

# Morrisville Presbyterian Church



## Annual Report July 2024 - June 2025

Morrisville Presbyterian Church

771 N. Pennsylvania Avenue.

Morrisville, PA 19067

(215) 295-4191

[www.MPCusa.org](http://www.MPCusa.org) - [MPC@MPCusa.org](mailto:MPC@MPCusa.org)



## Table of Contents

Transitional Pastor & Head of Staff, Rev. Dr. J. Thomas Kort.....	4
Associate Pastor, Rev. Alex Lester-Abdalla .....	5
Clerk's Report .....	7
Trustees.....	8
Finance Committee/Financial Summary .....	10
Budget Committee.....	14
Stewardship Committee.....	16
Board of Deacons (BOD) .....	18
Presbyterian Women (PW).....	19
Personnel Committee.....	20
Worship Committee.....	22
Congregational Ministry Committee (CMC) .....	24
Educational Ministry Committee (EMC) .....	28
Music Ministry .....	29
Flower Committee .....	31
Youth Ministry Committee.....	32
Young Adult .....	35
Communication and Evangelism Committee .....	35
Outreach Committee.....	38
Mission Code Blue and Community Meals.....	39
The Ivins Outreach Center (IOC) .....	40
Food Center (FC).....	45
The Lord's Tailor Shop .....	47
Weekday Nursery School (WNS) .....	49
Cub Scouts Pack 3 - Morrisville, PA.....	51
Boy Scout Troop 3 - Morrisville, PA .....	52

## Transitional Pastor & Head of Staff

### Rev. Dr. J. Thomas Kort

Dear MPC members,

This Annual Report “highlights” the numerous and diverse ways that Morrisville Presbyterian Church is faithfully living out the call to be “The Body of Christ.” Each page is but a glimpse into the myriad way the Holy Spirit is alive and well at MPC.

It is impressive that during this time of transition, you have refused to coast or put your ministry on hold. You continue to be a servant church and because of this commitment, our community is a better place. You exemplify the truth that “every member has a ministry.”

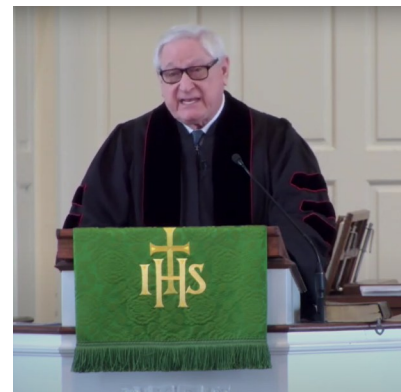
While much of our ministry is highlighted in this report, it is impossible to gauge how lives are changed in quiet and wonderful moments that touch the soul. The gentle word of encouragement. The smile of a new friend. The quiet presence of accepting and welcoming the stranger. The years of friendship formed in this place. The sacred moments when you needed to know God loved you. The times you entered the sanctuary of this church and left with the Good News of the Gospel in the sanctuary of your heart.

We now turn the page and continue to write a new chapter in the history of this congregation. On our first Sunday, I shared a quote from Mother Teresa, “I am just a pencil in God’s hand.” God bless you as we continue write and journey together.

In Christ,



Tom



**Associate Pastor**  
**Rev. Alex Lester-Abdalla**

Dear Priesthood of All Believers,

I've been spending a lot of time with birds. Our house shares a backyard with a meadow on Snipe's Farm. It is such a gift that our personal sliver of land borders a sprawling open space embanked by old trees. It is a communal experience. In winter, you can see the red fur of foxes or the prancing feet of deer against a snowy backdrop. In spring, squirrels begin to burrow for food in our manicured garden beds. And in summer, all kinds of birds have already announced their existence in the neighborhood. Woodpeckers thrumming against the maple tree. Cardinals and morning doves singing their own symphony. And sometimes, when I am quietly sitting by myself, I will be able to catch out of the corner of my eye one of my favorite companions: the grey catbird. The grey catbird is known for being a bit shy. They keep to themselves on corners of forests and branch out when needed. So it is always a treat when I am sitting by myself and suddenly by surprise that particular bird pops up on our fence, even if just for a moment, before it flies away.



In his book, *A Hidden Wholeness*, Parker Palmer writes, “the soul is like a wild animal...tough, resilient, resourceful, savvy, and self-sufficient: it knows how to survive in hard places...Yet despite its toughness, the soul is also shy. Just like a wild animal, it seeks safety in the dense underbrush...If we want to see a wild animal, we know that the last thing we should do is go crashing through the woods yelling for it to come out. But if we walk quietly into the woods, sit patiently at the base of a tree, breathe with the earth, and fade into our surroundings, the wild creature we seek might put in an appearance.”

This past year, MPC has shown to be “tough, resilient, resourceful, savvy, and self-sufficient.” Not only have we embarked on a head of staff transition, but from January 2024 to January 2025 we said goodbye to six staff members. That kind of staff turnover could rock the boat of any congregation. But with steadfast leadership among our boards, dedication amongst our staff, and the Spirit's movement we were able to adapt well on the fly. Worship was meaningful and grounding. Much needed updates to our financial and administrative systems were put in place. Congregants stepped up to visit and pray for their siblings in Christ. Youth ministry, children ministry, adult formation, and our wide ranging mission initiatives all hummed right along.



I believe that through the submissions of this report and in the ministry that lies ahead, we will find that a bridge is emerging. As we seek to move from one head pastor to another, we have demonstrated strong foundations for this Christian community displayed this past year and in years prior. We have witnessed toughness and resiliency in the midst of transition. And I pray that in this year ahead we will trust these foundations, toughness, and resiliency long enough to let our collective soul emerge. For there is work ahead and real questions of discernment for the future. But I believe that if we are patient and open that shy, yet illuminating spark within us can guide our road ahead. So I wonder, how has MPC's soul revealed itself to you? And are we ready to follow wherever it leads?

Grace and Peace to You,  
*Alex*



## Clerk's Report

The composition of the Congregation and the Session as of December 31, 2024:

<u>Race</u>	<u>Congregation</u>	<u>Session</u>
Asian	3	1
African-American	7	0
Hispanic	1	0
Native American	0	0
White	297	14
All Other	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>308</b>	<b>15</b>

<u>Age</u>		
25 & Under	13%	0%
26-40	8%	13%
41-55	8%	13%
56-70	30%	67%
Over 70	41%	7%

<u>Sex</u>		
Male	38%	40%
Female	62%	66%

### Report to the General Assembly

**Membership, January 1, 2024                      306**

#### Additions

Adult Profession of Faith, Reaffirmation & Restoration	7
Transfer from Other Churches	0
Confirmation Class	<u>4</u>
<b>Total Additions</b>	<b>11</b>

#### Losses

By Death	6
By Transfer to Other Churches	1
Requested Removals	<u>2</u>
<b>Total Losses</b>	<b>9</b>

**Membership, December 31, 2024                      308**

Respectfully submitted by Lisa Zazzu, Clerk of Session

## Board of Trustees

*Submitted by Elizabeth Lester-Abdalla*

Over the past year, we were thrilled to see the completion of our Memorial Garden renovation project. Thanks to the expert work of Cedar Creek Landscaping, overseen by our diligent Larry Low and Seth McHenry, we were able to gather and bless our newly-completed Memorial Garden on May 4. Thanks to all who participated in and led the blessing and picnic! The renovation means that the new ramp has increased our church's accessibility, the stormwater drainage has been improved, the new native plantings will continue to grow and beautify the space, the sundial is in the actual sun, the step down into the garden has been eliminated to increase access and decrease risk of falling, the benches have been refurbished with the help of industrious Eagle Scout, Eric Miller, and we continue to enjoy the beautiful shade of our majestic red oak tree. The Trustees are deeply grateful to all who helped bring this project to fruition, from those who donated generously to those who have put so much labor into making this a space in which we all can fellowship, pray, and feel God's presence.

Meanwhile, the rest of our building and grounds keeps the Trustees, volunteers, and most especially our invaluable Property Manager, Dave Sterling, quite busy. This year saw a new freezer; renovation to the Clothing Center, including new shelves and cabinets, new carpet, and a fresh coat of paint; new handrails in the choir room; upgrades to the electric paneling and lighting in the education wing to benefit the Weekday Nursery School and run the air conditioners more efficiently; new lighting in various rooms; fresh paint in the Food Center, choir and bell choir rooms, and narthex; repairs to our outer doors; new equipment to maintain the building and grounds; and many other projects. Blue Jean Sunday continues to be a well-attended activity that gets the congregation involved with these and other projects inside and outside the church one day after church in the spring and fall. Be on the lookout for our fall Blue Jean Sunday, typically in early November! Thanks as well to Tony and Lisa Zazzu and Paul Clough who helped us switch our Church Management System from ACS to Realm, which will be much more efficient and easier for the office administrator and financial secretary to use! Stay tuned for more ways that this will make life easier for each one of you to connect and communicate with others here at MPC.

Be on the lookout this summer for the replacement of our slate roof! Dave has been hard at work with our contractor, Tom Kovack at USA Roof Masters, to ensure we get the full replacement value of the roof from our insurer following hail damage on April 1, 2023. The installation is scheduled for this summer.



We are also grateful to share the benefits of our space with others, including Code Blue, which welcomed 176 guests in a bitterly cold March. You may have also met some of our neighbors from Adonai Tabernacle who have rented space with us this past year to worship in room 220, and, in the future, will worship in the Chapel on Sundays at 1:00 p.m.

Thanks to all who keep this building, these grounds, and our finances running. MPC is blessed with the generosity of this congregation offering their time and their skills in keeping this place going. The Trustees greatly appreciate each one of you.



## Finance Committee

### MPC Financial Summary

*Submitted by Paul Clough*

	<b><u>12 Months Ended December 31, 2023</u></b>	<b><u>12 Months Ended December 31, 2024</u></b>
<b><u>OPERATING REVENUE</u></b>		
Pledges - Current Year	\$487,702	\$459,376
Plate	19,991	18,147
Per Capita	4,599	3,663
Seasonal/Special Offerings	8,309	8,109
Deacons Gifts	<u>15,454</u>	<u>21,553</u>
Memorial Gifts	8,330	5,291
Building Rent/Usage	27,300	13,673
Investment Income	114,742	133,326
All Other	10,928	18,710
<b>Total Operating Revenue</b>	697,355	681,847
<b><u>OPERATING EXPENSES</u></b>		
Ministry	256,729	241,241
Building and Grounds	161,401	171,035
Admin and Finance	82,439	98,885
Benevolence	82,755	75,729
Child & Family	1,468	3,153
Communications & Evangelism	26,040	27,431
Congregational Ministries	16,402	8,426
Educational Ministry	3,856	16,000
Music Ministry	83,442	85,469
Personnel	2,350	1,123
Stewardship	3,348	3,674
Worship Programs	3,826	4,813
Young Adult Ministry	124	94
Youth Ministry	<u>6,272</u>	<u>3,454</u>
<b>Total Operating Expense</b>	730,452	740,528
<b>OPERATING EXCESS/ (SHORTFALL)</b>	<b>(\$33,097)</b>	<b>(\$58,680)</b>
<b><u>NON-OPERATING INCOME</u></b>		
Bequests	33,102	2,359
Restricted Gifts	6,000	75
Vanguard Investment Gains/ (Losses)	323,004	241,099
<b><u>NON-OPERATING EXPENSE</u></b>		
Major Projects	51,330	255,745
Benevolences on Non-Operating Income	7,222	165
<b>NET EXCESS/(SHORTFALL)</b>	<b><u>\$270,457</u></b>	<b><u>(\$71,056)</u></b>

## INVESTMENT FUND DESCRIPTIONS

Endowments - monies in these funds are assets subject to donor-imposed legal restrictions requiring the principal to be maintained PERMANENTLY by the Church. Generally, the donors of these assets permit the Church to use part or all of the income earned on related investments for specific purposes.

1. Partlow Endowment - Hilda Partlow bequeathed MPC \$1,236,000 in 2011-14 requiring the original principal amount remain untouched with only earnings on the original gift allowed to be spent. Interest and dividend income is transferred annually to our Unrestricted General Reserve account for use in funding regular operating church activities. Market gains on the Endowment are periodically transferred to the Restricted Partlow fund. If the Partlow Endowment fund balance falls below the original \$1.236 MM gift amount, only interest/dividend income related transfers will take place until market gains return the fund to an amount in excess of the original gift. The donor's intent was that the original gift never be touched to ensure MPC would receive investment income on the original gift in perpetuity.
2. Birks Scholarship Endowment - William James Birks was a strong Christian who actively encouraged youth to enter the ministry. Shortly after Birks died in 1968, his mother started donating monies to MPC to fund an endowment in her son's name for use by the church in awarding scholarships to youth interested in entering the ministry. Prior to her death in 1982, she donated a total of \$24,346 to the endowment. Earnings from this fund are transferred annually to a restricted Birks scholarship fund, which awards ministerial scholarships to qualified candidates. Decades of market gains continued to accumulate in this endowment fund but in 2022 the cumulative market gains were transferred to the restricted Birks fund so they could also be used to award scholarships. The endowment portion of the Birks monies is solely the \$24,346 original cumulative gift.
3. Roberts Scholarship Endowment - Mary Carver Roberts, an MPC member, passed away in 1983. In 1987, her sister, Ella Carver Duke, donated \$25,000 to MPC for the creation of a scholarship endowment in her sister's name, the earnings of which are to be used for scholarships to MPC members who are interested in careers in either the ministry or medical fields. These earnings are transferred annually to a restricted Roberts scholarship fund for use in awarding the scholarships. Decades of market gains continued to accumulate in this endowment fund but in 2022 the cumulative market gains were transferred from the endowment fund to the restricted Roberts scholarship fund. The endowment portion of the Roberts monies is solely the \$25,000 original gift.
4. Wende Stover Memorial Garden Endowment - In 2021, the Stover family donated \$8,500 for the establishment of an endowment fund in the memory of Wende Stover, the earnings of which are to be utilized for the maintenance of Wende's garden. Earnings from this endowment account are transferred annually to the restricted Stover Memorial Garden fund for use in maintaining Wende's garden.

Restricted Funds - Monies in these funds are assets subject to donor-imposed restrictions that may or will be met either by actions of the Church or the passage of time. Restricted assets consist primarily of contributions and related investment income which are used for the purposes specified by the terms of the original gift.

1. Partlow Capital Improvement Fund - Consists of cumulative market gains from the Partlow Endowment Fund transferred periodically into this fund. Session has designated these monies for use as an MPC Capital Improvement Fund with distributions used to fund Major Capital Projects. Monies in this fund have recently been used to pay for, among many other capital projects, the \$168,000 cost of resurfacing the church parking lot and the \$150,000 cost of plumbing repairs & asbestos remediation in the Education wing, furnace replacement and bathroom renovations.
2. Counseling Fund - During 1971-72 MPC received \$20,000 from the Schreve Foundation for use in providing Counseling services to the MV community. However, little of these monies were actually ever dispensed. Over time, the fund grew substantially due to stock market gains. Although incorrectly classified as endowment monies for the last 15-20 years, after much research it was determined that these monies were never an endowment. So in June 2022 Session approved a recommendation to re-classify this fund from Endowment to Restricted. Although historical records were not restated, starting in 2022 this fund has been classified as Restricted.
3. Women's Retreat - Memorial gift in the name of Dot Scheidemantel, for use in partially funding Women's Retreats at approximately \$6,000/yr.
4. Pastor Housing Fund - These monies were generated via the sale of MPC manses and were designated by Session for use in assisting new incoming pastors with housing assistance (loans) during their time at MPC. In 2023, based on recommendations from the Financial Taskforce, Session voted to reclassify these monies to Unrestricted.
5. Memorial Garden Upgrade Project - Gifts received for the upgrade of the Memorial Garden started in 2024.
6. Donation for Pastor Discretion - 2021 gift to MPC; to be used at the discretion of the Sr. Pastor.
7. Donation for Music Director Discretion - Gift to MPC in 2021 for use by the Music Director to fund special music or musical events.
8. Holiday Memorial Music Fund - Monies to subsidize the music program sourced from Christmas & Easter memorial gifts.
9. Older Adult Ministry - Memorials monies given in remembrance of a deceased MPC member for use in Older Adult Ministry. All Memorial monies were merged into main MPC accounts in 2023.
10. Medical Equipment - Memorials monies given in remembrance of a deceased MPC member for use in purchasing medical equipment. All Memorials monies were merged into main MPC accounts in 2023.
11. Garden Care - for use in maintaining MPC memorial gardens.

12. Wende Stover Memorial Garden - Income from the Stover Endowment above to be used to maintain Wende's Garden (at the base of the stairway leading from the education wing to the parking lot). In absence of a need to fund the upkeep of the Garden, annual interest can be provided to the MPC Food Center.
13. Children & Youth Bible and Crosses - Originally for use in purchasing children & youth bibles, crosses for new confirmands and/or other Christian Education purchases. In 2023, based on recommendations from the Financial Taskforce, Session voted to allow these monies to also be used fund other Youth Education expenses.
14. Youth in Mission - Monies for use in the annual YIM trip or programs.
15. Youth Club - Monies for Youth Club activities.
16. Birks Scholarship Fund - These monies are from the earnings of the Birks Endowment Fund (see above) and are to be used for scholarships to youth interested in pursuing careers in the ministry. Available to men and women. MPC membership is not a requirement.
17. Roberts Scholarship Fund - These monies are from the earnings of the Roberts Endowment Fund (see above) and are to be used for scholarships to MPC members interested in pursuing careers in either the ministry or medical fields.
18. Patti Jane Reeves Scholarship - Memorial gift received in 2010 for scholarships to MPC members exhibiting academic excellence, community service and commitment to (including participation in) the life of MPC. Scholarship awards are generally the greater of \$500/yr or 5% of the fund corpus.
19. McClanen Scholarship - funded from earnings sent to MPC quarterly from a \$25K memorial endowment fund created by Robert McClanen in 2003 and held in trust by the Presbyterian Foundation. Endowment earnings to be used for scholarships to need-based students who are children of MPC members. The scholarships are in memory of Edmund & Kathryn McClanen, Robert's parents, who were MPC members.
20. Burgess Scholarship - Memorial gift for Clara Burgess received in 1948 when the Clara Burgess Womens Guild was dissolved. Gift to be used for need based scholarships; generally \$500/year.
21. Borden Scholarship - Memorial gift for Helen Borden received in 2016. Gift to be used for scholarships for need based students who demonstrate the values of hard work and perserverance. Normally, \$2,000 in scholarships to be awarded annually.
22. New Wilmington Missionary Conference Scholarship - 1981 gift from Dr. & Mrs. James Grey for scholarships to the New Wilmington (PA) Missionary Conference or for similar missionary conferences. In 1985, the Grey's approved the use of these monies for Youth In Mission programs as well. In 2023, based on recommendations of the Financial Taskforce, Session voted to transfer these monies to the Youth-in-Mission fund.

Unrestricted: Monies available for any church related purpose.

## Budget Committee

The budget is a focus on the operating income/(loss) before unrealized investment gains/(losses) and major (capital) projects. The vast majority of operating expenses for the church are related to personnel and our building and grounds. The budget committee surveyed elders in the fall of 2024 to confirm that other programming expenses were consistent with our church mission and theology. As a result, the 2025 budget reflects the increase in outreach committee gifts (Benevolence) from restricted gifts, as well as programming for children and family, and young adult ministries.

Budget Committee: Shellie Stoddard, Chair; Paul Clough; Matt DeSciscio; Dawn Flook; and Dan Jones.

### 2025 Budget Highlights

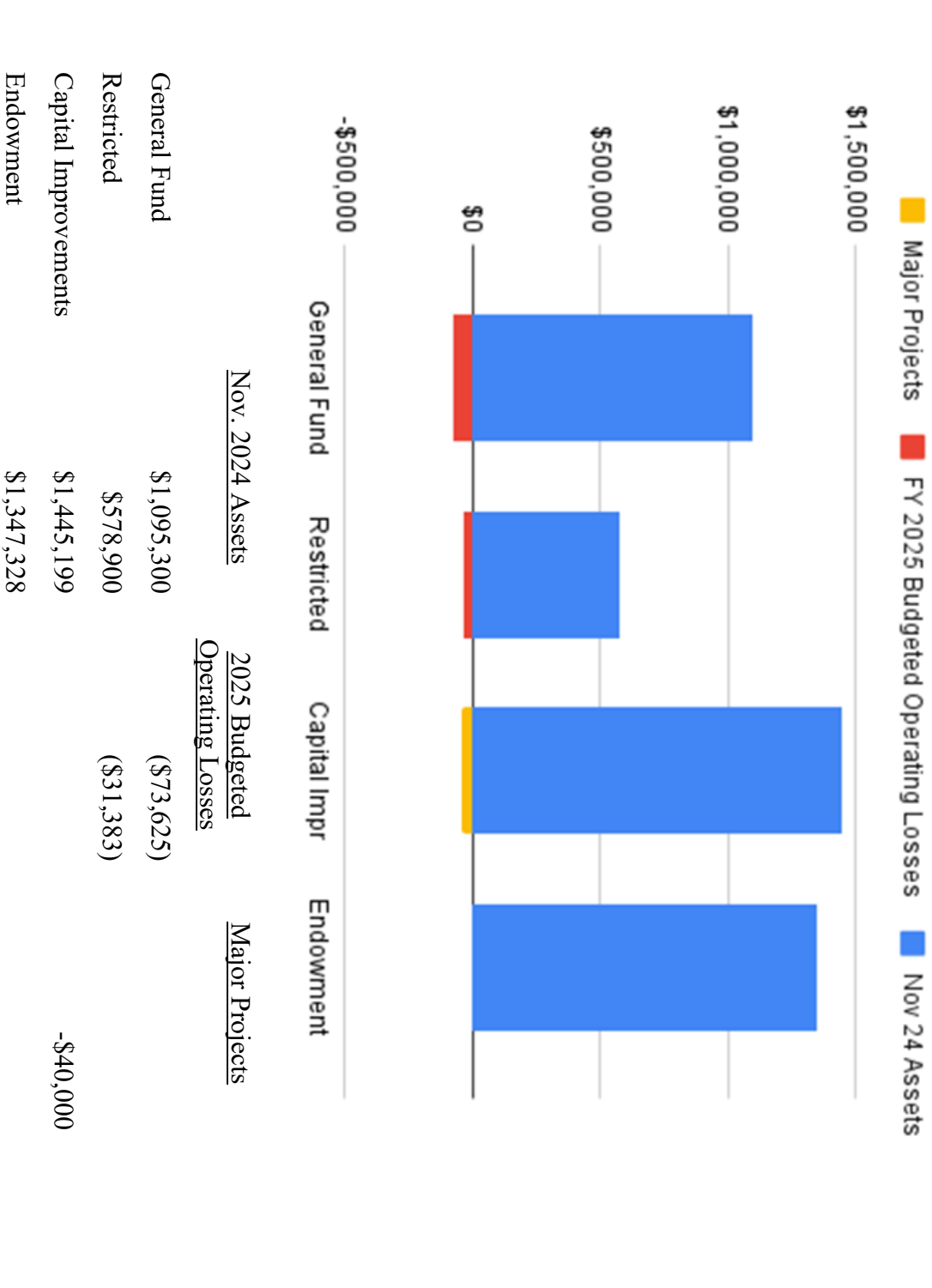
	<u>2023 Actual</u>	<u>2024 Estimate (3)</u>	<u>2025 Budget</u>	
Current Year Pledge (1)	\$475, 082	\$433,941	\$470,000	Plan to cover 62% operating expenses
Investment Income	\$114,742	\$91,608	\$104, 000	
All Other	\$107,532	\$74,930	\$78,900	
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$697,355</b>	<b>\$600, 479</b>	<b>\$652,900</b>	86% operating expenses
Administration	\$94,406	\$98,895	\$109,953	Includes per capita assessments for 2025
Benevolence	\$70,786	\$85,905	\$75,586	Nov. YTD \$68,900. Plan to use \$13,000
Building & Grounds	\$161,401	\$168,835	\$182,851	restricted funds in 2025
Communications	\$26,040	\$27,431	\$28,830	
Ministry Leadership	\$256,729	\$237,781	\$227,058	Pastoral transition savings is temporary
Music Ministry	\$83,442	\$82,655	\$90,000	Partially covered by gifts (restricted funds)
Youth Ministry	\$6,272	\$3,338	\$10,000	Majority from restricted funds
All Other	\$31,375	\$38,566	\$33,632	
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$730,452</b>	<b>\$743,406</b>	<b>\$757,908</b>	
Net Operating Income/(Deficit)(2)	(\$33,097)	(\$142,927)	(\$105,008)	
Net Income (Loss)		\$140,859		Unrealized Gains more than offset Memorial Garden upgrade

(1) Estimate of Giving tally for 2025 is about \$50,000 shy of goal, similar to 2024

(2) (2) Excludes Bequests, Unrealized Gain/(loss), Major Projects (including Memorial Garden upgrade)

(3) (3) Assumes Nov. 2024 repeated in Dec.

# Impact of 2025 Spending to Investment Accounts



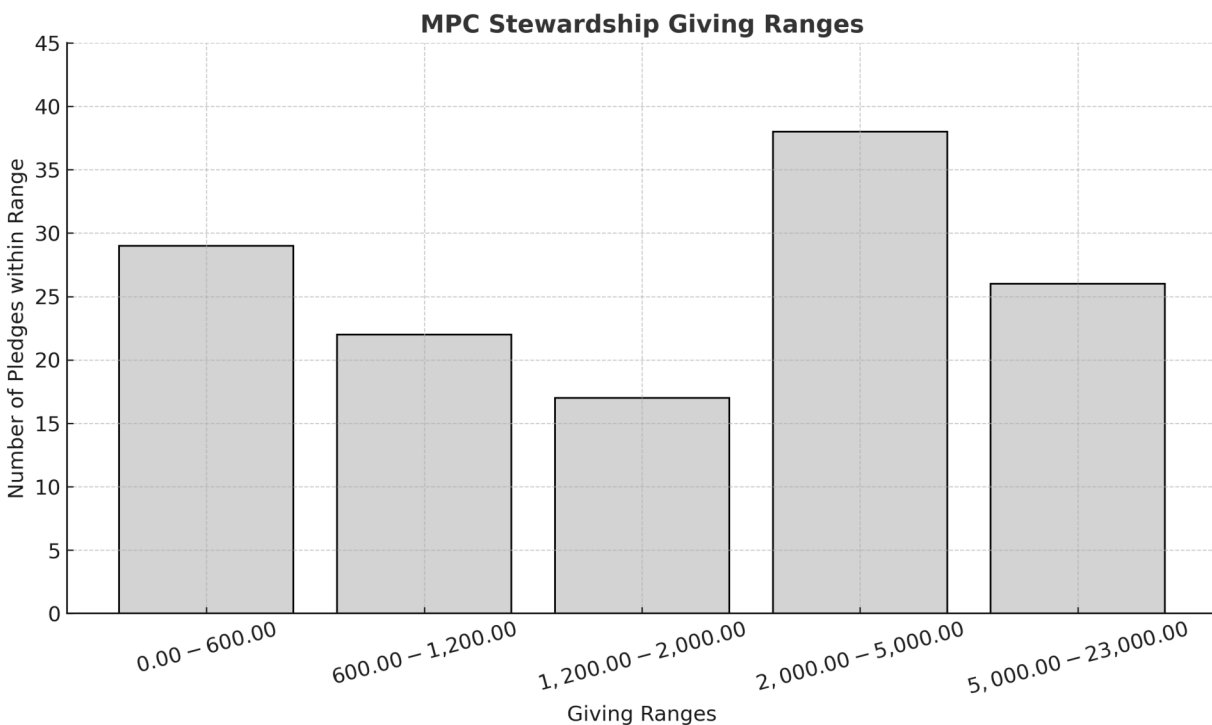
	General Fund	Restricted	Capital Impr	Endowment
<u>Nov. 2024 Assets</u>				
General Fund	\$1,095,300			
Restricted	\$578,900			
Capital Improvements	\$1,445,199			
Endowment	\$1,347,328			
<u>2025 Budgeted Operating Losses</u>				
General Fund				
Restricted				
Capital Improvements				
Endowment				
<u>Major Projects</u>				
General Fund				
Restricted				
Capital Improvements				
Endowment				

## Stewardship Committee

The fall 2025 Stewardship campaign theme, “We are the church together” represented well, what we as a church experienced in 2024. There was singing, praying, laughing and sometimes crying. Through it all we are followers of Jesus Christ who proclaim, “We are the church together.”



This theme is usually meant for church unity and fellowship, not one first thought of with Stewardship, which people associate with money and, financial commitment for the upcoming year, but it is more. Stewardship means recognizing that everything, including our lives and resources, ultimately belongs to God and that we are entrusted to manage these things responsibly and for His glory.



Despite changes in economic conditions and church leadership, the congregation realized we are the church and we have a future to plan for. This faithful stewardship is seen in over 33% increasing their pledges. Fourteen new pledges were received from either new members or members who had not pledged in 2024. In total 132 Estimates of Giving were received. Pledges ranged from \$100 to more than \$22,000, with the average pledge slightly above \$3,100. Thank you for your continued financial generosity that assists us to be a church.

Beyond pledged giving, MPC member support numerous additional programs. For example, shared meals and shelter for the homeless during Code Blue in March in Fellowship Hall and Community Meals in other months under the guidance of Advocates for Homeless and Those in Need (AHTN). Helping neighbors with food insecurity through the Deacon Food Basket program and the Food Center weekly packing and distribution. Other programs include backpacks and supplies to help high school students. Of course, the Youth in Mission outreach

in Pipestem, WV, with young people and adults sharing their time and talents in helping a community with different projects. And there are many more programs the congregation supports.

### **Stewardship Campaign and Time & Talents:**

Along with the letter to the congregation with an Estimate of Giving Card (EOG), equal weight was given on the backside of the card to Time and Talents. A list to consider supporting the vibrant Christian community at MPC was provided by offering time and talents to various ministries. It is a chance to help or learn more about the music ministry; praying for the life and ministry of MPC throughout the year; visiting or making calls to members who are homebound; volunteering in the nursery; Youth Club or making a meal for Youth Club; and teaching or serving as a substitute for Sunday School. Many members returned Time and Talent cards to volunteer their gift of service.

Also, six picture banners were installed on the sidewalls of the church sanctuary during October 2024 - with photos of members at various activities. On a table in the Welcome Center, were paper bricks for members to record notes about what MPC means to them and what they like. The bricks were taped to the picture murals.

Our thanks to the congregation for your support to MPC both with financial gifts and with time and talents. This is why "We are the church together."

Faithfully submitted: Tom Smith (Chair), Caroline Thompson, Shellie Stoddard, Elizabeth Lester-Abdalla, Bill Hughes, Robb Dugan, Rev. Jack McAnlis, and Bill Miller



## Board of Deacons (BOD)

*To each is given a gift of the Spirit to be used for the common good.*

Do you ever wonder what MPC Deacons do in addition to ushering at each Sunday service? Well, take a look! We 'lead the charge' for:

- Holiday Food Baskets – we supply them at Easter, Thanksgiving and Christmas;
- Hospitality Hour – we buy basic supplies and coordinate hosts for each Sunday;
- Holiday Flower Delivery – we are unsure who benefits most -- the giver or receiver!;
- Weekly and Special Services Ushering – we greet and care for the congregation;
- Junior Deacons – we help to groom our youth for service to the church;
- Angel Tree – we coordinate the donation of toiletries to the needy at Christmas;
- First Aid Committee – we keep church supplies stocked and updated;
- Backpack Drive – we coordinate donation of school supplies; and
- Blood Pressure Screening – we offer this to the congregation semi-annually.



In addition, we are actively involved in Monday Night Food Packing, Outreach Council and the Nominating Committee --- suffice it to say, we love to serve!

While our reach within the Church is a wide and joyous one, sometimes a particular area demands special focus and can provide a source of pride and accomplishment. As many of you are aware, one of our many rewarding ministries is the Holiday Food Basket program. However, over the past year, we encountered significant challenges that threatened its continuation: first, a long-term, *substantial* donor passed away; and second, the cost of food increased substantially. To address this issue, the BOD formed a subcommittee whose goal was to explore ways to reduce costs, widen fundraising efforts, and obtain corporate donors. We are delighted to report that thanks to the congregation's generous response to our MPC logo sale and Easter Egg initiative, some modest contributions from local businesses, and the procurement of new grocery partners -- *which resulted in a REDUCTION OF OVER 40% to our food costs* -- our coffers are healthy enough to continue this ministry through 2025!!





Once again, the MPC Board of Deacons has had a busy and rewarding year, and we wish to thank all at MPC who continue to support, lead, and join us in our ministry.

Respectfully submitted,

Wendy Yazuijan, Moderator

With AK Rosenbaum, Alice Garcia, Austin Massey, Beth Keys, Bill Miller, Christy Stephenson, Cindy Moskow, Curt Rimler, Eric Moyer-Harrington, Jennifer Jones, Jim Gaston, Lisa Kutch, Matt Bausher, Maddie McCleskey, Russell McCleskey, Michelle Byrd, Nancy Stoner, Tom Drake, Tim Stover, Vincent Kutch

### **Presbyterian Women (PW) - Deborah & Rebecca Circles**

Presbyterian Women of MPC consists of two circles that meet monthly on the second Monday, September through May, offering fellowship and faith enrichment. Deborah Circle meets at noon and Rebecca Circle meets at 7:00 p.m. The meetings consist of devotions, prayers, programming, and often much laughter. Programs this year were varied including the of making a Christmas craft, hearing about local charities or Weekday Nursery School, learning about forest-bathing, discussing a book, sharing a pot-luck meal, and touring Summerseat. We have 45 active members.

Presbyterian Women is open to all women of MPC who are welcome to attend a meeting, participate in a mission, or donate a pledge. Our goal is to welcome you where you are on that day, share your joys, listen to your concerns, and become stronger together through our faith. We strive to serve the church through our actions and our donations.



Our annual pledge drive netted \$3220.00 and we proudly distributed these monies to the following worthy community causes.

• Funeral Memorials	\$200
• Weekday Nursery School	\$500
• Snipes Camp Scholarships	\$775
• Deacon Easter Food Baskets	\$200
• Sunshine Foundation Wish Fulfillment for a Child	\$875
• Advocates for Homeless & Those in Need	\$750
• Snipes Farm and Ed Center	\$750
• Morrisville Historical Society	\$150
• Youth In Mission	\$100



Thank you to the many women who bring their unique and diverse gifts to a circle - be it leading a meeting or offering a ride to another member - enriching the fellowship of women.

Respectfully Submitted,

Beth Curtiss

PW Moderator / Treasurer

## Personnel Committee

The Personnel Committee is responsible to ensure that our Church Staff is appropriately remunerated and supported so they can give their whole attention to the work before them. The Personnel Committee must dedicate itself to the task of providing just compensation, retirement and health benefits, educational opportunities, vacations, and an appropriate and comfortable working environment. In brief, this includes all matters pertaining to the compensation, care and welfare of the staff.

The Personnel Committee is also responsible to the Session and the congregation to ensure that we are good stewards of the financial resources available. We must, from time to time, advise and counsel with them on how the resources are or should be utilized in support of our staff.

This year has brought some unique challenges for Personnel, which include the loss of five staff members; the Senior Pastor/Head of Staff, the Minister of Visitation, the Financial Secretary, the Nursery Coordinator, and the Christian Education Coordinator.

There is hope though! By God's grace, and by working as a team, your Personnel Committee has been hard at work to resolve these gaps so that MPC can continue its mission to remain a vibrant Christian community. Activities/accomplishments include:

- Transitional Pastor - working with Session and the Transitional Pastor Nominating Committee, we were able to recruit Rev. Dr. Tom Kort to fill this role.
- Minister of Visitation - while the search continues for a permanent solution to this vital ministry, we worked with our current pastoral staff to hire an interim Minister of Visitation, Rev. Dr. Carter Lester.
- Financial Secretary - with the unexpected loss of our Financial Secretary, Personnel took a step back to determine the best plan forward from an outdated

financial system. Collaborating with key church stakeholders (Trustees, Finance, Treasurer), Committee members Kathryn Jervis and Christy Stephenson spearheaded an effort to successfully complete this task. This new financial system improves our internal controls over donations, expenses, and reporting. As a result, we were able to recruit a part-time Financial Administrator familiar with these new systems.

- Nursery Coordinator - with the loss of our Nursery Coordinator, Personnel worked with the Budget Committee and Session to approve a line item for two part-time employees. We recently hired Madi Neiman and are actively recruiting for the second position.
- Christian Education Coordinator - working with the Education Committee and Rachel Zobel, we have updated the job description and are actively recruiting a new Christian Education Coordinator.

In addition to hiring, we support our staff by allocating budget funds and time off for personal and professional development.

This past year, Alex has been working his way through a Spiritual Direction Program through the Shalem Institute. He is learning how to guide people on their spiritual journey through one-on-one and group direction. While regularly attending meetings throughout the year, the bulk of his training comes in ten to eleven day long in-person residencies in Marriotsville, MD. He completed his first residency in the summer of 2024 and his second residency in the summer of 2025. His final paper is due October 2025. Alex also meets monthly with his clergy cohort where fellow associate pastors discuss best practices and grow together in areas of programmatic ministry, organizational leadership, and pastoral care. He meets in person with his clergy group every October to do in-depth study together.

Our Director of Music, Tim Carpenter, continues to research scripture for choosing hymns and anthems and learning anthems to teach. He continues to work on ways to refine his conducting and to find more effective ways to help choir members sing or ring better. In addition, he immerses himself in books and articles on theology, spiritual life, and program organization. In July of 2024 Tim spent a week at the Presbyterian Association of Musicians conference in Montreat, NC where he attended week-long classes on hymns, drumming, choral readings, the choral techniques and music of Alice Parker, handbell techniques, and worship.

In closing, I would like to thank the dedicated members of the Personnel Committee for their unwavering support on top of their very busy lives: Matt Bausher, Bill Hughes, Kathryn Jervis, Christy Stephenson and Tony Zazzu. We also welcomed Erin Aronson, who will be serving as Vice Chair to further strengthen our team. This very talented and faithful group brings a varied experience as we continue to support the staff and strive to meet the needs of our church. I am truly blessed and grateful to serve as Chair to such a great group, who have been my (and MPC's) bedrock during this season of transition.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rich Ryan, Chair

On behalf of the Personnel Committee

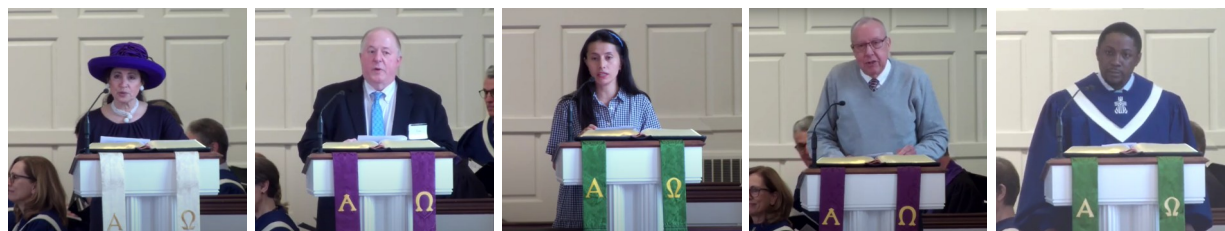
## Worship Committee

We praise God and give thanks for the abundant blessings we have encountered through worship throughout this past year. Though MPC faced some challenges as we entered a season of transitions, God's love was exemplified again and again through the many faithful disciples who stepped up to serve and say "Here I am, Lord!"

With Pastor Alex's diligent planning and preparation, the line-up of guest speakers and preachers during the late summer and early fall was filled seamlessly. We were blessed to hear God's Word through many dynamic and powerful voices from the pulpit, all encouraging MPC to stay strong in the Spirit and to stay connected and supportive of each other as a community of believers.



Many more voices have also been heard from the lectern as members answered the call to serve as liturgists in the absence of our usual seminary intern. We are grateful to all those who help lead service in this important role.



As Advent season planning began full force, the committee was blessed to be joined by our transitional pastor just in time. Pastor Tom brought forth new perspectives and new ideas, including the creation of an Advent flier/mailer. In partnership with Communication and Evangelism Committee, the flier was designed and mailed to all members. Copies were also distributed in food baskets and to Weekday Nursey School families to help bring more awareness to the special Advent programs and services, and of course the Christmas Eve Worship schedule.

The Agape Choir's sweet voices filled the sanctuary during the Family Christmas Eve Service as they brought to life the story of our Savior's birth during "A Night for Dancing" from the perspective of animals who were witnessing the nativity scene. We are thankful to all the children as well as the Carpenter family for their dedication and talents to help prepare this wonderful program for the congregation.

The Candlelight and Communion Service was held later in the evening to allow time for families to gather for a meal before worshipping together. The Spirit's presence was truly felt in the beautiful candlelit sanctuary as carols were sung, and we celebrated communion, remembering the sacrifice baby Jesus would later make to save all the nations.



The Lenten Season brought more opportunities for us to experience worship together in different ways. The Worship Committee continued the tradition of our Lenten Soup Suppers, this time holding them two consecutive Wednesdays prior to Holy Week, with the third supper in combination with the Maundy Thursday service. Along with savory soups, we partook in meaningful meditations on the music and colors of Lent. We broke bread together as we remembered Jesus' last supper with His disciples and embodied our spiritual contemplation onto word stones. This was truly a special way to prepare our hearts for the gift of Resurrection Day.



Many thanks to Yun Kang, the Chancel, Bell, Teen and Children's choirs for bringing God's message to us through the gift of song. The ministry of the Worship Committee would not be possible without the support and partnership of the faithful MPC members who work to clean, organize, and decorate our beautiful sanctuary. We are grateful to all who continue to contribute your talents and time. The faithful and dedicated members of the Worship Committee are Carol Carpenter, Tim Carpenter, Christi Anne DeSciscio, Luisa Herrera, Nancy Powers, Geoff Smith, Sharon Smith, and Pastor Tom Kort.



Faithfully and gratefully submitted,  
Christi Anne DeSciscio, Chair



## Congregational Ministry Committee (CMC)

The Congregational Ministry Committee continues its role as the caregiver of our MPC family. Our members: Nancy Anderson, Beth Becker, Ann Clements, J'Ann Ellis, Gail Hunger, Nancy Kernan, Nancy McHenry (Co-Chair), Cindy Moskow, Shellie Stoddard, and Lisa Zazzu are busy hosting events and keeping in touch with our church family.

### All Church Events

CMC hosted the *Grounded in Grace* (Rally Day) and the Memorial Garden dedication picnics. Folks brought their favorite sides and desserts and we provided the main course. These were beautiful afternoons filled with good food and fellowship.



The *Anniversary Sunday* luncheon was held in Fellowship Hall. Anniversary Sunday is a wonderful tradition where we all celebrate our membership at MPC. Those who have been members for over 50 years also receive special recognition during the worship service.



In June, a group of more than 50 MPCer's headed to the ballpark to see a Trenton Thunder baseball game. There were a lot of laughs, food, and fellowship. The evening ended with a beautiful display of fireworks.



CMC organized various activities both inside and outside of the church. These included Dinners for 8, Apple Picking at Styer's Orchard, the Elmwood Zoo-on-wheels, and a ladies Bunko night.



## Older Adult Events

We hosted two Older Adult luncheons for our senior members in Fellowship Hall. Folks enjoy the chance to get out and catch up with old friends. We also baked cookies and delivered Valentines to our senior members.



## Care

We organized meals for those who are dealing with illness/injury and celebrating births. We hosted funeral receptions. We connected with members through calls and cards.

We're keeping the bulletin board in the Welcome Center up to date with upcoming events and pictures of past events.

Respectfully submitted by Lisa Zazzu,  
Congregational Ministry Committee Chair

## Educational Ministry Committee (EMC)

Youth Sunday School was skillfully orchestrated by Rachel Zobel, our Sunday School Coordinator, who recruited our teachers and assured we had all of the curriculums and supplies needed for a successful year. Once again, we provided classes for the approximately twenty-six children of differing age groups including PreK, K-4, Quest (5-8), and HS Seminar. Thanks to our teachers, both returning and new; Gail Flesch, Beth Keys, Lisa Kutch, Emily Bausher, Caroline Thompson, Wes Gardner, Michelle Byrd, Elizabeth Lester-Abdalla, Wendy McCleskey, Patrick Gilbride, Dan Jones, and Russell McCleskey. We greatly appreciate the time and dedication given to our youngest congregants.

The Adult Sunday School explored a variety of topics including biblical and literary theology, history, society, and current events. Some popular sessions focused on how our faith helps us understand our world. Many people joined as teachers including Pastor Jack McAnlis, Chris Bannister, Drew Hunger, Kevin Subers, Jill Monroe-Dillon, Shannon Smythe, and more. We thank them all for sharing their wide variety of knowledge and experience. Additionally, Brown Bag Bible Study continued this year with a study of Luke led by Adrienne Poissant. This weekday study opportunity was attended both in person and on zoom by a faithful group of approximately twelve regular attendees.

The Book Distribution Ministry has continued to be faithfully led by Susan Light. She and the team, Alice Garcia and Joy Rees, continued the book distributions once a month to Food Center clients, weather permitting. The Book Distribution group worked closely with the Cadwallader School, a K-3 school in Trenton, providing books. This connection has been spiritually fulfilling because Susan gets to see the distribution from collection through delivery.



The fall had a Women's Retreat at St Joseph Center for Spirituality in Ocean Grove, NJ. The retreat was led by Pastor Molly Ramsey, our former Pastoral Intern. This was a wonderful celebration of fellowship and learning attended by twenty-three people. This spring, a small group of men ventured to Camp Johnsonburg, our regional Presbyterian Church camp, to assist with their work day getting the facility ready for the season.



In addition to all the volunteers mentioned throughout this report, MPC's Educational Ministry program relies on the faithful and dedicated service of the committee members: Wes Gardner, Rachel Zobel, Beth Keys, Jill Monroe-Dillon, Susan Light, Chris Bannister, and Beth Curtiss. We are also thankful for the leadership and inspiration provided by Pastor Alex.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Wendy McCleskey, EMC Chair

## Music Ministry

**Chancel Choir** is thriving, thanks to our faithful volunteer singers and section leaders. We sing anthems that have strong, meaningful texts aligned with music that highlights the sense and feeling of the words. When an introit or anthem with a text appropriate for a particular Sunday is not readily available, our "in-house" composer, Kyle St. Sauveur, will write one for us.



Word-in-Music Sunday in the fall offered two contrasting pieces: Fauré's "Cantique de Jean Racine" in French and "Gloria a Dios", a Spanish text set by Michael Mendoza. Both pieces were accompanied by harp and other instruments. Our Lenten Word-in-Music Sunday featured James Whitbourn's "The Wounds" for choir, soloists, instruments, and narrator. This was a piece originally commissioned by this church in 2007 and premiered here in 2008. Easter Sunday was a glorious celebration of Christ rising, replete with organ, brass, timpani, and a full choir.

We have welcomed three new singers to our group and are always happy to welcome new and former singers to join us for short-term, long-term, or seasonal commitments.

**Chancel Chimes**, our adult bell choir, is six members strong at this point. We are learning new repertoire and new ensemble bell ringing techniques, such as weaving, bell tree ringing, and sharing multiple bells. This group of loyal ringers and willing substitutes continues making music to enhance worship.



**God's Thunder**, the youth bell choir, is small, but gaining in experience and technique. We have been combining malleting with ringing bells, playing modified bell trio and quartet music, and ringing with Chancel Chimes on occasion. We have a new group of beginners who are ringing chimes to play arrangements of hymns and songs. Our use of co-teachers to work and ring with this devoted group has become a good model.



Our **Teen Choir** rehearses after worship when we have a quorum of three out of a possible five singers. Older teens are welcome to sing with the Chancel Choir and Family Choir.

**Children's Music** took on a new form during the pandemic and we are continuing to use it with modifications. During worship we take children from toddlers to grade five out of worship for music, musical games, dancing, and playing rhythm instruments. Most of the songs are

short melodies with bible verses for texts, but we did learn larger anthems too. For Christmas Eve we sang and acted out the children's music drama "A Night for Dancing" and for Children's Sunday, we made our retelling of some of Jesus' parables the sermon for that Sunday.

Process, and Christian education, rather than performance, is the main focus of this group. Carol Carpenter and Eric Moyer-Harrington have been stalwart and committed teachers and we are blessed to have Bella Keys as a helper.

Yun Kang is our dedicated and faithful **organist** who is a joy to have as part of the Music Ministry. Yun is a wonderful accompanist and pianist and, in addition to accompanying the choirs, her piano offertories and the offertories of her Song Trio are a blessing during worship.

Our **music ministries** continue to change and evolve as we respond to the changing and evolving short-term, and possibly long-term, in-church attendance and involvement norms post-pandemic. With all of our music groups, the process of learning choir skills such as community building, faith development, voice building for singers, and technique improvement for ringers are as important - and sometimes more important, especially for the younger groups - as performance.

We are doing well, doing worship and ministry within the congregation, and seeking to be an inviting presence in the wider Morrisville community. To GOD be the glory!

Timothy Carpenter,  
Director of Music



## Flower Ministry

Each Sunday, if you look toward the front of our sanctuary you will see two beautiful floral arrangements. These flowers are part of a quiet ministry that not only adds beauty to our worship but also serves as an outreach ministry to our members. After the worship service, these flowers are placed in small pails and delivered to a member of our church family who may not be able to attend worship, has recently lost a loved one, or may have provided a special ministry for which we want to offer our gratitude. Although it seems a simple gesture, behind each bouquet is a story of multiple personal contacts among our church family. Our flower ministry coordinator, DeeAnn Martin, first contacts those who have asked to give flowers on a particular Sunday. Several of these contacts lead to conversations with members who no longer live in our area, or may not regularly attend worship, but wish to give flowers in memory of a loved one. Our pastors, members of the weekly Prayer Group, Presbyterian Women, and caring friends offer names of those to whom flowers could be given. Your reaching out to our pastors, or DeeAnn, to share a member's need of prayer and a caring visit is a vital part of this Ministry. DeeAnn then contacts those named, which often develops into a wonderful conversation of sharing and caring. She then arranges for a member to deliver the flowers after our worship service. These volunteers provide the most important "in-person" contact letting those unable to be with us know they are remembered.



Through the 100 flower arrangements that adorn our sanctuary on 100 Sundays (Easter tulips and Christmas poinsettias complete the year) approximately 200 phone contacts and 100 personal visits take place.

There is always a need for flowers, which can be given in memory of a loved one, in celebration of someone or a special event, or in gratitude for a ministry or act of kindness. Our florist, Flowers By Jennie Lynne, in Fairless Hills, provides the beautiful arrangements at a cost of \$37 each. If you would like to give on any Sunday, please contact DeeAnn Martin at 215-493-3865 or email her at [deemar918@aol.com](mailto:deemar918@aol.com). The Flower Ministry is an opportunity for everyone to reach out to another in a small way that often makes a big difference.



## **Youth Ministry Committee**

Focusing specifically on Youth, the committee's goal is for the youth to find a place of comfort and understanding while growing in years and faithfulness. Some highlights from the 2024-2025 program year included:

### **MPC Youth Club**

Youth Club has changed over time but still proves to be a valuable outlet for youth to express themselves in a safe setting. On Wednesdays, a dozen or so youth gather to share and learn from one another, have fun, and continue to expand on their faith. For both youth of MPC, and those from the community, sharing a meal and the evening continues to be a long standing tradition with this church.

The Youth Club program began in September with a cookout and ended in May with a cookout and a send-off for our graduating HS Seniors. With Alex's steadfast leadership, along with involvement from the Youth Ministry committee and other adults from the church, the Youth Club continues to be successful and meaningful to all those involved.

### **Celebrating the high school graduating Class of 2025**

We continued our tradition of recognizing graduating HS seniors in service. Some of these seniors had been with MPC since baptism, some joined along the way but as a congregation we have enjoyed watching them grow in faith through the years and now look forward to their future with them. We wished Hope, Caroline, Maddie and Sarah the best in our June service with a token from which to remember MPC on their next journeys.



### **2025 Scholarship Awards**

This year, we recognized nine recipients with scholarships for their continuing education with the generosity of those that came before us:

- Sarah Cain
- Joely Gardner
- Angel Kamara
- Maddie McCleskey
- AJ Neiman
- Madison Neiman
- Meg Oleynick
- Caroline Stover
- Hope Massey

### **The annual Youth-In-Mission Trip to Pipestem, WV**

July 2025 was another successful trip to the Appalachian South Folklife Center that included six youth and five chaperones. These mission trips are always very generously supported by our MPC congregation. Starting with our first fundraiser in February for the annual Shrove Tuesday night Pancake Dinner, served by the youth, to the Car Wash, Bake Sale and Stock Sale fundraisers, the youth are reminded of the love and generosity from MPC.

The workweek brought us to the same remote old coal mining mountain town as the prior year. There, a new roof was built onto a school from the 1950s which now houses a community church. Additionally, a team had an opportunity to build a ramp to assist a long-standing, elderly couple that lived across the street from the church. Having been recently diagnosed with cancer, this ramp will now allow the wife much easier access leaving and returning to her home amidst the many doctor appointments.

And as in past years, the Lord's presence was made known to us throughout the week in ways that we celebrated together, and in more personal ways. The youth shared some of these moments in service the Sunday after our return to MPC. We'll also be sharing some of the memories from the trip sometime this fall during Fellowship after worship service. In conclusion, we are so very grateful to the many supporters within our congregation who generously support this youth mission every year.

Thank you to the MPC Community that loves our youth in so many ways. Whether it is cooking a Wednesday night meal for Youth Club or participating in our Mission Trip Car Wash and Bake Sale, we are so grateful for our faithful and supportive congregation.

Respectfully submitted by the 2025 Youth Ministry Committee:

Heidi Dous, Dawn Flook, Wes Gardner, Dan Jones, Travis Keys, Tracy Massey, Nancy Stoner.

Additional acknowledgement for ongoing faith, support, leadership and laughter from Pastor Alex, who connects with both the youth, their parents, and the committee in so many special ways.





## Young Adults

It has proven to be another fun and fulfilling year of mission and fellowship. Our faithful group of Young Adults have come together several times in support of our community and each other. This group is geared towards high school graduates through mid-20s and is open to all.

In July our young adults came together to prepare and serve our Community Meal to the homeless and those in need. We had 7 young adults along with our leaders supporting this important ministry.

In August we gathered for a dog walk (canines not required) through Tyler State Park before many returned to school. We cooled off afterwards with a snack and drink and sent our young adults back to work and school with a sense of support, encouragement and fellowship.

In May, our young adults gathered again to serve the Community Meal for 40 guests. This event resonates with our group, and we are hoping to come together to serve a Community Meal again this summer.

Respectfully submitted by Elizabeth Dugan and Beth Becker



## Communication and Evangelism Committee

The Communications and Evangelism Committee serves MPC by maintaining a sense of community by building a bond through various media outlets.

Damon Miller continues as the communication coordinator and served as the chair of the committee until this summer when David Hough became the new chair. Along with the creation of *Currents* and weekly worship bulletins, Damon oversees our livestream worship and manages our recorded video and podcasts which are available via MPC's website as well as links from the website and subscription services to the MPC YouTube channel and podcast. Along with Damon and David, Curt Rimler, A.K. Rosenbaum and Luisa Herrera are the remaining members of the team. All add valuable insight and assistance to maintaining the level of communication within MPC.

Communication through weekly emails and bulletins with worship information and announcements continue as the mainstream method of providing the latest to MPC members. *Currents* shifted to a seasonal edition schedule with publication four times a year.



Utilizing the approved Communication Plan, communication to and from the congregation and various committees and ministries of MPC continues to improve. The committee is planning to reach out to groups within MPC on a regular basis in hopes to present more information in the life of the church to not only those in the congregation, but to those in the surrounding community as well. This will build on the goal from this past year of engaging the staff and other groups at MPC to collect and forward church news and stories for production in printed and electronic media. Many members have contributed to those efforts, and we are grateful for your help. If you are a new committee chair or involved in circle, event, or mission of the church, please feel free to take a few photos and pass them along so that others may see the wonderful things going on inside and outside our church.

Another goal being worked on is the continuation to build on the use of social media to promote events. This will be in addition to using established methods, especially in print, keeping in mind members who do not receive information from MPC electronically.

The committee hosted hospitality to those marching in the Morrisville Memorial Day Parade which starts in the parking lot of MPC each year. Parade participants were welcomed to use the restrooms as well as grab snacks and water prior to their departure. Thank you to everyone who supported this reception.



Many thanks goes to Nancy Powers for her continued help in editing our printed publications and to Kim Turner, in the church office, on her help in printing the many publications created including bulletins, Currents, and various posters and pamphlets.

We invite you to join us on our social media pages and email distribution, if you are not already following us, to stay up to date with everything going on at MPC. We encourage engagement on our pages and welcome your comments (or even a simple "Like") when you see something that interests you.

**facebook**

Friend us at:  
Morrisville Presbyterian  
Church



Instagram:  
@MorrisvillePresbyterian

## **Communication - By the Numbers**

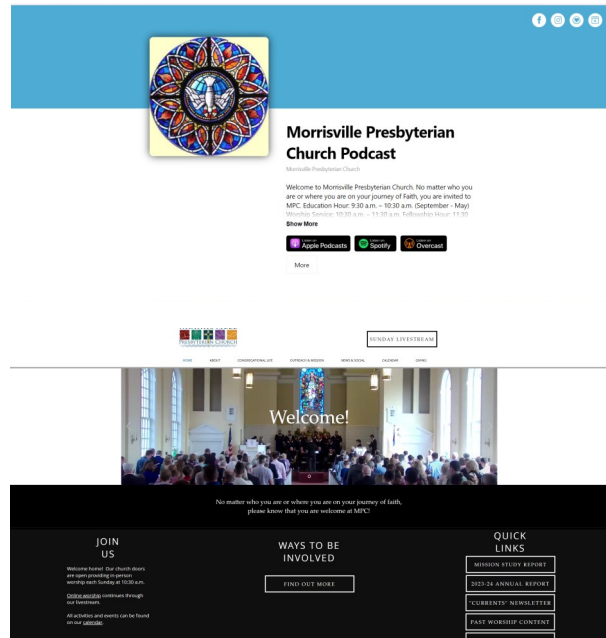
Online worship participation expands beyond Pennsylvania and New Jersey to an additional twenty-nine states, the District of Columbia, and five additional countries.

Period of July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025 worship service including the 7:00 p.m. Christmas Eve:

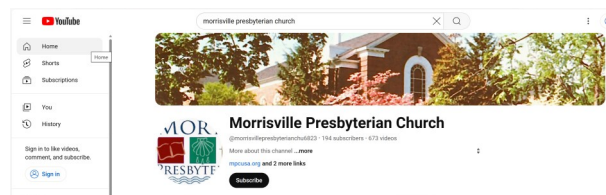
- Podcast
  - 521 total downloads
- Livestream via Boxcast streaming service
  - 928 unique viewers\* of which 60% watched live and the remaining watched the recorded service through the Boxcast viewer
- Livestream (Youtube)
  - 1771 unique views\* watched live
  - 908 unique views watched recorded service
- Website/Social Media/Email
  - Over the past year, we have welcomed nearly 4,239 unique visitors\* to our website
  - 572 followers on Facebook
  - 276 followers on Instagram
  - 334 email subscribers


\*Unique is defined as one view per IP address no matter how many times a view is done.

Respectfully submitted,  
Communications and Evangelism Committee



Visit us at [mpcusa.org](http://mpcusa.org)



Find us at:  **YouTube**  
Morrisville Presbyterian  
Church

## Outreach Committee

As disciples of Christ, we are called to feed the hungry, clothe the naked, shelter the homeless, comfort the afflicted. MPC members strive to fulfill these acts of mercy in many ways, through sharing our financial gifts and working in varied roles within the community.

The Outreach Committee is responsible for distributing the designated benevolence money from our annual budget to many worthy mission partners, both local and across the globe. This year generous gifts of MPC members supported the local ministries of Trenton Area Soup Kitchen, Ivins Outreach Center (IOC), Family Service Association of Bucks County, Anchor House, UrbanPromise Trenton, the Food Center, Snipes Farm and Education Center, and the Center for Child and Family Achievement. In addition to financial support, MPC members assisted Habitat for Humanity on one local building project, provided food and welcome to guests of Advocates for Homeless and Those in Need (AHTN) on Code Blue nights in March and again at community dinners in August, October, November, December, January, April, and May. We also supported missionaries in Mozambique through the Outreach Foundation and contributed to Presbytery Inspired Life and Children's Village. Using funds from interest on a generous bequest, we provided support for Christian educational materials at a church in Malawi and school supplies for a village in Zambia. We also contributed to development of preschool programs in South Africa through a locally-founded program, Adopt a South African Preschool (ASAP). Through special offerings we were able to send money to Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) for humanitarian relief of victims of hurricanes in the southeastern U.S. and contribute to other Presbytery causes.

The Clothing Center is a valuable ministry of MPC, providing low cost clothing to the community and serving as a financial resource for further support of local ministries. The Clothing Center takes in about \$9000 per year in sales and allocates those funds to the Outreach Committee for distribution. Gifts from the Clothing Center account were given to the Common Place in Philadelphia, to PDA for disaster relief, and to local causes including Snipes Farm and Education Center, Philabundance, The Food Center, Welcoming the Stranger, and UrbanPromise Trenton.

There are many ways MPC members perform outreach to the community besides the offering of financial gifts. Volunteers give generously of their time and energies to the Food Center, IOC, the Clothing Center, Code Blue and community meals, Habitat builds, book distribution, Morrisville Presbyterian Apartments, among others.

One of the six Great Ends of the Church is *the promotion of social righteousness*. The Outreach Committee has continued our mission to develop awareness of social injustices and work to combat them through education and advocacy. We have continued our alliance with Interfaith Power Bucks, an organization where lay people and clergy from various faith traditions join to share ideas and determine ways to support one another's efforts to address social justice issues in our communities. We worked with the Religious Action Center (RAC) on voter mobilization efforts prior to the November 2024 election. We



have attended workshops and participated in letter-writing campaigns to support feeding the hungry (Bread for the World), ending gun violence (CeaseFire PA), and lobbying for peace with Friends Committee on National Legislation (FCNL). We have increased our support of the immigrant community, adding Welcoming the Stranger to our list of local mission partners.



Easy access to information about the varied missions of the Outreach Committee is provided on the MPC website. Links are provided there for volunteer opportunities with several of our local mission partners. Also, our bulletin board in the hallway near the lounge has colorful brochures from many affiliated agencies and information about current volunteer opportunities.

The hard-working and dedicated Outreach Committee members are Gail Flesch, Alice Garcia, Ray Hendrickson, Ruth Levan, Nancy Powers, and Christy Stephenson, with guidance and support from Pastor Alex Lester-Abdalla.

Carol Carpenter  
Chair

## Mission Code Blue and Community Meals

**Code Blue** – This year MPC opened its doors for the third year to welcome the homeless, in partnership with Advocates for the Homeless and Those in Need (AHTN). MPC opened six days this year and served 176 guests averaging approximately thirty guests per night. We've had many compliments about our meals, desserts, accommodations, and hospitality.

For those that may not know about AHTN, it is a Bucks County interfaith, nonprofit organization that serves the homeless and those in need by providing year-long access to emergency shelter, food, and other life-sustaining services with dignity and compassion. Code Blue is just one of the many initiatives that AHTN offers, and it is an overnight emergency shelter for male and female adults over the age of 18. Starting in the winter of 2009, the shelter is opened when the temperature dips to dangerous levels and there are enough AHTN volunteers to staff evening, overnight, and the mornings at the shelter. The program runs from December 1 to March 31.

In addition to providing a warm place to spend the night, we prepare and serve dinner to our guests, as well as offer breakfast and lunch items before they depart the following morning. Guests are very appreciative for the meal they receive and for a warm place to spend the night. During the evening, guests often expressed the need for clothing, and we were grateful we were able to assist them with the support of the MPC Clothing Center and AHTN. As a special treat again this year, during dinner, we enjoyed the very talented Howard Reese at the piano.



This ministry is only possible with the ongoing support from MPC. We are so very grateful for the financial contributions of the congregation who have generously supported this ministry. Additionally, we are thankful for all the support from the many volunteers, including those who greeted our guests at the door, shopped for groceries, cooked and baked, and served as kitchen leads. We are so grateful for Pastor Alex's leadership and guidance as we navigated these past few years.

**Community Meals** – This is our second-year hosting Community Meals which occur on the fifth Tuesday or fifth Friday of the month, approximately ten times per year. This is one of the many other programs of AHTN and has been a huge success. Guests arrive on foot, by car or bus and are always ready for a meal and time to be together. They are gracious and grateful for the meal and frequently comment on how much they enjoyed it. There is rarely leftover food as the guests are happy to take extras with them as they depart.

For both Code Blue and Community Meals we are always in need of volunteers, and we would be interested in hearing from you if you have not yet had the opportunity to become a volunteer. We believe a rewarding experience is waiting for you, whether it be cooking meals ahead for the freezer, preparing and serving the night of, leading kitchen efforts, baking desserts, coordinating communication, shopping, or one of the many other opportunities. Please reach out with any questions or if you have an interest in becoming more involved.

Respectfully and joyfully submitted by Dawn Flook and Beth Becker

### **The Ivins Outreach Center (IOC)**

As this report is being written, the Ivins Outreach Center says good-bye to Milli Kerner, who has been our Community Relations and Staying Put Coordinator for 21 years. Milli retired on May 31, 2025, and she will be sorely missed. Milli was non-stop, we called her our "Energizer Bunny" as she was always on the go transporting Staying Put members to their medical appointments; driving the shuttle bus to take our Staying Put members to a variety of social outings and group grocery shopping trips; picking up and delivering coats during the Driving Away the Cold campaign; picking up toys from various donation sites for the Holiday Giving Tree; picking up food from the Bucks County Technical High School and bringing the meals to the IOC for volunteers to deliver to older adults; obtaining all sorts of raffle items from local businesses for our fundraisers – and that hardly covers all that Milli did with a smile on her face, positive attitude, and the joy she brought to so many. We will be hard pressed to fill her position.

We are also preparing for Darletta Berry-Johnson's planned retirement on December 31, 2025, though I don't know how we can fully prepare for that. Darletta has been, and



continues to be, the driving force behind the IOC. We would not have been so successful without Darletta's extraordinary leadership and vision. She will remain the 21st Century Community Learning Center administrator, but will step down as the executive director of the Ivins Outreach Center's several programs and supervisor of the IOC staff. Darletta has been the Ivins Outreach Center executive director since our inception in 2003.

This will require some restructuring within the Ivins Outreach Center, which is still in the planning stages. However, we are posting for a new position, Ivins Outreach Center program director. The position will be responsible for supervising the IOC staff and overseeing the IOC's programs: Staying Put in Lower Bucks, Home Share, Cancer Care, Food for Thought; along with the seasonal campaigns, such as Driving Away the Cold and the Holiday Giving Tree. Fundraising is also an essential job duty and responsibility for this position.

The Ivins Outreach Center has been a vital mission of our church since 2003. The IOC supports residents of Lower Bucks County with quality-of-life programs that direct those in need to existing social services; enable seniors to remain independent in their homes; and manages after-school and summer enrichment opportunities for children. IOC strives to improve the quality of life for those within our neighboring communities with opportunities to be healthy, confident, connected, and secure, regardless of age, income, or background.

IOC has an annual budget of \$250,000, excluding the 21st Century grant which has a budget of approximately \$500,000 per school district. IOC has two fulltime employees and two part-time employees. Additionally, three employees, who were recruited through Pathstone, a Senior Community Service Employment Program (SCSEP) which assists older workers to make connections in the local workforce to help overcome age discrimination, gain valuable work experience, and earn additional income, have their salaries paid by this organization. The IOC staff have



differing days and hours due to lack of space within the building. The IOC office space is currently at capacity with some of the Ivins' staff, along with six 21st Century program directors and six 21st Century administrative assistants also housed at IOC. The rest of the 356 21st CCLC staff work within their respective schools. Due to lack of space in the building, the two full time Home Share and Cancer Care counselors and the one administrative assistant currently rent office space in MPC.

Some of the 2024-2025 highlights:

#### Assisting with Food Insecurity

The Trenton Soup Kitchen (TASK) provided 115 hot meals weekly after school to children at Morrisville High School, Bristol Borough High School, and Bucks County Technical High School on Tuesdays and Thursdays. This ended on May 23, 2025. Other afterschool programs received snacks/meals provided through their school districts or the Philadelphia Archdiocese.

TASK will also be providing lunch for BCTHS's Summer Camp program. Summer camps at other school districts will have free breakfast and lunch provided by either the school district or the Archdiocese of Philadelphia.

We deliver seventy-five hot meals weekly to older adults, families, and homeless individuals.

We are partnered with Princeton Jewish Center providing eighty family food boxes that are being picked up once a month at the IOC.

The United Methodist Church of Morrisville volunteers prepare a meal each month for Ivins' volunteers to deliver to our Staying Put members and the Presbyterian Towers.

We are connecting families to local area food pantries for those individuals that cannot afford to pay for food.

#### The Ivins and Community Stewardship

On November 8, 2024, we received 300 new children and teen winter coats from the area car dealerships "Driving Away the Cold" campaign which were distributed to area families.

The 2024 Holiday Giving Tree was truly overwhelming. Due to the generosity of many individuals, businesses, church groups, etc., we were able to provide holiday toys, gifts, and gift cards to 300 families with 865 children partnering with United Way of Bucks County and Lower Bucks County "Toys for Tots". Shades of Green landscaping housed the toys and provided the distribution site. We had many returning and new volunteers. New this year was the partnership with Toll Brothers, which sent twenty-five volunteers to help with the event.



#### Referral Help

Over the last year, IOC's Resource and Referral program has connected 903 individuals to social services. Referrals were provided for financial issues such as rent; utility or credit card debt; parenting issues such as drug and alcohol abuse, suicide, after-school programs, and gangs; medical and health issues; and connecting individuals to needed social services in the community. Ms. Carol, from Pathstone, and Carmen Rodriguez, family coordinator for 21st CCLC grants targeting the Spanish speaking population, has assisted with Resource and Referral this past year.

#### Staying Put in Lower Bucks

Through the Staying Put program, services are provided to seniors so they can stay in their own home and "age in place" rather than move to a nursing home or another level of care.

IOC currently serves fifty members with a team of twenty-one active volunteers on a weekly basis.

There is always a waiting list of those wanting to join our program; however we are limited to membership due to the lack of volunteers. Our program is totally dependent on volunteers, and we are always actively finding ways to recruit new volunteers.

### Staying Put Cancer Care

IOC received a grant to extend the Staying Put Cancer Care program and services to individuals fifty-five and older who have cancer or those in need of dialysis.

This program was implemented in September of 2024 and currently serves seven cancer care seniors with a team of ten volunteers and fifty-four acts of kindness to date.

### Home Share

There is a need in Bucks County for programs that will give older adults an opportunity to successfully age in place, delaying or avoiding unwanted relocation or institutionalization. Up until this point, there are no home sharing programs offered in Bucks County, ours is the first.

Our Home Sharing Housing program brings together a homeowner (provider) who has a room to spare and a person (seeker) who is looking for a place to live. The provider and seeker each have a private bedroom, but both have full use of the rest of the provider's home. There are many benefits derived from such a housing strategy and there are many types of participants – for example, senior citizens, working professionals, students, individuals who cannot find affordable housing, single parents, or those who have reduced income.

The SHARE Housing Grant funded by the PA Department of Aging began in November 2022 and the Senior Shared Housing Grant funded by the Bucks County Area Agency on Aging (ARPA) began in December 2022. Both grants are reimbursable through Bucks County Area Agency on Aging and both are upfronted by the Ivins Outreach Center. This grant has been extended through December 2026.

To date, there are fifteen active matches partnering two seniors together with many applications and interviews taking place. We have received 154 applications from potential sharers and hosts, averaging thirty monthly inquiries.

### 21st Century Community Learning Center Grant Assistance Provided

Currently, there are seventeen free after-school programs operating across Bucks County, serving over 1,800 students. These programs are made possible through a combination of 21st CCLC funding from the Pennsylvania Department of Education, as well as Bucks County American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) and Opioid Settlement Funds.



New project overview: Expanding access to free after-school programs

- In addition to Bucks County, program expansion efforts now include:
  - Three school sites in Beaver and Midland Counties, PA, hosting four after-school programs
  - Three after-school programs in Orlando, Florida
  - Two after-school programs in Miami, Florida
  - One program in Georgia
  - One program in North Carolina

This growing network reflects a strong commitment to supporting at-risk students through

academic enrichment, family engagement, and wellness programming—tailored to meet both regional needs and the larger goals of opioid prevention and student success.

IOC coordinates after school programs in Bristol Borough School District, School District of Borough of Morrisville, Bucks County Technical School, Conwell Egan Catholic High School, Bensalem Township School District, Holy Trinity, St. Mark's, St Ephrem's, St. Charles, Center for Student Learning, Bensalem Cornwell Elementary School, and Neshaminy High School District.



After-school programs offer academic support, enrichment activities, as well as snacks and a hot supper are served to all students free of charge.

The summer programs provide academics, arts, sports, STEM, and credit recovery classes as well as career readiness opportunities. They are designed to reverse the summer learning loss that many students experience. Over 1500 students were served in four Lower Bucks County school districts.

Over the summer, 105 hours of mandated community service was performed at IOC.

#### Opportunity Scholarship Tax Funding

The IOC distributed \$10,000 in Opportunity Scholarship Tax Funding (OSTC) in the 2024/2025 school year. The program provides tax credits to eligible businesses contributing to an Opportunity Scholarship organization. Business contributions are then used by those organizations to provide tuition assistance in the form of scholarships to eligible students residing within the boundaries of a low-achieving school to attend another public school outside of their district or nonpublic school.

#### Food for Thought

Food for Thought is an after-school program offered to students through the 21st Century grant. Students prepare meals for Staying Put seniors.

Meals prepared by the students are delivered by nine volunteers each Friday to forty Staying Put seniors for eight weeks during the fall and spring. This year we will have a pilot program for delivering meals in the summer. These are high quality, home cooked meals designed to provide enough food for both Saturday and Sunday.

#### Seed to Fork at Snipes Farm

Seed to Fork is a summer program for students entering grades 7-12 where students learn the “story of food” and its impact on their health.

There were fifteen students in the Seed to Fork program last summer.

#### Community Partnerships

Hot meals are provided weekly to seniors, students in 21st CCLC afterschool and summer programs, and families in need of food. The meals are through partnerships with Trenton Area

Soup Kitchen, Philadelphia Archdiocese, PDE Feeding Program, Jewish Family and Children's Services of Mercer County, and Morrisville United Methodist Church.

### Annual Golf Outing Fundraiser

We held our Annual Golf Outing Fundraiser on Monday, September 18, 2024, at the Yardley Country Club.

We will NOT be having a golf outing in 2025 due to changes within the structure of the IOC; however, we do have a Golf Outing scheduled for Monday, September 14, 2026, at the Yardley Country Club.

We are very grateful for the leadership Jim Gaston has provided as chair of the golf outing for over eleven years. We are also grateful to the MPC members who have attended the golf outing year after year and volunteered to make the event a success.

We are continually grateful to all our wonderful volunteers, our very dedicated and energetic staff at the Ivins Outreach Center, and for the leadership of Executive Director Darletta Berry-Johnson. We are solely dependent upon them.

The partnerships we have with MPC, Morrisville United Methodist Church, YMCA of Lower Bucks County, the Bucks County Technical High School, Lower Bucks United Way, Trenton Area Soup Kitchen, and Bucks County Area Agency on Aging (to name a few) are priceless. Then, of course, to all of those who have supported the Ivins Outreach Center throughout the years in a variety of ways; we are so very thankful.

We look forward to continuing to serve our community with God's grace and love with new ideas, new initiatives, and by improving what we already have in place.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen Foster

VP Ivins Outreach Center Board of Directors and Volunteer



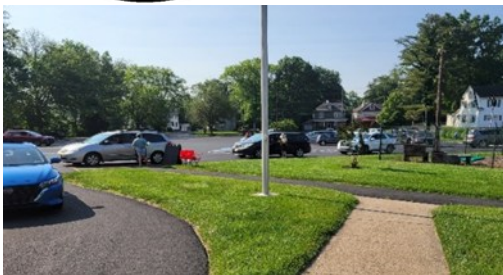
## **Food Center (FC)**



**Food Center's Mission** is to provide supplemental food assistance to families in Lower Bucks County and the Trenton area. The Food Center has been doing this since 1997.

### **Operations**

Clients drive their vehicles on the circular driveway leading to the portico every Wednesday morning from 9:00 to 11:30 a.m., are greeted and asked to verify their name and the number of people in their living unit. The requisite number, based on family size, of prepacked food bags staged near the double doors under the portico, are placed in the vehicle, along with refrigerated meats, and bags of vegetables and fruit. Clients can come once per month.



In 2024, the FC served an average of 113 families each week which amounted to over 14,700 people in the year; this was a slight increase from 2023. The total amount of food provided in 2024 was over 247,000 pounds.

Volunteers come from several PA & NJ churches, synagogues, and the public. About ten volunteers come on Wednesday, another eight to fifteen volunteers come every Monday evening to pack bags of food, and another four to eight volunteers come during the day on Tuesday to receive produce deliveries from Philabundance and prepare individual bags containing vegetables and fruit. Also, several volunteers rotate picking up donated food, primarily breads and desserts, at various businesses, and making pickups from the Bucks County Opportunity Council (BCOC) in Bristol.



### **Food Supply**

Substantial donations are received weekly from Philabundance, which provides fresh produce and non-perishables, and the BCOC, which donates non-perishables. Occasionally, donations are received from Applegate Farms and Pepperidge Farms. The remainder of the canned goods and other non-perishables are purchased from Aldi and C&S Grocery Supply, while chicken is purchased from City Beef. Volunteers pick up a variety of bread, desserts, and boxes of donated merchandise each week from McCaffrey's and fresh produce from Rolling Harvest Food Rescue during the summer, when available. The Food Center also benefits from food drives run by other local congregations, scouting groups, schools, the US Postal Service, and other community organizations.



### **Donations & Expenses**

Total income from financial donations by individual donors, churches, social and service organizations, and businesses was \$55,359. The value of donated food was \$226,431. The purchase of food was \$69,468. Total expense was \$300,352. The worth of the food given out, if it had to be purchased by the clients at grocery stores, is estimated to be about four times the money spent by the Food Center in obtaining the food.

DH/CR/RW JUNE 2025

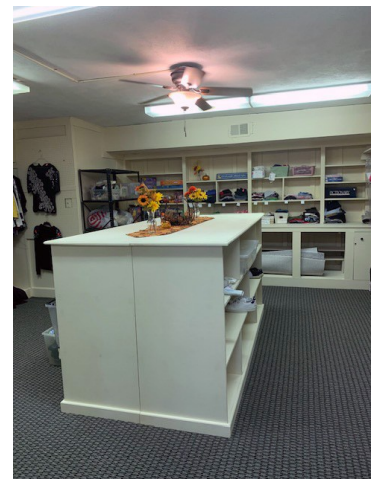
## The Lord's Tailor Shop

Our annual report for the Lord's Tailor Shop, a.k.a The Clothing Center, reflects operations from September 26, 2024 to June 12, 2025. Founded in 1983, the MPC Clothing Center is located in Room 4 in the church's basement. We are open for business on Thursdays from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. from Sept/Oct to mid-June, with the pricing and prepping taking place on Wednesdays from noon-2:30 p.m. We take a hiatus during the summer.

During this timeframe, we made a profit of \$9798.15, which exceeded last year's profits by \$1263.00, to support our Outreach Committee, who in turn distributes these funds to charitable agencies/organizations both local and global (\*See Outreach report). This little jewel of a shop sells top quality and brand name clothing for women, men, children, and infants; jewelry; shoes; books; household items, including small appliances, lamps, dishes, glassware, linens and occasionally some antiques. When you shop at the MPC Clothing Center you will not only be satisfied with your purchase, but you will leave with money in your pocket.

It was a year of transition for the Clothing Center. We grieved over the death of our friend Betsy Jurey who was passionate about the Clothing Center. Betsy supervised the overall operations and interacted with our customers, which made them feel welcome and wanting to return week after week.

The Clothing Center underwent a partial renovation during the summer of 2024 thanks to a generous benefactor, which resulted in new carpeting in the upper room. The walls and shelves were painted (by a team of MPC volunteers). We removed the clothing racks in the center of the floor which were replaced by custom made shelving (thank you Ray). This opened up the area, allowing more space for our shoppers, as well as making it was brighter and cleaner. Our customers love the changes and it has enhanced the shopping experience. We have also worked hard moving the merchandise so all the women's clothing and shoes, along with the children's clothing, are on the upper level, and the men's clothing and shoes are on the lower level.



We implemented a "FREE" table from January through April, which was a huge hit with our customers. Home décor and kitchen items that did not sell, which we would normally donate to Salvation Army or Good Stuff, was put out for free. It moved the merchandise and we didn't have to make weekly trips taking boxes of items to other donation sites.

We also had fifty clothing racks for men, women, and children. This was clothing that had been for sale for one year or longer, that again, would have to be packed up and donated elsewhere. This way we were able to sell the clothing, thus adding to our yearly profits, clear out inventory leaving space for new clothes, and make our customers very happy. Don't fret, we still donated a lot of clothing and housewares to other thrift shops and non-profit organizations.

During Code Blue and Community Dinners, we donated warm clothing, coats, hats, gloves, and new socks (donated by Bomba and picked up at United Way through the Ivins Outreach Center) for our guests.

The Boy Scouts had a clothing drive, to which we contributed and continue to do so. The Boy Scouts take them to a distribution center where they are paid for each pound of clothing, which in turn supports their programs and scholarships for summer camps.

We have opened the Clothing Center during “off hours” to those who have experienced a significant hardship and are in need of clothing and/or household items, at no expense for them.

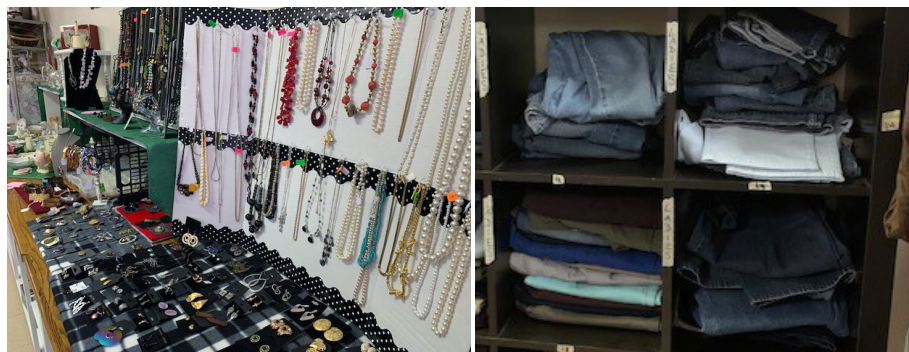
We have special sales every week. However, for certain holidays we do something a little different. For Valentine’s Day, anything that has red in it will be on sale. For St Patrick’s Day, green items are on sale and Memorial Day, it’s red, white, and blue. In March, to celebrate basketball, we played March Madness. We have the customers toss a ball into a shopping basket for a chance to get a discount off their total purchase. Easter was our famous egg hunt and in May it was picking a flower, both offered a percentage off our already low prices. During our last two weeks of business, we had “bag sales”. Customers had the opportunity to purchase two different size bags (priced accordingly) and stuff them with merchandise (we do limit the amount of Lenox and jewelry). It’s amazing to see what they can squeeze in the bags.

For those who are not able to come to our shop on Thursdays, we hold two Saturday Open Houses during the year, in December and April or May. We are considering opening one Saturday a month from 9:00 a.m. to noon for those who work and are unable to stop during our normal operating hours. Of course, this initiative requires volunteers. Three volunteers would be ideal for the one day/month for three hours.

Volunteers are essential in order to operate the Clothing Center weekly. People don’t realize what it takes to go through all the weekly donations: pricing or bagging them to take to other donation centers; pull out several clothing racks; set-up all the home décor and glassware every week, then take it down again at the end of the day; make the seasonal and holiday changes by taking off seasonal clothing from the racks, storing them in the back, and bringing out the current season clothing to be hung; displaying the holiday merchandise; repacking anything that doesn’t sell and storing it for another year; etc. We could always use more volunteers, even if you are only able to work one or two days per month.

The MPC Clothing Center is staffed by faithful volunteers Cheryl Palmer, Gail Flesh, Jane Detraz, Caroline Pickering, Ann Murphy, Carol Carpenter, Ann Clements, Becky Hendrickson, Alice Garcia, Amy Nolan, Joy Rees, Ruth Levan, and Kathy Foster. It is a blessing and privilege to work with these dedicated ladies. We want to thank everyone who generously donated merchandise to our inventory during the year enabling us to help our local community and beyond. Our shop would not be the success it is without your help. We look forward to our fall re-opening on October 2, 2025.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Kathleen Foster



## Weekday Nursery School (WNS)

The 2024-25 school year for MPC Weekday Nursery School has come to a close. Our school year was filled with trying new things, playing, learning, and growing. We added a third Explorer class this year for the first time ever – which will lead to an almost full enrollment of our Inventor class next year. Our full-day Inventor class is continuing to grow, and we will have two full-time teachers leading the class next year. During the afternoon portion of this class, students are exposed to different STEAM activities that enrich their learning. The students keep a weekly journal to enhance imagination and express their thoughts and feelings. The focus of our morning is to help children navigate learning through play. We do our best to prepare children for kindergarten. This, of course, means letter and number practice, but even more importantly, it's a focus on the social side of learning. The social interaction among peers and the problem solving that happens during play are lifelong skills and create a strong foundation for academic learning that will happen in elementary school and beyond. Our morning also focuses on instilling Christian values. Each month we have a different focus ranging from "LOVE" to "SELF WORTH" to "KINDNESS". It is our tradition to follow Romans 13:10, "Love does no harm to a neighbor. Therefore, love is the fulfillment of the law." At WNS, we try to build the self-love of each child so they can go out into the world and love their neighbors.

Because it was so popular last summer, we are offered Camp Weekday again this year. We modified the weeks that camp was offered to accommodate the painting of our classrooms this summer. Camp ran for three consecutive weeks starting the day after Memorial Day. Weeks two and three of camp were at full capacity.

We are fortunate this year to have made some improvements to our school. We purchased three new signs for the school – two at the driveway entrances and one to hang next to our door. The classrooms were painted this summer.



We serve the community as an outreach program of MPC. We focus our service projects on the MPC Food Bank and the Ivins Outreach Center so that our service connects closely with the missions of the church. Weekday Nursery School is licensed through the Pennsylvania Department of Education. Each member of our teaching staff has earned a master's degree and is certified by the Pennsylvania State Board of Education.

Below is the 2024-25 WNS Staff:

- Joanie Layden: director since 2023 and teacher since 2021 – 4, 5-day Inventors and full-day Inventors (4 YO)
- Amy Kieley: teacher since 2021 – Half-Pints (2.7 YO) and Explorers (3YO)
- Emily Bausher: teacher since 2021 – Explorers (3 YO)
- Melissa Benson: teacher since 2024 – Explorers (3 YO)
- Jill Hay: aide since 2015
- Cathy Cusick: aide since 2021
- Caitrin McLean: aide since 2023
- Jennifer Schaeffer: aide since 2024

The teaching staff is grateful for the support and dedication of MPC and our Board of Directors. All board members are unpaid volunteers apart from the treasurer, enrollment secretary and director who receive a stipend for their work.

Below are the 2024-25 WNS Board of Directors:

Director	Joanie Layden	Member at Large	Jill Hay
Chairperson	Meaghan Corini	Member at Large	Beth Rainville
Treasurer	Bronwyn Hinds	Parent Representative	Regina Madden
Enrollment Secretary	Michelle Jennings	Parent Representative	Kristin Miller
EMC Representative	Jill Monroe Dillon	Parent Representative	Emily Ross
Recording Secretary	Christa Layne		

### Tuition and Enrollment by Class for the 2024-25 School Year

- Inventors (4YO) – 15 students enrolled
  - 4 mornings – \$3836
  - 5 mornings – \$4728
  - 3 full days – \$5244
  - 3 full and 2 mornings – \$6996
- Explorers (3YO) – 26 students enrolled
  - 3 mornings – \$3432
- Half-Pints (2Y7M) - 8 students enrolled
  - \$2908



## Cub Scouts/Pack 3 - Morrisville, PA



### Pack Leadership Team

<b>Charter Organization Representative</b>	Bill Burgess
<b>Committee Chair</b>	Stephanie Huston
<b>Cubmaster</b>	Connor Scholl
<b>Den Leader</b>	Riley Johnson

Pack 3 started recruiting during Morrisville's National Night Out in August and continued to spread the word about scouting every chance we had! Thanks to Troop 3 Committee Members, Riley Gilleo and Connor Scholl, Pack 3 participated in the various back-to-school night activities in Morrisville School District. Our efforts resulted in the recruitment of seven new Cub Scouts.

Shortly after signing up the youth, Connor Scholl volunteered to be our Pack's Cubmaster, and his fiancée signed on to be a den leader working with our Lions and Tigers. Together with the parents, the Pack's leadership presented an extensive program to the youth.

### **Pack 3 By the Numbers:**

- 7 registered youth
- 6 registered adults
- 6 ranks earned
- 58 adventures completed
- 12 hours of community service
- Over 24 miles hiked

### **Pack Activities 2024-2025**

- August - National Night Out
- September - Recruitment - Back to School Night
- October - Visit Morrisville Fire Department, Hike at Silver Lake Nature Center
- November - Scoutsgiving
- December - Santa Visits!
- January - Pinewood Derby Build-It Night
- February - Scout Sunday, Scout Banquet, and Pinewood Derby
- March - Helped with David's Eagle Project at Morrisville Intermediate School
- April - Blue & Gold Banquet, Campfire at Tyler Park
- May - Raingutter Regatta, Memorial Day Flag Placement, and Memorial Day Parade



## Boy Scout Troop 3 - Morrisville, PA



### Chartered Organization

Rep: Bill Burgess

Scoutmaster: John Waslenko

Committee Chair: Stephanie Huston

Senior Patrol Leader: Eric Miller



## SCOUTS BSA TROOP 3

**WEEKLY TROOP MEETINGS**  
**MONDAYS @ 7-8:30PM**  
MORRISVILLE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
771 N PENNSYLVANIA AVE | MORRISVILLE PA

Scouts BSA Troop 3 has been going strong in Morrisville since 1911. We are one of the oldest troops in the nation. For over 110 years, Troop 3 has helped young men become responsible, participating citizens and leaders who are guided by the Scout Oath and Law.

Scouts meet weekly on Monday evenings in Fellowship Hall at Morrisville Presbyterian Church. Meetings run from the Monday after Labor Day through late June.

During the weekly meetings, Scouts work on rank advancement, plan for upcoming camping trips, develop life skills, and work on merit badges. There are many opportunities for our Scouts to work on their leadership and scouting skills throughout the year while building lifelong friendships. Members of our Patrol Leaders' Council - Eric, David, Emily, and Aaron - made sure that all meetings and outings were planned to fulfill rank or badge requirements. They took pride in helping our new scouts rise up and rank up.



Scouting and camping just go hand in hand. This year, Troop 3 has camped at Ockanickon Scout Reservation, Fort Washington State Park, Evansburg State Park, and Tucquan Park Campground. Camping trips focused on refining camping skills, wilderness survival, and the Railroading merit badge. In addition to camping, our scouts had a great time during our fellowship weekend held at MPC.

Hiking was a big focus this fall. The troop did a 10-mile hike through Valley Forge in late October. Then, just two weeks later, they completed a 20-mile hike from Morrisville to New Hope.

Weekends were also filled with orienteering at Core Creek Park, an escape room, indoor rock climbing at Rockville Climbing Center, and working on various community service projects.

Troop 3 is excited to announce that David Huston has earned the rank of Eagle Scout as of May 2025. For his Eagle Project, David led a team to build and install a gaga pit at Morrisville Intermediate School.



In the coming weeks, Troop 3 will hold an Eagle Board of Review for Eric Miller. For Eric's project, he led a team to restore several benches in the Memorial Garden at Morrisville Presbyterian Church.



We look forward to the coming year of being able to serve more youth in our community through scouting.

**Scouts BSA Troop 3 by the Numbers:**

- 11 youth registered as Scouts (2 graduating Seniors)
- 18 adults registered as Scoutmaster, Assistant Scoutmasters, and Committee Members
- Over 130 hours of community service
- 145 nights of camping
- Over 296 miles of hiking
- 9 rank advancements
- 85 merit badges
- 16 special awards

