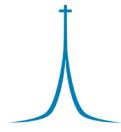


**Christ Memorial**

Presbyterian Church

**2023 Annual Report**





# Introduction

Dear Reader,

The year 2023 was yet another banner year for the faithful of Christ Memorial Presbyterian Church. Almost everywhere we turned we could see clearly God's provisions and blessings—especially as we more fully climbed out of the pandemic and worked to find our “new normal”.

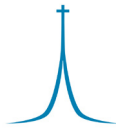
This past year brought with it many signs of vitality and growth here at CMPC. We bid farewell to our beloved accompanist of nineteen years, Lorri Yawney, and welcomed our new accompanist Ted Markle. Not only were we blessed to have new brothers and sisters join our church family (and welcome a few newborns as well), we also saw increased energy, excitement, and attendance in almost every aspect of our life together—from worship to fellowship, from education to mission, from people giving of their time and talents to people giving of their treasures. It was truly a year of good news!

As we turn our focus to 2024 we are careful to learn from our experiences in the years past—both triumphs and trials. In the new year we can expect growth to continue as it is so very clear that the Spirit is in our midst moving in powerful and thrilling ways. We are a committed, loyal, and faithful community and that will continue to serve us well this year and well into the future.

In addition, the leadership of the church is strong and faithful—working together to discern God's will for CMPC and to step boldly into the plans God has for us—“plans for (our) welfare and not for harm, to give (us) a future with hope.” I am eternally grateful for their partnership and support.

So, we pause to give thanks to God for a wonderful 2023. Then, we take the first steps towards another year of faithful following in 2024. To God be the glory!

Peace in Christ,  
Rev. Scott W. Hoffman



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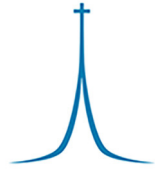
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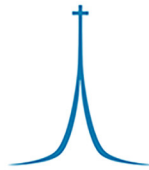
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## Our Mission

**Grateful to God for God's constant loving presence and guided by God's Word, we are called to be a people who:**

- Praise God in worship and in our daily lives
- Grow Biblically and spiritually in our life together,
- Reach out as witnesses of Jesus Christ, serving those in need, and
- Share Christ's love with one another and everyone we meet.



## Our Vision

**We believe that God is calling members of Christ Memorial Presbyterian Church to:**

- Live as brothers and sisters in Jesus Christ, strongly bound together in loving relationship and equipped for ministry to one another and to the wider community.
- Engage all ages in uplifting worship that offers a variety of ministry styles to connect with everyone.
- Grow Biblically and spiritually by offering all children, youth, and adults a variety of educational opportunities on Sunday mornings and throughout the week.
- Reach out to the unchurched in our community -- especially younger families and adults, empty-nesters, and believers who have no active church home -- and invite them to participate in ministry with us.
- Emphasize mission by focusing on thriving projects and seeking meaningful opportunities for all members and youth.
- Strengthen our church community through love for one another, providing a variety of fellowship activities and outreach events that extends beyond church walls.
- Update and beautify our building and grounds to create new possibilities for worship and service in Christ's name.

## Membership Changes:

The changes in membership during 2023 are presented in the Table:

Active Members - December 31, 2022	378
Additions through Profession/Reaffirmation	5
Additions through Letter of Transfer	0
Total Gains	5
Losses through Letter of Transfer	1
Deaths	2
Deleted from rolls	5
Total Losses	8
Active Members - December 31, 2023	375

## Baptisms:

Two baptisms were held in 2023.

## Worship Attendance:

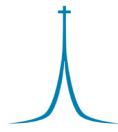
Average worship attendance for all 2023 services was 114.

## Membership Demographics:

On Dec. 31, 2022 church membership consisted of 210 females and 168 males.

Membership as broken down by age group:

<b>Age 17 and under:</b>	10
<b>Age 18-25:</b>	48
<b>Age 26-40:</b>	61
<b>Age 41-55:</b>	73
<b>Age 56-70:</b>	76
<b>Age 71 and older:</b>	71
<b>Non-declared:</b>	36



# Church Officers

## The Session

**Moderator: The Rev. Scott Hoffman**

**Clerk of Session: Janene Holzberg**

**Treasurer: Bob Ashman**

**Assistant Treasurer: Missy Sullivan/Joyce Danzig**

### Class of 2024

Sue Ashman: Mission and Local Outreach

Delores McBirney: Stewardship

Craig Nienhuis: Property

### Class of 2025

Jeff Bloom: Finance\*

Gil Burckart: Worship and Music\*

Jim Cardea: Nominating

Josh Gliptis: Property\*

Janene Holzberg: Clerk of Session

John Kim: Personnel\*

Allison Miller: Worship

Jennifer Weinel: Stewardship\*

### Class of 2026

Judy Brown : Nominating\*

Suzy Crabb: Mission and Local Outreach

Philip Davies: Mission and Local Outreach\*

Wes Millard: Worship

Debbie ONeal: Christian Education\*

Patricia Wilder: Stewardship

\* Denotes chair or co-chair

Elders who cycled off in the Class of 2023: Don Mitchell and Rick Mills. We thank them for their service.

## The Board of Deacons

**Moderator: Eleanor Orndorff**

### Class of 2024

John Fieldsend:  
Communications\*

Colleen Hughes: Membership  
and Hospitality\*

### Class of 2025

Tom Engle: Care and Wellness

Laura Frantz: Care and Wellness

Peter Gallagher: Fellowship

Jan Keister: Care and Wellness\*

Laura Jean Michels-Graybeal: Fellowship

Bill Ryder: Membership and Hospitality

Tom Trodden: Fellowship\*

### Class of 2026

Theresa Akuoko: Fellowship

Sandi Chapasko: Membership and  
Hospitality

Linda Dunn: Care and Wellness

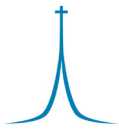
Chip Garner: Nominating

Amy McMillion: Fellowship

Mollie Thomas: Communications

\* Denotes chair or co-chair

Deacons who cycled off in the Class of 2022: Rachael Bis, Kris Bloom, Eleanor Orndorff, John Salkeld and Linda Shields. We thank them for their service.



# Nominating Committee of the Congregation

## Committee Members 2023

Session Representatives: Judy Brown (Chair), Jim Cardea

Deacon Representative: Eleanor Orndorff

Members-at-large elected by the congregation: Liz Perraud, Chip Garner, Ashlyn Sowell and Nancy Walworth

## Conduct of Business

The Nominating Committee held meetings throughout the year beginning in April until the process was complete. Committee work occurred between meetings via email and phone calls.

The committee utilized available resources to assist with the consideration of members for possible service to the church. An important resource for the committee was the current CMPC Membership Directory, provided by the CMPC Communications Coordinator, Kathleen Smith. A spreadsheet was developed by Chip Garner, from the current list of CMPC members. This served to organize and communicate the ongoing work of the committee. A list of officers by class was also utilized by the committee and revised to meet the committee workflow.

## The Discernment Process

Relevant sections of the CMPC Bylaws, the PC(USA) Book of Confessions, and the PC(USA) Book of Order were studied by the members of the Nominating Committee in preparation for the process of discernment and calling to service. The committee prayerfully sought God's will for our congregation and its leaders. As each person was reviewed, the member's talents, experience, and service were considered along with the needs of the church.

As balance for the CMPC boards is desirable, the committee strove to obtain some measure of this by considering gender, age, and other demographic factors of the church's membership. Many updates to the work lists were made, prioritizing potential candidates while taking these factors into consideration. We prayed, discussed, and reflected, which led to consensus among the committee members on which individuals to be contacted.

A draft list of candidates was shared with Pastor Hoffman to ensure adjustments were made for any factors of which the committee had no awareness. Following his review and comments, and relying on God's guidance, candidate pools were determined by the committee of those to be called and which offices for them to be called to in the church's service.

## The Call Process

To avoid mailing expenses as well as to reduce processing time, the committee generated a formal letter to the candidates which was sent as an attachment to an email, requesting their prayerful consideration of a call to serve. This e-mail message included information which was to be helpful in their discernment of the call. These messages were followed-up as appropriate with a call, meeting, or email from one of the committee's members to offer an opportunity for questions to be answered. Pastor Scott Hoffman was also available and met with candidates as requested.

The committee sought those candidates who felt they were guided by the Lord to answer this particular call to service at this particular time. Thanks were given to those candidates who considered but declined a nomination. The candidates who did accept the call were sent a message with information and guidance for the next steps as a nominee. Biographical sketches were solicited from each nominee.



## **Conclusion of the Nominating Process**

The session approved a motion to schedule a congregational meeting to be held after the worship service on Sunday, November 19, 2023 for the purpose of electing CMPC's officers and the at-large members of the 2024 Nominating Committee. At that meeting, the Nominating Committee's proposed slate was approved by the membership. That slate consisted of the following individuals for the positions as indicated:

### Deacons (3-year term)

Amy McMillion, Linda Dunn, Theresa Akuoko, Sandi Chapasko, and Chip Garner

### Youth Deacon (1-year term)

Mollie Thomas

### Elders (3-year term)

Judy Brown, Phillip Davies and Debbie O'Neal each serving a second term; Patricia Wilder, Wes Millard and Suzy Crabb.

### Nominating Committee (one year term)

Eleanor Orndorff, Ashlyn Sowell, Shelley Clemens, and Liz Perraud

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the 2023 Nominating Committee,  
Judy Brown, Chair



# Christian Education

The Christian Education Committee is composed of members-at-large as well as representatives from a number of significant church programs. CE also serves as a liaison for the scouts who meet at CMPC.

The 2023 Christian Education Committee was made up of the following individuals:

Heather Barham, Heather Gallagher, Lindsey Kim, Cordelia Lamb, Delores McBirney, Julie Nienhuis, Debbie O'Neal (Co-Moderator), Liz Perraud (Co-Moderator), Elyn Thomas, Kaleigh Thomas, Ryan Thomas, Sarah Trodden, Donna Ueckermann, and Becky Zordan. These people are strongly committed to the ongoing Christian discipleship of the adults, youth, and children of our congregation.

Our committee is charged with:

- Support and oversight of CMCP Preschool
- Support and oversight of Christian Education programs
- Identifying and training teachers and curriculum approval
- Support of adult Bible studies and small groups
- Confirmation class
- Third Grade Bibles, Graduation Sunday and other special milestones
- Support and oversight of CMPC nursery/childcare
- Support and oversight of Boy Scouts and Cub Scouts
- Oversight of volunteer screening policy

The Christian Education programs, studies, and events are possible because of the many people who volunteer to make them happen and those who participate. We look forward to 2024 as we continue to gather and grow Christian disciples.

Respectfully submitted,

Debbie O'Neal

Liz Perraud

Co-Moderators Christian Education Committee

## Christ Memorial Christian Preschool

Christ Memorial Christian Preschool enjoyed its 46th year of servicing the Howard County community for the 2023/24 school year. We are licensed by the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) and strive to provide a quality faith-based preschool education for children in Howard County. Our school mission is to provide a loving Christian educational environment to families in our community. Our school philosophy is from Proverbs 22:6 "Point your children in the right direction ~ when they are old, they won't be lost."

Our fiscal year begins on July 1 and ends June 30 of each year. For the 2023/24 school year our preschool is currently at 94% capacity.

**Staff:**

Our staff consists of the following women who possess a love for our Lord and for our preschool children:

Susan Benzing	Vanessa O'Connor
Kim Brathwaite	Jen Scheid
Heather Gallagher	Kathleen Smith
Theresa March	Barbara Stine
Julie Nienhuis	Rita Wheelock

After serving the children of Christ Memorial for 8 years as a lead teacher in Classroom Love, we said goodbye to Stefanie Rosti at the end of the 2022/23 school year. She was a dedicated and amazing educator with our young preschoolers, and we miss her as she has turned her focus to supporting her own children. We were blessed to welcome two new teachers to the staff in her place. Vanessa O'Connor is the lead teacher for our 3-year-old Tuesday/Thursday class and Theresa March is the lead teacher for our 4-year-old Monday/Wednesday/Friday class both in Classroom Love.

The preschool has enjoyed this past year keeping our strong connection with Christ Memorial Presbyterian Church. The preschool included monthly inserts in the church bulletins to highlight the activities occurring during the past month within the preschool. Pastor Scott has also continued the tradition of meeting with our preschool children once a month to share a Bible story. This is a wonderful opportunity for the children to connect to the church through the fun time spent with Pastor Scott.

**Operational Budget:**

Although we are part of CMPC, we do not rely on the church for financial support. The money that we spend, each year, comes from our preschool families via tuition.

For the 2023/24 school year our budget for preschool is \$177,100.00. Expenses include salaries for the director, the teachers, and the assistants, as well as supplies and operating costs. The preschool, with donations from the Mission and Local Outreach Committee, continues to provide financial assistance. During the 2023/24 school year, we are providing \$3500 in financial assistance to children who would otherwise have been unable to attend a Christian preschool. Annette Hinkle continues this year to offer her exceptional guidance and assistance with the accounting for the preschool. Her support is greatly appreciated.

**Preschool Board:**

We are especially grateful to the Preschool School Board who provides oversight, support, and integration. The board meets four times a year virtually. Members of the current Preschool School Board are Sue Ashman, Kirsten Aquino, Sarah Trodden, and Dani Wilder. Sarah Trodden joined us this year to replace Jennifer Neely, who chose to step down from the board.

**Outreach:**

Although our school day centers on the needs of the preschoolers, we provide opportunities for our preschool families to know and strengthen their love of Christ and become familiar with Christ Memorial Presbyterian Church. Our monthly newsletter and parent board are ways we highlight and inform our families of the various activities within our church. Many CMPC members first learned about our church while their child attended preschool. During the past year many of our preschool families also participated in LOGOS, Angel Tree Donations, and the Food Drive for Columbia Community Cares. We were also pleased to have over 50 of our preschool families participate in Vacation Bible School in July 2023.

The preschool staff feels blessed to have the amazing opportunity to share the love of God with our special preschoolers and to be part of CMPC's outreach to our community.

Respectfully Submitted by  
Heather Gallagher  
Preschool Director

## LOGOS

**Overview:**

LOGOS is made up of four parts:

Bible Study: Studying the Bible as the model for Christ-centered living.

Worship Arts: Learning and practicing ways to serve God through worship.

Recreation: Experiencing great fun at the expense of no one else.

Family Time: Experiencing being part of God's family over a shared meal.

At Christ Memorial we group our children and youth as:

BUGS (Bringing Up God's Servants): Preschool

FROG (Fully Rely On God): K-5th Grade

ROCK (Reaching Out for Christ's Kingdom): Middle School

FISH (Fellowship In Senior High): High School

**Leadership:**

LOGOS is operated by the LOGOS Leadership Team and is accountable to the Session through the Christian Education Committee. The LOGOS Team meets monthly throughout the entire year.

**2022-23 Leadership Team:**

Directors: Ryan and Elyn Thomas

Treasurer: Lindsey Cogswell

FISH Directors: Tom and Sarah Trodden

Bible Time Coordinator: Laura Jean Graybeal

BUGS Coordinator: Pam Mitchell

Communications Coordinator: Tiffany Carmean

Family Time Coordinator: Heather Gallagher

Dinner Deans: Amy McMillion and Kaleigh Thomas

Worship Arts Coordinator: Carrie Jenkins

Recreation Coordinator: Heather Barham

Kitchen Coordinators: Peter Gallagher and Tracy Locke-Kitt

Mission Coordinator: Kirsten Aquino

Special Events Coordinators: Wes Millard and Becky Zordan

## **Summary of Activities:**

This year we are celebrating 36 years of LOGOS at CMPC. As of December 2023, our current enrollment is 79 children and youth (Nursery: 0, BUGS: 5, FROG: 39, ROCK: 20, FISH: 15). In the Spring 2023 we ended the year with 62 children enrolled. There are over 56 adults who volunteer regularly to run the ministry.

We are committed to the process of call (rather than recruiting) to fill the many leadership and volunteer positions and strive to match the volunteers' gifts with the needs of the ministry. A few key leadership positions were filled via call this year, including new Bible Time and Kitchen Coordinators.

LOGOS Sunday for 2022-23 was held on February 19th. The FROG and BUGS choir performed and ROCK chimes rang. Participants from across the program assisted with the liturgy and special music.

ROCK went to Main Event for a bowling and video game expedition in February.

FISH Sunday was held on March 12th with High Schoolers presenting the call to worship, prayers, special music, scripture reading, and offering. Seniors Kylee Hoffman and Jesse Stewart gave sermons. Preceding FISH Sunday, FISH held a lock in at the church.

The LOGOS musical chose Agape League as the annual musical production. Both fourth and fifth graders performed speaking roles. The performance was held on March 26th.

LOGOS Sunday for 2023-24 was held on November 12th. The FROG and BUGS choir performed, ROCK chimes rang, and FISH gave the sermon as a group. Participants from across the program assisted with the liturgy and special music.

ROCK practiced chimes and performed in church at both LOGOS Sundays and also for the Christmas Eve service. FROG choir also sang on both LOGOS Sundays and on Christmas Eve.

Regular training contributes to the strength of the ministry. We held an in-house volunteer training event in January. In September, we partnered with GenOn Ministries to have a virtual training focused on working across the spectrum of child behaviors. We also held a LOGOS Boost training on site in September.

## **Operating Budget:**

The LOGOS operating expenses are funded by tuition payments from each participating family and some additional donations from individuals. The operating expenses represent the costs of food, curriculum, music and scripts, postage, administrative supplies, mission projects, recreation supplies, adult training expenses, and special event fees. The tuition rate for 2023-2024 program year is \$150.00 for all participants.

The Richard Burdis Memorial Fund was established by private donations to support families needing assistance for the LOGOS registration fees, for youth attending the summer conference (GenOn Youth Summit), and other special needs as deemed necessary by the LOGOS Leadership Team. We did not need to utilize these funds in 2023.

## **Commitment to Mission and Service**

Through the LOGOS budget, Christ Memorial contributes to GenOn Ministries above and beyond the resources and training that we purchase to run our program. This financial support goes to support the wider (North American) ministry.

The LOGOS program participated in four mission activities in 2023. ROCK continued to maintain the LOGOS garden by preparing it for winter. In the month of November, the entire program collected needs for the Howard County Animal Shelter. In December, LOGOS participated in the church wide Christmas family adoption and the food pantry drive.

### **High School Summer Conference:**

Each July, our rising eighth graders through college students, along with adult leaders, attend the GenOn Youth Summit. This discipleship-building week-long gathering brings together youth from all over for worship, small group Bible study, activities, and meals—a week of LOGOS! In 2023 LOGOS sent two FISH participants to the conference. In support of their and other church attendance, CMPC held its annual Musical Treats and Sweets fundraisers for this cause on June 4th.

### **Congregational Support:**

We believe that God has called our congregation to offer this mid-week intergenerational ministry that focuses on providing the conditions for faith formation and spiritual transformation. God has equipped us with capable leaders, committed volunteers, and a supportive pastor and congregation. In our 36 years of operating LOGOS, we have nurtured many children, youth, and adults into a loving relationship with Jesus Christ.

The LOGOS program remains strong due to those who support our ministry through prayer, financial contributions, and the sharing of time and talents. The program remains a vital part of the CMPC community and congregation, and continues to grow and thrive!

Respectfully submitted,  
Ryan and Elyn Thomas  
LOGOS Directors  
(2022-23)

## **Sunday Experience**

Sunday Experience continued to consistently happen during the 10:30 worship service, for children preschool through 3rd grade. This program allows children to worship with their families for the beginning of the service then move downstairs following “Moments for Children” for age-appropriate lessons and activities. COVID protocols were discontinued, but parents continued to complete a sign in sheet and phone number as they dropped off their child(ren).

The children met in one classroom, due to lower attendance in the summer of 2022 and low volunteers. Starting in September we began using the recycled curriculum for the 2019-2020 year of the Presbyterian Church curriculum, Growing in Grace and Gratitude. Attendance continued for much of the beginning of the year to be steady with at least eight children most of the Sundays.

Teachers for 2023 included: Julie Nienhuis, Kaleigh Thomas, Laura Jean Graybeal, Heather Gallagher, Cordelia Lamb, Theresa Akuoko, Natalie Dowgiewicz, Liz Perraud, Rachel Bis, Meghan Jones, Molly Fieldsend, Becky Zordan, Kylee Hoffman

Teachers were assisted by: Kylee Hoffman, Natalee Hoffman, Kofi Akuoko, Zoe Kim, Ryan and Chase Nienhuis, Emma Gallagher, Faith Lamb, Anna McMillion, Emily McMillion, Evie Bis, Wes Zordan, Ian Fieldsend, Lucy Dowgiewicz, Abbie Jones, Riley Jackson

Respectfully submitted,  
Donna Ueckermann and Kaleigh Thomas Sunday Experience Coordinators

## **GIFT: Generations In Faith Together**

The goal of our GIFT program is to help our participants build a personal relationship with Christ while building relationships with one another of all ages. The program includes an educational component based on exposure to and discussion of scripture and seeks to be intentionally intergenerational. GIFT events often include a shared meal, fellowship, learning (sometimes all ages together and sometimes “parallel learning” for specific ages and stages) and a worship component. We look forward to holding more GIFT gatherings in 2024.

### **Star Words**

We continued our tradition at CMPC of receiving star words for Epiphany. Epiphany, celebrated on January 8, marks the end of the twelve days of Christmas and the visit of the Magi recorded in Matthew 2:1-12. The wise men followed a bright heavenly body (usually represented by a star) and traveled great distances to offer their gifts to the newborn Christ-child. The Magi received God’s gift, and then offered their gifts to God. We are also seeking Jesus, trusting that God uses many signs (or stars) to guide us closer to the Divine presence. Star words were handed out during the Children’s Moment and to all following worship. We were invited to ponder the significance this word might have in our lives, and how God might be speaking to us through that simple message.

### **Movie Night**

In May, we held our intergenerational Movie Night with the showing in Fellowship Hall of Akeelah and the Bee. This GIFT event was presented by the CE and Fellowship Committees together. The evening was introduced with a reading of Romans 5:1-5. “...Perseverance produces character; and character produces hope...”

Pizza and popcorn were enjoyed as we watched the movie and then gathered around tables (by birthday months) using photo cards to represent perseverance or hope. Everyone took turns around the table, sharing why they chose a particular picture. How did the picture remind them of Akeelah’s hard work or hope?

# Vacation Bible School

In the second week of July, with the support of the VBS leadership, VBS volunteers and attendees had countless opportunities to shine Jesus' light during a stellar week. We were blessed to have 118 children ranging from preschool to fifth grade along with over 30 youth volunteers and over 25 adult volunteers helping to ensure the week went smoothly! The space both indoors as well as outside of the church building helped to provide a natural and supportive backdrop for all of the week's activities.

This year our theme was "Stellar: Shine Jesus' Light". Participants learned that even when things feel dark they can shine Jesus' light! We were able to start and end our daily VBS adventures in the sanctuary watching entertaining skits and celebrating God's love through music. Each day participants rotated through 4 areas: Bible Time, "KidVid" videos, Imagination Station (experiments), and Recreation. Within the rotations, kids were able to feel the love of Jesus shining through all of the thoughtfully prepared activities and lessons. Participants also enjoyed delicious treats within the Galactic snacks rotation where we came together as a whole group mid day.

We were fortunate to have a great turn out for our VBS enrollment. Compared to VBS in 2022 we had 4 additional youth attending in 2023. Based on information collected at registration, our participants identified themselves with 17% from CMPC, 73% from another local congregation (with a wide mixture) and 10% as "none". However they identified themselves, for many children this was their week of church and we were fortunate to have them with us.

We were blessed to have 25 middle-school, high-school, and college-aged youth volunteers to lead our VBS participants throughout the week either as group leaders and station assistants. Our youth volunteers played a key role in the success of the VBS program. They were timely, responsible and consistently committed to helping participants engage in all of the lessons and activities.

As the week flew by smoothly, we were able to end with a sweet treat after the final closing. Participants and their families celebrated a great week with freeze pops on the church property. Following an efficient and thorough break down of the decorations and materials, many of the Stellar specific items were able to be donated to St. Alphonsa Syro Malabar Catholic Church in Baltimore who was hosting the same program shortly following ours. A special shout out to the dedicated decorations team for their creative ideas and arrangements which had children and adults marveling all week. Additionally, further appreciation is echoed for the many adult volunteers and generous donations from the congregation. Whether you donated physical supplies or your time, we are thankful for all of your efforts in helping to create and support a successful VBS program at CMPC!

The directors feel blessed to have been able to gather together people of all generations to offer this fun and faith-filled week to our church family and to our community. We look forward to another week of fun and celebrating God's love when VBS returns the week of July 8th through 12th.



**Our VBS Leadership Team:**

Directors: Laura Jean Graybeal & Heather Gallagher

Kitchen: Licia Gliptis & Kris Bloom

Decorations: Cordelia Lamb & Julie Nienhuis

Bible Station: Sarah Trodden

Imagination Station: Lindsey Kim

KidVid Station: Liz Perraud & Allison Miller

Recreation Station: Julie Nienhuis

Preschool coordinator & Bible Time: Pam Mitchell

KidVid Preschool Station: Kathy Koch

Craft & Play Station Preschool: Debbie O'Neal

Recreation Preschool: Natalie Dowgiewicz

Respectfully submitted,

Laura Jean Graybeal & Heather Gallagher

Vacation Bible School Co-Directors

## Confirmation

Confirmation was not held in 2023 but will be a combined 8th and 9th grade class in the winter/spring of 2024.

## Bible Basics

Bible Basics is a Bible study designed for everyone from biblical scholars to first-time readers. It met weekly in Classroom 3 beginning in the fall and was led by Pastor Hoffman.

## Nursery/Child Care

CE continues to coordinate the nursery for the youngest members of our congregation, children up to age two. Our nursery staff provides care during the 10:30 worship service. Our nursery staff are Laura Holderman resuming her role as lead staff and Tracy Locke-Kitt. We are grateful for our staff and volunteers for their enthusiasm and cheerfulness in providing a positive experience for the children. We have a paging system to make it easier to contact parents if needed during the worship service. This year a TV monitor was installed in the nursery so that nursery attendants could see the church service.

## **Monday Morning Women's Bible Study**

The Monday Morning Women's Bible Study Group met from September to May on every second and fourth Monday of each month from 9:30-11:30 a.m. in the Trinity Room of CMPC.

Members engage in prayer time, Bible study, fellowship, and mission projects. All women of the church, community, and beyond are welcome to meet with the group in-person or on ZOOM at any time during the study year.

January 2023 began with the continuation of our study of The Book of Revelation using *Revelation: The Ultimate Hope in Jesus* by Dr. David Jeremiah. The lessons were led by Miriam Miller. The group is grateful to Licia Gliptis and Judy Brown for organizing the design, approval and making of CMPC cards that will be used in sharing the gospel and in our church invitation to others. The study was completed the Monday before Memorial Day. We had a potluck celebration luncheon in Fellowship Hall before breaking for the summer months.

September brought on the call to come together again with an introduction to our study of the book, *Show Me How to Share the Gospel* by R. Larry Moyer and a luncheon in Fellowship Hall. Barbara Petro is leading this most essential part of our faith, sharing the gospel study.

In August, the group volunteered to provide hot meals and serve them at Grassroots Route One Day Center in Jessup. Licia Gliptis and Eleanor Orndorff organized this mission project. The Bible Study Christmas mission project this year was in coordination with the church's Angel Tree donations. Sue Ashman organized the group's mission of donating gift cards to two families.

The group participated in fellowship with Barbara Schmehl in her residence at Elkridge Lorian for Christmas activities, scripture reading and caroling. The Christmas celebration, potluck-luncheon was graciously hosted by Sally Berlowitz in her home. These were wonderful activities and gatherings to bring in the Christmas season of joy.

There have been twenty women participating in the Bible study. Our group is open to all women who would like to join us. The group is led by Miriam Miller and Barbara Petro.

Respectfully submitted,  
Miriam Miller

## **Special Projects and Events Sponsored by CE**

### **Blessing of the New School Year**

On Sunday, August 27, all students and teachers were invited to bring their backpacks and briefcases to the 10:30 worship service. Pastor Hoffman led the Blessing of the Backpacks in worship for all students and teachers returning to the classroom or starting for the first time.

### **Graduation Sunday**

On Sunday, May 21, Pastor Hoffman recognized all our graduates from high school, college, or graduate school during the 10:30 worship service. Each graduate received a card and small gift.

## **Third Grade Bibles**

Children in the third grade were recognized by Pastor Hoffman on Sunday, October 22 during the 10:30 worship service. Bibles were presented to third graders who were present. Children who were unable to attend in person received their Bibles at LOGOS or had their Bibles delivered to them. Third graders received an NRSV Children's Bible and parents were given the book 100 Things Your Children Should Know Before Confirmation. The third graders who received Bibles were Nicoletta Black-Howell, Veronica Dowgiewicz, Ally Gallagher, Victoria Gliptis, Griffin Guidinger, Zoey Neary, Adam Rizvi, Will Roscoe, Katie Schreiber, Oliver Thomas, and Colin Thornhill.

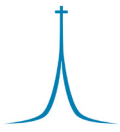
## **Scout Programs**

Christ Memorial Presbyterian Church (CMPC) sponsors three units of the Boy Scouts of America (BSA): Pack 371, Troop 75B, and Troop 75G. The BSA has chartered CMPC through the Baltimore Area Council to provide the Scouting program to our youth via these units in order to instill lifetime values, develop ethical character, and to train young people in citizenship, service, and leadership.

There were several highlights over the course of the year:

- Scout Sunday on March 5th was a success
- The troop attended Summer camp at Resica Falls in Pennsylvania the last week of June
- The Pack and Troop provided volunteer service hours for community organizations such as Scouting for Food for the Howard County Food Bank.

At the end of 2023, the Pack has 59 youth and 18 adults on its roster, Troop 75B has 60 youth and 48 adults on its roster, and Troop 75G has 8 youth and 17 adults on its roster.



# Finance

The Finance Committee is charged “To be effective stewards of assets, provided by God, contributed by the congregation, and committed to God’s work; and to safeguard the resources of CMPC.”

Committee members in 2023 were Jeff Bloom (Chair), Bob Ashman (Treasurer), Joyce Danzig (Assistant Treasurer), John Kim, Jennifer Weinel, and Dick McBirney.

There were a number of significant efforts undertaken by the committee during 2023:

- Continued to promote the use of the CMPC Bridge for online giving that was implemented in April 2020. Online giving through Bridge automatically captures giving information and has allowed the retirement of the Access database that was previously used to manually record contributions.
- Began the implementation of the Accounting module within the CMPC Bridge (REALM) business suite in order to move away from Quickbooks and utilize the full-cycle capabilities of the system.
- Improved and enhanced brief overview of the church budget monthly to the Session.
- Continued the collection of pledges for the 3rd Capital Campaign and corresponding payments to reduce the principal on the mortgage.

Update on Third Ministry Expansion Campaign

- In late 2021, \$1.39 million was pledged to the third capital campaign.
- Through December 2023, with 2/3 of the campaign time elapsed, \$1,000,465 was contributed to capital campaign 3, or 72% of the total pledged.
- As discussed previously with the congregation, all contributions to the third capital campaign are being used to reduce the principal on the mortgage and payments to our lender are being made monthly.

Update on the 2023 budget

- The initial budget for 2023 included revenue of \$465,484 and expenses of \$570,431, yielding a deficit of \$89,547. This excludes the mortgage which was paid out of funds from capital campaign 2.
- The final actual numbers ended up with revenue of \$503,595 and expenses of \$553,930, leaving a deficit of \$49,812—we closed the gap, but not entirely.

	2023 Budget	2023 Actual
Operating Revenue	465,484	503,595
Transfer from capital campaign	187,326	187,326
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>652,810</b>	<b>690,921</b>
Christian Education	5,140	842
Mission	39,000	36,795
Mission - special offerings	15,400	18,299
Communications	17,750	17,618
Worship	16,900	13,926
Stewardship	625	-
Finance	32,807	30,826
Personnel	290,874	295,686
Membership and Hospitality	850	388
Fellowship	5,000	1,440
Care and Wellness	850	852
Property	129,835	136,735
Debt Service / Mortgage	187,326	187,326
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>742,357</b>	<b>740,733</b>
<b>Net</b>	<b>(89,547)</b>	<b>(49,812)</b>

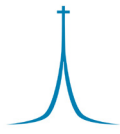
#### Update on status of reserve and capital campaign funds

- The Finance Committee has a policy of maintaining reserves equal to approximately three months of expenses. This has been maintained at \$120,000 for several years.
- Capital campaign funds grew with funds from the second capital campaign. These have been used to make mortgage payments over the last 2 years.
- As of the end of December 2023, CMPC has \$400,076. That breaks down as:
  - o Designated funds[1]: \$61,304
  - o Financial reserves: \$120,000
  - o Capital campaign funds: \$218,772

For 2024, we anticipate spending \$135,167 on the mortgage. Along with any deficit we incur, this will seriously deplete our capital campaign and reserve funds.

Respectfully submitted by Jeff Bloom/Bob Ashman/Joyce Danzig with the support from the Finance Committee.

[1] Designated funds are earmarked for specific ministries such as LOGOS, Memorial Funds, special-purpose grants, etc.



# Mission & Local Outreach

## Overview

The Mission and Local Outreach Committee is responsible for overall benevolences, special offerings, and support for local, national, and global missions. It looks for ways to match congregational members' interests and skills with various projects and welcomes new initiatives.

In carrying out its work, the committee responds to Jesus's call to take our living faith into our communities and the world to respond to the needs of people who are hungry, without a job and home, imprisoned, and oppressed.

Opportunities for hands-on mission involvement is an important component of local and national missions. This year there were opportunities with the Cold Weather Shelter (described below), Rebuilding Together Howard County (described below) and Home of Our Own Howard. In addition, CMPC volunteers provided and served dinners on the fourth Monday of every month to guests at the Grassroots Day Resource Center on Route 1 in Laurel.

Committee members this year were Sue Ashman, Pete Berlowitz, Susan Crabb, Philip Davies (Chair), Todd Stubbs, Jane Wall, and BJ Walworth. The committee met at the church on the first Tuesday of every month.

The budget for 2023 was \$54,400 that was disbursed across the following categories:

- Local Mission - \$20,000
- National and Global Missions - \$18,000
- Mission Designated Funds - \$15,400
- Committee Expenses - \$1,000

## **Local Mission**

The Committee provided financial support to the following organizations whose common theme is to work with groups that provide disadvantaged people with food, shelter, and support in times of crisis, especially to organizations where CMPC members are involved.

- Columbia Community Care
- Home of Our Own Howard County
- Howard County Food Bank (Columbia Action Council)
- Rebuilding Together Howard County
- Grassroots Crisis Intervention Center (sponsor of Cold Weather Shelter and Route 1 Day Resource Center)
- Laurel Advocacy and Referral Service (LARS)
- Helping Up Mission (Baltimore)
- CMCP Pre-School Scholarships
- Cold Weather Shelter

For the twentieth consecutive year, CMPC participated in the Cold Weather Shelter organized by Grassroots. From December 26 to January 2, CMPC volunteers served home-cooked dinners and delivered bagged breakfasts and lunches to 30 homeless persons housed temporarily in an Extended Stay Hotel. M&LO provided drinks and containers to serve the dinners. Todd Stubbs was the CWS coordinator again this year.

Under the leadership of Suzy Crabb, volunteers generously provided dinners to the Route One Day Resource Center in Laurel on the fourth Monday of every month. The need for food at the Center has grown as the number of guests continues to increase. This is a new and expanding ministry of CMPC that welcomes new volunteers.

As part of Rebuilding Together Howard County, eleven CMPC volunteers worked on a home in Elkridge on April 29. Led by house co-captains Wes Millard and Todd Stubbs, the team performed minor flooring, plumbing, and electrical fixes inside the home. Others built a ramp to a shed outside, replaced skirting around the residence, and repaired a back porch and stairs. The improvements significantly improved the home for the resident who was grateful for the assistance.

The committee also contributed to the Angel Tree to purchase Christmas gifts for four families in Columbia. The gifts were purchased and lovingly wrapped by Kylee Hoffman and friends. Two homeless families also received gift cards from a generous donor.

Under the guidance of youth volunteer Kylee Hoffman, members of the congregation donated three carts of non-perishable canned and packaged food and paper products collected between Thanksgiving and Christmas, which Kylee delivered to the Columbia Community Care food pantry.

## **National Missions**

This year M&LO supported two national missions; namely,

- Fuller Center Disaster Rebuilders – Mississippi house rebuild
- Pine Springs Summer Camp, Jennerstown, PA

## **Global Missions**

Support was provided to the following global missions.

- Presbyterian Mission Agency - Mission Worker Sharon Kandel in the Horn of Africa
- OneEleven Global - Dustin and Holly Garner mission support
- Friends of the Presbyterian Education Board in Pakistan
- United Palestine Appeal – Gaza humanitarian programs
- American Friends of Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem – Gaza Ahli Hospital
- Presbyterian Disaster Assistance for Israel - Hamas War relief

## **Mission Designated Funds**

In addition to collections for One Great Hour of Sharing and the Baltimore Presbytery Joy Offering, there were five Fifth Sunday Offerings throughout the year that were designated to the following missions:

- January – Grassroots Crisis Intervention Center
- April - Rebuilding Together Howard County
- July - Home of Our Own Howard
- October - Columbia Community Care
- December - Cold Weather Shelter

In March, there was a special collection for Mercy Corps and earthquake victims in Turkey. In September, CMPC took up a special offering for Presbyterian Disaster Assistance in response to the destructive wildfires in Maui, Hawaii. In October/ November, there was a special collection for Presbyterian Disaster Assistance in response to the Israel-Hamas war in Gaza.

Throughout the year, numerous donations were received for the Crisis Intervention Fund, which responded to five requests for assistance handled confidentially by Pastor Hoffman.

Thanks to the generosity of CMPC members, the actual revenue for this category of benevolence exceeded the budget of \$15,400.

Finally, a heartfelt thanks goes all members of CMPC, mission volunteers, and members of the committee who committed their time, talent, and resources to do God's work with a loving spirit.





# Personnel

2023 brought a notable change to the staff at CMPC. Our long-time accompanist, Lorri Yawney, resigned and moved out of the area. The Personnel Committee hosted a farewell luncheon for Lorri in which the congregation was able to express to her its appreciation for her service to our congregation.

God sent our way Ted Markle, a gifted musician and vocalist, to assume the responsibilities of the accompanist. He is a blessing to us and our worship services.

Our CMPC staff continues to provide dedicated service that is vital to the life of our congregation.

1. Pastor Scott continues to bring meaningful worship experiences.
2. Heather Gallagher leads the pre-school staff that benefits the kids academically and socially as they meet with their classmates and teachers.
3. Joy Exner and Ted Markle lend their musical talents to provide a meaningful, beautiful segment to our worship services.
4. Tito Baca and the Property Committee maintain a well-kept, attractive building and grounds that are welcoming to our visitors.
5. Kathleen Smith keeps the congregation well informed of the activities at CMPC.
6. Laura Holderman and Tracy Locke-Kitt provide loving care for the youngest members of our church family during worship and special events at CMPC.

The Personnel Committee is grateful for the staff's hard work which makes CMPC the special place that it is.

Members of the 2023 Personnel Committee were Jeff Bloom, Jeff Bruce, Tiffany Carmean and Don Mitchell.

Respectfully submitted,  
Don Mitchell



# Property

In 2023, the Property Committee at CMPC remained active in all facets of facility / grounds maintenance and upkeep while also continuing to stay engaged with unresolved expansion project issues. However, our focus to be proactive continues to be a significant aspect of our efforts as this ensures limited inconvenience to those who visit and helps to minimize costs down the road.

The Property Committee (PC) along with numerous volunteers worked throughout the year to address the needs of the church in this regard. We continue to be extremely fortunate to have dependable and committed members on this committee, volunteers across the church, and Scout groups who help us engage in this important work. Our budget constraints do limit what we can afford to pay to have done so there is absolutely no way we could accomplish or even maintain the status quo without these kind, generous, and energetic individuals.

Here is a partial list of all the work we did in-house to maximize funds available to us to maintain our facility and limit expenditures.

1. Costume closet restructured / framed to maximize storage space.
2. Two new cabinets were ordered and put together for church archives.
3. New signage for AED was added.
4. Paint touch ups and drywall repairs were completed throughout the building on both floors.
5. The playground equipment / benches / waste receptacle holders were stained, and minor woodwork was patched but may be redone again in spring.
6. Boxwood bushes across the property were trimmed twice. \*
7. Trees and plant beds were mulched. Some additional landscape edging was installed around new trees where needed but this is ongoing. Plant beds are sprayed for weeds, but additional work in-house is needed on a regular basis to avoid spraying too close to the bushes. \*
8. The retaining wall in the Serenity Garden was stained.
9. The Prayer Labyrinth was mowed/trimmed monthly throughout the spring and summer to maintain pathways. We also mow adjacent to the building from November – April when our contractor is not under contract to maintain those spaces and control for leaves. \*
10. Tree fall was picked up and removed / burned throughout the year. \*
11. New sod, grass seed, and rip rap (rock) for the storm water retention areas were added as per county requirements. New plantings are still required and will be installed in the spring. \*
12. Volunteers helped empty 2 55-gallon trash cans several times per week over the summer to help us deal with humidity issues in the Sanctuary.
13. New signs for the church were installed and painted. The old sign was also removed. The cost for new signs did not include installation, paint, or sign removal.
14. The Property Committee remained engaged with vendors and old contractors to finally ascertain the root cause of our ongoing humidity issues. Several volunteers helped to perform some of the basic recommendations that were suggested like filling small air gaps and adding insulation in drop down ceiling areas. Licensed contractors will be needed for extensive and costly repairs to fully resolve this issue.
15. The main entrance and adjacent sidewalks were power-washed and cleaned.
16. Several lights were replaced as needed and when not under warranty.

17. Minor plumbing repairs such as loose fittings, toilet issues, and clogged drains were repaired.
18. Several window blinds were repaired in FH.
19. We perform routine roof inspections to clear drains and look for potential hazards to the surface.
20. Several folding tables and chairs were repaired but on occasion several had to be discarded / recycled at the landfill.
21. The dumpster enclosure gate was repaired and secured.
22. The volleyball court posts were repaired (wood filler) and stained. The court itself was tilled several times this past year.
23. Speed bumps got routine checks and tightening throughout the year.
24. The loose drain cap in the playground area was secured with a cement enclosure and now only needs some final changes to be completed.
25. We continue to adjust / tighten hardware on several doors around the building. This has been an on-going challenge and recently have taken steps to resolve this issue for good.

In all, these efforts along with others saved the church in excess of approximately \$15,000 in 2023. (\* denotes work that is not included in the respective contract to limit costs.)

Still, some of the work that is required and / or needed is out of our scope so we must hire outside help. Some of this work included one-time expenses. We had to have masonry work done adjacent to the Preschool near an emergency evacuation area to ensure safety in that space but, saved over 1200.00 by waiting and finding "the right" contractor for this work. We also replaced all of the sinks in the Preschool bathrooms, which were not included in the expansion project but were over 30 years old and in desperate need.

We also had to have new electrical receptacles added in 4 locations for new monitors in various places across the church. Once those were in place, we worked with the IT Committee to install TV mounts and the monitors themselves. We continue to work with this group on issues like this and on other matters like security and wifi.

Unfortunately, we will have reoccurring expenses too, some of which cannot be predicted in advance. There were numerous expenses throughout the year related to door lock repairs around the building. Thankfully, we have a reliable and timely locksmith to help with these as they arise. Also, extensive tree pruning was done on "new" trees to ensure their health, manage growth, and maintain their appearance. This was especially prudent to have done now to limit costs down the road, but these trees should not require attention each year. In the new year we will have to return our focus to others that may be even more costly.

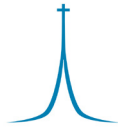
One other ongoing issue is the plumbing work that really started just after construction was completed. This has been an attempt to address hot water inconsistencies around the church because we have varying and, in some cases, tremendous temperature difference needs in different areas of the building. So, while the problems in the kitchen have been resolved, further attention / work is needed in the Preschool in the new year.

Beyond these efforts, the Property and Facility Manager continues to coordinate with our numerous service partners in the areas of plumbing, HVAC service and maintenance, cleaning and floor maintenance, landscaping / grounds maintenance, security, fire detection / suppression / inspections, elevator repairs / inspections, electrical, and water bottle supply among several others. Now more than ever before, the repairs, emergency calls, and routine service work for all these areas require considerable time and effort to schedule and verify. We are also often at the mercy of customer service representatives, supply availability, weather, and scheduling challenges. However, we will continue to partner with credible service providers and look for the best value as is available and to help ensure quality work.

In 2024, we hope to address outstanding issues such as the needed storm water area plantings, and the hot water temperature concerns in the Preschool. We also hope that the identified issues related to our humidity challenges will finally be mitigated. Completing this work will then allow us to have the painters come back for touch ups in the Sanctuary and for significant work to be done in the Trinity Room. In addition, significant paint work is still needed throughout the building and additional tree / landscaping work will be required. We also will need to explore surface coating options for the parking lots and service road as some of these areas are coming due for minor maintenance and preventive work. Of course, we will still monitor the deteriorating health of several trees and prune as needed. In addition, the upcoming replacement options regarding our security cameras are also on our radar.

As always, we will continue to work hard to organize and coordinate volunteers, when possible, to support these efforts.

On Behalf of the Property Committee,  
AJ (Tito) Baca



# Stewardship

Members: Jennifer Weinel (Chair), Licia Gliptis, Delores McBirney and Patricia Wilder

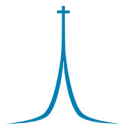
The Stewardship Committee organizes the annual stewardship campaign and identifies ways to encourage giving. The committee tracks the financial pledges throughout the year and educates the congregation on the importance of stewardship. Stewardship is the way that we use all of our resources — time, talents, possessions and money — to love God and to love our neighbor.

In 2023, the Stewardship Committee created (with help from CMPC's Office Manager/Communications Coordinator) a Stewardship page on CMPC's website. The new page offers a "one-stop shop" for all things Stewardship, including a collection of Stewardship-related information and documents/help aids for pledging and/or giving online. The site was utilized by CMPC and the Stewardship Committee for this year's campaign and will be available for future campaigns or periodic updates.

Our theme this year was "Good Stewards of God's Love". We kicked off the campaign in worship on October 22nd with a Moment for Stewardship, followed by an official email letter to the congregation. We set a goal to increase annual giving by about 10% so that we can increase the impact we have on our community. We tracked our progress towards our goal throughout the campaign via visual aids (thermometers) outside the sanctuary and in the online scrolling prior to the start of worship service. We encouraged online pledging but also offered paper pledge cards, both in the pews and available for printing from the Stewardship website. We presented additional Stewardship Moments throughout the campaign, including a brief from the Finance Committee, and concluded our campaign on LOGOS Sunday with a joint fellowship hour, contributing refreshments.

We are pleased to report that, as of 1/15/24, we have received 85 pledges for a total of \$426,132. This represents a total dollar increase of about 6% (\$24K) over last year. This increase was especially commendable considering the ongoing collection efforts for our 3rd (and final) Capital Campaign. Well done CMPC!

However, even with this success, we would be remiss if we didn't point out that, having not received a pledge/revenue increase in the year prior and with the Session anticipating additional annual operating budget increases due to inflation and mortgage transition, additional giving this year and into the future will be required to sustain us. Thus, we implore you to consider additional giving to CMPC as you are able. It is never too late to pledge for the first time or to increase your current pledge! Thank you! In 2024, the Stewardship Committee plans to focus on ways to increase giving, including sharing information around planned giving, and looking for ways to increase our membership/pledging base. The Committee will also look for ways to make pledging online even easier for future campaigns. The CMPC congregation has a long history of sharing our bounty with others and bringing God's love into the world. We want to thank you for the many and various ways you have been Good Stewards of God's Love through the time you have committed to God's work, the talents you used during that time, and the treasures you share through your regular offerings! Thank you!



## Care and Wellness

The Care and Wellness Committee has completed its twenty-first year of ministry as part of the Board of Deacons. Members of the committee and Deacons for 2023 were Tom Engle, Laura Frantz, Jan Keister (co-chair) Eleanor Orndorff, and Kris Bloom (co-chair). The following were our At-Large members: Markita Garner, Colleen Hughes, Andrea Raid, Sandy Rowan, Nancy Walworth, and Barb Schmehl (member emeritus).

The Card Ministry, an essential responsibility of the Care and Wellness Committee, sends handmade and donated cards to church members or any others in our thoughts, who were ill, requested prayers, bereaved families, shut-ins, as well as “missing you”, congratulations, and thank you cards. Kris Bloom sent Valentines and Halloween cards to CMPC college students. Jan Keister sent birthday cards to all members throughout the year as well as all other cards. Jan sends approximately 30-40 birthday cards per month and 10 or so care cards per month. This year, in order to save some money, we used donated Christmas cards to send to all CMPC families. We sent a total of 200 cards at Christmas. A large portion of our budget goes towards postage for the card ministry. This year, many of our cards have been donated and many were handmade from the EC Stampers. Thank you to Nancy Walworth, Sue Ashman, and the EC Stampers for the beautiful donated cards, especially Luella White, who made the majority of the cards and donated them. As postage is going up again, we are always looking for donated cards from CMPC members and others. As a “Thank You” to the Stampers, we provided a ham for their holiday party and a gift card specifically for Luella White, who has donated over 1500 cards to CMPC.

The Prayer Chain continues to actively assist those in need, with prayer. The weekly requests and updates are sent to participants via email. Currently, we have approximately 72 dedicated members who support this ministry. The Prayer Chain was maintained this year by Colleen Hughes. This year, in March, we hosted a luncheon for the members of the Prayer Chain group. A prayer chain lunch will be offered every other year for members. The next luncheon is scheduled for 2025.

CMPC Care & Wellness tried to sponsor 2 Red Cross Blood Drives this year. Although we had many people signed up for the February drive, Red Cross had to cancel. We did have a blood drive in August. It was not as successful as in the past as the Red Cross has changed their hours. We will be sponsoring two, April and August, in 2024.

The Meal Train Ministry, with the assistance of Kris Bloom, continued with meals provided for members and their families who have had illnesses, births, deaths in the family, or are going through a difficult time. This year we provided meals for 3 different families. We have a core group who always provide most of the meals.

In November the Care & Wellness Committee sponsored a CPR training class given by the Howard County Fire Department. Approximately 25 CMPC members were in attendance.

The Care & Wellness Committee set-up, served, and cleaned up after the Al Lange memorial service. We had lots of help by members of the committee, Deacons, and others.

The Care & Wellness Committee continued to be available for occasional transportation requests by church members for doctors’ appointments, rides to church, and other needs. We have put in place the rule that those receiving rides must be able to get themselves in to and out of a car without help.

Respectfully submitted,  
Kris Bloom (committee co-chair)



# Communications

MEMBERS Rachael Bis (Chair), John Fieldsend, Neil Danzig, Michael Schreiber

The Communications Committee has continued its focus on maintaining infrastructure and the provision of capabilities to other committees throughout 2023.

The Communication Committee, led by Neil Danzig, purchased and set-up television screens in the lower floor hallway, the narthex, and the second-floor area outside of the elevator. These televisions display announcements and church information. They are intended to eventually display the Sunday morning live-stream so congregants and visitors outside of the sanctuary can still view the service. A television has also been installed in the nursery so that the staff and volunteers taking care of the youngest members of our Church family can still be part of the Sunday service.

The Communication Committee has also been exploring the use of the Bridge software to allow for easier volunteer organization and management. The AV team schedule and the Communion Server schedule have both been set-up within Bridge and the Communication Committee is available to help any other committees or programs utilize this resource.

## LOOKING AHEAD

The Communication Committee is working to establish a predictable replacement schedule for the CMPC owned computers. The Pastor's laptop was replaced during 2023 and timed replacements of the other computers are being scheduled in order to reduce unexpected impacts on the church's budget.

Respectfully submitted by

Rachael Bis,

Communications Committee Chair



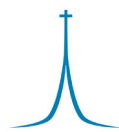
The Fellowship Committee connects CMPC members with one another by planning and organizing events and activities which focus on fellowship and relationship building within our church family. The Committee's events are always fun and open to all ages.

The year 2023 began with a renewed sense of togetherness after a challenging previous three years. Fellowship Hour resumed a more consistent schedule of every other Sunday. Drinks and light refreshments were had as we gathered in Fellowship Hall after worship and enjoyed extended conversation and relationship building. Spring started off in mid-April as we provided coffee and donuts at the Spring Cleanup of the building and grounds. Many hands were busy as we gathered to make improvements to the church. Easter Sunday started with a beautiful, outdoor sunrise service. We provided a continental breakfast for those in attendance. The annual Easter Egg Hunt returned on Easter Sunday at the traditional service. Many children participated in the event that was held outside on the church grounds. Carnations were given to our mothers in attendance at worship on Mother's Day and chocolate bars were passed out to fathers on Father's Day. A GIFT movie night event was held in early May and we assisted the Christian Education Committee with the event. The Kona Ice Truck returned to CMPC at the end of June to celebrate the beginning of summer and the close of the school year. The Fellowship Committee coordinated with the Christian Education Committee to organize the Musical Treats and Sweets event. We hosted our second annual Yappy Hour in July where we gathered with our dogs and grilled hotdogs. The annual Church Picnic was held at the end of September. The weather did not cooperate, resulting in a unique worship and fellowship experience. We began worship outside and were set up for the picnic when rain moved us inside. Worship was moved to Fellowship Hall along with the food and it made for a fun experience for all. Trunk or Treat was held two Saturdays before Halloween. The event was coordinated with the CMPC Preschool. Many volunteers provided decorated trunks as lots of happy trick or treaters from our CMPC family, CMPC Preschool, and Allview neighborhood members gathered. In November we assisted the Stewardship Committee with their luncheon to celebrate their campaign. The Greening of the Church was a high point of the year as we were able to once again decorate the Church for Christmas for all to enjoy in person. Shelley and Bob Clemens led us in this annual tradition with the support of the Fellowship Committee and many other volunteers.

I am grateful to all the 2023 Fellowship Committee members – Laura Jean Michels-Graybeal, Peter Gallagher, Wes Millard, Theresa Akuoko, Sarah Robinson, Mary Ray, and Miriam Miller for their support and hard work to bring fellowship to our CMPC family. The committee is always welcoming volunteers to help us in our ministry with our events. Many hands make light work, and the Fellowship Committee itself is a fantastic group of people. I pray that the year 2024 will be an even brighter and better year.

Respectfully submitted by  
Thomas Trodden,  
Fellowship Committee Chair





## Membership and Hospitality

The Membership and Hospitality Committee is responsible for preparing the sanctuary for worship on Sunday. Steve Pettit enlisted volunteers before turning over the responsibility to Leta Loring in June. Volunteers are needed each week to fill vacancies to Usher and Greet. Volunteers greet members and guests at the parking lot entrance, the side entrance to the sanctuary and the Narthex. Volunteers who greet also assist with the offering during Sunday service. Following worship, our committee collects the attendance forms, collect used communion cups (first Sunday of the month) and remove any items left in the pews.

The third Sunday of the month is designated as Name Tag Sunday. Everyone is encouraged to fill out a name tag and wear it. It's a great way to place a name with a face and greet your pew mates. Plus it's the perfect time to introduce yourselves to someone new.

CMPC is known to be a welcoming and friendly church. We like to "mug" our guests by offering them a mug with our church logo, a pen and chocolate kisses as they exit. We have plastic cups for the children with a pencil and other novelty items.

We hold our monthly meetings via Zoom on the third Tuesday of each month. Members of the committee are Colleen Hughes (chair), Chad Board, Frances Cardea, Natalie Dowgiewicz (Deacon), Leta Loring, Cindy Pettit, Steve Pettit, Bill Ryder (Deacon), John Salkeld (Deacon), Linda Shields (Deacon), and Nancy Whitelock. We rely on CMPC members-at-large to support our weekly commitment.

Our focus for 2023 was to produce and distribute a pictorial church directory to members. 117 families participated by having pictures taken at the church or submitting a recent photo along with their contact information. Brown & Associates, Inc. printed the directories.

A new member class was offered in September to a family of five, and two other individuals. Lunch was provided. Scott gave a detailed overview of the practices and beliefs of the Presbyterian church. Members of the session met with our guests after lunch to answer questions.

Membership & Hospitality also continues to support the CARE Group program. This program connects church households with a caring church officer or lay person who serves as a liaison between members and the pastor.

Through out the year, Membership & Hospitality supported other committees by assisting in special events such as handing out flowers for Mother's Day and chocolate bars for Father's Day.

Since Christmas Eve fell on Sunday, we did not have a morning worship. We had two evening services, one at five o'clock and again at eight-thirty. Four of LOGOS, FISH participants, assisted in handing out bulletins, candles and offering at the five o'clock service.

Thank you to all who served and volunteered on the Membership and Hospitality Committee. Contributing their time to support and maintaining the care for our church, make members and guests feel welcome.

Respectfully submitted,

Colleen Hughes, Chair