



The Local Church



Central Association



Penn Central Conf



Keystone Conf



Together we are Stronger



Saturday October 18, 2025 9:00 AM
63rd Annual Meeting
Zoom
Central Association
Penn Central Conference
United Church of Christ

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Note: This report is for the sole use of the Central Association, PCC, UCC and may not be distributed or shared elsewhere.

Open

Gathering, Scripture and Prayer Rev. Deitmar Plajer

Business Meeting

Elections/Nominations Report

2026 Budget

Ickesburg Faith United UCC/ELCA, a Federated Church, transfer to Central Association from
Mercersburg Association

Announcements and Greetings

Other Business to come before the Association

Closing with Prayer

Sending for Mission and Service

As I sat down to write this report the leaves started to fall with vengeance. Fall is certainly here, and winter will not be far behind.

2024 has been a busy year not only for Penn Central Conference but for Central Association as well. The announcement of the possible merger of all the Conferences in Pennsylvania into one large Conference, the Keystone Conference was a big surprise for everyone.

Penn Central Conference did their best to share, what they could about what may take place and give us as much information as they could. Slowly the information came that a Conference meeting would take place in State College, and a vote would to be taken as to whether Penn Central Conference would agree to the merger. The affirmative vote was nearly 100%. Now the work would begin. When will the merger be approved by General Synod? Would the vote on the merger be approved? What would be the time frame for the start? In the meantime, a lot of issues had to be resolved by the Penn Central Board of directors. Here we are, almost the end of 2025 and the merger now will to take place January 1, 2026.

We have found out that the staff of Penn Central will not be able to continue doing as many of the tasks they handled previously for each association. Most of those items we as Central Association have begun to do for ourselves. Some of those items include:

- . Welcome of New Clergy-- help a new clergy to acclimate themselves
- . Create a position of Coordinator for Clergy Care
- . Association Presidents to attend the Coalition of Assoc Presidents with the Executive Conference Minister.
- . Regular communication with regional administrator about data updates
- . Larger involvement in the larger life of the Association.
- . Continued strength of the Committee on Ministry

Some of these positions have already been filled. Some have not. We need volunteers to fill committee positions but not necessarily a position on the Executive Board. My reason for additional committee positions is that I am sure we have not heard the last of what's to come as we begin the journey as the Keystone Conference.

One additional item. As we began to look at the coming of 2026 the officers have decided that for 2026, we would change the format of President- Vice President to a Co-President format for a year. This has precedent from the past and has been approved again by the Executive Board.

My appreciation to the Officers, the Executive Board and all the Churches for the support and the hard work they have given to the Association and myself this past year.

May the Peace of Christ go with each of you now and always.

Larry Snook
President, Central Association

Blessings from the Executive Committee of the Central Association.

As another year comes to a close, I am truly blessed by the work of the Executive Committee of the Central Association of the Penn Central Conference.

As you are aware, after several years of hard work, the resolution was presented to General Synod this past July to create the Keystone Conference. It was approved and now we are beginning our journey to our future as the Keystone Conference. Much hard work and dedication was put into making this a reality.

There is much work to be done finalizing the transition and I am looking forward to what this future will have in store for us.

As with all change, there will be uncertainties and areas of concern. It was discussed during our most recent Executive Committee meeting that in order to continue the experience within the committee, that Larry and I would Co-Chair the presidency of the association to allow a smooth transition into the new year as well as into the Keystone Conference.

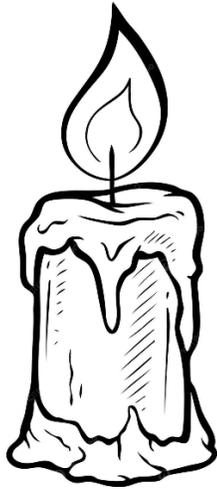
We had a well-received music festival in March, another successful camp at Hartman Center, our annual Penn Central Conference meeting in June.

January 1st we will officially be the Keystone Conference. I am looking forward to what the opportunities the future holds for us. I am also looking forward to working with each one of you to ensure that this transition is a success.

Blessings as we work together to make the Keystone Conference not only a reality, but also a success.

Respectfully submitted,

Pastor Jeffrey Hauck



21 His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and trustworthy servant; enter into the joy of your God...’
31 Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world... 37 Then the righteous will answer him, ‘Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? ... 40 And the king will answer them, ‘Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me. Matthew 25, various. (*paraphrase mine*)

William "Bill" Bastian

J Robert Snyder

Julie Beall

Anna Lucille Cope

Ecclesiastical Council for Jim Cope 10-19-2025, 3 P Hybrid at St John's Lewisburg & Zoom

German Reformed 300th Anniversary Celebrations 10-28-2025 see eNews for details

PCC Closing Celebration 11-15-2025, 2 P Hybrid at Colonial Park and by Zoom

Keystone Fall Budget & Bylaws meeting 11-22-2025, Hybrid, in person location TBA

Keystone Conference Meeting Millersville University June 5-7 2026



Together We Are God's People!

Larry Snook called the assembly to order.

Jeff Hauck opened our meeting with scripture and prayer

Amelia Attested to a Quorum.

Votes by the gathered assembly for the Central Association.

To accept the elections / Nominations Report by Common Consent. Vote 100 % in favor of the motion.

Amelia Presented the Budget for 2025. The motion to accept the budget comes from the Executive Committee, therefore no second is needed. Following discussion and Q&A, question was called. Vote was unanimous.

The Necrology was presented by Rev. Amelia Price. Special Thanks to Rev. Tammy Gessner for the reading and graphics.

Announcement

Larry introduced Rev Nora Faust conference minister from Penn Central Conference. Nora brought greetings from the conference and shared about the upcoming Conference Meeting November 9th. Were our conference will be voting on the Keystone project. Budget for the conference for 2025 and the STAR Collation.

Larry Snook asked Amelia Price if she could share more about the Star Collation. Amelia shared with the assembled the covenant of Star. She also shared about the google drive and web site and resources that will be available for churches that will be coming in the future for our local congregations will have access to support their ministries. Nora Faust ask a question of Amelia what qualified a church as a star church. Amelia, anyone is welcome. Generally any church in a community of 25,000 or less is statistically considered a “small church.” Most of our churches in Penn Central Conference are in communities under 10,000 and the predominance of those are in much smaller communities. The STAR Coalition will meet on Nov 12th and if anyone would like to join us , to please email Amelia.

There being no other business or announcements, Larry thanked everyone for attending.

Before Jeff closed, Tammy Gessner asked for a pause to thank all those who volunteered their time to serve on a committee for the association. Thank you for your services!

Jeff Closed us in prayer!

Respectfully Submitted,

Rev. Amelia Price

Rev. Tammy Gessner

Treasurer's Annual Report

General Fund

Balance January 1 2023 \$5,619.48

Receipts

Covenant Responsibility dues	24 Churches	\$4,630.00
	HC Spirit (PCC) & pass through	\$12,056.33
	Donation	\$500.00

Total Receipts \$17,186.33

GF Total \$22,805.81

Disbursements

Executive Committee	\$1,732.95
Annual Meeting	\$832.32
Outdoor Ministries w/pass through	\$5,608.21
GS Delegates	\$2,100.00
Winds	\$485.00
Devitt '22-'23	\$1,000.00
Nominating Committee	\$0
Program Com/Emergency Preparedness	\$0
COM	\$0
Lending Library	\$114.74
Secretary's Gratuity	\$2,500.00
Misc	

Total GF Disbursements \$14,373.22

GF Balance December 31 2023 \$8,432.59

Vocations Fund

Balance January 1 2023 \$3,332.34

Receipts

8 Churches	\$1,756.10
Pay it Forward	\$75.00
Hauck Ordination	\$235.00

Total Receipts \$2,066.10

VF Total \$5,398.44

Disbursements

Retired Checks 21 @ \$75.00	\$1,575.00
Active Checks 37 @ \$25.00	\$925.00
PCC Vitality (Gibbs)	\$100.00
Support	\$100.00
A Price MESOM	\$270.00
A Rauch Cornell	\$500.00
J Garinger PAM	\$346.42

Total VF Disbursements \$3,816.42

VF Balance December 31 2023 \$1,582.02

Grand Total Checking Account December 31 2022

\$10,014.61

Investments

Note: to show history from the conversion of the Kline Endowment to 2 full years with Tower Wealth Management

January 2018 – December 2018

Kline Endowment Fund Fulton Financial Stock [1-1 – 4-3 3916 Shares] closed 4-3-2018 @ \$17.50 <i>(3516 shares to Koss July 2018)</i>		\$68,530.00
Kline Endowment Fund Fulton Financial Stock [remining 400 Shares] closed 12/31/2018 @ \$15.48]		\$6,192.00
Koss Financial Group (July 2018 – Dec 2018) General Fund 12/31/2018		\$14,854.17
	Vocations Fund 12/31/2018	\$67,036.37
	Total Investment Value	12/31/2018 \$88,082.54

January 2019 – December 2019

Kline Endowment Fund Fulton Financial Stock [400 Shares] closed 12/31/2019 @ \$17.43		\$6,972.00
Koss Financial Group	General Fund 12/31/2019	\$7,218.76
	Vocations Fund 12/31/2019	\$74,753.30
	Total Investment Value	12/31/2019 \$88,949.06

January 2020 – December 2020

Kline Endowment Fund Fulton Financial Stock [400 Shares] closed 12/31/2020 @ \$12.72		\$5,088.00
Tower Wealth Partners [formerly Koss Financial Group]	General Fund 12/31/2020	\$7,717.27
	Vocations Fund 12/31/2020	\$81,282.21
	Total Investment Value	12/31/2020 \$94,087.48

January 2021 – December 2021

Kline Endowment Fund [400 shares valued at \$6900.00 (close 4-26-21 @ \$17.25) transferred to Tower Wealth VF April 2021]		
Tower Wealth Partners	General Fund 12/31/2021	\$7,336.64
	Vocations Fund 12/31/2021	\$96,107.35
	Total Investment Value	12/31/2021 \$103,442.99

January 2022 – December 2022

Tower Wealth Partners	General Fund 12/30/2022	\$6,667.89
	Vocations Fund 12/30/2022	\$84,292.13
	Total Investment Value	12/30/2022 \$90,960.02

January 2023 – December 2023

Tower Wealth Partners	General Fund 12/30/2023	\$5,975.44
	Vocations Fund 12/30/2023	\$91,070.22
	Total Investment Value	12/30/2023 \$97,045.55

Respectfully Submitted,

Rev. Amelia A Price

Review [Audit] Report

Cathy A. Martin
494 Main St
PO Box 221
Richfield, PA 17086

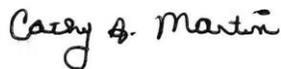
717-919-2065
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Central Association Financial Review
October, 2024

During the week of October 18 – 25, 2024, I reviewed the financial accounts for Central Association of the Penn Central Conference of The United Church of Christ. I reviewed records from January 1, 2023 – December 31, 2023.

The entire collection of documents is in order. All transactions can easily be followed for dues collections, vocational fund, and general fund. Ledgers, statements, invoices, deposits, and checks are clearly organized. Amelia Price does an exceptional job of keeping Central Association's financial documents in order and is to be commended for her endeavors. There appear to be no discrepancies for the 2023 year. All accounts are in order. I sign off on all registers of the Central Association.

Respectfully submitted,



Cathy A. Martin

Review referenced in 2023 Report. @024 Review will be scheduled.

2026 Budget

	Budget 2023	Actual 2023	Budget 2024	Actual 2024	Budget 2025	Actual 2025	Budget 2026
GENERAL FUND							
Receipts							
Annual Meeting Registrations	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0		\$0
Covenant Responsibility	\$5,000.00	24 @ \$4630.00	\$5,000.00	17 @ \$2,642.95	\$5,000.00		\$5,000.00
Church Leaders Banquet Reg	\$1,000.00	\$0	\$1,000.00	\$0	\$1,000.00		\$1,000.00
Tower GF	#####	\$4000.00	#####	#####	#####		#####
H C Spirit (PCC Reimburse)		\$12,056.33		\$2,943.62			
HCS/PCC Grant Passthrough		\$7,000.00					
Passthrough Music Festival/CWS Winds				\$763.00		\$10,000	
Donation		\$500.00		\$1,500.00			
Total Income	<u>\$6,000.00</u>	<u>\$21,186.33</u>	<u>\$6,000.00</u>	<u>\$7,849.57</u>	<u>\$6,000.00</u>		<u>\$6,000.00</u>
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE							
Annual Meeting: Refreshment	\$200.00	\$127.52	\$200.00	\$0	\$200.00		\$200.00
Speakers	\$300.00	\$204.80	\$300.00	\$0	\$300.00		\$300.00
Miscellaneous	\$100.00	\$500.00 MAP	\$100.00	\$0	\$100.00		\$100.00
Association Outreach				\$0			
Outdoor Min/Prog	\$1,000.00			#####			
HC Spirit	\$350.00	\$4,908.21	\$3,500.00	\$4,193.62	\$3,500.00		\$3,500.00
Youth	\$350.00		\$350.00	\$0	\$350.00		\$350.00
Winds		\$485.00		\$427.62	\$500.00		\$500.00
Devitt House	\$500.00	22-23 \$1,000.00	\$500.00	\$0	\$500.00		\$500.00
Grants	\$1,000.00	\$0	\$1,000.00	\$0	\$1,000.00		\$1,000.00
Gen Synod Delegate 3@\$700	\$2,100.00	\$2,100.00	\$2,100.00	\$0	\$2,100.00		\$2,100.00
Secretary's Gratuity	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00	\$3,000.00		\$3,000.00
Misc.	\$200.00		\$200.00	\$295.03	\$200.00		\$200.00
Supplies, Postage, Mi, Misc, Cks, Ord Cert	\$225.00	\$171.42	\$225.00	\$68.00	\$225.00		\$225.00
Technology: Zoom, Doodle, Misc tech	<u>\$200.00</u>	<u>\$252.89</u>	<u>\$200.00</u>	\$0	<u>\$200.00</u>		<u>\$200.00</u>
Deposit to Investment GF				\$3000.00			
Executive Com Total	<u>\$9,025.00</u>	<u>\$19,249.84</u>	<u>\$11,175.00</u>	<u>\$10,484.27</u>	<u>\$11,175.00</u>		<u>\$11,175.00</u>

	Budget 2023	Actual 2023	Budget 2024	Actual 2024	Budget 2025	Actual 2025	Budget 2026
NOMINATING COMMITTEE Total	\$50.00		\$50.00	\$0	\$50.00		\$50.00
COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY							
Psych Evaluation [Auth Min & MID's]	\$1,500.00		\$1,500.00	J. Cope \$627.00	\$1,500.00		\$1,500.00
Cen Assoc UCC Ministerium	\$100.00		\$100.00	<u>\$0</u>	\$100.00		\$100.00
Committee on Ministry Total	\$3,875.00	\$0	\$1,600.00	\$627.00	\$1,600.00		\$1,600.00
PROGRAM COM/EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS							
Church Leaders Banquet	\$250.00		\$250.00	\$0	\$250.00		\$250.00
Meals	\$1,150.00		\$1,150.00	\$0	\$1,150.00		\$1,150.00
Community Outreach	\$100.00		\$100.00	\$0	\$100.00		\$100.00
Programs/Training	\$350.00		\$850.00	\$0	\$850.00		\$850.00
Emergency Preparedness	\$100.00	\$0	\$100.00	\$0	\$100.00		\$100.00
Program Com/Emer. Prep Total	\$1,950.00	\$0	\$2,450.00	\$0	\$2,450.00		\$2,450.00
LENDING LIBRARY	\$400.00	\$114.74	\$400.00	\$558.35	\$400.00		\$400.00
PCC CA UCC CLERGY CARE Total	\$150.00	\$0	\$150.00	\$0	\$150.00		\$150.00
Total Expenses	<u>\$15,450.00</u>	<u>\$40,550.91</u>	<u>\$15,825.00</u>	<u>\$11,669.62</u>	<u>\$15,825.00</u>		<u>\$15,825.00</u>

	Budget '23	Actual '23	Budget 2024	Actual 2024	Budget 2025	Budget 2026
VOCATIONS FUND						
Receipts						
“Pay it Forward (3)		1 @ \$75.00		\$0		
Church Vocations Donations		8 @ \$1,756.10		5 @ 1,150.00	\$1,740.00	\$1,740.00
Hauck Ordination '23		\$235.00		#####		
Tower		\$2,500.00		\$0	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00
3 @ \$25.00 Returned '23		\$75.00		#####		
Retired ck from '23add back				\$75.00		
Total Receipts		<u>\$4,641.10</u>		<u>\$1,225.00</u>	<u>\$3,740.00</u>	<u>\$3,740.00</u>
Vocations Fund Line Items						
Clergy Sabbath Scholarships	\$600.00	\$0	\$600.00	\$0	\$600.00	\$600.00
Pastoral Assist/Con. Ed/ Counseling	\$1,000.00	\$0	\$1,000.00	\$0	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
Members in Discernment & New Pastors	\$500.00	\$0	\$500.00	\$0	\$500.00	\$500.00
Authorized Min Gifts \$25.00 ea.	\$925.00	39 @ 975.00	\$925.00	37@ 925.00	\$925.00	\$925.00
Retired Gifts \$75.00 ea.	\$1,500.00	19 @ \$1,425.00	\$1,500.00	19 @ 1,425.00	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00
VF Sub-Total	<u>\$4,525.00</u>	<u>\$2,400.00</u>	<u>\$4,525.00</u>	<u>\$2,350.00</u>	<u>\$4,525.00</u>	<u>\$4,525.00</u>
Disbursements						
		J Garinger PAM \$346.42		J Garinger PAM \$233.00		
		J Garinger PAM \$348.65		PCC HCS Scholarship \$150.00		
Total Disbursement		<u>\$695.07</u>		<u>\$2,733.00</u>		

Throughout the year, the Executive Committee meets monthly via zoom. 10 meetings are held throughout the year. The committee's role is to use its members gifts of leadership to support the central association churches as well as several committees within the Central Association. The Executive Committee is made up of clergy and lay members from our association's local churches.

Some highlights of the year from November 2024 to October 2025 include:

Saturday November 9 - Passage of the association's vote in support of the formation of joining the four Pennsylvania conferences into one conference to be called **Keystone Conference**.

Sunday March 2 -The second annual association wide concert was held at **First Reformed UCC** in Sunbury. It was a great afternoon of music and fellowship.

Saturday April 26 -Worked with CSIU to sponsor a **Mental Health First Aid** training for Adults which was open to all church leaders

June 13 & 14 - most executive committee members attended the **Annual and Final** meeting of the Penn Central Conference held at the **Hilton Hotel** in downtown **Harrisburg**. It was a joyous and meaningful celebration of the rich history of the Penn Central Conference.

July 11-15 - Sent delegates and monetarily supported them to **General Synod** in **Kansas City, Missouri**

Last week of July - Annual Spirit Week at **Hartman Center** supported spiritually and monetarily by the executive committee

The Nominating Committee has now been rolled into the Executive Committee which has the task of filling open positions within the various committees.

- Supported the work and ministry of the **Committee on Ministry** and all committees of the Association
- Prepared the budget for the annual meeting
- The committee members attended in person and by **ZOOM** the many gatherings related to the transition to the **Keystone Conference**.
- Supported the associations 37 churches and its ministers in various ways throughout the past year.

-Scott Sanders

The Committee on Ministry (COM) is a key committee within our Central Association, tasked with the responsibility to oversee and hold accountable all ministerial leaders and congregations within our association (lay, ordained, and retired). The UCC Manual on Ministry (MOM) outlines the responsibilities and procedures for doing our work. Here is a summary of what we've done to date:

1. Reviewed the new UCC Manual on Church and referred comments to the national setting. This Manual describes responsibilities and expectations for congregations with standing in the UCC, along with links to a variety of helpful guidelines and information. This manual is available online at www.ucc.org.

2. Educated the COM on various duties, including: understanding the Member In Discernment (MID) Process in Central Association ... procedures for requesting and approving Leave of Absence Status ... understanding the differences between Licensure and Authorized Lay Ministerial Standing ... an overview of COM Tasks and Responsibilities, including current policies for Central Association ... reviewed the process for Conducting an Ecclesiastical Council.

3. In January, sent out 48 Information Review Forms to all authorized ministers (required by MOM of every authorized minister, active and retired, annually), reviewed those that were returned (the return rate was 60%). We currently have the following on our roster of clergy:

- 5 licensed
- 1 lay ministerial standing
- 6 non-UCC partners
- 26 ordained clergy (active)
- 10 ordained clergy (retired)
- 4 (other status)
- 36 congregations

4. Conducted 21 Periodic Vocational Support Interviews (required by MOM of every authorized minister, active and retired, every 3-5 years). We plan to begin interviewing retired clergy before the end of year.

5. Approved funding assistance/support from the Vocations Fund for the Conference Annual MID Gathering (\$100, for 1 attendee), one request for continuing education tuition (\$400), and support for two General Synod Delegates (\$2000). The Vocations Fund was established to provide MIDs and Authorized Ministers financial support for educational and professional growth opportunities. To apply for funding, contact the Association Secretary (Rev. Amelia Price).

6. Conducted two Situation Support Interviews (one authorized minister, one congregation), plus offered support to others informally by phone and individual visits.

7. Approved Leave of Absence Standing for one Authorized Minister, which will be reviewed and renewed annually.

8. Accepted the resignation of one Licensed Minister, and revoked their license.

9. Followed the progress of four Members in Discernment, including: approval of an Ecclesiastical Council for one MID, revoked the MID status of one (without bias, meaning this person can reapply for MID status at a later date).

Current MIDS: Jim Cope, Tim Hogan-Palazzo, Jan Garringer.

10. Granted permission for a licensed minister to conduct a wedding outside their congregation. (Those Licensed or granted Authorized Lay Ministerial Standing are only permitted to serve within their congregation or specialized setting. Exceptions must be approved by the COM.)

11. Assisted with one Installation Service.

12. Received transfer of credentials for one Ordained Clergy into our Association (no transfers out as of this date).

13. Currently holding licenses for:

Betty Schaffner - renewed for 2026.

Tim Hogan-Palazzo, Shawn McNett, Jim Cope - authorized as licensed for the duration of call in their current setting.

Authorized Lay Ministerial Standing: Jan Garringer - renewed for 2026

14. Assisted three churches currently without settled / called leadership: St. John's Mifflinburg, 1st Reformed Sunbury, St. John's Shamokin (served by interim).

15. Representatives of the COM participated regularly with Central Association Executive Committee meetings, Keystone COM Commission meetings, Penn Central COM Meetings, and Penn Central MID Portfolio Assessment Team Meetings.

The Keystone COM Commission has been working toward anticipated changes with the Keystone merger, including seeking ways to: standardize the MID process and the requirements for continuing education and boundary training ... establish policy templates for licensing ... consider the continuation of regionalizing MID Portfolio Assessment Teams and Fitness Review Teams ... as well as providing input for call agreement forms and annual clergy compensation guidelines.

We are in need of 4 nominees for this committee for 2026. If you have strong leadership and relationship-building skills, are organized, respect confidentiality, and are good at working with others, please consider if God may be calling you to serve with us. We meet by Zoom, on the 4th Tuesday (6:30PM) of the month. You can also expect to put in, on average, an additional 2-3 hours per month reviewing reports and conducting vocational interviews (some months are busier than others). It's a lot of work, but very rewarding as we accompany people and congregations in their ministries. If you are interested or want more information, please let us know.

Respectfully submitted:

Rev. Mary Schmotzer - Chair

Rev. Curtis Zemencik

Tammy Kratzer

Robin Latsha

Rev. Amelia Price, Secretary (ex-officio)

Jean Bahner

Rev. Tammy Gessner

Dan Martin

Barb Lewis

Authorized Licensed, Lay Ministerial Standing and Commissioned Ministers 9-2025

For Quorum: 41 Authorized (9) 36 Churches (13)

Licensed (6)

James Cope [Emmanuel, New Berlin] Gerald Lloyd [Mt. Zion (Welsh) Congregational, Shamokin]
 Shawn McNett [Strawberry Ridge, Danville] Tim Hogan Palazzo [Saint Paul's Community, Milton]
 Betty Schaffner [Licensed to the Association]

Lay Ministerial Standing (1)

Janice Garinger [Emmanuel, New Berlin]

Ordained Ministers from other Ecumenical Bodies (7) *not counted against quorum* {*Except Dual Standing*}

Paul Gurba [UMC¹ Lay Speaker] [St Peter's, Blue Church, Paxinos] *Karis Hagen [LCMC²] St Paul's, Urban
 Michael Jarrett [United Anglican Church Prov II] [St James, Ridgeville]
 Robin Moulfair [NACM³] [Susquehanna Charge]
 Thomas Moulfair [UMEA⁴] [Susquehanna Charge: St Luke's, Malta & Trinity, Dalmatia]
 Calvin Yoder [DOC⁵] [Canoe Camp, Mansfield] John Yost [ELCA - Retired] Dreisbach

Other UCC serving in Central (1)

Dale Thomas [Licensed, Harrisburg Association, David's (Hebe), Herndon]

Authorized by Ordination and Serving as Chaplains (8)

Marian Anderson [Buffalo Valley Lutheran Village]
 Shannon Borchert BCC⁶ [Geisinger, Danville/Director Spiritual Care]
 Tammy Gessner [Geisinger, Danville & Shamokin/Staff & Richfield UCC] Kurt Nelson [Bucknell University]
 *Ricky Phillips [ELCA⁷] [Mazepa Union & St John's, Dry Valley]; Chaplain @ Wellspan Evangelical Hospice
 Cathy Regush, BCC [Canada 11/2023] Sharon Von Blohn [DCNR⁸ & PA DOC⁹]
 David Zortman BCC

Authorized by Ordination (15)

DiAnn Baxley [First, Middleburg] Jane Compton [Himmel's {Union} Dornsife & Zion, Herndon ELCA]
 Nathan Druckenmiller Jean Eckrod [Salem, Coal Township]
 Jeffrey Hauck [St Peter's, West Milton] Kathleen Kinney [St Paul's, Gowen City]
 Gary Nottis [St John's Lewisburg, Visitation] Dietmar Plajer [St Paul's, Selinsgrove]
 Amelia Price [St Paul's, Verdilla] Alice Rauch [St John's, Lewisburg]
 Douglas Schader [Paradise, Milton & Trinity, Turbotville] Mary Schmotzer [Shiloh, Danville]

¹ UMC=United Methodist Church
² LCMC=Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ
³ NACM=National Association of Christian Ministers
⁴ UMEA=United Missionary Evangelistic Association, Inc
⁵ DOC=Disciples of Christ
⁶ Board Certified Chaplain
⁷ ELCA=Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
* Dual Standing with UCC
⁸ Dept of Conservation and Natural Resources
⁹ PA Depart of Corrections

Donald Snyder [Trinity UCC & Holy Spirit ELCA, Watontown] Bradley Walmer [New Covenant, Wmpt]
Grace Winakor [St Paul's, Selinsgrove; Associate]
Curtis Zemencik [Stone Valley Parish: Salem-Zion, Pillow & Zion, Stone Valley, Dalmatia]

Retired - Active (8)

Sally Dries [Supply] {not currently preaching} Penny Dollar [UMC Visitation, Richmond, VA]
Ruth Laudermilch [Commissioned Penn West, supply] Michael Price [Supply]
Michael Romig RuthMary Shaffer¹⁰ (Supply)
Robert Stoudt [Interim, St John's, Shamokin] Craig Stout (Supply)

Retired - Other (not generally active or supplying) (5)

Jonathan Albright Raymond Brown Ellen Clement¹¹
Joseph Lingenfelter Lee Zortman [Chaplain]

Retired - Exempt (2) *not counted against quorum*

James Johnson Richard Shearer

Member in Discernment (MID): (3: 2 Licensed, 1 LMS *counted in category*)

Jim Cope Janice Garinger Timothy Hogan Palazzo

Other (1)

Boyd Carney¹² Supply @ St John's, McEwensville

Devised: 11-15-22 Edited: 3-22-2022, 1-25-2023, 3-30-2023, 4-11-2023, 11-7-2023, 1-9-2024; 3-6-2024, 6-26-2024 10-13-2024 June 2024 Dec 2024

¹⁰ Ph.D. M.Div. Metropolitan Association, NY Conf., UCC; Member: St Paul's Selinsgrove

¹¹ Functionally Exempt, medical

¹² Authorization N/A Chaplain BOP – Allenwood

~~Rev. Sally Dries (Sunbury, PA)~~

~~Phone: (570) 850-6062 Email: salann@ptd.net *~~

Pastor Ruth Laudermilch (Bloomsburg, PA)

Phone: (570) 784-6244 Email: ruthlaud@outlook.com

Rev. Gary Nottis (Lewisburg, PA) {within 30 miles of Lewisburg}

Phone (570) 523-7137 Email: gnottis@yahoo.com

Rev. Michael Price (Port Trevorton, PA)

Phone: (570) 374-4337 Email: mike@pricesincometax.com

Pastor Betty Schaffner (Dalmatia, PA)

Phone: 570-758-2056 Email: schaffner1@tds.net

Dr. Rev. RuthMary Shaffer (Selinsgrove, PA)

Phone: (917) 295-6099 Email: doctorshaffer@msn.com

Rev. Craig Stout (Danville, PA)

Phone: (409) 658-7136 Email: cstout53@earthlink.net

**: Not currently taking supply requests.*

The HC Spirit Leadership Team would like to express thanks to Central Association for financial and volunteer/ministerial support for HC Spirit camp at Hartman Center from July 27 through August 2, 2025. We had a wonderful season of worshipping God together in the beauty of creation and learning and growing in Christian Community.

In 2025, we had over 120 campers/volunteers/visitors including visitors from Camp Living Waters of the Penn West Conference throughout the week. In 2024, there were over 120 campers/volunteers/visitors with three RV sites rented to campers with Hartman Center connections as well as two campers from Penn West. In 2023, we had approximately 125 campers/volunteers/visitors. For HC Spirit Camp 2022, we had approximately 30 campers throughout the week. In 2021, we had about 45 campers. (Camp of the Heart was not available in 2022).

In 2026 our goal is to reach 140 campers of all ages as we grow in the wilderness as a Keystone Conference. We will provide the opportunity for our churches throughout Keystone Conference and friends of Hartman Center to have an outdoor camping experience at Hartman Center Campground and Retreat Center from July 26 through August 1, 2026. The theme for the week will be In The Wilderness.

Rev. Alice Rauch

WINDS of the Spirit

The WINDS of the Spirit keep moving among us. Sometimes a big breeze - sometimes a light gust - sometimes even in the seeming stillness. As most of you are aware, the WINDS group is a loosely formed group that has worked alongside of the Executive Committee to help with some mission events and other ministries as these events are suggested and the Spirit calls us forward as an Association. WINDS was not formed to be another long-term committee, but rather to encourage and facilitate activities for and with the Central Association. Our hope is that others will feel inspired to suggest different activities and perhaps work alongside of the Executive Committee to plan and implement those activities.

Here are some ministries things that happened in the last year:

- 1) Gathering items and assembling them for Mission Central Activity Kits.
- 2) We had a very small group travel to Mission Central in Mechanicsburg to deliver those kits. (Thanks to the brave travelers who took them there on a very snowy and windy day)
- 3) United in Song Music Festival was again hosted by First Reformed UCC, Sunbury as far as location, but they were joined in leadership by New Covenant, Williamsport. We appreciate Theo Lentz's musical leadership alongside of Verlaine Shaw. The event was enjoyed by musical participants as well as listeners and worshipers. An offering of \$500.00 was sent to Church World Service. There is another festival planned for Early Spring 2026. Details will be available soon. More details coming soon.

Blessings as we see where the WINDS of the Spirit take us in the year ahead.

Rev. Alice Rauch

Officers

Larry Snook (Lay) Co-President	2025 - 2026 (Extended Term) **Candidate**
Jeff Hauck (A. Min) Co-President	2025 - 2026 (Extended Term) **Candidate**
Amelia Price (A. Min) Secretary/Treasurer	2025 - 2027 Standing Position (voted on every 2 years)

Executive Committee (elected at large) 3-year term

Jean Eckrod (A. Min)	Class of 2026	(1 st Term)
Scott Sanders (Lay)	Class of 2026	(1 st Term)
Linda Williams (Lay)	Class of 2027	(2 nd Term)
Open (A. Min)	Class of 2027	
Deitmar Plajer (A. Min)	Class of 2028	(2 nd Term) **Candidate for 2 nd term**
David Ginrich (Lay)	Class of 2028	(1 st Term) **Candidate**

Committee on Ministry (3-year term)

Mary Schmotzer (A. Min)	Class of 2026	(2 nd Term)
Barbara Lewis (Lay)	Class of 2026	(2 nd Term)
Robin Latsha (Lay)	Class of 2026	(1 st Term)
Tammy Kratzer (Lay)	Class of 2027	(1 st Term)
Tammy Gessner (A. Min)	Class of 2027	(1 st Term)
Open (A. Min)	Class of 2027	
RuthMary Shaffer (A. Min)	Class of 2028	(1 st Term) **Candidate**
Sue Simpson (Lay)	Class of 2028	(1 st Term) **Candidate**
Open (Lay)	Class of 2028	

Many Thanks & Blessings to those finishing their terms in Jan 2026:

David Beckley Jean Bahner Rev. Curtis Zemencik Dan Martin

Keystone Board (and Legacy PCC Board)

DiAnn Baxley (VP)

General Synod Delegates & Alternates

General Synod Delegates & Alternates will be voted on in 2027 for the Tri-Annual General Synod in 2028

Keystone Commissions

Commission on Ministry not yet determined under Keystone
 Commission on Nominations not yet determined under Keystone
 Outdoor Ministries Commission (Alice Rauch, Facilitator)

Notes:

Until 2025, the General Synod schedule had been a 2-year rotation.
 At GS 2023 it was approved to go to a 3-year rotation.
 Due to the realities that schedule raises, the Executive Committee is examining how to best move forward as it applies to terms, seeking, and voting on General Synod Delegates and Alternates.
 Due to the changes that the Keystone Conference brings, the Nominations and Program Committees are under review as to how best to move forward in our new reality.

Rev. Amelia Price

Greetings from the Devitt House. Devitt House has had another successful year. There are 36 units that house low-income senior adults and disabled individuals, and it continues to flourish.

Residents enjoy many activities including bingo, movies, and bible studies. The holidays were celebrated with meals together, as well as with gifts donated by Dreisbach UCC. In addition, gifts cards were provided by the Board of Trustees and Devitt funds.

There were new lights placed in the parking lot as well as solar lights added to the sidewalk. The entire building was cleaned inside and out and the common area went through some upgrades as well.

It was again a year of welcome and farewell, as we saw several board members complete their terms. I would like to send a heartfelt thank you to all who have completed their terms including Rev Joe Lingenfelter, Rev Mike Romig (secretary), Dea Shader (Vice chairperson), Rev Doug Shader (Chairperson), and Audrey Bingamean (Treasurer). We were truly blessed by their commitment and dedication to the Devitt House.

Miriam Dippery Austin (Manager) submitted her resignation in July. Her dedication and expertise in managing the facility will be missed. We wish her the best in her new position.

To the Central Association and area congregations, thank you for the support, prayers, and donations that are provided to the Devitt House. The blessing of your generosity is greatly appreciated.

The Board of Trustees meets quarterly. Each member holds a three (3) year term and provide Devitt House with additional support. Members of the Board of Trustees are as follows: Pastor Jeff Hauck (Chairperson), Pastor Ricky Phillips (Vice Chairperson), Mary Schnure (Secretary), Ben Arnold (Treasurer), Larry Snook, and Randy Wadsworth (Phoebe Ministries).

In September we welcomed a new manager to Devitt House. Kellie Palco was hired to manage the facility, and we are looking forward to working with her in the future.

Submitted for the Board of Trustees

By: Pastor Jeffrey Hauck

This has been a good year for the Lending Library. We have had many resources and books borrowed. We have purchased and added current publications, many from our United Church of Christ Pilgrim Press.

New DVD Video Studies for Lent:

1. **The Final Days, A Lenten Journey through the Gospels;** *by; Matt Rawle* Abingdon Press
2. **EVERYWHERE IS Jerusalem,** Experiencing the Holy Then *and Now:* *by; James C. Howell*
Abingdon 2024

New Children or Sunday Resource

- **DELICIOUS BIBLE STORIES** No-Cook Recipes That Teach: *by; Daphna Flegal & LeeDell Stickler*
- **Bake through the Bible at Christmas;** *12 fun cooking activities to explore the Christmas story with young children:* *by; Susie Bentley-Taylor & Beka Moore* thegoodbook Co. 2022
- **Bible Storybook Activity Bulletin Book,** Reproducible for ages 4- 7 [DEEP BLUE]
Abingdon 2017
- **Upper Room BIBLE STORIES and Fascinating Facts:** *by; Stephanie Jeffs & Derek Williams*
/illustrated by Tony Morris and Chris Saunderson. (A Bible for the whole year with 365 stories, Bible facts and background features.

Religion/Leadership

- **BECOMING A PASTOR, FORMING SELF AND SOUL FOR MINISTRY;** *by; Jaco J. Hamman (Revised & Updated)* Pilgrim Press Cleveland 2 Ed. 2014

SOCIAL JUSTICE/CHRISTIANITY

- **BUILDING UP A NEW WORLD,** Congregational Organizing for Transformative Impact: Edited by; Anne Dunlap and Vahisha Hasan *The Pilgrim Press 2023*

Christian Worship:

- **Do This; COMMUNION FOR JUST AND COURAGEOUS LIVING:** *Edited By Mary Luti;*
Pilgrim Press 2023

Pop Culture/Religion:

- **100 SPIRITUAL MOVIES TO SEE BEFORE YOU DIE:** *By John A. Zukowski ;*
Pilgrim Press 2023

Stewardship devotional:

- **THE BIG SECRET IN GIVING/ Hidden Treasures in Life and Church:** *by William C. Green*
Still Speaking Writers United Church Press
(preview copy on shelf. Is available from UCC as a downloadable devotional)

These resources will be available at St.John's UCC, in Lewisburg, PA 570 523-0162

Respectfully submitted: Pastor Ruth Laudermilch,
Director of Lending Library

I want to echo the same thanks and gratitude represented in each of the reports in this Annual Report. Many people have contributed to making 2024 a good year. It takes all of us. Thank you!

As we enter into the new reality of Keystone, as we welcome a new Church into our Association, there is hope. As we strive to be God's people in these days, that hope is a lifeline and as important to us as the air we breathe. As we have been reminded over and over again throughout this Keystone process, "Together we are Stronger."

In reality that means many things: contributing ideas and energy as we plan for events, activities, and outreach, all with the goal of being God's people within this organization we call Central Association. And in the world Central Association exists in and ministers to. It means contributing financially to the work of this Association. As represented in the Treasurer's Reports, we have reached out to support MID's, CWS, Haven Ministries, Campers, and others with the dollars given by Central Association. We have done God's work in so many ways through the money we give.

Not to mention gifts and support for our Authorized Ministers, and Churches, the life-blood of the United Church of Christ. Everything begins in the Local Church.

Times are different. Times are not the same as when I began these roles, some back to 2017. But what is the same is the God we serve. Who has called each of us to be God's hands and feet in this world, now. Not as we would have it. But as it is. In another setting I heard the phrase, "gift and call go together." That means where there is a need or work to do, there is a gift to meet it. That gift is a person or group, called and equipped to meet that particular and singular need. That applies to all of us: Lay, Authorized, and individual Churches. Called and set apart to do the work of God in these days.

As we enter 2026. There is excitement, and uncertainty. The excitement of a new Conference and a new reality. New hope and new opportunity. Uncertainty as to what that will look like, how it will work, and how things will be different. And they will be different. But what will not be different is that call and that gift. What is not different is the God who created us and leads us, who comforts us, challenges us, and blesses us as we take timid, hesitant steps, or giant leap-frog jumps into each new day and each new hour of our lives together. As we bring God's Love and Care to our Central Association and into God's world.

God Bless us, every one!

Rev. Amelia Price

