

# 2023 Annual *Report*



Central Presbyterian Church

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# A Note From Pastor Josh

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Friends,

As I think of Central, I am reminded of the opening words of Philippians 1:3-6:

“I thank my God every time I remember you. In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now, being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.”

While these words were penned many years ago and written to the church in Philippi, they feel fitting. I have had the joy of being your pastor since the end of May, a little over seven months. I have enjoyed getting to know you and look forward to deepening those relationships. In those seven months, we have said goodbye to dear friends, welcomed new members, and baptized the children of God.

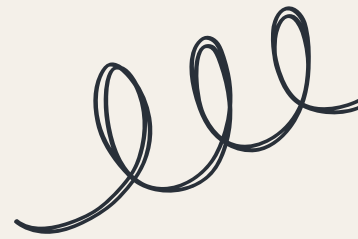
We had a phenomenal stewardship season, with 131 families pledging and over \$487,000 in pledges. I am profoundly hopeful about our financial future as a congregation. We worked very hard to develop a budget reflective of our historical income. I am grateful to everyone who worked on this budget. In addition, I am hopeful that this coming year, as a congregation, we might consider ways we can begin purposefully tackling some of the debt we are carrying from a property improvement loan.

My biggest joy has been all the fist bumps and high-fives from the kids. The tweens and teens who come through my line to say “Hi!” and the opportunity to hear the stories of all our members, no matter their age. Part of the reason I became a pastor is because I believe God is found amid community and our everyday connections. Each day, we can share that love with those around us. So, keep sharing that love Central!

Grace and Peace,

Pastor Josh

# From Worship



The Worship Committee at Central Presbyterian Church supports the pastor in the planning and enhancing of the worship services for the congregants of CPC. Our church is blessed to have a comprehensive music program, with all of these groups providing worship music together in service: Spirit Rising, our praise band; Organist/Pianist, Allison Munn; Chancel Choir, Youth Choir, Chapel Choir, Adult and Youth Bell Choirs, and ancillary instrumental ensembles.

The music staff collaborates with the pastor on selecting musical elements that complement the scriptures and stories the pastor uses each Sunday in Worship. The Worship Committee, coordinates communion, plans and installs visual highlights, and organizes supportive participants: acolytes, liturgists and ushers.

This past year was an exciting one for our congregation as we said goodbye to our interim pastor of 15 months, Jeff Hopson, and welcomed our installed pastor, Joshua Gill. We marked the retirement of choral director, Anne Cowburn, with a performance of Bill Gaither's "Alleluia" and welcomed our new choral director, Alexandra Barainyak. We also continue to provide streaming of worship and memorial services via Youtube that can be accessed by our congregants and visitors.

We have managed regular and special displays for worship including the management of flowers for Christmas and Easter purchased by our congregants in honor or memory of loved ones. We support the direction of the pastor in making arrangements for special services in the church year.

## A Year of Worship



# From Hospitality

This year the Hospitality Committee worked diligently to provide opportunities for connection and fellowship. Our goal was to reach as many members of the CPC family as possible, and to offer a wide variety of activities and events.

Café Central served over 400 people each month, and we are very thankful for a solid and steady rotation of Host/Hostesses for each week of the month. We are extremely appreciative of those volunteers and everything that they do.

We celebrated a community Easter Egg Hunt, with a large number of people in attendance both from the community and the CPC family. The Holy Spirit was among us as we decorated and worshipped on Pentecost. One of the highlights of the year was the “Kick Off” Picnic where we gathered around food, music, and a true feeling of renewal and fresh starts as well as lunch after we showered Anne Cowburn with thanks and appreciation on her retirement.

We also showed our appreciation for Pastor Jeff, and we welcomed Pastor Josh Gill. The Working Guild provided much of the food at these luncheons, and we really enjoyed partnering with them to create these events. It has been a busy year, with some amazing events and time with wonderful people.

We also hosted an “Around the World” Night, with opportunities for fellowship, connection, and wonderful food and information. In addition, we hosted a Trivia Night, which was a lot of fun for all who attended, and it was very well attended. We also helped support a “Deck the Halls” family decorating celebration, with a wonderful soup luncheon following a Christmas sing and decorating. Alexandra Barainyak was awesome in putting that event together, along with support from our committee.



# From New Members

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Our committee has focused on planning events and activities to keep our church family engaged while also expanding visitor outreach to welcome new visitors into our church community.

We welcomed 9 new members into our church family this year by participating in 2 classes in the Spring and 2 classes in the Fall. These classes include learning about Presbyterian history, understanding more about our church, and getting to know each other. The classes were very engaging and we had great feedback from all the new members regarding the process.

We can proudly say that this year, we have welcomed more visitors into our church than any recent years. Elder Adam Anders, Deacon RaeAnn Lukavsky and Pastor Josh continue to proactively reach out to visitors who sign the friendship pads by connecting with these individuals to welcome them to Central Presbyterian Church, answer any questions they may have, and see how they would like to get involved if applicable. Visitor packets are consistently updated by Nancy Hilton and Jan Fulton to ensure information is up to date.

Our committee would love more help from the congregation as it takes a lot of work to make sure our church stays connected with the community and plans many events throughout the year. Please reach out to Adam if you are interested in joining our committee; we meet the 1st Tuesday of the month at 7pm on Zoom. Adam's email: [adamanders101@gmail.com](mailto:adamanders101@gmail.com)



# From Mission

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Mission continues to focus on the following to guide our activities:

1. Food Insecurity
2. Housing for vulnerable populations
3. At risk children
4. Geographic area of focus –  
Caribbean and Central America



## Projects

## Details

**Good Works +  
Downtown Flood  
Relief**

Completed two homes in 2023 and began work on another home in Coatesville. Meeting monthly on 4th Saturday to do home repairs. Thirteen members of CPC participate in these workgroups.

Two CPC church members are serving on boards of two new local Downtown emergency relief organizations, Downtown Strong, and Downtown Resilience Fund.

**Lord's Pantry + Honey  
Brook Food Pantry  
Support**

Add a few details describing your project's goals

**Rise Against Hunger**

Had a successful Rise Against Hunger event with 70 volunteers completing over 10,100 meals!

26

Prayer Shawls given out by the Stanli Cushman Prayer Shawl Ministry.

56

Hats knitted & donated throughout the community using donated yarn.

121

Pillowcases sewn by Sweet Dreams Quilting Ministry.

92

Quilts sewn for the Chester County NICU

## Mission also supported:

The Salvation Army benefitted from CPC volunteers manning the red kettle for donations on Black Friday, a CPC tradition!

·Repair Café held by Bob Berkowitz and volunteers to support community repair needs.

·Supported additional collections for four Special Offerings, One Great Hour of Sharing, Pentecost, Peace and Global Witness, and Christmas Joy.

·With a budget of \$32,500 supported local and international missions that meet our focus groups.



*Projects*

*Details*

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### **Pancake Breakfast**

Held a pancake breakfast in April which raised \$950.00 for Refugee family resettlement.

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### **Heifer Fair**

Heifer Fair raised over \$4,500.00! These monies will be quadrupled with a match from a donor organization.

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### **Refugee Resettlement Team**

Successfully settled a Syrian family of 4 into a townhome in Coatesville. They have now been in the USA for 1 year. All family members have jobs and are learning English.



# From Faith Formation



Weekly **Godly Play** during worship continues to be a popular program. This year one child turned 4 during the late fall and could barely contain the excitement of being “finally old enough for Godly Play!” A team of 9 volunteers supports this program, serving on rotation.



**Worship Bridge** for students grades 3-5. Twice a month, we offer a gathering for upper elementary kids during worship where they can engage together and remember how worship “works”. In 2023 the group designed and created a set of sanctuary decorations for display during baptisms and presented a “scripture come alive” skit during Advent. Worship Bridge is ably and enthusiastically led by Robin McMillen and Jennifer Reardon.

Second Friday became **3-4-5 Tween** in 2023 and has been an important connection for students and families. Meeting 2x a month in the summer, then monthly through the school year, the kids enjoy this way of being church together through games, play and social interaction.



**Love Wonder Serve**, our Intergenerational VBS doubled in size in July. Meeting for three consecutive evenings, 50 people attended our sessions where we learned, played, ate and served together.

Continued on next page.

# From Faith Formation



Youth Group for middle and high school students continues to gather most Wednesdays. Our group's core truly enjoys being together in any capacity. This group spear-headed many of the faith formation mission and service projects this year. We also returned to Massanetta for a summer middle school conference and a fall high school retreat.

**Mission and Service:** From college care packages and loving gifts for neighbors to Thanksgiving groceries and so many supply-filled school backpacks, Faith Formation ministries engaged in projects big and small in 2023.



- Feb: Alhalabi school supplies bought by the youth group, \$200
- March: Gemma Services Easter Eggs 300 candy-filled eggs stuffed by the youth group \$80
- July: Love Wonder Serve summer food packing for Honey Brook Food Pantry and Outreach gifts to neighbors/shut-ins \$500 plus donated food from CPC families
- August: Gemma Services Backpacks/School Supplies filling 52 backpacks, \$2500
- November: Gemma Services Thanksgiving in a Bag drive , \$500
- November: Care Packages to our College Students, \$300



# From Faith Formation



Most impact reports conclude  
with gratitude for being the  
cause of joy and blessing  
mentioned within below list down

## 345 Tween

Formerly titled “Second Fridays”, 3\*4\*5\* Tween went through a name change year to revamp the group. Our youth group is for children in grades 3-5 and focuses on spending fellowship time together while learning team building skills, engaging in fun activities, and enriching friendships. Our group this year has consisted of 10-15 children and we did rock climbing, went to Milky Way Farms in the fall for some Halloween and Fall fun, did a scavenger hunt, did some fun Christmas activities, among many other fun games and fellowship activities. If your child falls in this age group and is interested in joining the group, we meet the Second Friday of each month from 6-7:30pm usually at the church unless it’s an outside event. Please contact Adam Anders at: [adamanders101@gmail.com](mailto:adamanders101@gmail.com) if your child is interested.

# From Presbyterian Women



Presbyterian Women at Central is part of a larger organization, Presbyterian Women, Inc., the national organization that is a part of the Presbyterian Church U.S.A. PW at Central is also affiliated with Presbyterian Women in the Synod of the Trinity and Presbyterian Women in the Presbytery of Donegal. We participate in meetings and Mission projects on all the levels of Presbyterian Women.

## Our Purpose is:

Forgiven and Freed by God in Jesus Christ and empowered by the Holy Spirit, we commit ourselves:

- To nurture our faith through prayer and Bible Study,
- To support the mission of the church worldwide,
- To work for justice and peace, and
- To build an inclusive, caring community of women that strengthens the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) and witnesses

....to the promise of God's Kingdom.

There are four PW Circles currently at Central that participate in Bible Study, PW Mission support and personal support of Circle members and congregational concerns.

## The Circles and Leaders include:

Deborah Circle – Nancy Hilton and Amy Amour  
Miriam Circle – Joanne Bilyew (Contact Person)

Lydia Circle – Denise McMillan  
Sarah Circle – Tina Bandoian

## 2023 Highlights



- PW Donegal Presbytery Mission Support.
- PW Synod of the Trinity Mission Support and Mission Project "Welcome Home SIS" providing housing and support systems for women coming out of prison.
- Providing bookmarks with information on Domestic Violence in women's bathrooms.
- February Valentines, Blanket Sunday in support of Church World Service.
- May, Mother's Day offering of items and money collected for the Chester County Domestic Violence Center in West Chester.
- May 20, 2023 Spring Gathering of PW in the Presbytery, hosted by Central's PW.
- June, PW Birthday Offering (through PW Circles) to designated missions through Churchwide, PW.
- June recognition of High School graduation of girls at Central.
- November, PW Thank Offering (through PW Circles) supporting designated ministries through Churchwide PW for women and children, 40% going to health-related ministries.
- Memorial contribution to the Presbyterian Board of Education in Pakistan in Jan Stockhoff's name.

# Continued...

- Gift certificate to the Rev. Gill's family.
- Recognition of new women members at CPC. Information on PW was provided.
- Deborah Circle's ongoing collections for the Chester County Domestic Violence Center.
- Lydia Circle's participation in Home of the Sparrow projects in support of homeless women with housing and budgeting., ongoing through the year.
- Sarah Circle's collection of food items for children's backpack snacks for the Honey Brook Food Pantry, ongoing through the year.
- Least Coin International Ministry collection by several Circles supporting women's ministry around the world.
- PC(USA) Loaves & Fishes collection for Hunger related ministries. Collection by several Circles
- WAWA coupons that are sold to the congregation, profits are used for Scholarship money and for meetings and mission projects.



# From the Deacons

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In 2023, the Board of Deacons continued its ministry of care, compassion, and service to the CPC congregation and its surrounding community. For members of Central, a core component of this ministry includes a personally assigned Deacon who is available to provide support or to help with any needs as they arise. The Board welcomed four new Deacons in 2023 who eagerly took on the care of their newly assigned care groups. In March, the Deacons organized a Meet-Your-Deacon Sunday to help CPC members meet or further connect with their assigned Deacon. Throughout the year, the Deacons maintained practical and spiritual connection with their care groups, addressing special needs, offering prayers, celebrating occasions, and being a source of information, in cards and emails, of the activities at Central.

Each Sunday following worship a Deacon served as a greeter in Fellowship Hall extending greetings to both new visitors and longtime attenders. Deacons were kept apprised of all needs of members and friends of CPC through their inclusion in the Volunteer Group and the Prayer Chain as managed in Breeze. At every monthly Board meeting, Deacons spent time in intercessional prayer for those in need, led by congregational care provider, Debbie Gordon. For those experiencing periods of hardship, the Deacons organized several meal trains prepared and delivered by both Deacons and other volunteers at Central. In their special attention to those who are homebound or unable to attend worship in person, the Deacons delivered Easter and Advent flowers, served communion in homes and facilities, distributed devotional booklets, and brought Christmas joy through gift bags filled with thoughtful items from the congregation.

In October, the Deacons successfully revived the Fall Senior Luncheon, a cherished event that had been on hiatus for several years due to COVID. A full course lunch was served, complemented by live entertainment featuring none other than Elvis, much to the delight of the 85 guests and dedicated helpers in attendance. Attendees, including individuals from Harrison House, Simpson Meadows, and our own congregation, were treated to a memorable experience. At a meeting in June, the Deacons invited two representatives from the Guild who provided an instructional orientation on food safety practices and use of CPC's commercial kitchen. Another special project organized by the Deacons involved the Christmas gift-giving initiatives for Angel Tree Ministry, Hearts and Hands, and Uwchlan Hills Elementary School. Thanks to the generous gift donations from the congregation, the Christmas wish lists of 43 children were fulfilled.

Continued on the next page.

The Deacons Liaison Committee (DLC) stayed busy throughout the year meeting requests for financial assistance from Downingtown and Coatesville residents as well as members of Central. In 2023, the DLC brought in over \$25,000 in donations, including contributions from the Endowment Fund, the loose change offering on the First Sunday of each month, and various other donations. These funds proved instrumental in extending financial aid to 84 families, covering expenses such as rent, auto-related costs, utilities, food, and other assistance. DLC members expended considerable hours of their time returning phone calls, conducting intakes, consulting with each other, and coordinating with our treasurer as part of their strategic allocation of funds.



The Deacons look forward to the new year ahead which will bring four new Deacons onto the Board. The Deacons are working on improving procedures for the training and support of those who have accepted this special call to serve as a Deacon. In 2024, a Deacon will be found each Sunday at the Welcome Center, continuing our vital role in providing warm greetings, care and guidance to those who have come to gather for worship. Additionally, we look forward to hosting more luncheons to honor seniors within our church and community. We also look forward to contributing to New Members classes at CPC, taking the opportunity to foster deeper awareness of the distinctive ministry of the Deacons. In response to challenge of CPC's Strategic plan, we will continue to seek more innovative and impactful ways to share the love of Christ with Central and the surrounding community as we move forward in shaping the future of CPC.

## How We Supported our Community in 2023

**43** Children had their Christmas wishlists fulfilled.

**85** Seniors served at the Fall Deacons Luncheon.

**\$25,000+**

Dollars of support given out by the Deacon Liason Committee to support Downingtown & Coatesville residents during times of need.

**84 families**

Were impacted directly through your giving the first Sunday of each month in support of this mission.

# Congregational Care



"Blessed is the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our troubles so that we may be able to comfort those experiencing any trouble with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God." 2 Corinthians 1:3-4

Congregational care involves making sure members feel loved and cared for. This is done through the card ministry, visiting with those in the hospital, and connecting with congregants through phone, email, texts, home visits, and maybe even holding an umbrella for those coming to worship on a rainy Sunday. Congregants who do not receive the We@C are mailed a monthly newsletter of church happenings called Thrive Monthly. This Christmas, our homebound members received gift bags filled with cards and goodies from the congregation, delivered by our Deacons.

Spiritual care is another important component of congregational care. The updated prayer list is being sent out monthly, with prayer requests being sent out weekly. This autumn a prayer team came together to enhance the prayer list. A number of Sunday worship services this year were translated into different languages to help non-English speakers get the most out of their worship experience. On Ash Wednesday our church hosted Ash and Dash in the parking lot to enable congregants and the community to receive ashes. In December our church distributed an Advent devotional, written by officers and staff.

And one of the most significant parts of congregational care is what you, the people of Central Presbyterian Church, are providing! Throughout the year, I have seen you wrapping your arms around others, offering comfort, encouragement, assistance, rides, meals, phone calls, cards, gifts of cheer, gifts of extravagance out of love oozing from deep within your soul. I see you caring for others even in the midst of your own struggles, your own hardships.... holding one another up when the other is [even literally] falling, wrapping your cloak around them, not leaving them alone... This is congregational care at its best. Well done, Central. May God bless you.

- Debbie Gordon, Congregational Care Provider



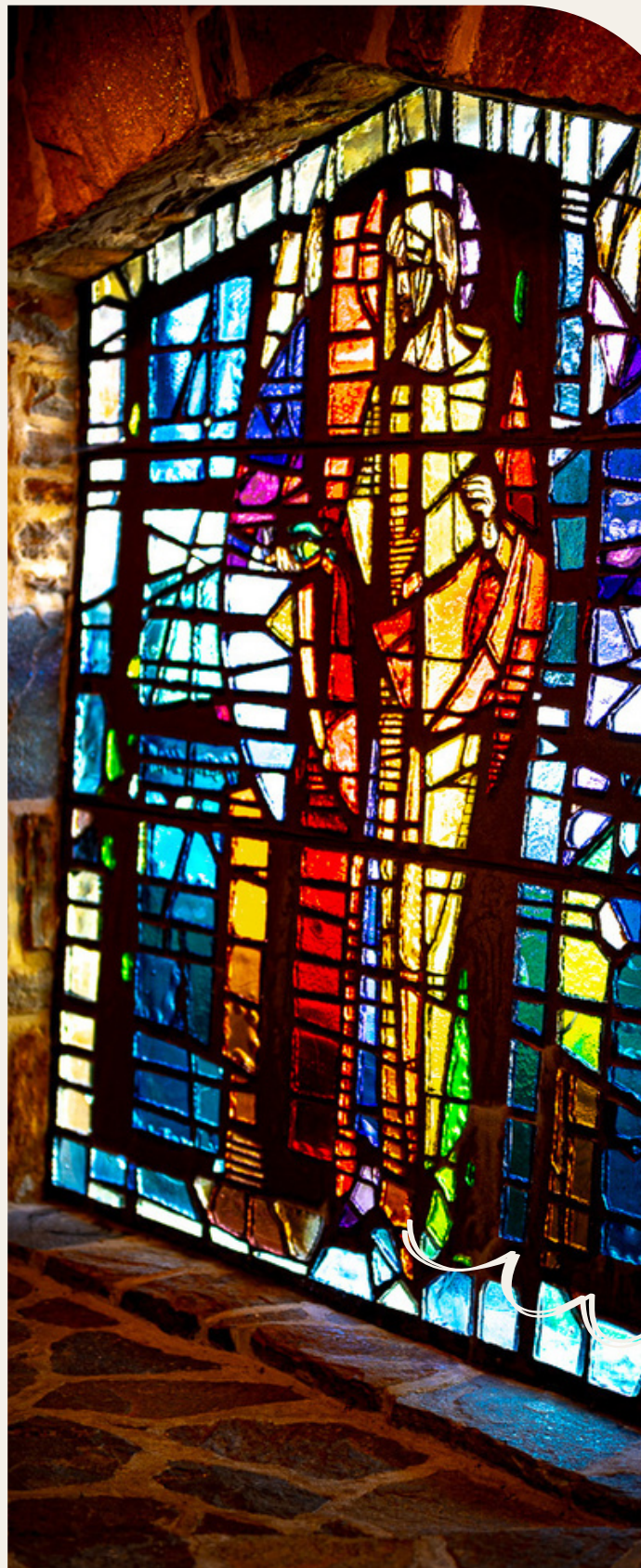
# Memorial

As a subcommittee of Finance, Memorial Committee exists in order to guide our congregation and community in making special contributions in thankful celebration or in remembrance of those who have gone to be with the Lord. Memorial Committee assists in handling those contributions that are made above and beyond our regularly budgeted stewardship needs. Memorial Books may be found in a bookstand in the west area of the sanctuary.

The following members were reunited with God during 2023:

- Clarence William Becker – April 22, 2023
- Stephanie Miller, August 20, 2023
- Andrew Watterson Blackwood III, October 25, 2023
- James Lucas, November 23, 2023

Together with Pastors & Staff, those making a Memorial Donation are sent an Acknowledgment Card, a sample of which is now displayed in the Archival Cabinet adjacent to the Welcome Center. The family is notified in 30 days with names of those who gave a gift so that they may also acknowledge the contribution should they desire. The family is also remembered by a special card on the first anniversary of their loved one death. All Saints Day or Remembrance Sunday is celebrated annually in October or November. This service includes those members who recently passed away during that year. Service of Remembrance includes Reading of Names, lighting candle, toll of bell and white rose for each member who passed. At the end of the service, family is given chancel white rose. Memorial Brochures are found in the brochure rack next to the Welcome Center, or in the office, or with Pastors. Memorial Gifts given during 2023 were \$275. The Memorial Program at CPC always welcomes new committee members.



# From Communications



2023 was the first full year of operation for the Communications Committee. Comprised of 5 members, the overall goal of the committee is to bring information together from all facets of life at Central and create an open flow of dialogue with all CPC committees regarding current, ongoing, and upcoming events for internal and external audiences.

## During 2023, the committee accomplished the following:

- Discussed ways our communications can be more effective within the church as well as outwardly facing towards the local, Downingtown community. Some discussion around updating and modernizing our approach to communicating around the building.
- Set a goal to partner with other committees like Hospitality and Mission to participate in community events like Good Neighbor Day and Fall Fest as outreach opportunities.
- Set a goal for Q1 2024 to create a landing page on our website, including a video message from Pastor Josh, and giving us a place to aggregate links to other parts of the website informing people about opportunities for worship, faith formation, mission, and special events.
- Set a goal for 1st half of 2024 to communicate to our congregation and visitors where to look for information about ongoing and special activities and events. Stay tuned!

Our committee looks forward to serving the congregation by bringing our first few ideas to fruition in 2024. We're just getting started and welcome any and all feedback! Finally, we honor Dianne Bricker. We miss the creativity and enthusiasm Dianne brought to our committee as one of its inaugural members.



# Trustees

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Throughout 2023, the Trustees completed and supported the following projects:



## Projects

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Supported the Pastor Nominating Committees' request to help Declutter the church

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Purchased and installed a new computer for Live Streaming

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Updated Wi-Fi to improve speed and strength of signal throughout the church

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Seal coat and relined the parking lot

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Purchased carpet cleaning equipment for upholstery cleaning

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Prepared for the annual kitchen inspection in February (which we passed with flying colors)

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Replaced upper kitchen cabinet doors, which were buckling due to defective glue used to install the original laminate

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Trimmed large maple trees by the North entrance

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Rehung the North entrance doors with new full door hinges (the doors were sagging with age)

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Replaced two aging water fountains. The one in Fellowship Hall was replaced with a bottle filler feature to encourage people to use reusable bottles instead of single-use ones.

The following repairs were made throughout the church in 2023



## Projects

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Several toilets were backing up – we found that flushable wipes were clogging our sewer pipes. After having the lines snaked by a plumber, we added signs to all of the bathrooms asking people not to use them.

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Added a new outlet in Pastor’s office, repaired loose outlet by dishwasher, repaired pull-down power strip used over the kitchen island

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Added additional weather-stripping to the Preschool entrance door

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Dishwasher fan (switch)

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Carpet Cleaner

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Mission Bulletin Board

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Sink in nursery

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Re-caulk preschool sinks

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Radiator in Preschool Room 118

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Pilot lights on the kitchen stove

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Broken windows

Additionally, the Trustees participated in:

- Semi-weekly roof clean-ups each Spring and Fall, removing debris from the roof drains
- Security – adopt security procedures approved in 2019, and continue to evaluate the installation of several additional security cameras and a panic button
- Evaluated current Hearing devices, to determine if they can be repaired or if we will need to purchase a new system.
- Electric sign/Prayer garden – Trustees have a representative on both projects

### **Hosted the following NEW groups at Central**

- Repair Café , which has been well received by the community (This takes place 10 am – 2 pm on the second Saturday of January, March, May, July, September, and November) – Come check it out!
- Preschool Expansion
- Weekly Young Adult special needs group

We hosted several Trustee work days throughout the year, (Please feel free to join us in 2024!!)

Some of our Spring projects –

- Sand and repaint outdoor metal soffit beams,
- Repair garbage enclosure doors
- Repair seams in stone walls
- Cap soffits to prevent carpenter bee damage

**An update on the roof!** We have a new roof repair company, located in Gap. They have been very responsive and have virtually eliminated all of our leaks. This past summer, they also replaced a section of the Preschool roof and adjusted the scuppers to eliminate the constant roof leaks on the walls of the Preschool rooms. We may still have an occasional leak, as we have an aging metal roof. We will address them as quickly as possible.

# From Personnel

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**“Be shepherds of God’s flock that is under your care, watching over them—not because you must, but because you are willing, as God wants you to be; not pursuing dishonest gain, but eager to serve; 3. not lording it over those entrusted to you, but being examples to the flock.” - 1 Peter 5:2-3. 2**

The purpose of the Supporting area is to help maintain the overall mission of the church. It provides guidance and oversight of the financial health of CPC. The ministries of Supporting the Story strive to develop, promote, and nurture the pastors, staff, leaders, and volunteers of CPC. In maintaining these groups of individuals, these committees strengthen discipleship for God’s work in our church and the world beyond.

PERSONNEL- Employing a hybrid platform Including both Zoom and In-Person meetings, the 2022 Personnel Committee accomplished the following:

1. Lived into the Supporting the Vision model of the Strategic Plan by coordinating agendas with Session and Finance.
  - a. Submitted a 2023 Personnel Annual Report, which included an update from Endowment and the Memorial Committee, for the early 2024 Corporate and Congregational meeting.
  - b. Presented Pastoral Terms of Call and a proposed budget to the Finance Committee at the end of the 2023 for the year 2024.
2. Implemented the Strategic Plan in the following ways:
  - a. Installed Rev. Josh Gill as full-Time Head of Staff on November 10, 2023.
  - b. Hired Alexandra Barainyak as Director of Choral Music.
  - c. Created a Conflict-of-Interest Agreement
  - d. Updated the Personnel Employment Handbook, including Family Medical Leave, Holiday Schedule, and Paid Time Off policies.
  - e. Performed Coaching & Evaluations for permanent staff, as needed.
  - f. Updated the Job Descriptions of many of the Staff, ensuring that roles, responsibilities, and reporting relations are as clearly defined and effective as possible.
  - g. Renewed staff benefits contract with Board of Pensions.
  - h. Reviewed and updated the Funeral Coverage Honorarium Policy.
  - i. Reviewed and updated the Pulpit Supply Honorarium Policy.
  - j. Developed the Personnel Committee Charter to clarify the roles and responsibilities of the Personnel Committee.

## Personnel Goals for 2024 include:

- Continue to provide support for Pastor Josh Gill, ensuring that roles, responsibilities, and reporting relations are as clearly defined and effective as possible.
- Continue to support the Session and the Strategic Planning Team as they focus on four key strategic targets, with goals and milestones under each target, to help Central live into a new vision and future.
- Present Terms of Call and a proposed budget to the Finance Committee at the end of 2024 for the year 2025.
- Update Job Descriptions for remainder of staff.
- Create a Spreadsheet to keep an organized record of completed and upcoming Coaching & Evaluations.
- Search for and hire new staff for the positions created according to the Strategic Plan when positions are approved by Session.
- Evaluate and update Benefits Contract for the next year.
- Update the CPC Personnel Employment Manual.
- Prepare a Personnel Calendar of Monthly Events as a future guide and resource.
- Submit a 2024 Personnel Annual Report, including an update from Endowment and the Memorial Committee.



# Stewardship



**The 2024 Stewardship Campaign began with a question to everyone at Central. How can we Thrive to be awesome stewards of what God entrusts to each of us? The following goals were presented:**

- We wish to be a thriving church with many opportunities to use our God-given gifts of Time, Treasure, and Talent.
- We wish to be God's lighthouse of Hope, Joy, Faith, and Peace to our congregation and to our community.
- We wish to be a church that gives intentionally and sacrificially.
- We wish to live into God's dream for us which we project will require our giving to exceed \$610,000.

Our own Spirit Rising led the congregation in singing our theme song, "Thrive" by Casting Crowns, for each of the three Sundays of the Campaign in October. During the campaign, we heard from three couples from our congregation as they discussed how they try to be good stewards of their time, treasure, and talent. The videos offered their personal thoughts looking back on their lives and what they strive to be in the future.

A Thrive resource packet was assembled by our wonderful office staff and volunteers and included the following materials which were mailed to each family. If you did not receive a packet, please contact the church office.

## Online Giving

The congregation was encouraged to consider giving their financial resources electronically using the Give tab on the church's website homepage. Giving electronically allows CPC to operate more smoothly as income flows more predictably from month to month. Refer to the Online Giving Instructions in the Thrive packet and if you have questions, reach out to the church office.

## The Outcome

The importance of pledging as an act of worship and as a tool to determine our financial forecasting and budget for 2024 was presented. The congregation responded faithfully and enthusiastically with 131 pledges received totaling over \$487,000. There were a significant number of first-time pledges. A heart-felt thank you to all who pledged!

## Moving Forward

Seek out opportunities to get involved in the life of Central and our community. Put your talents to good use and enjoy yourself! Dream a little! Give joyfully and sacrificially of your financial resources. Live enthusiastically into God's vision for our future.



# Endowment

The Endowment Fund was established in 1993 to provide a means of ensuring the perpetual ministry of our church. These funds will be directed toward the provision of the expansion, enhancement, and future assurance of our ministries in worship, evangelism, mission, fellowship and education.

CPC's endowment gives all of us the opportunity to grow in Christian grace as we give from our accumulated resources for the fulfillment of Christ's mission. A gift to the endowment provides the privilege to experience the joy of sharing the gifts entrusted to us by God from our accumulated assets not from our current income.

Jesus taught about money and possessions almost more than any other subject, always encouraging those who heard him to place their financial resources in service to God. In the parable of the Talents (Luke 19:11-27), Jesus applauds those who multiply what they have been given for higher use. In the story of the widow's mite (Luke 21:1-4), Jesus commends a woman's generosity for sharing what little she had in support of God's work.

Remembering that all of us have benefited from the legacies of the past, let us help to guarantee that God's work in Downingtown and around the world continues for future generations through active support of our endowment fund.

In May of 2012 Session updated the Endowment policy for the payout of funds disbursement to selected CPC ministries according to the following schedule:

- 40% to the Board of Deacons to be administered by that ministry
- 40% to the Mission Ministry to be administered by that ministry
- 10% to a fund that is designated to bestow higher education studies grants upon CPC member/students who are engaged in college programs that are preparatory for careers in fields of Christian endeavors; to be administered by a special committee called for that purpose
- 10% to a yearly fund designated to bestow upon CPC students who would need financial support in order to engage fully in church sponsored youth activities as determined by the Youth Director. Further, should it be the case that all designated funds are not spent within a given year; the balance is to be transferred to the aforementioned fund for higher education grants.

The CPC endowment currently has \$131,552.49 in non restricted funds and \$123,602.51 in restricted funds.

In 2023 we disbursed \$10,921.18 from the Endowment. \$4,368.47 went to the Deacons, \$4,368.47 went to Mission, \$1,092.12 went to the Youth Scholarship Fund, and \$1,092.12 went to Youth Programs.

# Finance

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Throughout 2023, total giving/income for CPC was strong, coming in at \$732,183.56 of total income, which is around \$100,000 over our forecasted \$630,000 of projected income. This represents several different income sources, such as donations made to the church by groups who use our building space, the lease from the pre-school, as well as lots of congregational giving toward designated community and mission-focused activities, such as the Deacons fund, Missions fund, and community-focused capital improvements. All of this represents a thriving and generous congregation who is focused on the community, and is determined to love, invited to wonder, and inspired to serve!

However, a focus area of the committee throughout the year has been to better separate out our reporting, forecasting and budgeting between operational income and expenses (general funds used to run the church, pay salaries, pay utilities, pay off loans, etc.) and designated giving and spending, as our income forecasting and budgeting processes focus primarily on operational income and expenses, while our reporting practices mix operational and designated income.

Continued on next page.



Through the lens of our purely operational budget, the financial picture looks different; this year, towards operational giving only, CPC brought in \$590,058.06 of income, falling short of our \$630,000 projection by around \$40,000.

Throughout the year, the finance committee has monitored income and spending activities, helping provide insights to Session on how we're tracking against the budget and the impact of various activities and projects. The committee's focus in the latter portion of the year has been on amending our reporting practices and preparing a financially responsible operational budget for 2024. This has included:

-Working through tactical plans for how to report on operational income and expenses in a separate format from designated income and expenses, which will begin this year and is reflected in our 2024 budget.

-Preparing a balanced 2024 operational budget for Session to pass using historical giving patterns for forecasting, several purposeful transfers of available funds into our core ministry fund to continue supporting our priorities during a year of transition, but also working across Session and different committees on plans to reduce spending to avoid a shortfall.

-Discussing plans of action for how to act purposefully on more optimistic giving scenarios throughout 2024, based on strong indicators of increased giving from a positive stewardship campaign this past November.

With several bodies of work ahead of us throughout 2024 to provide clearer financial insights to the congregation and church leadership, as well as strong giving patterns from the congregation, the finance committee looks optimistically towards 2024 as a year in which CPC will thrive!

## 2023 Financial Summary



**\$630,000**

2023 Forecasted  
Operating Budget

**\$590,058.06**

Operational Giving

**\$732,183.56**

Total Giving to  
all funds

# 2023 Financial Summary

## Central Presbyterian Church-2

### Operating Fund

January - December 2023

	TOTAL			
	JAN - DEC 2023	JAN - DEC 2022 (PY)	CHANGE	% CHANGE
<b>Income</b>				
40000 Core Ministry Fund	534,588.64	537,251.19	-2,662.55	-0.50 %
44000 Building Space Usage Donation & Rental	11,894.00	13,481.00	-1,587.00	-11.77 %
44100 Central Community Pre School Lease	6,388.90		6,388.90	
49010 Per Capita Received	5,038.52	4,604.96	433.56	9.42 %
49011 Misc Income	4,196.72	13,315.59	-9,118.87	-68.48 %
49030 Benevity	32,148.00	22,231.25	9,916.75	44.61 %
<b>Total 49011 Misc Income</b>	<b>36,344.72</b>	<b>35,546.84</b>	<b>797.88</b>	<b>2.24 %</b>
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$594,254.78</b>	<b>\$590,883.99</b>	<b>\$3,370.79</b>	<b>0.57 %</b>
<b>GROSS PROFIT</b>	<b>\$594,254.78</b>	<b>\$590,883.99</b>	<b>\$3,370.79</b>	<b>0.57 %</b>
<b>Expenses</b>				
<b>51000 Pastor</b>				
100 Pastor- Salary	30,769.28		30,769.28	
101 Pastor- Housing	24,615.36		24,615.36	
102 Pastor Dent/Life Ins Prem	1,297.12		1,297.12	
110 Pastor- Health Insurance	16,923.70		16,923.70	
111 Pastor- Pension	4,951.25		4,951.25	
115 Pastor- Soc Sec Supplement	4,236.96		4,236.96	
120 Pastor- Reimb Prof Exp	1,359.39		1,359.39	
121 Pastor- Reimb Educ Exp	558.14		558.14	
125 Pastor- Mileage Reimb	2,591.49		2,591.49	
127 Reimb. Book Exp.	110.07		110.07	
<b>Total 51000 Pastor</b>	<b>87,412.76</b>		<b>87,412.76</b>	
<b>51100 Interim Pastor Expense</b>				
150 Interim Pastor - Salary	26,216.32	52,578.08	-26,361.76	-50.14 %
151 Interim Pastor - Housing Allow	15,500.03	32,192.37	-16,692.34	-51.85 %
152 Interim Pastor - Dental/Life Ins	839.70	1,660.84	-821.14	-49.44 %
160 Interim Pastor - Health Insurance	11,963.35	22,305.65	-10,342.30	-46.37 %
161 Interim Pastor - Pension	3,503.56	6,902.21	-3,398.65	-49.24 %
165 Interim Pastor - Soc Sec Supp	3,191.24	6,484.96	-3,293.72	-50.79 %
170 Interim-Pastor - Reimb Prof Exp	238.37		238.37	
171 Interim Pastor - Reimb Educ Exp	1,250.00		1,250.00	
<b>Total 51100 Interim Pastor Expense</b>	<b>62,702.57</b>	<b>122,124.11</b>	<b>-59,421.54</b>	<b>-48.66 %</b>
<b>52000 Staff Expense</b>				
190 Pulpit Supply	1,196.75	202.11	-202.11	-100.00 %
191 Preaching Mission	22.93	623.75	573.00	91.86 %
200 Staff Salaries	216,585.75		22.93	
201 Contracted Service Expense	19,885.50	214,778.82	1,806.93	0.84 %
205 Staff - Tax Deferred Comp	1,600.00	18,000.00	1,885.50	10.48 %
210 Staff Health Insurance	40.08	1,300.00	300.00	23.08 %
		103.67	-63.59	-61.34 %

	TOTAL			
	JAN - DEC 2023	JAN - DEC 2022 (PY)	CHANGE	% CHANGE
215 Employer S.S. exp. - Staff	16,473.38	16,538.19	-64.81	-0.39 %
225 Payroll Processing Fees	2,139.00	2,577.60	-438.60	-17.02 %
<b>Total 52000 Staff Expense</b>	<b>257,943.39</b>	<b>254,124.14</b>	<b>3,819.25</b>	<b>1.50 %</b>
53000 Office Expense	87.55	169.91	-82.36	-48.47 %
300 Office Supplies	1,355.00	2,996.10	-1,641.10	-54.77 %
301 Misc Office Expense	908.34	2,820.36	-1,912.02	-67.79 %
305 Postage and Delivery	1,497.42	1,196.16	301.26	25.19 %
310 Office Equip Lease Pymts	5,126.61	3,550.20	1,576.41	44.40 %
315 Software Maintenance	6,230.58	5,844.73	385.85	6.60 %
320 Telephone Expense	3,881.58	3,728.22	153.36	4.11 %
321 Online Giving Fees	4,343.55	4,259.94	83.61	1.96 %
53325 Bank Charges	511.25	553.00	-41.75	-7.55 %
<b>Total 53000 Office Expense</b>	<b>23,941.88</b>	<b>25,118.62</b>	<b>-1,176.74</b>	<b>-4.68 %</b>
53400 Communications Expense	394.89	886.24	-491.35	-55.44 %
53500 Administrative Expense				
555 Personnel Committee Exp.	273.96	879.72	-605.76	-68.86 %
556 Pastor Search Committee	18,327.59		18,327.59	
590 Misc. Program Exp.	371.65	65.35	306.30	468.71 %
<b>Total 53500 Administrative Expense</b>	<b>18,973.20</b>	<b>945.07</b>	<b>18,028.13</b>	<b>1,907.60 %</b>
53550 Stewardship Ministry	233.67	1,398.37	-1,164.70	-83.29 %
53600 Per Capita Paid	22,471.18	17,406.96	5,064.22	29.09 %
54000 Hospitality				
54001 Hospitality Cafe Central	1,619.37		1,619.37	
54002 Hospitality Special Events	1,715.00		1,715.00	
<b>Total 54000 Hospitality</b>	<b>3,334.37</b>		<b>3,334.37</b>	
54500 Mission Ministry	47,459.91	40,183.87	7,276.04	18.11 %
55700 Christian Formation		971.79	-971.79	-100.00 %
55710 General Chris. Form.	692.29	1,061.99	-369.70	-34.81 %
55720 Children's Ministry	3,992.03	2,926.25	1,065.78	36.42 %
55730 Youth Ministry	116.12	40.39	75.73	187.50 %
55732 CPC Funded Activities	1,332.60	2,609.30	-1,276.70	-48.93 %
<b>Total 55730 Youth Ministry</b>	<b>1,448.72</b>	<b>2,649.69</b>	<b>-1,200.97</b>	<b>-45.32 %</b>
55740 College Ministry	190.11		190.11	
55750 Adult Ministry	228.95	284.80	-55.85	-19.61 %
55760 All Church / Intergenerational	159.32	1,301.18	-1,141.86	-87.76 %
<b>Total 55700 Christian Formation</b>	<b>6,711.42</b>	<b>9,195.70</b>	<b>-2,484.28</b>	<b>-27.02 %</b>
57000 Worship Ministry	3,035.59	3,586.15	-550.56	-15.35 %
700 Music Ministry	2,981.01	4,341.33	-1,360.32	-31.33 %
715 Worship Service Expense	2,292.30	1,637.07	655.23	40.02 %
<b>Total 57000 Worship Ministry</b>	<b>8,308.90</b>	<b>9,564.55</b>	<b>-1,255.65</b>	<b>-13.13 %</b>

	TOTAL			
	JAN - DEC 2023	JAN - DEC 2022 (PY)	CHANGE	% CHANGE
59000 Trustees Expense		50.00	-50.00	-100.00 %
900 Heat (Gas)	9,775.06	10,523.92	-748.86	-7.12 %
905 Electric	12,110.61	9,626.52	2,484.09	25.80 %
910 Water and Sewer Expense	1,286.37	1,371.57	-85.20	-6.21 %
915 Insurance Expense	20,899.66	16,976.66	3,923.00	23.11 %
920 Equipment Maint.	685.19	803.50	-118.31	-14.72 %
925 Building Maint.	5,993.59	5,835.40	158.19	2.71 %
926 Custodial Supplies	3,117.07	1,311.62	1,805.45	137.65 %
930 Contract Services - Grounds	300.00		300.00	
935 Contract Services - Building	5,815.33	1,684.76	4,130.57	245.17 %
941 Replacement Equipment	175.00		175.00	
950 Fire Alarm System	2,835.49	3,952.38	-1,116.89	-28.26 %
970 Minor Bldg Repairs	881.18	60.34	820.84	1,360.36 %
971 Major Bldg Repairs	12,641.92		12,641.92	
972 Loan Interest Expense	9,783.56	10,953.12	-1,169.56	-10.68 %
973 Kitchen Supplies		402.00	-402.00	-100.00 %
975 Tech Team Purchases	3,344.47	10,270.25	-6,925.78	-67.44 %
977 Roof	3,289.47		3,289.47	
<b>Total 59000 Trustees Expense</b>	<b>92,933.97</b>	<b>73,822.04</b>	<b>19,111.93</b>	<b>25.89 %</b>
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$632,822.11</b>	<b>\$554,769.67</b>	<b>\$78,052.44</b>	<b>14.07 %</b>
<b>NET OPERATING INCOME</b>	<b>\$ -38,567.33</b>	<b>\$36,114.32</b>	<b>\$ -74,681.65</b>	<b>-206.79 %</b>
<b>NET INCOME</b>	<b>\$ -38,567.33</b>	<b>\$36,114.32</b>	<b>\$ -74,681.65</b>	<b>-206.79 %</b>

# 2024 Budget

## Central Presbyterian Church-2 Budget 2024

	<u>Session Voted Budget 2024</u>
<b>Income</b>	
40000 Core Ministry	\$535,000
add building rental income	\$12,000
add preschool lease	\$11,500
add per capita	\$5,000
add 6650 MBR transfer to cover bell repair	\$6,650
add 25000 pastor housing fund transfer to cover mortgage for year	\$25,000
49030 Benevity	\$31,000
<b>Total Income</b>	<u><b>\$626,150</b></u>
<b>Gross Profit</b>	<u><b>\$626,150</b></u>
<b>Expenses</b>	
<b>51000 Pastor</b>	
100 Pastor- Salary	\$38,170
101 Pastor- Housing	\$50,000
102 Pastor Dent/Life Ins Prem	\$0
103 Tax Deferred Compensation	\$2,000
104 FSA Pre Tax Deduction	\$1,750
109 Vision	\$160
110 Pastor- Health Insurance	\$26,657
111 Pastor- Pension	\$7,813
112 Death/Disability	\$919
113 Temp Disability	\$460
115 Pastor- Soc Sec Supplement	\$7,032
120 Pastor- Reimb Prof Exp	\$2,000
121 Pastor Reimb Education	\$1,600
125 Pastor- Mileage Reimb	\$1,500
127 Reimb. Book Exp.	\$400
Tech and Comm Allowance	\$1,200
Relocation Expense Gross Up Allocation	\$9,000
<b>Total 51000 Pastor</b>	<u><b>\$150,661</b></u>
<b>52000 Staff Expense</b>	
190 Pulpit Supply	\$2,000
200 Staff Salaries	\$232,272
201 Contracted Service Expense	\$20,600
202 Personnel Business Expenses	\$200
205 Staff - Tax Deferred Comp	\$1,300
210 Staff-Life Insurance	\$120

215 Employer S.S. exp. - Staff	\$17,769
225 Payroll Processing Fees	\$2,975
52192 Staff Recognition	\$250
Staff Reimb Auto/Travel	\$600
Staff Misc Expenses	\$350
Staff - Professional Development	\$1,500
555 Personnel Committee Exp.	\$2,000
<b>Total 52000 Staff Expense</b>	<b>\$281,935</b>
53000 Office Expense	
300 Office Supplies	\$1,500
301 Misc Office Expense	\$1,000
305 Postage and Delivery	\$1,500
310 Office Equip Lease Pymts	\$4,000
315 Software Maintenance	\$7,000
320 Telephone Expense	\$3,500
321 Online Giving Fees	\$5,000
53325 Bank Charges	\$500
<b>Total 53000 Office Expense</b>	<b>\$24,000</b>
53400 Communications Expense	
Graphic Design Costs	\$500
Outside Events	\$500
Videography	\$500
<b>Total 53400 Communications Expense</b>	<b>\$1,500</b>
53500 Administrative Expense	
PILP Loan Principle and Interest	\$27,563
Transfers to Major Building Fund	\$5,000
590 Misc. Program Exp.	
<b>Total 53500 Administrative Expense</b>	<b>\$32,563</b>
53550 Stewardship Ministry	\$0
53600 Per Capita Paid	\$16,034
54000 Hospitality	
54001 Hospitality Cafe Central	\$2,775
54002 Hospitality Special Events	\$1,000
54003 Hospitality New Members	\$225
54004 Hospitality Speakers	\$0
<b>Total 54000 Hospitality</b>	<b>\$4,000</b>
54500 Mission Ministry	\$26,500
55700 Christian Formation	
55720 Children's Ministry	\$1,370
55730 Youth Ministry	\$2,400
<b>Total 55730 Youth Ministry</b>	<b>\$3,770</b>
55740 College Ministry	\$250
55750 Adult Ministry	\$500
55760 All Church / Intergenerational	\$500



<b>Total 55700 Christian Formation</b>	<b>\$5,020</b>
<b>57000 Worship Ministry</b>	
<b>700 Music Ministry</b>	
<b>Printed Music</b>	\$350
<b>Organ/Piano Maintenance</b>	\$1,725
<b>Intrument Maintenance/Replacement</b>	\$6,560
<b>A/V Maintenance</b>	\$750
<b>Licenses CCLI , OneLicense and Prop 7</b>	\$1,350
<b>SR Guest Instrumentalists</b>	\$150
<b>Bell Choir and Acolyte Supplies</b>	\$200
<b>Total 700 Music Ministry</b>	<b>\$11,085</b>
<b>715 Worship Service Expense</b>	
<b>Decorative Items</b>	\$1,060
<b>Special Services</b>	\$490
<b>Communion Supplies and Elements</b>	\$360
<b>Total 715 Worship Service Expense</b>	<b>\$1,910</b>
<b>Total 57000 Worship Ministry</b>	<b>\$12,995</b>
<b>59000 Trustees Expense</b>	
<b>900 Heat (Gas)</b>	\$11,000
<b>905 Electric</b>	\$11,000
<b>910 Water and Sewer Expense</b>	\$1,500
<b>915 Insurance Expense</b>	\$14,000
<b>920 Equipment Maint.</b>	\$1,500
<b>925 Building Maint.</b>	\$5,000
<b>926 Custodial Supplies</b>	\$1,500
<b>930 Contract Services - Grounds</b>	\$10,000
<b>935 Contract Services - Building</b>	\$5,000
<b>950 Fire Alarm System</b>	\$2,500
<b>970 Minor Bldg Repairs</b>	\$1,000
<b>975 Tech Team Purchases</b>	\$2,000
<b>977 Roof</b>	\$5,000
<b>Total 59000 Trustees Expense</b>	<b>\$71,000</b>
<b>60000 Miscellaneous Programs</b>	
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$626,208</b>
<b>Net Operating Income</b>	<b>-\$58</b>

# Clerk's Report



January 1st-December 31st, 2023  
Clerk of Session, Carol Jobe

## Elders Serving on Session

Class of 2023 (Through April of 2024)	Class of 2024 (Through April of 2025)	Class of 2025 (Through April of 2026)
Jeff Henning	Adam Anders	Alexandra Barainyak
Kelly Kelly	Amy Amour	Jeff Flecken
Cari McGowan	Anne Cowburn	Kraig Gualtieri (resigned Oct.)
Debbie Shupp	Bob Schmid	Lisa Kadrark

\*Due to recent changes to the CPC By-Laws, elders will now serve from May-May, rather than calendar years. The above previously elected elders will serve an additional 4 months.

The Session is the council for the congregation. It is made up of the Pastor (Teaching Elder) and Ruling Elders who are elected to active service by the congregation.

The Session is responsible for worship opportunities for the congregation including the preaching of the Word and the Sacraments of Baptism and the celebration of the Lord's Supper, for Christian Education experiences for children and adults, for pastoral care to our congregation; and to lead the congregation in ministries to communities in which the church lives and bears its witness as well as ministries to the wider world.

The Session receives members into the church, it challenges the members of the church with Christian Stewardship of time, talent, and treasure, it establishes an annual budget and determines distribution of church benevolences, it provides supervision over the Board of Deacons and the Board of Trustees and all other organizations within the congregation, it provides for the administration of the church and its property and the use of its facilities.

By approval of the Congregation on October 25, 2015, the number of members of the Session has been reduced to 13 members in 2016, and to 12 members in 2017. In 2024 the Session will continue with 12 members.

**The following persons joined Central during 2023 (9)**

Name	TRANSFER, REAFFIRMATION or PROFESSION OF FAITH
Amanda Harty	Reaffirmation
Ryan Kadrark	Reaffirmation
Jenny Rubino	Reaffirmation
Nick Rubino	Profession of Faith
Allison Munn	Transfer from Grace United Methodist Church, Lemoyne, PA
Vicki Gill	Transfer from Doylestown Presbyterian Church, Doylestown, PA
Lindsay Gostkowski	Transfer from Covenant Presbyterian Church, Malvern, PA
Jonathan Gostkowski	Reaffirmation
Anita Routzahn	Transfer from Messiah Lutheran Church, Downingtown, PA

**The following persons transferred to other churches from Central during 2023 (2)**

Name	Church
Peter DeBarger	Highland Presbyterian Church, Lancaster, PA
Joyce DeBarger	Highland Presbyterian Church, Lancaster, PA

**The following persons were removed from the rolls in 2023 (6)**

Name
Rachel Hollis
Sarah Maenner
Kendall Sekula (nee Warren)
Bethany Warren
Ralph Johnson
Jennifer Horwitz

**The following members entered The Church Triumphant in 2023 (4)**

Name	Date of Death
(Clarence) William 'Bill' Becker	April 22, 2023
Stephanie Miller	August 20, 2023
Andrew 'Andy' Watterson Blackwood III	October 25, 2023
James 'Jim' K. Lucas	November 23, 2023

**Marriages of Church Members during 2023 (0)**

**Child Baptisms in 2023 (4)**

Name	Date of Baptism
Reagan Leigh Harty	January 8, 2023
Stella Grace Rubino	February 12, 2023
Skylar Haley Anders	July 16, 2023
Alexander Gideon Weikel	December 10, 2023

## Adult Baptisms in 2023 (0)

Following is a statistical summary of our congregation for 2023

<b>Total Communicant Members as of December 31, 2022</b>	<b>422</b>
<b>New Members</b>	
Transfers from other churches	3
Reaffirmation	6
Profession of Faith	0
Reinstate	1
<b>Total Gains</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Loss of Members</b>	
Death	4
Transfer to other churches	2
Removed from Rolls	6
<b>Total</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>Baptisms</b>	
Adult	0
Child	4
Marriages of Church Members	0
<b>Total Communicant Members as of December 31, 2023</b>	<b>420</b>

**Central Presbyterian Church  
Downingtown, Pennsylvania  
161st Congregation/Corporation Annual Meeting  
February 12, 2023**

The 161st Congregation and Corporation of the Central Presbyterian Church, Downingtown, PA, for the year 2022, held a duly constituted meeting on February 12, 2023 at 10:40am following the Worship Service in the Sanctuary and also online over Zoom. Annual Reports were available as well as an Agenda.

The 161st Congregational Meeting was Called to Order by Interim Pastor, the Reverend Jeff Hopson.

The Corporation of Central Presbyterian Church was Called to Order by Board of Trustee President, Jane Chaballa.

A Quorum was present. The Opening Prayer was offered by the Reverend Hopson.

Reverend Hopson acted as Moderator.

The Clerk of Session, Carol Jobe, presented a request to Approve the following Minutes of the Congregation/Corporation and the Special Called meetings of the Congregation as printed. The Minutes are found on Pages 27-33 of the 2022 Annual Report and include the following:

- The 160th (2021) Congregation/Corporation Annual Meeting held on Sunday, February 20, 2022 on Pages 27-29 (to receive the 2021 Annual Report)
- The following Special Called Meetings of the Congregation:
  - Sunday June 26, 2022 (to elect members to the Pastor Nominating Committee) (page 30)
  - Sunday August 14, 2022 (to elect one Elder and one Trustee to unfilled terms) (page 31)
  - Sunday October 30, 2022 (to elect officers for the Class of 2025) (pages 32-33)

**A Motion was Made, Seconded and Passed to Approve the Minutes.**

A Necrology Report of persons who have Entered the Church Triumphant in 2022 is provided below. Kathy Hanick spoke about the memorial program and gave a brief biography of the following persons that included the many ways they served Central Presbyterian Church:

Name	Date of Death
James "Jim" Sciandra	January 1, 2022
Mary "Betsy" Weaber	January 12, 2022
Joseph Gregor	January 16, 2022
Harry Otto	June 5, 2022
Eileen McCardell	June 24, 2022

### **The Trustees Report was given by Trustee President Jane Chaballa.**

In 2022, the major goal of the Trustees was to replace the boilers. This goal was accomplished and we now have high-efficiency boilers. The Trustees are also continuously monitoring the roof for leaks. However, as the building has a flat roof, there will probably always be issues. There were no questions from the floor.

### **The Finance Ministry Report was given by outgoing Elder Carmon Comunale and incoming Elder Lisa Kadrark.**

Carmon spoke about how the 2023 budget was created with input from the committee chairs. Central had a deficit budget for 2022, but ended the year with total giving exceeding what was budgeted. Carmon then showed some historical giving graphs which are helpful to predict trends in giving. Lisa made some callouts of the 2023 budget. We're projecting a higher spend for 2023 than 2022 with the budget showing operating at a loss. However, our balance sheet is strong and our depreciation mechanism is higher than our projected budget loss.

### **A Motion was Made, Seconded, and Passed to receive the budget.**

### **The Pastor's Report was offered by Rev. Jeff Hopson**

Rev. Hopson pointed the congregation to his written report in the Annual Report. He feels our congregation is one of the best in the denomination. We are strong financially, strong in mission, strong in fellowship, strong in learning, and strong in worship. We are a blessed church and we are a blessing to others.

### **The Preschool Report was given by John Warren, Operations Manager.**

A new chapter for preschool at Central begins in September 2023 as Central Community Preschool. John outlined the events that brought us to this point. These included the shutdown of Kids Central Preschool 2020 due to the pandemic, the previous director's retirement, and the difficulty in hiring a replacement. Then in September 2021, Hurricane Ida caused serious damage to Messiah Lutheran Church, specifically to their preschool facilities. Central entered into an agreement with them for the use of our facilities for their preschool. In the summer of 2022, we had discussions with Messiah Church and the Messiah Community Preschool. They wanted to officially bring their preschool to Central and we agreed. This is the first school year that the preschool is officially part of Central. The current enrollment is about 50 kids, with an awesome staff. . to take over discussion Another slide shared what this year's preschool consists of demographically. There will be a new board managing this new preschool. There's more work to do with logistics around payroll, telephones, etc. The director has many ideas and is excited about the possibilities. There are many plans and ideas in the works including a new sign on Uwchlan Ave and an upgraded playground.

John then said that with this new preschool under a new name, a change to the CPC Bylaws (2019) is needed.

### **A Motion was Made, Seconded, and Approved to delete Article XV from the 2019 CPC Bylaws that refers to Kids Central Preschool.**

### **Rev. Hopson opened the floor up for questions.**

A question was asked about the line items in the budget categorized as 'Co-Pastor'. This was a holdover category which was helpful in comparing previous year's budgets. This line item will be renamed to reflect the solo pastor model.

### **A Motion to Adjourn both the Congregation and Corporation Meetings was Made, Seconded, and Passed.**

The Meeting was adjourned at 11:20AM with a Closing Prayer and Benediction by Congregational Care Provider Debbie Gordon.

**Central Presbyterian Church  
Downingtown, Pennsylvania  
Special Called Congregational Meeting  
March 12, 2023**

The congregation of Central Presbyterian Church held a Special Called Congregational Meeting on Sunday, March 12, 2023 in the sanctuary and on Zoom after worship for the purpose of receiving the report of the Pastor Nominating Committee.

Rev. Dr Erin Cox-Holmes opened the meeting with prayer at 10:38.

Rev. Dr Cox-Holmes, Executive Presbyter of Donegal Presbytery, served as moderator for the meeting.

The Clerk of Session, Carol Jobe, declared that a quorum was present.

**Report of the PNC**

Kathy Clark, chair of PNC (Pastor Nominating Committee), gave the report of the PNC. The members of the PNC also came forward to stand with Kathy. She spoke about the characteristics the committee sought in a pastoral candidate. CPC was matched with 83 pastoral candidates through the profile we created and the profiles the candidates created on the Church Leadership Connection site. Each of the PNC members ranked each candidate. The candidates were discussed at each of the PNC's meetings. Questions were developed to ask these candidates before making the decision to interview a candidate. The candidate interviews were recorded and second interviews were also conducted with some candidates. Through this process, all the members of the PNC came to the same conclusion about Rev. Joshua Gill. Each member of the PNC then spoke about their conversations with the candidate and what they found most exciting about him.

**Rev. Josh Gill**

Rev. Gill had time to share. He spoke about how his journey here was a discernment process for both CPC and himself. He gave a brief biography. He spoke about what he already knew and loved about Central and then all the things he has learned and admires about Central. He is excited that this congregation has chosen hope.

Rev. Dr Cox-Holmes then opened the floor for members to ask questions of Rev Gill.

A question was asked about his vision to stay in the PCUSA.

A question was asked about why he was seeking another call.

A question was asked about his views on inclusion.

A question was asked about his plans to stay at CPC in view of his relatively short tenure at EPC.

A question was asked about his experience with youth and youth programs.

A question was asked about what challenges he immediately sees here.

A question was asked about how he sees our staffing model.

Rev. Gill introduced his family. The Rev. Jane DeFord escorted Rev. Gill and his family out of the sanctuary.



### **Nora Sorrell, a member of the PNC, then presented the Terms of Call. (See Appendix I)**

The terms of call were printed and passed out to the congregation. They were also projected on the screens for those attending on Zoom.

Nora went through the items and explained why each item was set as it was. Most are required by the Presbytery. We are required to pay Rev Gill's moving expenses, but since he will have to pay the taxes on the moving expenses amount because it's considered income, CPC will gross up the moving expenses.

There is essentially a technology agreement included in the Terms of Call.

A few questions were asked about the sabbatical portion of the Terms of Call.

### **Voting**

Six members of the congregation were appointed to serve as Tellers for this meeting. The ballots were passed out to active members of the congregation by the Tellers. For those attending over Zoom, a ballot poll was shared. Rev. Dr. Cox-Holmes gave instructions for the ballot. The Tellers then collected the voted ballots and left the sanctuary to count the ballots. The counting was done in rooms 108-109. The votes from the Zoom ballot poll were taken to the Tellers to be included with the ballots from the sanctuary.

Hymns were sung while the congregation waited for the counting to conclude.

The Tellers returned to the sanctuary at 11:39AM. The ballot results were 138 Yes, 0 No, and 2 Abstentions.

- Rev. Gill and his family returned to the sanctuary to a standing ovation.
- Rev. Gill spoke for a few moments expressing how excited he is for the future of CPC and its ministry.
- Rev. Gill offered a closing prayer.

### **A Motion was Made, Seconded, and Approved to dismiss the PNC.**

Meeting was adjourned at 11:42AM.

**Central Presbyterian Church  
Downingtown, Pennsylvania  
Special Called Congregation Meeting  
November 19, 2023**

The Congregation of the Central Presbytery Church, Downingtown, PA held a special called meeting on November 19, 2023 at 10:35 am immediately following the Worship Service for the purpose of reviewing proposed changes to the By-Laws of Central Presbyterian Church. Members were present both in the sanctuary and online over Zoom. Members watching on Zoom did not have the ability to vote.

The Clerk of Session declared a Quorum was present. Rev. Gill served as the moderator for the meeting.

The Congregational Meeting was Called to Order by the Pastor, the Reverend Joshua Gill. Rev Gill called Elder Alexandra Barainyak to review the changes and the reasons for the proposed change.

The current By-Laws state that new officers are to be elected in November. They take office beginning the next January. This leaves the month of December for new officer training to take place which is inadequate and not ideal.

The proposed change will allow additional training time for new officers. The proposed change would also allow the officer elections to coincide with the Annual Meeting. It is possible that only one Congregational Meeting would be held each year, as there is nothing in the By-Laws requiring more than one.

Alexandra made the motion that the By-Laws be updated as presented. The motion was seconded. Several questions were asked. Rev Gill made a call for other questions, and after no other questions, called for a vote on the motion. The motion unanimously passed.

Rev Gill called for a motion to adjourn with a unanimous 'Amen'.

Meeting adjourned with prayer at 10:41AM.

# Central can't thrive *without you.*



*Join us on Sundays*

9:30 a.m. Sunday Worship

10:45 a.m. Faith Formation Hour

**Determined to love.**

**Invited to wonder.**

**Inspired to serve.**

