



# Central Moravian Church

2021 Annual Reports

2022 Annual Church Council

Sunday, January 30, 2022, at 12:30 p.m.

Church Sanctuary

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# *Central Moravian Church*

## **Annual Church Council**

**January 30, 2022**

### **AGENDA**

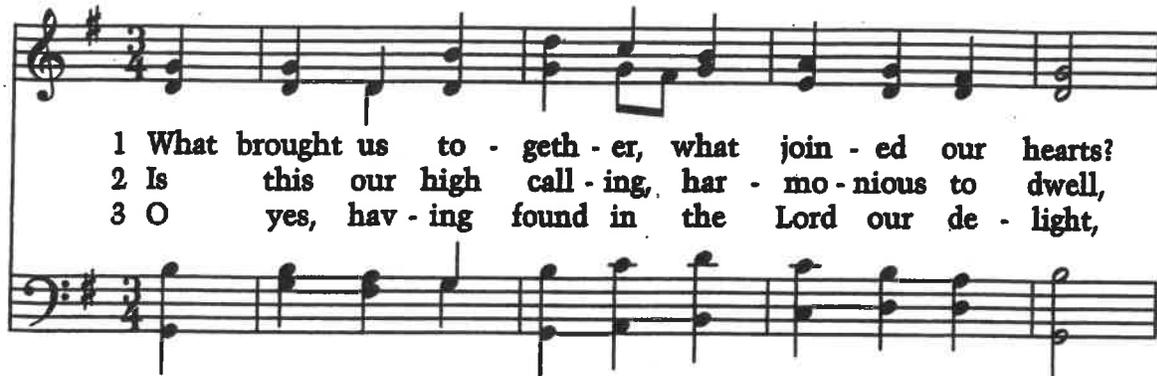
- a. Call to order – Hopeton Clennon
- b. Prayer and Hymn # 675: *“What Brought Us Together”*
- c. Election of President and Secretary of Church Council
- d. Minutes of the last Annual Church Council and Special Church Council
- e. Report of the Board of Elders – Hopeton Clennon
- f. Report of the Board of Trustees – Mary Catherine Tachovsky
- g. Financial reports of the Board of Trustees for 2021 – George Mowers or Rob Phillips
- h. Presentation of the budget for 2022 – Rob Phillips
- i. Reports from other organizations, agencies, and societies of the congregation
- j. General business
- k. Report of the Nominating Committee and Elections – Ann Raines
- l. Pastoral comments
- m. Adjournment

**Congregational Watchword for 2022**

On the day I called, you answered me,  
you increased my strength of soul.

Psalm 138:3

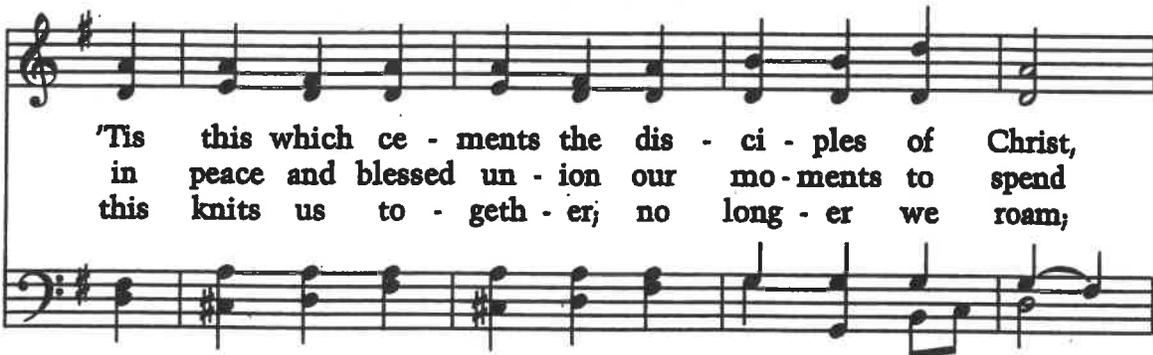
## What Brought Us Together



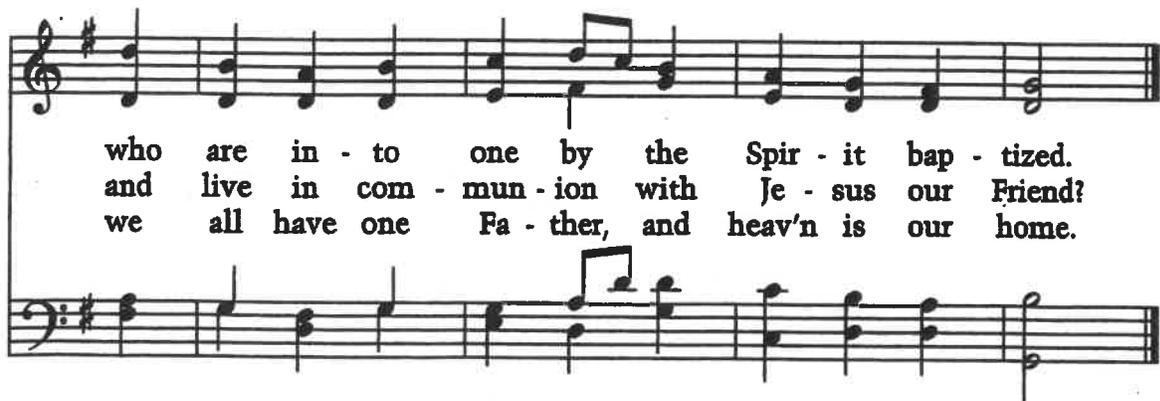
1 What brought us to - geth - er, what join - ed our hearts?  
 2 Is this our high call - ing, har - mo - nious to dwell,  
 3 O yes, hav - ing found in the Lord our de - light,



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 from Nominating Committee

### Church Council Officers

President: Barry Pell  
Secretary: Martha Jones

### Board of Elders

Returning for second term: Don Brown  
Nominees for first term: Susan Noack  
Bill Sachs  
Bob Wascura

**Continuing Elders:** Kelly Ahn, Peter Behrens, Pam Larimer, Jane Leposa, Priscilla Schueck,  
Mary Shields, Linda Wickmann, Kathy Williams

### Board of Trustees

Returning for second term: Jeff Mosebach  
Mary Catherine Tachovsky  
Susan Trimble  
Nominees for first term: Jennifer Ceneviva  
Brenda Hoelman

**Continuing Trustees:** Beth Boyer, Mary Brown, Joan Carson, David Charrier, Jeffrey Long,  
Camie Modjadidi, Barry Pell, Ann Raines, Beth Schlener

**Bethlehem Area Moravians Board of Almoners:** Nate Bissey

**Bethlehem Area Moravians Ministries Committee:** Elke Rockwell

Respectfully Submitted,  
Ann Raines, Secretary

## Minutes of the Annual Church Council—January 31, 2021

The annual Church Council of Central Moravian was called to order at 12:33 p.m. on January 31, 2021. We met virtually on the Zoom platform due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Senior Pastor Hopeton Clennon offered the opening prayer. Pastor Hopeton referenced counting pearls of wisdom and being thankful that during COVID we have come this far by faith. Kelly Schmidt and Becky Lepore had been previously recorded offering the hymn: *What Brought Us Together*. Ann Raines served as the Zoom Host, along with Rob Phillips. Ann gave some directions for those who had never used the Zoom platform, also for those who had used it before but not with such a large group. The Nominating Committee brought forth the names of Barry Pell and Martha Jones for the offices of Council President and Secretary, respectively. The election was unanimous and without opposition. Barry spoke of this Church Council coming by way of Zoom and with hope that it would be the only one requiring such restriction. He wondered if in the future, people would puzzle about what is a Zoom. Barry asked us for the three P's: Participation, Patience, and Perspicacity.

The minutes of the 2020 Annual Church Council were approved as written. Barry had asked the following three members to review the minutes of this meeting: Anne Zug, Bart Shaw, and Richard Miller.

Pastor Hopeton brought forward the report of the Board of Elders. Pages 5 and 6 of the Annual Reports booklet give much detail about the work of the Board of Elders during 2020. The 12 elected Elders who served were mentioned by name, along with Pastor Lynnette. Pastor Hopeton specifically thanked retiring Elder Elissa Derbak for her faithful service to the Church. He called attention to page 7, the statistics page and mentioned the number of members who had joined, with thought as to how to plan a New Members Reception Sunday for the 8 people who had fulfilled the classes in March, but who had not yet been presented to the congregation. He also mentioned the 16 members who had passed away during 2020. Pastor Hopeton said that since March 29, digital units were counted for average attendance of 248.

Mary Catherine Tachovsky presented the report of the Board of Trustees for 2020. Page 22 of the Annual Reports booklet gives more detail about the work of the Board of Trustees. Mary Catherine spoke about the difficult year and that even though the doors were closed, light streamed in through the work done

by the church. She mentioned attending a graveside service in a remote fashion and yet was still meaningful to those who were watching. Mary Catherine also said that this may have been our finest hour as a congregation—done with inspiration and in a grace-filled way. She extended special thanks to Jan Cole and Steve Krawiec, who will be retiring from the Board of Trustees. Thanks were extended to the staff for all they do—every day. She also complemented the work done on the 5-year campaign for the 275<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the church, which has made so many improvements to our church. In addition, Mary Catherine spoke about the Live-Stream Program and how well funded that has become.

The next part of the council meeting was the Financial Reports of the Board of Trustees for 2020. Financial Secretary George Mowers, wearing his lucky pink sweater, gave the report. He began by thanking the counting team of Kelly Knapp and Martha Jones, who have stepped up to provide this service to the church since volunteers are kept to a minimum in the office. George spoke about the PPP grant, which erased our deficit and allowed for a surplus of \$118 for 2020. Envelope giving has dropped off but still continued. We did not have the large services, such as Palm Sunday, Easter and Christmas Eve to have an increased offering. We also did not have income from Musikfest and the non-member wedding program. Our partners continue to pay to use the Old Chapel and Sanctuary, such as Moravian Academy, Moravian College and the Bethlehem Bach Choir. He also discussed an overview of the income and expenses for 2020. Total Income was under budget by \$99,674 or 10.9%. Total Expenses were under budget by \$32,392 or 3.5%. More details can be found on pages 30 and 31 of the Annual Reports booklet.

Treasurer David Charrier presented the report for the 2021 Budget. He spoke of what a challenge creating the budget was with so many unknowns for the future. The 2021 Budget Overview is found in the Annual Reports booklet on page 32 and the Proposed Budget on page 33. Total income is budgeted at \$929,736, looking for a 14.12% increase in income. David reported a budgeted increase in expenses of 5.42%. He reviewed the budget in a line-by-line fashion. There being no questions, David Charrier moved to approve the budget as submitted for 2021. The budget was approved.

Barry Pell expressed appreciation to George Mowers and David Charrier for the work done on the financial report of 2020 and budget for 2021. Other organizations, agencies, and societies of the congregation had submitted their reports in the Annual Reports booklet and there were no comments or questions.

There was nothing brought forward for General Business.

Ann Raines directed our attention to page 3 of the Annual Reports booklet, to the report of the Nominating Committee. Nominees for a 3-year term to the Board of Elders are: for a first term Kelly Ahn, for second terms Peter Behrens, Pam Larimer, and Priscilla Schueck. Nominees for a 3-year term to the Board of Trustees are: Beth Boyer and Barry Pell for first terms, for second terms Mary Brown, David Charrier, and Camie Modjadidi. Also nominated were: Eastern District Synod Alternate Delegates Jeff Benner and Caitlin Heckman. There were no additional nominees from the Zoom attendees. Rob Phillips moved to close nominations; there was no discussion, the slate of nominees was adopted.

Pastor Hopeton had some pastoral comments to make. He voiced a concern about lack of discussion or dialog. He requested time for letting people make any comments that they wished. There being none, he went on to thank Barry Pell and Martha Jones for their work during the council meeting. He gave special thanks and recognition to Cindy Gibson for her work in collecting individual reports and then creating the booklet, along with providing it in various formats. He also had special thanks to the Live-Stream staff: Will Schwab for his streaming expertise, Lee Gaudreau for the camera work, David Charrier for heading the successful Live-Stream Ad Hoc Committee and fundraising campaign, and Jeff Griffis for his work with the carpenter to create the equipment platform in the balcony. Pastor Hopeton gave his deep appreciation to all. We had no idea what 2020 had in store for us and we trust in God for the coming year.

Barry Pell offered a fourth 'P' for our meeting—that being the hope of being in-person next year. Mark Jones moved to adjourn the Council, and at 1:32 p.m. the Church Council was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Martha W. Jones  
Church Council Secretary

## Minutes of the Special Church Council—May 16, 2021

A special meeting of the Central Moravian Church Council was called to order at 2:00 p.m. by Council President Barry Pell. This meeting was held on the Zoom platform, an online video conferencing platform, because, due to the Covid-19 pandemic, Central Moravian Church was not having in-person gatherings. The Zoom host was Ann Raines. Senior Pastor Hopeton Clennon led us in prayer. Pastor Hopeton spoke about having clear minds, sincere hearts, and a concentrated focus on our Lord and Savior. It was noted that Barry Pell and Martha Jones continue in their offices of Council President and Council Secretary for the duration of the year since their election in January 2021.

Barry verified with Ann Raines that there was indeed a quorum to allow the meeting to proceed. Barry announced that Linda Wickmann agreed to review the minutes of this meeting.

The purpose of this special meeting of the Church Council is the election of four delegates and four alternate delegates to the Northern Province's Special Synod, to be held on July 10, 2021. Ann Raines brought forth the names on behalf of the Nominating Committee. Nominees for delegate: Lyn Chynoweth, Diane Shaw, Mary Catherine Tachovsky, and David Wickmann. Nominees for alternate delegate: Brenda Hoelman, Ken Kodama, Steve Krawiec, and Hank Naisby. Barry called for the question, Pam Larimer seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

There being no other business on the agenda, David Charrier moved to adjourn the meeting, Ken Kodama seconded that motion, and the meeting was adjourned at 2:05 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Martha W. Jones  
Church Council Secretary

## Board of Elders

The Board of Elders welcomes the election of four members each year for a three-year term. The full complement of 12 elders is supplemented by two pastors bringing the total to 14. Seven elected elders are required to constitute a quorum. Brother Gene Allen, Brother Ken Kodama, and Sister Diane Shaw are rotating off the board in February. We offer sincere thanks for their years of faithful service. To God be the glory!

The other nine elders who served faithfully and well throughout 2021 are Sister Kelly Ahn, Brother Peter Behrens, Brother Don Brown, Sister Jane Laposa, Sister Pam Larimer, Sister Priscilla Schueck, Sister Mary Shields, Sister Linda Wickmann, and Sister Kathy Williams.

During the year under review, Diane served as Vice President of the board and Kathy as Secretary. These roles placed them on the Executive Committee of the Joint Board and led to increased demand on their time commitment during a year when we grappled with the shifting dynamics of a global pandemic. This was also the year we transitioned to an online platform for the management and storage of all documents for board meetings.

Among the joyful highlights of the year are the following:

A continuation of midweek worship services coordinated by Pastor Lynnette Delbridge, Parish Pastor Maggie Wellert, and Chapel Organist Brother Richard Miller. These services are typically pre-recorded in the Chapel and posted on the church's YouTube channel.

- The elevation of our live-streaming experience on February 7, with the inaugural use of four fixed cameras in the sanctuary and the new console in the upper level of the balcony.
- Resumption of in-person worship on April 18, even though pre-registration was required.
- Reception of eight new members on April 18, three on June 20, and another three on December 12.

- Six Central families brought babies into the sanctuary for baptism throughout the year.
- Honoring our six high school graduates on June 13, coordinated by Sister Martha Jones.
- Resumption of in-person worship on Sundays at 9 a.m. in the Old Chapel on September 5, Sunday School classes on September 12, and the Putz and Star and Candle Shoppe on November 26.
- Celebrating with our six members, age 96 or older, in a worship service on October 24, coordinated by Sister Martha Jones and Parish Pastor Maggie Wellert.
- Distributing commemorative mugs with packets of hot chocolate mix during what would have been the First Sunday in Advent Lovefeast (November 28)
- The resumption of in-person worship on Christmas Eve with ticket distribution limited to 400 per service.

We received several requests from external organizations for the use of our facilities and or making video recordings in our facilities. Among the accepted organizations and events were the celebration of the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Salem Academy and College with a service in the Old Chapel led by Pastor Lynnette Delbridge, videography by Lehigh University's artist-in-residence for academic year 2021-22, Mr. Shimon Attie, hosting the Bethlehem Interfaith Group Thanksgiving Service, and the recording of an episode of Small Town Christmas with Megan Alexander for UPTV.

Sister Mary Jo Hill retired as coordinator for sanctuary flowers. We offer her our thanks for many years of faithful service. Sister Priscilla Schueck is the new coordinator.

Sister June Griffiths retired as coordinator for memorial luncheons. We offer her our thanks for three years of faithful service. Sister Rose Warner and Sister Nancy Doyle are the new coordinators.

The Board of Elders extends our deep appreciation to all who contributed to the smooth and safe operation of the many gatherings on our church campus. We make special mention of amazing volunteers like Brother Will Schwab managing our Livestream

technology, and Head Sacristan Brother Tim Brady and members of the Sacristan Corps on duty each Sunday morning.

Our guest preachers during 2021 were the Rt. Rev. Chris Giesler, Director of Mission Engagement for the Board of World Mission, the Rev. Dr. Heather Vacek, Vice President and Dean of Moravian Theological Seminary, and the Rev. Dr. Betsy Miller, President of the Provincial Elders' Conference. Several speakers from the wider community were featured during the many lectures and discussions recorded on Zoom and posted on our church's YouTube channel.

The music ministry maintained another year of excellence under the leadership of Sister Becky Lepore, Minister of Music. We thank all vocalists and instrumentalists facilitating worship and meditation in the sanctuary and chapel throughout the year. A new addition in 2021 was the All Saints Contemplative Service on Monday evening, November 1.

The Midweek Lenten Program was presented entirely on the Zoom platform and coordinated by Sister Diane Shaw. The theme focused on Remembering Lives Well Lived: The Moravian *Lebenslauf* (Past, Present, and Future). The presenters were Katherine Faulk (February 24), Gene Allen, Scott Gordon, and Mary Brown (March 3), Hopeton Clennon, Derek French, and Carol Reifinger (March 10), Jill Vogt (March 17), and Maggie Wellert (March 24).

Our Elders are called upon to ensure that the public means of grace are regularly and faithfully dispensed according to the ritual, customs, and practices of the Moravian Church. Elders oversee the Christian culture of the members of the congregation and their instruction in the doctrine, history, principles, and usages of the Moravian Church, the Sunday School, and various organizations, agencies, and societies of the congregation. Sincere gratitude is offered to the Sacristan Corps, Music Committee, and Christian Education Committee among others for their phenomenal work in these areas. We are particularly grateful for the creativity displayed and rapid response employed in coping with yet another "most unusual year."

As in previous years, we are grateful for daily opportunities to live out the mission statement of Central Moravian Church. This mission statement states: "Our members are committed to meeting the

needs of society and nurturing individuals on their spiritual journeys as we honor our Moravian heritage. We live our lives serving and fulfilling the mission of Christ in the world."

Respectfully Submitted,  
Hopeton Clennon, President

## 2021 Statistics

### **Births: 6**

Caden Charles Bach  
Benjamin Ellis Kane  
Margaret Lawrence Marcon  
Abbot Grim Naisby  
Cole Thomas Rampolla  
Corinne Ruth Royer

### **Baptisms: 6**

Christian Richard Bach  
Savannah Marie Bechtold  
Anton Alston Lernerman  
Isla Rose Macaulay  
Cole Thomas Rampolla  
Julia Rose Terwilliger

### **Readmission: 2**

Richard Ettwein  
Charlotte Hartmann-Hansen

### **Receptions: 6**

Aaron Bach  
Caitlin Bach  
Tina Grigsby  
Rich Hammersmith  
Ken Macaulay  
Tina Macaulay

### **Young Children of New Members: 3**

Caden Bach  
Christian Bach  
Isla Macaulay

### **Deaths: 14**

Jerline Collier  
Arthur Diehl  
Nancy Jean Frantz  
Jack Edward Griffis  
Elizabeth M. Heimbach  
Elizabeth Hittinger  
Judith A. Kerr  
William B. Lantz  
Thomas Judson Smull  
Ruth H. Sonnenberg  
Julia R. Stine  
Richard C. Theis  
Betty L. Watson  
William C. Watson Jr.

### **Transfers: 2**

Carol Acheson  
Reed Acheson

### **Average Weekly Attendance in 2021:**

- 37 In-Person Sundays: 108
- 52 Livestream Services: 199\*
- Combined In-Person and Livestream Services: 307

\* Livestream attendance is based on number of views on the sixth day following the services.

### **CD Ministry: 2**

**Total Membership on December 31, 2021: 968**

## Care for Creation

Even during a pandemic, the Care for Creation Committee has had a busy year. Our meetings were largely confined to Zoom sessions, but we found lots of ways to connect in person with the community on environmental issues.

We ended 2020 with unspent funds in our C4C budget, so we decided to use the money to purchase books for our Church Library in the C. E. building. We chose books for all ages with environmental themes...from honeybees to earthworms, climate change to composting. We hope that when the C. E. building opens to more 'normal' use, congregation members will have a chance to peruse the bookshelves, borrow books, and learn more about how to care for creation.

We sponsored Earth Day, 2021: Healing the Earth: From Local to Global Initiatives, a 4-session Zoom series in April and May. The first two sessions focused on food; we heard from Eli Stogsdill at the Monocacy Farm Project, representatives from the Bethlehem Food Co-op and the Bethlehem Environmental Advisory Council, and Pastor Lynnette Delbridge made a video-class on how to compost. Our last two sessions considered more 'global' topics: Alfred Griffin, from the NY State Green Bank told us about green investing; and Rev. Fletcher Harper from GreenFaith discussed ways to expand our environmental actions. We were pleased to have members from Cathedral Church of the Nativity, and the Unitarian Universalist Church as members of our planning committee for Earth Day. Our expenses for the Earth Day series were covered by a grant of \$550 from the Elizabeth Johnston Prime Fund; the Board of Elders approved our funding request, to promote Christian Education and spiritual development.

We have almost come to the 2-year anniversary for our TREX Plastic Recycling Challenge, and we are pleased that all 6 BAM Churches continue to consider this a worthwhile project. All 6 churches have met their 500-lb. goals, so they have each earned a TREX bench. In fact, Central has recently earned its second bench. The first bench was donated to Camp Hope; the second has been delivered, and will be installed sometime this coming spring on the Church Green near the Sanctuary. We continue to collect plastic on the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the month, along with Food Pantry donations. We successfully made the transition to

collections in the C. E. parking lot, and are very grateful for Youth Group helpers who have participated almost every month, and for John Brethour and Harry Tachovsky, who deliver our plastic to Weis Market. We would welcome new volunteers, as well!! We continue to gather almost 100 lbs. of plastic bags and wrap each month; we are pleased to keep that large amount out of the city trash...but we wish we could all work together to use less plastic!

A small sub-committee of Care for Creation met this summer to develop our annual list of Green Texts, ideas that we all might adopt to make our world more sustainable. The texts appear in each issue of *The Belfry* (we try to have one text/week), and this year we shared them with other Moravian churches. If you have an idea for a Green Text, please let us know!!

Care for Creation is working with the History Committee to produce a program about Lewis David DeSchweinitz, born in the Gemeinhaus, educated in Nazareth, and eventually becoming a Moravian pastor and 'the father of American mycology'. He loved studying and drawing fungi and mushrooms; his large collection of scientific samples and drawings is in the National Academy of Sciences. We hope to have a lecture in the spring by a scholar who studies DeSchweinitz, as well as a second program focused on a local mushroom grower. We are also planning to produce a small booklet, featuring information about DeSchweinitz, some of his drawings, and even some recipes featuring mushrooms.

In early October, Care for Creation invited Chris Spaugh, President of the Moravian Ministries Foundation in America (MMFA), to speak to our group (via Zoom) about socially conscious investing. Many investment companies, including MMFA, now include so-called ESG options (environmental, social, governance) along with traditional investment choices. Both the Social Action and Care for Creation committees have been considering what it means to 'divest from fossil fuel investments'. We invited others from Central, and other Moravian churches to join in on the Zoom session to become better informed.

In mid-October, our committee worked with Lehigh Valley GreenFaith members to promote two Climate Action events, focusing attention on climate issues just prior to the Climate Talks in Glasgow, Scotland. Members of our committee painted a large banner for the event, and participated in song, prayer, and efforts

to encourage others to urge world leaders to address climate concerns. The events took place at Cathedral Church of the Nativity, and in our 'own front yard', on Main Street in front of Central Moravian Church.

Many thanks to our hard-working committee members: Michella Cardoso, Joan Carson, Peg Church, Lynnette Delbridge, Nancy Doyle, Ron Doyle, Louisa Frey, Mary Jo Hill, Brenda Hoelman, Carol Holbert, Alex Knapp, Margaret Krawiec, Connie Pierce, Elke Rockwell, Rose Warner, David Wickmann, Linda Wickmann, Judy Williams.

Special thanks and prayers to Pastor Lynnette Delbridge who conceived of the idea for a Care for Creation Committee and has guided us along the way. We will miss her ideas, her sense of humor, her creativity, and her determination.

We always welcome new members on our committee; please contact Joan Carson if you would like to join us, or if you have an idea for a project or program on an environmental topic.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Joan Carson, Chair

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## **Christian Education Committee**

During 2021, the Christian Education Committee faced the challenge of offering a variety of opportunities, both virtual and in-person, for our congregation and larger community. During the spring, we continued with online programming due to COVID restrictions, and in the fall, we began to bring back in-person programming while continuing many of our virtual, online options. We are grateful throughout the year for the commitment of our leaders, our adult participants, and the willingness of our families to bring and stay with their children as we have returned to more and more in-person programming.

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

**Church Nursery:** Our Church Nursery ministry for Sunday morning worship services in the Sanctuary is partially back. While volunteers are not currently staffing the nursery, we invite families to go into the nursery and to use the space and toys whenever they and their children need a break from the worship

service. The nursery is available to infants through preschool age children.

As a part of our effort to help children and their families feel welcome in worship, we have a basket of activity bags in the Chapel and baskets at each of the four Sanctuary doors for children to take and use during worship services.

For the Christmas Eve Services, with the 1:00 p.m. service for children especially in mind, we provide activity packets – a ziplock bag with crayons, a front and back coloring page on cardstock paper, and chenille stems (pipe cleaners). These packets are handed out to families with children just after they receive their bulletins for the service. We appreciate the opportunity to coordinate with the Sacristans on this effort. In Pre-Covid years, we usually gave out most of the 100 packets we prepared. This year, with attendance at each Christmas Eve service held at 400 rather than 1,000, we gave out 48 activity bags.

**Toddler Time:** Central currently is blessed with several families with infants and toddlers. In an effort, beginning in April, to build relationships and friendship between parents and to connect these families more intentionally to our congregation, we began experimenting with Toddler Time. This one hour gathering, led by Pastor Delbridge for parents and their children, took place mostly outside on the campus green during good weather and included simple songs, a brief story or book, free-play, and free-flowing conversations. We were grateful that through the spring, summer, and fall months, the sun shone down on our gatherings warming both our bodies and our spirits. In November, we moved inside. Four families would usually be in attendance at any given time and those who attended rotated in and out with some families attending often and some only once. Over the course of the year, 11 families participated in one way or another. We are blessed to have these families. Our parents demonstrate exceptional parenting skills and deep love for their children and our children are open and ready to discover the world and God's love for them.

**Children's Sunday School:** In light of the COVID-19 pandemic, our Sunday School program continued to offer online Sunday School lessons through May posted on the Central Moravian Church Sunday School YouTube channel. These videos, prepared by Sunday School Superintendent Faith Fiegel and teachers Gayle

Dimmick, Jane Corvino, and Laura Corcoran, included a Bible story, song(s), a reflection on the story, a reading of the Bible passage and, in some cases, a craft project or the story presented in a visual and creative way. In the fall, these videos were prepared by Gayle Dimmick, Jane Corvino, and Lynnette Delbridge with the addition of a unit Faith Word, a surprise item from a Wonder Box, and a concluding spiritual practice. These additions are suggestions from the Celebrate Wonder Curriculum provided by Cokesbury Press. At the suggestion of CEC members, from October through December, Sunday School videos were posted on the Central Moravian Church YouTube channel in hopes of expanded viewership. Gayle Dimmick served as our Interim Sunday School Superintendent from October to December as we waited for Faith Fiegel to recover from an injury and to return to us in January 2022.

Beginning in September, we resumed in-person Sunday School meetings outside with parents in attendance with their children. For in-person classes, we were also able to use engaging video clips of children reflecting on the story of the day, also from the Celebrate Wonder curriculum. When cold weather arrived, we moved inside and were grateful that our children are quite adept at and cooperative about wearing their face masks. Average attendance was 5.5 per week.

In November and early December, we spent time preparing two songs, "The Friendly Beasts" and "Infant Holy, Infant Lowly" to sing for the 11:00 a.m. worship service in the Sanctuary on December 12 and for the Children's Christmas Eve service. We thank Pastor Delbridge for teaching the songs, seminarian Josh Follweiler for leading our last three rehearsals and conducting for both performances, and Maria Prochnau for serving as our accompanist.

**Friday Fun Night:** After February, we discontinued Zoom Friday Fun Night and instead offered well-attended Saturday morning options in March and April. The March event was a "Holy Week Story Walk" and took the children through several stations at which they heard and received a memento to help them remember the major stories of Holy Week and Easter. In the fall, we returned to our usual in-person Friday Fun Night at 6 p.m. in Nitschmann Hall for elementary age children with the occasional preschooler joining in. Perhaps, in the coming year, we will be able to return to our Pre-COVID practice of offering an Infant

and Toddler group, a Preschool group, and an Elementary age group. At the moment, we are simply grateful to have the opportunity to be together and to be moving toward fuller programming in the future.

We are grateful for the ministry of our regular Friday Fun Night Team: Michella Cardoso and Pat Metcalf, supper; Carol Holbert, crafts, and Lynnette Delbridge; music, story, and activities. Susan Trimble assisted us in March and April. Seminarian Josh Follweiler joined us for our December Friday Fun Night.

**Youth Group:** In the spring, the group agreed that with Zoom fatigue from school, meeting twice a month virtually would be preferable to meeting each week. The group was able to meet outside in April and May. We were able, once again, to put flowers on the graves in God's Acre in preparation for the Easter Sunrise Service. We were grateful to have seminarian Noah Smith join us for some of our meetings in the spring. At our last meeting in May, we gave thanks for the leadership that senior youth group member Hannah Recchiuti-Quier gave to our group, gave thanks for our years together, and wished her and our two other seniors well in their new endeavors.

In the fall, we continued to meet in person twice a month. Activities that the group particularly enjoyed were apple picking, a visit to the Lehigh Valley Humane Society to volunteer, Friendsgiving, Christmas cookie baking, and December Christmas party. Seminarian Josh Follweiler joined us for our December meetings.

Youth Group members, usually two at a time, have assisted throughout the year with the monthly Drive-By Sundays, carrying bags of plastic for the TREX recycling project. We are grateful for this collaboration with the Care for Creation Committee.

Adults who joined Pastor Delbridge and assisted with various activities over the year included Sarah Phillips, Beth Davis, Bob Wascura, Martha Griffis, Beth Careyva, and seminarians Noah Smith and Josh Follweiler.

**Vacation Bible School:** Once again, we collaborated with Advent Moravian Church and East Hills Moravian Church to provide Vacation Bible School for our members and larger communities. With COVID still circulating and no vaccines available yet for children, we decided to try a very different format.

Instead of meeting for five days straight in the morning, we tried meeting on Sunday and Wednesday evenings beginning August 8<sup>th</sup>. We met outside at Advent Moravian Church.

We used a curriculum, *River of Life*, provided free of charge by the ELCA World Hunger organization. All the stories related in some way to water.

- **God creates:** Water at Creation – Genesis 1:1-2:1
- **God provides:** Water from a rock – Exodus 17:1-6
- **God claims:** Baptism of Jesus – Matthew 3:13-17
- **God protects:** Jesus calms the storm – Mark 4:35-41
- **God loves, we love:** Jesus washes the disciples' feet – John 13:3-15, 33-35

Central members were well-represented in the effort with Bob Wascura providing science activities; Carol Holbert art activities, and Lynnette Delbridge, music activities. We also appreciated assistance from Gayle Dimmick at the Bible Story site and Jeff Biro, substitute guitarist. Two of our children, with their parents and grandparents, participated.

**Camp Hope:** In-person camps and conferences were not offered at Camp Hope this year due to COVID. Camp Hope staff did offer weekend cabin rentals for families and one of our families participated in that program.

**Outdoor Activity Day:** In July, we offered a Saturday, "Outdoor Activity Day" on the grounds at Advent Moravian Church on July 21 from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. Members were encouraged to bring picnic lunches and to use the nearby Hanover Township playground. We provided activities for all ages, including resources for labyrinth walks lead by Pastor Maggie Wellert, craft activities for preschool and elementary age children led by Carol Holbert, and Toddler Time led by Pastor Delbridge. We also took this time to recognize and appreciate our Sunday School teachers and Friday Fun Night helpers for their contributions during the 2020-2021 program year. Thirty-nine people attended, including six Toddler Time families.

**Advent Workshop:** We returned this year with an in-person Advent workshop in Benigna Auditorium on November 28, 2021. Although we didn't serve

refreshments or make edible Moravian Christmas candles because of COVID, we were pleased that 55 people attended, including many of our families with children. In addition to providing a time to enjoy community together as friends and in family groups, we hoped to help participants remember the Christmas story and to embrace a joyful spirit for the Advent and Christmas seasons ahead. We had new activities like the peg people nativity set and Christmas trees made with toilet paper roll trunks and old favorites like making felt Moravian Candles, pinecone bird feeders, and decorated wise men crowns. We upgraded the supplies for making Advent wreaths and hope that families will be able to use the wire frames and artificial greenery provided for years to come. Carol Holbert planned our crafts. Pastor Delbridge helped with logistics. Peter Behrens and Cheryl Tubio assisted with pinecone bird feeders and Pastor Maggie Wellert with Advent wreaths. In addition to several others who pitched in to help during the workshop and with clean-up, we are grateful to Heajin Ko, Helen Woodbridge, and Maria Prochnau for providing festive piano music.

#### Adult Christian Education Opportunities

**Comenius Tuesday:** Comenius Tuesday participants read and discuss a wide variety of books and resources and explore the Bible, biblical archeology and anthropology, progressive Christianity, comparative religions, and environmental morality. Group members seek to deepen their understanding of the Bible and its metaphorical implications for their personal and communal development, expand their concept of spirituality, and apply those learnings to the mission of the church. This discussion group, led by AnneMarie Whildin, meets on Zoom every other Tuesday September through early June at 9:30 a.m. Steve Krawiec hosts the Zoom meetings.

**Stories for Life:** Stories for Life met via Zoom on Monday evenings from 7:15-8:30 p.m., with time for checking in and sharing prayer concerns, followed by group study. In the fall, we worked our way through the New Moravian Catechism. Our winter study has been "Revelation" by Frank Crouch, prepared as a study for the Interprovincial Women's Board in 2004. Brother Crouch joined our class for the final session, sharing insights and answering questions. We average 12 people per session. – *Maggie Wellert*

**Awakened Hearts:** A Wisdom Way of Knowing Prayer Circle, led by Parish Pastor Maggie Wellert, met in the first half of the year twice monthly, the second Monday and the fourth Tuesday. As we continued through COVID, however, we found that one opportunity each month was adequate, and continued meeting on Tuesday mornings for one and one half hours. We use spiritual practices to open ourselves to God's Presence in prayer: chanting, body prayer, *lectio divina*, and centering prayer. We engage in sharing what we experience, how we have noticed God, and support one another in intercession prayer between sessions. We average 6 people per session.  
– *Maggie Wellert*

**Men's Bible Study:** The members of this group engage in a free-spirited, ecumenical, discussion-oriented Bible Study each week. This year, the group studied the gospels of Matthew and Luke. The group is open to men of all ages, professions, and church backgrounds. Currently meeting in-person and by way of Zoom on Wednesday mornings at 7:30 a.m., the group is led by David Wickmann.

**Friendship Bible Class:** Friendship Bible Class began meeting in-person again with the start of Sunday School in the fall of 2021 following the Church's protocol. The class moved to the Zinzendorf Parlor in the Christian Education building to enhance accessibility. The average number in the class is 4.

The class topics included the following, in addition to the normal sharing and discussion of topics that individuals are studying:

- The Book of Amos, which is about a prophet condemning the social injustices in the country of Israel, people of power taking advantage of the powerless.
- "A star shall come out of Jacob: we hear in the beautiful Anthem on Christmas Eve at Central by Mendelssohn and from the Bible in Numbers 24:17 but who are the forerunners in the journey from Jacob to Christ? – *Tom Christensen*

### **Collaborative Work with the Social Action Committee**

Members of the Christian Education and Social Action Committees continue to collaborate on two joint initiatives, Racial Justice and Mental Health.

Subcommittees made up of members of both committees meet and report to both committees. For reports on both efforts, please see the Social Action Committee Report.

### **Committee Work – Thinking and Planning**

In the face of many questions around appropriate programming for children during the COVID pandemic, our committee decided in August to follow the protocols for mask-wearing and for in-person participation set by the Bethlehem Area School District.

In December, we began to think about the possibility of recruiting a volunteer or paid staff person to serve as a Nursery Coordinator to care for our Church Nursery space and equipment and to organize and oversee a future roster of Nursery Volunteers.

Our committee has been blessed to have Caitlin Heckman join our committee. We are grateful for the perspectives and suggestions she offers as an elementary school music teacher and as the parent of one of our toddlers. We continue to look for ways to expand the membership of the committee to include representation from the larger congregation, including our families with children and youth. We thank the active members of the Christian Education Committee for their steadfast dedication to our Christian Education ministries and their support of our volunteers and leaders. They are:

Peter Behrens, Michella Cardoso, Lynnette Delbridge, Faith Fiegel, Caitlin Heckman, Carol Holbert, Steve Krawiec, Jane Leposa, Camie Modjadidi, Susan Trimble

Respectfully Submitted,  
Camie Modjadidi, Chair  
Lynnette Delbridge, Pastor

## Congregational Care Committee

In 2021, the members of the Congregational Care Committee completed a pastoral care course which is part of the Lay Ministry program at Moravian Theological Seminary taught by Pastor Maggie Wellert. Then, the members initiated a visitation ministry in our congregation. As a follow up of the Lenten series on the topic of *Lebenslauf*, we started planning to sponsor a workshop on *Lebenslauf* writing, which will be held in January and February of 2022 via Zoom as the continuing COVID-19 pandemic prevents our in-person meetings. We continue in our endeavor to find ways to accomplish the well-being of our congregation, which is the function of this committee.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Mary Brown, Chair

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## History Committee

This year marks the fifteenth year of work by the History Committee. 2021 saw progress on our campaign goals—the creation of a climate-controlled storage facility in Central’s basement to be named in honor of Pat Smith, and the creation of exhibition spaces in the Narthex and West Rooms. Contracts were signed for the basement facility and the new Narthex lighting. Although the area has been readied by Central for the construction, work has yet to begin in the basement. The lighting in the Narthex was completed in the late summer and the new exhibit display case in the West Room (northside) will be finished in January.

Support for the History Committee’s projects and programs received a decided boost this year by the establishment of two new endowed funds that the Board of Trustees has designated to be used for the work of the Committee. The Jane B. Bannan and the Alma H. Schlenker bequests will help us furnish the new storage facility, purchase preservation housing for materials, and mount exhibitions. Jane and Alma were longtime, devoted members of Central, and we believe this use honors their memory. The Committee received several gifts of materials this year, including artwork by Fred Bees from Tom and Connie Herber, as well as memorabilia and artifacts from Barbara Nelson and Maria Prochnau.

Programming this year included several historical presentations that were part of the 2021 Lenten Series on the Moravian *Lebenslauf*. A good deal of time has gone into the planning for an upcoming program in spring 2022 commemorating the contributions of the distinguished Moravian botanist Lewis David de Schweinitz, who is known as the father of American mycology (the study of mushrooms). Working with the Care for Creation Committee, we are hosting two lectures, as well as creating a cookbook and an exhibition of copies of Schweinitz’s stunning mushroom watercolors. We closed out the year by participating in the Bethlehem Historic District Association’s Holiday House Tour in December, providing some 200 visitors with tours of Central’s sanctuary.

We met online all year, with the exception of our July meeting, which was in-person, enabling us to tour the historic Knot and Apothecary gardens on the church campus that are being cared for by several of our Committee members. We also toured the space in Central’s basement which will house the storage facility and the exhibition spaces on the west end of the building. We look forward to being able to meet again in-person. The Committee meets every other month on the second Monday evening. Anyone who might be interested in our work is encouraged to contact Diane Shaw.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Diane Shaw, Chair

Committee Members: Kelly Ahn (Elder), Gene Allen (Elder), Mary Brown (Trustee), Hopeton Clennon, Jan Cole, June Griffiths, Mary Jo Hill, Jeffrey Long (Trustee), Hank Naisby, Barry Pell (Trustee), Paul Peucker, Carol Reifinger, Nancy Rutman, Priscilla Schueck (Elder), Bart Shaw, Diane Shaw (Elder), Mary Shields (Elder)

## International Student Care Committee

The International Student Care Committee partnership with Moravian University, blessed by the Barnette scholarship fund, continued support of two students: Nahum Pradhan, who will graduate in May 2022 and Lucy Ngara, who will graduate in December 2022. While COVID continued to plague the 'normality' of university life, both students are doing well academically and socially. We are proud of them and their accomplishments and feel blessed to have them in our midst.

We were disappointed with the inability of another student from Tanzania to obtain a student visa for matriculation in August 2021. That student, recommended by Bill and Peg Hoffman, is currently at a university in Dar es Salaam, supported by our committee, and is doing very well. We continue to actively pursue new students for August of 2022, and we are pleased that we have two students in the process of applying: one from Zambia; one from Tanzania. We also are pursuing applicants for matriculation in August 2024.

The committee itself grew substantially this year, adding 5 new members: three from Central and two from Edgeboro. We are blessed to have the financial resources and the willing support of so many to aid in the proper care and guidance of the students entrusted to our care.

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

Committee Members (Mamas and Papas): Jim and Jessie Bucchin and Myra Jones (Edgeboro Moravian Church), Linda and Jack Thomas (College Hill Moravian Church), and Central Moravian Church members Lyn Chynoweth, Shelia and Hopeton Clennon, Margaret and Steve Krawiec, Craig and Pam Larimer, Alice and Craig Mosebach, Jeff Mosebach, Alex and Bob Newell.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Lyn Chynoweth, Chair

## Membership Committee

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

Most of the committee's planned activities in 2021 continued to be casualties of the SARS-CoV-2 pandemic; however, for the tenth year, the committee was able to mail Christmas cards to distant members of our congregation.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Bill Sachs, Chair

Committee Members: Kelly Ahn, Lyn Chynoweth, Hopeton Clennon, Lynnette Delbridge, Elissa Derbak, Janice Ostock, Bill Sachs, and Beth Schlener

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## Mission Committee

The Mission Committee of Central Moravian Church supports and provides oversight of the international mission efforts approved by the Joint Board of Elders and Trustees. For the first time this year, the Board of World Mission awarded the Herrnhut Congregational Affirmation for Dedicated Mission and Service Award. Central Moravian Church was honored with this award on August 8, 2021, by Bishop Chris Giesler, Director of Mission Engagement for the Board of World Mission. The intent of this affirmation is to recognize churches for their work in local communities and global mission. Other Central Moravian Church committees, groups, and individuals share in helping this congregation fulfill its mission to love and serve others, especially those who are most in need. We express our appreciation to the Board of World Mission for this honor, and to all contributors and participants for their spiritual engagement of helping others.

### Tanzania

One of the most historic of Central Moravian Churches efforts is working in Tanzania. Outreach has included aiding the building of churches, supporting the

construction and maintenance of wells, sending medical supplies, improving and building facilities, and caring for and educating youth. In recent years, the focus has been on the Adopt-a-Village Program and the support of education for orphans and the children of the Mamas who manage the program in Tanzania. Adopt-a-Village is a partnership with the Board of World Mission, Central Moravian Church, and several other churches. This partnership has been faithfully supervised by Central Members, Bill and Peg Hoffman. Special thanks to Justin Rabbach, Executive Director, Rex Knowlton, Treasurer, and Chris Giesler, Director of Mission Engagement, for their partnership on this work. This year, Bill and Peg were also honored by the Board of World Mission with the Ted Wilde Award for Service and Mission. Bishop Giesler affirmed Bill and Peg for their life of service, saying that they have saved lives and nurtured souls. Their devotion to Tanzania over twenty years has been greatly appreciated by the Mission Committee and the members of Central Moravian Church. As a result of the pandemic, travel to Africa has been delayed and lines of communication have been stressed, leading to a minimum of new information. However, the information we have been able to receive has confirmed that the work carries on.

**Bill Hoffman provides the following Report:**

**Sikonge Partnership 2021**

Travel Restrictions, by governments both in the United States and Tanzania, continue to prevent travel to Sikonge. The Hoffmans made their last trip in June of 2019. Tanzania has a new president who has promised a science-based approach to the Covid pandemic. It is hoped that visitations will resume in 2022.

The last communications from Sikonge appear to reflect an improving environment. Schools have reopened. While travel in the country is still greatly discouraged, restrictions have been lifted in both the Sikonge district and the city of Tabora.

Dr Ruhmya, who is in frequent communication with Mama Kimwaga, reported that the orphan program in Sikonge remains under financial restrictions. New orphans are admitted only with the permission of Mama Kimwaga. Families are being asked to contribute to educational expenses. Food distributions are made only to prevent malnutrition. Clothing, which had been donated by Moravian Academy, has not been

available since 2019. The new airline restrictions on baggage for overseas travel will probably make the future transportation of these materials to Sikonge impossible. The orphan program in the city of Tabora is under the same restraints as that in Sikonge. Many caregivers were suspicious of the reasons for the cutbacks in service, believing that funds were being misused. Kefas Kabata, in charge of the program there, requested a letter from Central's representatives documenting his explanations. This was provided. The new Sikonge Hospital Secretary, Mchg Wilson Nkumba, reported that the Hospital could once again afford to service the orphan program's vehicle. This will allow Mama Kimwaga to visit villages beyond walking distance from Sikonge. It will also permit Kefas Kabata easier access to Tabora for supervision.

Perhaps, due to concern about the pandemic, there have been no requests for new well construction. Enough funds remain for two additional wells.

The Lusangi Junior Seminary in Sikonge has reopened. The Earnest Parker Scholarship Fund is currently supporting six students, three in both the first and second year.

No requests for funds to construct new churches have been received.

The young lady who received a four-year scholarship to Moravian University was once again denied a visa to enter the United States. While not documented, the most likely cause is that she is an orphan and has no family ties to encourage her return to Tanzania at the completion of her studies. Using a scholarship provided by a Central donor, she has enrolled in nursing school in Tanzania. Central's committee responsible for the care of foreign students has agreed to pay her expenses to complete this course of study. No information is available about the evangelism of the Sukuma, but with in-country travel discouraged, it is doubtful that the effort has been expanded.

Donations to the orphan program remain very low. The Mamas made changes to the program in 2019 that have cut expenses, but it appears that the program's funds will be exhausted within three years. Suggestions made by Central's Mission Committee were relayed to Dr Ruhmya for discussion with the Mamas, but no conclusions have been reported.

Life in Tanzania is difficult in the best of times. With pandemic restrictions being gradually lifted, the increased severity they and the pandemic caused is improving. The Hoffmans join those responsible for orphan care in Tanzania in expressing our gratitude for Central's continued interest in the ongoing partnership with the Moravians of the Sikonge district.

## **Nepal**

Alice and Craig Mosebach have generously served as the Mission Committee representatives to Nepal. They have kept in touch with Shanti and Vani Pradhan and have shared with the committee any needs related to the Nepal Mission. At the end of this year, Alice and Craig will step off the Mission Committee. We express our gratitude to Alice and Craig for their many years of service to the committee and to their mission work in Nepal. Jody Trostle and Sue Trimble will continue in their place to be our representatives to Nepal and bring news from the International Kindergarten and the Shristi Academy to our congregation. Exciting news is that Vani and Shanti are hoping to travel to the United States in the spring to bring news of their work, meet with Antioch volunteers who have visited Nepal, and to attend Nahum's graduation. The committee is pleased to partner with the Board of World Mission in financially supporting their visit.

## **Craig Mosebach provides the following report:**

### **Nepal Update October 2021**

#### **Support for Shristi Children:**

Many children from IKG have graduated and moved on to Shristi Academy. It means the support for the children in IKG has decreased in the last two years, which does affect the overall finances of the school. Our hope is that if support can continue at a certain level or percentage for the children in Shristi, it would definitely be a blessing for parents and school, especially for boys. Unity Women's Desk has been supporting the girls, Grace Rai and Phoebe Maharjan, but the boys could do with some support, especially during this pandemic period.

**Coffee and Conversation** is a Zoom meeting that started in July this year. Teachers from IKG and Shristi Academy, and teachers from North Carolina are scheduled every other week to share teachers' experiences during this pandemic. It's been a great

platform for all of us as we learn from each other and build our conversational English skills. Sarah Jennings and Sylvie Hauser from the Board of World Missions are active in this program as they coordinate to bring people together. We would like to invite friends and teachers to come and spend an hour to share their expertise and experience to help our teachers to serve our children better.

#### **Family Update:**

This year, we are grateful for the healing of many of our siblings and their families as they contracted Covid and recovery is ongoing.

With grateful hearts we thank the Lord, Central Moravian Church, Moravian College, and the Mamas and Papas for their guidance, prayers, and support. It is hard to believe that this is Nahum's Senior year. Thank you for being his family during the most difficult times. He hopes to study further after his graduation in May.

#### **Please continue to prayer for:**

1. IKG and Shristi Academy to continue with the expansion plan. We are still renting three different buildings.
2. Entire School team: For wisdom as we prepare for post Covid in-person school opening after the Dashain and Diwali holidays: October 20, 2021.
3. School Parents: To be able to pay the timely school fees and help their children transition to in-person classes.
4. Setting up the third site: Computer lab, furniture, teaching materials, green turf, etc.
5. Student enrollments in both IKG and Shristi Academy.
6. Brother Nagendra's health as he continues with dialysis three days a week.
7. For the Church and all its ministries.

## **New Ministry Fund**

Each year, the Mission Committee has been receiving requests for new ministry opportunities. Last year, the committee agreed to begin a fund designated as a reserve to apply to new requests. The Central Moravian Church Congregation generously supports Mission in the Annual Budget in the amount of \$12,000. The distribution of this year is as follows: \$8000, Tanzania, \$2000, Nepal, and \$2000 New Mission Requests. Recent requests have been received from Nicaragua and Jamaica and were funded.

Although the focus of the committee will remain our obligations in Tanzania and Nepal, the opportunity to engage in another important ministry is an exciting prospect.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Mary Catherine Tachovsky, Chair

### **Mission Committee Members:**

Peter Behrens  
Hopeton Clennon  
Patricia Herman  
Margaret Hoffman  
William Hoffman  
Alice Mosebach  
Craig Mosebach  
Rob Phillips  
Sue Trimble  
Jody Trostle

**SIKONGE/TABORA & NEPAL MINISTRIES**  
**INCOME, EXPENSES and BALANCES**  
**January 1, 2021 to October 31, 2021 - Central Mission Fund**

	<u>2020</u> <u>Balance</u>	<u>Income</u>	<u>Expenses</u>	<u>Transfers</u>	<u>Current</u> <u>Balance</u>
Orphans' Fund	18,366	500	0	-20,000	-1,134
Hoffman Travel	19,167	0	0	8,000	27,167
Hoffman Fund	18,329	4,220	0	0	22,549
Wells Fund	5,366	0	0	0	5,366
Mamas' Education Fund	1,987	0	0	0	1,987
Education Fund	6,200	0	0	0	6,200
Nepal Fund	1,232	2,961	0	2,000	6,193
Other Initiatives	0	5,000	608	2,000	6,392
<b>Totals</b>	<b>70,647</b>	<b>12,681</b>	<b>608</b>	<b>-8,000</b>	<b>74,720</b>

Note - Merrill Lynch Account balance as of 10/31/21 was \$116,280 for Tanzanian Orphans

## Music Committee

2021 continued to be a unique year in the music ministry of Central Moravian Church. The mission of the music program embraces the mission statement of Central Moravian Church as we strive to be an effective and living example of our Moravian heritage by creating innovative musical offerings with a standard of excellence in the spirit of evangelism. This year's offerings varied according to safety protocol and ranged from solos and duets, to small vocal ensembles, to a third of the choir singing masked and physically distanced for the Christmas Eve Vigils.

Under the superb leadership of Llyena Boylan, the Music Committee met six times, entirely via Zoom. I am deeply thankful to Llyena for her friendship, infinite wisdom, enormous generosity of time, and gracious sense of humor.

I am very thankful for Richard Miller who this year, continued to compose and arrange many of his own musical offerings, was a vital part of the Wednesday evening worship services, as well as offering many powerful Monday Meditations via Constant Contact. Richard also served as organ substitute multiple times in October and November and played for the Christmas morning worship service. Special thanks to David Charrier for his beautiful singing for so many of our worship services! Deep gratitude to Caitlin Heckman, Colin Worrich, Nancy Meckstroth, and Graydon Wascura who frequently played for the 11 a.m. worship services and brought joy to our worship experience.

The Bethlehem Area Moravian Trombone Choir, under the direction of Don Kemmerer, played for our Children's Christmas Eve Worship Service and for our New Year's Eve Service.

Our CDs and book continue to sell in the church office and through our website. Kelly Knapp is responsible for filling CD orders and giving complete financial records of the CD account to George Mowers, the Music Committee, and to the Board of Trustees.

### **Musical highlights from 2021 include:**

- A Virtual Hymn Sing was offered on Monday evening, February 15<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m. with Dave Charrier as soloist.

- A Virtual Chamber Music Concert of flute and classical guitar was offered on Monday evening, March 22<sup>nd</sup> at 7 p.m. featuring Two-Part Invention with flautist, Nora Suggs, and classical guitarist, John Arnold.
- A Virtual Chamber Music Concert of flute, violin, and cello was offered on Monday evening, April 19<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m. and featured flautist, Nora Suggs, violinist, Rebecca Brown, and cellist, Elizabeth Mendoza.
- An Outdoor Instrumental Johnston Festival Memorial Concert was held on Saturday, June 26<sup>th</sup> at 2 p.m. on the church green. Featuring the Mainstreet Brass (with timpani), SATORI chamber music ensemble (flute and strings), and bagpiper Ethan Sewinski. Members were invited to bring their own lawn chairs or blankets and to enjoy the concert while remaining physically distanced.
- The dedication of the beautiful Young Chang baby grand piano for the Old Chapel took place at the 9 a.m. service on Sunday, September 19<sup>th</sup>.
- A Contemplative Service in Remembrance of All Saints' Day was held in the Chapel on Monday, November 1<sup>st</sup> at 7 p.m. Becky Lepore provided contemplative piano music. Special thanks to Hopeton Clennon and Bill Sachs for reading and to Hank Naisby for building the wooden trays to stabilize the candles.
- A Service of Thanksgiving with the Bethlehem Interfaith Group, hosted by Central Moravian Church on Sunday, November 14<sup>th</sup>.
- A retirement celebration for our beloved soloists/section leaders Cathy Spallitta, soprano, and Deborah Leyshon-Brandt, mezzo-soprano, was held on November 21<sup>st</sup> at the 11 a.m. service. Deborah Leyshon-Brandt served as mezzo-soprano soloist and section leader for 41 years, from 1980 until 2021. Cathy Spallitta served as soprano soloist and section leader from 1984-1997, and then again from 2003-2021 for a total of 31 years. New soloists/section leaders Kimberly Leamon, soprano, and Kelly Schmidt, mezzo-soprano, were introduced to the congregation, and the anthem, "How Great Thou Art" was sung by our "four favorite divas" immediately following the presentation.

- A Contemplative Christmas service was held in the Chapel on Monday, December 13<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m. with Becky Lepore providing the contemplative piano music.
- A Service of Lessons and Carols was celebrated on Sunday, December 19<sup>th</sup> at both the 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. services while abiding by all COVID-19 safety protocols. Richard Miller creatively divided the Chapel Choir into quartets to sing festive anthems, and a third of the Sanctuary Choir sang hymns and anthems with the Mainstreet Brass. All singers wore masks, and the brass musicians used bell covers.
- My deepest thanks to the outstanding musicians who made our Advent season and Christmas services so meaningful: Members and section leaders of the Central Moravian Church Choir, Chapel Choir, and Sunday School Choir; instrumentalists Caitlin Heckman, Colin Worrich, Sarah Baer, Graydon Wascura, Carol Delbridge, Ruth Ferrey, Christian Ferrey, Ethan Ferrey, Katie Owens; Sunday School Choir accompanist Maria Prochnau; New Year's Eve Service organist, Luke DiGiacinto; pianist Eileen Wescoe for playing on December 26<sup>th</sup> at the 9 a.m. service; Substitute organist, Jeanne Bednarik on December 26<sup>th</sup> for the 11 a.m. service; The Bethlehem Area Moravian Trombone Choir, under the direction of Don Kemmerer; The Mainstreet Brass and timpanist, Steve Mathieson; the talented string players for our Christmas Eve Vigil Services; Morning Star soloists Claire Phillips, Kaylyn George, and Elizabeth and Alexandra Goodman; Kelly Knapp for assisting with CD sales and distribution, the members of the Music Committee, chaired by Llyena Boylan; Maestro Donald Spieth for conducting Christmas Eve Vigils, and my musical colleague, Richard Miller. Special appreciation to sacristans Tim Brady, Nate Bissey, and Phil Corvino for assisting with the many behind-the-scenes needs of the music program, and much gratitude to staff members Cindy Gibson, George Mowers, Kelly Knapp, Martha Jones, Jeff Griffis, and Spencer Schlack for their infinite patience, kindness, and gracious willingness to help!

Special thanks to Will Schwab who has given our church hundreds of hours in preparation and implementation of livestreaming our worship services. I am pleased that microphones specifically designed for livestreaming singers and instrumental musicians, as well as a microphone for the Steinway upright piano

in the balcony, have been purchased and will be installed once our current digital mixing console is reconfigured. Although nothing can replace the fellowship of worshiping together in person, our livestream ministry has become very important to many, and it's my hope that our music can be heard with equal success via livestream as it is in person. Special thanks to Dave Charrier who has been a tremendous colleague in helping this dream become a reality.

I'm blessed beyond measure to be a part of this extraordinary congregation!

Respectfully Submitted,  
Becky Lepore, Minister of Music

Music Committee Members: Llyena Boylan, chair;  
Rt. Rev. C. Hopeton Clennon, Mary Brown,  
Dave Charrier, Louisa Frey, Ken Kodama,  
Richard Miller, Alice Mosebach, Hank Naisby,  
Becky Lepore, Tom Tenges

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## Social Action Committee

In a year of continuing challenges due to the Covid-19 pandemic, we are so grateful and encouraged by the strong and dedicated members of our church in 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, racism, and poverty.

We continue to value the good ministry of many agencies in the area and beyond, and are fortunate to work with them.

The SAC Committee approved the following Mission Statement in 2021:

*SAC is a committee of both action and agency with the unique responsibility:*

- *to live into the heritage envisioned by our Moravian ancestors - a beloved community of deeply committed members;*
- *to express the Church's mission that faith is relationship - relationship with others and relationship with Jesus Christ;*

- *to provide opportunities (advocacy, educational and service programs) for those seeking meaningful spiritual relationships that encourage their growth through the expression of loving service and compassion;*
- *to live beyond words into action that the beloved community, the new creation envisioned by Zinzendorf may be realized.*

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

#### **A List of our Community and Church Partners and our Ministry Together in 2021 follows:**

- **Bethlehem Emergency Cold-Weather Shelter at Christ Church UCC:** The shelter provides dinner, sleeping quarters and breakfast for homeless men and women, with a maximum of 75 guests. The shelter was able to open again this November and runs through the first week of April. Our dedicated volunteers provide dinner and a bagged breakfast, and access to showers, and can once again converse with guests in the dining hall. Paid security guards handle overnights and much of the registration process. Central takes care of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of the month from November through March. Volunteer opportunities include preparing the meal in Central's kitchen, serving, clean up, registration of those coming in, and being shower monitors - who hand out towels, and keep the schedule running. The staff at BES provides a safe environment - with distancing in seating and everyone is masked, as well as filtering in the air system and stringent cleaning protocols for the dining room. If you are interested in helping with cooking, please contact Rose at [rosaliepwerner@gmail.com](mailto:rosaliepwerner@gmail.com). If you are interested in any other volunteer position or have questions, please contact Janice at [janice.ostock@gmail.com](mailto:janice.ostock@gmail.com) or 610-984-7502. For those of us who volunteer, the effort is paid back with each happy greeting and thanks from guests who have enjoyed their meal. – *Janice Ostock*
- **Bread for the World:** \$400 was donated for the membership fee. Michael and Bonnie attended the 2021 Virtual Advocacy Summit which highlighted efforts to make the expansion of the child tax credit permanent in the United States. Globally, BFW advocates for more money to increase global nutrition funding. We created and distributed postcards to the congregation to participate in Bread for the World's campaign to Congress. Brenda Hoelman gave the mission moment. Due to the pandemic, many vulnerabilities in our safety net and food systems have become evident. – *Bonnie Davis and Michael Brennan*
- **Care for Creation:** see separate report.
- **Central Food Pantry:** see separate report.
- **Central Santa:** Just as all of us have modified our routines over the past 20 months, so has Central Santa. Last year, as you may remember, we conducted a financial donation campaign. This year, we are 'almost back to normal': 50 Esperanza children were sponsored, and Central members provided gift bags of warm winter clothing. Community Services for Children requested gifts of books for children ages 0 - 5. The congregation responded with 323 books - board books, books about A-B-Cs, counting books, nursery rhymes, biographies, easy readers, books in English, Spanish and Arabic - and, we also presented a check for \$2286.12 to Community Services to purchase additional books for their "Mimi's Book Club". CSC hopes to provide a new book for each child in the Lehigh Valley Head Start program. And, since the goal of Central Santa is to provide books and warm winter clothing to needy Lehigh Valley children, the Social Action Committee voted to move \$200 of your Central Santa donations to our newly-formed Afghan Resettlement Committee. Our family has a 5-month old child, so the funds will be used for clothing and other baby needs. We are, once again, overwhelmed with the generosity of our congregation and friends of Central in their support of Central Santa. Thank you! – *Joan Carson*
- **Church World Service:** Bethlehem Area Walkers began raising money to fight hunger in 1985 and there are a few who've participated for over 30 years! This year, Central Moravian CROP Walk donations **totaled \$3,952.45** collected from collection plates and our 10 Walkers. The Busy Workers graciously donated \$500, that's included in the above number. **10 Central Moravian Walkers** (with Hopeton and Lynnette leading the Pack) joined 20+ Walkers from other Churches, at Louise Moore

Park as the rains gently cooled us. Despite the soggy weather, all Walkers were definitely inspired to walk the 1, 3, and 6 mile paths, so our Brothers and Sisters have ENOUGH! In a few months Matt Pizel, our Bethlehem Area Coordinator, will distribute 25% to 8 or 9 local agencies such as New Bethany Ministries, The Food Bank, Salvation Army, Esperanza, and other worthy causes. – *Helen Forasté*

- **Cynthia’s Boutique:** With the pandemic continuing, Cynthia’s Boutique saw more changes. We were able to allow customers in once again. Masks were required and social distancing was maintained as much as possible. Thanks to Martha Jones, we received a grant from Moravian Ministries Foundation to provide personal hygiene items for our customers. These were well received. We would love to continue this branch of our outreach and are in the process of deciding how to proceed. As with all new endeavors, it takes awhile to know what is needed and how best to distribute these items with fairness to all. We met some members of the resettlement family and look forward to serving them and others who need clothing, accessories, jewelry, linens, small household goods and other items.  
– *Charlotte McGorry*

- **Fair Trade Coffee Project:** This ministry provides monthly sales of coffee and other products which benefit small farmers working sustainable farms, which promotes this idea of commerce. Beth Davis has done an amazing job on this project. Sales are in the church vestibule on the second Sunday of every month. She has been offering recycling of all Equal Exchange product packaging through TerraCycle. However, due to the pandemic, this ministry only functioned the final months of 2021.

- **Hope Conference and Renewal Center:** \$1,000 donated.

- **Luminaria Night:** The Social Action Committee helped ‘Light up Bethlehem’ again this year. We ordered 80 luminaria and a large group of friendly volunteers assisted with putting together the luminaria, wheeling them out to Main and Church Streets in the Food Pantry wagons, and lighting the luminaria at dusk. What a lovely sight, even during a pandemic...maybe especially during a pandemic! All proceeds from luminaria purchases go to New Bethany Ministries, one of our community partners. There were 251 neighborhoods that participated in

Luminaria Night this year, and New Bethany is already planning for next year’s event. We welcome helpers of all ages for this fun outdoor event. Make plans to join us in December 2022. – *Connie Pierce*

- **Meals on Wheels:** Carol Holbert handmade and donated an enormous bag of dishcloths for MOW clients. It was greatly appreciated.
- **Moravian Open Door:** \$1,250 donated.
- **Victory House:** \$100 was donated for warm hats and gloves in December which Elke Rockwell purchased and delivered.

The Social Action Committee has continued to be very active in planning and providing two Zoom based **educational programs** on racial justice and mental health during this past year.

**Central Chautauqua - Mental Health Awareness:** Building on the Resiliency Series in 2020, our Mental Health Awareness planning team, in conjunction with the Christian Education Committee and the Congregational Care Committee, planned and coordinated three offerings this past summer/fall. The first was presented at the Sunday 8/29 church service led by Parish Pastor Maggie Wellert on World Mental Health Awareness Day. The music and messages focused on breaking the silence in churches about mental illness. On 9/12, the National Alliance on Mental Illness presented their Bridges of Hope program addressing information about mental illness, mental health, and stigma reduction. The final program on 10/10, was a sermon by Dr. Heather Vacek, Dean of Moravian Theological Seminary, on the topic of mental health and the role of the church in awareness, education, and compassion.

The Mental Health Awareness Team also developed their Mission Statement:

*To provide programs and services in areas of mental health awareness, mental health education, and mental health stigma reduction through classes, videos, small group discussion and advocacy.*

We continue to plan for further programs based on the theme of Integrating Mind, Body, and Spirit: Pathways to Emotional Health and Wellness. Please contact Dick Williams at [dwmwslw@yahoo.com](mailto:dwmwslw@yahoo.com) for questions.

**Travelers Together - Racial Justice:** In January of 2021, along with the Christian Education Committee, we coordinated 4 programs looking at racial justice issues within the Moravian Church, the community of Bethlehem and ourselves and what next steps should be considered. In December, we participated with the Northern Province of the Moravian Church in presenting a 4 part Zoom series on racial awareness, micro-aggressions, building one-on-one relationships and congregational planning for future racial justice programs. The Central Moravian racial justice team looks forward to further conversations with the congregation in 2022.

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

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

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## **Joint Board**

The Joint Board of Central Moravian Church 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 the action of both Boards. Fourteen members serve on the Board of Trustees. Twelve members serve on the Board of Elders. The pastors serve on both boards ex officio. The senior pastor serves as President of the Board of Elders.

Meetings may be called by either Board. The Joint Board meets each February for orientation, board education, and to welcome new members. In 2021, the Orientation Meeting was held on Zoom on February 7. Ken Kodama and Jan Cole co-chaired the Orientation Committee and organized the meeting. David Bennett, then President of the Moravian Eastern District, was our guest speaker. We also thank Senior Pastor Hopeton Clennon, Cindy Gibson, George Mowers, and Kelly Knapp for preparing materials for the meeting. In December 2021, the Joint Board convened to receive the news of Pastor Lynnette's acceptance of an appointment at St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church in Whitehall PA. The Joint Board offered congratulations to Pastor Lynnette on her appointment,

as well as expressing our gratitude for her years of service at Central Moravian Church.

At times, issues that are brought before both Boards are handled at the regular separate meetings of Elders and Trustees. An example of such an issue is the approval of the proposed budget for 2022. It is customary to have a Trustee attend each Elders' Meeting and an Elder to attend each Trustees' Meeting. When special items are presented for review by both boards, additional Board Members may attend as appropriate.

The extraordinary circumstances presented by the Covid-19 pandemic continued to cause disruptions in business as usual. The Executive Committee of the Joint Board met frequently in 2021 to review information on waves of illness and to propose a course of action to the Joint Board by determining a balanced approach to keeping the church open and keeping the congregation safe. Challenges led to opportunities for new ways of meeting and decision making. Meetings have remained virtual with the unforeseen benefit of excellent attendance of Board Members. Special thanks to the Executive Committee Members, Ann Raines, Rob Phillips, Joan Carson, Diane Shaw, Kathy Williams, and Pastor Hopeton Clennon for the many early morning meetings held this year in response to new and continuing challenges and to Becky Lepore and Tim Brady for their helpful counsel.

The Joint Board thanks our Pastors, Hopeton, Lynnette, and Maggie, our Minister of Music, Becky, and Chapel Organist, Richard, our dedicated office staff, Cindy, Martha, George and Kelly, our facilities manager, Jeff Griffis, custodian, Spencer, our sacristans led by Tim Brady, Nate Bissey, Beth Boyer, and Ann Raines, and the many other dedicated volunteers who are responsible for our worship services, our buildings and grounds, and our programs and activities. Central Moravian Church is indeed fortunate to have a church community committed to living the mission and vision of the church with resilience and determination in 2021.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Mary Catherine Tachovsky  
President, Joint Board

## **Board of Trustees**

The Board of Trustees consists of 14 members of the church, elected by Church Council. The Trustees meet monthly, generally on the third Wednesday of the month; eight members constitutes a quorum. A president, vice president, treasurer, and secretary are chosen from among their number annually. The Trustees are especially charged with managing the temporal affairs of the church. Their duties include ensuring the prompt payment of all salaries, invoices, and Provincial and District obligations. Each trustee may serve a term of three years with eligibility for election to a second three-year term. In February 2022, Robert Phillips, and Sharon Upton will rotate off the Board of Trustees. Sharon has graciously served the church as the Chair of the Stewardship Committee. Her meticulous attention to the pledge process and her creative ideas regarding the encouragement of congregational stewardship are exemplary. Her numerous skills and experience will be greatly missed. Rob has served as Vice President and Treasurer during his term on Trustees. His knowledge, leadership, and ability to serve the church in any role that is needed have been extraordinarily helpful to the Board of Trustees and to Central Moravian Church.

The Pastors are important attendees at Trustees' Meetings as non-voting participants. The monthly agenda includes a report from the Senior Pastor, and the attending Elder. A key focus of the agenda is the report of the Financial Secretary, George Mowers and the Treasurer. The Financial Secretary is not an elected board member, has non-voting status, and attends meetings as invited. The Financial Secretary and the Treasurer receive, record, and deposit the receipts and disburse monies with the authorization of the Board of Trustees. The Trustees also have oversight of all the funds of the Church, exercising the greatest of care to use the income prudently and properly. The Trustees must also keep all church owned and leased property in good repair and attractive condition. The Budget and Finance Committee, Investment Committee, and the Audit Committee are especially thanked for the work of these committees in supporting the responsibilities of the Board. Don Brown, Rob Phillips, and Beth Schlener have our sincere gratitude for their leadership on these committees.

I also thank those who served as officers this year, Ann Raines, Vice President, Rob Phillips, Treasurer, and Joan Carson, Secretary. Their service as members of the Executive Committee is especially appreciated this year

as we navigated the continuing presence of the Covid threat and attended to concerns that arose between the meetings of the full board. The officers of Elders, Diane Shaw, Kathy Williams, and Senior Pastor Hopeton Clennon are also members of the Executive Committee. Each year presents a unique canvas of opportunities and difficulties to address. In 2021, the Trustees joined the Elders in launching a strategic planning process which sought information from the congregation through a survey and invited chairs of committees to participate in the process. The Strategic Planning Process continues into 2022.

This year, the trustees reviewed two important policies, The Unbudgeted Expense Policy, and the Investment Policy. These important policies direct how unexpected expenses might be funded and how disbursements of income from invested funds are guided. Each year the Operating Budget Process projects income and estimates expenses. The Trustees are grateful to the Fundraising Committee led by Committee Chair, Camie Modjadidi. Donor gifts and memorials are rarely designated to fund yearly operations. This committee works to support the operating budget and help fill in gaps in new income. Fundraising Projects are selected with the intention that the Congregation receives some fellowship or material benefit in return for additional donations.

The work of the Board of Trustees is dependent on the excellent work of the church staff, Cindy Gibson, Martha Jones, George Mowers, and Kelly Knapp. The trustees are fortunate to have such dedicated staff members, and we thank them most sincerely for seamless office support. The Trustees are also grateful to our Facilities Manager, Jeff Griffis, and custodian, Spencer Schlack for their work in maintaining our buildings in cooperation with the Buildings and Grounds Committee.

The congregation of Central Moravian Church has responded to the challenges presented by a pandemic with outstanding cooperation, stewardship, and generosity. It is the ultimate measure of a church to witness how it withstands change, obstacles, and new ideas. The members of Central Moravian Church demonstrated their continuous commitment to the mission of the church with unwavering support. You cannot be thanked enough for your financial giving and resilient spirit.

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

## **63 W. Church St. Property Committee**

Under the guidance of Trustees, and in cooperation with the Buildings and Grounds Committee, the Property Committee provides oversight of the 63 West Church Street Central Church owned property, currently rented as a residence, and in the past used as the Central Moravian Church parsonage. When the Parsonage was not needed for current pastors in 2011, the decision was made by Trustees to rent the property. A long-term lease was drawn up and continues today. The Property Committee manages matters related to the lease, rent, and future planning. The Facilities Manager, who is a member of both committees, refers all maintenance needs to the Building and Grounds Committee. The Property Committee meets annually or on an as-needed basis. In 2021, the Trustees approved a restricted appraisal of the property. The current lease expires in June 2022. It is the intention of the board of Trustees and the committee to continue to lease the property.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Mary Catherine Tachovsky, Chair

Committee Members: Hopeton Clennon, Jeff Griffis,  
Rob Phillips, Kathy Williams

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## **Ad Hoc Virtual Streaming Committee**

Since its inception in 2020, the live streaming of Central Church's virtual worship services has grown in complexity as well as outreach. The streaming services reach our own congregation and viewers in other states and other countries. Worship services are available on Facebook and YouTube as well as Memorial services, an Advent and Christmas Organ Concert and various music events in the Old Chapel and the Sanctuary.

Naturally, behind the scenes has been very busy. The initial installation was completed in April 2021 with fine tuning of the sound by Haverford Systems and CSi (who manages our sound board in the Sanctuary.) An additional computer and software were added which allows specific scriptures verses, liturgies and hymns to be added to the stream more easily rather than relying on PowerPoint. We are also expanding our technical team so that we have back up and relief for Will Schwab who tirelessly sits at the control desk every Sunday.

Led by the Minister of Music and the Music Committee, a new initiative was approved by the Board of Trustees to enhance the sound quality of choral music presented in the live stream. Some other technical improvements include a better balance of the overall sound between the virtual stream and the Sanctuary.

My thanks for the Ad Hoc Committee members who help guide this process so Central Moravian Church can continue its Mission of outreach to a wider audience. A huge "Thank You" to Will Schwab for his expertise, suggestions, technical direction and dedication in making this a success.

Respectfully Submitted,  
David Charrier, Chair

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## **Audit Committee**

Central Moravian Church retained Campbell, Rappold, and Yurasits (CYR) to audit our financial records and practices for the 2020 fiscal year. CYR has been working with Central Moravian for a number of years and their knowledge of our organization continues to be very beneficial.

A clean report was issued for 2020 – as in prior years there are no concerns about our accounting and internal controls. A copy of the report is available from the church office for review. George Mowers or I would be happy to address any questions.

The committee expresses thanks to George Mowers. Working with him is a pleasure.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Beth Schlener, Chair

Committee Members: Hopeton Clennon, Rob Phillips,  
Steve Schlack, Kathy Williams, George Mowers

## Buildings and Grounds Committee

The Buildings and Grounds Committee oversees maintenance and capital projects that involve the Moravian buildings assigned to the care of the church. Implementation of these various projects and of regular, on-going tasks (e.g., cleaning, inspections, etc.) falls to the Facilities Administrator, Jeff Griffis, Committee members, and church staff.

Projects undertaken in 2021 to improve our facilities or operations were: Sanctuary (1) narthex LED lighting was installed to illuminate wall-hung artifacts (History Committee project); (2) lighting of the apse and pulpit was upgraded with LED fixtures; (3) the sound system was enhanced for integration with the video streaming operation; (4) indoor air quality was monitored in planning for replacement of existing gas-fired furnaces and installation of demand-control ventilation (to draw in outside air) - in progress; (5) plans were approved for a basement storage facility (Pat Smith Collections Room; History Committee project) - in progress; Christian Education Building (1) planned for installation of wall-supported porticos over lower level exterior doors - in progress).

The more mundane portion of the Committee's responsibilities include specific maintenance and repair issues. In 2021 these were: Sanctuary (1) replacement of all toilets with water-saving models; (2) repair of Belfry clock/bell strike mechanism; Christian Education Building (1) replaced kitchen ice-maker; (2) roof and drainpipe repaired; (3) Zinzendorf Parlor maintenance - in progress; Church Office (1) carpet replacement - in progress; (2) fire alarm dialer replaced; (3) front steps repaired; 63 W. Church Street (1) asbestos abatement and painting - in progress; Old Chapel (1) front steps repaired.

Committee members in 2021: Tim Brady, Bobb Carson, David Charrier, Hank Naisby, Barry Pell (joined 3/2021), Steve Schlack, Mary Shields, Mary Catherine Tachovsky, Tom Tenges, Terry Worrich (rotated off 8/2021); *Ex Officio*: Jeff Griffis and Hopeton Clennon

Respectfully Submitted,  
Bobb Carson, Chair

## Emergency Preparedness Committee

In May 2020, Mary Catherine Tachovsky, President of the Trustees and Joint Board, established the Emergency Preparedness Committee as a new standing committee. Covid 19 prompted this action. The charge of the committee was to create a manual that outlines protocols to address a variety of potential emergencies. This committee will function in perpetuity as situations, best practices, and accountabilities change. Ken Kodama, Elder and Camie Modjadidi, Trustee were named co-chairs. Hopeton Clennon, Ann Raines, Kathy Williams, and Terry Worrich are committee members.

Since appropriate protocols were established and implemented and no new situation occurred, the committee did not meet in 2021. The committee stands ready to reconvene when the need arises.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Ken Kodama and Camie Modjadidi, Co-Chairs

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

### Final Campaign Results

With the conclusion of the fifth and final year for fulfilling pledges made to Foundations—The Campaign for Central Moravian Church's 275<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, we would like to express our deepest gratitude and appreciation to everyone for your participation and generous financial support. The results have been truly impressive. Our campaign goal was \$825,000 which, through your generosity, was exceeded by a significant margin with two hundred nine pledges fulfilled, totaling \$853,858.50. This amount does not include a \$5,000 grant from the Larger Life Foundation or a \$10,000 grant from the Stabler Foundation, both of which are to support the creation of display and climate-controlled storage areas for Central's historically significant artifacts.

This is a truly outstanding achievement which has allowed Central to address immediate high-priority needs while meeting our goal of ensuring a solid foundation for future generations. We are especially grateful for the unwavering support of so many

members and friends of our congregation. Your generosity and commitment to securing Central's future has been truly awesome! Thank you.

### **A Retrospective Summary of the Foundations Campaign**

**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 CQ 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 was FOUNDATIONS, organized around three topics: *Honoring Our Founders*, *Inspired by Faith*, and *Building for the Future*. *Honoring Our Founders* had a campaign goal of \$275,000 for Capital Enhancements to our existing facilities, while *Inspired by Faith's* goal was \$275,000 for continued excellence in Mission and Music. Finally, *Building for the Future* sought to add an additional \$275,000 to our Preservation Fund for Ensuring Our Future. Donors were given five years to pay their pledges, and could direct how their gift was 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, 2016, beginning 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! As *Foundations* entered the New Year, the campaign was extended to Central's dedicated friends and major business partners, and applications were made for a limited number of promising foundation grants.

By the beginning of April, 2017, pledges totaled \$725,000, and on June 23, two days before the 275<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the organization of the Moravian congregation in Bethlehem, Tidings of Great Joy! *Foundations* reached its goal with total pledges exceeding \$825,000. It is noteworthy that the campaign received 18 pledges from local business partners and friends of Central.

**Celebrating Success.** During the 11 o'clock worship service on October 15, 2017, the congregation formally celebrated the successful achievement of *Foundations'* campaign goal for pledged gifts. Produced and directed by our own Jim Whildin, with digital hardware and special effects donated by Alex Newell and First Generation Visual Communication, Inc., the many Central members and groups who were instrumental in ensuring the campaign's success were given starring roles.

### **Status of Foundations Campaign Projects**

With more than 63% of the total pledged amount in hand before the end of 2017, a number of pressing campaign projects were undertaken, including replacement of the HVAC system at the church office with a new high-efficiency unit; installation of new energy-efficient cove lighting in the Sanctuary; the purchase of a Steinway piano for the Sanctuary choir loft; installation of a new amplification system in the Christian Education building basement; and the creation of a new landscape design for the Sanctuary by a professional landscape architect.

In the intervening months, additional campaign goals were met and associated projects completed, including allocation of campaign capital to establish an endowment fund for International Moravian Scholarships; and to establish a "Green Revolving Fund" for high-priority energy conservation upgrades.

Central's Preservation Fund also received a much-needed infusion of capital to help offset expenses associated with sustaining our historic Church Street buildings. It was determined that the copper gutters on the north side of the Sanctuary did not need to be replaced resulting in significant savings. Finally, a new amplification system was installed in the Old Chapel, and re-landscaping around our church buildings was completed.

A special note about Central's International Moravian Scholarship fund:

With a generous leadership contribution from members, Joanne and Hank Barnette, Central has been able to establish the Barnette Scholars at Moravian University. Bryon Grigsby, President of the University, offered Central an amazing gift: The University will cover the cost of tuition and room and board for a new international Barnette Scholar each year and for continuing Scholars. The Barnette Scholars would be sponsored by the Church, with ongoing program leadership, guidance, and support provided by members of Central's congregation. Costs not covered by the University, such as travel to and from the Scholars' home country, medical insurance, clothing, books, incidental expenses, etc. would be covered by Central's Barnette scholarship fund.

*Foundations* projects still pending include the creation of an artifact display area and installation of a climate-controlled storage area in the church basement. Finally, allocation of funds to campaign goals not mentioned in this summary remains under study.

In closing, it is with sincere gratitude that we also thank our Trustees, Elders and staff for their active support throughout the campaign, and especially Pastor Hopeton, Lee Williamson and members of the Campaign Steering Committee for their prayerful participation in planning the campaign. We are especially indebted to Martha Jones for her diligence in applying for grants, fielding questions, tracking pledges and recording donations.

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

## Fundraising Committee

While Covid 19 and its variants continued to impact all aspects of our lives in 2021, our Church family forged ahead with hope, faith, love and judicious actions. The Fundraising Committee adjusted, as needed, and faithfully carried on with its commitment to support Central Moravian's mission. Our projects included the September 2021-January 2023 Calendar, "Together in Mission", Bulletin Sponsorships, art lessons by Gene Allen, a Christmas cookie sale, Christmas note cards, Fred Bees note cards, and the book, *Let Us Go Over To Bethlehem*. In addition, the flag sets, aprons, shirts, tote bags, and Moravian Seal posters were still available. Our items were on sale at the Star and Candle Shoppe and the Shoppe On the Greene. The committee decided as an outreach venture, to mail the calendars to our out of area church members. This was well received and greatly appreciated by our congregants.

Thankfully, with the generous support of our congregation and friends, we were able to meet our 2021 goal of \$5,000. These funds will directly support Central's mission and outreach programs.

The committee continues to brainstorm new projects, as well as discuss how we can maintain our well-established ones. Please look for announcements that will share these projects. The committee wishes to extend a heartfelt thank you to members of our congregation for their unwavering support. We are hopeful that 2022 will be a bright new year for all.

I would like to take this opportunity to express my gratitude to the members of the committee who have graciously given of their time, talents, and resources. It was a privilege to be on this committee with these remarkable individuals. We, as a committee, also wish to thank Cindy Gibson, Martha Jones, Kelly Knapp, and George Mowers for their invaluable support.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Camie Modjadidi, Chair

Committee Members: Hopeton Clennon, Lyn Chynoweth, Pam Larimer, Hank Naisby, Rob Phillips, Ann Raines, Carol Reifinger, Priscilla Schueck, Mary Catherine Tachovsky, Mike Wall, Anne Zug

## Investment Committee

The Investment Committee meets on a quarterly schedule in January, April, July, and October to evaluate the performance of the Church's portfolio and make purchases, sales, or any needed adjustments. Members of the committee include Anne Zug, Mary Shields, Hal Smith, David Weikert, Anthony Thompson, Mary Catherine Tachovsky, and Don Brown.

The committee is assisted by Wayne Achey, a Senior Vice President and Financial Advisor at Merrill Lynch, and a Central member. This year, we returned to in person meetings in July. Wayne prepares suggestions, in advance of meetings, to make any modifications to the various funds. He keeps track of the portfolio balance, which we keep at approximately 70% equities and 30% fixed income securities.

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.

The following table indicates the opening and closing balances of our managed funds, as well as amounts that were withdrawn from the accounts to help cover church expenses in 2021. The market has been rather resilient, since it recovered after the beginning of the pandemic, and has been on a generally upward trend for the year. The Steps Fund is with the Moravian Ministries Foundation, and is managed by Abbot Downing Co. The Growth Funds consist of Mutual Funds and Exchange Traded Funds that are designed for long term growth.

<b>Central Funds</b>	<b>Opening Balance on January 1, 2021</b>	<b>Closing Balance on December 31, 2021</b>	<b>Funds withdrawn to support projects and the Church Budget</b>
<b>Endowment Fund</b>	3,985,963	4,152,425	238,595
<b>Endowment Growth</b>	640,887	956,810	0
<b>Preservation Fund</b>	1,008,856	1,018,261	0
<b>Preservation Growth Fund</b>	432,416	527,117	0
<b>Preservation Income</b>	66,483	59,302	81,724
<b>Central Steps</b>	365,506	415,776	0
<b>Holding Account</b>	58,207	64,036	3,500
<b>E. Johnston Prime Fund</b>	805,673	913,337	22,524
<b>Central Mission</b>	117,740	115,807	0
<b>Van Ness Fund</b>	566,037	578,993	28,000
<b>Van Ness Growth</b>	942,797	1,184,620	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 risks. These guidelines were updated in 2017. Many thanks to the committee members who help keep our portfolio strategy on course.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Don Brown, Chair

## Landscape/Gardening Committee

The Landscaping/Gardening Committee is responsible for maintaining and enhancing the landscaping on the church campus created by a capital project funded by Foundations—The Campaign for Central Moravian Church's 275<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

Projects completed during 2021 include replacement of the stone edging bordering the Chapel Green with bluestone cobbles generously donated by Butch Coleman; a second rejuvenation pruning of the overgrown viburnum along the west wall of the Chapel; creation of a detailed list of landscape maintenance tasks; recruitment of Lead Volunteers for each maintenance area; and arranging for the services of a professional landscaping company to augment volunteers in maintaining the planting along the south wall of the Sanctuary during the year.

Landscape maintenance along the south wall of the Sanctuary scheduled to be completed by our landscape contractor before the end of winter includes pruning of the Hinoki cypress hedge and trees, the Seven Son Flower tree, and the hemlocks at each end of the planting.

Plans for the cultivated area north of the viburnum along the west wall of the Chapel in 2022 include augmenting the tulip border with two dwarf mountain laurels ('Elf') and a modest-sized red-flowered rhododendron ('Nova Zembla'); a third rejuvenation pruning of the viburnum is also planned.

The help and assistance of our committee members and volunteers in maintaining our campus landscaping this past year is gratefully acknowledged.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Bill Sachs, Chair

Committee Members and Volunteers: Beth Boyer, Joan Carson, David Charrier, Hopeton Clennon, Butch Coleman, Jo Ann Haines, Pam Larimer, Jeffrey Long, Craig Mosebach, Barry Pell, Bill Sachs, Tom Tenges, Vickie Ziegler Thompson, Sharon Upton, Rose Warner, and Anne Zug

## Personnel Committee

The Personnel Committee held monthly meetings virtually throughout 2021. Personnel continued to update job descriptions to accurately document responsibilities for all employees. Spencer Schlack and Jeff Griffis have developed a plan to continue caring for our campus with a small amount of outside support. Reduced facility usage allows us to maintain cleaning and maintenance standards. Sanitizing protocols following sanctuary usage by Central and our partners were formalized and deployed.

Our staff continues to find ways to make necessary work possible and safe. Whether working from home or exercising best practice protocols on ground, much was accomplished by our office staff. Becky Lepore and Richard Miller continued to provide us new online music options to keep us connected to church when we couldn't be present. Through the efforts of our wonderful pastoral staff and the efforts of gifted volunteers, the online worship becomes stronger each week and allows us to expand our ministry to many who couldn't be present at Central because of distance or difficulty traveling. Our past challenges have created new opportunities and occasionally, new roles.

As conditions around the pandemic change, we will continue to work with Pastors and Elders to determine how our staff roles best support the congregation and care for the campus. Looking forward to 2022 with great hope, we will continue to keep our job descriptions, employee handbook, and policies updated to reflect current situations and best practices.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Ann Raines, Chair

Committee Members: Hopeton Clennon, Robert Phillips, Diane Shaw, Mary Catherine Tachovsky, Kathy Williams

## **Stewardship Committee**

**2021 Results:** The 2021 church operating budget called for envelope giving\* of **\$510,000**. The total amount given by members and friends by December 31, 2021, was \$440,958. This represented 86.5% of the church operating budget.

**2022 Budget:** The proposed 2022 church operating budget calls for envelope giving \*of \$510,000. The stewardship letter, with a pledge card and return envelope, was mailed on November 1, 2021, to 525 church household members and friends. The 525 pledge cards mailed represents the number of confirmed church members and friends of the church. In addition, unless requested otherwise, only one pledge card is sent to a household. As of December 31, 2021, \$380,831 has been pledged by members and friends. This represents 74.7% of the proposed 2022 church operating budget.

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

Respectfully Submitted,  
Sharon Upton, Chair

## Contribution Analysis

GIVING RANGES	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
less than \$1	153	158	217	210	219	244	268	250	251	286	316
1 - 100	93	106	106	85	73	73	67	78	88	59	49
101 - 200	59	42	41	52	34	31	37	28	29	26	15
201 - 300	48	39	43	44	34	46	43	33	29	26	22
301 - 400	28	39	27	25	21	17	25	26	19	17	18
401 - 500	31	20	16	29	32	30	19	19	20	13	17
501 - 600	24	23	28	18	22	23	23	17	15	16	21
601 - 700	15	19	8	15	10	9	9	14	16	12	10
701 - 800	15	18	19	17	11	15	12	24	13	15	16
801 - 900	10	5	11	6	7	9	7	5	12	9	10
901-1000	14	11	12	12	9	11	7	14	19	16	11
1001 - 1100	15	12	9	11	12	5	10	10	5	9	6
1101 - 1200	15	7	17	11	14	10	20	14	17	15	14
1201 - 1300	16	13	7	9	11	13	7	4	6	5	5
1301 - 1400	3	9	7	8	5	10	5	8	6	5	4
1401 - 1500	8	9	5	10	7	9	13	8	7	5	7
1501 - 2000	29	31	31	32	31	30	27	23	21	19	21
2001 - 3000	38	35	40	37	34	38	35	38	33	35	35
3001 - 4000	18	19	16	9	12	9	13	13	12	8	9
4001 - 5000	11	9	12	11	10	14	4	8	7	7	7
5001 - 7500	7	5	10	9	9	9	13	15	9	12	11
7501 - 10000	1	2	1	2	1	2	1	2	2	3	3
>10000	4	6	4	4	4	3	3	3	3	3	1
Total Giving Units (1)	502	479	470	456	403	416	400	404	388	335	312
Average Contribution (2)	\$1,092	\$1,196	\$1,138	\$1,143	\$1,221	\$1,188	\$1,247	\$1,230	\$1,260	\$1,385	\$1,413
Total Contributions	\$548,389	\$572,748	\$534,720	\$521,311	\$492,078	\$494,292	\$498,913	\$496,949	\$488,909	\$463,991	\$440,958
(1) Number of giving units as those assigned by contribution envelope numbers											
(2) Total giving divided by giving units											
Units giving \$500 or less		246	233	235	194	197	191	184	185	141	121
% \$500 or less		51.36%	49.57%	51.54%	48.14%	47.36%	47.75%	45.54%	47.68%	42.09%	38.78%
Units giving over \$500		233	237	221	209	219	209	220	203	194	191
% over \$500		48.64%	50.43%	48.46%	51.86%	52.64%	52.25%	54.46%	52.32%	57.91%	61.22%

## Budget and Finance

Our Fiscal Year 2021 ended with a surplus. The Covid-year 2020 also ended with a surplus, but it took the help of the government PPP loan/grant in the amount of \$67,400 to make it happen. In the Covid-year 2021, the members and friends of Central made it happen on their own with generous financial gifts to the work and mission of our church, thus keeping our five-year record of surpluses intact!

Total Income was under budget by \$49,140 or 5.3%.

Throughout the year, **Envelope Giving** was consistently below budget requirements and ended the year \$69,042 or 13.5% under budget. This had serious implications for the Budget and Finance Committee in establishing the 2022 Budget.

**Other Contributions** (other gifts, special envelopes, and cash plate offering) were over budget by \$17,407 or 11.5%, due to members and friends of Central donating in other ways to help offset the shortfall in envelopes.

**Institutional Receipts** (Moravian University, Moravian Academy, Bach Choir, 63 W. Church Street rental, and wedding income) were slightly under budget by \$2,435 or 2.6%, due to Covid restrictions on outside usage of our facilities.

**Endowment Income** was over budget by \$4,929 or 2.8% due to positive market conditions and new gifts to the Endowment Fund in 2021.

Total Expenses were under budget by \$50,931 or 5.5%.

**Salary and Benefits** were under budget by \$8,706 or 1.7% due to a vacancy in a custodial staff position.

**Facilities-Operations** were over budget by \$3,431 or 4.3% due to increased utility costs.

**Facilities-Maintenance** was under budget by \$29,503 or 34.5% due to most projects being funded from the Preservation Fund for capital improvements to the Sanctuary and CE Building and expanded investments in our live-stream worship technology being funded by the Virtual Worship Initiative Fund.

**Total Programs** were under budget by \$21,132 or 16.4% due to reduced in-person programming.

**Church Office Administration** expenses came in over budget by \$3,978 or 11.6% due to increased on-line giving fees and technology costs.

Central paid 100% of the amount requested for the **Province & District Administration**.

**Total Income less Capital Projects Income** increased from last year by \$65,905 finishing at \$880,596.  
**Total Expenses less Capital Projects Expenses** decreased from last year by \$3,168 finishing at \$878,805.  
As a result, Fiscal Year 2021 ended with a surplus of \$1,792 which will carry over to FY 2022.

Although not part of the Operating Budget, Capital Projects expenses totaled \$132,021. Moravian Academy reimbursements totaled \$18,446.92 for their share of the CE Building capital projects.

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

**CENTRAL MORAVIAN CHURCH**  
**Financial Disclosure**  
For the year ended December 31, 2021

	2018 Actual (Rounded)	2019 Actual (Rounded)	2020 Actual (Rounded)	2021 Actual (Rounded)	21 vs 20 Change (Rounded)	2021 Budget (Rounded)	2021 Actual +/- % Budget	Budget \$
Beginning Balance	2,240	3,699	19,456	19,574				
<b><u>INCOME</u></b>								
Envelope Giving	496,949	488,909	463,991	440,958	-23,033	510,000	-13.5%	-69,042
Other Contributions	100,750	140,771	100,441	168,407	67,966	151,000	11.5%	17,407
Capital Projects Income	47,061	137,625	32,292	132,021		0		
Institutional Receipts	81,293	85,862	77,816	91,475	13,659	93,910	-2.6%	-2,435
Endowment Income	137,995	154,387	172,443	179,755	7,312	174,826	2.8%	4,929
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$864,049</b>	<b>\$1,007,554</b>	<b>\$846,983</b>	<b>\$1,012,617</b>		<b>\$929,736</b>		
Less Capital Projects Income	-47,061	-137,625	-32,292	-132,021		0		
<b>NET TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$816,988</b>	<b>\$869,929</b>	<b>\$814,691</b>	<b>\$880,596</b>	<b>65,905</b>	<b>\$929,736</b>	<b>-5.3%</b>	<b>-49,140</b>
<b><u>EXPENSES</u></b>								
Pastoral Staff Sal. & Ben	201,026	207,610	212,967	229,458	16,491	218,052	5.2%	11,406
Music Staff Sal. & Ben.	80,909	80,381	85,660	86,920	1,260	87,335	-0.5%	-415
Support Staff Sal. & Ben.	156,040	173,040	195,047	179,930	-15,117	199,628	-9.9%	-19,698
<b>Total Salary &amp; Benefits</b>	<b>\$437,975</b>	<b>\$461,031</b>	<b>\$493,674</b>	<b>\$496,309</b>	<b>2,635</b>	<b>\$505,015</b>	<b>-1.7%</b>	<b>-8,706</b>
<b>Total Facilities - Operations</b>	<b>\$76,281</b>	<b>\$75,753</b>	<b>\$77,597</b>	<b>\$83,106</b>	<b>5,509</b>	<b>\$79,675</b>	<b>4.3%</b>	<b>3,431</b>
<b>Total Facilities - Maintenance</b>	<b>\$75,768</b>	<b>\$80,312</b>	<b>\$73,964</b>	<b>\$56,069</b>	<b>-17,895</b>	<b>\$85,572</b>	<b>-34.5%</b>	<b>-29,503</b>
<b>Capital Projects Expense</b>	<b>\$47,061</b>	<b>\$137,625</b>	<b>\$32,292</b>	<b>\$132,021</b>	<b>99,729</b>	<b>\$0</b>		
Ministry & Worship Program	30,891	36,718	49,142	54,701	5,559	61,237	-10.7%	-6,536
Music Program	35,048	36,910	18,039	31,117	13,078	35,029	-11.2%	-3,912
Christian Education Program	8,874	9,868	9,338	4,750	-4,588	15,885	-70.1%	-11,135
Mission & Outreach Program	19,740	16,607	17,521	16,950	-571	16,500	2.7%	450
<b>Total Programs</b>	<b>\$94,554</b>	<b>\$100,102</b>	<b>\$94,040</b>	<b>\$107,519</b>	<b>13,479</b>	<b>\$128,651</b>	<b>-16.4%</b>	<b>-21,132</b>
<b>Total Church Office Administration</b>	<b>\$30,265</b>	<b>\$35,020</b>	<b>\$38,603</b>	<b>\$38,378</b>	<b>-225</b>	<b>\$34,400</b>	<b>11.6%</b>	<b>3,978</b>
<b>Total Province &amp; District</b>	<b>\$100,686</b>	<b>\$101,954</b>	<b>\$104,094</b>	<b>\$97,423</b>	<b>-6,671</b>	<b>\$96,423</b>	<b>1.0%</b>	<b>1,000</b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$862,590</b>	<b>\$991,797</b>	<b>\$914,265</b>	<b>\$1,010,826</b>		<b>\$929,736</b>		
Less Capital Projects Expense	-47,061	-137,625	-32,292	-132,021		0		
<b>NET TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$815,528</b>	<b>\$854,172</b>	<b>\$881,973</b>	<b>\$878,805</b>	<b>-3,168</b>	<b>\$929,736</b>	<b>-5.5%</b>	<b>-50,931</b>
Current year surplus(deficit)	1,459	15,757	-67,282	1,792		0		
Adjustment from reserves (1)	0	0	67,400	0		0		
Adjustment from Prior Year	0	0	0	0		0		
<b>Net surplus(deficit) (2)(3)(4)(5)</b>	<b>\$1,459</b>	<b>\$15,757</b>	<b>\$118</b>	<b>\$1,792</b>		<b>\$0</b>		
Ending Balance	3,699	19,456	19,574	21,366		0		

(1) In FY2020, \$67,400 was applied to the budget from monies received in the PPP loan/grant program

(2) In FY2018, \$1,459 was transferred to the Prior Operating Surplus/Deficit Fund

(3) In FY2019, \$15,757 was transferred to the Prior Operating Surplus/Deficit Fund

(4) In FY2020, \$118 was transferred to the Prior Operating Surplus/Deficit Fund

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

## 2022 Budget Overview

Committee members: Robert Phillips (Chair), Don Brown, David Charrier, C. Hopeton Clennon, Jeff Mosebach, George Mowers, Ann Raines, Mary Catherine Tachovsky, Sharon Upton.

The annual budget cycle begins late in the second quarter when committees and staff are asked to submit funding requests for the next fiscal year. Our finance team compiles all the expense requests into a draft budget for the Budget and Finance Committee.

The first meeting of the committee is usually in October. What might be called the big meeting, all income and expense items are reviewed in preparing the budget. The past provides useful trend details which are considered, but each line item is reviewed for accuracy. My goal was to complete the task in two hours. We did it in two and a half.

In my experience, we've never ended the first review with a balanced budget. Expenses always exceed expected income. At first blush, this seems problematic. Truth be told, I like it. This ensures we are using all the resources afforded to us in supporting ministry to each other, our community, and our world.

Follow-up meetings are held to bring the budget into balance. This year only one follow-up was necessary. Endowment income and adjustments to in-year gift expectations allowed for a balanced budget while fully funding all staff, facilities, and program requests.

A note on endowment. We are blessed that so many have offered legacy gifts to Central. Our budget only utilizes earned income, allowing principal balances to provide growth for the future. Further, we are using less than the maximum available income as prudently established by the Board of Trustees and managed by the Investment Committee.

### Significant changes to the 2022 budget from 2021:

- Income line "Other Contributions" is expected to increase mirroring the trend of recent years.
- All salaries have appropriate increases to account for current inflationary trends. Some salaries have adjustments to reflect market trends or increased job requirements.
- Ministry program reflects an increase for the operation and maintenance of our well received online programming.

It is also notable that we continue to joyfully respond to Province and District Administration funding requests at the total requested.

For the committee –

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

# CENTRAL MORAVIAN CHURCH Proposed Budget

For the year ended December 31, 2022  
(approved by Elders 12/14/21 and Trustees 12/15/21).

	2018 Actual	2019 Actual	2020 Actual	2021 Proposed	2021 Actual	2022 Proposed	Actual 2021 vs Proposed 2022	
<b>INCOME</b>								
Envelope Giving	496,949	488,909	463,991	510,000	440,958	510,000	69,042	15.66%
Other Contributions	100,750	140,771	100,441	151,000	168,407	163,000	-5,407	-3.21%
Capital Projects Contributions	47,061	137,625	32,292	0	132,021	0	0	0.00%
Institutional Receipts	81,293	85,862	77,816	93,910	91,475	102,064	10,589	11.58%
Endowment Income	137,995	154,387	172,443	174,826	179,755	203,043	23,288	12.96%
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$864,048</b>	<b>\$1,007,554</b>	<b>\$846,983</b>	<b>\$929,736</b>	<b>\$1,012,617</b>	<b>\$978,107</b>		
Less Capital Projects Income	-47,061	-137,625	-32,292	0	-132,021	0		
<b>NET TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$816,987</b>	<b>\$869,929</b>	<b>\$814,691</b>	<b>\$929,736</b>	<b>\$880,596</b>	<b>\$978,107</b>	97,511	11.07%
<b>EXPENSES</b>								
Pastoral Staff Sal. & Ben	201,026	207,610	218,816	218,052	229,458	224,661	-4,797	-2.09%
Music Staff Sal. & Ben.	80,909	80,381	85,660	87,335	86,920	89,653	2,733	3.14%
Support Staff Sal. & Ben.	156,040	173,040	195,047	199,628	179,930	221,640	41,710	23.18%
<b>Total Salary &amp; Benefits</b>	<b>\$437,975</b>	<b>\$461,031</b>	<b>\$499,524</b>	<b>\$505,015</b>	<b>\$496,309</b>	<b>\$535,954</b>	39,645	7.99%
<b>Total Facilities Operations</b>	<b>\$76,281</b>	<b>\$75,753</b>	<b>\$77,597</b>	<b>\$79,675</b>	<b>\$83,106</b>	<b>\$88,273</b>	5,167	6.22%
<b>Total Facilities Maintenance &amp; Supplies (5)</b>	<b>\$75,768</b>	<b>\$80,312</b>	<b>\$73,964</b>	<b>\$85,572</b>	<b>\$56,069</b>	<b>\$85,892</b>	29,823	53.19%
<b>Capital Projects Expense</b>	<b>\$47,061</b>	<b>\$137,625</b>	<b>\$32,292</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$132,021</b>	<b>\$0</b>	-132,021	0.00%
Ministry & Worship (1)	30,891	36,718	49,142	61,237	54,701	71,063	16,362	29.91%
Music Program (2)	35,048	36,910	18,039	35,029	31,117	35,359	4,242	13.63%
Christian Ed. Program (3)	8,874	9,868	9,338	15,885	4,750	15,885	11,135	234.40%
Mission & Outreach Program (4)	19,740	16,607	17,521	16,500	16,950	16,600	-350	-2.07%
<b>Total Program &amp; Outreach</b>	<b>\$94,553</b>	<b>\$100,102</b>	<b>\$94,040</b>	<b>\$128,651</b>	<b>\$107,519</b>	<b>\$138,907</b>	31,388	29.19%
<b>Total Church Office Administration</b>	<b>\$30,265</b>	<b>\$35,020</b>	<b>\$38,603</b>	<b>\$34,400</b>	<b>\$38,378</b>	<b>\$40,000</b>	1,622	4.23%
<b>Total Province &amp; District Administration</b>	<b>\$100,686</b>	<b>\$101,954</b>	<b>\$98,245</b>	<b>\$96,423</b>	<b>\$97,423</b>	<b>\$89,081</b>	-8,342	-8.56%
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$862,589</b>	<b>\$991,797</b>	<b>\$914,265</b>	<b>\$929,736</b>	<b>\$1,010,825</b>	<b>\$978,107</b>	-32,718	-3.24%
Less Capital Projects Expense	-47,061	-137,625	-32,292	0	-132,021	0		
<b>NET TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$815,528</b>	<b>\$854,172</b>	<b>\$881,973</b>	<b>\$929,736</b>	<b>\$878,804</b>	<b>\$978,107</b>	99,303	11.30%
Current year Surplus(deficit)	1,459	15,757	-67,282	0	1,792	0		
Adjustment from reserves (6)	0	0	67,400	0	0	0		
<b>Net surplus(deficit)</b>	<b>\$1,459</b>	<b>\$15,757</b>	<b>\$118</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$1,792</b>	<b>\$0</b>		

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

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

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

(4) Mission, Communications, Social Action, Care For Creation, Social Agencies

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

(6) PPP loan/grant program in 2020



THE PROVINCIAL ELDERS' CONFERENCE  
(EXECUTIVE BOARD)

1021 Center Street, Bethlehem, PA 18018  
Telephones: 610-867-7566 - Moravian Church Center  
610-865-3137 - P.E.C. President  
610-866-9223 - Fax

THE MORAVIAN CHURCH • Northern Province

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

Grace and peace to you in the name of the God who calls us to follow with faith and hope! The Moravian Church Northern Province equips congregations and people to be agents of God's transforming love in the world. We believe that each of us individually and all of us collectively can be part of God's transformation of the world. We do it through worship, spiritual formation, leadership development, outreach, and advocacy. We share God's love every day in a hundred ways.

I invite – and boldly ask for – your full participation in our **Common Ministries Commitment** in 2022. With the guidance of the Finance Committee, the Provincial Elders' Conference has prayerfully developed the 2022 Provincial Budget and the ministries and programs it supports. We need all of us to fulfill our commitments to live into the dreams God has planted in our hearts. We ask each congregation to give – as it has been blessed – to support this common ministry.

Your support allows us to educate seminarians who will become our pastors. Your commitment allows the Board of World Mission to provide mission grants to our partner provinces as they seek to share God's love. Your faithfulness fosters new ways of allowing the Moravian Music Foundation to create online musical resources. Your funds support the Interprovincial Board of Communication that continues the long tradition of publishing the Daily Texts and offering so many new resources. Your offering supports the faithful provincial staff that supports you. It takes all of us, serving together to realize God's vision for the church. Thank you in advance for your full participation.

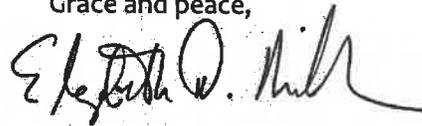
We fund our common ministries through every congregation giving a percentage of its Line 1 income. The 2022 provincial budget was built on your Line 1 income from 2020. The *percentage* of your Line 1 income remains the same as last year. The *amount* you are asked to offer changes based on the fluctuation of Line 1 income. If your congregation is able and feels led, please consider making a Faith Gift – above and beyond what we ask of you. Very often these gifts make up the difference when some congregations struggle to meet their full commitments.

The provincial elders have approved a budget for 2022 in the amount of **\$2.05 million**, which is based on anticipated common ministry receipts of **\$1.365 million**. You should be aware that we fund the difference between congregational support and actual expenses through increasing what we draw from designated funds that function as endowment.

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

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

Grace and peace,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Elizabeth D. Miller". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Elizabeth D. Miller  
President

October 26, 2021  
EDM:glr



## THE EXECUTIVE BOARD OF THE EASTERN DISTRICT

Incorporated December 4, 1945

1021 Center St., Bethlehem, PA 18018

Telephone: 610-865-0302

Fax: 610-866-9223

[www.moravian.org/eastern](http://www.moravian.org/eastern)

THE MORAVIAN CHURCH • Northern Province

September 2021

**To: Moravian Eastern District Congregations**  
**From: The Eastern District Executive Board**  
**Rev. Melissa L. Johnson, President**  
**Re: 2022 Funding of our Eastern District Common Ministry**

Dear Partners in Ministry,

I write to you on behalf of the Eastern District Executive Board, offering our gratitude for your local ministries and your commitment to our shared ministries. Together, we are able to fund vital district-wide ministries, congregational redevelopment, and district staff to lead us.

We acknowledge that 2021 has been another challenging year for church finances. This is evident within our individual congregations and our district. The pandemic has caused financial hardships of varying degrees within our communities and the lives of our church members. In some cases, our congregations have *not* experienced the financial impact we had feared due to COVID. The faithful stewardship of our members, along with assistance such as PPP loans, helped many to fare better than we had imagined. We encouraged congregations to make sure you tended to the salary and benefits of your pastor(s) and staff first, our provincial common ministries next, and our district common ministries after that. The result, as anticipated, is a shortfall in our district collections.

The 2021 Eastern District Synod adopted a budget that addressed this anticipated shortfall. We are in the process of visioning for the future of our district, specifically in terms of district staffing. In order to balance the budget, staffing funds have been decreased by 25%. We have also decreased our funding for Hope Conference and Renewal Center by 5%.

Recognizing the importance of our Common Ministries, we urge you to consider your payments as we conclude this year and move into 2022. If your congregation has not seen the level of COVID financial hardship you had expected, perhaps you might be able to contribute a bit more toward your share. Consistency in giving is also helpful, and we encourage you to make monthly contributions toward your fair share whenever possible.

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

Attached you will find a description of each of our common ministries. Please share this widely within your congregations, have discussions about the programs and agencies, and celebrate the ministry we can accomplish together! If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out. Your Eastern District Executive Board is grateful for your partnership and the ministry we share!

Your sister in Christ,

Melissa L. Johnson

President

Moravian Eastern District Executive Board

MLJ/jh

## **OUR EASTERN DISTRICT 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.

#### **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 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.

## **DISTRICT MINISTRY TEAMS**

### **Spiritual Formation Ministry Team:**

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

### **Stewardship of Life Ministry Team:**

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

### **Church in Society Ministry Team:**

Moravians have always understood the need for the Church to be the voice for the voiceless. The primary focus of the Church in Society Ministry Team is to assist congregations in identifying a mission ministry to "the least of these" (experiencing hunger, poverty, discrimination) in the community in which the

congregation is planted and assist them in developing programs to help meet the needs of their community, as well as pursue partnership with other congregations and agencies in seeking to meet these needs. The Church in Society Ministry Team will also serve as a resource to congregations throughout the District, working directly with congregations in their mission ministry efforts.

**MINISTRY LEADERSHIP TEAM:**

The purpose of the Ministry Leadership Team is to share activities, programs and needs of each Ministry Team; to provide feedback to each Ministry Team; to collaborate in meeting the needs and programs of the District; and to support and encourage one another and congregations in ministry. The Ministry Leadership Team consists of the Chairperson from each of the above Ministry Teams, as well as one EDEB representative, the Eastern District Director of Christian Education, and the Eastern District Director of Youth and Young Adult Ministries.

**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.

September 2021

Moravian Church Northern  
 Province  
 Finance Department  
 1021 Center Street  
 Bethlehem, PA 18018



*Equipping People and  
 Congregations to be Agents of  
 God's Transforming Love in the  
 World*

**2022 Funding of our Common Ministries**

Central Moravian Church (20-004)  
 73 W. Church St.  
 Bethlehem, PA 18018

**Make Provincial checks payable  
 to:**  
 Moravian Church Northern  
 Province

**Mail Provincial checks to:**  
 Treasurer  
 1021 Center Street  
 Bethlehem, PA 18018

Provincial Common Ministries Commitment	2022 Total Provincial Quota	Your Congregation's Provincial Total	Your Congregation's Share Per Month
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.	\$1,364,969.00	\$63,262.00	\$5,271.83

*Through your full support, together we touch and bless lives far beyond your church community; shared ministries have long been part of our Moravian history and faith tradition.*

Questions? Please contact the Finance Department: [finance@mcnp.org](mailto:finance@mcnp.org)

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Central Moravian Church (20-004)  
 73 W. Church St.  
 Bethlehem, PA 18018

**Make District checks payable to:**  
 Eastern District Executive Board

**Mail District checks to:**  
 Treasurer  
 1021 Center Street  
 Bethlehem, PA 18018

Eastern District Common Ministries Commitment	2022 Total District Quota	Your Congregation's District Total	Your Congregation's Share Per Month
District Assessments Includes Administration, Program, Hope Conference Center, Senior Living Communities, State Councils of Churches, Moravian Open Door, Inner City Youth, and Ministry Teams: Spiritual Formation, Stewardship of Life, and Church in Society.	\$252,923.00	\$25,819.00	\$2,151.58

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Questions? Please contact the Finance Department: [finance@mcnp.org](mailto:finance@mcnp.org)



# BOARD OF WORLD MISSION

of the Moravian Church • North America

## Mission, Purpose and Values

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

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

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

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

The BWM builds relationships through Mission Outreach and Mission Engagement to be faithful to the Great Commandment and the Great Commission.

## Global Partnerships

We have seven traditional partner provinces: Nicaragua, Honduras, Costa Rica, Guyana, Eastern-West Indies, and Western Tanzania. Additionally, the BWM accompanies two Mission Provinces (Cuba and Labrador), and supervises two Mission Areas (Sierra Leone and Peru) on behalf of the Southern and Northern Provinces in North America, respectfully.

## Priority and Flexibility

The balance of the work of the Board of World Mission in 2020-2021 has been balancing a focus on the items set out as priorities at the beginning of last year according to our strategic planning process, and responding with great flexibility to the unique situations each of our partners has faced in light of the COVID-19 pandemic.

This year has resulted in a large amount of support (nearly \$30,000) going to 50+ North American congregations and agencies who submitted requests for Moravian Disaster Response funding to help transition worship and ministries impacted by COVID-19. These grants, given in two separate rounds, have allowed many congregations to set up online worship opportunities and broaden the opportunities people will have to engage in worship on a weekly basis.

Disaster Response funding has been granted to nearly all of our global partners to help sustain Moravian businesses, help provide much needed medical equipment to health centers, provide emergency food and hygiene items to communities cut off by local travel restrictions, etc. In addition to funding, the BWM has worked to distribute the most up to date health and sanitation information around the virus to help church leadership disseminate information to help keep their members safe and healthy. The BWM also helped to advocate to the President and legislature in Honduras to enact a special travel permission plan allowing family to reunite in La Mosquitia. This plan was enacted following BWM communications, and many Moravians and others were granted permission to make special trips to return home during the time of quarantine.

Yearly subsidies to partner provinces were reduced in 2021, with a plan for phasing them out completely in the next 2 years. The funds saved from these reductions have been re-allocated in large part to a Mission Grant fund, which has distributions three times a year. Funding requests are prioritized based on stage of development (Mission Area as top priority) and alignment with Mission Outreach goals.

This year marks the special 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the establishment of the Ahuas Clinic. A special anniversary celebration was held at the Clinic on June 16<sup>th</sup> of this year. The Ahuas Clinic Committee of the BWM has been offering special publications (in the Ahuas Spotlight Newsletter) to tell the story of the history of the Clinic, and the BWM is well on the way to raising \$75,000 in honor of the clinics anniversary to help set it up for its next 75 years of work. Thousands of patients a year are treated at the clinic (surgeries, births, emergency medicine and preventative care) and the clinic is a base for community programs like the infant feeding program which helps support childhood nutrition efforts, changing health outcomes for these children for the rest of their lives.

In early 2020, the Mission Area of Sierra Leone took a large step forward in its development as it hosted its first ever National Conference. Representatives from five villages came together to share reports on their ministry and plan for the future. A steering committee was elected, and three individuals were tasked with writing the first draft of their Book of Order. The BWM will continue to accompany this process, and provide pastoral training, as well as courses in Moravian Theology and History.

#### **Mission Grant Funding**

In 2020 our mission grant program has continued to grow, and here are a few of the projects funded:

- A sustainable agricultural initiative in Honduras
- Scholarship for medical school education for a future Ahuas Clinic doctor
- Remodeling efforts of a congregation/parsonage in San Jose, Costa Rica
- Purchase medical equipment for the Bilwaskarma Clinic in Nicaragua
- Funding of a speech therapist to be on staff at Star Mountain Rehabilitation Center in Palestine
- Scholarships for advance training for school teacher and administrators in Sierra Leone

Respectfully submitted,  
Justin Rabbach  
Executive Director

## **Bethlehem Area Moravians, Inc.**

On behalf of the entire BAM Organization, I hope this annual report finds you and your family healthy and well.

As I write this report, we are closing in on the end of Year #2 of the Great Covid Pandemic. We want to take a moment and acknowledge that many of the readers of this report have been personally impacted by Covid-19 and our thoughts are with you and your families during this time.

Reflecting on the past year, it is amazing to me that it seemed to be the longest year of our professional lives, and yet, there never seemed to be enough time to adjust or even take a breath as we moved from one crisis to another.

Through it all, I am proud of the BAM Organization and its affiliates, Moravian Village of Bethlehem and the Moravian Development Corporation, for their actions in the care of the Bethlehem and Lehigh Valley Community.

### **Moravian Development Corporation**

The Moravian Development Corporation (MDC) contains 7 numbered Moravian Houses and 14 additional properties located throughout Northampton and Lehigh County. We provide housing for the elderly, the poor, and individuals with mental limitations.

These three demographics are some of the most at-risk groups to be affected by Covid-19. We made the decision early on in the pandemic that MDC would not go virtual, rather we would be open continuously and provide services to our residents. Many of these individuals do not have any sort of familial or social safety net to take care of them. That responsibility falls to us and is one that we take very seriously.

We have been continuously open throughout the pandemic and we believe that we are one of the only Section 8, low income housing provider that can say that. Even now, nearly two years later, there are still facilities that are virtual or are operating at some sort of hybrid operation model.

We question how this is even possible as we know the needs of our own population. It is important to have

present, active Management and Social Services because, for our residents here, if we are not there for them, nobody would be.

One of the most successful outreaches in the Moravian Houses were the food bag distributions. This was especially important during the early part of 2021 when we were still experiencing the secondary surge. This was before vaccines were readily available to residents of elderly high rises. Many of our residents did not have the ability to go out for their own groceries and if they did, many of them risked getting sick due to their weakened immune systems.

Through partnerships between the Central Moravian Church Food Bag Ministry, the BAM Freezer Ministry and Moravian Village, who cooked additional meals in their kitchen for distributions, we were able to have a fully stocked pantry throughout this time period and nobody who needed food went without.

I think one of MDC's biggest accomplishments this year was securing initial vaccines for our residents in a very timely manner. Our Moravian House Residents started the vaccination process in mid March. During this time, Covid-19 vaccines were in very short supply, and most were already allocated to skilled nursing and hospital settings.

MDC Management worked with our State Representative, Lisa Boscola, and our pharmacy partner, Hartzell's Pharmacy, to advocate with the State for an allocation of vaccines for our residents at the Moravian Houses.

Many times, the poor, the disadvantaged, and the alone, are individuals who do not have any advocates and they get left behind by society. That is not the case here at the Moravian Houses and our outreach properties. MDC's advocacy secured the necessary vaccines for our residents, and we were able to prevent the widespread outbreaks that happened in other congregate living high rises.

I would like to give my grateful thanks to the MDC Management team of Mike Garganta, Peg Deangelo and Ashley Lilly for their tireless efforts on behalf of our residents.

## **Moravian Village of Bethlehem**

Once again, Moravian Village was on the frontlines of the Covid-19 battle, a battle at times that seems like it will not end.

We started 2021 in a full lockdown mode for our residents. January and February were dark months and vaccines were starting to become available, but not quick enough. It really was a race between holding the line and not having a Covid outbreak and the time we could receive the necessary vaccines for our residents.

I am proud to say that Moravian Village and its entire staff was very effective in the management and preventing Covid outbreaks. As of the writing of this report in mid November, our Covid wing has remained closed since early February and our residents were able to be fully vaccinated by the end of that same month, which was again before many communities in our area.

Much has been made of the “big decisions” made during the pandemic in protection of our residents. The lockdowns, the restrictions, and the major operational initiatives made. This is well documented. For the purpose of this report though, I would like to highlight some of the “little things” that the staff just did out of compassion and concern for our residents, their coworkers, and their fellow man.

I will take you back to last holiday season. We were in the teeth of the secondary surge and were averaging over 12,000 new cases per day in December and vaccines were not available. Our residents, all of them elderly and many of them infirm in some ways, have just missed having Thanksgiving with their loved ones and will miss Christmas. In fact, there was no projection when this would end. There was a real sense of despair with many feeling that they would NEVER see, hug, or kiss their loved ones again.

Moravian Village staff, in conjunction with the BAM Ministries Committee and many volunteers from the six area Churches, established the BAM Pen Pal program. This program connected our residents with members of the Churches.

The outreach from the Churches to our Residents was amazing with our residents receiving phone calls, letters, words of encouragement. The feedback we received back from the volunteers from the Churches

was that it helped them also. In a time where everybody felt helpless and wanted to do something, the Pen Pal program allowed them to continue some sort of ministry and make a difference.

It is not hyperbole when I state that I firmly believe this program saved a life this past winter. Despair, especially in an elderly population, can be just as deadly as a pandemic. This program injected immediate hope into our resident population and made them feel much less alone.

Moravian Village continued its food ministry to the BAM Freezer Ministry. Every week, MVB makes “a little extra” and this extra is frozen and donated to the Freezer Ministry. This “little extra” will amount to north of 5,000 meals donated to the Freezer Ministry to support the hungry right here in Bethlehem.

In what may be the biggest accomplishment this year, was the fact that Moravian Village remained 100% open the entire year. We were not immune to the National Staffing Crisis and had our own challenges in departments such as dining, housekeeping, and maintenance. Many communities in the area elected to reduce services. They closed their dining venues and went delivery only, they deferred cleaning and maintenance. We did not take this path.

As a Management team, we committed to keep services open. Our residents enjoyed sit down dining all year. On any given night, you may have seen the Executive Director taking orders or hosting, the Director of Communications serving drinks or maybe even the CEO bussing tables after dinner. We did this not for a financial reason, rather we knew the importance of these services to our older residents and the effect on their mental morale. It was important for us to not go back so soon to lockdown mode for our residents.

Moravian Village had a very successful year. I would be remiss though if I did not acknowledge that they do not feel successful right now. It was a hard year. Gone are the early days of the pandemic where Health Care workers and those who support them were saluted as heroes. Some days it seems that the entire World has moved on and they are left battling Covid alone. But they show up every day, giving their all to serve our patients and residents. They should be very proud of their accomplishments and their ministerial successes during this challenging, challenging time.

I'd like to give my heartfelt thanks to the leadership team of Tracy Patton, Executive Director, Marvin Granda, Nursing Home Administrator, Richard Bach, Assistant Nursing Home Administrator and Susan Newhard, Director of Nursing.

### **Bethlehem Area Moravians**

Although BAM is the Parent Company, I think our ministerial outreach during this pandemic was more nuanced than its children's companies, the Moravian Development Corporation and the Moravian Village of Bethlehem. Both of those entities provide ministry on a macro scale, serving hundreds of individuals each year whereas BAM's outreach is done in a more quiet fashion.

This year, BAM continued to financially support the BAM Freezer Ministry. They provided \$15,000 to purchase food for cooking and the purchase of a new freezer for their ministry.

BAM subsidizes a clergy position to provide ministerial services to the Moravian Houses. This is a vital ministry in our eyes, as many of our residents there do not have the transportation means to go to their previous houses of worship. They feel a real sense of loss not being able to worship in a formal way. Because of Governmental regulations regarding separation of Church and State, the Moravian Development Corporation cannot fund this, but BAM does. BAM will expend over \$40,000 this year for that position.

We continue to be a leader in preserving our Moravian History here in Bethlehem. BAM continues to provide operational grants to the Moravian Archives (\$20,000) and maintain the historic properties in the heart of Bethlehem. Building Maintenance costs of these buildings alone will exceed \$100,000 this year.

The BAM Ministries Committee issued grants to support technology upgrades at the 6 Churches and Esperanza to help them with their online services and allow their parishioners to continue to worship in the safety of their homes. Total amount of these grants was \$16,500.

This Summer, BAM's administration offices once again acted as a food distribution site for the BASD's summer lunch program. Along with volunteers from the Moravian Churches and other houses of faith, we

distributed, on average, 50 meal bags per day 2 to 3 times a week.

I was very proud that BAM was able to use its influence to put on its own Covid Vaccine clinic for the benefit of the 6 Churches and Esperanza and their families and the surrounding Bethlehem Community. We were able to fully vaccinate over 150 individuals over two clinics.

The biggest accomplishment this year was not really an accomplishment for this year alone, rather an accomplishment for Moravian History in general. This year, Historic Bethlehem, along with Sites in Herrnhut, Germany, Grace Hill Ireland, with sponsorship with Christianfeld Denmark, signed an agreement for a joint application to receive World Heritage Status.

What does World Heritage designation mean? It is a designation for places on Earth that are of outstanding universal value to humanity, to be protected for future generations. The Pyramids of Egypt, the Louvre Museum and the Great Wall of China are a few sites holding this designation.

It is humbling to think our little community may hold this designation in the future as well. Central Moravian Church, the Sister's House, the Brethren's House, and the Bell House are included in the proposed petition.

This process was a 25 year commitment to get us to this point and we are cautiously optimistic that our petition will be put forth by the United States Government in 2023 with potential approval in 2024.

This would not have been possible without the careful stewardship of these properties by generations of Moravians before us. This potential World Heritage designation is not just an honor for BAM, but really an honor for the entire Moravian Community here in Bethlehem.

I would like to thank my BAM Staff here for all of their efforts in the past year. Brad Senick, the Chief Operating Officer, Jess Kessler, Special Projects Director, Jedd Foulk, Clerk of the Works, and Kevin Marsh, Nisky Hill Superintendent. This group is the heart and soul of BAM and many of the above successes would not have happened without their tireless efforts.

On behalf of everybody here at BAM, at Moravian Village, and the Moravian Development Corporation, we want to wish you a very Merry Christmas and Happy Holiday Season and all the best in the coming year.

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

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## **BAM Almoners Fund**

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

The Board meets four times a year. This year, due to COVID restrictions, we met in person on only two occasions, all requests for financial need were handled by email vote.

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

During 2021, the Almoners expended a total of \$11,000.00 (including the \$9,000.00 in Pastor stipends) and to assist one individual in financial need (\$2,000). That individual was not from the Central Moravian congregation.

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

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

Respectfully Submitted,  
David A. Williams, Board Representative

## **Birthday Greeters**

Watchword for the Birthday Ministry drawn on January 2, 2022: "It is I who by my great power and my outstretched arm have made the earth, with the people and animals that are on the earth, and I give it to whomsoever I please." Jeremiah 27:5

Our team of volunteers has joyfully engaged in sending birthday greetings to members of Central Moravian Church on behalf of the congregation. Each month, volunteers are provided with a list of names, addresses, and birth dates, along with sheets of postage stamps. Some volunteers purchase their own cards while others use cards with the Moravian birthday hymn provided by the church. It is a pleasure for us to serve our congregation through this ministry. Happy Birthday!

Respectfully Submitted,  
Shelia Clennon, Coordinator

Lifegiving Creator of both great and small; of all life and maker, the true life of all; we blossom, then wither like leaves on the tree, but you live forever who was and will be (Hymn 457 verse 3)

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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 every 8-days, up to 24 times per year. Every day 450 donations of blood products are needed to supply the needs of our area hospitals.

Our donors in 2021 made 41 donations to the Miller-Keystone Blood Center with a goal of 50. Great job! Our goal for 2022 is 50. Let's work hard to reach this goal!

Thanks to all our dedicated 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 2021:**

Boyer, Frank	1
Delph, Ginny	4
Dimmick, Gayle	2
Goodman, Jennifer	6
Hochella, David	2
Hochella, Grace	3
Knapp, Kelly	3
McIlwain, Rosi	1
Ostock, Elena	1
Phillips, Rob	1
Schlener, Beth	5
Sommers, Gordon	1
Tenges, Tom	1
Wascura, Sarah	8
Woodring, Sallie	<u>2</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>41</b>

Respectfully Submitted,  
Craig Mosebach, Coordinator

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### **Busy Workers' Society**

2021 was another unusual Busy Workers' year. We did not have our first meeting until June 2, 2021. The Executive Committee had a few Zoom meetings trying to decide when we could meet. We decided to meet June 2, outside of the C. E. building at 10:00 a.m. Some of us brought food and lawn chairs. It was exciting to actually be together after so many months of not meeting. We had a show and tell of items that we had made at home. Only one of our two major sales took place this year, our Christmas Sale in December. We always say that the proceeds from our sales will benefit charities from Bethlehem to Tanzania, Nepal and Star Mountain in Ramallah, Palestine. This year 2021, we gave \$7,101.00 to needy causes.

**These are our charitable contributions for 2021:**

CMC 275 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Campaign	\$ 2,000
CMC Discretionary Fund	500
CWS CROP Walk	250
Memorial, Jean Sattler	100
Memorial, Joanne Waterman	100
Moravian Archives	500
Moravian Open Door	250
Moravian Theological Seminary Scholarship	1,500

New Bethany Ministries	500
Sanctuary Flower Fund Donations	601
Staff appreciation funds (4)	200
Star Mountain Rehab Ctr. for Children	250
Visiting Nurses	250
S. Sechler UN project-Sani-pads	<u>100</u>

**Total \$7,101**

Misc. Operating Expenses for 2021                      \$ 687

Busy Workers' philosophy in making donations is taken very seriously. We have organizations to which we give on a yearly basis. Discussion takes place in the month prior to authorize the donation. Sometimes we invite them to give us updates about their organization. We investigate their annual reports, too. On many occasions, we request that our funds be targeted for specific needs.

In September, we participated in the Bethlehem Historic District Association yard sale in Bethlehem. This was a new experience for our group to do. Thanks to Beth and Frank Boyer for letting us use their property to display our crafts and attic treasures. It was a fun day, and we met interesting people.

YES! We did have our Christmas sale December 4 and 5. It took place in a new location which seemed to please many people. We held the sale at the C. E. building, Benigna Auditorium. Moravian Academy was gracious to let us use the auditorium. A decision was made not to have food. Masks were required inside. The wreath makers used the candle room to decorate them. We continue to thank our church congregation and the community for supporting us throughout the year.

Busy Workers also donated \$601 for sanctuary flowers in memory of departed Busy Workers and friends. We want to thank Mary Jo Hill for the many years of maintaining the floral commitments. We want to thank Priscilla Schueck for taking over this task of church flowers. To contact Priscilla please email her at pschueck816@gmail.com.

Mary Jo Hill has retired from cataloguing Busy Workers' old records, such as memorabilia, minutes, financial reports, photographs and other items of interest. The Moravian Archives had nothing relating to our being in existence. Because of Mary Jo, we now have a place in the history of the Moravian Church.

Moravian Archives is now preserving our old papers. We have been around since 1884. Thank you, Mary Jo!

Our prayer shawl ministry is an important part of our way to reach out to a wider church community. On the third Wednesday of the month, we have a prayer shawl knitting group that meets in the church office. We have given 486 prayer shawls to date. Thirteen were given in 2021. Prayer shawls are given to those who are ill or who have suffered losses in their families. If you know of someone who would benefit from receiving a prayer shawl, please contact one of the Busy Workers or one of our pastors.

We always welcome new members of all skill levels to Busy Workers. We meet every Wednesday morning at 9:30 a.m. in the basement of the Old Chapel. Fellowship plays an important part of our morning gatherings. Feel free to contact us.

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

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## Flower Distribution

The number of bouquets from our altar to our members and friends from March 28, 2021 (when we were first back in church) till Sunday, December 26, 2021, is a surprising 162! Flower Ministry Committee visitation to patients in hospitals and to nursing home residents continued to be curtailed. Graciously, our Pastors took bouquets on their visits to those folks. We are grateful to the donors of the flowers and to the Pastors for their assistance, continuing this ministry during these challenging year.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Dorothea Lovis and Cheryl Tubio, Co-Chairs,  
Brenda Hoelman, Assistant  
Nina and Joe Schaffer, Substitute Visitors

## Food Pantry

The pandemic continues and families still are in need of food. Each month the pantry is open four mornings each month. (The Second Friday, the third Saturday, the preceding Friday, and the fourth Thursday). We have received 44,936 lbs of food from Second Harvest of the Lehigh Valley and 16,372.4 lbs of donated food from you the members, friends, and interested persons, and businesses and clubs from our community. All together, we have distributed 61,308.4 lbs of food to an average of 137 households each month.

To accomplish this, we have a list of 23 volunteers who have worked a total of 1346.4 hours for the year or an average of 112.2 volunteer hours each month.

We have worked with Cynthia's Boutique, and together, we have provided food and clothing for most of our households.

Each month we pay close attention to the CDC guidelines and have adjusted our serving protocol several times over this past year. During the first part of 2021, we produced a list of products we have in the pantry and translated it into Spanish. Each client selected items that were of interest for their family and we then packed bags. During the last half of 2021, we have invited clients to come into the pantry if they are willing to mask and select the food from the shelves directly. Our goal is to create a "shopping" environment for each person.

During the past year we have entered into a relationship with local farmers and purchase eggs, potatoes, chicken, and fresh produce to supplement the food we receive from Second Harvest Food Bank. During the summer we were pleased to receive food from many of your gardens which is gratefully received by our clients.

We have been pleased to receive food donations from many local businesses, Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts, baseball teams, as well as you the members who have been very very generous. As you know, we moved the "drive-by" location from Church Street to the Christian Education building parking lot and each first Sunday of the month we have received donations that average around 900 lbs a month in addition to donations of cash.

Special thank you to Cindy Gibson and Martha Jones for the times that they have offered food or received a donation that is given by members of our community. It is wonderful to have their assistance when a member of the Food Pantry “volunteer staff” is not available.

We are, of course, motivated by the words of Jesus (Matthew 25) who had particular concern for the less fortunate. We serve the hungry, the persons who need warm clothing in the winter and clothing in the summer, and for some, we are the ones who will listen and converse with anyone who wishes to “just talk.”

An exciting new addition to the Food Pantry will be a relationship with the Star Community Health organization which has fifteen locations in the Greater Lehigh Valley. Primarily for us the location is at 511 E 3<sup>rd</sup> Street, Bethlehem. We have just recently reached a verbal agreement to be the location for a Pilot program which will feature Medical Interns doing health screening work from a tent/van in our parking lot. These services are offered to the community through a federal funding source and are available to the community without restrictions on a Sliding Fee Discount Program, which is available to all based on income level and family size. Guidelines for this program are formulated under the Department of Health and Human Services’ annual Poverty Guidelines.

We have observed that it is possible that many of our clients might not have regular access to Health Care and we have been working on this project for many months. The program will be in memory of Jon Williams, who passed away about a year ago, and some of the memorial donations in his honor were earmarked for the food pantry. Since he was a family practice internist at UNC Hospital in Chapel Hill, NC, with emergency room experience, it seemed appropriate to honor his life work and memory in this way. Jon is the son of Dick and Judy Williams.

Thank you for all you donate, we could not serve the community we serve without each of you thinking and praying for this ministry.

Respectfully Submitted,  
David Wickmann  
Food Pantry Coordinator

## **Knitting into the Mystery**

“Knitting into the Mystery” meets on the third Wednesday of each month in the church office conference room at 12:30 p.m. Open to all knitters, experienced or novice, we enjoy both sharing time together talking as we knit, as well as meditative knitting to music. Shawls that are completed when together or at home are donated to the Busy Workers’ Prayer Shawl Ministry and distributed to those who are sick or grieving or in need of support. In the 2021 year we began meeting and knitting together on Zoom and then in June we began meeting again in the church office Conference Room with masks on. Also, many of us have been knitting at home and giving our shawls to the Busy Workers for distribution. We are planning to meet in 2022 in the Church Office Conference Room as long as the environment remains safe. If not, we will resume our gatherings on Zoom. Please contact me directly if you are interested. We would love to have other knitters join this very worthwhile and lovingly productive group. Help us make a difference in people’s lives!

Respectfully Submitted,  
Cathy Rannels

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## **Moravian Ladies Sewing Society**

As the COVID-19 pandemic continues, the ladies have postponed in-person meetings each week, but continue to sew on Polly Heckewelder dolls at home. As we enter the 150<sup>th</sup> year of sewing our dolls, we report that we are still making dolls and welcome any sewers who wish to join our group and will be so happy to return to our weekly Tuesday morning in-person meetings.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Mary Brown, President

## Moravian Women

Moravian Women has as its purpose the promotion of Christian fellowship among women of the church. We also support the spiritual, social, and financial mission of the church both locally and globally. A planned program of study, prayer, and service encourages Moravian Women to grow in Christ and in his service. As the Pandemic has continued to have negative effects, Moravian Women has had to limit its meetings, activities, and service projects. While two circles have decided to not hold meetings, Circle #7 has been meeting monthly since September, and prior to that, by Zoom.

### 2021 Moravian Women Activities:

1. Under the guidance of Parish Pastor Maggie Wellert, Circle #7 has undertaken a new study approach using Lectio Divina, involving scriptural readings, meditation, and prayer.
2. The Unity Prayer Watch, coordinated by Cheryl Tubio, occurred on 12/06/21.
3. The Annual Tanzanian Orphan Appeal has been postponed until spring of 2022.
4. A donation of \$200 was made to Central's Food Bank.
5. A donation of \$300 was made to the Tanzanian Orphan Appeal.
6. Staff appreciation gifts totaling \$200 were appropriated in December 2021.
7. The possibility of holding a church-wide fundraiser will be revisited in the upcoming year, 2022.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Virginia Delph  
Acting President

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## Prayer Chain

During the pandemic, I have continued to send prayer requests as I receive them, from members or one of the pastors. We still have a large group on our prayer chain, I believe 68 members praying for those in need. I always add the prayer concerns from Sunday morning services. It has been an important ministry, especially this year when we could not all be together in church. If you have a prayer concern for a family member or friend, please contact me 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. It is a great way for our congregation to keep informed of who is ill or if someone has passed away.

If you would like to be a part of this ministry, send me your email address and I will add it to our list. This is a ministry that I am very happy to be a part of.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Miriam Devey, Coordinator

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## Putz Committee

The 2021 Christmas season has been a time of both challenge and joy. We faced challenges of working to get volunteers, wondering if guests would wear masks, and looking for part of the Putz that went missing since the last time we had an in person Putz. With these challenges, we had several joys: collecting moss got us outside into the fresh air, setting up the Putz required an extra push to personally recruit volunteers who made connections not only with the Putz but with each other, and we got to share the story of Christ's birth with a number of visitors. We had almost 1300 visitors from 23 different states and from two other countries: Canada and Germany. The virtual Putz was also available for people to see on Central's YouTube channel. The virtual Putz was seen by 240 people.

We are looking forward to the coming year and have several improvements in the works. For 2022, we plan on updating the model for the city and adding two new scenes to go with the existing narrative. The first one will be a statue of Mary and Elizabeth together and the other will be one of Jesus with outstretched arms. He will be the figure people focus on during the last part of the narration when we talk about Jesus' ministry and read the Christ hymn from Philippians 2.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Will Schwab, Chair

## **Star and Candle Shoppe**

Thanks to the work of an active and enthusiastic Committee, the Star and Candle Shoppe returned to the Christian Education Building in 2021 for a very successful season. Opening on the day after Thanksgiving through Sunday, December 19, the Shoppe followed the Friday through Sunday Putz schedule. We were pleased to work side by side with Putz coordinator Richard Miller and countless dedicated Putz volunteers.

Because of some extraordinary sales days, once again the Shoppe was able to provide \$1,000 for the Christopher Scott Seifert Fund for Christian Education and \$3,000 toward the Central Church budget for 2021.

As we greeted many members, friends and guests, we were struck by how appreciative people were of our Church and especially of our Church's remembrance of a beloved member, Chris Seifert. Along with a photo of a smiling Chris in his Army uniform, his story is told in a framed description of his service to our country at the start of the Iraq conflict. Many remembered Chris and his family, while still others wanted to hear more. Each year, we are honored to recognize his sacrifice with a gift to the fund established in his name, to benefit the children, young people and adult learners involved in our Christian Education program.

We were also gratified to hear comments by our guests about how their visit to Bethlehem was so meaningful and interesting. "Our expectations were exceeded," one woman said enthusiastically, as she listed all of the activities that she and her daughter enjoyed as first time visitors to our city, concluding with a visit to the Putz and Shoppe. "We saved the best for last," she said with a smile.

We are very thankful for the time and talents of all of our Sales Associates, including members of the Fundraising Committee who staffed the Shoppe for a full day. They offered warm hospitality and spirited conversation, along with complimentary Moravian Seal posters.

Shoppe Committee members Diane Shaw and Jan Cole worked tirelessly to sort, price and organize our popular, and successful Attic Treasures table. Linda

Wickmann decorated our walls with beautiful photography. The twelve talented crafters who supplied our merchandise each donated a generous percentage of their profits to the Shoppe and each hopes to return again this year. Special thanks to baker extraordinaire Robbie Williamson, our faithful tech person, Fred Cole, candle packaging innovator, Dave Wickmann and crafter/consultant and cashier, Tom Tenges.

The Star and Candle Shoppe Committee included: Gene and Marianne Allen, Pastor Hopeton Clennon, Jan Cole, Pastor Lynnette Delbridge, Diane Shaw, Susan Trimble and Linda Wickmann.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Carol A. Reifinger, Chair

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## **Twenty Minute Society**

The Twenty Minute Society distributed \$8,975 to help 17 people and/or organizations in 2021.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Judy Thomas, President

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