet every 6 months or as needed to review the Emergency Response Manual.

I would like to take this opportunity to express my gratitude to the members of the committee who have willingly given of their time and expertise. The committee would also like to thank Cindy Gibson for her invaluable assistance.

Respectfully Submitted,
Camie Modjadidi, Chair

Committee Members: Ken Kodama, Ann Raines,
Pastor Janel Rice, Kathy Williams, Terry Worrich

Fundraising Committee

The Fundraising Committee having achieved its purpose, will be dissolved at the end of this year. The committee was initiated by Anne Zug in February 2017. Its charge was to support Central's mission by raising funds for the operational budget. The first meeting of the committee was on 5/18/17. Since that time the committee has met every annual financial goal with excessive money carried over to the following year.

The committee developed the Shoppe on the Greene where members of the congregation and friends could buy our various items. The committee also established two sponsorships, the Bulletin Sponsorship and the

Lessons and Carols Sponsorship which will continue. Fellowship events included art classes, lectures, Christmas Cookie Walks and dinners.

I wish to thank all the past and present members of this amazing committee for generously giving of their time, talents, and treasures. Thank you for being good and faithful stewards. A very special thank you to Anne Zug, whose vision and guidance started us on this wonderful journey. We as a committee also wish to thank Cindy Gibson, Martha Jones, Kelly Knapp, and Kris Wruble for their invaluable support.

Respectfully Submitted,
Camie Modjadidi, Chair

Committee Members: Pastor Janel Rice, Lyn Chynoweth, Pam Larimer, Hank Naisby, Connie Pierce, Carol Reifinger, Priscilla Schueck, Mary Catherine Tachovsky, Mike Wall, and Anne Zug

Governance Committee

The Governance Committee consists of 8 members, most of whom serve on either the Nominating Team or the Orientation Team, and include Pastor Janel. This committee, approved by the Joint Board in 2022, assumes the work of the previously separate Nominating and Orientation Committees. Additionally, this committee provides mentors for new board members as needed, support for all board members throughout the year, participates in New Members' Classes, hosts a Lenten Dinner, and develops tools aligned to best practices for boards. This committee also strives to communicate more intentionally with members of the congregation to engage church members who express an interest and are willing to share experience and skills to lead as board members.. Please note that the Nominating Team Election Process remains the same procedurally as indicated in the Church Handbook. Two Elders, two Trustees, and two members at large prepare the slate of candidates for Church Council.

The Governance Committee meets about once a quarter, and cooperatively discusses and acts upon topics set forth in each agenda. Some of the materials and tools developed by the members this past year as well as activities include: a revised Nominating process timeline, revised tools to facilitate the

nominating of potential members, administered two board evaluation tools, and planned agenda for Joint Board Orientation in February. We look forward to continuing our work to support our treasured board members, implement suggestions offered as a result of the evaluation, and to invite interested candidates for future board membership through a congregational outreach plan.

Respectfully Submitted,
Susan Noack, Chair

Hospitality on Sundays

On Sundays throughout the year, our group gets together to joyfully plan, prepare and serve various refreshments. We begin our year with the Church Council lunch refreshment at the end of January. The hospitality group serves lunches to individuals exploring church membership. We look forward to the Easter Dawn service and the offering of coffee fellowship that follows as well as Love Feast on the Green in August.

This faithful team includes: Helen Seifert, Sallie Woodring, Rosi McIlwain, June Griffiths, Joan Carson, Jan Cole, Kelly Ahn, Kathy Williams, Beth Boyer, Mary Catherine Tachovsky, and Pam Larimer.

Respectfully Submitted,
Pam Larimer

Investment Committee

The Investment Committee meets on a quarterly schedule in January, April, July, and October to evaluate the performance of the Church's portfolio and make purchases, sales, or any needed adjustments. Members of the committee include Anne Zug, Jennifer Ceneviva, Brenda Hoelman, David Weikert, Anthony Thompson, Mary Catherine Tachovsky, Don Brown, and Wayne Achey, our Merrill Lynch representative.

Markets were generally up this year, and made surprising gains in the fourth quarter. Our portfolio, because it is so diversified, made similar percentage gains as the overall market. This amounts to around 14-15 percent gains.

The large HVAC project in 2024 required us to borrow some of our investment funds to cover the early payments due on the project. We took out \$900,000 from the Endowment, Preservation, and Steps funds to cover the early contractor payments as Campaign funds started to come in. The Campaign was slated to be over a 5 year period. At this point we have pledges of \$1,202,105 and paid dollars of \$945,016. As pledges and other contributions come in, money will be put back into the Funds from which we borrowed. We have already put \$100,000 back into the Steps Fund. Part of the Mission, Steps, and McKay Funds are in Moravian Ministries accounts. The following table indicates the opening and closing balances of our managed funds and the amounts that were withdrawn from the accounts to help cover the 2024 Budget.

Central Funds	Opening Balance on January 1, 2024	Closing Balance on December 31, 2024	Funds withdrawn to support projects and the Church Budget
Endowment Fund	3,820,427	4,035,626	234,511
Endowment Growth	1,054,073	1,548,249	0
Preservation Fund	783,961	854,957	59,170
Preservation Growth Fund	441,739	538,587	0
Preservation Income	120,525	17,076	103,579
Central Steps	82,030	187,454	0
Holding Account	77,527	80,755	40,000
E. Johnston Prime Fund	868,239	1,021,836	28,024
Central Mission	102,671	135,397	0
Van Ness Fund	396,300	407,022	56,935
Van Ness Growth	1,103,566	1,378,949	0
James McKay	100,899	105,286	4,306

The Investment Committee operates within a set of guidelines that help keep the investments balanced in a combination of stocks, bonds, and funds that promote diversification to help balance risks. These guidelines were recently updated. Many thanks to the committee members who help keep our portfolio strategy on course.

Respectfully Submitted,
Don Brown, Chair

Personnel Committee

The Personnel Committee held monthly meetings virtually throughout 2024. With the unexpected passing of Bishop Hopeton Clennon January 7, 2024, Personnel worked closely with Pastor Janel Rice to discern the path forward with finding staff to meet congregational needs on an interim basis until a call process could happen. Central was fortunate to have Pastor Josh Follweiler on loan from the Southern Province join us for one year while he waits for word on graduate programs.

In October of 2023, Pastor Janel Rice returned to Central in an expanded role as Pastor of Congregational Care and Community Outreach. Her role expanded significantly upon Hopeton's passing, and she accepted the challenge with grace and perseverance. We also received word of the acceptance of Bethlehem as part of the World Heritage Sites with fellow Moravian Congregations around the world. This action, while a blessing to our community and church, has increased our visibility and the work of our pastors and staff.

We experienced the generosity of our deeply committed staff who accepted challenges throughout the year, often supporting others as they dealt with their own grief. Assisted by talented members of our congregation, Central moved forward with Hopeton's reassurance that "all will be well." Looking forward to 2025, knowing that work needs to be done to refine how are church will move forward, and we do so with great hope. We will continue to identify emerging needs, and find creative ways to meet those needs, as well as keeping our job descriptions, employee handbook, and policies updated to reflect current situations and best practices.

Respectfully Submitted,
Ann Raines, Chair

Committee Members: Jeffrey Long, Jeffrey Mosebach, Susan Noack, Ann Raines, Janel Rice, Beth Schlener, Mary Catherine Tachovsky, Kathy Williams

Stewardship Committee

Special thanks to the Rev. Dr. Betsy Miller who delivered this year's stewardship message with a focus of how contributions impact Moravian agencies around the world. The stewardship letter was mailed on October 14, 2024, to 550 church households of confirmed church members and friends. Unless requested otherwise, only one pledge card/letter was sent to a household.

The 2024 church operating budget called for envelope giving* of \$621,677. As of December 31, 2024, 148 pledges were received totaling \$350,006. This represents 56% of the proposed 2024 envelope giving and 33% of the 2024 church operating budget (\$1,058,326).

With a view towards economy, members were asked to opt in to receiving contribution statements electronically; statement frequency starting in 2025 will be delivered on the trimester. QR codes were developed and deployed to improve the ease of making donations.

*Envelope giving is defined as cash contributions from members and friends.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jennifer Ceneviva and Brenda Hoelman, Co-Chairs

Contribution Analysis

GIVING RANGES	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
less than \$1	217	210	219	244	268	250	251	286	316	309	281	284
1 - 100	106	85	73	73	67	78	88	59	49	57	64	73
101 - 200	41	52	34	31	37	28	29	26	15	21	22	25
201 - 300	43	44	34	46	43	33	29	26	22	21	21	22
301 - 400	27	25	21	17	25	26	19	17	18	10	16	16
401 - 500	16	29	32	30	19	19	20	13	17	13	15	20
501 - 600	28	18	22	23	23	17	15	16	21	22	19	14
601 - 700	8	15	10	9	9	14	16	12	10	5	10	10
701 - 800	19	17	11	15	12	24	13	15	16	12	8	11
801 - 900	11	6	7	9	7	5	12	9	10	12	11	7
901-1000	12	12	9	11	7	14	19	16	11	12	12	9
1001 - 1100	9	11	12	5	10	10	5	9	6	11	5	10
1101 - 1200	17	11	14	10	20	14	17	15	14	14	14	9
1201 - 1300	7	9	11	13	7	4	6	5	5	4	6	7
1301 - 1400	7	8	5	10	5	8	6	5	4	7	8	4
1401 - 1500	5	10	7	9	13	8	7	5	7	8	10	9
1501 - 2000	31	32	31	30	27	23	21	19	21	16	20	19
2001 - 3000	40	37	34	38	35	38	33	35	35	34	33	26
3001 - 4000	16	9	12	9	13	13	12	8	9	11	14	19
4001 - 5000	12	11	10	14	4	8	7	7	7	7	8	9
5001 - 7500	10	9	9	9	13	15	9	12	11	13	16	18
7501 - 10000	1	2	1	2	1	2	2	3	3	2	3	3
>10000	4	4	4	3	3	3	3	3	1	1	5	3
Total Giving Units (1)	470	456	403	416	400	404	388	335	312	313	340	343
Average Contribution (2)	\$1,137.70	\$1,143.23	\$1,221.04	\$1,188.20	\$1,247.28	\$1,230.07	\$1,260.07	\$1,385.05	\$1,413.33	\$1,393.53	\$1,572.50	\$1,520.83
Total Contributions	\$ 534,720	\$ 521,311	\$ 492,078	\$ 494,292	\$ 498,913	\$ 496,949	\$ 488,909	\$ 463,991	\$ 440,958	\$ 436,174	\$ 534,650	\$ 521,646
Units giving \$500 or less	233	235	194	197	191	184	185	141	121	122	138	156
% \$500 or less	49.57%	51.54%	48.14%	47.36%	47.75%	45.54%	47.68%	42.09%	38.78%	38.98%	40.59%	45.48%
Units giving over \$500	237	221	209	219	209	220	203	194	191	191	202	187
% over \$500	50.43%	48.46%	51.86%	52.64%	52.25%	54.46%	52.32%	57.91%	61.22%	61.02%	59.41%	54.52%

(1) Number of giving units as those assigned by contribution envelope numbers

(2) Total giving divided by giving units

Financial Disclosure Summary

In reviewing the past several years, a positive trend regarding the Operating Budget of Central Moravian Church has continued to exceed or match our Budget expectations. Fiscal Year 2021 ended with a surplus of \$1,792, FY2022 ended with a surplus of \$32,282, FY2023 ended with a minimal deficit of \$-745 and now Fiscal Year 2024 ends with a surplus of \$1,981.

Total Income increased from last year by \$13,749 finishing at \$965,586, however was under budget by \$92,740 or 16%.

Envelope Giving came in below budget requirements throughout the year and ended \$100,031 or 16% under budget.

Other Contributions (other gifts, special envelopes and cash plate offering) came in over budget by \$7,445 or 11%, helping to cover some of the shortfall in Envelopes.

Institutional Receipts (Moravian College, Moravian Academy, ArtsQuest, Bach Choir, 63 W. Church Street rental, and wedding income) came in \$310 under budget. That includes Moravian Academy reimbursements totaling \$14,735.53 for their share of the CE Building maintenance costs.

Endowment Income came in over budget by \$157 and \$18,557 over actual 2023 Endowment income.

Total Expenses came in at \$963,605 and were under budget by \$94,721 or 9%.

Salary and Benefits were under budget by \$68,351 or 12%, due to staffing changes.

Facilities-Operations were under budget by \$3,466 or 3%, mostly due to cost savings from new liability insurance.

Facilities-Maintenance was under budget by \$29,588 or 30%, mostly due to improvement expenses coming out of the Capital Projects budget.

Total Programs expense decreased over actual 2023 by \$17,592 and was under budget by \$6,163 or 5% due to staffing changes for the Visiting Ministry.

Church Office Administration expenses came in over budget by \$12,847 or 29% due to directory printing expenses and staff recognitions.

Province & District Administration was paid \$85,997 in 2024 in support of the many beneficial aspects of the district.

Fiscal Year 2024 ended with a surplus of \$1,981 which will be carried over to Fiscal Year 2025 and added to the Operating Surplus/Deficit Fund.

Capital Projects, although not part of the Operating Budget and funded by income from the Preservation Fund, totaled \$73,378 for capital improvements done throughout the Church Campus.

Jeff Mosebach, Treasurer and Chair, Budget and Finance Committee
Kris Wruble, Financial Secretary

CENTRAL MORAVIAN CHURCH
Financial Disclosure
For the year ending December 31, 2024

	2021 Actual	2022 Actual	2023 Actual	2024 Actual	24 vs 23 Change	2024 Actual vs. 2024 Budget		
						Budget	Actual %	Budget \$ +/-
Beginning Balance	19,574	21,366	53,648	52,903				
<u>INCOME:</u>								
Envelopes	440,958	436,174	534,650	521,646	(13,004)	621,677	-16%	\$ (100,031)
Other Contributions	168,407	169,310	68,600	75,710	7,110	68,265	11%	\$ 7,445
Institutional Receipts	91,475	90,998	108,783	109,869	1,086	110,179	0%	\$ (310)
Endowment Income	179,755	212,024	239,805	258,362	18,557	258,205	0%	\$ 157
TOTAL INCOME	880,596	908,506	951,837	965,586	13,749	1,058,326	-9%	\$ (92,740)
<u>EXPENSES:</u>								
Pastoral Staff Salary & Ben.	229,457	144,302	157,649	167,781	10,132	240,484	-30%	\$ (72,703)
Music Staff Salary & Ben.	86,920	89,141	95,370	99,763	4,392	99,103	1%	\$ 659
Support Staff Salary & Ben.	179,823	200,079	237,761	257,572	19,812	253,879	1%	\$ 3,693
Total Salary & Benefits	496,201	433,522	490,780	525,116	34,336	593,466	-12%	\$ (68,351)
Total Facilities Operation	83,106	89,810	101,863	100,821	(1,042)	104,287	-3%	\$ (3,466)
Total Facilities and Campus Maint. (5)	55,404	101,779	83,170	69,412	(13,757)	99,000	-30%	\$ (29,588)
								\$ -
Ministry & Worship (1)	55,222	65,267	75,178	60,331	(14,846)	59,667	1%	\$ 665
Music Program Total (2)	31,117	43,175	43,433	37,215	(6,218)	38,659	-4%	\$ (1,444)
Christian Education Program (3)	4,750	5,828	7,737	7,346	(390)	13,450	-45%	\$ (6,104)
Mission & Outreach Program (4)	16,950	18,150	16,458	20,321	3,863	19,600	4%	\$ 721
Total Program & Outreach	108,040	132,420	142,805	125,213	(17,592)	131,376	-5%	\$ (6,163)
Total Church Office Administration	38,693	51,946	44,702	57,047	12,345	44,200	29%	\$ 12,847
Total Province & District	97,423	89,081	89,081	85,997	(3,084)	85,997	0%	\$ -
TOTAL EXPENSES (5)	878,805	876,224	952,582	963,605	11,023	1,058,326	-9%	\$ (94,721)
SURPLUS/(- DEFICIT) (1) (2) (3) (4)	1,792	32,282	-745	1,981				
								-
Ending Balance	21,366	53,648	52,903	54,884				

(1) In FY2021, \$1,792 was transferred to the Prior Operating Surplus/Deficit Fund

(2) In FY2022, \$32,282 was transferred to the Prior Operating Surplus/Deficit Fund

(3) In FY2023, \$-745 was transferred to the Prior Operating Surplus/Deficit Fund

(4) In FY2024, \$1,981 was transferred to the Prior Operating Surplus/Deficit Fund

(5) - Capital Project expenses for 2024 were \$73,378, financed through the Preservation Endowment Fund (separate from the Operating Budget)

2025 Budget Overview

Budget and Finance Committee: Jeff Mosebach (Chair), David Charrier, Don Brown, Jennifer Ceneviva, Josh Follweiler, Rob Phillips, Ann Raines, Janel Rice, Mary Catherine Tachovsky, Sharon Upton and Kris Wruble.

Various individuals worked diligently to prepare committee and departmental budgets by projecting what they believe to be realistic expenses for 2025, which was then reviewed by the Budget and Finance Committee. Many thanks those individuals for looking at the details and keeping the goals of Central Church in the forefront while developing resourceful fiscal adjustments resulting in a realistic budget for 2025.

Income:

Envelope Giving and Other Contributions present challenges in budgeting to identify trends and how those will be impacted by other initiatives or campaigns. Based on initiatives for 2025, the goal for Envelope Giving was decreased to \$598,230 and Other Contributions was increased to \$85,150. In total the goal for both is \$683,380 which reflects a decrease of \$6,562 from the 2024 budget.

Institutional Receipts include fees for facility usage as well as rent for 63 W. Church Street. This shows an increase of \$1,305 or 1% from 2024 Actual.

Endowment Income has a projected income increase of \$3,206 or 1% from 2024 Actual.

Expenses:

Salaries and Benefits expense illustrates a full complement of staff for 2025 and a yearly salary increase for full-time and part-time employees.

Facilities Operations budget is slightly increasing by \$4,714 or 5% anticipating increased utility costs and use of our facilities.

Facilities Maintenance shows an increase over the 2024 budget figure due to maintenance costs; however, many projects may be handled under Capital Projects and funded with income from the Preservation Fund.

Ministry & Worship reflects an increase of \$2,274 due to increased programming.

Music Programs shows a slight increase in budget between 2024 and 2025 which will continue to provide innovative musical offerings that enrich the spiritual life of the congregation as well as the community.

Christian Education shows a slight increase in the 2025 budget over 2024 reflecting some changes within our educational programs and staffing for youth, young adults, and adults.

Church Office Administration shows a slight increase over 2024 budget for increased costs.

Province & District Administration exhibits an increase from the 2024 budget which is automatically calculated based on prior year Envelope Giving and Cash Plate offerings.

Jeff Mosebach, Treasurer and Chair, Budget and Finance Committee
Kris Wruble, Financial Secretary

CENTRAL MORAVIAN CHURCH
Proposed Budget
For the year ending December 31, 2025
(approved by Trustees 11/20/24 and Elders 12/10/24)

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2024	2025	Adjustments
INCOME:	Actual	Actual	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	2024 vs 2025
Envelopes	440,958	436,174	534,650	621,677	521,646	598,230	(23,447)
Other Contributions	168,407	169,310	68,600	68,265	75,710	85,150	16,885
Institutional Receipts	91,475	90,998	108,783	110,179	109,869	111,174	995
Endowment Income	179,755	212,024	239,805	258,205	258,362	261,568	3,363
TOTAL INCOME	880,596	908,506	951,837	1,058,326	965,586	1,056,122	-2,204
EXPENSES:							
Pastoral Staff Salary & Ben.	229,457	144,302	157,649	240,484	167,781	192,979	-47,505
Music Staff Salary & Ben.	86,920	89,141	95,370	99,103	99,763	103,872	4,769
Support Staff Salary & Ben.	179,823	200,079	237,761	253,879	257,572	277,668	23,789
Total Salary & Benefits	496,201	433,522	490,780	593,466	525,116	574,519	-18,947
Total Facilities Operation	83,106	89,810	101,863	104,287	100,821	105,534	1,247
Total Facilities and Campus Maint. (5)	55,404	101,779	83,170	99,000	69,412	82,360	-16,640
Ministry & Worship (1)	55,222	65,267	75,178	59,667	60,331	62,605	2,938
Music Program Total (2)	31,117	43,175	43,433	38,659	37,215	42,788	4,129
Christian Education Program (3)	4,750	5,828	7,737	13,450	7,346	14,095	645
Mission & Outreach Program (4)	16,950	18,150	16,458	19,600	20,321	19,700	100
Total Program & Outreach	108,040	132,420	142,805	131,376	125,213	139,188	7,812
Church Office Administration Total	38,693	51,946	44,702	44,200	57,047	48,140	3,940
Province & District Total	97,423	89,081	89,081	85,997	85,997	106,381	20,384
TOTAL EXPENSES	878,805	876,224	952,582	1,058,326	963,605	1,056,122	-2,204
SURPLUS/(- DEFICIT)	1,792	32,282	-744	0	1,981	0	0
Adjustment from Reserves	0	0	0	0	-	0	0
NET SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)	1,792	32,282	-744	0	1,981	0	0

(1) Primarily Christmas, Easter, Lovefeasts, bulletins, Daily Texts, Hospitality, Membership, Stewardship, Church Family Life, Elders, Planned Giving, Visitation Ministry & Parish Pastor

(2) Lead singers, soloists, instrumentalists, accompanist, substitute organist, materials & supplies, piano & organ

(3) Church School, youth programs and staff, adult education, child care

(4) Mission, Communications, Social Action, Social Agencies, Esperanza

(5) Includes basic buildings & grounds maintenance, supplies, service contracts



THE PROVINCIAL ELDERS' CONFERENCE (EXECUTIVE BOARD)

1021 Center Street, Bethlehem, PA 18018

Telephones: 610-867-7566 - Moravian Church Center
610-865-3137 - P.E.C. President
610-866-9223 - Fax

THE MORAVIAN CHURCH • Northern Province

October 2024

Dear Friends and Partners in Ministry,

Grace and peace to you in the name of the God who calls us to follow with faith, love, and hope! The Moravian Church Northern Province equips congregations and people to be agents of God's transforming love in the world. We believe that God calls all of us to join God in this important work.

On behalf of the 2023 Northern Provincial Synod, I seek your full participation in our **Common Ministries Commitment** in 2025. This budget comes from the direct input and prayerful discernment of the synod delegates representing all of our congregations and discernment of the newly elected Provincial Elders' Conference. We now seek your own commitment to support and fulfill the ministry initiatives which this budget strives to achieve.

Your support allows us to educate seminarians who will become our pastors. Your commitment supports the Board of World Mission which supports our ministry regions all over the globe. In that same spirit, your support and presence was represented at the recent Unity Board Meeting gathering in Antigua. Your faithfulness fosters new ways of allowing the Moravian Music Foundation to care for and promote musical resources. Your funds support the Interprovincial Board of Communication that continues the long tradition of publishing the Daily Texts to be distributed around the world. Your gifts support the Provincial Archives, which treasures and preserves our historical story as a Moravian family. Finally, as a directive from the 2023 Provincial Synod, the Common Ministries Commitment for 2025 advances new and emerging ministries in our province through the work of the Emerging Ministries Committee and its new support staff.

Your offering supports the provincial leaders and staff that faithfully serve you. It takes all of us, serving together to realize God's vision for the church. Thank you in advance for your full participation.

We fund our common ministries through every congregation giving a percentage of its Line 1 income. The 2025 provincial budget was built on your Line 1 income from 2023. The *percentage* of your Line 1 income remains the same as last year. The *amount* you are asked to offer changes based on the fluctuation of Line 1 income. If your congregation is able and feels led, please consider making a Faith Gift – above and beyond what we ask of you. Very often these gifts make up the difference when some congregations struggle to meet their full commitments.

The Northern Province Elders' Conference approved a budget for 2025 in the amount of \$2,196,170 which is based on anticipated common ministry receipts of \$1,403,571. You should be aware that we fund the difference between congregational support and actual expenses through a growing draw from designated funds that function as endowment. As you can imagine, should there be a downturn in the financial markets, our endowment income will be diminished.

As before, we are sending out this entire mailing via e-mail. You are receiving this letter because you are a Pastor, Vice-Chair of Elders, President of Trustees, or Treasurer. It is imperative that you access the specifics of your congregation's share of the provincial budget on the Moravian Church Northern Province Portal. You have access through a specific password; if you experience difficulty with the portal, contact Tammy Curcio in our Finance Office at portal@mcnp.org.

As you prayerfully determine your local congregational budgets and include your share of our provincial budgets, I invite you to remember our common commitments we make as congregations of this province. We must all give - and serve - together so that we continue to be faithful and courageous agents of God's transforming love in the world. Thank you for the many ways you live the Good News within and beyond your local congregation.

Grace and peace,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'David E. Bennett', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Rev. David E. Bennett
President

DEB/jh



THE EXECUTIVE BOARD OF THE EASTERN DISTRICT

Incorporated December 4, 1945

1021 Center St., Bethlehem, PA 18018

Telephone: 610-865-0302

Fax: 610-866-9223

www.moravian.org/eastern

THE MORAVIAN CHURCH • Northern Province

September 2024

Dear Ministry Partners,

Grace and peace to you! I am writing on behalf of the Eastern District Executive Board (EDEB). It is the time of year when we begin making plans for 2025, and we hope this information will assist you as you help your congregations to understand our Common Ministries and create your budgets.

We are grateful for your continued faithfulness to God's call for your congregations and communities. There is so much evidence of how the Holy Spirit is working in our midst to help us touch lives with the Good News. Your traditional ministries and innovative endeavors are allowing this to happen.

We believe that the Holy Spirit also works through our partnerships. As our 2024 synod theme reminded, It's **Your** Call! Together we have wonderful ways of sharing God's love and being resources for one another. In these challenging days of ministry, we understand our partnerships to be a sustaining and life-giving force. Our commitment to our Common Ministries is one of the most basic ways that we demonstrate our investment in our partnership.

The reality remains that many congregations struggle to pay their share of our Common Ministries. The EDEB continues to search for ways to address this. We strive to continue offering as many resources as possible to our congregations so they might thrive. We would also like to come alongside you as you look honestly at your challenges and viability. Please contact us if you would like to engage in this conversation together. There are no simple solutions, but we are committed to leveraging our resources and providing support in every way possible.

We express our deep gratitude to congregations who are doing their very best to commit to their share of our Common Ministries. As always, we ask you to consider an additional gift before the end of the year if you have been blessed to do so. Or perhaps you might look to next year and move toward more consistent giving by making monthly contributions. Every gesture counts as we strive to be good stewards of our district resources.

Remember to utilize the benefits of the Past Due Balance Policy, offering 20% forgiveness of the Provincial and District Common Ministry past due balances for each year in which a congregation meets all district/provincial assessments and pastoral benefits assessments in full. The goal is to

provide relief from past due balances, while encouraging support for our common ministries in the present. Please contact me for more information about this program.

Attached you will find a description of our Common Ministries. Often congregation members are unaware of how these funds are use. Please share this widely within your congregations, beginning with your leadership boards and then your full community. Please reach out with questions. Your district board members and I are grateful for any opportunity we might have to come and talk about these in a worship or meeting setting. Together we can help to strengthen the ministry of our individual congregations and our district as a whole. Thank you for your dedication to Christ and to the ministry we share!

Yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Melissa L. Johnson".

The Rev. Melissa L. Johnson
President

Enc: District Common Ministry Description

OUR EASTERN DISTRICT COMMON MINISTRY

One of the noblest attributes of the Moravian Church is found not only in how we as individual congregations touch lives within our own communities, but also how we collaborate denominationally to make a regional, national, and even global impact. Our Common Ministries reflect an important, shared value that Christ calls us to do together that which we cannot do alone. It is in this way that our Common Ministries contributions express not only our ministry partnership with one another, but more importantly the kinship we proclaim in Christ Jesus.

ADMINISTRATION

DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION

These monies are allocated for such items as district synods; the cost of travel and expenses of meetings of the District Board; making grants to congregations; paying liability insurance; the cost of having our district represented on various boards, committees, and agencies; subsidy in support of Moravian Open Door administration and legal and intervention expenses; as well as salaries, benefits, and program costs for our district staff.

CHURCH REDEVELOPMENT

Utilizing the services of district professional staff and the consultation of the district ministry teams, these monies fund ministry assessment, appreciative inquiry, and assistance for congregations in need of revitalization, redevelopment, and discernment for the future.

DISTRICT PROGRAM

Provides support for miscellaneous programming efforts, including pastoral development events, internships, support for state councils of churches and ecumenical agencies, as well as continuing education at Moravian Theological Seminary.

DISTRICT SENIOR LIVING COMMUNITIES

This contribution assists Moravian Manor Communities and Morningstar Senior Living in providing care for residents whose costs are not fully covered by personal and social security resources.

HOPE CONFERENCE AND RENEWAL CENTER (all congregations except Ohio)

These monies subsidize the cost of the administration and management of the Hope Conference and Renewal Center.

STATE COUNCILS OF CHURCHES

This item includes contributions to State Councils of Churches in New Jersey, New York, Maryland, Ohio, Washington DC, and Pennsylvania. These monies provide an ecumenical service and witness which otherwise would not be available to us as individual congregations. Services provided include consultation on migrant ministries and information on public policy issues.

INNER CITY YOUTH

This significant ministry for congregations in urban areas was started by the “Moravian Women” who annually contribute between \$3,000 and \$5,000 for this ministry. As the years have passed, requests have increased to approximately two- and one-half times the monies available. The District Synod of 2004 established support for this important ministry through an assessment. This initiative funds new youth ministry initiatives for congregations in urban areas where youth programming is lacking or non-existent.

MORAVIAN OPEN DOOR

Moravian Open Door is a not-for-profit (501(c) 3) organization committed to providing transitional housing and supportive services to the homeless, distressed, and underserved population of New York City. Our ministry serves those individuals who are fifty and older with the goal of helping them regain their independence and security, and assisting them in moving to appropriate, permanent facilities.

OHIO MORAVIAN MINISTRIES COMMISSION (Ohio only)

This item is for youth ministry, camp support, mission society support, matching grant programs for Ohio Congregations. These monies are collected by the Eastern District Executive Board and returned to the Ohio Moravian Ministries Commission.

DISTRICT MINISTRY TEAMS**Spiritual Formation Ministry Team:**

The purpose of the Spiritual Formation Ministry Team is to aid pastors and congregations in elevating the call of ministry to laity through workshops and training events (locally, area-wide and District-wide); to assist in developing leadership skills among all members for continued spiritual growth and to include spiritual leadership development; to assist in a discernment process for laity to identify their call to life-long, vocational ministry, mission and service; and to uphold the importance of shared ministry among lay and clergy alike.

Stewardship of Life Ministry Team:

Moravians have always stressed the stewardship of all of life – management and sharing of our spirituality, time, talents, and treasures as well as the care of creation. The primary focus of the Stewardship of Life Ministry Team is to enable congregations to discover what assets are available within their congregation for ministries so that the congregation feels empowered to view their community and world as their mission field.; to assist congregations in helping members discover their spiritual gifts for ministry and matching them to the ministry needs of the congregation and community; and to encourage congregations to develop a strategy where the time commitment of members to a specific ministry is

adjusted to the time and place of the congregation, demonstrating sensitivity to the life-styles of members.

Church in Society Ministry Team:

Moravians have always understood the need for the Church to be the voice for the voiceless. The primary focus of the Church in Society Ministry Team is to assist congregations in identifying a mission ministry to “the least of these” (experiencing hunger, poverty, discrimination) in the community in which the congregation is planted and assist them in developing programs to help meet the needs of their community, as well as pursue partnership with other congregations and agencies in seeking to meet these needs. The Church in Society Ministry Team will also serve as a resource to congregations throughout the district, working directly with congregations in their mission ministry efforts.



BOARD OF WORLD MISSION

of the Moravian Church • North America

Mission, Purpose and Values

The Board of World Mission of the Moravian Church in North America (BWM) represents the Moravian Churches of the Southern, Northern and Alaskan Provinces in our collective global mission work. We are guided by our purpose statement: *The Board of World Mission builds relationships through Mission Outreach and Mission Engagement to be faithful to the Great Commandment and the Great Commission.*

From this statement come our established priorities of Mission Outreach (sharing the Gospel outside of our constituencies) and Mission Engagement (engaging and equipping our congregations and members in the mission of the church).

The three primary focus areas of Mission Outreach are: Area Development according to COUF; Leadership Development within our areas of work; and building capacity for Mission Outreach initiated by our mission partners.

The three primary focus areas of Mission Engagement are: Education about mission efforts and the theology of mission in a global Moravian context; providing opportunities for individuals to engage in service and mission; and seeking mission support through a variety of ways including offerings of financial resources.

Global Partnerships

BWM continues long-standing relationships with partner provinces in Nicaragua, Honduras (Unity Province and Mission Province), Costa Rica, and in Northern and Western Tanzania. (The relationship with the Northern Province in Tanzania became formal following a visit by BWM staff in 2022 and with board approval of a covenant agreement in early 2023.) Additionally, the BWM accompanies two Mission Provinces (Cuba and Labrador), and supervises two Mission Areas (Sierra Leone and Perú) on behalf of the Southern and Northern Provinces in North America, respectfully. In 2022 the Board of World Mission was tasked by the Unity to begin exploring possible partnerships within Brazil and Bolivia. Multiple visits have been taken to both of these partners by BWM staff, and we look forward to the potential growth and development in these areas. More recently, BWM has started a process of discernment to formalize a covenant relationship with Zambia, a full Unity Province.

BWM continues a partnership of greater than 75 years with Moravian Clinic in Ahuas, Honduras. Thousands of patients a year are treated at the clinic (surgeries, births, emergency medicine and preventative care) and the clinic is a base for community programs like the infant feeding program which helps support childhood nutrition efforts, changing health outcomes for these children for the rest of their lives.

Looking Forward

BWM completed a three year strategic plan in 2023, and approved the next plan to guide our work in 2024-2026.

This forward-looking plan is a guide which will help focus the Mission Outreach and Mission Engagement efforts of the BWM. The plan also demonstrates a growth mindset with the intention to expand the annual pool of funds available to global partners for projects with support leadership development, sustainable mission, and meeting the development needs of their communities.

2024 and forward plans:

The Mission Outreach portion of our work will prioritize:

1. Moving our mission areas through the stages of development to becoming full Unity Provinces, so they too can have the necessary infrastructure to care for their pastors and congregations and support them as those areas grow and continue their ministries. (Sierra Leone had its first conference as a formal Mission Area in 2020, and looks forward to the next steps, developing a book of order, etc., to become a Mission Province.)
2. Leadership development: This includes creations of provincial boards, election of bishops, and provision of leadership specific training in fields such as theology, accounting, administration, etc. These shared leadership practices will build capacity for self-reliance, and a stronger global church moving into the future.
3. Outreach: The BWM does not wish to be the sole outlet of mission endeavors within the Moravian Unity, and indeed already have many partners. Specifically, we will work to make sure our global partners are outward facing, and feel sent as well, to use their gifts and resources in reaching folks with a Christian Witness.

The Engagement portion will similarly focus in three areas:

1. Service: The core of our engagement strategy is to give back to congregation by providing them with support and encouragement to take part in the needs of the mission efforts of the church. In recent years BWM has started new mission camp programs in coordination with Camp Hope and Mt. Morris Camp and Retreat Center, hoping to expand to Camp Van Es in the future as well. We are also hopeful that mission team opportunities both internationally and domestically will once again grow in frequency as we move farther from the pandemic.
2. Education: The BWM will work to keep members of the Moravian Church updated on the many ways that mission and ministry are happening along the globe. We will continue to respond to congregational invitations for mission speakers, and mission workshops to design tangible responses to needs present in communities near and far. Our communication efforts have been focused thematically, and we will continue our "Blessings Flow" campaign building on the success of the more than 1,500 households already served by this initiative. Many opportunities remain to support the purchase of water filters for distribution in rural communities in Honduras.
3. Mission Support & Disaster Response: Recent years have seen a huge need for disaster response funds to requests such as flooding in Malawi, tornadoes in the U.S., and the continued refugee resettlement needs from numerous disasters and political violence around the world. As of writing this letter BWM is engaged in raising and distributing support in response to Hurricane Beryl (Jamaica) and Hurricane Debbie (SE United States).

Much work has also been done in Central America in response to persistent flooding. Medicine and food distribution were a part of an initial, emergency, response. Longer term support is now being offered through the exploration of changes to agricultural practices with a trained agronomist and support for several new farming initiatives to help provide more food security in an area greatly impacted by recent storms and changing weather patterns.

Mission Grant Funding

Our mission grant program has continued to grow, and here are a few of the recent projects funded:

- A sustainable agricultural initiative in Honduras
- Scholarship for medical school education for a future Ahuas Clinic doctor
- Purchasing computers for remote education access at the Moravian Institute in Rajpur, India
- Purchase medical equipment for the Bilwaskarma Clinic in Nicaragua
- Funding of a speech therapist to be on staff at Star Mountain Rehabilitation Center in Palestine
- Scholarships for advance training for school teacher and administrators in Sierra Leone

Respectfully submitted,
Justin Rabbach
Executive Director

Bethlehem Area Moravians, Inc.

On behalf of the Administration and Staff of the Bethlehem Area Moravians, Moravian Village of Bethlehem and the Moravian Development Corporation, we hope this annual report finds you and your families healthy and well.

For this year's annual report to the Moravian Churches, I thought I would start somewhat differently and offer a bit of commentary on the latest election cycle. Like many of you, I am glad it is over and am somewhat exhausted by the never-ending barrage of political ads, texts, and door to door canvassers. In general, I hate everything about politics. I look at the amount of money, time and resources that is wasted every year on these ads and think about all the good that could have been done if more of a focus was placed on helping our fellow neighbor vs. trying to obtain a political office. I think I saw a figure that over 30 million dollars was spent on local and regional races. 30 million...can you imagine how many meals that is for the hungry? How many of our unhoused neighbors we could have housed? How many kids we could have sent to college? The list goes on and on. What I hate most though about this year is the level of vitriol directed at certain segments of our society and marginalized groups. These are the people we serve; these are the people who are hardworking employees for the BAM Organization, these are the people who will be the future leaders of this Organization. Likely, with the changing demographics of Northampton County and even in our own Organization, you may be reading a future year end BAM CEO Report from an Executive who does not look like me and is from one of these marginalized groups. Maybe, one of the greatest casualties from the Covid Pandemic, was the loss of civility, the loss of acceptance of your neighbors and the fact that people of different opinions can agree to disagree, without losing compassion or respect for one another.

The morning of Wednesday, November 6th was a bit different for our Senior Administration team here. Like the rest of the Country, ½ of our community and workforce was celebrating an electoral victory and the hope that their very real concerns would be addressed and the other ½ of our community and workforce struggled with what this electoral loss means for them and their very real concerns for the future. Both groups looked to us for guidance on the Organization's position and outlook for the future. This is where I

believe BAM's greatest asset and strength lies...in our longevity and our ultimate belief system in what we will stand for and what we will not tolerate. We reminded the staff that morning that no matter what the future holds, our ideals are unbending and will never change and the things we stood for 283 years ago are the things we stand for now. Compassion, inclusion, heritage, preservation. We are a perpetual ministry, an organization that has survived a revolutionary war, a civil war, two World Wars, three global pandemics, numerous Mayors, and Presidents and although our ministries have changed over the years, our ideals and commitment to those ministries have not. I then reminded our staff of what I think is the most important piece of land that the Bethlehem Area Moravians own, and that is God's Acre. I personally take every manager and director on a walking tour through the historic district, and I always end it in God's Acre. I want them to stand there and see the section of the cemetery where a European Settler, is buried next to a Native America who is buried next to an African American in the Moravian tradition of everybody buried in order of their death, because in death, everybody was equal. It is a powerful moment for my staff, many of them who are younger with limited knowledge of who exactly the Moravians are and what they stand for. It also leaves an impression that we are an entity that accepts all individuals no matter what their real or perceived differences are and wherever you start in this Organization, does not define where you may ultimately finish. We have been doing this a very long time and have not changed or compromised our ideals and with that stability comes the comfort that no matter what the ultimate future may hold, we will be Moravian, and we will be there.

Moravian Development Corporation (MDC): We always say that MDC is the quiet entity that achieves so much. By the numbers, MDC serves the most at need and at-risk individuals on a daily basis in the entire BAM Organization. Currently, at over 20 sites, we provide affordable housing for low-income elderly individuals and individuals with mental challenges. Both groups are very much underserved by the greater Lehigh Valley Community, and this is our focus. Affordable housing has been a buzzword of late in the City of Bethlehem. With rents for single bedroom units as high as \$1,800 per month, the need for safe, clean housing that is affordable has never been greater. Although there have been many conversations at both the State and local level about initiatives to address the problem, there has been very little action.

MDC primary priority has always been to fill the affordable housing need. In fact, Moravian House I celebrated its 50th year of operation this past May. Moravian House II will celebrate this milestone in another 4 years. Over 5 decades of being a low-income housing advocate in the City of Bethlehem. MDC does not just provide housing for its residents; they provide supporting services through its partnerships. Every day, Monday through Friday, in conjunction with Northampton County, MDC provides a hot meal to the elder community. Non-Moravian House Residents are also eligible to receive this lunch, if they are residents of Northampton County. Through their partnership with BAM, MDC now has dedicated BAM Social worker who can work with our residents free of charge to navigate their complex health and social issues. MDC is really the cornerstone of the BAM missions in Bethlehem and outreach.

Moravian Village of Bethlehem: When I look back at 2024 for Moravian Village, I think the word that comes to mind is Community. Community means a lot of things to us at Moravian Village, and we have multiple Communities within our Community. We still have a Community of our Original Residents. Although their number is dwindling, their spirit (and their opinions) certainly is not. We have a Community of Residents who made Moravian Village their home circa 2008 to 2010. They are currently the core of Moravian Village life, but they also find their own lives changing as they age and the things that they feel are important, those opinions may not be shared by our newer residents. And finally, we have what we are calling our Post Covid Community. These are primarily our younger residents and make up a rapidly growing segment of our overall society. 32% of our current Community has moved into Moravian Village since 2021. Not since the first fill up of Moravian Village have, we seen such a rapid change in all aspects of our community life. Change is important and brings a certain level of excitement to our community which is certainly embraced. As of the writing of this letter, all of our Cottages in our inventory are currently under contract with a sizable waitlist for those units that are expected to come back to us in the 4th qtr. We are seeing the same level of demand in our Point 26 Suite building, and we are projecting the year to finish with almost 20 new residents over the previous census from the last year. Change certainly brings a new sense of energy and vibrancy to our community. Change is also unnerving. We say that the older you get, the world seems to

move faster and faster and it is harder to keep up and it is important that we at Moravian Village, in our pursuit of change and meeting the needs and desires of our newest community, we do not forget the other aspects of the community that like the familiar things. We kept this in mind especially when we redesigned our wellness and life enrichment activities in the last two years. Our focus has always been on wellness, not only physical wellness, but mental and emotional wellness also. Every week, we offer over 23 hours of some sort of wellness activities which range from advanced weightlifting and CrossFit like courses to traditional chair Zumba and yoga. And yes, for our non-exercise inclined individuals, we have numerous happy hours, speakers from industry leaders of the higher ed and business world of the Lehigh Valley. Our commitment to inclusion in our resident life has really been a success story for us as we see such a comingling of all our communities in one group. Moravian Village Health Care continues to be a shining star for the BAM Organization. Per Newsweek, Moravian Village is ranked #4 in the State of PA in the medium skilled nursing category for Medicare & Medicaid Organizations and #1 in the State for the Medicare only classification. Moravian Village does not offer Medicaid services. Per US News and World Report, Moravian Village received a 5/5 national rating earning “High Performing” and “Best Nursing Home” scores in all categories. We continue to be a 5 Star CMS rated health care facility and have just received notice that Moravian Village Health Care has been voted as one of the “Who’s Who’s Leader in Business in the Personal Care / Assisted Living Center” category. Moravian Village has been selected through statistically sound market research as the Leader in this field. In a time when we are seeing a fraying of the overall health care continuum and numerous stories of facilities with substandard care, Moravian Village is a real outlier in the quality and services they provide to our residents and our outside community. Although difficult and without a major endowment to support it, Moravian Village still donates a sizable amount of charitable care to its community. This year alone, we are projecting \$320,000 of care and in the last 5 years, the total amount of donated charitable care was over 1.5 million dollars. Mission and Charity is not just defined in health care, rather we are seeing a growth in the requests by our own independent living residents for help in fostering their own philanthropy efforts. In October, we held our 2nd annual Moravian Village Charity fair. Fully run by our residents (with some

assistance from Moravian Village) our residents crafted and sold several items and bake goods, raising funds for mission work. Also, this year, we invited key Moravian partners to be a part of this fair and we welcomed Essentials Café and the Bethlehem Emergency Shelter to the fair. Funds raised from this fair were distributed to the Alzheimer's foundation, the Moravian Village Good Samaritan fund, the Bethlehem Emergency Shelter, Planned Parenthood and Habitat for Humanity.

Bethlehem Area Moravians: This year, it was not very hard to identify what our greatest achievement was. On July 26th of this year in New Delhi India, UNESCO formally inscribed Moravian Church Settlements – Bethlehem to the official World Heritage List. Of the 9 sites inscribed, BAM owns six of them. God's Acre, the Gemeinhaus, the Bell House, the Single Sister's house and Central Moravian Church are now recognized internationally as holding significant cultural value. I have noted in post Inscription interviews that this designation is really not just the success of the current BAM Administration or this generations Moravians, rather it is an accomplishment of all Bethlehem Moravians Generations going back to the original settlers in 1741. The Moravian Congregation cared for and preserved these sites as being culturally significant in a time when World Heritage designation was not even a thought. They cared for these sites because they were meaningful and important to their own ideals. We care for these sites with the same outlook as those original settlers and will care for them in perpetuity. Moravian Church Settlements – Bethlehem, became the 26th World Heritage site in the United States. As Dr. Bryon Grigsby, President of Moravian University, correctly pointed out in his speech at the inscription ceremony this past October in Bethlehem, there is a certain serendipity being the 26th site in the United States and also the Moravian Star having 26 points. I do want to take a moment to acknowledge in my yearend report the important Moravians who are no longer with us, who had a major impact on the BAM Organization over the years and without their efforts, the World Heritage designation would not have been possible. We remember Bishop Hopeton Clennon, Reverend Douglas Caldwell and his wife Barbara, Mark Parseghian, Ralph Wanamaker Sr., and William Henry. We also want to acknowledge our retired former CEO David Roth, who set the BAM Organization on this endeavor over 20 years ago.

Operationally for BAM, 2024 was a year of capital reinvestment. We completed work on putting a new roof on the Musselman's building next to Central Church. We painted 45 Church Street. We continue to invest in Nisky Hill Cemetery with a new truck, new plantings and some necessary tree work. Along God's acre, we planted over 80 azaleas along Market Street. We believe this will be a striking scene of color during Easter Season. From a ministerial standpoint, BAM continued to issue grants to support our mission partners. Through the efforts of the BAM Ministries Committee, whose composition is made up of the Pastors and Lay individuals of the 6 churches, we issued grants to traditional partners such as the Bethlehem Emergency Shelter, the Freezer Ministries and Garden Gathers, Moravian Archives, Essential Café. Through our partnership with Central Church and the Bethlehem Downtown Business Association, we were able to secure a hut once again during Christmas season for the use of the Bethlehem Emergency Shelter and the Freezer Ministry & Garden Gathers. We also supported new ministries this year. In conjunction with the Moravian Church – Board of World Missions, BAM and its Moravian Churches held an "UnPicnic" where parishioners gathered to assemble water filters, which were then sent to missions in South America. Total cash grants issued through November 30th are as follows:

Board of World Missions:	\$ 6,000
Moravian Music Foundation	5,000
Freezer Ministry	15,000
Essentials Café'	7,200
Camp Hope – Floor Grant	6,000
Camp Hope – Camperships	3,000
Bethlehem Emergency Shelter	10,000
Moravian Archives	<u>20,000</u>
Total	\$72,200

And, finally, I would like to recognize the very hardworking Administrative staff at the BAM Organization. These are the individuals that toil day in and day out providing services to our community. Without them, none of these outreaches would be possible. Brad Senick, Chief Operating Officer BAM
Mike Garganta – Vice President MDC
Kevin Marsh – Nisky Hill Superintendent
Justin Michaels – Ex Vice President – MVB
Jedd Foulk – Director of Properties - BAM
Tracy Patton, Executive Director – MVB
Ashley Lilly – Lead Manager MDC
Jeremy Bonney – Nisky Hill Lead Manager
Robin Gamble – Accounting Director BAM

On behalf of the Board of Directors at Moravian Development Corporation, Moravian Village of Bethlehem and the Bethlehem Area Moravians and the entire staff, we want to wish you a very Merry Christmas and Holiday Season and all the best in 2025

Respectfully Submitted,
Dan Soos, CPA, Chief Executive Officer
Bethlehem Area Moravians

BAM Almoners Fund

The Almoners Fund is managed by Board Members elected by each of the six churches of the Bethlehem Area Moravians (BAM). The Board works quietly and confidentially to carry out the purpose of the Fund and responds to requests made by the Pastors of the local congregations to assist members who are in temporary financial need.

The Board meets four times a year. Due to the timing of requests, many votes are held via email to expedite the process.

The Board provides \$1,500 for each BAM congregation to assist the Pastors with requests for immediate financial assistance and this was continued again this year. These discretionary funds are administered by the Pastors and are not to be used for the congregation's general or benevolence budgets. This program does not replace the current Almoners program, but supplements it. Requests for larger grants or short-term assistance are handled through the normal process.

During 2024, the Almoners expended a total of \$33,553.97 (in addition to the \$9,000.00 in Pastor stipends) to assist individuals and families in financial need. A portion of that disbursement was made to members of the Central Moravian congregation.

Financial gifts, no matter how large or small, are always welcome.

BAM Almoners Fund, Inc.
620 Freedom Business Center, Suite 300
King of Prussia, PA 19406

Respectfully Submitted,
Nathan E. Bissey, Board Representative

Blood Bank

In 2024, donors from Central Moravian Church made 63 donations to Miller-Keystone Blood Center, an increase of 5 from 2023. Thank you to all of our dedicated donors! What a wonderful thing to report!

The Central Moravian Church Blood Bank is a service for all Central members, providing free blood products whenever our Church members need them. You do not have to be a donor to receive this service. However, if you can donate, please do. Your blood is always needed, and it is a wonderful gift to your community.

Contact Diane Kessler for more information on donating or Miller Keystone Center to set up your donation – 800-B-A-Donor (223-6667). When donating, mention Central Moravian Church and/or use 0194 for our organization credit.

Below is a list of donors and the number of donations they made in 2024:

David Bechtold	4
Michael Berlin	1
Frank Boyer	23
Phil Corvino	2
Gayle Dimmick	1
Elizabeth Ellis	1
Jennifer Goodman	3
Grace Hochella	2
Diane Kessler	10
Rosi McIlwain	4
Michael Pragheimer	1
Peter Raines	3
Beth Schlener	3
Kim Shively	3
Gordon Sommers	1
Sharon Upton	<u>1</u>
Total	63

Respectfully Submitted,
Diane Kessler, Coordinator

Busy Workers' Society

Busy Workers had a successful and profitable year for 2024 and were able to donate \$30,830. We held our two major sales, Plant and Attic Treasures in May and our Christmas Sale with Wreaths in December. In

September we participate in the Historic Bethlehem District Association yard sale. The financial success of all of these sales allows the Busy Workers to continue our tradition of charitable contributions, as listed below.

Charitable Donations:

Cay Galgon Life House	\$ 1,000
Central Moravian Church	1,000
CMC Discretionary Fund	1,000
CMC Allen Fund, Camp Hope	150
CMC HVAC	2,500
C. S. Seifert Fund for Christian Ed.	1,000
CROP Walk	500
Emergency Shelter	1,000
Essentials Café	1,000
Fostering Hope-Northampton	750
Kindness Project	1,000
Lenten Dinner	408
Lehigh Valley Outreach Depot	1,500
Memorial Luncheon-H. Clennon	2,500
Memorial-Nancy Foster	100
Memorial-Althea Sell	100
Moravian Archives	1,000
Moravian University-Barnette Scholars	2,500
Moravian Open Door	1,000
Moravian Theological Seminary-Scholarships	2,000
Nepal Scholarships	1,200
Nepal daily needs	1,000
New Bethany Ministries	700
Pediatric Cancer Foundation LHV	500
Sanctuary Flowers	672
Sanctuary Grille (2)	1,200
A. Sell UN project-Sani-pads	200
Staff appreciation gifts	600
Star Mountain Rehabilitation Center	750
Unity Women's Desk	1,000
Victory House	500
Visiting Nurses Association	500

Total: \$30,830

Expenses **Total: \$ 4,105.61**

Every year Busy Workers' philosophy in giving is taken seriously. We have organizations to which we give regularly. All of our donations are reviewed the month before and discussed prior to our authorizing a donation. In the past, we have invited organizations to speak about their objectives. We also review their annual reports. When we make donations, we have requested our funds to be used in a specific way.

This year our Plant and Attic Treasures Sale was May 11 and May 12, Mother's Day's weekend. We were

thankful for no rain on Saturday. We had two very busy days with many customers. Then, as usual, Monday is packing up all the items that did not sell. If you do not have plans the Monday after Mother's Day next year, come help us pack. We send our boxed items to the Salvation Army. Thanks to all the helpers that day.

Again, we participated in The Bethlehem Historic District Association yard sale. Thanks to the Boyer's for letting us use their property. We sold crafts, jewelry and attic treasures. It was a beautiful day, lots of fun and good fellowship. If you have old jewelry that you do not want, give it to Busy Workers for making crafts or to sell.

The Christmas Sale, was on December 7 and 8, was held in the Benigna Auditorium, CE Bldg. The auditorium is so much larger than the Old Chapel. Here we can display our crafts, attic treasures, baked goods and Moravian sugar cake. All of the delicious donated bake goods from our congregation were sold. Thank you to the congregation for donating them. The weather for Saturday was cold. Our wreaths are sold outside and the brave Busy Workers stayed outside to about noon. By end of the sale all the wreaths were sold. Thank you to all!

Busy Workers donated \$672 for sanctuary flowers in memory of departed Busy Workers and friends. We want to thank Priscilla Schueck for maintaining the church flowers' account. Priscilla would be the one to contact for flowers. Priscilla's email is pschueck816@gmail.com.

The church has a prayer shawl knitting group that meets on the third Wednesday of the month in the church office. For more information, contact Cathy Rannels, cathyr1961@gmail.com. To date, we have given 572 prayer shawls. Thirty-six prayer shawls have been given in 2024.

We want to thank the congregation and friends for the support they give us all year round. Our sales are only made possible by your donating jams, baked goods, perennial plants, greens, attic treasures and providing sugar cake from Essentials Café. Don't forget, we will have a Plant and Attic Treasures Sale on Saturday, May 10 and Sunday, May 11. In April we will start collecting attic treasures. If dividing your perennials, please, put them aside for us.

Thanks to Helen Seifert we embarked on a new service to help military personnel. Members wrote a total of 65 thank you notes to US military personnel, thanking them for their service to our country and for their many sacrifices made to keep us safe. The notes were given to Support the Troops, Inc. to be included in their care packages sent to military stationed around the world. The thank you notes continue to be a special item in these free care packages. We would like to continue this with your help.

Busy Workers are looking forward to meeting newly retired or about to retire members of the congregation to join us every Wednesday or when you can. We meet Wednesdays at 9:30 a.m. in the Old Chapel basement.

We had another terrific year financially. Because of everyone's supporting Busy Workers, all sales benefit Bethlehem, Lehigh Valley, worldwide causes, and church causes too.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jacqueline Adams, President
Linda Thudium, Vice President
Marianne Allen, Secretary
Sallie Woodring, Corresponding Secretary
Sue Jones, Treasurer
Beth Boyer, Assistant Treasurer

Decorating Committee

The Decorating Committee consulted with the Central Church staff and members of the Buildings and Grounds Committee on several issues over the past year.

Specifically, the Committee responded to the need for more effective meeting space in the Pearl Frantz Parlor with suggestions for furniture replacement or removal. It also met to discuss the placement of a framed list of donors to the Capital Campaign sanctuary pew grille appeal. As the Church receives plaques of recognition for its part in World Heritage status, the Committee will consult with Pastor Janel about their appropriate display.

The Committee is grateful for the continuing work of Tom Tenges in identifying, repainting and repairing scuffed and damaged areas in the sanctuary stairwells and hallways. Ongoing attention is also paid to the scheduled repainting of rooms in the buildings on our campus.

Many thanks to all members of the Decorating Committee this past year including Jan Cole, Diane Shaw, Mary Catherine Tachovsky, Tom Tenges, Judy Thomas and Kathy Williams.

Respectfully Submitted,
The Rev. Carol A. Reifinger, Chair

Flower Distribution

The Flower Distribution Committee prepared and distributed 301 bouquets during 2024, or 6 or 7 bouquets each Sunday. We covered Baptisms, Anniversaries, Graduations, New Church Memberships, Congratulatory Accomplishments, Hospitalizations, Recuperations, Move to New Home, and the like. This year, our flowers went to King's Sons and Daughters Home, The Phoebe Residents, Life Quest, Whitehall Manor, Country Meadows, Muhlenberg Hospital, St. Luke's Hospital, The Good Shepherd Home, Moravian Village, Moravian Hall Square, numerous shut-ins, and sweet little kids (and adults) who just "want a flower." Our Flower Construction Crew includes Tim Brady and the Sacristans, Karen Brady, Brenda Hoelman, Val Antonelli, Connie Pierce, Peter Behrens, and Liz Johnson. Along with Janel and Josh, these are the people who deliver the flowers. We hope that we brought our Congregational love and support to church members, friends, neighbors and relatives when needed. Our sincere thanks goes to those individuals and groups who, weekly, continue to generously support this outreach by providing the flowers.

Respectfully Submitted,
Cheryl Tubio, Coordinator

Food Pantry

Dear Central Moravian Church Members,
We continue to be motivated by the words of Jesus (Matthew 25) who had particular concern for the less fortunate. We serve the hungry, the persons who need warm clothing in the winter and clothing in the summer, and for some, we are the ones who will listen and converse with anyone who wishes to "just talk."

Let me thank each and every member of the Congregation for the wonderful donations you bring to

the First Sunday of the Month “drive-by.” The food you bring is very important as it supplements the food received from Second Harvest Food Bank. Each month we make a list of items that are in short supply and each month you provide generously, as each of you are able, often bringing many of the items we have noted as limited. Together this becomes a rich variety of nutritious food as well as extra items and your financial contributions allow us to supplement as needed for the food insecure population of the Lehigh Valley.

Food continues to be a critical issue for many families in the Lehigh Valley. Inflation has caused a serious crunch for many families who struggle to allocate their resources between housing (typically rent), food, and medical issues. We are seeing more and more homeless persons, each of whom have very basic needs. While our emphasis is upon nutritious food, many of you know that food is more than protein and carbohydrates and you provide wrapped sweet treats as well. All donations are deeply appreciated by our clients. Recently there has been an increase in the number of infants that we serve so canned baby food will be, and is, appreciated. However, it is important to know that out of date baby food cannot be distributed as per Federal Guidelines.

The Food Pantry is currently open the second Friday, the third Friday, the third Saturday and the fourth Saturday of each month. Currently, we have a group of volunteers who are a part of the Central family, but we also have volunteers from our friends at Trinity Episcopal, Methodists and some who have not yet shared their faith tradition. All have expressed a desire to serve and to help. It is not unusual for a grateful recipient to leave with tears in their eyes.

Statistically speaking, we have increased the number of households served from 190 to a peak 240 during this past year. Our volunteer group has also increased from 30 to 44 individuals. Altogether they have contributed 2,187.1 hours as volunteers during 2024. We have distributed 58,122.47 lbs. of food which we have received from the Second Harvest Food Bank. During the growing season we have received a wide range of fresh produce from Monocacy Farm Project, for an estimated 500 lbs. We have purchased eggs from Jim Neilson’s egg farm. Additionally, members of Central Moravian Church have provided their locally grown produce in season.

We have received 16,553.9 lbs. of food from the Central Moravian Food Drive-by and from Moravian Academy and Light Bridge Academy, Moravian Lacrosse team, several local businesses and many other individual donations.

We welcome new volunteers at any time and the tasks that need to be completed include weighing and shelving food, serving the clients, cleaning and organizing the food storage space. We have a number of volunteers who are able to communicate in Spanish and more persons who have Spanish as a language are welcome and needed.

We have welcomed Connie Pierce as a person who is sharing the coordinator responsibility with Dave Wickmann. This, and the increased number of volunteers, allows the volunteers to find time to travel and take time off from time to time, while maintaining a dependable schedule for our clients.

If you are interested in being a Food Pantry Volunteer, contact Dave Wickmann 610-730-1650 (leave a message and he will call you) or email him at wickmann.david@gmail.com.

Weather is always an issue, but we will be there to serve the needs of the community rain or shine. We are always looking for volunteers who are able and willing to receive food donations during our “Drive-by” on the first Sunday of each month from 8:30 a.m. till 1 p.m., the regular food pantry distribution on the 2nd Friday, the 3rd Friday, the 3rd Saturday and the 4th Saturday from 8:30 a.m. till 11:30 a.m.

Cynthia’s Boutique is a vital part of the services offered as many of our clients spend a significant amount of time selecting appropriate clothing for the needs of their families on the third Friday and Saturday of each month.

We continue to serve clients who reside at Senior Living areas of Holy Family Manor and Moravian Houses. We continue to serve Meals on Wheels clients to provide healthy food alternatives for currently 10 clients each month. MOW drivers delivers a bag of groceries each month to clients who request this service. We have continued to provide food to some participants of our sister congregation, Esperanza.

Special thank you to Cindy Gibson and Martha Jones for times that they have offered food to a needy client

or received a donation that is given by members of our community during office hours. It is wonderful to have their assistance when a member of the Food Pantry “volunteer staff” is not available.

Respectfully Submitted,
David Wickmann
Food Pantry Coordinator

Knitting into the Mystery

“Knitting into the Mystery” meets on the third Wednesday of each month in the church office conference room at 12:30 p.m. Open to all knitters, experienced or novice, we enjoy both sharing time together talking as we knit, as well as meditative knitting to music. Shawls that are completed, when together or at home, are donated to the Busy Workers’ Prayer Shawl Ministry and distributed to those who are sick or grieving or in need of support. Also, many of us have been knitting at home and giving our shawls to the Busy Workers for distribution. Please contact me directly if you are interested. We would love to have other knitters join this very worthwhile and lovingly productive group. Help us make a difference in people’s lives!

Respectfully Submitted,
Cathy Rannels

Moravian Ladies Sewing Society

The Ladies Sewing Society was organized in 1861, first to sew for Union soldiers in the Civil War. In 1869, following the death of its founder: Johanna Maria Heckewelder, known as “Polly,” the group became known as the Moravian Ladies Sewing Society and began making a cloth doll named in honor of Polly Heckewelder. Their first doll was sold in 1872. The group still makes and sells the doll to benefit church causes. Polly dolls are dressed as a young girl of the late 1800s and is a cooperative effort of the sewers in the group. We welcome those who wish to visit, join our group, or to purchase one of our dolls made to benefit Moravian Church causes.

Respectfully Submitted,
Mary Brown, President

Moravian Women

Moravian Women has a two-fold mission: the promotion of fellowship among the women of the church, and the reading and discussion of Biblical study guides. Circle 7 continues to meet on the second Sunday of the month at 10 a.m. in the church office conference room.

At the start of 2024, with Diane Shaw as our leader, we continued the study of Ruth under the guidance of Pat Herman, using Sue Edward’s “Ruth, Discovering God’s Faithfulness in an Anxious World.” We started September of 2024 with Susan Noack as our leader, and began with a new study guide, “Call to Prayer for Renewal.”

In 2024 Circle 7 held the following activities:

February 21, Provided Lenten Dinner shared with the Men’s Bible Class.

June 9, Held end-of-year brunch with Pastor Janel present, who shared ideas for a new circle group meeting on Zoom.

September 15, Participated in Volunteer Fair, with five women expressing interest in joining, whether in-person or virtually.

September, Began the meeting of a second circle group meeting on Zoom under the guidance of Pastor Janel on each third Monday at 7 p.m., with conversation and discussion of our current study guide. About 8-10 women have been in attendance.

November 17, Began the annual Tanzania Orphan Drive with a mission moment presented by the Drs. Bill and Peg Hoffman. To date a total of \$5,217 has been donated toward this mission.

December, Held the annual Unity Prayer Watch coordinated by Cheryl Tubio.

December, Allocated \$250 for Staff Appreciation Gifts.

Respectfully Submitted,
Virginia Delph, Acting President

Prayer Chain

I have continued to send prayer requests as I receive them, from members or the pastor. We have a large group on our prayer chain, I always add the prayer concerns from Sunday morning services.

This is a very important ministry, and it is my privilege to be a part of it. If you have a prayer concern, contact me at 484-707-4680 or mgrandma13@gmail.com. If you would like to be a part of this ministry, please send me your email address and I will add it to our list.

Respectfully Submitted,
Miriam Devey, Coordinator

Putz Committee

The putz season began with construction Friday, November 17 this year. Like the previous year, we completed construction in a short 3 days! Saturday, January 4th was deconstruction.

There were 287 hours of volunteering at the putz this year (this includes greeting and hosting, but there were much more for construction and deconstruction which were not included in our statistics), and 41 volunteers. Our thanks to our top putz volunteers, including Jeff Benner, with a total of 36 hours/18 shifts, and Craig Mosebach and Victor Lauer for hosting and greeting for many tour groups! We were successful in finding an adequate amount of volunteers, although we are hoping to recruit more new volunteers from the congregation for next year's putz.

Last year, in 2023, we had 3,237 visitors and we were open a whole week longer... this year, we had 3,984 visitors despite having a week less of the putz! We were open for 21 total days a year. We had visitors from Australia, Indonesia, England, Spain, Canada, France, Italy, India, Vietnam, the Philippines, and even more countries and almost every state!

Overall, the putz remained relatively consistent with our last year's putz. A new narration was completed with the technical wizardry of Will Schwab. We purchased a large feather banner to direct people better to the putz, which increased our visitors. Our figurines underwent a much needed cleaning. Visitors also enjoyed a beautiful hallway display of various putz

figurines by Richard Miller. As always, our faithful putz chair Will Schwab organized the committees, construction and deconstruction and we are grateful for the entire Putz Committee for their assistance. The putz raised \$2,611.29 in donations, with an additional profit from 12 bus tours coming in the new year.

Star and Candle Shoppe

Central is so grateful to the Moravian Archives for providing the beautiful merchandise, layout and staffing for a very successful Star and Candle Shoppe, which brought many people into the putz. The Shoppe was open for all the Putz hours and helped to open and close as well. It was a welcoming and hospitable place for visitors to purchase Moravian items, unique treasures of Bethlehem, and consignment merchandise with our partners.

The Moravian Archives were also very happy to be managing the Star and Candle Shoppe this year, and were very pleased with the amount of space for their items, amount of customers, and financial benefit to their non-profit. There were over 560 customers with an average of 40 transactions each day, the biggest day being the Holiday House Tour on Dec. 14. We have discussed increasing visibility for the Putz and Shoppe, including the possibility of working with Common Grounds' partners to provide some decorations on the church green or handing out flyers on Main Street. We are grateful for their partnership, willingness to match the Putz hours, and often open/lock up for the Putz, and the chance to support the wonderful work of the Archives. Our gratitude to Kelly Givens and all the staff of the Moravian Archives.

Respectfully Submitted,
Sophie Rice, Putz Volunteer Coordinator

Twenty Minute Society

The Twenty Minute Society distributed \$11,300 to help 19 people and/or entities in 2024.

Respectfully Submitted,
Judy Thomas, President

Officers: Beth Boyer, Tekla Culpepper, Margaret Krawiec