



# Central Moravian Church

2016 Annual Reports  
2017 Annual Church Council  
Sunday, January 29, 2017  
Church Sanctuary

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# *Central Moravian Church*

## **Annual Church Council**

**January 29, 2017**

### **AGENDA**

- a. Call to order - The Rt. Rev. C. Hopeton Clennon
- b. Prayer and Hymn #675  
*"What Brought Us Together"*
- c. Election of President and Secretary of Church Council
- d. Minutes of the last Church Council
- e. Report of the Board of Elders – Hopeton Clennon
- f. Report of the Joint Board – Anne Zug
- g. Report of the Board of Trustees – Anne Zug
- h. Financial reports of the Board of Trustees – George Mowers
- i. Presentation of the budget for 2017 – Robert Phillips
- j. Reports from other organizations, agencies, and societies of the congregation
- k. General business
- l. Report of the Nominating Committee and Elections – Ann Raines
- m. Pastoral comments
- n. Adjournment

## 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.

## Report of Nominating Committee for Church Council

### Members of Nominating Committee

Pastors: Hopeton Clennon, Lynnette Delbride

Elders: Ann Raines, Diane Shaw

Trustees: Steve Krawiec, Anne Zug

Members-at-large: Richard Groman, Camie Modjadidi

President of Church Council: Barry Pell

Secretary of Church Council: Terry Delph

Elders (3-year term): James Jordan  
Mary Shields

Returning Elders: Julie Atwood, Hopeton Clennon (*ex officio*), Elissa Derbak, Martha Griffis, Pat Herman, Ken Kodama, Hank Naisby, Janice Ostock, \*Ann Raines, \*Steve Schlack, Diane Shaw

\* indicates beginning second term

Trustee (3-year term): Joan Carson

Returning Trustees: \*Llyena Boylan, Don Brown, Jan Cole, Steve Krawiec, John Mast, Mia Mecleary, Glenn Noack, Rob Phillips, \*Anthony Thompson, Michelle Trent, Sharon Upton, David Weikert, \*Anne Zug

\* indicates beginning second term

BAM Board of Directors (3-year Term): Beth Boyer

Respectfully Submitted,  
Ann Raines, Chair

## Minutes of the Central Moravian Church Council January 31, 2016

Pastor Hopeton Clennon opened the annual meeting of the Central Moravian Church Council at 12:35 pm on Sunday, January 31, 2016. Following the singing of "Join We All With One Accord", Barry Pell and Martha Jones were nominated for the offices of Council President and Secretary, respectively. As in other years, the election took place without opposition.

The minutes of the 2015 Church Council were approved without any changes. Reviewers of the minutes of this year's council meeting are: Dale Browder, Fred Cole and Cathleen Rannels.

Hopeton directed those in attendance to the report of the Board of Elders. He acknowledged the continued fine leadership of Bill Sachs as Vice President. Hopeton also thanked the Elders who have completed their terms: Joe Bednarik and Pam Larimer.

Terry Worrich spoke for the Joint Board and Trustees. He mentioned thanks to Pam and the Hospitality Committee for the lunch today. The Strategic Plan for 2016 – 2020 has been completed and the information about it is offered in a handout. Another highlight was the proposed partnership with Moravian College for Scholarship funding for international Moravian students from countries like Tanzania, Nepal or Cuba. This will be a planning year for the 275<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Central Moravian Church. The sale of 26 acres of land at Christian Spring to Natural Lands Trust has been completed. We retain the structure, the pool and 4 acres for our use. Terry requested anyone with opinions for the future use of this facility, to please contact the Joint Board. Terry thanked the congregation for being a busy and dynamic group. He said that we are blessed to have so many who serve the church, an excellent pastoral staff, beautiful campus, generous endowments, wonderful music program and hard-working boards.

George Mowers outlined the financial results from 2015. He mentioned that after several years of ending with surpluses we seem to have reversed the trend with the past two years ending in deficits. The amount of \$14,439 was taken from Memorials and Undesignated Funds to balance the budget. He mentioned that Envelope Giving is trending downward, but Other Contributions are increasing and improving. After a question arose about getting envelopes to those who have not picked them up, Bob Wascura volunteered to deliver the Bethlehem area envelopes to save postage. Some figures were mentioned that if each giver were to add \$1.00 per envelope, that would certainly reduce the

deficit. George spoke about the real plus that Central has in the various giving opportunities to mission causes, outside and within the budget. The total of those items for 2015 was over \$72,000.

Michelle Trent then presented the budget for 2016. The total income is budgeted at \$847,272. The increase in income is 6.25%. Envelope Giving and Other Contributions are being combined to one line item. This newly combined category would include gifts to Central from envelopes, cash plate offerings, special giving envelopes and donation through charitable trusts. She explained the increase in expenses of 4.35%. There will be a 2.0% increase in salary and benefits, plus the addition of a second full-time pastor. The budget for 2016 was passed unanimously.

Joan Carson corrected a typo in the Busy Worker's Society report on page 46. The first line item should read \$500, not \$5,000. The final total is correct. Priscilla Wolle mentioned a concern that she has of using memorials and reserve funds to offset the budget deficit.

Pam Larimer presented the report of the Nominating Committee. Elders: Ken Kodama and Diane Shaw. Trustees: Mia Mecleary and Glenn Noack. BAM Board of Almoners: David Williams. BAM Ministries Committee: Katie Royer. Eastern District Synod: June 22-25, 2016. Delegates: Katie Albarelli, Steven Krawiec, Andrew Mengel, Hank Naisby, Sarah Wascura. Alternates: Jeanne Bednarik, Joan Carson, Karen Naisby, Mary Catherine Tachovsky, Vickie Ziegler-Thompson. The nominees were elected unanimously.

Hopeton rose to make some final remarks. He extended a warm thank you to all the staff for the excellent work they do, day in and day out. He named and honored outgoing board members: Joe Bednarik, Pam Larimer, Joan Carson and Terry Worrich. He mentioned volunteers and how they assist all year long. The staff sponsored Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon will be April 6. He mentioned a change in hospital notifications. If you are aware of something the church needs to know, please tell the office and/or pastors directly.

The Council adjourned at 1:46 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Martha W. Jones, Church Council Secretary

## Board of Elders

The Elders began the year under review bidding farewell to two members who served faithfully and well: Joe Bednarik and Pam Larimer. We are deeply grateful for the ongoing leadership provided by Ann Haggerty Raines serving her second year as Secretary, and Bill Sachs serving his fifth year as Vice President of the Board of Elders and the Joint Board. We welcomed new board members, Ken Kodama and Diane Shaw. We also welcomed Lynnette Delbridge as pastor of the congregation and *ex-officio* member of the board. Her ministry with us began on February 1, 2016, and the installation service was held on Sunday, February 7, at 11:00 a.m.

The Rev. Maggie Wellert completed her service with us as Parish Pastor on January 31, 2016. Other members of staff served exceptionally well throughout 2016. We are grateful to them for going beyond the call of duty. We make special mention of Becky Owens, Director of Music, Cindy Gibson, Administrative Assistant, George Mowers, Financial Secretary, Mike Wall, Facilities Administrator, and John Geier, Sexton. Kelly Knapp serves as Financial Assistant with George Mowers. Martha Jones joined the team in December as 275<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Campaign Coordinator and we anticipate she will transition into a role of Stewardship Coordinator in the coming year.

## Worship

We welcomed three guest preachers to the pulpit at Central: our Parish Pastor, The Rev. Maggie Wellert (January 10 and 17); The Rev. Dr. Nola Reed Knouse, Director of the Moravian Music Foundation (Moravian Music Sunday, April 24); Synod Delegates sharing the Epistle “*A Living Letter to the Church*” (June 26); The Rev. Dr. Craig Atwood, Professor of Moravian Theology and Ministry, Moravian Theological Seminary (December 25).

We celebrated Holy Communion on eight occasions in 2016. We are grateful to the volunteer clergy assisting Pastor Hopeton and Pastor Lynnette throughout the year: Craig Atwood, Blair Couch, Frank Crouch, Otto Dreydoppel, Cynthia Geyer, Anne Huey, Doug Kleintop, Andy Meckstroth, Norm Prochnau, Carol Reifinger, Gordon Sommers, Maggie Wellert and David Wickmann.

The 2016 Christmas Eve Vigils provided a special opportunity for the commemorating of the 275<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the naming of Bethlehem. Robert J. Donchez, Mayor of the City of Bethlehem, provided a proclamation in recognition of the remarkable achievements and outstanding contributions our members have made and continue to make to the life of the community. The proclamation was presented by J. William Reynolds, President of the Bethlehem City Council and Charlene Donchez Mowers, President of Historic Bethlehem Museum & Sites.

It is noted that worship services were cancelled on January 24, 2016, due to record snowfall in Bethlehem that weekend.

## Fellowship

In Central’s tradition, several fellowship opportunities were held throughout 2017. We had the Birthday Social in February attracting 105 people, Easter Egg Hunt for children in March, potluck luncheons in April and October, trip to the Iron Pigs ballpark in June, fun day at Knoebels in July, Lovefeast on the Green in August, BAM Picnic in September, and Christmas caroling in December.

The 2016 midweek Lenten program series began on February 17, with our focus on the importance of education to Moravians. Presenters in their order of appearance were: Paul Peucker, David Sommers and Jennifer Nichols, Lynnette Delbridge, Frank Crouch, and Bryon Grigsby. Special thanks to Tom McCullough, Assistant Archivist at the Moravian Archives here in Bethlehem for the informative display on education in the showcase in the lobby of Benigna Auditorium in the Christian Education building.

There was a new fellowship opportunity in 2016 presenting itself as a fundraiser—the September 16<sup>th</sup> Central Showcase—which included a silent auction with refreshments and a musical program with historical presentations. Special thanks to Michelle Trent and the excellent committee guiding the process from development to execution.

A text-only edition of the church directory was published in the summer. Preparatory work and photo sessions began in the fall for the next edition of the pictorial directory.

## **Evangelism**

Two sets of Inquirers' Classes were held in February and September, along with the introduction of a one-day New Member Seminar in November. As a result of these sessions, 18 new members and 4 children were received.

New visitor cards and a reprinting of the welcome brochure were prepared for the pew racks. They carry the names of our new pastors. Becky Kleintop Owens led the effort in printing the annual music brochure in the summer.

Shelly Watson provided the original artwork for a commemorative coloring book distributed to all Third Graders in the Bethlehem Area School District and children and youth in BAM congregations. Dawn Dubbs, Camie Modjadidi, Paul Peucker, Hopeton Clennon and Craig Atwood were among those helping with design, writing, editing, and providing supplemental material to meet the educational needs of the school district.

A script and team of actors were put together for the Putz. Special thanks to Will Schwab our sound engineer and the director of construction. Special thanks to Brother Bob Wascura for organizing moss gathering and Brother Richard Miller for coordinating the shows.

## **Ministry**

The Sacristan Corps observed a changing of the guard at the end of 2016. Jeff Griffis completed 25 years of service as Head Male Sacristan. He plans to continue as a member of the leadership team. Tom Richards retired after a similar period of service. Tim Brady is the new Head Male Sacristan as of January 1, 2017. Phil Corvino joined Nate Bissey on the leadership team.

Among the Female Sacristans, Judy Thomas retired as Head Female Sacristan, and Nancy Foster retired as her assistant. Beth Boyer and Ann Haggerty Raines are the new Co-Head Female Sacristans as of January 1, 2017. The leadership team also includes Jane Corvino, Jacque Jean, Pam Larimer, Janice Ostock, and Kathy Williams.

2016 was a District Synod year. The following delegates represented Central at sessions held at

Moravian College June 22-25: Katie Albarelli, Hopeton Clennon, Lynnette Delbridge, Steve Krawiec, Hank Naisby, Mary Catherine Tachovsky and Sarah Wascura. We also make special mention of Karen Naisby who succeeded Cheryl Tubio as Head Page for synod, working with several other volunteers from our congregation.

With grateful hearts we offer our appreciation to C.Q. Williamson who completed three years of faithful service as coordinator for the five teams of offering collectors. He also managed the firewatchers and offering collectors at all three Christmas Eve services. The new coordinator for this ministry is Glenn Noack as of October 2016.

## **Mission**

Bill and Peg Hoffman completed their 27<sup>th</sup> trip to Tanzania last December. We are prayerfully seeking a male and female team to replace them in the coming years. Please let us know if you have any interest or desire more information. Special thanks to the Mission Committee for overseeing this program and to Hal Smith who completes his service as chairman in May 2017.

Through the 275<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Campaign we sponsored two students pursuing their undergraduate studies in partnership with Moravian College. Jackson Mlimuka is from Tanzania and Joshua Pradhan is from Nepal. They are members of the Class of 2020 at Moravian College and worship with us most Sundays. Special thanks to the newly formed International Student Care Committee for facilitating this invaluable mission program and to Hank and Joanne Barnette for their generosity.

Central's support for the Church World Service blanket mission was expertly and passionately guided by Jan Christensen for 15 years. She provided helpful guidance for her successors Jane Persa and Beth Schlener who are looking forward to leading their second annual appeal during January/February 2017.

Another new mission outreach was embodied in the Bethlehem Interfaith Resettlement Committee. Our family arrived in the United States from Syria on March 7. Special thanks to co-chairs Louisa Frey and Jim Whildin, and the BIRC members.



On February 21, the visiting Tesh family made an audio-visual presentation of their mission work with orphans in Kenya. Michael, Ceci and their daughter, Blessing, shared a meaningful testimony of their work in the land of Ceci's birth.

Beth Boyer led our collection effort for BAM's 275<sup>th</sup> Legacy Project. We surpassed the goal of \$5,000. All donations assisted the Bethlehem Emergency Sheltering, Inc.

The congregation supported three short-term mission trips with prayer and financial resources. In March, Hopeton Clennon and Andrew Mengel went to Jamaica for a week. In June, Andrew Mengel went to Nepal for three weeks, and in July Timothy Naisby went to Nepal for 3 weeks. Special thanks to the Mission Committee, Busy Workers, Men's Bible Study, and Board of World Mission for their financial support. Subsequent pages of this Annual Report booklet reflect the broad range of community service and outreach to others that is provided by members and organizations in our congregation.

In this 275<sup>th</sup> year of service by Moravians in Bethlehem we express our ongoing gratitude for the privilege of being purveyors of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Our primary purpose remains our quest to love God more and love people more. We are deeply grateful for the excellent work of our staff and a growing number of volunteers engaged in the vital ministry and mission of our congregation. Together we look forward to many more years of service in God's kingdom.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Hopeton Clennon  
President

IMPORTANT DATE  
Sunday, June 25, 2017 at 3:00 PM  
275<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Lovefeast  
Johnston Hall, Moravian College

# 2016 Statistics

## **Births - 1**

Harper Mary Malishchak

## **Baptisms - 7**

Norah Ann Derbak  
Arthur Diehl  
Harper Mary Malishchak  
Raymond Anderson Midlam  
Lilah Mae Toedter  
Alexis Laura Wintjen  
Charles Mathew Wintjen

## **Receptions - 22**

Janice Benner  
Robert Brandt  
Bridget Corcoran  
Carol Delbridge  
Lynnette Delbridge  
Erik Derbak  
Arthur Diehl  
Jennifer Flowers  
Alexander Glass Jr.  
Edith Glass  
Laura Hartzell  
Rebecca Husseinzadeh  
Andrew Meckstroth  
Helen Meckstroth  
Susanna O'Connor  
Carol Sabetti  
Jim Sabetti  
Amy Santanasto  
Rita Schaffstall  
Kathryn Smith  
Susan Trimble  
Shelly Watson

## **Young Children of New Members - 4**

Norah Derbak  
Vivienne O'Connor  
John Santanasto  
James Santanasto

## **Deaths - 19**

Jeanne Bilheimer  
Ralph P. Christine Jr.  
Beatrice Clewell  
June Earley  
Georgene A. Frisoli  
Barry L. Gebhart  
N. David Griffiths  
Emerson E. Johnson  
Charles Cassard Kaesemeyer  
Josette Mary Kane  
Noel N. Moebs  
Gordon B. Mowrer  
William Lloyd Parkinson  
Henry Carl Petzel  
Donald N. Pharo  
Anna M. Sawyer  
Garrett R. Smith  
Patricia L. Smith  
Elizabeth Weinland

**Average Attendance 2016 – 331**

**CD Ministry – 9**

**Total membership as of 12/31/16 – 961**

## **Christian Education**

### **Opportunities for Children and Youth**

#### **Church Nursery:**

We thank our church nursery workers who retired in May after serving for the past two years. A new roster of volunteers began their rotation starting in June 2016. These faithful volunteers provide childcare for our smallest children in the West Room of the Sanctuary building during our 11 a.m. worship services (10 a.m. in the summer). Children can stay in the nursery for the entire worship service or start out in the Sanctuary and then go to the nursery when they need a break. Juice boxes and regular and gluten free snacks are now available. New children's furniture and several new toys have increased the play options for the children and parents using the nursery.

#### **Family Play Group:**

With leadership provided by parents Elissa Derbak and Michelle Trent, we are offering a new opportunity for parents, grandparents, caregivers and their infants and toddlers to meet each other, play together, and share in a brief circle time. The first session took place on December 15 with eight children and their adults attending. The group will meet again on January 15 and February 19 and then experiment with weekly sessions starting in March 2017.

#### **Sunday School and Children's Choir:**

JoAnna Freund, our Sunday School Superintendent and Children's Choir Director, leads our preschool and elementary Sunday School teachers, Jane Corvino, Gayle Dimmick and Diana Worley in offering a loving environment, creative presentation of bible stories, and musical activities. The children learn music which complements the content of their Sunday School lessons. Their involvement in worship during 2016 included singing for the Christian Family Lovefeast in May, presenting the story of Zacchaeus in the Old Chapel in October, taking up Red Wagon offerings for the Food Pantry in November, and singing and presenting the story of the naming of Bethlehem and Jesus' birth for the Lessons and Carol's service and for the Children's Lovefeast in December.

#### **Friday Fun Night:**

First through fifth graders meet on the second Friday night of each month September through May from 6 to 8 p.m. The group is led by Emily Toyberg and

seminary student, Ben Lippert. Sessions include supper, time to explore a Bible story, play and crafts.

#### **Youth Group:**

Our middle school and high school youth began meeting together regularly in March for Youth Group. Most often, the group meets on Sunday nights from 6 to 8 p.m. After a summer break, the group resumed in September. The 8 to 12 youth who attend engage in a variety of learning, discussion, prayer, service and fun activities. The group has helped to stuff Easter Eggs, placed hyacinths on graves in God's Acre for Easter, stocked shelves in the Food Pantry, sorted clothing at Cynthia's Boutique, and cooked a meal and packed bags for the Women's Shelter. The youth have visited King's Daughters Home to play bingo and joined in with other adults from Central and the Confirmation Class from College Hill Moravian to go Christmas caroling at three different facilities. They have visited the belfry and have been introduced to the fine art of candle making, sugar cake baking and cookie making.

Sarah Phillips and Lynnette Delbridge provide regular adult leadership and other adults from the congregation are often called in to lend their special gifts to the group. These adults include Charlotte McGorry, Regina Kelechava, David Wickmann, Rose Warner, Martha Griffis, Bobb Carson, Hopeton Clennon, Robin Endress, Robert and Sarah Wascura, Karen Ferrey, Pam Larimer, and Andrew Meckstroth.

#### **Confirmation:**

Six of our 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders are participating in Confirmation Classes this year. Classes meet on Sunday mornings each week and once or twice a month on Friday nights. Sunday morning sessions include a 9:30 to 10 a.m. time to explore spiritual practices such as reading the Daily Texts, breathing and being silent, giving thanks, and journaling. The regular 10 to 10:45 a.m. Sunday School hour explores salvation history from the perspective of characters in the Old and New Testament. Friday night sessions are a time to take a deeper look at key scripture passages such as the Ten Commandments and the Sermon on the Mount and to delve into Moravian history and practices.

The Confirmation teaching staff includes Mary Mowrer, Beth Careyva, Steve and Margaret Kraweic, Peter and Renae Behrens, and Lynnette Delbridge, with occasional assistance from Craig Atwood.

**Vacation Bible School:**

We cooperated with East Hills Moravian and Advent Moravian Churches in offering VBS this year. VBS was held at East Hills, June 13-17, 2016. We used a curriculum published by Cokesbury called Surf Shack and explored five different Bible stories all of which in some way related to water. The children and staff began and ended their day together in assembly and rotated between music, Bible story, crafts, science, and recreation and snack sites. We served a total of 30 children who came from the neighborhood and the three congregations. Six children, seven youth helpers, and five adult leaders from Central participated.

**Camp Hope:**

14 children and youth attended Camp Hope in 2016. We are grateful to the Busy Workers and several individuals whose generous contributions added to income from the Allen Fund made it possible for us to offer camperships for each person attending camp.

**Advent Workshop:**

Mary Shields graciously shared many of her crafting ideas and supplies from past Advent Workshops. Carol Holbert and Lynnette and Carol Delbridge, David Charrier and Richard Miller, Sarah Wascura, Bob and Beth Davis, and Joan Carson provided other crafts and clean-up assistance. Mark Jones supplied refreshments and all 53 people attending enjoyed Christmas music provided by Mary Mowrer and Dick Groman.

**Adult Christian Education Opportunities****Between Jesus and the Gospels:**

Pastor Lynnette Delbridge led four Thursday night sessions for adults in July and August. The group looked at the way the situations early Christians faced affected the teachings and oral traditions about Jesus that they remembered and passed on in the gospels. Average attendance was about 15.

**Friendship Bible class:**

This class, led by Howard Cox, meets in the church office conference room and has been studying and discussing scripture on Sunday mornings since 1936.

**Comenius Sunday:**

This discussion group meets from 9 to 11 a.m. on Sunday mornings in the C. E. building, lower level to

watch and discuss DVD's and YouTubes with a bearing on Faith and morality.

**Parents Group:**

Informal gathering of parents (with children of all ages) meets in the C. E. building's Zinzendorf Parlor.

**Sojourners:**

During the Spring of 2016, in addition to its regular discussion sessions, the Sojourners Class enjoyed special presentations by Dr. Micah Sadigh and Dr. Cheryl C. Boots. The class currently meets on Sunday mornings usually in the C. E. building, Nitschmann Hall. Discussion based on the Lectionary reading for each Sunday. Facilitated this year by the Rev. Peter Skelly and Jan Cole.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Pat Herman, Chair

**Church Family Life Committee**

This Committee looks to provide occasional congregational fellowship opportunities for all ages. Our gatherings include potlucks, picnics, outings, caroling, exercise retreats, and many other activities.

We began the year with a very successful Birthday Social in February. Members of our congregation sat at the table designated for their birthday month and each table had its own cake. We thank the Busy Workers for donating wonderful soup that complemented our cakes. We offered various other potlucks throughout the year, with the highlight being our End of the Summer Picnic, which was held in August. At the picnic, we enjoyed a watermelon seed spitting contest and an old-fashioned cake walk. We also helped to organize outings to the Iron Pigs, Knoebel's Amusement Park (in conjunction with BAM), and Christmas Caroling (in conjunction with College Hill Moravian Church). We typically had between 50-80 attendees at our events this year. The committee looks forward to another exciting year of fellowship in 2017.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Elissa Derbak, Chair

## Communications Committee

Central Moravian Church special services and music programs received good coverage in newspaper and digital news outlets in 2016. Our Committee thanks church staff for a job well done getting word out to the community.

Internally, the staff continues to keep our members informed in print via *The Belfry* and *The Sunday Times*. In addition, weekly announcements are sent to members' email addresses via Constant Contact.

The Committee is also working to create and maintain a website that provides key information to our congregation and offers an attractive presentation of who we are as a congregation to the public. An important part of this project includes the need to determine what differentiates this church from other worship communities. Focus groups have been held over the summer and fall to determine what brought members to Central and what keeps them at Central. Signage on the campus continues to be a topic of discussion. This year, our "Welcome to Central Moravian Church" brochure, our visitors' cards, and other pew rack materials were updated.

The Communications Committee invites suggestions for new and improved communication methods from our congregants. Anyone interested in contributing ideas and time, please contact any member of the committee.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Ann Raines, Chair

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## History Committee

The Central History Committee is completing its tenth full year of work and it has been a busy one with a number of activities and projects. Several of our goals have been achieved, including determining a way to photograph the large Nativity canvases, developing further exhibits for the Christian Education building, and embarking on a program of tours of the sanctuary. We also assisted the Social Action Committee with last summer's Chautauqua program.

The February test photography shoot of one of the most attractive of the Nativity canvases involved

unrolling the large canvas over Central's balcony (with many hands to support it) and stationing Linda Wickmann with her telephoto lens at the pulpit to take the shot. The results were spectacular enough to enable Carol Reifinger and Nancy Rutman to design an historical Christmas card using the image, which the Committee sold during the Christmas season, with the proceeds earmarked for Moravian Open Door and our homeless shelter. In the spring, the committee commissioned an exhibition on the history of Moravian education for the C.E. building lobby case, which was ably executed by Tom McCullough of the Moravian Archives. This year we are looking forward to an exhibit from the extensive local history collection of Nancy Rutman. Our other major initiative of the year was to begin piloting tours of the sanctuary to offer to the congregation and general public. Our two Saturday tours in September were well received enough so that we went ahead with three additional Saturday tours at the beginning of Advent. Thanks are due especially to Barry Pell for putting together background materials for the tours and to Jan Cole and Marianne Allen for arranging for the tour guides.

We are expecting a busy 2017 and would encourage any Central members with an interest in the Committee's work to contact chair, Diane Shaw. On our agenda for 2017 is planning for the display and storage of Central's artifacts, which is one of the goals of the current 275<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Campaign. We also hope to do some more oral history interviews with members of the congregation.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Diane Shaw, Chair

Committee members: Marianne Allen, Hopeton Clennon, Jan Cole (Trustee representative), June Griffiths, Mary Jo Hill, Jeffrey Long, Pat McAndrew, Hank Naisby (Elder representative), Barry Pell, Paul Peucker, Carol Reifinger, Marge Rowland, Nancy Rutman, Priscilla Schueck, Bart Shaw

## 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, which reports to the Board of Elders, also engages in outreach to attract visitors and new members.

The committee organized two outreach events this year: a spring Invite-a-Friend worship service coinciding with the Great Sabbath Lovefeast and a fall Invite-a-Friend Sunday in conjunction with the Lovefeast held on November 6. We also printed door hangers with a schedule of Central's Advent and Christmas season events for members to distribute in their local neighborhoods, and designed and printed a limited run of bookmarks with a schedule of events for the Lenten and Easter season. For the fifth year in a row, the committee mailed Christmas cards in early December to distant members of our congregation. The committee organized two Sunday picture-taking sessions for members and their families in preparation for the publication of a 275<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Church Directory in 2017. Member Lisa Arnold was our Sunday picture taker and member Linda Wickmann is taking pictures of our shut-ins.

The committee also prepared and distributed information to the spring and fall Inquirers' classes on Central's organizations and ministries. In 2017, the committee will be following up with members of recent Inquirers' classes for feedback on their experiences at Central.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Bill Sachs, Chair

Committee Members: Derrick Clark, Hopeton Clennon, Lynnette Delbridge, Elissa Derbak, Glenn Noack, Janice Ostock, Bill Sachs, Nina Schaffer, Beth Schlener, and Bob Wascura

## Mission Committee

The Mission Committee of Central Moravian Church encourages the involvement of our members in Christ centered ministries and missions. The Mission Committee affirms, prays for and helps promote the international mission efforts approved by the Joint Board of Elders and Trustees through groups, organizations and individuals. In carrying out this mission, the Mission Committee partners with the Board of World Mission.

### Sikonge – Tabora Mission Orphans

During 2016 Bill and Peg Hoffman completed their 28th and 29th trips to Sikonge, Tanzania, in support of Central's partnership with the Sikonge Moravian churches. Last year marked the start of the second quarter century of the partnership. The major focus of the relationship continues to be the orphan care provided by 29 village women and 4 ladies in the city of Tabora, all from the Moravian church. Centered in Sikonge, Mama Kimwaga and her 29 "Moravian Mamas," provide 2,776 children and their care givers in 39 villages with food, clothing, medical care, school uniforms, supplies, and tuitions, and small personal items such as a bar of soap. Kefas Kabata supervises four additional Moravian women who are similarly supporting 433 children in five parishes in the city of Tabora. The programs enroll orphans regardless of tribe, religious affiliation, or the parent's cause of death.

The total cost of the combined programs for 2016 was nearly \$94,000, or \$29 per child per year. This is 17% more than in 2015. The major cause of this increase is the rise in educational expense, which now constitutes 60% of the budget. With the numbers of children in school expected to grow continually, this expense will have to be controlled. Initial budgetary constrains will begin implementation this year. No structural changes were made to either orphan program during the past year.

### Church Construction

The church at Iyombakuzova (11th) has been finished except for the plastering and painting of the exterior. This will be completed at the end of the rainy season.

Churches at both Msuva (12th) and Mkolye (13th) have been roofed. More wall work is needed at Msuva, but both churches should be finished by summer. Construction at Kabanga (14th) will begin this spring. This church will be dedicated to the memory of Gordon Mowrer.

### **Wells**

Two new wells are scheduled for construction during the next month. Several of the “rope pumps” are being replaced with more traditional fixtures.

### **Special Needs School**

The Special Needs School continues to expand. There are currently 88 students registered, but construction of an additional dormitory begins this month. Five more albinos have been registered for the current semester, bringing the total to twelve. There are now eleven teachers at the school. Vocational training in tailoring began this semester.

### **Evangelism of the Sukuma**

Julius Mdauzi, the assistant pastor of Kondi, located 25 kms to the southwest of Sikonge, had a significant stroke eighteen months ago. He continues to have uncontrolled hypertension and is at high risk for a second stroke. Since medical care at Kondi is unavailable, he will be returning to his home village of Udongo. Arrangements have begun to replace him with a recent graduate from the Lusangi Junior Seminary.

The Sukuma congregations in Igulula and neighboring Mwasavanga are continuing to grow slowly.

### **Additional Developments**

Palmer Moravian has provided funding to the Tutuo Moravian Church for the replacement of church benches with chairs to protect their new tile floor. Ernest Parker Jr. of North Carolina made another substantial donation for orphan support and pastoral training. He is now funding the education of six assistant pastoral students at the Lusangi Bible School. Multiple groups, as well as individuals from Central, have provided the Tanzanian orphan ladies with the funds to send their own children for education beyond primary school.

The Hoffmans once again gratefully acknowledge the financial and spiritual support of Central Moravian Church, without which this ministry would not exist.

### **2014 Financial Report**

Following this report, is the financial summary for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2016. Expenses (\$116,693) exceeded income (\$97,246) by \$21,447 which was better than the budgeted loss of \$38,500.

### **Nepal Moravian Outreach**

*“The Vision of the Nepali Moravian Outreach (NMO) is to share the Good News of Christ through the ministries of the Nepali Moravian Church, transforming lives, educating and equipping people to impact the community and the nation at large.”* NMO expresses their gratitude to friends, churches, organizations and provincial boards throughout the world. Your prayers and support are greatly appreciated and constantly enhance the ministry in Nepal. Central’s Mission Committee, through contributions from our members, supports some of these programs. Here is what is going on:

### **The Moravian Church in Nepal**

**Good news** – the Moravian Church hall in downtown Kathmandu suffered some damage from the earthquake in 2015. Finally, after a year, the congregation has been able to restart regular weekly worship in a new church hall on the rooftop of the restored building where they previously worshipped. It continues to grow in faith and number.

**Also good news** – in November 2016, the Khokona congregation celebrated their 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary. This congregation that started with only two families now is thriving with over 200 members in the small village just outside of Kathmandu.

**But even better news** – the land purchase for the Khokona church which was destroyed by the earthquake was completed. Ownership was transferred in November 2016. The massive fund raising effort to complete this purchase (\$133,000) came through the generosity of the British Province, the North American Province, the local congregation and many other friends and non-Moravian churches. The temporary, but reasonably large structure was completed last year on this land on faith that the land purchase would be

completed. The Pradhan's say "We are in awe of God's provision and faithfulness in the lives of this Moravian Community. Thank you once again for your prayers, advice, words of encouragement and love at all times."

### **The International Kindergarten – IKG**

As of December 29, 2016, there are 79 children enrolled in this preschool and kindergarten which is in its sixth year of operation by the Pradhans. Three children of Moravian families are receiving Tuition Aid under a program started several years ago. One mother said, "We feel blessed to be able to send Eslie to a school of this standard and we are very happy to see his progress. We sent a two year old, who barely knew how to talk, who is now able to speak in English quite comfortably."

### **Shristi Academy**

Shristi means creation. This is the name given to the new elementary school the Pradhans are operating in Kathmandu. Vani writes – after four years of prayers, talking to various education authorities and planning with the NMO team, finally in April 2016, we got a license to operate Grade 1. We were the last school to receive a license to start a new school, because from this year onwards, the government on Nepal has stopped issuing school licenses. From now on, each year we are expected to follow the Department of Education's requirements and upgrade one class at a time and go up to grade 12. Grade 1 has 12 children and three are from Moravian families. Upgrading each year and going up to grade 12 is a huge task. Even though it is in its initial phase and going well, it is time to start praying and planning for the coming years. Vani tells us additional space and more teachers will soon be needed.

### **Antioch**

In June, July, and August, God sent three people from different walks of life. First Andrew Mengel from Central, a senior at Moravian College, then Timothy Naisby also from Central, soon to start studies at Moravian Theological Seminary and then Phyllis Rosner from North Carolina. Each of them helped at a time when it was most needed in the early stages of the Grade 1 school year.

The Antioch program is very helpful for the Nepali school to provide a global presence. Retired school teachers, teachers and/or college students on summer break are very desirable candidates for this program. Anyone interested, please contact Jill Kolodziej who coordinates the Antioch Program for the Board of World Mission.

### **Higher Education**

Jayanti Rai, the first student to receive benefits from the Higher Education ministry, is in her second year of a Nursing program and is doing very well. She hopes to serve in a mission hospital after graduation in 2018. The higher education program is administered by a group of members of the Moravian Church of Nepal.

The reports on Sikonge – Tabora Mission and Nepal Moravian Outreach were prepared by Bill Hoffman and Craig Mosebach, respectively.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Hal Smith, Chair



<b>SIKONGE/TABORA MINISTRIES</b>					
<b>BUDGET, INCOME, EXPENSES and BALANCES</b>					
<b>OCTOBER 1, 2015 TO SEPTEMBER 30, 2016</b>					
	<b>2016</b>	<b>Fiscal Year</b>			<b>2017</b>
	<b><u>Budget</u></b>	<b><u>BWM</u></b>	<b><u>Central</u></b>	<b><u>Total</u></b>	<b><u>Budget</u></b>
Beginning Balance		199,504	91,974	291,478	
<b>Income</b>				-	
Adopt-a-Village	40,000	35,881	835	36,716	35,000
Other Income	15,000	9,324	7,342	16,666	15,000
Education	2,000	1,000	917	1,917	2,000
Construction	10,000	13,538	600	14,138	12,000
Wells			50	50	
Misc		157	417	574	
Investment Income net of fees	10,000	16,124		16,124	7,500
Grants	18,000		11,060	11,060	17,500
Transfers					
<b>Total</b>	<b>95,000</b>	<b>76,024</b>	<b>21,221</b>	<b>97,246</b>	<b>89,000</b>
<b>Expenses</b>					
Orphans - Food		21,469			
Orphans - Education		57,981			
Orphans - Misc		14,130			
<b>Total Orphans</b>		<b>93,580</b>			
Variance, wired minus actual - see note		4,080			
Amount wired for Orphan accounts	100,000	89,500		89,500	90,000
Travel to/from Tanzania	8,000		8,339	8,339	9,000
Travel in Tanzania	2,500		1,270	1,270	1,500
Construction	8,000	11,031		11,031	10,000
Wells	15,000				5,000
Transfer/Close outs		7,144	689	7,833	
Other			720	720	
<b>Total</b>	<b>133,500</b>	<b>107,675</b>	<b>11,018</b>	<b>118,693</b>	<b>115,500</b>
<b>Net</b>	<b>(38,500)</b>	<b>(31,651)</b>	<b>10,203</b>	<b>(21,447)</b>	<b>(26,500)</b>
Ending Balance		167,853	102,177	270,031	
<p>Note - This statement is derived from accounts at the Board of World and Central Church. The \$89,500 is the amount wired to Tanzania in the fiscal year. The variance of \$4,080 represents money that was spent in excess of that wired. There was sufficient cash on hand to cover the difference</p>					

## Music Committee

The music program at Central continued to expand this year because of the many gifts, talents, and time that was given by so many people! Under the extraordinary leadership of Llyena Boylan, the Music Committee oversaw many wonderful projects and events. The committee meets six times during the year with sub-committees created when necessary. The Music Committee was proud to see all goals for 2016 either accomplished or in process of being accomplished.

### Goals for 2016 included:

1. A book based on memoirs and photos of the music program of Central Moravian Church to be published during the 275<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Central Moravian Church.
  - a. Praise and Thanksgiving: For 275 Years of Music at Central Moravian Church will be released on June 25, 2017, in celebration of the 275<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Central Moravian Church.
2. More involvement of Central Church and Moravian College organ students in the music program at Central Moravian Church.
  - a. Becky Owens is an adjunct faculty member of Moravian College and teaches classes, private organ lessons, hymnody, organ literature, and hymn improvisation to Moravian College students.
  - b. Throughout the year, Moravian College students performed during the worship services of Central Moravian Church including the first Moravian College Music Sunday on September 18.
  - c. Once per semester, Moravian College is holding their weekly performance class in our Sanctuary and specifically features organ students of Becky Owens.

The **Chapel Choir**, under the direction of Richard Miller, has continued to bless the 9 a.m. worship services. In addition to the Chapel Choir, Richard Miller has done an extraordinary job of creating a wide variety of musical offerings such as instrumentalists, soloists, duets, quartets and a men's choir for the 9 a.m. service. Richard Miller also assisted in the service playing during the Holy Week and Christmas

seasons in addition to serving as the Organist and Choir Director at the West Side Moravian Church.

**The Central Moravian Brass Choir**, under the spirited leadership of Central member Caitlin Heckman, plays the second Sunday of every month at the 11 a.m. worship service in addition to community events. This growing group consists of members and friends of Central Moravian Church and greatly enhances our worship experience.

**The Men's Choir** is a group of men from the Central Choir, Chapel Choir, and congregation members and friends of members that sings every third month. There is one rehearsal that takes place the morning of the worship service of which they sing.

**The Central Church Choir** is an amazing group of individuals who continue to give generously of their time and talents to both enhance our worship services and concerts, but also to provide musical outreach in the community. Each member contributes so much above and beyond their music to this ensemble whether it be as choir officers, (Hank Naisby, president) quartet, (Cathy Spallitta, Deborah Leyshon-Brandt, David Charrier, and Bob Beck), librarians (Alice Mosebach and Karen Naisby) hospitality coordinators, (Karen Naisby and Linda Wickmann) spiritual devotions, musical ideas, and humor, just to name a few. Thank you for all you do, and for being such a blessing!

We are also blessed to have the **Bethlehem Area Moravian Trombone Choir**, under the direction of Don Kemmerer, as a part of our worship services here at Central Moravian Church. In addition to playing chorales from the belfry on the last Sunday of each month, Bach at Noon concerts, and at various memorial services throughout the year, this choir, who is a valuable part of our Moravian musical heritage, plays in worship ten times a year: August 13<sup>th</sup> Lovefeast, Children's Christmas Eve Lovefeast, New Year's Eve, first Sunday in Epiphany, Ash Wednesday, Palm Sunday through Wednesday evening services during Holy Week and our Easter Dawn Service. Thank you to Don Kemmerer, Nancy Beitel-Vessels and the many members of the Trombone Choir. We look forward to many more years of being blessed by the Trombone Choir.

We were equally blessed by special music presented by the **Mainstreet Brass** (Palm Sunday, Easter, Lessons and Carols, and Christmas Eve), **the Mother Jones Brass Quintet** (Epiphany Lovefeast and A Moravian Christmas Experience), and **harpist, Andrea Wittchen** (Christmas Contemplative Worship).

CDs continue to be sold in the church office, Star and Candle Shoppe, after concerts, through the mail, and at the Moravian Book Shop. *Be Still My Soul* sells for \$10 and the additional four music CDs (*Christmas Eve at Central Moravian Church, Favorite Hymns at Central, An Old-Fashioned Moravian Christmas, and To God All Praise and Glory*) continue to sell successfully at the price of \$5 each in the church office. A portion of these sales are given back to the general operating budget of the church on an annual basis as well as to the choir checking account. I am grateful for the extraordinary gifts of Kelly Knapp who continues to be responsible for the accounting, inventory, filling CD orders, and giving complete financial records of the CD account to George Mowers, the Music Committee, and to the Board of Trustees.

**Concerts at Central** have continued to be a success in offering the gifts of local musicians as well as bringing visitors into our Old Chapel and Sanctuary. We are thankful that Karen and Tim Brady have provided leadership in preparing the Sanctuary and Chapel for concerts, handing out programs, collecting offering, and cleaning up after the concerts.

Here is a sampling of the musical and Music Committee highlights that happened during 2016 in addition to the weekly musical offerings:

### January

- Mother Jones Brass Quintet were musical guests for the Epiphany Lovefeast at the 11 a.m. worship service on Sunday, January 10, 2016.

### February

- Becky Owens played the Till Piano-forte in the Saal of the Moravian Museum for the Polly Heckewelder Tea Party, organized by members of the Central Moravian Church Ladies' Sewing Society.
- An Organ Concert, co-sponsored by Central Moravian Church and the Lehigh Valley Chapter of the American Guild of Organists,

featured Moravian College organ students of Becky Owens and was presented on Sunday, February 21 at 2 p.m. in the Sanctuary.

- The Men's Choir sang for the 11 a.m. service on Sunday, February 28.

### March

- Chamber Music in the Chapel presented SATORI on Friday, March 11 at 7:30 p.m.
- Stephanie DiFelice Heavens, soprano and Maestro Donald Spieth were guest musicians for the Great Sabbath Lovefeast on March 26, conducting and singing the Gjeilo "Dark Night of the Soul" which had been presented by the Central Moravian Church Choir at the Johnston Memorial Festival Concert in 2015.

### April

- A trip to Longwood Gardens was organized for Sunday, April 17 to hear an organ recital by Becky Owens. Unfortunately, the organ broke the week before, and thus the trip was cancelled.
- Sarah Baer played the oboe for the 9 a.m. service and Moravian College student, Kristen Weaver, played the cello for the 11 a.m. worship service on Sunday, April 3.
- Moravian Music Sunday was celebrated on April 24 at both the 9 and 11 a.m. worship services.

### May

- The Whitehall Chorale, directed by Andrew Borghesani, presented special music for the 11 a.m. service on May 1.
- The Sunday School Choir, directed by JoAnna Freund and accompanied by Richard Groman, presented special music for the Christian Family Lovefeast on May 8 at the 11 a.m. worship service.
- The Men's Choir sang at the 11 a.m. worship service on Sunday, May 29.

### June

- The Summer Choir sang every Sunday morning during the summer. This choir only rehearsed on Sunday morning and was open to anyone who wished to sing. The summer choir sang the introit, and a soloist sang the offertory.

### July

- Colin Worrich, Central Moravian Church member and college student studying the

trombone, presented special music at the 10 a.m. service on July 3. The Men's Choir also sang.

- Colin Worrich and Caitlin Heckman presented trombone duets during the July 24 worship service.
- The Women's Choir sang on Sunday, July 31.

### August

- The 2016-2017 music brochure was printed and distributed. This was the eleventh year of producing a widely distributed poster-style, color music brochure that detailed the musical events, worship services and ensembles for 2016-2017.
- Greg Oaten presented special music on Sunday, August 28.

### September

- Rebecca Brown, violinist, Stephanie DiFelice Heavens, soprano, and Becky Owens, harpsichord (through the generosity of Willard Martin), presented an evening of Moravian music for the Central Showcase of Moravian Music and History on Friday, September 16 at 8 p.m.
- Moravian College Music Sunday was celebrated at both the 9 and 11 a.m. worship services on Sunday, September 18. Luke DiGiacinto, Amber Emerson, Charlotte Finnerty, Patrick Oswald, and Becky Sheldon played and sang.
- Becky Owens played the Till Piano-forte for the beginning of the Zug Lecture on Sunday, September 18.
- Chamber Music in the Chapel presented Moravian College organists Luke DiGiacinto and Patrick Oswald as they performed their junior recital on Sunday, September 18 at 4 p.m.
- Graydon Wascura played the trumpet for the Children's Lovefeast on September 25.

### October

- Chamber Music in the Chapel presented the Gabriel Chamber Ensemble on Sunday, October 23 at 3 p.m.
- Moravian College performance class was held in the Sanctuary on Tuesday morning, October 18 and featured two organ students of Becky Owens.
- An Evening of Moravian Music was presented on Thursday, October 27 at 7:30 p.m. and featured the Central Moravian Church Choir

and the Unitas Choir, directed by Gwyn Michel with organists Luke DiGiacinto, Donna Ambler, and Gwyn Michel.

- Robin Kani was guest flutist for the 11 a.m. worship service on October 23.

### November

- The Silver Winds Flute Ensemble, (including our young members Leah Shields and Madeleine Atwood) directed by Nora Suggs, played for the November 6 Lovefeast at the 11 a.m. worship service.
- The High School Brass and Choir and Bell Choir played for the 11 a.m. worship service on Sunday, November 13.
- An Advent Organ Concert was presented by Becky Owens with guest mezzo-soprano, Deborah Leyshon-Brandt on Saturday, November 26.
- A German and English Advent Singstunde was held on Tuesday, November 29 in the Old Chapel and was presented by Dr. Paul Peucker of the Moravian Archives (and our Central Church Choir) and Gwyn Michel of the Moravian Music Foundation with members of the Central Moravian Choir.
- The Chapel Choir, under the direction of Richard Miller, sang for the Advent Lovefeast and Candlelight Service at West Side Moravian Church on Sunday evening, November 27.

### December

- Hopeton Clennon and Becky Owens presented two Moravian Music Experiences to tour buses in the Sanctuary and Old Chapel during the first week of December.
- Central Moravian Church presented "A Moravian Christmas Experience" on Saturday, December 3 at 1:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary. The Rt. Rev. Hopeton Clennon and The Rev. Dr. Lynnette Delbridge were speakers and Becky Owens was organist. The Central Moravian Church Choir sang, Katie Owens was the Morning Star soloist, and the Mother Jones' Brass Quintet provided special music to a very full house. Tom Tenges was the coordinating sacristan.
- Tim Zimmerman and the King's Brass performed a Christmas concert in the Sanctuary on Tuesday, December 16 at 7:30 p.m.
- A Contemplative Worship service was held on Monday, December 12 in the Chapel, with

featured harpist, Andrea Wittchen and pianist, Becky Owens.

- Graydon Wascura, trumpet, and Bobby Owens, trombone, played for the prelude, partaking of Lovefeast, and postlude for the Children's Christmas Eve Lovefeast.
- On Christmas Eve, Michael Krem, Helen Meckstroth, and Katie Owens were Morning Star soloists. The Bethlehem Area Trombone Choir provided prelude music for the Children's Lovefeast. Donald Spieth conducted two very special Christmas Eve Vigils with string orchestra, Mainstreet Brass, and the Central Moravian Church Choir, with soloists Cathy Spallitta, Deborah Leyshon-Brandt, Dave Charrier, Greg Oaten, and Bob Beck, presented the choir anthems.
- Bobby Owens played the trombone for the Christmas morning worship service.

This expansive music ministry would not be possible without the dedication and support of so many congregation members. Again, I want to extend a special thank you to those of you singing in the choirs, playing instruments, providing special solo music, playing the organ, directing musical ensembles, ushering and handing out programs for concerts, assisting with publicity and marketing, and helping in a multitude of ways "behind the scenes." I am grateful to the pastoral staff, to the Music Committee and to the church staff for their many hours of continued support, encouragement, help and extraordinary ideas. It is because of all of you that this music program can minister to our church, our community, both near and far, and can continue to build up the Body of Christ here on earth.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Becky Owens, Director of Music

Music Committee members: Llyena Boylan, Chair;  
Rt. Rev. C. Hopeton Clennon, Jeanne Bednarik, Don Brown, Louisa Frey, Ken Kodama, Richard Miller, Alice Mosebach, Hank Naisby, Rebecca Owens, Tom Tenges

## Social Action Committee

We thank the strong and dedicated members of our church for another year of promoting good partnerships with our community and church agencies as well as creative projects that raised awareness in the areas of environmental concern, homelessness, hunger, and poverty.

We continue to value the good ministry of many agencies in the area and are fortunate to work with them. We have attempted to recruit more volunteers for efforts such as the Emergency Shelter.

### A List of our Community and Church Partners and our Ministry Together in 2016:

- **Fair Trade Coffee Project** (monthly sales of coffee and other products which benefit small farmers working sustainable farms, promotion of this idea of commerce). The Coffee Project donated \$800 to the Bethlehem Interfaith Resettlement Committee.
- **The Bethlehem Interfaith Resettlement Committee** consists of members from five local churches uniting to sponsor refugees to the Lehigh Valley. Central Church provides 20 volunteers who tutor our refugee family of six, take them to medical appointments, help them at school, monitor finances, and acclimate them to life in America. In the past year, BIRC has raised money, found and furnished an apartment, helped with clothing and food, secured Social Security cards, ID cards, insurance, school enrollment, and employment, as well as provided outings for swimming, ice skating, jumping, and trips to parks and museums. The goal for this year is to assist the family toward independence. We look forward to continued support with tutoring and with financial aid as necessary.
- **Central Food Pantry** served 105 families, including seniors living in the Moravian Houses on Main Street. In August, Diane Berl and Joan Kolessar retired after many years of faithful service. We appreciate their hard work, their development of the program at Moravian House, and the addition of a freezer. David Wickmann has assumed responsibility for leading this effort. He is working with Cynthia's Boutique leaders Charlotte McGorry and Gina

Kelechava to have clients visit the Boutique first and then the Food Pantry, making the lines move along faster. He appreciates all the help.

- **Cynthia's Boutique** has come under the umbrella of Social Action and we are looking forward to further collaboration between their ministry and our Food Pantry.
- **Bethlehem Emergency Cold-Weather Shelter.** Rose Warner and Carol Holbert were co-chairs for the 2015-2016 season, and provided strong leadership and many, many hours of volunteering. We provided shelter Saturday evenings and also opened for a longer period for the blizzard and for other snowstorms. The ladies joined us at the Birthday Social luncheon in February. We averaged 15 women most nights. Rose was able to recruit volunteers from a number of groups besides Central, including students from Ursinus College, but volunteers are always needed, especially for overnights this year. For the 2016-17 season, Rose is chairperson and we have new weekly coordinator and food coordinator positions. We worked to streamline jobs and to write job descriptions. We are working on providing some gentle spiritual nurture for both our clients and volunteers.
- **Bread for the World** (offering of letters to our Congresspeople for hungry people in June, annual gift of \$400) Topic this year was Survive and Thrive – nutrition and health for infants, mothers, and young children.
- **Church World Service** (promotion of CROP Walk in October, over \$4,500 raised from Central, as well as a \$50 donation from our budget to pay for expenses). Walk went beautifully, and teens from Central joined the walking group.
- **Moravian Open Door** (annual gift of \$400, congregational awareness)
- **Community Services for Children and Esperanza.** Central Santas in November gave 165 gifts of warm clothing and books to needy children in the Lehigh Valley from Community Services for Children, Esperanza, and our refugee family the Almawas.
- **Victory House** (congregational awareness, volunteers for meals, annual gift of \$300, plus \$200 in kitchen supplies, bath sandals, umbrellas).

- **New Bethany Ministries** (congregational awareness, participated in Luminaria night, annual gift of \$400, volunteers).
- **Northeast Ministry** - \$300 for summer program.

In addition to our work with partners, the Social Action Committee ran our annual discussion group called Travelers' Together in January and February on the topic of Climate Change, under the direction of Stewart Early. The discussion papers were excellent. In 2016 we tried having the Sunday session run from 9 to 11 a.m., but this seemed to attract less people, so we will revert to our 10 a.m. hour on Sundays in 2017.

We attempted to continue fostering concern for our environment in various ways. For Care of Creation in May, we had 3 Moravian college students lead a session on their experiences at the Climate Change talks in Paris. We joined in the 100 Trees for Bethlehem project and helped plant trees in a city park. Mary Jo Hill and Peg Church contributed articles to *The Belfry* to help people think about ways to support the environment.

In August, we worked with the History Committee to host the Central Chautauqua. We thank Steve Krawiec for his able leadership. The program included a talk by Frank Whelan and aspects of Bethlehem history by various Central members. Program was well attended (54 people).

We thank our dedicated committee and congregation for an excellent year of caring and action.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Janice Ostock and Joan Carson, Co-Chairs

## Joint Board

The Joint Board consists of the Board of Elders and the Board of Trustees. Meetings are held on an as-needed basis for the transaction of business that requires action of both Boards. Meetings may be called by either Board and are presided over by the President of the Trustees and the Vice President of Elders.

The Joint Board met in February for their annual Orientation Meeting under the leadership of Rob Phillips as Chair of the Orientation Committee. Rob did a fine job and the meeting was well attended. The Board approved the 275<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Campaign and the Confidential Letter of Intent for financial support was given to the members for their consideration.

Christian Spring Spiritual Center was the agenda item for the Joint Board meeting on September 8. After much discussion, the Board unanimously approved a motion to divest itself of the remaining four acres of land including the house. At the Board's direction, the Christian Spring Spiritual Center Committee followed through with the realtor to list the property for sale.

On September 12, I sent a letter to The Rev. Dr. Elizabeth D. Miller, President of The Provincial Elders' Conference telling her of the Joint Board's decision. Copies of this letter were also forwarded to The Rev. David Bennett, President of the Eastern District Executive Board, Terry Worrich, Chair of the Christian Spring Spiritual Center Committee, Bill Sachs as Vice President of the Board of Elders and Pastor Hopeton.

The Joint Board wishes to thank our pastors, Lynnette and Hopeton, all our sacristans, musicians, office support and Sunday School staffs and the many, many dedicated volunteers who are responsible for our outstanding programs and activities, worship opportunities and hospitality. Our Church is blessed to be supported by the love, constant devotion and commitment of such dedicated individuals.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Anne M. Zug, President, Board of Trustees

## Foundations—The Campaign for Central Moravian Church's 275<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

**Genesis of the Campaign** – In October of 2015, Central's Joint Board assembled an Ad Hoc committee to consider the feasibility of undertaking a capital campaign to commemorate the 275<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the 1741 founding of Moravian Bethlehem and the formal organization of Bethlehem's Moravian congregation in 1742. The Joint Board approved the committee's subsequent recommendation to proceed with planning for a capital campaign. A Steering Committee was formed and planning began, guided by development professional Lee Williamson, daughter of Central members C. Q. and Robbie Williamson.

**Evolution and Progress** – Bishop Hopeton Clennon presided over the initial silent phase of the campaign which began in early 2016. In June, Anne Zug and Bill Sachs volunteered to co-chair the campaign and see it through to completion, and in early December, Martha Jones was hired as a part-time Campaign Coordinator to handle the many administrative and clerical tasks that are part of any major capital campaign.

The major theme of Central's anniversary campaign is FOUNDATIONS, organized around three topics: *Honoring Our Founders, Inspired by Faith*, and *Building for the Future*. *Honoring Our Founders* has a campaign goal of \$275,000 for Capital Enhancements to our existing facilities, while *Inspired by Faith's* goal is \$275,000 for continued excellence in Mission and Music. Finally, *Building for the Future* seeks to add an additional \$275,000 to our Preservation Fund for Ensuring Our Future. Donors have five years to pay their pledges, and may direct how their gift is to be allocated among the campaign's three major topical categories.

*The Campaign for Central Moravian Church's 275<sup>th</sup> Anniversary* was publicly launched at an open forum on Sunday, October 9, and began with an excellent foundation of \$306,000 from the 32 pledges received during the preceding silent phase of the campaign. The public phase was kicked-off in earnest in mid-November with the mailing of approximately 530 campaign packets to members of the congregation containing a personalized letter, Confidential Letter of Intent with return envelope, and a copy of the

campaign brochure and calendar of Anniversary events.

By the close of 2016, the *Foundations* campaign had recorded 108 pledges totaling approximately \$650,000—more than two-thirds of our overall goal! Well done, Central members! As *Foundations* enters the New Year, plans are underway to extend the campaign to Central’s dedicated friends and major business partners, and to apply for a limited number of promising foundation grants. In the meantime, please keep the pledges coming!

With sincere gratitude, we thank our Trustees, Elders, and staff for their active support throughout the campaign, and especially Hopeton Clennon and members of the Campaign Steering Committee for their prayerful participation in planning the campaign. We are especially grateful for the unwavering support of so many members and friends of our congregation. Their generosity and commitment to securing Central’s future has been awesome!

Respectfully Submitted,  
Anne Zug and Bill Sachs  
Campaign Co-Chairs

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## International Student Care Committee

In January of 2015, Central member Bryon Grigsby, President of Moravian College, proposed a partnership between the College and Central Moravian Church to bring students from Tanzania to earn a bachelor's degree at Moravian College. In June of 2015, the partnership was agreed to and broadened to international Moravian students from any area of the worldwide Moravian Church.

The College will provide full tuition, room and board for two qualified students every other year. Central will cover costs of transportation to Bethlehem and home at the end of their studies, books, and other incidental expenses.

In August of 2016, we welcomed our first students: Jackson Mlimuka from Tanzania is 21. He is planning to major in business. (Jackson’s father Dick attended Moravian in 1989.) Joshua Pradhan from Nepal is 20 years old. He has not declared a major at this time. (Joshua's father, Nagendra is a Moravian pastor in

Nepal. Joshua’s aunt and uncle Vani and Shanti Pradhan are graduates of Moravian Theological Seminary and are also Moravian pastors in Nepal.)

We have formed an International Student Care Committee (ISCC) to serve as local support for these two students. Such support will include being available as their local “family” while they are here in Bethlehem, helping them move into their dorms and seeking home visits for them during holiday breaks.

Members of the committee outfitted their dorm rooms and purchased basic school supplies. Help and advice were offered in purchasing books and warm clothing and dealing with other issues that arose as they adjusted to student life at Moravian College. Jackson and Joshua stayed with committee members during Thanksgiving and Christmas breaks.

The committee includes: Shelia and Hopeton Clennon, Mike and Myra Jones (Edgeboro Moravian Church), Steve and Margaret Krawiec, Pam Larimer, Mia Mecleary, Craig and Alice Mosebach, Jeff Mosebach, Linda and Jack Thomas (College Hill Moravian Church).

Respectfully Submitted,  
Alice Mosebach

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## Board of Trustees

The Handbook of Central Moravian Church, section B, states that the Board of Trustees of Central Moravian Church consists of 14 members of the church. Eight members constitute a quorum. A president, vice-president, treasurer and secretary are chosen from among their number annually. Trustees meet monthly.

The pastors are invited to attend all monthly meetings as non-voting members. George Mowers, our Financial Secretary, also has non-voting status and attends meetings as invited. George is a wonderful member of our team: we are fortunate to have his devotion as well as his fine financial and business acumen.

The financial secretary and the treasurer receive, record, and deposit the receipts and disburse monies with the authorization of the Trustees. The Trustees



are responsible for recording members' pledges and contributions and giving statements of such records to church members. The Trustees are especially charged with managing the temporal affairs of the church. They strive to assure the prompt payment of all salaries, bills, and Provincial and District obligations. The Trustees keep all church owned and leased property in good repair and in an attractive condition. The Trustees have charge of all funds of the church, exercising the greatest of care to invest the funds wisely and use the income properly. At the close of each year, the Trustees arrange for a review or audit of the accounts, prepare the annual financial report, and give a report to the church council. The Trustees are also responsible for securing an insurance bond for church members who are involved with the finances of the church and its organizations.

Since the Trustees are charged with such responsibilities, it is helpful that the current membership on Trustees includes expertise in handling personnel matters, small business management, construction, education, law, insurance, marketing, fund raising and finance. Standing committees are often utilized to carry out recommendations of the Trustees. Representatives of those standing committees deliver a report to Trustees each month. A yearly summary of those Committee reports are available to you in other sections of this Annual Report.

Monthly, Elders read Trustees' Minutes and Trustees read Elders' Minutes; thus each Board is apprised of what each committee is accomplishing on behalf of the church. In addition, a Trustee is in attendance and brings an update at each Elders' meeting and likewise an Elder attends and brings an update to the Trustees' meeting.

Our year has been a busy one with our farewell to Sister Maggie Wellert for a job well done and, of course, welcome to Sister Lynnette Delbridge. As you know, Sister Lynnette brought us new energy and enthusiasm with an early focus on the Sunday School and youth programs.

Brother Terry Worrich, Chairman of the Christian Spring Spiritual Center Committee, finalized the January sale of 26 acres of land to the Natural Lands Trust. As directed by the Joint Board, the remaining acreage and house have recently been listed for sale.

We appreciate all that Brother Terry continues to do on this project for us.

The 275<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Campaign Steering Committee worked very hard to complete the kick-off of "Foundations—The Campaign for Central Moravian Church's 275<sup>th</sup> Anniversary" fund raising campaign. An explanation Forum with questions and answers was held on October 9. Our Congregation has been very supportive of our need to raise \$825,000.00 as described in the "Foundations" brochure.

At December 31, we had pledges and/or contributions from 108 participants with a total of \$650,000 raised. We are indebted to members and friends of Central for their financial support and enthusiasm for this important project. We look forward to the day when we will announce that we have reached our goal!

Highlights of our 2016 year included many fine programs including expansion of our Food Pantry; the Bethlehem Interfaith Resettlement Committee; the Bethlehem Emergency Sheltering program; the arrival of our international students and the creation of the International Student Care Committee; and the 1st Central Showcase fundraiser. Many more activities come to mind – Busy Workers had two very successful sales; Social Action again presented Central Chautauqua, Central Santas and the CROP walk. We are a very busy congregation helping others by our actions and deeds while spreading the word and love of God.

Finally, I am indebted to all the Church Committee members and chairs, Elders and Trustees, for their untiring hours, cooperation and achievements. Brother Tom Tenges' first term is expiring next month. He is stepping down from his role on Trustees and that of Chairman of the Building and Grounds Committee. Please join me in thanking him for all he has done and continues to do for Central. Kudos to our outstanding staff for their diligence, help and encouragement. We are so lucky to be blessed with such a fine team.

Last, but not least, thank you to Pastor Hopeton who devotes 24/7 to each one of us. We are in his prayers, he is by our side and we are enlightened by his lessons and sermons.

Respectively Submitted,  
Anne M. Zug, President, Board of Trustees

## **Audit Committee**

The Audit Committee retained the services of Campbell, Rappold & Yurasits, LLP to audit the general, special and investment accounts of the Church for the fiscal year which ended December 31, 2015. This firm has been the Church's auditor for a number of years, and this provides familiarity and continuity in reviewing our financial records and controls. As has been the case for years in the past, Campbell, Rappold & Yurasits issued a clean report with respect to fiscal year 2015. The clean report provides assurance that our records are accurate and maintained in a timely manner. Further, our financial protocols are appropriate, consistent and observed. A copy of the Audit is available in the Church Office for review.

Members of your Audit Committee are as follows: Bishop Hopeton Clennon, George Mowers, Steven Schlack (Elder), Mia Mecleary (Trustee), Anthony R. Thompson (Trustee).

A special notice of thanks to George Mowers is appropriate. George's diligence and commitment to serving our congregation is appreciated. The accurate and complete records which George maintains permit the auditors to have a clear and uncomplicated review of our financial records. This greatly assisted our auditors' timely issuance of an unqualified positive opinion in connection with the annual audit.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Anthony R. Thompson, Chair

## 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 David Beckwith, Don Brown, Mark Parseghian Ann Raines, Hal Smith, David Weikert, and Anne Zug.

The committee is assisted by Wayne Achey, a Senior Vice President of Investments at Merrill Lynch, and a Central member. As a financial adviser, Mr. Achey prepares presentations for the quarterly committee meetings that give the members several suggestions and options that they can consider and evaluate to help maximize the stability and return of the portfolio.

Monthly investment reports of the portfolio from Merrill Lynch are provided to each member of the committee and also to the Financial Secretary. Investment results are shared with the Board of Trustees through the Financial Secretary's monthly Board report. The Board is also informed on the committee's actions by reports on the quarterly meetings.

A new fund was created this year, the Elizabeth Johnston Prime Fund, that holds the proceeds from the Christian Spring property sale to Lands Trust group for a permanent park. Christian Spring was operated with borrowed funds from the Endowment Fund, and when the property was sold, that money was repaid to the Endowment Fund. The remaining money became the new E. Johnston Prime Fund. The following table indicates the opening and closing balances of the managed funds as well as an increasing amount that was withdrawn from the accounts to help cover church expenses in 2016.

<b>Central Funds</b>	<b>Opening Balance on January 1, 2016</b>	<b>Closing Balance on December 30, 2016</b>	<b>Funds withdrawn to support projects and the Church Budget</b>
<b>Endowment Fund</b>	2,785,267	3,423,647	148,929
<b>Preservation Income</b>	2,711	35,817	10,959
<b>Holding Account</b>	27,456	19,253	14,440
<b>Central Mission</b>	42,576	42,753	-0-
<b>Central Steps</b>	228,324	272,646	-0-
<b>Preservation Fund</b>	1,045,650	1,075,963	44,213
<b>E. Johnston Prime Fund</b>	Lands Trust Sale-2016	388,604	-0-

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 risk. Many thanks to the committee members who help keep our portfolio strategy on course.

Respectfully Submitted by,  
Don Brown, Chair

## **Stewardship Committee**

### **2016 Results:**

Each year, the Stewardship Committee spends much of their effort on an annual fund appeal to inform members on the use of their annual financial support to the church operating budget. The 2016 Budget was adopted by the Church Council in January 2016. It called for financial contributions from members and friends of \$540,000, which represented an increase of \$40,832 (6.83%) from the 2015 budget. The total amount given from members and friends as of December 31, 2016, was \$506,877.

Financial contributions from members consists of payments on pledges and dollars given by members who do not pledge but make contributions through their envelope, or bank-pay. In 2016, contributions from members represented 59.82% of the total dollars needed to support the church operations.

### **2017 Church Budget – Contributions from Members of Central**

The 2017 Church Council will be asked to approve the 2017 operating budget. The amount budgeted to come from contributions from members is \$535,000. This is an increase of \$8,303 from last year (1.58%). As of December 31, 2016, \$285,145 has been pledged from 169 household giving units. We need to receive an additional non-pledged support of \$249,855 from members to meet our budgeted contributions from members. Our current pledged support, represents 53.3% of the contributions needed from members to meet the 2017 operating budget. In past years, members have pledged 55% or more, by the end of December.

Many thanks to those who have already pledged their financial support and to the members of the Stewardship Committee: Joan Carson, Louisa Frey, Martha Griffis, Tom Tenges, Michelle Trent, Dave Weikert, Pastor Lynnette Delbridge and Pastor Hopeton Clennon. Special thanks to George Mowers and Cindy Gibson for helping to assemble numbers.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Sharon Upton, Chair

## Contribution Analysis

GIVING RANGES	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
less than \$1	148	141	150	166	94	83	134	153	158	217	210	219	244
1 - 100	154	133	125	125	114	116	112	93	106	106	85	73	73
101 - 200	57	69	52	46	60	54	50	59	42	41	52	34	31
201 - 300	53	54	58	55	45	42	55	48	39	43	44	34	46
301 - 400	29	33	42	32	37	37	28	28	39	27	25	21	17
401 - 500	31	31	22	28	30	30	35	31	20	16	29	32	30
501 - 600	38	39	34	33	33	30	29	24	23	28	18	22	23
601 - 700	20	17	18	20	22	17	13	15	19	8	15	10	9
701 - 800	22	16	20	21	17	17	16	15	18	19	17	11	15
801 - 900	14	12	14	13	12	13	11	10	5	11	6	7	9
901-1000	20	22	8	11	15	16	16	14	11	12	12	9	11
1001 - 1100	20	13	23	12	14	22	25	15	12	9	11	12	5
1101 - 1200	16	18	20	21	14	10	7	15	7	17	11	14	10
1201 - 1300	18	11	11	9	16	11	6	16	13	7	9	11	13
1301 - 1400	6	16	15	11	6	8	10	3	9	7	8	5	10
1401 - 1500	5	12	16	12	6	7	10	8	9	5	10	7	9
1501 - 2000	41	33	44	36	43	31	33	29	31	31	32	31	30
2001 - 3000	34	35	34	37	33	40	44	38	35	40	37	34	38
3001 - 4000	19	16	17	22	24	23	17	18	19	16	9	12	9
4001 - 5000	9	11	9	7	11	11	12	11	9	12	11	10	14
5001 - 7500	6	6	11	12	10	11	10	7	5	10	9	9	9
7501 - 10000	3	4	2	4	3	4	0	1	2	1	2	1	2
>10000	3	4	4	3	4	3	3	4	6	4	4	4	3
Total Giving Units (1)	766	746	749	736	663	630	676	655	637	687	666	622	660
Average Contribution (2)	\$744	\$824	\$838	\$857	\$967	\$1,009	\$854	\$837	\$899	\$778	\$783	\$791	\$749
Total Contributions	\$569,774	\$614,994	\$627,442	\$631,022	\$641,122	\$635,363	\$577,593	\$548,389	\$572,748	\$534,720	\$521,311	\$492,078	\$494,292
(1) Number of giving units as those assigned by contribution envelope numbers													
(2) Total giving divided by giving units													

## **Budget and Finance**

Reviewing the past several years, a disturbing trend has continued regarding the Operating Budget of Central Moravian Church. After several years of small surplus, the trend was reversed in 2014 with a deficit of \$15,514 and continued in 2015 with a deficit of \$14,464. Fiscal Year 2016 ended with an even larger deficit of \$17,964.

**Total Income** was under budget by \$41,188 or 4.9%. Throughout the year, **Envelope Giving** was consistently below budget requirements and ended the year \$32,123 or 5.9% under budget. This had serious implications for the Budget and Finance Committee in establishing the 2017 Budget. **Other Contributions** (special envelopes and cash plate offering) were slightly under budget by \$945 or 1.0%. **Institutional Receipts** (Moravian College, Moravian Academy, ArtsQuest, Bach Choir, 63 W. Church Street rental, and wedding income) were also under budget by \$5,128 or 5.6%. **Endowment Income** was under budget by \$2,993 or 2.5%, thus adding to the shortfall.

**Total Expenses**, on a positive note, were under budget by \$23,225 or 2.7%. **Salary and Benefits** were slightly over budget by \$1,631 or 0.4%. **Facilities-Operations** were under budget by \$13,050 or 11.8% due to utility costs savings for gas and electric in all buildings in 2016. **Facilities-Maintenance** was under budget by \$8,901 or 10.6% due to postponed major projects in anticipation of additional funding through the 275<sup>th</sup> Capital Campaign.

**Total Programs** were under budget by \$7,383 or 8.6% due to less expenses for Christian Education, and Mission & Outreach programs.

**Church Office Administration** expenses came in over budget this year by \$3,589 or 10.7% due to additional mailings, increase in equipment lease costs, and printing of the church directory. In 2016, Central paid 100% of the amount requested for the **Province & District Administration and Benevolent Ministries**, a decrease from the previous year of \$1,134 or .01%.

**Total Income less Capital Projects Income** increased over last year by \$7,616 finishing at \$805,084. **Total Expenses less Capital Projects Expenses** increased over last year by \$12,115 finishing at \$824,047. As a result, Fiscal Year 2016 ended with a deficit of \$17,964 which will require the use of a portion of an unrestricted gift from the estate of a generous Central member to balance the budget. A total of \$29,978 in Memorials, Undesignated, and Accumulated Surplus Funds were used to balance the previous Operating Budget deficits in FY 2014 and FY 2015.

**Capital Projects**, although not part of the Operating Budget, totaled \$21,947 for capital improvements to buildings on the Church Street Campus. Moravian Academy reimbursements totaled \$17,238 for their share of the CE Building expenses. Central's share was funded by income from the Preservation Fund.

No contributions to the Operating Budget are used for the care and operation of the Christian Spring property. In FY 2016, the Joint Board sold the majority of the property which raised funds to repay the \$325,000 line-of-credit loan to the Endowment Fund and established the Elizabeth Johnston Prime Fund with the remainder of the proceeds. The Joint Board is currently in the process of selling the house and remaining property with the proceeds from the sale to be added to the Prime Fund.

George Mowers, Financial Secretary  
Robert Phillips, Treasurer and Chair, Budget and Finance Committee

**CENTRAL MORAVIAN CHURCH**  
**Financial Disclosure**  
For the year ended December 31, 2016

	2013 Actual (Rounded)	2014 Actual (Rounded)	2015 Actual (Rounded)	2016 Actual (Rounded)	16 vs 15 Change (Rounded)	2016 Budget (Rounded)	2016 Actual +/- % Budget	Budget \$
Beginning Balance	0	1,487	0	-0				
<b><u>INCOME</u></b>								
Envelope Giving	534,720	521,311	508,559	507,877	-682	540,000	-5.9%	-32,123
Other Contributions	80,547	83,570	88,911	97,357	8,446	98,302	-1.0%	-945
Capital Projects Income	29,798	175,704	17,555	21,947	4,392	0		
Institutional Receipts	88,324	85,145	89,945	85,802	-4,143	90,930	-5.6%	-5,128
Endowment Income	103,272	118,170	110,054	115,048	4,994	118,040	-2.5%	-2,993
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$836,662</b>	<b>\$983,900</b>	<b>\$815,024</b>	<b>\$828,031</b>		<b>\$847,272</b>		
Less Capital Projects Income	-29,798	-175,704	-17,555	-21,947		0		
<b>NET TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$806,864</b>	<b>\$808,196</b>	<b>\$797,469</b>	<b>\$806,084</b>	8,616	<b>\$847,272</b>	-4.9%	-41,188
<b><u>EXPENSES</u></b>								
Pastoral Staff Sal. & Ben	191,868	192,693	172,878	194,560	21,683	197,380	-1.4%	-2,820
Music Staff Sal. & Ben.	73,757	71,920	77,207	80,205	2,998	81,355	-1.4%	-1,150
Support Staff Sal. & Ben.	136,528	142,836	150,888	157,935	7,048	152,334	3.7%	5,601
<b>Total Salary &amp; Benefits</b>	<b>\$402,153</b>	<b>\$407,449</b>	<b>\$400,972</b>	<b>\$432,700</b>	31,728	<b>\$431,069</b>	0.4%	1,631
<b>Total Facilities - Operations</b>	<b>\$99,535</b>	<b>\$103,288</b>	<b>\$106,645</b>	<b>\$97,620</b>	-9,025	<b>\$110,670</b>	-11.8%	-13,050
<b>Total Facilities - Maintenance</b>	<b>\$76,726</b>	<b>\$79,255</b>	<b>\$93,827</b>	<b>\$75,457</b>	-18,370	<b>\$84,366</b>	-10.6%	-8,910
<b>Capital Projects Expense</b>	<b>\$29,798</b>	<b>\$175,704</b>	<b>\$17,555</b>	<b>\$21,947</b>	4,392	<b>\$0</b>		
Ministry & Worship Program	28,125	27,009	18,765	21,389	2,623	22,043	-3.0%	-654
Music Program	34,517	34,517	34,493	35,257	764	34,517	2.1%	740
Christian Education Program	6,330	7,918	6,991	6,141	-850	10,347	-40.7%	-4,206
Mission & Outreach Program	15,397	17,520	16,062	15,637	-425	18,900	-17.3%	-3,263
<b>Total Programs</b>	<b>\$84,368</b>	<b>\$86,964</b>	<b>\$76,312</b>	<b>\$78,424</b>	2,112	<b>\$85,807</b>	-8.6%	-7,383
<b>Total Church Office Administration</b>	<b>\$29,768</b>	<b>\$32,744</b>	<b>\$30,213</b>	<b>\$37,019</b>	6,806	<b>\$33,430</b>	10.7%	3,589
Province & District Admin.	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A		N/A		
Benevolent Ministries	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A		N/A		
Provincial Women's Board	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A		N/A		
<b>Total Province &amp; District</b>	<b>\$112,827</b>	<b>\$114,010</b>	<b>\$103,964</b>	<b>\$102,829</b>	-1,134	<b>\$101,930</b>	0.9%	899
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$835,176</b>	<b>\$999,414</b>	<b>\$829,488</b>	<b>\$845,995</b>		<b>\$847,272</b>		
Less Capital Projects Expense	-29,798	-175,704	-17,555	-21,947		0		
<b>NET TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$805,377</b>	<b>\$823,709</b>	<b>\$811,932</b>	<b>\$824,047</b>	12,115	<b>\$847,272</b>	-2.7%	-23,225
Current year surplus(deficit)	1,487	-15,514	-14,464	-17,964		0		
Adjustment from reserves (1)(2)(4)(6)	0	13,257	14,439	17,964		0		
Adjustment from Prior Year (3)(5)		2,257	25	0				
<b>Net surplus(deficit)</b>	<b>\$1,487</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>-\$0</b>	<b>-\$0</b>		<b>\$0</b>		
Ending Balance	1,487	0	-0	-0				

- (1) In FY2013, \$5,250 was taken from 2012 surplus for HHV Campaign contributions entered as Envelope Giving in 2012
- (2) In FY2014, \$12,657 was taken from Undesignated & Memorials Fund to balance the Budget
- (3) In FY2014, \$2,257 was transferred from Prior Year Surplus to balance the Budget
- (4) In FY2015, \$14,439 was taken from Undesignated & Memorials Fund to balance the Budget
- (5) In FY2015, \$25 was transferred from Prior Year Surplus to balance the Budget
- (6) In FY2016, \$17,964 was taken from undesignated funds to balance the Budget

CENTRAL MORAVIAN CHURCH

2016 Giving to Mission Causes Outside the Budget

275th Legacy Gift for Emergency Shelter	\$4,600
Barnette Scholars International Students	\$704
Barnette Scholars International Students - from Busy Workers	\$1,632
Barnette Scholars International Students - from Twenty Minute Society	\$500
Blanket Sunday	\$1,112
Blanket Sunday - from Busy Workers	\$2,000
CD Ministry Fund	\$53
Central Emergency Shelter	\$1,070
Central Santa Project	\$8,100
Christian Spring Spiritual Center - from Busy Workers	\$100
CMC members for Nepal Mission Outreach	\$2,604
CROP Walk	\$4,453
CROP Walk - from Busy Workers	\$1,000
Esperanza	\$853
Esperanza Summer Programs - from Busy Workers	\$1,500
Flowers for God's Acre	\$222
Flowers for God's Acre - from Busy Workers	\$1,200
Food Bank	\$3,764
Food Bank - from Ladies' Sewing Society	\$100
Food Bank - from the Moravian Women	\$300
Food Bank - from Busy Workers	\$1,000
Hoffman Fund for Tanzania - from Busy Workers for Daniel	\$180
Hoffman Fund for Tanzania - from Busy Workers for roof construction	\$600
Hoffman Fund for Tanzania - from Busy Workers for Mama's Fund	\$500
Hoffman Fund for Tanzania - from Twenty Minute Society for Mama's Fund	\$500
Hoffman Fund for Tanzania - for Mama's Fund	\$100
Moravian Women for Orphans Fund	\$4,733
Nepali Outreach - from Busy Workers for Tim Naisby trip	\$700
Preservation Fund - from The Candlemakers	\$1,300
Orphans Fund	\$350
Pastors' Discretionary Fund	\$1,500
Seifert Fund for Christian Education	\$2,078
Syrian Resettlement Projec - from Anonymous Foundation	\$5,000
Syrian Resettlement Project - from Busy Workers	\$1,000
Syrian Resettlement Project - from CMC Coffee Project	\$800
Syrian Resettlement Project - from CMC members	\$420
World-wide Unity	\$1,043
Youth Group Fund for Camp Hope Schlorships	\$920
Youth Group Fund for Camp Hope Schlorships - from Busy Workers	\$500
Total	\$59,092



2016 Giving to Mission Causes Within the Budget

2016 Budget for Hoffmans work in Sikonge	\$10,000	
2016 Budget for Nepal Moravian Outreach	\$2,000	
2016 Budget for Esperanza	\$500	
2016 Budget for Crop Walk supplies	\$110	
2016 Budget for Cynthia's Boutique	\$324	
2016 Budget - New Bethany Ministries	\$400	
2016 Budget - Victory House	\$500	
2016 Budget - Bread For The World	\$465	
2016 Budget - Moravian Open Door	\$400	
2016 Budget - Northeast Ministries	\$300	
	Total	\$14,999

Total 2016 Giving to Mission Causes	<u>\$74,091</u>
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This list is not meant to be a comprehensive accounting of all non-budgetary contributions. Omissions and duplicate accounting may exist. It does not include the value of the non-monetary gifts of time, energy, and enthusiasm by individuals and organizations of Central. Please see individual organization reports for additional giving directly to mission causes.

2016 Other Giving to Central Moravian Church

275th Capital Campaign	\$183,102	
275th Capital Campaign - from Peanutmakers	\$500	
	<hr/>	
	2016 Total	\$183,602

Belfry Star Fund		\$1,000
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Giving to the Operating Budget -

Busy Workers	\$1,000	
Contemplative Worship	\$250	
Special Concerts Music Programs	\$2,331	
Advent Singstude	\$52	
Ladies' Sewing Society	\$375	
Putz Committee	\$500	
Spring Organ Concert	\$210	
Star & Candle Shoppe	\$5,000	
The Candlemakers	\$1,300	
Twenty Minute Society	\$1,200	
	<hr/>	
	2016 Total	\$12,218

Total 2016 Other Giving	<u>\$196,820</u>
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## 2017 Budget Overview

The 2017 budget is substantially similar to the 2016 budget. This similarity does not portray the effort that went in to developing an income and expense plan for the new fiscal year. Great care was taken in trying to accurately predict income and allocate spending to care for our ministry at home and abroad. The ministry at home includes fully meeting our Province and District assessments, caring for our congregation, providing for our staff, and maintaining our church campus. The Budget and Finance Committee spent many hours carefully balancing this spending plan.

### Income:

**Envelope Giving** is expected to increase a modest 5.34% in 2017, while **Other Contributions** show a slight decrease. A portion of this increase is the expected positive effect of the newly created Stewardship Coordinator staff position that has been added.

**Institutional Receipts** are budgeted to increase 14.47% to recover increased expenses, such as facility usage, utilities, and taxes.

**Endowment Income** expectations have been increased because of positive market trends in 2016, as well as some investment decisions that will increase investment revenue. Following sound principles and past practice, only income is planned to be used from the Endowment Fund. Income from the newly created Elizabeth Johnston Prime Fund is not included in this budget and will be designated for Christian Spring property expenses as property expenses remain fully separated from this budget.

### Expenses:

**Total Salary and Benefits** include a 1.0% salary increase for pastors, music and support staff employees.

**Total Facilities Operations** reflect a 12.43% increase in the utility budget over the previous year's unusually low total expense.

**Total Facilities Maintenance and Supplies** remain basically unchanged due to anticipated campus maintenance and improvement project expenses being supplemented by the 275<sup>th</sup> Capital Campaign contributions.

**Total Program and Outreach** expenses exhibit a 10.95% increase with the inclusion of the newly created Stewardship Coordinator staff position.

**Total Church Office Administration** remains the same as the 2016 budget.

**Total Province and District Administration** funding is \$101,668. Central continues to joyfully meet 100% of our requested support for administration and benevolent ministries.

George Mowers, Financial Secretary  
Robert Phillips, Treasurer

Budget and Finance Committee: Robert Phillips (Chair), C. Hopeton Clennon, Lynnette Delbridge, George Mowers, Hank Naisby, Donald Brown, Steve Schlack, Anthony Thompson, Dave Weikert, Anne Zug.

# CENTRAL MORAVIAN CHURCH

## Proposed Budget

For the year ended December 31, 2017

(approved by Elders 12/13/16 and Trustees 12/21/16)

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2016	2017	Actual 2016 vs Proposed 2017	
	Actual	Actual	Actual	Adopted	Actual	Proposed	\$	%
<b><u>INCOME</u></b>								
Envelope Giving	534,720	521,311	508,559	540,000	507,877	535,000	27,123	5.34%
Other Contributions	80,547	83,570	88,911	98,302	97,357	96,411	-946	-0.97%
Capital Projects Contributions	29,798	175,704	17,555		21,947	0		
Institutional Receipts	88,324	85,145	89,945	90,930	85,802	98,214	12,412	14.47%
Endowment Income	103,272	118,170	110,054	118,040	115,048	118,040	2,992	2.60%
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$836,662</b>	<b>\$983,900</b>	<b>\$815,024</b>	<b>\$847,272</b>	<b>\$828,031</b>	<b>\$847,665</b>		
Less Capital Projects Income	-29,798	-175,704	-17,555	0	-21,947	0		
<b>NET TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$806,864</b>	<b>\$808,196</b>	<b>\$797,469</b>	<b>\$847,272</b>	<b>\$806,084</b>	<b>\$847,665</b>	41,581	5.16%
<b><u>EXPENSES</u></b>								
Pastoral Staff Sal. & Ben	191,868	192,693	172,878	197,380	194,560	199,368	4,808	2.47%
Music Staff Sal. & Ben.	73,757	71,920	77,207	81,355	80,205	81,948	1,743	2.17%
Support Staff Sal. & Ben.	136,528	142,836	150,888	152,334	157,935	158,552	617	0.39%
<b>Total Salary &amp; Benefits</b>	<b>\$402,153</b>	<b>\$407,449</b>	<b>\$400,972</b>	<b>\$431,069</b>	<b>\$432,700</b>	<b>\$439,868</b>	7,168	1.66%
<b>Total Facilities Operations</b>	<b>\$99,535</b>	<b>\$103,288</b>	<b>\$106,645</b>	<b>\$110,670</b>	<b>\$97,620</b>	<b>\$109,755</b>	12,135	12.43%
<b>Total Facilities Maintenance &amp; Supplies (6)</b>	<b>\$76,726</b>	<b>\$79,255</b>	<b>\$93,827</b>	<b>\$84,366</b>	<b>\$75,457</b>	<b>\$75,929</b>	472	0.63%
<b>Capital Projects Expense</b>	<b>\$29,798</b>	<b>\$175,704</b>	<b>\$17,555</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$21,947</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	
Ministry & Worship (1)	28,125	27,009	18,765	22,043	21,389	26,174	4,785	22.37%
Music Program (2)	34,517	34,517	34,493	34,517	35,257	34,517	-740	-2.10%
Christian Ed. Program (3)	6,330	7,918	6,991	10,347	6,141	10,424	4,283	69.74%
Mission & Outreach Program (4)	15,397	17,520	16,062	18,900	15,637	15,900	263	1.68%
<b>Total Program &amp; Outreach</b>	<b>\$84,368</b>	<b>\$86,964</b>	<b>\$76,312</b>	<b>\$85,807</b>	<b>\$78,424</b>	<b>\$87,015</b>	8,591	10.95%
<b>Total Church Office Administration</b>	<b>\$29,768</b>	<b>\$32,744</b>	<b>\$30,213</b>	<b>\$33,430</b>	<b>\$37,019</b>	<b>\$33,430</b>	-3,589	-9.70%
Prov. & District Admin.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%
Benevolent Ministries	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%
Provincial Women's Board	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%
<b>Total Province &amp; District Administration (5)</b>	<b>\$112,827</b>	<b>\$114,010</b>	<b>\$103,964</b>	<b>\$101,930</b>	<b>\$102,829</b>	<b>\$101,668</b>	-1,161	-1.13%
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$835,176</b>	<b>\$999,414</b>	<b>\$829,488</b>	<b>\$847,272</b>	<b>\$845,995</b>	<b>\$847,665</b>		
Less Capital Projects Expense	-29,798	-175,704	-17,555	0	-21,947	0		
<b>NET TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$805,377</b>	<b>\$823,709</b>	<b>\$811,932</b>	<b>\$847,272</b>	<b>\$824,047</b>	<b>\$847,665</b>	23,618	2.87%
Current year Surplus(deficit)	1,487	-15,514	-14,464	0	-17,964	0		
Adjustment from reserves	0	13,257	14,439	0	17,964	0		
Adjustment from Prior Year	0	2,257	25		0			
<b>Net surplus(deficit)</b>	<b>\$1,487</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>		

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

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

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

(4) Mission, Communications, Social Action, Social Agencies, Esperanza, Moravian Archives, World Wide Unity

(5) Beginning 2011, Total Provincial and District contributions to administration and benevolent ministries

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

# THE PROVINCIAL ELDERS' CONFERENCE

(EXECUTIVE BOARD)

1021 Center Street, P.O. Box 1245, Bethlehem, PA 18016-1245

Telephones: 610-867-7566 – Moravian Church Center

610-865-3137 – P.E.C. President

610-866-9223 – Fax

Eastern District President 610-865-0302

Western District President 920-883-2212

**THE MORAVIAN CHURCH** • Northern Province

Dear partners in ministry,

Grace, mercy, and peace in the name of the God who calls us into being and sends us out to share Good News! The purpose of all that we do together – our worship, our service, our financial support, is to be agents of blessing this world in the name of Jesus Christ. Everyone plays a part in this mission to which God calls us – whether we deliver a sermon, offer a prayer, prepare a meal for the homeless, or write a check. Each of us – as individuals and as congregations – has a gift to share to build up the Body of Christ.

We do together what we cannot do alone. It is this spirit of community that is the basis of our **Common Ministries Commitment**. The three words of this phrase are powerful in isolation; put together they give voice to our understanding that being part of the wider church is important and helps build up the Body of Christ. We hold in **common** ministries that we could not do as a single congregation. We support **ministries**, not just line items in a budget. We make a **commitment** to God and one another through our full participation in the ministries we hold in common. Together, we form the Moravian Church Northern Province – as we are and as we pray God will shape us to be. Each congregation makes a commitment, not just to the province, but also to every other congregation to join together in all that God calls us to share in ministry.

I invite you to join me in supporting the ministries we hold in common and make a commitment to fully fund your congregation's share. Indeed, part of the commitment we all make as congregations of the province is to support the work we can only accomplish through all of us joining together. We count on your full participation and we are blessed by the partnership to which you join yourselves.

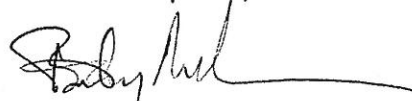
As in the past, we fund our common ministries through every congregation giving a percentage of its Line 1 income. The 2017 budget was built on your Line 1 income from 2015. The *percentage* of your Line 1 income remains the same as last year. The *amount* you are asked to offer changes based on the fluctuation of Line 1 income. As with good stewardship practices, you give to the province as you have received. The provincial budget process begins with what we can expect to receive from you. Like personal budgets, the province lives within the expected receipts, which means we must make choices based on prayerful priorities. When one congregation does not meet its full share, we all suffer. When all congregations offer 100% of their requested support, we all rejoice together. There is no buffer built into the budget to cover any shortfall in giving. We need all of you offering yourselves fully to our common ministry to support the many ministries God is calling us to offer the world.

The provincial elders have approved a budget for 2017 in the amount of \$2,151,143, which is based on anticipated common ministry receipts of \$1.6 million. The difference comes from other sources of income available to the province, including investments and other restricted funds. This year's budget is almost \$15,000 higher than last year even though anticipated common ministry income is \$31,000 lower than 2016; we are making up the difference from investments and restricted funds. The detailed budget will be sent to you in December with the distribution of the Mission and Ministries Budget, offering further explanation of what ministries we support together. This year we made a commitment to maintain the 2016 level of funding to our core agencies (the Board of World Mission, Moravian Theological Seminary, Interprovincial Board of Communication, Moravian Archives, Moravian Music Foundation, and the Provincial Women's Board). The ministries they offer are part of who we are and how we bear witness to God's love and grace. Some of the ministries we continue to support are the Task Forces called for by the 2014 synod to strengthen Deacon Supervision, enhance Spiritual Formation, foster Healthy Congregations and explore the unique opportunities and burdens of our clergy serving part-time. In addition, we continue to explore our Identity, Purpose, and Organization (IPO), although at a significantly reduced level. Thanks to some extraordinary personal gifts to the Clergy Emergency Assistance Fund, we did not have to include funding from the common ministries to keep a healthy balance in that fund.

By now, you have received an email notice that the 2017 Common Ministries Commitment for your congregation is available on the Portal. 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 ([portal@mcnp.org](mailto:portal@mcnp.org)) in our Finance Office.

As you prayerfully determine your local budgets and include your share of our provincial budgets, I invite you to imagine how the gifts of your congregation help to build up the Body of Christ that we call the Moravian Church Northern Province. Thank you for your faithfulness; thank you for your support; thank you for your **commitment** to the **common ministries** of the province.

Grace and peace,



Elizabeth D. Miller  
President



# THE EXECUTIVE BOARD OF THE EASTERN DISTRICT

Incorporated December 4, 1945

1021 Center Street, P.O. Box 1245, Bethlehem, PA 18016-1245

Telephone: 610-865-0302

FAX: 610-866-9223

www.mcnp.org

**THE MORAVIAN CHURCH • Northern Province**

September, 2016

**TO: EASTERN DISTRICT CONGREGATIONS**

**FROM: THE EASTERN DISTRICT EXECUTIVE BOARD  
DAVID E. BENNETT, PRESIDENT**

**RE: 2017 FUNDING OF OUR COMMON MINISTRIES**

Greetings Friends and Partners in Ministry:

I write on behalf of the Eastern District Executive Board (EDEB) to thank you for this last year of ministry partnership and invite your full participation in the common ministries for 2017. The ministry partnership that we share with you is one which makes possible the mission endeavors discerned by the Eastern District Synod in support of congregational redevelopment and in simply being Christ's Church in the world today.

The budget for this upcoming year was established and approved by the 2016 Eastern District Synod. Therefore, it has been discerned collectively by all of our district congregations through their synod delegates. Although key budget assumptions are outlined below, it is important to note that beginning in 2018 the Eastern District budget will no longer be funded through the "per capita" giving of our congregations. As per the mandate of the 2016 Eastern District Synod, 2018-2020 budgets will be funded through an income based methodology similar, but not identical to, the current provincial methodology. A Financial Task Force will be working on such a methodology in 2017, following the criteria established by the 2016 Eastern District Synod. Following the 2018-2020 implementation of the "line 1 income" based methodology, the 2020 Eastern District Synod will review its effectiveness and discern its future use.

In response to the mandates of the 2016 Eastern District Synod, the common ministry for 2017 is presented with the following highlights:

- ❖ As directed by both the 2012 and 2016 Eastern District Synods, the 2016 common ministry budget will be supplemented, if necessary, through the use of unrestricted district reserves at a maximum spending rate of 5%. The use of these unrestricted funds allows the EDEB to leverage these assets in an effective and sustainable manner toward

congregational revitalization and mission collaboration. Additionally, this will help to further alleviate the heavy burden of district assessments upon our congregations.

- ❖ As directed by the 2012 Eastern District Synod, our efforts to focus staff, commissions, and significant district common ministry funding upon **congregational revitalization** through the A.I.D. program will continue. However, in response to the 2016 Synod's focus on collaborative mission, significant human and financial resources will also be directed toward opportunities for local, national, and international **mission collaboration**.
- ❖ Through the approved 2017 budget, the Synod reaffirmed our desire to address on-going financial needs for Moravian Open Door and its breakfast program, and to do so without placing an additional burden upon our congregations. Therefore, once again funds that once were allocated to the Service Ministries line items continue to be reallocated to the Benevolence portion of our budget so as to **enhance our support for Moravian Open Door**. We continue to be able to do this due to the more effective way in which our six district commissions are functioning together.
- ❖ Therefore, the 2017 Eastern District common ministry assessment to each congregation will remain at the 2016 level.

As a result, the total common ministry assessment for 2017 uses the 2016 total amount assessed to each congregation and was based upon communicant membership for 2014. Therefore, the 2017 assessment rates will remain at **\$36.50 per communicant member for a non-Ohio congregation and \$25.50 for an Ohio congregation**. (A communicant member is by Book of Order understood to be a member who is 18 years or older.)

It is worth noting that this will be the eighth consecutive year that the Eastern District common ministry assessment has either not increased or has been decreased. Our present district budget, therefore, has little room for further cuts without affecting the very health and welfare of our common ministry. Therefore, it is vitally important that all of our congregations fully support the district common ministry as our success relies heavily upon the faithfulness of all of our congregations.

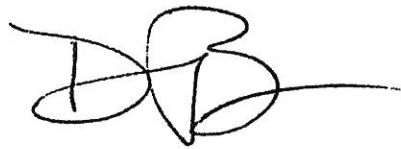
We encourage congregations to look seriously at employing the benefits of the new Past Due Balance Policy which offers 20% forgiveness of the Provincial and District Administrative Past Due Balances for each year that a congregation meets all District/Provincial assessments and pastoral benefits submissions in full. This policy supports our collaboration in district and provincial ministry, while providing much needed relief from past due balances.

I believe the 2016 Eastern District Synod awakened something within our district. The experience of and focus on hands-on mission stirred synod delegates to mandate that future synods will always have some direct experience of mission. Since June, multiple congregations have joined forces with other congregations to offer gifts of service both locally and abroad. The Mission Blasts offered by the Board of World Mission have captured the imaginations and involvement of our congregations toward new mission partnerships. The Eastern District Executive Board pledges our desire to support, nurture, and encourage these on-going and new tangible acts of service through this common ministry funding. To that end, an Eastern District Leadership Summit is currently being planned for the fall which will gather all district commissions with the EDEB, the Board of World Mission, and various district and provincial

staff members. Our purpose will be to plot out the next four years of our common ministry and to discern ever new ways for us to be the hands and feet of Christ in this day.

Finally, on behalf of the Eastern District Executive Board let me express our gratitude for each congregation as a ministry partner. Our common ministry reflects an important, shared value that Christ calls us to do together that which we cannot do alone. We are appreciative of our district and provincial staff members, the Provincial Elders Conference, and interprovincial agencies whose dedication and leadership skill makes congregational revitalization and mission collaboration this day's reality. "To Us, To Us This Task is Given!"

Your brother in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'DEB', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

David E. Bennett  
President  
Eastern District Executive Board

DEB/jlh



## OUR COMMON MINISTRY

*One of the noblest characters 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 ministry reflects 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 ministry 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 the Eastern District Director of Christian Education and the Eastern District Director of Youth and Young Adult Ministries.

#### **CHURCH REDEVELOPMENT**

Utilizing the services of district professional staff and the consultation of the district commissions, these monies fund ministry assessment, appreciative inquiry sessions, and ministry plan development of churches in need of congregational revitalization and redevelopment. The A.I.D. Program and other district initiatives directed toward congregational health and revitalization were reaffirmed as a priority by the 2012 Eastern District Synod.

### SERVICE & BENEVOLENCE MINISTRIES

#### **DISTRICT PROGRAM**

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

#### **DISTRICT CHRISTIAN EDUCATION COMMISSION**

This commission is the program agency of our district. Staffed by Marie Coutts, the District's Director of Christian Education, and Cynthia Geyer, Director of Youth and Young Adult Ministries, this commission sponsors district-wide programming development, ministry support and development within our congregations, specialized congregational consultation, training for Christian educators, training for youth and young adult leaders, and youth and young adult mission team development.

#### **DISTRICT EVANGELISM COMMISSION**

This item pays for meeting and program expenses for evangelistic efforts in the Eastern District including the Evangelism workshop and congregational grants for evangelistic efforts.

#### **DISTRICT STEWARDSHIP COMMISSION**

The commission is charged with emphasizing the vital role of stewardship in the congregational life of the churches of the Eastern District. Under the leadership of Gary Marsh, the Provincial Director of Stewardship, this commission meets with local Joint Boards to provide encouragement and training in the area of stewardship development. This commission also sponsors periodic Eastern District Stewardship Conferences.

### **COMMUNITY MINISTRIES COMMISSION** *(Formerly the Urban Ministries Commission)*

Although this commission initially provided ministry development insight and training to churches uniquely located in urban settings, this commission now also consults with congregations who desire to better understand the demographics of their own community. Serving as a partner in the Eastern District AID program, this commission provides new insights to congregations seeking to engage their neighborhood in service and mission.

### **CHURCH AND SOCIETY COMMISSION**

This commission explores social and cultural issues which make up the context for ministry in this day and time. Because of the needs of an ever-changing world, this commission leads our congregations in being proactive in addressing concerns at the intersection of church and society. To that end, they provide congregations information, aid congregations in setting realistic goals for social justice ministries, and develop opportunities for collaboration between our Eastern District congregations.

### **LAY MINISTRY COMMISSION**

This commission aids congregations in engaging, networking, and deploying lay people in extraordinary ministry opportunities. This commission works collaboratively across the district to link and coordinate uniquely gifted individuals who can, together, establish new and relevant ministries which serve both the needs of the church and the community. Northeast Moravian Disaster Response (NEMDR) is an arm of this commission and actively engages lay people in disaster response nationwide.

### **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 HOMES FOR THE AGED**

This contribution assists Moravian Manor and Morningstar Senior Living in providing care for needy residents where 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

# 2017 Funding of our Common Ministries

## Central Moravian Church - 0004

### Provincial Common Ministries

	2017 Total Provincial Quota	Your Church's Provincial Total <sup>1</sup>	Your Church's Share Per Month
<b>Common Ministries Commitment**</b> Includes Provincial Administration, Unity Assessments, The Moravian, Board of Communications, Ministerial Education, Moravian Theological Seminary, Ecumenical Agencies, World Mission, Provincial Archives, Music Foundation, and Provincial Women's Board.	\$1,690,825	\$72,212.00	\$6,017.67
**Through your full support, together we touch and bless lives far beyond your church community; shared ministries that have long been a part of our Moravian history and faith tradition.			
<i>Make Provincial checks payable to:</i> <b>Moravian Church Northern Province</b>  <i>Mail Provincial checks to:</i> <b>Treasurer</b> <b>P.O. Box 1245</b> <b>Bethlehem, PA 18016-1245</b>			

# 2017 Funding of our Common Ministries

## Central Moravian Church - 0004

### Eastern District Common Ministries

	2017 Total District Quota	Your Church's District Total	You Church's Share Per Month
<b>District Assessments</b> Includes Administration, Program, Hope Conference Center, Senior Living Communities, State Councils of Churches, Moravian Open Door, Inner City Youth, and Commissions: Christian Education, Church and Society, Community Ministry, Evangelism, Lay Ministry, and Stewardship	\$351,696	\$29,455.50	\$2,454.63
<p>**Through your full support, together we touch and bless lives far beyond your church community; shared ministries that have long been part of our Moravian history and faith tradition.</p>			
<i>Make District checks payable to:</i> <b>Eastern District Executive Board</b>			
<i>Mail District checks to:</i> <b>Treasurer</b> <b>P.O. Box 1245</b> <b>Bethlehem, PA 18016-1245</b>			

**BOARD OF WORLD MISSION  
MORAVIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA  
2016**

This has been an exciting year for the North American Board of World Mission (BWM), noting a missional edge at each of our District Synods, and being able to participate directly with that of the Eastern District. We have noted a growing sense of energy within our congregations. Mission is alive and well in the Northern Province! BWM also represents the Southern and Alaska Provinces, and the Unity of Brethren. We are grateful for the congregational commitments to the common ministries fund, as well as the many additional donations that we receive that allow us to facilitate this work as we strive to be instruments of God's grace and God's reign in the world.

***Global Partners***

The Mission Province of **Guyana** came off of subsidy this year, and this fall celebrated being approved as a full Unity Province. At the same time **Cuba** was declared a Mission Province.

BWM helped with travel for Rev. Trina Holmberg who served in **Labrador** for one month this past summer in order to provide pastoral services. We hope to continue this form of assistance.

As we continue to move from a block grant model to providing support to our partners specifically in the areas of leadership development, mission outreach and economic strengthening, we have been providing partial funds for projects, such as pastoral workshops and mission outreach in **Honduras** and **Western Tanzania**, a bakery and laundry in **Peru**, and hopefully a music workshop in **Guyana**. We also began to provide support to the **Alaska Province** for their new outreach in Marshall and are in the process of trying to help them find a short-term pastor for this ministry.

Last January Rick Nelson assumed the role of interim administrator at the **Ahuas Clinic**. A significant matching donation was able to erase the mounting debt of the clinic and the use of the services of accountants in Tegucigalpa has finally provided us some consistent financial reports. Many crews are visiting and help with much needed repairs of the declining infrastructure. We hear wonderful stories of the impact this medical work continues to have on the surrounding community. They are now starting an agricultural project with help from the North Dakota churches, in collaboration with the local school, as a potential source of income.

Rick has also been effective in helping the aviation program, Alas de Socorro, which now has a new board and better oversight of the program. The damaged plane has been repaired. Missionary Aviation Fellowship is eager to assist ADS with training opportunities and even an interim pilot if needed.

***New Work***

We are grateful that Mohamed and Safie Braima in **Sierra Leone** continue to grow their ministry, with two additional churches. Their secondary school was approved by the government, meaning the government will pay for its teachers. Donations from many will allow them to provide solar power to the school and church.

The **Peru** mission area has grown with the stable locations provided by donations from many in North America. They have begun a new fellowship for children in Chiclayo. Pastor Ana Maria Huaman Davila was just in the US and meeting with many congregations to share about the work in Peru. The congregations there hope to pay 5% of their rent in 2017, taking steps toward self-reliance.

The Moravians in **Cuba** recently dedicated the Comenius Center, which serves disadvantaged youth in Havana. The upper level of their Havana church and office building is coming up for sale and they hope to purchase it, with the help of the Armando Rusindo Moravian Foundation, and develop classroom space and an area for youth. Several US teams have visited this year. BWM hopes to explore a new outreach in Ecuador from the Cuban Moravian Church.

***Mission Engagement***

On Labor Day 2016 we hosted another FIT First event at Mount Morris, WI, with 50 young adults and leaders participating. We are also exploring ways to walk with congregations in mission discernment and hope to meet with a few over the next several months. We hope to provide a guideline for a business model to help partners generate income for ministry. BWM also sold its large trailers and now has two small trailers equipped with tools for disaster relief. One has been taken to Tricklebee Café in Milwaukee, WI to help with restoration there.

***Short-term Missions (Antioch)***

Servants again served this year in Alaska and Nepal, with seven teams going out to Cuba,

Honduras, Kenya, Peru and Jamaica. We are exploring ways that we can facilitate short-term mission for our partner mission agencies.

***Cross-cultural Servants***

BWM continues to provide some support for the work of Phil & Eunice Raiford in Mexico; Steve & Ann Marx with Mission Aviation Fellowship in Idaho; and Wayne Miller, providing air service through Alas de Socorro in Honduras, taking over from George Goff, who has retired. Andrew & Amy Fields left the work of the Moravian Church in Honduras and are now serving in Ecuador. We no longer provide support for them. We also provide support for the Adopt-a-Village program and the Ray of Hope orphanage in Kenya through the Stafford Fund.

***Likewise Ministries***

We continue to provide help for HIV/AIDS patients in Honduras, and support for the HUKWABA program in Mwanza, Tanzania where 11 groups have formed to establish a micro-loan process for developing small businesses. We are seeing an improved lifestyle for those who are participating.

***Operations***

Rex Knowlton, our accountant/ treasurer, and Deb Swanson, our Administrative Assistant in the Bethlehem office, have been wonderful at pulling together our administrative pieces and keeping things well-organized and running smoothly, and Sheila Beaman remains an important link in our Winston Salem office. We continue to rent out the Mississippi House, but feel the market is changing and we can put it up for sale shortly.

We wish to thank all of our congregations in the Northern Province for their faithful support of these important ministries. We invite you to continue to invest your resources of time, energy, prayer and funds in the mission to which God is calling us. Please feel free to contact us at BWM

for any resources or guidance you might want in your own mission outreach, be that local or global. We are here to serve you.

**PRELIMINARY BUDGETARY PROJECTIONS - 2017**

**Anticipated Income**

Northern Province Churches	\$	265,786	31.46 %
Southern Province Churches	\$	219,384	25.97 %
Society for Promoting the Gospel	\$	180,000	21.31 %
Southern Mission Society	\$	25,000	2.96 %
Funds, Trusts, Investments	\$	32,200	3.81 %
Alaska Moravian Church	\$	3,000	0.36 %
Undesignated & Designated	\$	<u>119,400</u>	<u>14.13 %</u>
	\$	<b>844,770</b>	<b>100.00 %</b>

**Anticipated Expenses**

Partner Provinces	\$	200,362	20.63 %
Honduras Medical Work	\$	138,000	14.31 %
Mission Initiatives	\$	106,600	10.98 %
Other mission programs	\$	225,550	23.23 %
Operations	\$	<u>300,500</u>	<u>30.95 %</u>
	\$	<b>971,012</b>	<b>100.00 %</b>

**BOARD OF WORLD MISSION STAFF**

- Judy Ganz, Executive Director**
- Sam Gray, Director of Intercultural Ministries**
- Jill Kolodziej, Director of Antioch**
- Justin Rabbach, Director of Mission Engagement**
- Deb Swanson, Administrative Assistant North**
- Sheila Beaman, Administrative Assistant South**
- Rex Knowlton, Treasurer**

## **Buildings and Grounds Committee**

The Buildings & Grounds Committee is composed of representatives from the Boards of Elders and Trustees, as well as, at-large members. Its purpose is to oversee the policies and practices related to the stewardship of our historic Church Street Campus. In that capacity, we serve as partners with the Church staff, particularly Mike Wall, Facilities Administrator.

Since 2009, the Committee has referred to the Stone House Assessment as its resource to determine the most prudent use of limited funds for planned capital and repair projects, as well as, ongoing facility maintenance. Funds for the majority of campus projects are made available through the interest generated by the Preservation Fund; several other restricted endowments also provide resources.

The Committee responded to a request from the 275<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Campaign Committee to develop a list of priority projects that should be addressed over the next 3-5 year period. Again, relying on the Stone House Assessment as its guide, the Committee identified several mechanical systems that will require replacement, and in so doing, generate improved energy conservation and savings. These projects include replacement of several heating and cooling units in the sanctuary and office building.

To help fund future replacement of mechanical and electrical systems, the Committee has proposed creation of a “Green Fund.” Through initial funding from the 275<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Campaign, the Fund would be used to replace aging, inefficient HVAC and other mechanical units with energy efficient units. The realized operation cost savings would be added to the Green Fund to help pay for future upgrades – making the Green Fund partially sustainable in its purpose of maintaining the campus mechanical and energy systems.

In addition to replacement of HVAC units, the Committee has proposed upgrading the historic cove lighting system in the sanctuary with LED bulbs and a new dimming system – this would be accomplished by maintaining the historical integrity of the system. Other proposed projects include upgrading the sound systems in the Old Chapel and Nitschmann Hall, and creating appropriate storage and modest display areas for our significant collection of antiques and artefacts.

The Committee also addressed a number of maintenance projects during the year including: painting of the exterior trim on the Old Chapel; continued repairs to sidewalk and masonry work; maintenance of venetian blinds in the Sanctuary; and a variety of other smaller maintenance and repair needs.

Appreciation is extended to members of the Committee for assuming the responsibility of serving as devoted stewards of Central’s historic campus.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Tom A. Tenges, Chair

## Personnel Committee

The Personnel Committee meets on an as needed basis to consider issues related to the needs and smooth functioning of our full time and part time employees. This year we welcomed a new pastor to our staff, Lynnette Delbridge. Lynnette has fit smoothly into the work flow, and has now been an integral part of Central for most of 2016.

Concerns about keeping the financial records going in the event of an absence of the Financial Secretary led to the hiring of another new part time employee, Kelly Knapp. Kelly has been working as a Financial Intern to learn the duties of the Financial Secretary so she could fill in and keep the financial records going.

Late in the year, a 275<sup>th</sup> Campaign Coordinator, Martha Jones, joined us to help keep accurate records of Campaign pledges and receipts, and to send out responses and answer questions. During the early days of the Campaign, she has been very busy, and very helpful.

We had to plan to implement a Labor Department directive to use time-cards for recording all worked hours of some of our employees. At this time, this requirement is on hold.

We got competitive bids for the health insurance coverage provided by the Church for Becky, Cindy, and John. The health care Insurance is likely to change in 2017, so another market review will be conducted in the fall.

Another 2017 item will be to review the facilities management program and make updates as needed. This will include filling positions that may have a temporary unplanned absence.

Respectively Submitted,  
Don Brown, Chair

Committee Members: Pat Herman, Bill Sachs, Anne Zug, Pastor Hopeton

## 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 4-times a year. Many of the requests presented to the board were handled by telephone or email.

The program to provide \$1,500 for each BAM congregation to assist the pastors with request for immediate financial assistance was continued. 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 2016, the Almoners expended a total \$104,216.64 to assist 17 individuals in financial need. Some were one-time grants, while others were for a set period of time. Of those assisted, 11 were from our congregation.

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

BAM Almoners Fund, Inc.  
561 E. Market Street, Suite 1  
Bethlehem PA 18018

Respectfully Submitted,  
David Williams, Board Representative



## Bethlehem 275<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee

The celebration of the 275<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Bethlehem began in 2016. On behalf of the Moravian churches and institutions in Bethlehem a steering committee was formed, consisting of Paul Peucker (Chair, Moravian Archives), Hopeton Clennon (Central), Frank Crouch (College/Seminary), Myra Jones (Edgeboro), Becky Owens (Central), Dan Soos (BAM), Jerry Still (Advent), and Audrey Wanamaker (Westside).

During the past year, the following has been accomplished:

- **Deed Day, April 2, 2016:** one-day display of original 1741 deed for the purchase of Bethlehem, at Moravian Archives. We counted 850 visitors to the Archives that day. There was very good media attention about the event which gave the Moravians good exposure.
- **Legacy gift:** over \$16,000 has been raised for the Bethlehem Emergency Sheltering Program. We continue to ask for donations.
- **A beautiful 275<sup>th</sup> Anniversary flyer** was designed by Heather Reinert, freelance designer. A total of 10,000 copies were printed. The flyer contains a calendar of events, including events at the various Bethlehem Moravian churches and institutions, as well as a listing of anniversary publications and short historical information.
- **A coloring book** was designed and developed by a sub-committee, chaired by Myra Jones (Edgeboro). The artwork is by Shelly Watson (Central). The coloring book has been printed and distributed as an anniversary gift from Bethlehem Area Moravians to all third graders in Bethlehem. We hope to continue distributing the coloring books to third graders during the next few years. Coloring books are also available for sale at various outlets.
- **A special anniversary concert** during the Bethlehem Conference on Moravian History & Music was the kick-off event for the anniversary celebrations. The concert was planned and organized by Gwyn Michel (College Hill) and Becky Owens (Central) and included singers from Unitas Chorale and Central and various other musicians.

The Anniversary Steering Committee continues to work on June 17, 2017: Moravian Day (all-day outdoor festival on the campus of Central Church, June 17, 2017) and an Anniversary Lovefeast for all Moravian churches at Johnston Hall/Moravian College on June 25.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Paul Peucker, Archivist of the Moravian Church in America, Northern Province

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## Bethlehem Area Moravians, Inc.

I am pleased to offer this report to the six BAM Churches that highlights the activities of 2016.

My personal thanks to Dan Soos, Jack Lightcap, Brenda Dorward, Roy Boehm and all of the BAM staff; as well as Brad Senick, Peg DeAngelo and Mike Mushko and the MDC staff; and Tracy Patton, John Calzola and Marvin Granda and the MVB staff.

### BAM

Year after year BAM quietly conducts its business to fulfill its mission and the missions of its related organizations. In the past, I have written in this report about the many daily activities and issues, which are dealt with. I refer to challenges to our operations and improvements, which we make to our real estate and other assets. In doing so, I sometimes forget to mention the concrete ways in which the organization is making a difference in the lives of the people it touches. BAM's purpose, as stated in its articles of incorporation, are in part as follows: "To provide a unifying organization for Moravian entities in the Bethlehem area; serving as a vehicle for spiritual stimulation, cooperative ministry, and interpreting the historical mission and the present witness of the Moravian Church in and to the community".

Every year our CFO Dan Soos prepares a financial schedule that indicates the various causes BAM supports and the amounts of gifts given to other organizations. He will be doing so in his report again this year at the annual meeting. But I feel it is important to highlight the magnitude of the support BAM provides. This year BAM Ministries Committee funding totaled \$67,000. There was outreach to the Eastern District, Jamaica outreach, Esperanza support, Hope Center support, BAM Trombone Choir support, funding for the BAM picnic, and Camp Cuba outreach.

The list is not all-inclusive since there are a number of small recipients of Ministries Committee funding.

The BAM Board makes annual gifts to the Moravian Archives and Moravian Music Foundation. Money was provided to support the 275<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. Funding for Chaplain services to the Moravian House is provided.

Hopefully you have heard that BAM's historic buildings and related grounds were selected on the tentative list for U.S. World Heritage designation. Those early Moravian buildings are a part of BAM's responsibility and during the year 2016, we invested about \$100,000 in them. They are lovingly cared for and an important part of the fabric of downtown Bethlehem.

BAM's related organizations, Moravian Development Corporation (MDC) and Moravian Village of Bethlehem (MVB) both deliver services and mission work to the Bethlehem community and greater Lehigh Valley. MDC provides safe housing to some 400 individuals through its Moravian House campus and other locations. There is a specialty component of the organization by providing housing for individuals with mental disabilities. This niche has grown substantially over the years and is badly needed in our city. MVB's Health Care Center provides many, many hours and dollars of donated care during the year to individuals who have no means to pay.

In summary, your organization is actively involved in the Bethlehem community and making a difference in the lives of many people. We do this quietly. Without fanfare. But with great compassion and purpose.

#### **Moravian Development Corporation (MDC)**

**Moravian House I** – MDC continued with the upgrade of common spaces this past year. Brand new USPS approved mailboxes were installed in the lobby. They replaced the 1970's mailbox system, which needed to be accessed from the Moravian House I office. Along with the mailboxes, the lobby floors have been replaced as well as the lighting in the lobby area. Management decided to replace the ceiling grid and ceiling tiles. A fresh coat of paint was the final touch. The Healthcheck office is being updated with new finishes, which include new paint, flooring, lighting, and window treatments. The Community Room and Library are being updated with new finishes, which will include new paint, flooring,

lighting, and window treatments. Areas of sidewalks were replaced in both the front and rear of the building during 2016. We will be replacing some of the common area furniture in upcoming months. An occupancy review by HUD occurred in December.

**Moravian House II** – Similar to Moravian House I, a mailbox renovation project for Moravian House II was completed in 2016. I reported last year on the completion of the Moravian House II generator replacement project. The installation was completed and the generator is in operation. When the old generator was removed, its oil tank was removed as well. Upon removing the old underground diesel tank, it was found to be leaking. Some of the soil was remediated with the exception of soil, which is located below the foundation of the building and also near underground utilities. That soil couldn't safely be removed. Soil bore samples showed that contamination had not spread and is contained under the building. In consultation with Brickhouse Environmental, a formal report was sent to the DEP along with formal lab results of the bore samples. On October 17, the DEP approved the final report of Moravian House II soil and required an environmental covenant be notarized and filed at the courthouse. No further action is required and the matter is settled. Areas of sidewalks were replaced in 2016 in both the front and rear of the building. We have continued the renovation of certain apartment units and will continue this process into 2017. The Moravian House II Management Occupancy Review was completed on September 14, 2016. Overall score was satisfactory and necessary policy changes and corrections were made and submitted. The Moravian House II REAC inspection was completed on October 27, 2016. There were some deductions due to a painted sprinkler head, an exit door not latching properly and some other minor findings.

**Moravian House III** – Management replaced exterior doors on the mechanical room and stair tower exit. The doors were completed in April. Management replaced approximately 10 hot water heaters, a few ranges, a few refrigerators, and a few PTAC units as part of our annual preventative maintenance. Areas of sidewalks were replaced along Old York Road. A physical inspection and a Management review were completed and a management occupancy review for the property was conducted by PHFA. Overall we are satisfied with the inspection results of all Moravian House buildings this year.

**Moravian House VII** – We continue to battle HVAC problems at this property. There was another system failure in April. Daikin (the manufacturer), Tri-State HVAC (the supplier) and Burkholder HVAC (our maintenance contractor) have been troubleshooting this issue. Daikin has outlined 2 indoor units, which they believe may be causing compressor failures. We are working to schedule investigation and troubleshooting of the units with TriState and Burkholder. We have contracted with an independent engineer to assist with diagnosing and repair of the HVAC system. In July management met with Tri-State HVAC to address the urgency of repair. We are working with them using on site software to help better monitor the system.

**MDC Updates** – Management completed projects with the 2015 CDBG/HOME grant, which was awarded from The City of Bethlehem in the amount of \$74,032. We replaced the lighting in the Senior Center and parking lot as well as a wall of windows in the Senior Center. The phone transition in Moravian Houses to an Internet based system is complete. MDC was awarded a \$10k grant from the ESSA Bank and Trust Foundation to assist in the replacement of the Senior Center floor. MDC has an agreement of sale to purchase 736 Main Street. This property is bordering 728 Main Street, which MDC already owns. The two combined parcels will allow for a major future project. In discussions with the City of Bethlehem, management was informed that the City may be interested in selling the lot on Union Blvd. and Old York Rd. Management met with the Bethlehem Parking Authority and confirmed that the City owns the lot and has an agreement with the Authority. We are discussing some kind of arrangement with the Authority to give MDC access to the lot.

### **Moravian Village of Bethlehem (MVB)**

**Health Care Center (HCC)** – We have seen a big increase in “bundled patients” (BPCI) from St. Luke’s (SLUH) since they changed their diagnoses and there are more bundles (BPCI) coming our way. HCC administration has met with SLUH therapists and physicians and has worked towards a definitive way on how to transition residents. We are performing very well in the BPCI program, meeting quarterly with SLUH Administration to share outcomes and develop joint initiatives for care improvement. We are refining the formal reporting tools and metrics that will be shared with all eight preferred providers in the SLUH network. Additionally, we received feedback from

Highmark that we are the #9 performer in the state and #1 in outcomes for both Lehigh and Northampton counties. Our CMS Rating on Nursing Home Compare remains four stars. We received an additional quality star in our Five Star Rating issued by CMS, and this information is shared with referrals coming to us from St. Luke’s and other hospitals.

There is a constant increase in regulation and challenges we have with respect to operating the Health Care Unit. CMS (Medicare) is determined to make us work harder, providing more services for less reimbursement. Our niche, the Skilled Nursing Facility, and the continuum of care from hospitals all the way down to home care seems to be a target for CMS to extract costs. We are the leading Skilled Nursing Facility in this marketplace for the short-term rehabs. We do more business out of 118 beds than any other facility. Looking at the numbers coming out of St. Luke’s Hospital, we turn more short-term stays than anyone in the marketplace. Our performance is good as measured by our length of stays, outcomes and re-hospitalizations. This is all being tracked and measured, directly relating to our reimbursement.

The latest technology investment made was in software to enhance our dining program; both in delivering clinically appropriate meals to individuals with diet restrictions, and enhance the dining experience with a room service module. The clinical nutrition component has been implemented as well as the room service module in 2016.

**Memory Support Unit** – During 2016 a great deal of time and money was spent on converting the first floor east wing of the HCC into a memory support unit. It will open for residents sometime in January 2017. The Moravian Village Memory Support unit is a secure neighborhood designed to house residents with advanced dementia and memory related impairments, while promoting personal value and enhancing quality of life. Within the neighborhood of this secure unit, the care giving staff will be led by dementia certified specialists, and all staff on the unit will be trained in dementia care, ensuring that the following goals are met for residents: **Physical life** – encourage residents to take personal responsibility for body health; **Spiritual life** – recognizes the personal and community need for meaning and purpose in life, and provides meaningful faith experiences for persons of all beliefs; **Emotional life** – focus on resident personal awareness, feeling, and acceptance; **Intellectual life** –

include creative and stimulating resident opportunities, and an awareness of life experiences; **Social life** – encourage resident, family, and community partner’s contribution and participation in Moravian Village community life; **Occupational life** – focus on gaining resident personal satisfaction and enrichment in life through activities in daily living.

This unit compliments Moravian Village Continuing Care Retirement Community offerings. It promotes care and respect for the individual while promoting social interaction. The unit features a neighborhood concept with a secure household. The unit has its own dining area, living room and four seasons room. The four seasons room extends out to a secure patio and garden area.

There is a choice of private and semi-private accommodations. There is choice of when and where to dine within the neighborhood. Personalized dining choices, each individuals cultural and personal preferences in designing the menu selections has been planned for. A Spa has been constructed with massage and aromatherapies. The unit is designed to accommodate short and long-term stays. This area will also help our short term care population while they are recovering from their ailments.

**Independent Living** – Earlier in the year, the apartments and cottages councils held a joint retreat facilitated by Carol Henn. The theme of the retreat was Building Community. By all accounts, the retreat was a success, leaving residents with a strong sense of being heard. A number of recommendations resulted, some easy fixes and some not so easy. Both council Presidents expressed feeling less isolated from each other, and slightly surprised that they weren’t as different as they had initially thought.

Respectfully Submitted,  
David M. Roth, Chief Executive Office

## Bethlehem Emergency Sheltering

2016 was Central’s second year in hosting the Bethlehem Emergency Shelter program by opening the doors of Benigna Auditorium on Saturday nights from December 5, 2015 to March 26, 2016. The shelter offers our homeless women guests a warm overnight stay, with a hot dinner, and a hearty breakfast. Last winter we experienced two inclement weather weekends, with extended hours from Saturday morning through Sunday late afternoon; we had over 20 women for approximately 30 hours. Our shelter guests were extremely grateful that we opened our doors early and stayed late for them.

I am always overwhelmed by the number of volunteers that help us at our shelter. Our volunteers come from other Moravian churches, other denominations, civic groups, colleges and most important from our own members. Last year we were blessed with 241 volunteers who together put in a total of 1,250 volunteer hours. We had many Central people that contributed meals, stocked our closet with needed clothing and toiletry items, organized social activities, assisted during the snowstorms, and supplied us with gift cards for weekly supplies. Their love and concern meant that over the four-month shelter period, we were able to provide the homeless women in our community shelter 185 times.

During the December 2016 shelter season, we already opened our doors early with an extended stay for an ice storm, hosted the women on Christmas Eve and New Year’s Eve. The out pouring of love from our congregation gave our homeless guests a very nice Christmas. Santa visited with beautiful sweater shawls and gloves. Each woman received gift bags with lavender toiletries, hats, gloves and scarfs, and a Christmas stocking with fruit and other items from other Central members. We opened all day on Christmas Eve and New Year’s Eve days along with an extended stay on Christmas day until late afternoon. A special thanks to all Central members for your volunteering efforts and prayers in making Central’s Emergency Women’s Sheltering mission a success. Please continue to pray for us during our 2016-2017 sheltering season.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Rose Warner, Chair

## Birthday Greeters

Volunteers send birthday greetings to Central members on behalf of the church.

There are currently 10 volunteers, each sending 8 to 10 cards a month. A list with members names, addresses and birth dates are sent to each volunteer, along with postage stamps for mailings. Volunteers can use their own cards or printed Moravian verse cards with envelopes are available upon request.

New volunteers are always welcome! Please contact Shirley Trumbauer at 610-381-3434 to sign up.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Shirley Trumbauer, Chair

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## Blood Bank

The Central Moravian Church Blood Bank is a service for all Central members. It provides free blood products whenever they are needed for our Church members. **You do not have to be a donor** to receive this service. However, donors are the key to making this service successful for the community. Whole blood donations may be made once every 8 weeks. Platelets may be given 24 times per year. Every day 450 donations of blood products are needed to supply the needs of our area hospitals.

Our donors in 2016 have made 52 donation visits to the Miller-Keystone Blood Center with a goal of 50, compared to 50 last year (goal 50). Our goal for 2017 is 50. Let's have another good year and surpass our goal again.

Thanks to all donors for their wonderful gift to our Church Blood Bank and the community. **We are always looking for more donors to help support this great cause.**

**Below is a list of donors and the number of donations they made in 2016:**

Baker, Frank	2
Boyer, Frank	4
Clendenning, Steve	1
Foltz, Robert	3
Griffis, Jeff	1
Hochella, David	3
Hochella, Grace	4
Mosebach, Craig	16
Phillips, Robert	4
Pragheimer, Mike	3
Raines, Evan	2
Raines, Peter	2
Royer, Katie	1
Sommers, Gordon	2
Tenges, Tom	1
Vavra, Erin	1
Woodring, Sallie	<u>2</u>
Total	52

Respectfully Submitted,  
Craig Mosebach, Coordinator

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## Busy Workers' Society

2016 was another busy year for the Busy Workers. Our two major sales (the Plant & Attic Treasures Sale in May, and the annual Christmas Sale in December) were financially successful. We also participated in a craft sale at Moravian Village, and some of our crafts were sold at the Star & Candle Shoppe (thanks, Shelly Watson!). We always say that the proceeds from our sales will benefit charities from Bethlehem to Tanzania and Nepal; this year we widened our horizons to include a donation to the Star Mountain Rehabilitation Center in Ramallah, Palestine. And the sales of all those crafts, wreaths, baked goods and attic treasures really add up! In 2016, we gave almost \$22,000 to needy causes; that figure is \$2,000 over our giving figure from last year (2015) and TWICE the amount we gave in 2013!

CWS Blanket Sunday	\$2,000
Christian Spring	100
Central Moravian Church – Budget	1,000
CMC Discretionary Fund – In Memory of Margaret McInvaill, Bea Clewell, & Anna Sawyer	300
CMC Easter gift	500
CMC Easter flowers	200
CMC Easter flower fund	1,000
CMC Allen Fund – Camp Hope scholarships for Central church members’ children	500
CWS CROP Walk	1,000
Esperanza – Camp Hope scholarships for Esperanza children	1,500
CMC Food Pantry	1,000
Moravian Archives	500
Moravian College, international students’ health insurance (2 students for 1 year)	1,632
Moravian Open Door	500
Moravian Theological Seminary	1,500
Nepali Mission trip by Timothy Naisby to help at school	700
New Bethany Ministries	500
Resettlement Fund for Syrian refugee family	1,000
Sikonge Orphan Ladies’ Educational Fund	500
Sikonge: roof for pastor’s home	600
Sikonge: student educational expenses	180
CMC Staff appreciation gifts	300
Star Mountain Rehabilitation Center	500
Tree in honor of Hallie Iobst and the Busy Workers	1,420
Truth for Women	500
Unity Women’s Desk	1,000
Victory House	1,000
Visiting Nurses Association	<u>500</u>
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$21,932.00</b>

A few words about our donations philosophy: we are making every effort to be sure our donation dollars are well spent. We have worked with organizations like the Unity Women’s Desk and Victory House of the Lehigh Valley to target specific needs. Our \$1,000 contribution to Victory House was used to purchase much needed equipment: a new microwave oven, a food processor, can opener and coffee grinder, as well as some kitchen supplies. We divided our \$1,000 contribution to the Unity Women’s Desk for scholarships, the Leinbach Loan fund (provides low-interest loans to women in Moravian areas around the world, to help them start or expand businesses), educational projects, and administration funds.

In addition to the spending listed above, Busy

Workers also donated \$552.50 for Sanctuary flowers in memory of departed Busy Workers and friends.

Funds donated to the Busy Workers and to Central Moravian Church this year in memory of past President Hallie Iobst enabled us to purchase, plant and dedicate a tree in her memory. Pastor Clennon presided over a tree dedication service in April, with many of Hallie’s family members and Central friends in attendance. The tree continues to thrive on Main Street, in front of the church.

Donations to Busy Workers came in other tangible ways: daylilies and spring-flowering bulbs, to be sold at our Plant sale; fabric and craft supplies; historical Moravian dolls for our growing collection. Perhaps one of our favorite events this past year was Sandi Gebhart’s “Knitters’ Garage Sale”. Sandi held the garage sale at her home in February, in memory and honor of her late sister, Lynne Mease Beyers. Lynne left behind LOTS of yarn and knitting equipment & books, and all the proceeds from the sale (\$640.62) were donated to Busy Workers. In addition, Sandi made lots of yarn available for free to Busy Workers, to make prayer shawls.

We continue to express our thanks to the whole congregation for the support they give us throughout the year...with baked goods for our sales, perennial plants to sell at our Plant Sale, and the many attic treasures that are donated in the spring. And we thank you for continuing to come out to our sales to shop! Our spring 2017 Plant & Attic Treasures sale is scheduled for Sat., May 13 and Sun., May 14. We’ll begin collecting attic treasures in April...so if you’re starting your spring cleaning, please set those good ‘white elephants’ aside for the Busy Workers’ sale.

Our prayer shawl ministry continues to be an important way for our group to reach out to the wider church community. We participate with other area churches in the annual Prayer Shawl gathering each fall, and our group has given 23 prayer shawls this year to those who are ill or who have suffered loss in their families. If you know of someone who would benefit from receiving a prayer shawl, please contact a Busy Worker or one of the pastors.

A small group of Busy Workers continues to prepare and freeze meals for church members who need some assistance as they recuperate from illness, hospitalization, etc. Contact Dorothy Stutzenberger

for more details about this “Moravian Meals on Wheels” program.

We have found additional ways to donate our time and talents. This year several Busy Workers, directed by Althea Sell, made some beautiful baby quilts to be sent to Swaziland under a program sponsored by Chautauqua and King’s Daughters. We donated some Busy Workers crafts to Pastor Cynthia Geyer, the Eastern District Youth minister, for her travels in Cuba. We gathered together sewing supplies for our newly-arrived Syrian refugee family (including a sewing machine and an ironing board); and provided knitting, sewing, and embroidery supplies for the new refugee center at the Episcopal Church of the Mediator in Allentown.

Busy Workers again hosted one of the Lenten Dinners, and provided soup for the annual Birthday Social.

Our efforts to revive our Anna Nitschmann doll-making continued in 2016. We found a new supplier of the ceramic doll parts needed, and have found several new doll-makers and seamstresses to make Anna’s tiny, delicate clothes. We worked with members of the Ladies Sewing Society to present the Anna Nitschmann and Polly Heckewelder dolls at several events at the Kemerer and Moravian Museums. We hope to have an event, possibly at the Sisters’ House, in the spring of 2017 to celebrate Anna Nitschmann. And, with the help of Larry Jones, we are pursuing the idea of obtaining a design patent on the Anna Nitschmann doll.

Mary Jo Hill continues to direct our project to archive many Busy Workers crafts and memorabilia (historical minutes, financial reports, photographs, etc.). The Moravian Archives has nothing related to Busy Workers in their collection before this year. So far 5 storage boxes of Busy Workers materials have been stored in the Archives, with more to come. We’ve been around since 1884, so it seems reasonable to be included with all the rest of Moravian history. If you have something related to Busy Workers that you feel deserves inclusion in our archive box, please contact Mary Jo.

Other upcoming projects in 2017 include committee work to review and possibly revise our By-Laws. Also, we have appointed a committee to consider a

donation from our group to the 275<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Central Moravian Church Capital Campaign.

And, finally, we begin 2017 with a new slate of officers. Joan Carson and Margaret Krawiec are ‘retiring’ as President and Vice President of Busy Workers, and Jacqueline Adams and Linda Thudium have been elected as new President and VP. They will serve with continuing officers: Kathryn Samuels, Secretary; Sallie Woodring, Corresponding Secretary; Sue Jones, Treasurer; Virginia Delph, Assistant Treasurer.

We are always happy to welcome new members, of all skill levels, to the Busy Workers. While we focus on making handcrafted items, we are much more than just a ‘craft’ group. The fellowship we experience on Wednesday mornings is also very important and we would encourage you to come, visit, and find your place in our group. Contact any one of us for more information.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Joan Carson, President  
Margaret Krawiec, Vice President  
Kathryn Samuels, Secretary  
Sallie Woodring, Corresponding Secretary  
Sue Jones, Treasurer  
Virginia Delph, Assistant Treasurer

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## CD Recording Ministry Committee

The committee records the 11 a.m. (10 a.m. in the summer) service each week as well as other special services and events throughout the year.

Approximately 10 copies are mailed each week to members who are out of town or cannot otherwise attend Sunday services.

If anyone is interested in helping with this ministry, please contact Terry Worrich or the church office. No experience is necessary and training is provided.

Thank you to Dan Diehl and Bob Wascura for their diligence in recording our services onto CDs which are copied and mailed by the church office.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Terry Worrich, Chair

## Cynthia's Boutique

2016 was another year of growth for CB. We received 668 bags & 31 boxes of donations. Every third Saturday we offer clothing, household goods & other items to our clients - most of whom patronize the Food Pantry. We average 35 "shoppers" & reached a high of 51 in November.

Last year CB expanded services to include aiding a family who escaped from an abusive situation. Clothing and household supplies were donated and an appointment was set up with Lehigh Valley Outreach Depot which supplied furniture. In addition, Central members generously donated and delivered furniture.

Other goods were distributed as follows:

137 bags to Goodwill  
21 bags plus suits and outerwear to ARM  
In addition, clothing was distributed to Moravian College and Seminary students (Cynthia's original purpose), the resettlement family, referrals from United Way, and a fourth grade student in need. Clothing was also taken to Jamaica.

We gained a volunteer on Thursdays and received help from Moravian College students who cleaned and helped organize.

Central's Youth Group assisted twice: in April to sort clothing and in October to aid in transitioning from spring/summer clothing to fall/winter. Their help was greatly appreciated. New shelving and shoe racks were purchased.

We are delighted to be under the Social Action Committee umbrella and met with them in October. We are elated by our relationship with the leadership and volunteers at Food Pantry.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Gina Kelechava and Charlotte McGorry

## Flower Distribution Committee

The Flower Distribution Committee wishes to thankfully acknowledge those who generously gave the altar vases this year, commemorating special people and events in their lives. Our statistics tell us that 301 bouquets were distributed within 18 institutions during the past 12 months and, with the selfless support of our congregation, we covered these institutions, some several times. We thank our Pastors Hopeton and Lynnette, who kept the committee informed and who gladly took bouquets with them on their hospital visitations. We thank our fellow congregants who graciously came to obtain flowers so that they could visit their shut-in friends and family members and to commemorate birthdays.

Flowers went to our folks in St. Luke's Hospital-Bethlehem, Anderson Campus and Quakertown, Good Shepherd Rehab Hospital, Old Orchard, Life Quest, Grand View, Phoebe-Richland, Christopher Dock, Gracedale, Moravian Village, Moravian Village Rehab., Kirkland, Blough Nursing Home, Muhlenberg Hospital, Hershey Cardiac Rehab Hospital, King's Daughters, and a hospital in New England. We are thankful for this opportunity to be of service and we prayerfully hope to continue to be faithful in the Lord's work.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Dorothea Lovis and Cheryl Tubio, Co-Chairs

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## Food Pantry

The Central Moravian Church continues to take seriously the ministry which has been part of our mission for many years. We believe this ministry is in fulfillment of the call of our Lord to help out in the communities in which we work. This call is articulated most clearly in the Gospel according to Matthew the 25<sup>th</sup> chapter verse 35, "for I was hungry and you gave me food ..." This ministry is founded upon the generosity of the members of the Central Moravian Church who give food and financial resources generously. Each first Sunday prior to worship, large baskets are filled to overflowing with food which is placed on the shelves of the FOOD PANTRY ready when needed. Each month on the second Friday and fourth Tuesday, bags of food are packed for apartment residents who live at the Holy



Family Apartments and Moravian Houses in Bethlehem. The third Saturday of each month the FOOD PANTRY is open to anyone who comes to select food for their families needs during the next 30 days. The Food Pantry is open to anyone whose annual income is 150% of the national poverty level (this ranges from \$17,820 for a family of 1 to \$61,335 for a family of 8). Our mission is to treat each client with respect and dignity. The FOOD PANTRY is organized so that each person can select food that will be appreciated and used by their family and is nutritious and helpful to the diet of each family that chooses to use the services of the FOOD PANTRY.

Where does the food come from? We receive food from the Second Harvest Food Bank and the Central Members who supplement the food ordered and delivered from Second Harvest. This year we received an average of a ton (2,000 lbs) of food from Second Harvest each month and this is supplemented by an additional 3 – 5 hundred lbs food donated each month by Central members. We are also grateful to Cub Pack 1742, which is affiliated with Moravian Academy, for the generous donation of their food drive this fall. And occasionally we need to purchase food to supplement these sources, using donations from Central Members. (Bob Adams needs to be identified as the one who goes to the store and arranges for this additional food, delivering it to the Food Pantry in time for a timely distribution.) With the food we have on hand, we are able to assist an average of 75 families each month. This is approximately the same as was reported in 2015, but in recent months this number has shown a significant increase. Also, a significant service to the residents of our community is the addition of Cynthia's Boutique which provides clothing donated by Central members and the residents of Moravian Village and other locations. This is a significant addition to our food ministry. We are deeply appreciative of the ability of our space to accommodate approximately 15-20 persons in case of inclement weather. This has been accomplished by the ability of the many groups using that space to work together.

New in 2017, will be a service charge from Second Harvest of \$.05 per pound on food which comes from the Second Harvest warehouse. This means that our costs to serve the community will increase by approximately \$100 per month. According to the Morning Call, this fee has been as high as \$.16 per pound and as low as \$.00 in the past.

We continue to seek individuals who live within our community and invite them to use the services of the Food Pantry. We have expanded the core of volunteers and are grateful to The Rev. Dr. Lynnette Delbridge and The Rt. Rev. Hopeton Clennon for their encouragement and support. We are grateful to the members of the Social Action Committee who provide insight and guidance as we move forward. We are deeply grateful to Jim Jordan, Joan Carson, Bob Adams, Jacqueline Adams, Ilse Goedtel, Nate Bissey, Kathy Quelet, Alexis Hernandez, Priscilla Castro, Alex Castro, Timothy Naisby, Bob Brandt, Lisa Secula, Chris Secula, Tim Brady, and Bob Wascara who are among an ever increasing list of persons whose donation of time is deeply appreciated. Also, we appreciate the assistance of our Youth Group members who helped stock the pantry shelves after a very successful Red Wagon Sunday collection led by our Sunday School.

Each month we need 16 volunteers working an average of 2 hours per volunteer day (some days more and some days less) to continue to serve the community in the manner we are currently serving. Additional volunteers are always needed and welcome. Please contact Lynnette Delbridge or Dave Wickmann (610-746-0788) for more information. Each month we outline the volunteer opportunities coupled with time expectations and days preferred, giving each volunteer the opportunity to check their schedule and "sign up" for a specific task.

Finally we are deeply appreciative of the work of Diane Berl and Joan Kolessar who served as co-directors until the summer of 2016. Their work in setting up the Food Pantry and cultivating a list of volunteers has made the transition to the present easy and made the relationship with the clients reasonably seamless.

Jesus said, "I was hungry and you gave me food ... I was (in need of clothing) and you gave me clothing." (Matthew 25, paraphrased).

Respectfully Submitted,  
David L Wickmann, Director

## Knitting into the Mystery

The Prayer Shawl ministry is a program of the Busy Workers and has provided shawls for those in our congregation as well as family and friends of the congregation who need comfort due to illness, surgery or grief. Each shawl is prayed over by the Busy Workers before it is given to the receiver.

We have a knitting group called Knitting into the Mystery that meets once a month to meditate and knit. We meet from 12:30 p.m. - 2 p.m. on the 3rd Wednesday of each month (except July and August) in the church office conference room. We have been meeting for 7½ years and enjoy a time of sharing, eating and knitting as we meditate to quiet music. It is a respite from the frenetic world we live in and we thoroughly enjoy our quiet time together. We welcome new members to our group and you don't even have to know how to knit. We have a member who loves to teach knitting and is an excellent teacher!

So, please join us. We'd love to have you with us. Please contact Dorothy Stutzenberger if you have questions at 610 865-5956.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Dorothy Stutzenberger

## Moravian Ladies Sewing Society

**From the sale of Polly Heckewelder dolls in 2016, we are sharing \$1,625 as listed:**

Central Moravian Church	\$375
Central Moravian Church, 275 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary	275
Central Moravian Church Food Pantry	100
Central Moravian Church, Admin. Assistant	100
Central Moravian Church Sexton	50
Edgeboro Moravian Church	50
Esperanza for Bethlehem	100
Board of World Mission, Unity Women's Desk	50
Moravian Museum	25
Moravian Open Door	50
Moravian Archives	50
Moravian Hall Square Samaritan Fund	50
Moravian Village Samaritan Fund	50
Hope Conference and Renewal Center	50
Nepali Moravian Outreach	100
Star Mountain	50
Tanzanian Orphan Fund	100

The Sewing Society is trying to get the word out that we are still making Polly dolls and have been since 1872. In 2016, we continued in helping Historic Bethlehem sponsor a temporary exhibit on dolls in the Moravian Museum. It ran until March 31, 2016. As part of the exhibit, a Polly Tea Party was held in February at the Museum. Participants were invited to bring their Polly dolls. The event was considered a success and we hope to have another Polly Tea Party. Also, the Society demonstrated the making of a Polly doll at the Moravian Historical Society Craft Festival in June and participated at the Moravian Village Moravian Fair in November. An article about our Polly Heckewelder doll was in the May, 2016 issue of *Antique Doll Collector*. This magazine for doll collectors provided an excellent opportunity to provide information about the Polly doll and about Moravians. We welcome such opportunities.

We also welcome any sewers to join us to observe, work and fellowship any Tuesday morning from 9 - 11:30 a.m. in the church office conference room, 73 W. Church Street.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Mary Brown, President

## Moravian Meals on Wheels

The Moravian Meals on Wheels (MMW) at Central has been in existence for over 3 years and has brought food to those who are in a time of crisis, are recovering from an illness or an operation, or have an ongoing need. We have loved the interaction with those in our congregation who need our help.

Recently, we have connected with a BAM (Bethlehem Area Moravians) effort to help those who need the gift of food. This BAM organization meets 4 times a year in the East Hills kitchen and produces a large quantity of meals which those who participate bring to their own church kitchens. This allows us to have a base of food to draw from in addition to the meals the people on the committee produce. So, we are in a position to serve more people than we previously did. Please don't hesitate to express your need for help or tell us of someone who could benefit from our program.

We would also like to provide a meal for happy times, like the birth of a baby. Joining with the BAM effort should make this a good possibility. So, tell us of your celebratory times, too!

We are always open to people joining our committee. We need cooks, as well as people delivering the meals. We only have one meeting a year, right after church on a Sunday in September. The rest of the communication is by email throughout the year. So, join us. You'll find the interaction with the congregation very meaningful.

If you are interested or have questions, please call Dorothy Stutzenberger at 610-865-5956.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Dorothy Stutzenberger

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## Moravian Women

Moravian Women consists of several circles of women that meet monthly for Bible study, for learning about mission work around the world, and for enjoying one another's friendship and support. They contribute financially to local and denominational causes, our congregation, and Provincial Women's projects.

## In 2016 Moravian Women:

- Held a homemade soup sale for the congregation, and provided soup for Central's Women's Shelter suppers.
- Boxed trimmed candles for delivery to local home-bound members and mailing to those out of town.
- Encouraged and signed up church members to pray during the 24 hours of the Unity Prayer Watch.
- Offered its annual appeal on behalf of Tanzanian orphans. Dr. Peg Hoffman spoke at both worship services on October 30 about the amazing and devoted work of the "Mamas" who care for thousands of orphans in several villages.

By the end of December, church members responded to the appeal by contributing \$4,733.

## Charitable gifts in 2016:

Central Moravian Food Pantry	\$300
New Bethany	200
Victory House	200
Trinity Episcopal Church Meal Program	200
Morningstar Senior Living (Hall Square)	100
Good Samaritan Fund Moravian Village	100
Appreciation Gifts	100
Lib Miller Fund which financially aids Moravian Women from other countries to attend MW conferences	100

Budgeted contributions to the Northern Provincial Moravian Women includes \$300 for inner city and ministerial projects and \$100 to the Lib Miller Fund which financially helps Moravian women from other countries attend MW conferences.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Maria Prochnau, President

## Peanut Makers

This group has been together the third Wednesday of the month, September through November, and January through April for over 40 years to roast peanuts and cashews which are sold to raise money for different projects of the church. This year we lost one of our founding members, June Earley. We also were faced with a new challenge when a Moravian Academy student was affected with a nut allergy. Peanut making nearly came to an end. However, after several meetings with representatives of the Board of Elders and the Academy, we were able to work out a new plan which allows us to make nuts four days per year when the Academy classes are not in session. Our new schedule is October, November, February, and March. The days vary based on the class schedule. Watch the *Sunday Times* for dates.

The price for peanuts is \$2.50 ½ lb. and cashews are \$4 ½ lb. which has held constant for the past four years. Anyone interested in working with the Peanut Makers, please call Jean Jackson at 610-868-3773.

### Our contributions for this year were:

Church World Blankets	\$200
Moravian Open Door	200
Central Moravian Memorial	50
Appreciation Gifts	100
275 <sup>th</sup> Campaign	500

**Total contributions** **\$1,050**

Respectfully Submitted,  
Jean G. Jackson

## Prayer Chain

We have 67 people on our prayer chain. If you have a prayer concern for a family member or friend, please send me an email or call and I will be glad to add them to the prayer list (mgrandma13@gmail.com or 484-707-4680). I check the obituaries each morning and also get requests from the staff.

If you would like to be a part of this ministry, send me your email address and I will add it to our list. I sent many requests this year, sometimes twice a day. It is a great way for our congregation to keep informed of who is ill or if someone has passed away.

I was in need of many requests myself this year for friends and family members and I felt comforted to know that others were concerned and praying with me.

This is a ministry that I am very happy to be a part of.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Miriam Devey, Prayer Chain Coordinator

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## Putz Committee

In 2016, we had over 70 people help with moss gathering, construction, hosting, and deconstruction of the Putz. The hard work done by these volunteers enabled us to show the Putz to 3,134 people from 27 states and 12 foreign countries. We raised \$3,352 from donations and bus tours.

This year brought several changes to the Putz. We debuted a new narration for the Putz and replaced the walls and the sky with fabric to make it easier to assemble the Putz.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Will Schwab, Chair

## Star and Candle Shoppe

The Star and Candle Shoppe began its season once again on Friday, November 25 through December, and at various other times for bus tours, the Shoppe was open to our Putz visitors, as well as to those who came to the C. E. building specifically for the Shoppe.

A dozen talented crafters and artisans provided beautiful handmade items for us to sell; many people in the congregation searched their attics to find and donate treasures. Volunteers served as sales associates, greeting, and waiting on our customers. We were pleased once again to offer for sale handcrafted items from Nepal. Our friend Dr. Peg Hoffman supplied us with carved wooded animals, birds, lions, and alligator made by Tanzanian artisans. In addition to sharing our profits with the Nepali Moravian Outreach and the Board of World Mission for Tanzanian Orphans, the Shoppe has also provided a substantial gift to the Central Moravian Church budget and to the Christopher Scott Seifert Fund for Christian Education.

We thank all who in the midst of a busy season, were able to lend their time and talents and gifts of genuine hospitality to the important ministry of the Star and Candle Shoppe.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Shelly D. Watson, Shoppe Manager

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## Twenty Minute Society

The Twenty Minute Society distributed \$10,736 to help 15 people and organizations for 2016.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Judy Thomas, President

Officers: Beth Boyer, Tekla Culpepper, Barbara Heske, Margaret Krawiec

## Widows' Group

The Widows' Group meets on the second Friday of each month at 10 a.m. in the Chapel basement. All widows are welcome to attend. We meet to share in fellowship, help provide comfort and the guidance of experience to new widows, and keep informed of ways in which to live our changed lives to the fullest.

Our meetings include a coffee time of fellowship, devotions, and discussion or a planned program. Sometimes the planned programs are an excursion to a site that most of us would not visit alone, not especially for safety but because it is often more pleasant to visit with others included!

For more information, please contact Doris Tatham at 610-868-4786 or Emma Williams at 610-861-0635.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Doris Tatham and Emma Williams, Conveners

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## Pastor Lynnette

It seems hardly possible that this Church Council will be the last of my "first" experiences during my first year of ministry with you. This coming Wednesday, February 1<sup>st</sup> will be the anniversary of my first day in the office at Central. I have appreciated your gracious welcome and the opportunity to start learning my job. Notice I say "start." I will always be learning because the people, needs, and opportunities for us to do ministry together continually evolve and change.

In addition to assisting in worship as Pastor Clennon requests and in sharing with him in the pastoral care of the congregation, I am primarily engaged in the Communication, Family and Youth, Social Action, and Christian Education ministries of the church. I also attend and help as I can in the work of many other of the church's committees. Each committee has its own culture, traditions, and varied ministries. Committees, like all organizations, go through periods of ebb and flow. It all depends on the day and the needs what my role may be. Sometimes, I simply need to cheer our members on and lend a hand here and there as they go about their well-established work. Sometimes, I need to help cast a larger vision. At other times I am recruiting volunteers, providing resources,

encouraging collaboration between groups, supervising, or rolling up my sleeves to do hands-on work myself.

I have always felt deeply called to ministries of care and concern for people in need and to ministries which provide love and nurture for children, youth, and their families. I am grateful that much of my call to Central allows me to spend time and energy in these areas. I have been heartened this year by the smooth transition in leadership for the Food Pantry, by the willingness of various ministries and committees to collaborate more and more, and by new sparks of life in our Christian Education ministries. I have enjoyed working closely with our Sunday School Superintendent, JoAnna Freund, to plan curriculum which also allows our children to make deeper connections with the congregation in worship. My involvement with the Confirmation Class and Youth Group has provided many opportunities to connect our young people to other adults and ministries within the congregation.

When I think back on my first year, many images come to mind: morning sunlight washing over our congregation during worship, Sunday School children taking turns climbing the ladder that doubled as Zacchaeus' tree, holding hands to pray with volunteers after a successful Saturday at the Food Pantry and Cynthia's Boutique, watching youth group members make candles, and sharing heartfelt feelings and concerns in hospital rooms with individuals I have grown to love. Thank you for welcoming me and my family into your community and for all the loving ways you are witnesses to God's love, both to each other and to the world around us.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Pastor Lynnette Delbridge