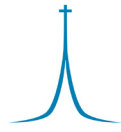


Christ Memorial

Presbyterian Church

2024 Annual Report



Introduction

Dear Children of God at Christ Memorial—

2024! Just when you thought you could all settle in, maybe get comfortable in your beautiful new building. You could get to work with the Hunger Task Force that came out of your long Visioning efforts, start to enjoy a full on VBS and revived music programs and other wonderful CMPC traditions, celebrate! No more big Covid scares, and virtual attendance was fully operational with the improved setup. Sure, there were a few tweaks related to the long, long Building Expansion project but you were on a *path*.

And then. Scott Hoffman's discerned decision to lead a different church took many of you by surprise. Though some of you could see, a bit, retrospectively, most everyone reports some shock, with associated feelings of disappointment, or betrayal, or just plain fear. You loved your pastor well, and he indeed held deep love and affection for you all. You found yourselves saying "goodbye" and then "Now what?"

After several months of pulpit supply here it became my privilege, in early August, to become the Interim Pastor at Christ Memorial. I came to a church that was well-served by a pastor who'd been here a good long while—12 years. And though the building was "done" and the capital campaigns were mostly over, Christ Memorial is in no position to put their feet up.

Here's the thing, from Luke 5: That's not what we do. Jesus tells us to row our boats out mid-day not far from where we just were-- *all night long*--and cast our nets. Crazy as it sounds—we do. And when we row into shore with a full load, a windfall, a life-altering catch—then he says, "Time to walk away. Follow me." *There will always be an "And then."*

We like to plan our "and thens". We all want a bite of the fruit that will let us know what God knows. Too bad! Because what we're asked to do is spend time together with each other and with God, forming understandings together that help us become a community that memorializes Christ—that generates a memory of *him* when people encounter *us*.

For now, it's my great joy to spend time among you, to pour the baptism water, to share the Lord's Supper with you, to teach you what I'm learning about God-- in the Bible, working among you and in the broader church. We are almost ready, I hope, to take what we are learning about this place—about *us*-- to form our ministry statement and a Nominating Committee for your next pastor. There is work to be done in preparation for that, work that I hope each of you will choose to be part of, not just with your prayers and observations, but with your full-on, walk-away-from-the-water involvement. I pray you will let yourself know others and be known, even as you perhaps walk away from what you've known before.

The reports below reflect both the joy and the togetherness that I have seen. They reflect the earnest work, the generous giving, the attentive foresight, the silly fun and so much more that I've been allowed to enjoy here. Read them, ask questions-- *always* ask questions--and get ready to throw in. *And then.*

Submitted with grateful joy and excited anticipation—
Pastor Janna

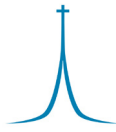


Table of Contents

Report of the Clerk of Session.....4
 Membership Statistics
 Church Officers

Nominating Committee.....6

Session Committees

Christian Education.....8
 Christ Memorial Christian Preschool
 The LOGOS Ministry
 Sunday Experience
 GIFT: Generations in Faith Together
 Vacation Bible School
 Confirmation
 Bible Basics
 Nursery/Child Care
 Monday Morning Women’s Bible Study
 Special Programs and Events Sponsored by CE
 Scout Programs

Finance.....18

Mission and Local Outreach.....20

Personnel23

Property.....24

Stewardship.....25

Worship.....26

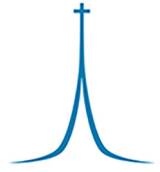
Board of Deacons Committees

Care and Wellness28

Communications29

Fellowship30

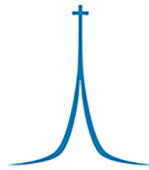
Membership and Hospitality31



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, 2023	375
Additions through Profession/Reaffirmation	6
Additions through Letter of Transfer	0
Total Gains	6
Losses through Letter of Transfer	10
Deaths	2
Deleted from rolls	15
Total Losses	27
Active Members - December 31, 2024	354

Baptisms:

Four baptisms were held in 2024.

Worship Attendance:

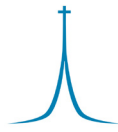
Average worship attendance for all 2024 services was 120.

Membership Demographics:

On Dec. 31, 2024 church membership consisted of 203 females and 155 males.

Membership as broken down by age group:

Age 17 and under:	15
Age 18-25:	51
Age 26-40:	59
Age 41-55:	78
Age 56-70:	71
Age 71 and older:	77
Non-declared:	36



Church Officers

The Session

Moderator: The Rev. Janna VanderWoude

Clerk of Session: Janene Holzberg

Treasurer: Bob Ashman

Assistant Treasurer: Missy Sullivan/Joyce Danzig

Class of 2025

Class of 2026

Class of 2027

Jeff Bloom: Finance*

Judy Brown : Nominating*

Sue Ashman: Mission and Local Outreach

Jim Cardea: Nominating

Suzy Crabb: Mission and Local Outreach

Sally Berlowitz

Josh Gliptis: Property*

Philip Davies: Mission and Local Outreach*

Glenn DelFavero

Janene Holzberg: Clerk of Session

Wes Millard: Worship

Craig Nienhuis: Property

John Kim: Personnel*

Debbie ONeal: Christian Education*

Allison Miller: Worship

Patricia Wilder: Stewardship

Jennifer Weinel: Stewardship*

* Denotes chair or co-chair

Elders who cycled off in the Class of 2024: Gil Burckart and Delores McBirney. We thank them for their service.

The Board of Deacons

Moderator:

Class of 2025

Class of 2026

Class of 2027

Tom Engle: Care and Wellness

Theresa Akuoko: Fellowship

Bob Clemens

Laura Frantz: Care and Wellness

Sandi Chapasko: Membership and Hospitality

Shelley Clemens

Emma Gallagher

Linda Dunn: Care and Wellness

John Fieldsend: Communications*

Peter Gallagher: Fellowship

Chip Garner: Nominating

Licia Gliptis

Colleen Hughes: Membership and Hospitality*

Amy McMillion: Fellowship

Kathy Koch

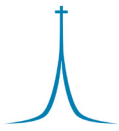
Laura Jean Michels-Graybeal: Fellowship

Steve Pettit

Tom Trodden: Fellowship*

* Denotes chair or co-chair

Deacons who cycled off in the Class of 2024: Jan Keister and Mollie Thomas. We thank them for their service.



Nominating Committee of the Congregation

Committee Members 2024

Session Representatives: Judy Brown (Chair), Jim Cardea

Deacon Representative: Chip Garner

Members-at-large elected by the Congregation: Liz Perraud, Ashlyn Sowell, Shelley Clemens, Eleanor Orndorff (partial term due to her death)

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 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. 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 information was shared and discussed with our interim pastor, Janna VanderWoude.

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 VanderWoude was also available to meet 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 November 10, 2024, for the purpose of electing CMPC's officers. At that meeting, the Nominating Committee's proposed slate was approved by the membership. The at-large members for the 2025 Nominating Committee were presented and will be voted on at the January 2025 congregational meeting. That slate consisted of the following individuals for the positions as indicated:

Deacons (3-year term)

John Fieldsend (second term), Shelley Clemens, Robert Clemens, Kathryn Koch, Licia Gliptis, Steve Pettit

Deacons (1-year term)

Emma Gallagher (youth), Colleen Hughes (second term)

Elders (3-year term)

Sue Ashman and Craig Nienhuis, each serving a second term; Sally Berlowitz, Glenn DeFavero

Nominating Committee (one year term)

Chad Board, Joyce Danzig, Ashlyn Sowell, and Liz Perraud

With the addition of these new officers, the 2025 leadership team will include 18 Deacons and 17 Elders.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the 2024 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 2024 Christian Education Committee was made up of the following individuals:

Heather Barham, Heather Gallagher, Lindsey Kim, Cordelia Lamb, Delores McBirney, 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 2025 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 47th year of servicing the Howard County community for the 2024/25 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 2024/25 school year our preschool is currently at 87% capacity.

Staff:

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

Susan Benzing
Kim Brathwaite
Heather Gallagher
Julie Nienhuis
Jen Scheid
Kathleen Smith
Barbara Stine
Rita Wheelock

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 completed his final Bible time with the preschool children in February and Pastor Janna picked up the tradition in September. This is a wonderful opportunity for the children to connect to the church through the fun time spent with the pastor of Christ Memorial Presbyterian Church.

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 2024/25 school year our budget for preschool is \$180,466.00. 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 for families that would otherwise not be able 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.

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 Oakland Mills Food Bank. We were also pleased to have over 60 of our preschool families participate in Vacation Bible School in July 2024.

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.

2024-25 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 Dean: Whitney Schreiber
- Worship Arts Coordinator: Allison Miller
- Recreation Coordinator: Heather Barham
- Kitchen Coordinators: Peter Gallagher and Tracy Locke-Kitt
- Mission Coordinator: Rachael and Rick Bis
- Special Events Coordinators: Wes Millard and Becky Zordan

Summary of Activities:

This year we are celebrating 37 years of LOGOS at CMPC. As of December 2024, our current enrollment is 79 children and youth (Nursery: 2, BUGS: 2, FROG: 34, ROCK: 16, FISH: 19). In the Spring 2024 we ended the year with 79 children enrolled. There are over 57 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 Dinner Dean, Worship Arts Coordinator, and Mission Coordinator.

ROCK held two lock-ins, one on January 26th (for 2023/24) and one on November 8th (2024/25) with plenty of games, food, and movies to last an entire night.

FISH Sunday was held on February 25th with High Schoolers presenting the call to worship, prayers, special music, scripture reading, and offering. Preceding FISH Sunday, FISH held a lock in at the church.

The LOGOS musical chose *Life is Good* as the annual musical production. Both fourth and fifth graders performed speaking roles. The performance was held on March 17th.

LOGOS Sunday was held on November 17th. The FROG and BUGS choir performed and ROCK chimes rang. 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 held another in-house training and open house to prepare for the 2024/25 program year.

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 2024-2025 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 2024.

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 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 2024 LOGOS sent three 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 9th.

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 37 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

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. Parents sign in their children and then pick them up immediately following the worship service.

The children met in one classroom. Starting in September we began using a new curriculum moving from Growing in Grace and Gratitude to the Living the Word Classroom published by Spirit and Truth. The curriculum has been well received by teachers and families. Attendance continued for much of the beginning of the year to be steady with at least eight children most of the Sundays.

Teachers for 2024 included: Julie Nienhuis, Kaleigh Thomas, Laura Jean Graybeal, Heather Gallagher, Cordelia Lamb, Theresa Akuoko, Natalie Dowgiewicz, Liz Perraud, Rachael Bis, Meghan Jones, Molly Fieldsend, Becky Zordan, Mike McMillion, and Lindsey Kim.

Teachers were assisted by: Harper Carmean, Sam Thomas, Mollie Thomas, Kofi Akuoko, Zoe Kim, Ryan Nienhuis, Chase Nienhuis, Emma Gallagher, Faith Lamb, Anna McMillion, Emily McMillion, Evie Bis, Wes Millard, Ian Fieldsend, Lucy Dowgiewicz, Abby Jones, Riley Jackson, and Allison Slingluff.

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 2025.

Star Words

We continued our tradition at CMPC of receiving star words for Epiphany. Epiphany, celebrated on January 6, 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.

All-Age Christmas Pageant

Carrie Jenkins led our traditional intergenerational Christmas pageant in December with over 80 people participating as narrators, sheep, shepherds, kings, angels, the Holy Family, costumers, music, sound, and broadcasting support. As the pageant opens, a young child asks her grandparents, “Why is this such a season of wonder and excitement?” and the response is that they’ll not only tell her the answer, but they’ll show her. The congregation fully participated in singing the songs throughout the story.

Vacation Bible School

In the second week of July, with the support of the VBS leadership, VBS volunteers and attendees had countless opportunities to dive into a friendship with God during our scuba adventures. We were blessed to have 107 children ranging from preschool to fifth grade along with 37 youth volunteers and 30 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 "SCUBA: diving into friendship with God". Participants learned that through all of life's ups and downs God is a friend who's real! We were able to start and end our daily VBS adventures in the sanctuary watching entertaining skits and celebrating God's love through music. Special thanks to our high school leaders who helped to emcee the start and end of each day. During the morning, participants rotated through 4 areas: Reef Rec Games, Sticky Scriptures, Deep Bible Adventures and the Imagination Station (experiments). Within the rotations, kids were able to feel the love of Jesus through all of the thoughtfully prepared activities and lessons. Participants also enjoyed delicious treats within the Tidal treats 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 2023 we had 11 fewer children register but an increased interest in our elementary school groups led to expanding some of our groups to include up to 12 kids. Based on information collected at registration, our participants identified themselves with 17.5% from CMPC, with the remaining registrants belonging to over a dozen other local congregations as well as for some this was a first or their only church affiliated activity. We were blessed to have a strong and enthusiastic group of youth spend the week with us and to provide an opportunity for their faith to grow and be supported.

We could not have been successful without the support of our 30 middle-school, high-school, and college aged youth volunteers that led our VBS participants throughout the week either as group leaders. 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 breakdown of the decorations and materials. A special shout out to the dedicated creativity from Cordelia Lamb for transforming our space into an underwater adventure. 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 7th through 11th in 2025.

Our VBS Leadership Team:

Directors: Laura Jean Graybeal & Heather Gallagher
Kitchen: Kris Bloom
Decorations: Cordelia Lamb
Deep Bible Adventures: Sarah Trodden
Imagination Station: Lindsey Kim & Whitney Schreiber
Sticky Scriptures: Liz Perraud
Recreation Station: Chad Board
Preschool Coordinator & Bible Time: Pam Mitchell
Sticky Scriptures: 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

After three months of study and conversation with Pastor Hoffman, six 8th grade students publicly confirmed their faith in Christ and were brought into membership of CMPC in the spring. The class met weekly on Sunday evenings and used a variety of curricula to guide learning and discussions. In addition, students wrote their own statements of faith which were shared with the Session for their examination.

Bible Basics & Zoom Bible Study

In this weekly Bible Basics study, which meets in Classroom 3, participants study a book of the Bible, discussing what they notice and wonder from each portion of the text. The class discussion focuses on what the author was saying to the first century audience and what the Holy Spirit is saying to us today.

Monday Night Zoom Bible Study: This class is a thematic Bible study (such as parables or "Angels in the Bible"). It follows a similar format to Bible Basics.

Respectfully submitted,
Kathy Koch

Nursery/Child Care

CE continues to coordinate the nursery for the youngest members of our congregation, children through age two. Our nursery staff provides care during the 10:30 worship service. Our nursery staff are Laura Holderman (continuing 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. A TV monitor allows the nursery staff to monitor the progress of the church service. Child care is also provided for select church activities.

Respectfully submitted,
Delores McBirney

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 2024 brought in the New Year with the continuation of our study using the book, Show Me How to Share the Gospel by R. Larry Moyer and other accompanying subject material. Barbara Petro led the sharing the gospel lessons. The study was completed the Monday before Memorial Day. We had a potluck celebration luncheon in Fellowship Hall before breaking for the summer months.

Our dear friend and long time member of the Monday Morning Women's Bible Study, Eleanor Orndorff, went to be with the Lord on May 5th. We gave tribute to her at the end of the year luncheon. We collectively gave a donation in her name to the CMPC Memorial Garden Fund to honor her.

September brought on the call to come together again with an introduction to our study of the book, James: What You Do Matters Study Guide with Streaming video by Margaret Feinberg and a luncheon in Fellowship Hall. Barbara Petro and Miriam Miller are leading this study.

The Women's Bible Group was involved in several different mission projects this year. In August, the group volunteered to provide hot meals and serve them at Grassroots Route One Day Center in Jessup. The Bible Study Christmas mission project this year was in coordination with the church's Angel Tree donations. Our lady's group wrapped the many donations from the tree. Sue Ashman organized this mission. The collection from our meetings was donated to the CMPC Crisis Intervention Fund.

The group participated in fellowship with Barbara Schmehl in her residence at Elkridge Lorian for Christmas activities, scripture reading and caroling. Nancy Walworth led her fun 'unwrap the gifts' activity. 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-one women participating in the Bible study. 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 25, all students and teachers were invited to bring their backpacks and briefcases to the 10:30 worship service. Pastor VanderWoude led the Blessing of the Backpacks in worship for all students and teachers returning to the classroom or starting for the first time. New this year were laminated backpack tags.

Graduation Sunday

On Sunday, May 19, Pastor VanderWoude 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 Janna VanderWoude in January 2025.

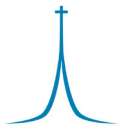
Scout Programs

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 February 11th was a success
- The troop attended Summer camp at Camp Rodney on the Chesapeake Bay 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 2024, the Pack has 27 youth and 14 adults on its roster, Troop 75B has 44 youth and 35 adults on its roster, and Troop 75G has 13 youth and 24 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 2024 were Jeff Bloom (Chair), Bob Ashman (Treasurer), Joyce Danzig (Assistant Treasurer), Dick McBirney, and Jerry Ueckerman. Jennifer Weinel, the chair of the Stewardship Committee, was also a frequent participant..

There were a number of significant efforts undertaken by the committee during 2024:

- Continued to promote the use of the CMPC Bridge for online giving. Bridge was updated regularly to add giving categories as the needs required (e.g., special mission offerings). Online giving through Bridge automatically captures giving information, offers member online access to view their giving history, and generates annual giving statements.
- Continued the implementation of the Accounting module within the CMPC Bridge (Realm) business suite through parallel data entry in Quickbooks and Realm. Parallel testing was completed in December 2024 and full transition to Realm will begin in 2025.
- Continued the collection of pledges for the 3rd Capital Campaign and corresponding payments to reduce the principal on the mortgage. The campaign was mostly complete in 2024, though a few contributions are still expected in early 2025.

Update on the Third Ministry Expansion Capital Campaign

- In late 2021, \$1.39 million was pledged to the third capital campaign.
- Through December 2024, with the scheduled time of the campaign time elapsed, \$1,258,837 was contributed to Capital Campaign #3, or 90% 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 2024 Budget

- The initial budget for 2024 included revenue of \$475,252 and expenses of \$563,799, yielding a deficit of \$76,547. This excludes the mortgage which was paid out of funds from capital campaign 2.
- The final actual numbers ended up with revenue of \$498,965 and expenses of \$476,001, leaving a surplus of \$18,683. The change from the budgeted deficit to the actual surplus stemmed primarily from the loss of the senior pastor in March 2024.

	2024 Budget	2024 Actual
Operating Revenue	\$475,252	\$498,965
Transfer from capital campaign	\$135,167	\$123,513
Total Revenue	\$652,810	\$690,921
Christian Education	\$2,050	\$471
Mission	\$38,000	\$36,997
Mission - special offerings	\$12,000	\$6,014
Communications	\$19,000	\$16,047
Worship	\$13,800	\$13,926
Stewardship	\$1,000	\$819
Finance	\$33,070	\$34,917
Personnel	\$305,069	\$227,350
Membership and Hospitality	\$500	\$53
Fellowship	\$2,500	\$2,096
Care and Wellness	\$850	\$295
Property	\$135,960	\$136,295
Debt Service / Mortgage	\$135,167	\$134,167
Total Expenses	\$698,966	\$610,168
Net	(\$76,547)	\$18,683

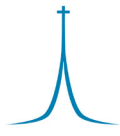
Update on status of reserve and capital campaign funds

- 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 reserve funds increased with contributions to the second capital campaign. These have been used to make mortgage payments over the last 3 years.
- As of the end of December 2024, CMPC has \$355,478. That breaks down as:
 - Designated funds [1]: \$51,641
 - Financial reserves: \$120,000
 - Other reserves: \$183,837

For 2025, we anticipate spending \$128,109 on the mortgage. Along with any deficit we incur, this may 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), and BJ Walworth. The committee met at the church on the first Tuesday of every month.

The M&LO budget for 2024 was \$50,500 that was disbursed across the following categories:

- Local Mission - \$20,000
- National and Global Missions - \$18,000
- Mission Designated Funds - \$12,000
- Committee Expenses - \$500

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)
- CMPC Pre-School Scholarships
- Cold Weather Shelter
- Wesley Freedom United Methodist - Carrol County food bank
- Pastor's Crisis Intervention Fund

A recognition lunch for Cold Weather Shelter and Route 1 Day Resource Center volunteers was held after worship in Fellowship Hall on May 5. Approximately 35 persons attended. The Fellowship Committee helped set up the room and provided drinks.

Throughout the year, numerous volunteers generously provided and served 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 an ongoing ministry of CMPC that welcomes new volunteers. Suzy Crabb serves as the coordinator of this mission.

Rebuilding Together Howard County work days on April 26-27 attracted 12 CMPC volunteers at all skill levels to perform work in Elkridge, including cleaning, washing and painting walls and ceiling in a large living area, replacing skirting around one unit, power washing the exterior of two properties, staining decks, installing fire and CO2 detectors, and gardening clean up. Thanks to Todd Stubbs for organizing the effort with help from Wes Millard and Josh Gliptas.

The 2024 Angel Tree program was bigger than ever! There were approximately 120 gift opportunities on the tree that was put up after Thanksgiving. We assisted seven families from Columbia and two from a Baltimore Title 1 school. A total of 22 children and 9 parents/grandparents received gifts/gift cards. We thank the congregation, as well as LOGOS and preschool families, who donated so generously. Thanks also goes out to the Monday Women's Bible Study for wrapping all of the donated gifts. We know this made a huge difference in the lives of all the recipients. Special thanks go to Sue Ashman for planning and organizing the Angel Tree in 2024!

For the twenty-first consecutive year, CMPC participated in the Cold Weather Shelter organized by Grassroots Crisis Intervention Center. From December 28 to January 5, CMPC volunteers provided and served home-cooked dinners and delivered breakfasts to 70 residents (including 20 homeless persons) housed at the Grassroots facility in Columbia. This was truly an all-church effort and it was challenging to prepare food for such a large group with additional restrictions for serving. But we pulled it off! Suzy Crabb ably served as the CWS coordinator this year.

National Missions

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

- Fuller Center Disaster Rebuilders – Moss Point, MS house rebuild
- Pine Springs Summer Camp, Jennerstown, PA
- Presbyterian Disaster Assistance – Hurricane Helene relief

Global Missions

Support was provided to the following global missions.

- Timothy International - Dustin and Holly Garner mission support
- Friends of the Presbyterian Education Board in Pakistan
- American Near East Refugee Aid – Gaza war relief

Mission Designated Funds

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

- March - Rebuilding Together Howard County
- June – Pine Springs Camp
- September - Columbia Community Care
- December – Pastor’s Crisis Intervention Fund

In October, CMPC took up a special offering for Presbyterian Disaster Assistance in response to Hurricane Helene.

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

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

On March 10, 2024, Pastor Scott Hoffman left CMPC to accept a call at State College Presbyterian Church in Pennsylvania. The Personnel Committee hosted a farewell luncheon for the Pastor Scott and the Hoffman family in which the congregation was able to express their appreciation.

The Personnel Committee started the Bridge/Interim Pastor search while arranging pulpit supply until the position was filled. Pastor Janna VanderWoude began her tenure as Interim Pastor on August 11, 2024. We are fortunate and blessed to have Pastor Janna to lead us during this pastoral transition.

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

1. Pastor Janna has brought her wonderful personality, experience, and knowledge to lead CMPC in our transition as we continue to move forward.
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.

2024 has been a year of transition thus far and we acknowledge that many of the CMPC staff has stepped up in various ways so our church would not miss a beat. The Personnel Committee is grateful for the staff's hard work which makes CMPC the special place that it is.

Members of the 2024 Personnel Committee were Jeff Bloom, Jeff Bruce, Tiffany Carmean and John Kim.
Thanks,
John Kim



2024 Property Committee Annual Report
Executive Summary by Joshua Gliptis, PC Chair

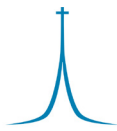
In 2024, the Property Committee (PC) at CMPC continued to stay busy with regards to numerous facility and grounds related projects. This incredible group of volunteers includes Terry Brown, Josh Gliptis, Don Kyle, Daniel Lamb, John McPherson, Craig Nienhuis and Jeff Orndorff. This group along with our Scout groups and numerous volunteers worked throughout the year to address the various needs of the church. As such, we continue to be extremely fortunate to have dependable and committed volunteers across the church who engage in this important work. As an example, we provided guidance to the Scouts as they completed a beautification and functional improvement project on the stormwater structure in the parking lot.

Besides the typical routine maintenance and upkeep, we also remained engaged with unresolved expansion project issues. This included multiple water intrusions, drywall challenges, sealing cracks in the sidewalks, hot water temperature in select locations, and the ongoing matter of elevated humidity in the Sanctuary. We have made strides in resolving each of these matters, but more work is to be done in 2025.

In addition to these issues, the Property Manager continues to help oversee cleaning and upkeep of the church, orders supplies monthly as needed, verifies work done by contractors such as the landscapers and various inspectors, and helps to oversee facility / space rentals. In addition, other issues such as temperature adjustments that may be needed, routine correspondence with those who use the facility, and minor repairs. This is all to ensure the safety of all guests to the church and that CMPC is a welcoming and warm place to visit. A complete list of projects completed by the Property Manager, Property Committee, and other volunteers is available from the Property Committee.

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 work, and water bottle supply among several others. We will continue to partner with credible service providers and look for the best value. Finally, a Property Committee member connected us with a reputable, high quality, fair priced miscellaneous projects contractor. We look forward to potential future projects with this new resource.

In 2025, we hope to address outstanding issues such as the Sanctuary humidity issue while also looking forward to potential improvement projects like building a Memorial Garden. We will also work on improving our efficiencies with the incorporation of a work order log/system and preventative maintenance schedules for the various building systems throughout the church. As always, we will continue to work hard to organize and coordinate volunteers, when possible, to support these efforts.



Stewardship

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.

This year, our theme was taken from Paul's letter to the church in Corinth - "We are God's co-workers... God's building. According to the grace of God given to me, like a wise master builder I laid a foundation, and another is building upon it." I Corinthians 3:9-11

While we at Christ Memorial Presbyterian Church "build" using our time and talents, giving of our financial resources is also an important part of supporting the work of Christ in our community and in the world. The money that we give to the church is used for the building where we worship and where people of all ages learn. Your Annual Contributions are also used for our mission in the local community and beyond; and support the essential Christian workers who serve the church. Just as we could not continue to do what we do without the volunteer hours our members contribute, we could not continue to serve God in this place without financial resources.

We kicked off the campaign in worship on October 6th with a Moment for Stewardship, followed by an official email letter to the congregation. We set our goal to cover our expected budget, which included an additional \$10,000 per month for our mortgage (given the end of the Capital Campaigns). We asked our members to thoughtfully and prayerfully consider rolling over and adding what they have graciously given in the prior Capital Campaign to the Annual Stewardship pledge to continue God's work through CMPC.

We tracked our progress towards our goal throughout the campaign via visual aids (thermometers) outside the sanctuary and in weekly updates in the eNews and Bulletin. 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 via the Moment for Children and testimonials from other members. We concluded our campaign on October 27th, Commitment Sunday, and celebrated our accomplishments on November 3rd with a Stewardship luncheon.

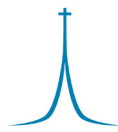
We are pleased to report that, as of 1/7/25, we have received 82 pledges for a total of \$496,572. Importantly, this community answered the call and increased their pledge amounts by a collective \$110,255 (or 22%) over last year. Well done, CMPC!

However, even with this amazing success, we would be remiss if we didn't point out that we are still well short of our goal and budgetary needs. As we embark on the search for a permanent pastor, we implore you to consider additional giving to CMPC as you are able. It is never too late to pledge or to increase your current pledge! Thank you!

CMPC 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 help CMPC build upon the foundation that God has laid. Working together, I know we can continue to rise to this financial challenge. Together, we can realize all that God has planned and continue to spread the Good News to those near and far. Thank you!

Members of the 2024 Stewardship Committee were Licia Gliptis, Kathy Koch, Delores McBirney, Patricia Wilder and Jennifer Weinel (Chair).

Respectfully submitted,
Jennifer Weinel



Worship

The Session is charged with three major tasks: “Provide that the Word of God may be truly preached and heard; provide that the Sacraments may be rightly administered and received; and nurture the covenant community of disciples of Christ.” The first two missions—the ones that happen every Sunday morning—fall under the guidance of the Worship and Music Committee. Therefore:

- The Worship and Music Committee works with the pastor and music staff to imagine and create worship experiences that address the first two missions with which Session is charged.
- The Worship & Music Committee oversees the schedule approval and preparation for the Lord’s Supper (Communion), by tradition at CMPC a monthly celebration.
- They overlook the recruitment, training and scheduling of liturgists, ushers, and communion servers.
- The Worship and Music Committee monitors the usage, maintenance, and appropriate seasonal decoration of the worship space to include use for worship, (including baptisms), weddings, and funerals.
- The Worship & Music Committee oversees and assists in the evaluation of its capable and dedicated music staff and volunteers, who—in addition to leading church members in creating beautiful music together-- maintain the music library and music equipment. Our thanks to Joy Exner, Ted Markle, our highly capable accompanist, and Sally Berlowitz, Bell Choir Director.
- Thanks to those who monitor and use the audio-visual equipment, affiliated with this committee as well as the Communications Committee.

2024 was another unusual and exceptional year at Christ Memorial when we learned in early February that our beloved long-term pastor, Rev. Scott Hoffman, would be leaving us after 12 years to accept a new post at a large church in Pennsylvania. We said goodbye on March 10 and thereafter were served by a variety of other preachers from inside Baltimore Presbytery. This committee offers its thanks especially to Elder John Kim, chairperson for Personnel, who scheduled pulpit supply over several months of vacancy while seeking applications for a bridge or qualified interim pastor. Rev. Janna VanderWoude, one of the supply preachers recruited by Rev. Hoffman before his departure, ultimately answered the call to serve as Interim Pastor and began her service at Christ Memorial on August 5 of this year.

With many of the challenges of the pandemic fading, CMPC resumed most of its pre-Covid worship practices, schedules and events. Logos-led worship, full-on Easter celebrations, a Christmas pageant and a Christmas Cantata “Dawn of Joy” were all part of our shared Sunday worship experience. Additionally, since the start of our Interim pastorate, we have enjoyed some new experiences including an international-breads-buffet for World Communion Sunday, expanded recognition of liturgical celebrations for All Saints Sunday and Christ our King Sunday, and self-selected “Star Words” for everyone for Epiphany. Additionally, Pastor Janna expressed a desire and preference for preaching following the Narrative Lectionary, leading us through a selection of texts beginning with the creation story and on through the Old Testament into Advent, built around the Gospel of Luke (this year). The baptismal font is out every Sunday and we pour the water,

remembering whose we are and that Jesus poured himself out for us. The Worship and Music Committee embraces these introductions to new elements of worship while encouraging the congregation to imagine change as they anticipate looking for a new installed pastor in the upcoming year.

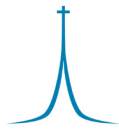
Due to the involvement of dedicated and able volunteers, Christ Memorial's capacity for offering virtual worship via Facebook streaming continues to improve. The committee is grateful to all those who serve at sound boards and the camera making it possible for others to "attend" worship while away from the building. John Kim, Allen Exner, Kofi Akuoko, and Rachel Bis frequently contribute their efforts, while Neil Danzig continues to offer his expertise for calibrating and refining the audio-visual systems. We are grateful, too, for new volunteers who've expressed interest in learning the necessary skills and offering their time for this valuable service to CMPC, and welcome others to this ministry.

We offer thanks for those from the Education Committee also, who recruit and schedule those who prepare the weekly Time for Children, along with the Sunday Experience for younger children who might find it hard to fully engage in the entire worship service. We are grateful, also, to have young families in our membership—to have a truly multigenerational church—and we look forward to pursuing ways of broadening their sense of welcome and involvement in Sunday worship.

In 2024, the following members of the congregation participated on the Worship and Music Committee: Joy Exner (Staff person—Music Director); Allen Exner; Neil Danzig; Allison Miller (Elder); Wes Millard (Elder); Gil Burckart (Elder and Chairperson through December 2024); Karen Hawker; Kevin Wilson; Linda Shields and Patrick Robinson. We offer them our thanks and hope that they will continue to offer their ears, inquiries, imagination and judgment to the oversight of worship at CMPC.

Looking forward in 2025, the Worship and Music Committee continues to explore ways to make the worship experience even more inclusive and interactive with this multi-generational congregation and its surrounding community.

Respectfully Submitted,
Elders Wes Millard and Allison Miller



Care and Wellness

The Care and Wellness Committee has completed its twenty-second year of ministry as part of the Board of Deacons. Members of the committee for 2024 were Jan Keister, Tom Engle, Kris Bloom, Markita Garner, Nancy Walworth, Yeketenesh Woldegiorgis, Elise Jordan, Sandy Rowan, Laura Frantz, Bethany Thornhill, Linda Dunn and Eleanor Orndorff (until her death in May).

The Card Ministry, an essential responsibility of the Care and Wellness Committee, sends handmade and donated cards to church members or any others on The Prayer Chain or upon request. Kris Bloom sent Valentines and Halloween cards to CMPC college students. Jan Keister sent birthday cards to all church members throughout the year and all other cards. In December, the committee met at church and addressed Christmas cards to church family members. A large portion of our budget goes towards postage for the card ministry. This year, our cards were donated by church members as well as EC Stampers. EC Stampers donated handmade cards as a thank you for use of CMPC facilities. A huge thank you goes to Nancy Walworth, Sue Ashman and the EC Stampers for all of the handmade cards. Care and Wellness provided a holiday ham for the EC Stampers' Christmas party as a token of our appreciation for all of their hard work in making such beautiful cards for us.

The Prayer Chain is maintained by Colleen Hughes. The annual Prayer Chain Luncheon was not held this year. Beginning in 2025, the luncheon will be held every other year.

Sadly, the two scheduled Red Cross Blood Drives were cancelled due to lack of volunteers who signed up to donate blood.

The Care & Wellness Committee also assists with the coordination of memorial luncheons after memorial services upon family request. There were two this year: Don Downer in February and Eleanor Orndorff in May.

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 families, and families going through a hard time. We set up seven Meal Trains in 2024 for CMPC families.

The Care & Wellness Committee continued to be available for occasional transportation requests by church members for doctors' appointments, rides to church and other needs.

Respectfully submitted,
Jan Keister



Communications

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

The Communications Committee has continued its focus on maintaining infrastructure and the provision of capabilities to other committees throughout 2024.

The Communication Committee, led by Neil Danzig, purchased and installed a new television in the lower floor hallway to replace a broken one at that location. There are additional televisions positioned in the narthex and the second-floor area outside of the elevator. These televisions display announcements and church information but are intended to eventually display the Sunday morning live-stream so congregants and visitors outside of the sanctuary can still view the service. Another television is 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 continued to explore 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 integrated into Bridge, and the Communication Committee would welcome the opportunity to help any other committee or program utilize this resource.

LOOKING AHEAD

The Communication Committee is working to establish a predictable replacement schedule for the CMPC owned computers. Timed replacements of computers and other equipment are being scheduled to reduce unexpected impacts on the church's budget, including a device for the new, permanent pastor.

Respectfully submitted by

John Fieldsend,
Communications Committee Chair



Fellowship

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 2024 began with a sense of togetherness as we entered a new year. Fellowship Hour maintained a 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 brought the annual Easter Egg Hunt following the traditional service. Many children participated in the event which 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. 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 third 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 was beautiful, and many enjoyed the great food and fellowship as we transitioned into the Fall season. Trunk or Treat was held the week 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 decorate the Church for Christmas once again 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 2024 Fellowship Committee members – Laura Jean Michels-Graybeal, Peter Gallagher, Theresa Akuoko, and Amy McMillion 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 2025 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. Each week, Leta Loring enlists volunteers needed 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. Following worship, our committee collects used communion cups (first Sunday of the month) and removes 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.

In April, a Welcome Center was set up in the hallway, outside Fellowship Hall. With the help of Shelley Clemens we created for visitors a display of information about our 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 with a pencil and other novelty items for the children.

Our committee felt strongly that we needed to add another layer of security to worship on Sunday. Locking the lower level door (parking lot entrance) at 10:45, would prevent people from entering our church unobserved. Anyone arriving later would enter via the unlocked Narthex doors. A sign on the parking lot door informs guests of the change. The new security procedure was implemented October 2024.

Pastor Janna asked our committee to update the membership roles. This procedure is usually done every two years. Steve Pettit reviewed a list of people who have not attended regularly. A letter will be sent out in January to confirm their membership.

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. In May and November, the CARE Group initiated a food drives to benefit Oakland Mills High School. Both events were well received and supported by the congregation.

Throughout 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. Our committee donated a summer themed basket for the LOGOS annual fund raiser, Musical Sweets & Treats.

On Christmas Eve, CMPC held two evening services, five o'clock and eight o'clock. Four of LOGOS FISH participants assisted in handing out bulletins, candles, and taking the offering at the five o'clock service. Chad Board, Joyce Danzig and Annette Hinkle served as Ushers for the later service.

We hold our monthly meetings in person and via Zoom on the first Monday of each month. Members of the committee are Colleen Hughes (chair), Chad Board, Frances Cardea, Sandi Chapasko, Leta Loring, Cindy Pettit, Steve Pettit and Nancy Whitelock. We rely on CMPC members-at-large to support our weekly commitments.

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

Respectfully submitted,
Colleen Hughes, Chair