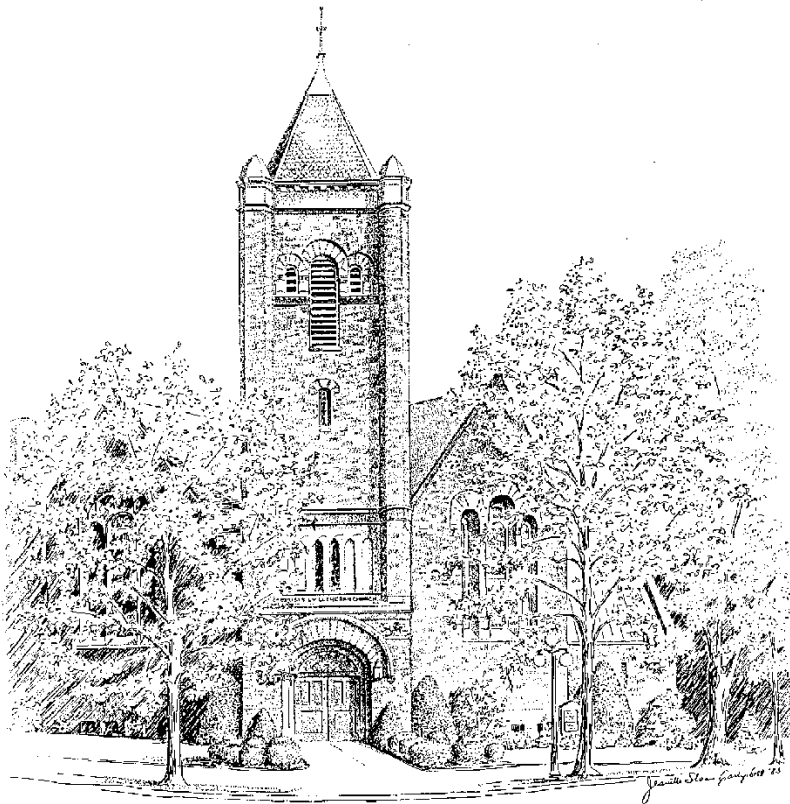


Annual Report 2024



**Christ's Evangelical Lutheran Church
Lewisburg, Pennsylvania**

Our Vision: Making Christ known as we worship, serve and grow in faith

**The Annual Congregational Meeting will be held
Sunday, February 16, 2025 in the Sanctuary at 11am
following the 9:30 AM service.**

***Please read the enclosed reports and bring this report to the meeting.
Please bring any errors or omissions in this report to the
attention of the Church Office before the Annual Meeting.***

Annual Report for the Year 2024

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Christ's Evangelical Lutheran Church Statement of Mission

The congregation of Christ's Lutheran Church, having been nourished by the gifts of Word and Sacrament, is called to:

Be faithful to the Gospel and its proclamation in word and deed;

Worship God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit with devotion, piety and vigor, according to the mandate of the Scriptures and practices of the Church;

Be involved in apostolic works of mercy and love to our community and, through our benevolence, to the world;

Be a community of learning, encouraging one another to become involved in opportunities to deepen our understanding of the Gospel and the faith of the Church;

Be a community whose common life is characterized by understanding, support, fellowship and forgiveness;

Develop leadership for the work of the parish and the wider work of the Church, i.e., Synod and the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America;

Grow in our appreciation for God's good gifts by giving generously of our time, abilities and money;

Proclaim the Gospel to those outside the Church as an invitation to share in the life of Christ's people;

Love one another as Christ has loved us;

Work and pray for peace and justice in our nation and the world;

Work and pray for the unity of the Church;

Affirm the future as filled with opportunities for growth in obedience to our Lord and His service.

OUR CONGREGATIONAL VISION:

Making Christ known as we worship, serve and grow in faith.

Church Staff 2024

Pastor.....The Rev. Katy Moran
Organist/Music Coordinator Joanne Vasey
Coordinator of Faith Formation Charlene Rineer
Choir Director Brandy Aguirre
Secretary Brenda Boyer
Bookkeeper Diane Zacker
Cooperative Preschool Teachers..... Dana Haile & Erinn Gramly
Cooperative Preschool AM & PM Aides..... Gaynel Carrier/Kim Batkowski & Kathleen Dadalt
Authorized Lay Worship Leader Tom Booth

Congregation Council 2024

President Rick Faux
Vice-President Tim Goff
Secretary Bill Borys
Treasurer Tim Apple
Assistant Treasurers Tim Eshelman & Bill Bollinger

Terms Expire 12/31/2025

Heather Miller
Joseph Martin
Bill Borys
Diane Miller

Terms Expire 12/31/2026

Rick Faux
Rick Slear
Laura Adams
Tim Apple

Terms Expire 12/31/2027

Andy Anderson
Pam Baker
Jackie Cvik
Tom Stahlnecker

2024 Parish Committee Chairs/Council Representatives

Administration & Personnel Committee Diane Miller
Benevolent Endowment Fund Tim Eshelman/Bill Borys
Evangelism & Fellowship Ministries Rick Slear
Faith Formation Team Charlene Rineer / Heather Miller
Finance Committee Tim Eshelman/Bill Borys
Kunkel Trust Committee.....Ken Bolig & Laura Faux/Bill Borys
Property/Parsonage CommitteeKevin Baker / Rick Faux
Public Relations CommitteeGary Parks/Bill Wagner
Social Ministries.....Laura Adams
Staff Support Committee..... Pastor Justin & Pastor Katy
Stewardship Committee Tim Goff
Technology Committee Tom Stahlnecker/Joseph Martin
Worship & Music Committee Tom Booth /Dan White

Council Appointments

Upper Susquehanna Synod Delegates Ann Sabol/ Tom Stahlnecker/Rick Slear
Representatives to the Lewisburg Council of Churches..... Julie Borys
Representative to the Cooperative Preschool Carole Bollinger
Congregational Representative to Camp Mount Luther..... Tom Stahlnecker
Kunkel Trust..... Ken Bolig & Laura Faux
Benevolent Endowment Fund.....Tim Eshelman
Council Representatives on Nominating Committee..... Tim Goff & Bill Wagner
Lindig Foundation..... Ken Bolig & Tim Eshelman

Minutes of the December 10, 2023 Congregational Meeting to Approve 2024 Budget & Elect 2024 Council Members

The meeting was Called to Order at 11:50 AM by President Rick Faux. A quorum was established.

Vicar Katy Moran offered an Opening Prayer.

- The Approval of Minutes for previous Congregational meetings was sought.
- Sunday, January 22, 2023, Annual report – Approved as presented.
Sunday, December 3, 2023, Council nominations – Approved as presented.

The Election of Council Members, whose terms begin on January 1, 2024 was conducted. Printed ballots with the three nominees' names, Laura Adams, Rick Faux, and Rick Slear, were distributed and then collected to be counted. Rick Faux then thanked Council members with expiring terms, Darlene Rowe, Rick Slear, Tom Stahlnecker, and Rick Faux, for their service, along with the members continuing to serve.

As ballots were being counted, the proposed 2024 Budget was presented by treasurer, Tim Apple. Tim reviewed the highlights of the new budget, along with the past year's performance and a recap of the changes. Having been approved by the Council, a motion to approve the proposed 2024 budget was made by Ron Laniewski, seconded by Kevin Baker, and approved. The results of the Council election were announced, with all nominees approved.

Comments for the Good of the Order were made by:

Rick Faux thanked the congregation for their support this past year and announced the next planned Congregational meeting would be January 28, 2024 for the review of the annual report.

Pastor Justin provided an update on the pastoral situation. Vicar Katy was approved for ordination as an ELCA pastor in November and she was assigned to the Upper Susquehanna Synod this past week. Our synod has 115 congregations with 43 pastors (not retired). Our MSP is still active, but the last candidate we received was a year ago with some congregations waiting 3 or 4 years.

A Closing Prayer was offered by Rev. Justin Lingenfelter.

A motion for Adjournment was made at 12:33 by Mark Elliot, seconded by Rick Slear, and approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas R. Stahlnecker
Council Secretary

Minutes of the January Congregational meeting

January 28, 2024

The meeting was called to Order at 11:50 am by President Rick Faux. A quorum was established.

Victor Katy Moran offered an Opening Prayer.

Approval of Minutes for the December 10, 2023 was requested. There was a change to the date of the congregational meeting to January 28, 2024. Motion to approve by Charlene Rineer and 2nd by Joseph Martin and the minutes were approved with correction.

Annual Committee Reports review:

Parochial Report – President Faux mentioned the criteria for remaining a voting member and reminded everyone to sign the attendance record.

Pastor's Report – President Faux suggested everyone read the report as it provides a good road map of where the congregation is headed.

Cooperative Nursery School – Carol Bollinger mentioned that there are 10 board members that help direct the nursery school.

Parsonage – Rick Faux and Kevin Baker did a walk-through of the parsonage and reported that it is in good shape. Transitions has been using the parsonage since 2009 and continue to do maintenance and upkeep to the building.

Property – Thanked everyone who helped with the property committee including mowing grass, leaf clean-up, mulching, and general chores.

Social Ministry – Mentioned the Emergency Food Pantry and thanked everyone for their support and food donations.

Technology – President Faux thanked them for their work every Sunday on Live-streaming our worship service. Also thanked Jason Baker for the work he did recently with our phone service.

Synod Assembly – Volunteers for the synod assembly are Rick Slear, Emma Gearhart, and Ann Sabol. Motion made by Bill Wagner and 2nd by Chad Hershberger to approve the volunteers. Motion carried.

Nominating Committee – President Faux asked for 4 members to serve on the committee along with 2 council members, Bill Wagner and Tim Goff. No one volunteered so Council will solicit participants.

Benevolent Endowment Fund – Mark Elliott volunteered to be on the committee. Motion by Dan White and 2nd Diane Miller was approved.

President Rick Faux expressed his thanks to everyone, Council and Congregation, for their support and cooperation during this period and, to maintain forward momentum, that everyone consider additional services roles they may offer.

Call Process Update – On January 4th the council reviewed and updated the MSP and submitted it to the synod for approval. Victor Katy Moran has completed her requirements and has been recommended for Ordination and will complete her RSP (Rostered Minister Profile). The call process will proceed normally along synod guidelines. The call committee will meet with the candidate for an interview process. Then the call committee will decide whether to recommend the candidate to the Council. Council will then meet with the candidate and decide whether to recommend to the Congregation. The Congregation will then hear the candidate preach and vote whether to issue a call. It was recommended by Chad Hershberger to have one Sunday service for the Congregation vote. President Faux indicated that Council will review the constitution and take it under advisement.

The Council has extended the purchase of Service agreement for Pastor Justin Lingenfelter from United in Christ until the end of March 2024.

Recognition - President Rick Faux was recognized for doing an outstanding job leading the Church and Congregation through these last several years.

Closing Prayer was given by President Faux.

Adjournment – A motion was made Rick Slear and 2nd by Heather Miller and unanimously approved at 12:30pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Bill Borys
Council Secretary

CHRIST EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
CONGREGATIONAL MEETING
March 17, 2024

CALL TO ORDER: Council President, Rick Faux called the meeting to order at 10:45 a.m.

He thanked the Call Committee and Council for their work on the call process, and also Tim Eshelman for continued help.

OPENING PRAYER: Rick Faux offered the opening prayer.

Rick turned the meeting over to Treasurer, Tim Apple to review the financial package for Kathryn Moran. Tim explained that we followed the Synod guidelines to prepare the call package. Council also worked with Pastor Justin to determine travel expenses. Pastor Justin shared his travel expenses to help us determine the costs of travel for the financial package. The current rate for mileage is \$0.68 per mile. Vacation time was determined using the Synod guidelines.

Tim Apple asked if there were any questions on the financial package. Chad Hershberger raised a question regarding the Synod Assembly costs. Tim explained that those costs were accounted for in the budget.

Rick Faux then explained the second part of the call package. This portion of the package is a list of criteria that we, the congregation, are looking for in a pastor, and a list of how we will encourage and support the pastor. Rick explained that this information came directly from the questionnaires that the congregation completed for the Council to prepare the MSP. Rick reviewed both of these sections with the Congregation, including our continued partnership with United in Christ and Pastor Justin. (A copy of the Financial Package is attached.)

Rick shared with the congregation, when council met with Bishop Miller, we stated we wanted change. We were asked..."Do you really want change, and will you be able to accept it?"

Rick Faux then turned the meeting over to Bishop Miller for an explanation of the voting procedure. Bishop Miller asked that the congregation be counted. There were 92 voting members present. Bishop Miller said we would need 2/3 affirmative votes, or 62 affirmative votes for the call to be successful. Written ballots were handed out to the congregation. Bishop Miller offered a prayer. The congregation then voted, the votes were collected, and the meeting was paused while the votes were counted.

Bishop Miller returned with the count, and asked Bill Wagner to share the results of the count. There were 84 Yes votes, and 5 No votes. Kathryn Moran was called as the pastor to our church.

Bishop Miller turned the meeting back over to Rick Faux. Rick thanked everyone, and shared that we are looking forward to great things coming!

Rick Faux offered closing prayer.

Chad Hershberger made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Ron Laniewski. Meeting was adjourned.

2024 Parochial Report

Average Attendance at Sunday Worship

2024 Avg. Sunday Worship: 105	2023 Avg. Sunday Worship: 105	2022 Avg. Sunday Worship: 97
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Attendance at Special Services

	2024	2023	2022
Ash Wednesday	45	45	53
Easter Sunday	222	194	221
Christmas Eve 4:00 pm	134	149	122
Christmas Eve 8:00 pm	104	106	84

Changes in Membership

Baptized Membership 12/31/23	684	Confirmed Membership 12/31/23	539
Baptized Members received:		Confirmed Members received:	
By Child Baptism	5	By Confirmation	2
By Adult Baptism	0	By Adult Baptism	0
By Affirmation of Faith	7	By Affirmation of Faith	7
By Transfer from ELCA	2	By Transfer from ELCA	2
By Transfer other Lutheran		By Transfer other Lutheran	
By Transfer Non-Lutheran		By Transfer Non-Lutheran	
Total Members Received 2024	14	Total Members Received 2024	11
Baptized Members Removed:		Confirmed Members Removed:	
By Death	6	By Death	6
By Transfer Lutheran	2	By Transfer Lutheran	2
By Transfer Non-Lutheran		By Transfer Non-Lutheran	
By Other Means		By Other Means	
Total Baptized Removed 2024	8	Total Confirmed Removed 2024	8
Baptized Membership 12/31/24	690	Confirmed Membership 12/31/24	542

Ten-Year Statistical Pattern

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	*2020	*2021	2022	2023	2024
Ave. Sunday Attendance	185	186	195	193	187	130	95	97	105	105
Baptized	746	736	744	741	741	725	709	695	684	690
Child	96	69	67	74	77	71	78	79	79	74
Confirmed	603	592	598	602	592	581	561	550	539	542
Communing (Members)	453	418	464	434	398	396	238	247	227	217
(All)	588	668	773	777	610	774	298	313	330	336
*Voting	409	391	404	332	313	268	127	186	187	192

*Voting Members are confirmed members who have communed and made a contribution of record during the current year (2023) and the preceding year (2022).

In-person services were replaced by video worship services due to the pandemic.

* 2021 totals based on in-person services April 4 – Dec. 26 & 2020 totals based on in-person services Jan. 5 - March 15.

Staff Report 2024

The following personnel were the paid staff of Christ's Lutheran Church during the year 2024:

Pastoral Staff:

The Rev. Katy Moran..... Pastor
Began service at CELC – April 1, 2024 – present

Program Staff:

Charlene Rineer Coordinator of Faith Formation
Employment: October 2011 – present
Duties & Responsibilities: Oversee the Faith Formation program.

Joanne Vasey.....Organist/Music Coordinator/Director Parish Peal Handbell Choir
Employment: May 2011 – present
Duties & Responsibilities: Oversee the Music program, act as organist, select hymns, direct Parish Peal Handbell Choir, assists with instrumental ensembles, Children's Choir, Youth Drumming Ensemble, and Orff Ensemble.

Brandy Aguirre.....Choir Director/Director Youth Drumming Ensemble
Employment: September 2014 – present
Duties & Responsibilities: Choir Director, Cantor.

Support Staff:

Brenda Boyer Church Secretary
Employment: September 17, 2018 –present
Duties & Responsibilities: receptionist, secretary, computer, edit newsletter, web page, order supplies, produce & print Sunday bulletins, etc.

Diane ZackerBookkeeper
Employment: September 2005 - present
Duties & Responsibilities: Bookkeeping, financial reports.

Preschool Staff:

Erinn Gramly Teacher
Employment: October 2015 - present
Duties & Responsibilities: Lead teacher Tuesday/Thursday AM classes and for the Pre-K Monday through Friday PM classes.

Dana Haile Teacher
Employment: August 2022 - present
Duties & Responsibilities: Lead teacher Monday, Wednesday and Friday AM classes.

Kathleen Dadalt Teacher's Assistant
Employment: April 2019 – present
Duties & Responsibilities: Teacher's assistant PM classes

Gaynel Carrier Teacher's Assistant
Employment: August 2022 – May 2024
Duties & Responsibilities: Teacher's assistant AM classes

Kim Batkowski Teacher's Assistant
Employment: September 2024 – present
Duties & Responsibilities: Teacher's assistant AM classes

Carole Bollinger Administrator (Volunteer)

Pastor's Report

Dear Christ's Lutheran,

Looking back over this last year, it is hard to believe how much has happened! It has been a blessing and joy to serve as your pastor for the last nine months and I am incredibly excited to where this next year will take us. Throughout this past year, it has been a privilege to come alongside you in the rich and multi-faceted aspects of life in this congregation. I have sincerely appreciated the support that I have received as a new pastor and the ways that we have been able to find new footing together!

I give thanks for the ministry here at CELC throughout 2024! In June, I was installed as your pastor—and offer many thanks to all who took part in leading and participating and providing music for this service! In addition to this, we also had many exciting milestones in people's faith journeys. We celebrated five baptisms, sharing with them the promises that God has claimed them as God's child and the promises of support that we as Church provide. We also welcomed nine new members into the congregation and celebrate that they have found a church home with us. We also had two of our youth affirm their faith at Pentecost.

Over the past year, we began a reflective process to critically and earnestly explore who we are as a congregation in 2024. We used the 2024WARD to begin these conversations and, as a congregation and with congregational leadership, started to examine who we are now, how we engage with our community, what unique gifts do we have as a congregation, how have we been equipped by the Spirit, and what are we willing to risk as we seek to live out our mission as Christ's church. While this is only the beginning of this process, I was, and continue to be, deeply encouraged by how much community and support people experience here and have named that as a core value of this place!

As a rostered leader in the ELCA, we are also called to serve the wider church. I am serving on the Candidacy Committee for the Synod—this committee serves to prepare, accompany, and equip those who are seeking rostered ministry in the ELCA as candidates for Minister of Word and Sacrament or Minister of Word and Service. As someone who completed their candidacy journey within the last year, I am excited to share my experiences and to serve in this important ministry for our Synod. I have also been elected to serve on the Board of Directors for Camp Mount Luther. I look forward to sharing my own outdoor ministry experience in this new context and am grateful for this opportunity to serve the campers whose faith lives are shaped by CML's programming.

One of our biggest transitions this year was the decision to explore what offering one service on Sunday mornings meant for our congregation. Folks were probably sick of hearing me say “One service at 9am!” leading up to this time change! For many, it has been exciting to come together in a fuller worship service and get to know the “other” congregation. This change has allowed for a stronger sense of fellowship and community and has allowed for more folks to experience the many gifts our congregation has to offer in worship. Thank you for your willingness to try something new!

In 2024, we have also continued on with our partnership with United in Christ and Pastor Justin. After taking some time to allow us to get settled into our new call together, both councils took on the task of exploring what partnered ministry looks like with two full-time pastors serving two congregations. This Partnered Leadership Agreement has allowed for both Pastor Justin and I to serve both CELC and UIC, utilizing one another’s strengths for the benefit of both congregations. This agreement has also led to more opportunities for the two churches to come together and share in ministry, fellowship, and service opportunities. I hope to see the relationship and shared ministries continue to grow and to flourish!

I would like to give thanks to our congregation council! They took on many difficult conversations and decisions this past year. I am grateful for their leadership, their openness to these tough conversations, their willingness to listen and to learn from one another, and the great care they took in best serving the congregation. Thank you to those who served faithfully this past year on committees, helping the many many ministries of the congregation to continue and grow. There would be no ministry here without the work of the people, so thank you!

I would also like to offer my sincerest gratitude and thanks to our CELC staff! Brenda, Charlene, Joanne, Diane, and Brandy have served our congregation so well. They have been incredibly patient with the newbie (me) and have been excellent resources as we have learned to work together. Their leadership over this past year has been invaluable and I remain incredibly grateful to each and every one of them.

I am thrilled to be serving as your pastor! I have been encouraged by this last year together, both as vicar and as pastor. Thank *you* for how welcoming you have been. Thank you for being willing to learn with me and to challenge me. I cannot wait to see what God has in store for us for 2025 and look forward to this journey together!

Yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Pastor Katy".

Pastor Katy

2024 Statistical Report

Christ's Evangelical Lutheran Church

During 2024, the following events and "pastoral acts" were recorded:

Received as Baptized Members by the Sacrament of Holy Baptism:

Vada James Bair-Elliott	March 31, 2024
Camille Bea Firman	September 15, 2024
Hadley Nicole Slear	September 22, 2024
Peyton Lawrence Trank	October 20, 2024
Robin Aria Aguirre	October 27, 2024

Received as Confirmed Members by the Sacrament of Holy Baptism:
None in 2024

Received as Baptized Members by Transfer or parents' Affirmation of Baptism:
None in 2024

Received as Confirmed Members by Affirmation of Baptism (Confirmation):

Claire Margaret Hershberger	May 19, 2024
Ruth Elizabeth Miller	May 19, 2024

Received as Confirmed Members by Transfer or Affirmation of Baptism:

Gary Rickenbach	January 14, 2024
Jamie Rickenbach	January 14, 2024
Cordell Dean	January 14, 2024
Georgetta Bowes	May 9, 2024
Heathan Firman	September 15, 2024
Nikki Schnaufer	September 15, 2024
Colin O'Hara	September 15, 2024
Sarah O'Hara	September 15, 2024
Katy Moran	October 9, 2024

Removed from Membership due to Transfer or other action:

Rachel Eliff	
To Sharon Lutheran Church, Selinsgrove, PA	June 11, 2024
Leigh Birge	
To Sharon Lutheran Church, Selinsgrove, PA	June 11, 2024

The following were received into the Church Triumphant and Funeral or Memorial services held:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Date of Death</u>
Nancy L. Lindenmuth	January 17, 2024
Doug C. Williams	February 18, 2024
Wanda L. Harrison	May 1, 2024
Benjamin J. Zimmerer (former member)	June 9, 2024
Virginia A. Mutschler	June 26, 2024
Virginia M. Lucas	August 13, 2024
Edwin D. Ney	November 5, 2024

The following Baptized Members received their first Holy Eucharist:

None in 2024

2024 Marriages:

One wedding in 2024

2024 Affirmations of Marriage:

None in 2024

Membership Summary:	December 31, 2023	December 31, 2024
Baptized Members	684	690
Confirmed Members	539	542
Communing Members	227	217

2024 Faith Formation Coordinator Report

The year was a busy one. Thanks to everyone who helped with and/or participated in the education programs, and youth and family activities. Extra thanks to the faith formation committee – Tom and Beckie Stahlnecker, Colleen Nevil, and Heather Miller.

In January, I attended the annual ELCA Youth, Children, and Family Ministry Network's Extravaganza. It was nice to be with my colleagues for continuing education, worship, and fellowship. The theme for the Extravaganza was Dream, and it was held in New Orleans. Part of the time there was working as our Synod's Champion for the ELCA Youth Gathering for 2024.

When it comes to youth activities it was a challenge with low numbers and busy schedules. One of the big projects for the year was getting to New Orleans in July for the ELCA Youth Gathering. To help with that we did many fundraisers. In January we did our annual soup and bread sale. In February we handed out M&M containers for donations. We also sold gift cards a couple times. Then to earn the rest of the money needed, in May, we held our annual Italian Dinner and Silent Auction. For other youth events it was really hit and miss as far as participants. Mini Mission Mondays still attracted a fair number of participants. Movie nights and game nights happened with a few people who had a blast when they attended.

During the summer, on behalf of our church, I continued to help with the Summer Youth Lunch program. We packed the extra food bags on the first Friday in June. Thanks to Richard Waller for his leadership in this program and to Susan Smalley for continuing to be our representative for this wonderful outreach. Also this summer I helped with the combined Day Camp we held with Milton Lutheran and United in Christ Lutheran at Faith Lutheran in Lewisburg. It was a blast seeing the children grow in their faith using the theme of Created to Be. Another highlight of the summer was attending the ELCA Youth Gathering that used that same theme. Thanks to Elissa Koontz and Heather Miller for being the other adult leaders. It was fantastic to see the youth who went on the trip experience the church at large and grow in their faith as they discovered what it meant to be created to be loved, free, disruptive, called disciples.

As fall and the school year arrived it was back to trying to decide how to do ministry with all age groups. Many thanks to Kailyn White for continuing to be creative with Sunday School for the preschoolers and the lower elementary age children. I continued to teach the upper elementary students and middle school youth as we worked through confirmation lessons. This school year is the Small Catechism year where we focus on living a life of faith. I also helped start a new program with United in Christ Lutheran and Milton Lutheran – entitled Faith Lab.

It is a once-a-month education program for preschoolers through 6th graders. The theme to start out was La Frontera – where Jesus meets us. It has been a growing program with a few from all the churches participating.

Working with the United Youth Group continued to be a blessing as we combined our efforts with the small groups of youth from First Baptist, St. Paul's UM, and Beaver Memorial UM. From January to May we had many game nights and movie nights as I interspersed activities of self-care and spiritual development in the mix. In April we had a mission trip to Washington DC. Then in the fall I continued with fun activities interspersed with the remix lessons from the youth gathering. They also have helped with our Mini Mission Mondays. Then it was wonderful to end the year with our traditional Christmas activities.

For the social media/tech portion of my job I post information and inspirational gifs on Facebook on a regular basis – on both the church page and the private youth page. For the live streams I am creating the announcement power points for the services. I also do announcement slides for the TV in the atrium.

Trying to plan and do ministry in 2024 was a challenge and a blessing. As always it was fun juggling all the families' schedules to reach out to all the ages. Going to see them in their activities was one way I tried to stay connected. A huge thank you to all who continue to help and support the Faith Formation of all at Christ's.

Charlene Rineer
Coordinator of Faith Formation

2024 Music Team Report

The Music Team continued to adapt as best as possible in 2024 despite ever changing dynamics and expectations. Overall, it was another challenging and exhausting year physically and emotionally. The pool of available singers and instrumentalists continued to shrink due to factors beyond our control. Scheduling choirs/ensembles for Sunday mornings and rehearsals became increasingly difficult. "Scheduling around everyone's schedules" became the norm. Musicians who attended faithfully were often multi-tasking in worship limiting their availability to participate with choirs/ensembles. For anyone thinking logistics were easier for the music staff in 2024, rest assured this was not the case. The 2024 paid Music Team consisted of Joanne Vasey & Brandy Aguirre. A bulleted summary is below.

- * The following choirs/ensembles shared anthems on a rotating basis as much as possible: Children & Family Choir; Youth Drumming/Orff/Handbell Ensemble; Parish Choir; Pop-Up Choir; Parish Peal Handbell Choir/Handbell Ensemble.
- * Brass Ensemble and/or an intergenerational Orff Ensemble shared in worship for some festival days or special occasions.
- * All choirs/ensembles were rehearsed with the exception of Pop-Up Choirs. Rehearsals were scheduled at the convenience of musicians to maximize participation. Pop-Up Choirs still required pre-planning and publicity.
- * Special Music representing stylistic variety was offered throughout the year by vocalists and instrumentalists of all ages and experience levels.
- * Every effort was made to include various church-owned rhythm instruments in worship when appropriate. Examples include African drums, hand drums, clip-clop blocks, wind chime, jingle rings, Orff instruments, etc.
- * Two Sunday worship services were held Jan. through May. One Sunday worship service was held beginning in June and continued through the end of the calendar year. Two services were held on Christmas Eve - a family service structured for children and a traditional service.
- * A memorial service for longtime organist and DOM, Judy Blee, was held in February. An ecumenical handbell choir, ecumenical vocal choir, guest organists and various instrumentalists provided anthems in celebration of Judy's life.
- * Holden Evening Prayer took place on Wednesdays in Lent with a variety of cantors.
- * Pastor Katy's Installation was held on Sunday, June 30 at 1:00 pm. Parish Choir, Parish Peal Handbell Choir, Brass Ensemble, a violin/bassoon duet provided service music. A guest organist provided the postlude.

Thanks to all vocalists and instrumentalists who shared their talents to enhance the music ministry in 2024.

Respectively submitted,
Joanne Vasey

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Administration & Personnel Committee

Committee Members: Diane Miller, Laurie Slear, Adelyn Elliott and Pam Baker.

The A & P Committee is responsible for our Personnel Manual. This detailed manual contains many policies and procedures for all members of Christ's Lutheran Church. The committee is currently at work updating job descriptions as many have changed since Covid.

The committee assists the Pastor, as needed, with staff evaluations and advises the Council Executive Committee with personnel issues, if requested. Members of this committee are also available to hear other issues from congregation members that may be pertinent to administration and/or personnel matters of Christ's Lutheran.

The Committee is always in need of new members. If you have experience in management, administration, or human resources and would like to give back of your time and talent, please contact the Council President for more information.

Altar Guild

The responsibility of the Altar Guild is to make sure the Sanctuary is ready for any and all services.

The teams are responsible for setting up for communion, baptisms, changing the seasonal colors, delivery of flowers (including seasonal Easter Flowers and Christmas flowers) as well as the weekly Sunday service flowers and laundering the linens. Many hands make this all possible.

Supplies (wine, bread, cups, candles, etc.) continued to be ordered by Jackie Goff and Beverly Harvey.

There are currently 3 teams which alternate months throughout the year. All teams assist during the Easter and Christmas seasons.

Many people assisted in setting up the Sanctuary for the Christmas Eve services (candle poles, hand held candles, etc.).

Altar Guild members are: Jackie Goff, Chair, Beverly Harvey, Co-Chair, Patti Faux, Laura Faux, Paules & Kathy Gibson, Linda Woodling, Diane & Brian Miller and Carol Lewis.

Submitted by, Jackie Goff

Archives Committee

Committee Members: Charlotte Winter and Gary Parks

The Archives Committee has remained active throughout the year.

One project that has been completed is the organization of memorial programs, obituaries, eulogies, and materials relating to the loss of a congregational member. Most of the items date from the 1970s to the present time. There are approximately 1,200 'notices' arranged alphabetically in a series of notebooks. A listing has been generated and a copy will be given to the Church Secretary. A special note of thanks to the late Mary Orwig and the Lycoming County Genealogical Society for the donation of approximately 1,000 mylar sleeves and large ringed notebooks.

A number of gifts have been added to the Archives. Cherie Jarrett has donated a number of items relating to her parents Marian and the late Dick Jarret. Keith Yoder donated a ceramic plate with a depiction of the Church's exterior. The Slonaker family has donated materials detailing the active involvement of Gloria and Bob in the Stephen Ministry, the Church Council, et al. Barb and Gary Baylor donated photographs recording the re-laying of the cornerstone (2002), and the family of Claire Zimmerman donated materials relating to their late father.

The Archives has had a monthly column in the newsletter, alerting our membership to the depth and breadth of materials available. We have filled the archival cabinet with a display of Bibles and more recently, a display of nativity scenes and angels. Thanks very much to Charlene Rineer!

Looking ahead to 2025, we are the recent recipients of a Charles Lindig Lewisburg Foundation Fund from the First Community Foundation Partnership of Pennsylvania. The grant was awarded to us for the purchase of archival boxes and folders, as well as mylar encapsulation film. We were awarded \$694.00.

Charlotte Winter and Gary Parks

Banner Committee

Members: Beverly Harvey, Cherie Jarrett, Mary Lou Shedden and Charlene Rineer

The Banner Committee hangs seasonal banners appropriate to the liturgical year in the worship space. It also is responsible for keeping the banners in good repair, and if needed - designing and constructing new banners. In addition the committee makes the small baptismal banners for each child on their baptism.

Benevolent Endowment Fund Committee 2024 Annual Report

The Benevolent Endowment Fund (BEF) Committee was established in February 2007 to oversee the distribution of proceeds from Christ's Evangelical Lutheran Church's (CELC) BEF. All undesignated bequests and gifts of whatever amount received from estates of persons who have named our church as beneficiary will be placed in the BEF for CELC. The BEF is invested in and managed by the ELCA Mission Endowment Pooled Trust. The BEF should not be confused with the Kunkel Trust Fund. The purpose of the BEF is to enhance the mission outreach of CELC apart from the general operation of the congregation.

The BEF Committee consists of seven members: Pastor, Church Council President, Finance Committee Chair, Treasurer and three at-large members of the congregation who each serve a three-year term. The Committee meets as necessary for requests up to four times a year. Available distribution amounts are determined annually and are based on 4.25% of the average of the 3-year ending asset value in the BEF. The funds are distributed through a review of applications submitted by members or committees. Applications are accepted anytime during the year and are available at the church Welcome Center. The application provides a description of the BEF, directions for filling it out and how to make a gift or bequest to the BEF.

In 2024 the committee approved three requests: 1) \$1,000 to the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) for missions of the ELCA where needed most; 2) \$1,200 to Kingdom Kidz, Inc. to help cover the cost of providing an internet radio program which streams worldwide; and 3) \$5,000 to Camp Mt. Luther to construct of a new bath house and renovate Maple Hall.

Unused funds from prior years will be retained for future disbursement or reinvestment in the fund at the discretion of the BEF Committee. The amount available for reinvestment or disbursement in 2025 will be approximately \$75,000. The BEF balance as of 12/31/24 was \$521,576.

2024 Members of the BEF Committee were: Pastor Katie Moran, Tim Apple (Treasurer), Tim Eshelman (Finance Chair), Rick Faux (Council President), Tim Goff (at-large, term expires 2024), Bill Borys (at-large, term expires 2025) and Mark Elliot (at-large, term expires 2026).

Organ Fund

Although not necessarily falling under the BEF Committee's purview, I wish to report the following activity regarding the Church's Organ Fund.

During 2024, the Church received a generous gift from the estate of Judy Blee. It was Judy's wish to have the gift placed in the Organ Fund of the Church. An ad hoc committee comprised of members from the Worship and Music, Finance and Benevolent & Endowment Committees developed a Statement of Purpose for the use of the Organ Fund which was subsequently approved by Church Council. Uses of the Fund may include, but are not limited to:

- Primarily for the maintenance, repair, replacement and operational costs of the existing organ,
- Modification or maintenance of the structure where the organ is housed,
- Compensation of the Church organist, substitute organists, guest organists, or other musicians,
- Acquisition or use of music used during worship, and
- The music ministry program of the Church in which the organ is used, including acquisition, maintenance, or replacement of other instruments.

By adhering to the above guidelines, it is the committee's aim to preserve this cherished instrument for the benefit of present and future generations of worshipers and the music ministry program of the Church.

Because the future is uncertain, if the Organ Fund cannot be used as outlined above, the Fund may be used for other purposes that the Church Council deems appropriate. The balance of the Organ Fund as of 12/31/24 is \$459,449.

Respectfully submitted,

Tim Eshelman

The Cooperative Preschool

The Cooperative Preschool program provides socialization and school readiness activities for children aged two to five years. The program involves the development of all aspects of the child-physical, emotional, social and intellectual. Its purpose is to foster an understanding of the child's self, others and the world. Because the school is a cooperative, parents participate by helping monthly in the classroom and donating items when requested by staff. In addition, field trips and classroom visitors are scheduled throughout the year.

Due to the resignation of our AM aide to return to college, our former AM aide, Kim Batkowski, returned to the preschool to fill that position. Kathy Dadalt continues to be the PM aide. Erinn Gramley will again teach the Tuesday/Thursday AM class as well as the Monday-Friday Pre-K PM class. Dana Haile teaches the M/W/F AM class.

We have resumed normal activities in the classroom as well as field trips, special events and fundraisers.

Two issues that required policies to be written have been resolved.

The preschool has full enrollment for the 2024-2025 school year.

The board thanks Dale Bontomase for his continued no charge power washing of the play yard equipment.

The preschool remains under the charter of Christ's Lutheran church as a valuable ministry. The Preschool's income and expense numbers are included in the total church report found in the back pages of the Annual Report.

Carole Bollinger, Administrator

Evangelism & Fellowship Ministries

Our Mission: To lead the members of the congregation in spreading the love of Jesus to current and prospective members of Christ's Church and to enrich and encourage growth in faith and discipleship to all people.

Matthew 28:19— "Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit."

Evangelism & Fellowship Ministries

Our Mission: To lead the members of the congregation in spreading the love of Jesus to current and prospective members of Christ's Church, other churches, and the surrounding community. To enrich and encourage growth in faith and discipleship to all people.

Matthew 5:16- "The Bible say that people are called to proclaim Jesus with their words and deeds.

During 2023/24, the Evangelism and Fellowship Team has expanded a variety of events and fellowship opportunities. As we grow, we hope to provide social and outreach activities for everyone, and in growing partnership with United in Christ and Milton Lutheran Church.

Some of the events this year:

- * Anniversary Sunday. Recognizing members 50 years or more. Reception provided.
- * Fall Hayride.
- * Greening event, including luncheon.
- * Downtown Lewisburg Christmas Caroling.
- * Bingo.
- * Sight & Sound bus trip.
- * Coordinate Lenten meals.
- * Progressive Dinner.
- * Potted flowers for Mother's Day.
- * Pies for Guys.
- * Strawberry Festival.
- * Church Picnic at Knoebel's.
- * Lemonade and Float for the Lewisburg 4th of July parade.
- * Crosscutters game in Williamsport.

A special thank you to all committee members, and other church individuals who give their time and talents. Your support and willingness to serve is greatly appreciated.

Committee Members: Co-Chairs: Jackie Goff and DeeDee Wagner. Council Representative: Rick Slear. Members: Jackie Cvik, Julie Albright, Carol Apple, Lisa Veloz, Tim Varney, Pattie Faux, and Laura Adams.

Faith Formation Team Annual Report for 2024

Thanks to the team members – Heather Miller, Colleen Nevil, Beckie Stahlnecker, and Tom Stahlnecker.

Sunday School

Confirmation Class/Upper Elementary School Class used the Here We Stand Material from Augsburg and The Bible Project. They worked on the New Testament in the Winter and Spring, and they started on the Small Catechism and living a life of faith in the fall. The classes were taught by Charlene Rineer with the help of a pastor once a month. Starting the year there were 7 students in attendance. 2 were in their last year and were confirmed at Pentecost – Claire Hershberger and Ruth Miller. In the fall, class size is 5 students and all are working toward being confirmed in 2026.

Preschool Classes/Lower Elementary classes were held and taught by Kailyn White. They used the one room Sunday School Sparks' material by Spark House. They had 4 – 6 students on a regular basis.

Youth Groups

United Youth Group – Joined with Beaver UM, St. Paul's UM, and First Baptist for the middle school/high school youth group. For the first part of the year, we had lessons and activities with the theme of Self Care and Spiritual Inspiration. In April, 8 youth and 4 adults went on a mission trip to DC. In the fall we had a mix of fun activities, Remix lessons based off the youth gathering, and service projects. There are 3 of our youth who have participated in the group this year.

Middle School – High School here – We also did some activities here at Christ's for the youth of Christ's. Mini Mission Mondays continued with a steady attendance of 3 to 5 youth. We also held our own movie nights, game nights, lock-ins, other service projects (road clean ups, Souper Bowl of Caring, camp workday, and walk for Hunger), and fund raisers for the youth gathering and mission trip. In the fall we added Synod led youth events into the mix. Throughout the year we have had 10 youth participate in the events.

ELCA Youth Gathering – 3 youth and 3 leaders from Christ's went to New Orleans on an Amtrak Train in July with another adult and two youth from Holy Spirit in Turbotville. They joined with a little over 16,000 youth and leaders from the ELCA for service, learning, and worship around the theme of Created to Be.

Adult Bible Studies – The ladies’ Bible Studies were held again on Thursdays. Morning and Evening classes. Many thanks to their leader, Kim Eshleman. They did a few studies throughout the year. Pastor Katy led a six-week study in the fall on Faith Practices, using the Animate series from Spark House. There was an average of 8 people in attendance each week. Andy Anderson and Tim Varney continued the Men’s Bible Study. They worked their way through the books of Matthew and Mark.

Report Submitted by Charlene Rineer

Finance Committee 2024 Report

The mission of the Finance Committee is to prepare a draft budget of the Church for each succeeding year, to monitor the financial affairs of the church to make sure that they are being conducted efficiently, giving particular attention to the prompt payment of all obligations including the forwarding of benevolence monies to the synodical treasurer, and to recommend appropriate actions to the Church Council for consideration. It shall also be responsible for the congregation’s investments and total insurance program.

Members of the Finance Committee for 2024 were Pastor Katy Moran, Rick Faux (Council President), Tim Apple (Treasurer), Tim Eshelman (Finance Committee Chair), Bill Borys (Council liaison), Bill Bollinger, Andy Wargo and Gary Baylor.

The Finance Committee meets every month the Sunday before Council’s monthly meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Tim Eshelman

Kunkel Trust Committee

The purpose of the Kunkel Trust Committee is to screen applicant requests for funds from the income generated by the Joseph Kunkle Trust. The committee recommends action to Church Council who can authorize monies to be paid to the approved applicant. The Kunkel trust was established in 1982 for the benefit of Christ's Evangelical Lutheran Church and other community endeavors. M&T Bank controls the principal amount of the trust, while a portion of the income from the trust investments is paid semi-annually to the church. In 2024, the church received \$33,691 in trust income. Our church is very fortunate to have such a fund which not only benefits our church, but also the community of Lewisburg.

In 2024, the Kunkel Trust Committee will have approved and disbursed \$35,269 in requests for funds. Some examples of these include \$10,625 in scholarships to congregation college students, \$10,000 to the Susquehanna Valley Synod, \$5,000 to Camp Mt. Luther for its Foundation for the Future campaign, \$3,000 to Lewisburg Elementary School Snack Pack program, \$1,534 for congregation member's bus trip to Sight & Sound, \$1,000 for hurricane relief, \$1,000 for Camp Mount Luther, with another nine recipients having received less than \$1,000 each.

Kunkel Trust applications are available in the Kunkel Trust Form mailbox. The form can be filled out and placed in the Kunkel Trust mailbox for discussion by the committee at their monthly meeting. If approved by the committee, the request will be sent to Council for final approval.

The Kunkel committee consists of seven members. The church constitution designates four members: Pastor, Council President, Treasurer and Chair of the Finance Committee and council appoints three at-large members for three-year terms. For 2024, the appointees were: Tim Goff (term expires 2024), Wayne Hook (term expires 2025) and Laura Faux (term expires 2026) who filled the unexpired term of Ken Bolig who resigned from the committee midway through the year.

The Kunkel committee meets the Sunday before the monthly Council meeting. The committee also meets periodically with representatives from M&T Bank to review the investment strategies; however, the bank has final say and control of the investment decisions.

Respectfully submitted,

Tim Eshelman

Parsonage

The Parsonage continues to be leased to Transitions. Transitions provides advocacy, empowerment, and education to victims, survivors, families, and communities to end patterns of violence and abuse. They have been leasing the parsonage since 2009 for staff office space. The agreement indicates that Transitions will perform general maintenance and upkeep to the building. More extensive projects require approval from the Property Committee and the Church Council.

Property Committee

The property committee oversees the maintenance of the church and parsonage. The committee often performs necessary repairs and when not possible seeks quotes from outside sources to make the necessary repairs.

The committee takes care of daily maintenance and issues as they occur. This includes replacing lightbulbs, repairing toilets, and replacing filters in the a/c units. We also coordinate annual outdoor tasks such as mulching, weeding, trimming, grass mowing, and leaf raking. We contract for snow removal during the winter season. Thank you to everyone who serves on this committee and those who assist with the property committee work. Volunteer efforts help reduce what we have to pay to outside vendors to complete our work.

Several projects occurred this year, requiring the use of outside vendors. A decaying maple tree was removed on Third Street, near the intersection, and a new one was planted. At the same time, several other overgrown trees were trimmed. The boiler was serviced and two air conditioner units were replaced for the choir room and a Sunday school room. A wrinkle in the carpet was repaired in the center aisle, which was a tripping hazard. All of the exterior trim was painted around the church.

Kevin Baker
Property Committee Chairperson

Public Relations

The Church has developed a good relationship with the local press by sending a number of press releases throughout the year. Our involvement in the community is recorded by our philanthropic endeavors with donations made to local organizations including the William Cameron Fire Company, Camp Mount Luther, the Donald Heiter Community Center, the Council of Churches, and the Buffalo Valley Lutheran Village.

Our Lenten Suppers and Services, as well as the Soup & Scripture luncheons, have been highlighted in press releases as well. With the arrival of Pastor Katy Moran, several newspapers included feature articles about her installation at our Church.

Social Ministry Committee Report

“We look to the future of our church and respond to the needs of the world with confidence in God’s grace”.

Committee members: Janet Shuman, Beverly Harvey, Emmy Gearhart, Joe Keller and Darlene Rowe, Church Council Representative.

This committee initiates and coordinates the following programs and events but the entire congregation contributes to the causes.

*Each February we ask for contributions toward the **Meat Project** in Lewistown. It is run by the Central Pennsylvania World Hunger Association. They process fresh meat for the hungry. 90% is distributed world-wide, and 10% stays local.

*Lewisburg Council of Churches supports the **Emergency Food Pantry** which is located in our church. All churches in the council donate food and/or money to buy food. Julie Borys is our representative to the Council and directs the Emergency Food Pantry. The Pantry had 11 calls in 2024. To access the Pantry, call the church office.

The council of churches also supports a **Transient Program**. They provide shelter, food and bus tickets.

Soup and Scripture is a weekly Lenten program run by the Council of Churches. It is lunch and a short sermon, every Wednesday in Lent, in the Lower Church Hall of Christ Lutheran Church. Social Ministry coordinates serving one of the meals.

***Holy Sew ‘n Sews** (or Sewing Ladies) meets Wednesday mornings in the Lower Church Hall. The quilts created are donated to organizations such as Lutheran World Relief, Hospice in Danville and to Transitions.

- ***Medical Equipment Loan Program** -we collect gently used medical equipment such as walkers, shower chairs, etc. They are stored in a closet upstairs and are accessible by contacting the church office.
- ***Prayer Shawl Ministry** - Knitters knit and pray over the shawls which are lovingly given to those who are ill or recovering, and those mourning the loss of a loved one. There is a good supply of shawls available.
- ***Blanket Sunday** falls in October. Envelops are provided for monetary donations, toward purchase of blankets for the Lutheran World Relief
- ***Remembrance Sunday**-9 carnations and candles were placed on the altar on All Saints Day 2024, in memory of our deceased members. A central candle was lit to remember other departed saints. Family members and friends were invited to light candles in memory of loved ones. A memorial flower is also placed on the altar on the first anniversary of the death of a congregational member.
- ***Visitation and delivery of bulletins/Devotional guides**-Individuals visit and distribute material. Phone calls and cards of encouragement are appreciated by the ill and shut-in members.

We continue to gather children's clothing for the Clothing Closet coordinated by the Presbyterian Church of Lewisburg. They distribute needed clothing at the Food Pantry at the Pentecostal Church on Rt. 192. And we are gathering hygiene products for Beacon Ministries. They are distributed at Beaver Memorial Methodist Church.

We thank the congregation for all their donations and support which helps Christ Lutheran Church show a presence in the community by helping others.

We welcome new members and visitors to the committee at any time. Committee service can be selective with no obligation to attend a regular meeting. Contact any listed committee member for details.

"In everything we do, we try to show that we are true ministers of God."

2 Corinthians 6; 4 Living Bible

Stewardship Committee

The Stewardship Committee is made up of Rick Faux, Patti Faux, Tim Eshelman, Bill and Dee Wagner, and Jackie & Tim Goff. We met to do the addressing of our offering envelopes. We will mail any envelope that has not been picked up. Please let the church office know if you are unable to pick them up. Anyone looking for a great committee to make a difference should call the church office. We are always looking for people with new ideas.

Tim Goff, Chairperson

Technology Committee 2024 Report

In 2021 we began producing live and recorded videos of our services and posting them on CELC's website. We continue recording every service live and storing on YouTube. Your comments and observations are appreciated so we can continue to improve our productions. We hope this provides outreach and alternatives for the homebound, but it does not replace communion and in person worship when you are able.

The church has about 10 computers, desktops and laptops, and several Wi-Fi networks, with modem, routers, and boosters. This year, due to Windows updates, we will have to update all and perhaps replace some of them.

We have purchased a system for video and remote lock control for our main entrance so our office personnel can more conveniently control building access during business hours. As soon as we can coordinate our personal schedules for a day or two, we will install it.

This past year we renegotiated our telephone/internet contract with Windstream. We now have a fiber optic connection with improved service for less than we were originally paying.

There are currently only five of us covering the sound and video and it generally takes two per service. We very much need volunteers to assist us. Anyone interested or with tech skills is encouraged to join us. We have committee meetings on the second Tuesday of every other (odd) month. Please contact Tom Stahlnecker (570-713-5055) or tstahlneck@gmail.com if interested.

Thrivent Report

Thrivent Financial provides a variety of services and gifts to our church. A pewter medallion is given to all who are baptized with their baptism date and name engraved on it. This year, we presented five baptism medallions. Also the confirmation students receive a pewter cross on their rite of confirmation.

Members of Thrivent can direct Choice dollars to the charity of their choice. Many choose to donate to Christ's. Thanks to those who have donated! The church council directs these monies to go to the general fund unless otherwise specified.

Thrivent also has a program of granting money through Action Teams. All members of Thrivent can lead two such teams each year. Each team receives seed money of \$250.00 for a service or educational project. This year our church members took advantage of this program for seed money for fundraisers for the youth gathering and for purchasing candy and water for Lewisburg's Fourth of July parade. Hopefully in 2025 we can get more action team grants for more projects!

Worship & Music Committee 2024 Annual Report

Committee members: Tom Booth, Chairman, Rev. Justin Lingenfelter, Rev. Katy Moran, Joanne Vasey, Brandy Aguirre, Barb Baylor, Beverly Harvey, Vicki Heberlig, and Dan White (council liaison)

Our goal has always been, and continues to be, to provide a quality worship experience for all who worship with us. And 2024 continued to be a challenging year as in past years. We are several years past COVID, I believe we have finally turned the corner and COVID and its impacts is in the distance in our rear view mirror. And now I believe Christ church is on the move again!

Live streaming the services created challenges as well as opportunities. We now have what we call our "third congregation" or our "second congregation" when we moved to one service. For our home-bound members this is a great way for them to connect, and also for some are choosing to worship in the comfort of their home. So, for us the challenge is: what opportunities do these services provide for us?

Pastor Justin joined us this year as he became our Interim Pastor. We are grateful for his leadership, new ideas and energy. Also, we called Rev. Katy Moran as our pastor this year, and we are grateful for all that she brings to our committee, and we are looking forward to what her ministry brings to our church and our committee.

We believe that the worship environment here still continues to be a positive one, especially in the area of music.

As always, we are grateful for our excellent music staff. This “new normal” brought a lot of stress, and a lot of extra work for our staff. Many thanks to Joanne and Brandy. They continued to work tirelessly to insure that our worship services were the best possible, and that included the special music. There are many factors that continue to plague our music program, basically the loss of so many of our choir members and our instrumentalists. However, the pop-up choirs, ensembles, the bells, Orff, the drummers, and family choirs filled the gap nicely, especially for our special services! It was a lot of work to put that together but it’s been great! Especially for our Easter and Christmas Eve services, the music, once again, was spectacular! Many thanks to everyone who participated in the music program this year! Thanks for your willingness to participate and your dedication! Great Job, much appreciated!

Also, we were blessed with a terrific tech team who put together an excellent audio/visual recording system that allow us to record the service and simulcast in real time as well as have the recording posted to our website. There’s a lot of work going on in that sound room to put it all together, but the end result is excellent! Thanks for all your work, much appreciated! These services have also received great comments from viewers.

Our Wednesday evening Lenten services were good this year as well. This year we did Jill Duffield’s “Lent In Plain Sight”. Many thanks to Joe Miller, Chad Hershberger, Pam Souders and Bev Hoffman who helped with the messages, Brandy Aguirre and Heather Miller who sang, and Joanne Vasey who provided all the music.

Finally, we want to thank everyone who helps with our services in any way. Whether you are a greeter, usher, communion usher, communion pourer, worship assistant, cantor, lector, acolyte, sound/recording technician, altar guild, take care of the nursery take care of the banners, we couldn’t do it without your help.

Special thanks to each of you for a job well done!

Respectfully Submitted,

Tom Booth, Chairman