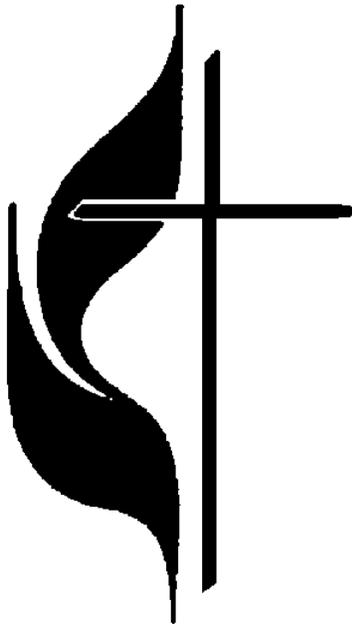


Langhorne United Methodist Church

“A Fellowship of Believers Reaching Out That All Might Know Christ as Lord.”

2014 CHARGE CONFERENCE REPORT



Rev. Peggy Johnson, Bishop
Rev. Tracy Bass, District Superintendent
Rev. John W. Lutz, Pastor

PASTOR'S STATE OF THE CHURCH 2014

2014 thus far shows LUMC continuing to stand firm in the face of challenges shared with many other congregations and those specifically its own. Reports will show that meal ministry and feeding the homeless stayed steady and even grew with those being helped as well as those who helped. There seemed an endless list of projects being taken care of and checked off by servants who made themselves available to do the work. The church continued to receive visitors who return and then desire to become new members!

We still feel the financial burden of the roof loan challenging us. Yet despite that and even when hearing disheartening numbers in church attendance, giving, classes, youth in worship, or other categories, the response of LUMC is not one of despair. It is rather to see a new challenge and seek a new way.

I see a key element in finding a new way is not to just identify or face the challenges but also to overcome them by recovering a fresh sense and understanding of commitment as individual and congregation, to the Church. The vows of membership taken when we joined the church call us to be here on all levels: prayerfully, financially, spiritually, and physically. There are so many things that vie for our attention and draw our eyes away, or whisper in our ears that it is okay to not take those vows seriously. To not be so committed. In essence, it is okay to be un-faithful. As adults, we are role models to younger members around us. Lest we forget, we as the Church also took vows of commitment whenever we celebrated a baptism or received a new member or a confirmand into the church. We, the Church committed ourselves to being there in providing the ways and means for others to grow in their spiritual journey and relationship with Jesus. How can that happen unless we find new ways to overcome the obstacles that could and would drag any of us away. And if we find that we have fallen lax in anyways how can we get back on the right track where God would have us be unless we re-new our commitments to Christ and the Church? How can the new way be found unless we “not forsake assembling together”.

The numbers reported reveal several things about the last year that can be summed up in the word “transition”. Changes always have some impact on us in some way. Some more so on some people and some on others. Changes in times of services, worship, in the world around us, the economy we live in, the people we live and work with, the dynamics between those who lead and those who sit in the pews. It would be easy to get lost in the waves of changes and to feel un-noticed, un-appreciated or even un-important. But we have an un-changing God. His love and desire remains steadfast for His people and it is backed up with the purpose for the Church’s ministry and mission in the world.

There are wonderful opportunities to serve alongside wonderful people in carrying out the ministries and mission work of this church. With a renewed sense of commitment more servants will be blessed to bless and the joys as well as the responsibilities of being the Church, the living Body of Christ! We can be open to the transitions/changes and seek God to bring about His change for us, but it will require the challenge of commitment or re-commitment to our vows of membership to the Church, to Christ, to God.

Humbly yours,

Rev. John W. Lutz
Senior Pastor, Langhorne United Methodist Church

Membership Summary Report to 2014 Charge Conference

Membership,	
As of 9/08/13	577
As of 11/08/14	325
Additions:	9
New Members:	
Profession of Faith:	7
United Methodist Transfer:.....	2
Removals:.....	252
Transfer:	3
Deaths:.....	8
Withdrawal:	4
Removed by Charge Conference Action (2013)	24
Baptisms:	19
Member:	6
Non-Member:.....	13
Marriages:	9
Member:	6
Non-Member:.....	3

NOTE: The following inactive members have been contacted or sent a letter requesting their intentions concerning LUMC membership as charged by the Book of Discipline. Those listed below did not respond:

LUMC members who have been inactive for at least ONE YEAR: (NR=Non-Resident)

Cindy Agoncillo	Lori Hardy	Jean O'Donnell
Jan Andelfinger	Micah & Tiffany Heitz	Tom & Rebecca Rice
Robert & Lori Arner	Nanthaniel & Jessica Heitz	Sandra Bumm
Charlotte Brady	Mark & Stacey Henry	Jody Sleepy
Sandy Hollenbaugh	Sue & Louie Schembri	Scott & Jane Stewart
Mary Ann Busby	Joe & Janine Kerns	Mark Davidson
Ed & Judy Conwell	Kim & Charlie Kebert	Albert & Joanne Tomlinson
Kimberly Diamond	Paul & Elizabeth Kurtz	Donna Tomlinson
Robert Downs, Jr.	Ruth Levine	Cindy Transue
John Evans	Charles & Ann Light	Kevin & Amy Transue
Caren & Richard Gentile	Gayle Meires	Meghan & David Westbrook
Walter & Donna Haerberle	Nancy & Jerry Mignogna	Mark & Krystle Tingle
Eric & Katie Hansen	Gwen Miller	

LUMC members who have been inactive for at least TWO YEARS:

These members have been contacted as charged by the Book of Discipline. **The members listed below will be voted upon to be removed from LUMC membership at the 2015 Charge Conference:**

Paul Bracegirdle	Frank Farry	Jolene Lloyd
John Brodie	Sandra Farry	Jeff & Dawn Mull
Dave & Linda Chorba	James & Heather Gannon	Greg & Jenn Rickards
Kris Deering	Chris & Sylvia Heitz	Dorothy & Donna Turner
(NR) David & Donna Emmons	Doug & Patty James	

WORSHIP REPORT TO 2014 CHARGE CONFERENCE

Contemporary Worship Submitted by Anthony Vigile

2014 has been a year of many changes for the band and I am extremely pleased with the direction that we are moving in. Along with Ben Ketterer on bass guitar, vocalists Stacey Dixon and Mike Raab we have added a new guitarist Wayne Eik, 2 new keyboard players Sean O'Neill and Pastor John. Rich Cook is our "anchor" on the drums along with yet another new vocalist Greta Carlton. Jeff Rowlands has been doing a great job of playing bass when Ben is out and even Wayne can jump in at moment's notice when Jeff is not available. We have been practicing throughout the summer, working on new arrangements of some of our favorite songs and learning brand new music as well. I have to say that the band has never sounded better!

Aside from the new and improved band, we have been striving to create a more worshipful experience for the congregation and I believe we are truly seeing a movement of the Holy Spirit in our service. Our charge as a praise band is John 5: 24 "Worship in spirit and truth" and as brothers and sisters in Christ we take our mission seriously.

Recently I started my fifth year as your worship leader and I am more excited and optimistic about the future of LUMC than ever before. With God's grace and your prayers we can be the Church that the Lord has intended.

I want to thank Pastor John for his support, his prayers and his encouragement. Thanks to Sean, Stacey, Mike, Wayne, Ben, Jeff, Rich and Greta. You are a great band and you are making a difference!

I would be remiss if I did not take this opportunity to call upon the leadership of the church to pray for us, support us and encourage their friends and neighbors to come out and check out the contemporary service. Let's grow together in Him!

In His Service,

Anthony Vigile

MINISTER OF CONGREGATIONAL CARE (CCM) REPORT TO 2014 CHARGE CONFERENCE Caring Ministries Report to Charge Conference

Serving HIM by serving one another thru
Compassionate CARE, Unceasing PRAYER, and Burden BEARing
Bill Bryan, Minister of Congregational Care

The Caring Ministries can also be referred to as the Gospel In Action. Following Christ's directives and Pastor John's weekly encouragement to "Go Forth and BE the Church," Langhorne United Methodist Church recognizes that the needs of a congregation are many and that the Pastor John cannot physically be the sole provider. Members of LUMC are part of a family and a family cares for the spiritual, emotional and physical needs of each other and of the community in which it lives.

It has been our mission to equip one another and to use our God-given talents in service to help those in need. This ministry seeks to assist with all needs birthed from life's circumstances and ordeals. All members of the congregation are encouraged to participate in this life-impacting ministry of our church. These ministries are accomplished by God's calling upon the hearts of those members of the congregation and by their positive response to that calling.

"Therefore I, a prisoner for serving the Lord, beg you to lead a life worthy of your calling, for you have been called by God." Ephesians 4:1 NLT

The Caring Ministries exist to glorify God by building a sense of church community through the reaching out and ministering to the special needs of our church and community members. These needs could be physical, emotional, spiritual or some combination thereof. The Caring Ministries promote the growth of spiritually healthy individuals, couples and families through providing leadership, pastoral care, counseling, and outreach. More and more I find myself involved in church and community networking opportunities that serve to supply us with an arsenal of resources and referral connections.

As Coordinator of the Caring Ministries of our church, I often operate "behind the scenes" by providing support, training, encouragement, hands-on help and prayer for those individuals and/or groups who have answered their calling to God's ministry of consolation through their personal care and compassion for the family of God. Some ministries I have direct involvement and/or responsibility others I provide the assistance needed.

I involve myself in a broad spectrum of networking both within the church and outside. Some of these connections include the Northeast Jurisdiction, Eastern Pennsylvania Conference, East District, other UMC connections plus many other non-denominational Christ-centered ministries. For the past couple years I have been involved in the Direct Services Coalition (DSC) initially as a source of social welfare resources and connections but now also as an outreach opportunity.

Many of these resource connections are of direct benefit to congregational members who find themselves in need. Also, other pastors and church members refer people and their situations to us for prayer and assistance.

During the year ahead the Caring Ministry will be working on a Community Education project in conjunction with NOVA. NOVA offers a wide variety of prevention and safety programs that explore the causes and dynamics of violence, as well as the strategies to prevent victimization. Plans are already underway to provide a community presentation/training opportunity entitled: **Crimes Against Older Adults: Elder Abuse, Identity Theft & Elder Sexual Assault.**

The Caring Ministries continually looks for practical and meaningful ways to serve the congregation and community—if you have a calling to serve or ideas to share where we could improve our effectiveness, I would love to sit down with you and explore them together!

Administrative Board Report to Charge Conference 2014

Paul Hansen, Chairman

The Administrative Board is a committee that brings together all the groups, individual, and committees that make up our whole Church family. We have many people working and sharing their gifts and talents to be the Church and fulfill our mission statement. **“A Fellowship of Believers Reaching Out That All Might Know Christ As Lord.”**

The Administrative Board has final say on most of the decisions that other committee’s make, because of this it plays a vital role in the life of the church.

Our attendance has been dropping off this year from the past years. To help make the meeting more productive and convenient for all members we have started in June 2014 to only meet on even months of the year. If needed we can and will hold additional meetings.

I would like to thank Erika Paton our secretary who puts together all our reports and ideas. She does a great job giving us minutes to keep our records complete and clear.

I would close by asking members and people who would like to serve the church to come out and join us in serving our Lord Jesus Christ and his church.

Education Report to Charge Conference

Vacation Bible School Submitted by Debbie Letham

Weird Animals!! God filled the world with a lot of crazy creatures! When kids feel weird, different, or even lost in a crowd — nothing compares to the extraordinary love of Jesus!

What a BLESSING that we had nearly 120 children from aged 3 to grade 7 participate in our 2014 VBS program this past July! And what a tremendous BLESSING to have OVER 75 VOLUNTEERS each day! The volunteers had as good a time as the children, and ALL were touched by the LOVE of GOD!

We shared time together each day for one week (9AM-Noon), learning that "Jesus' Love is One-of-a-Kind!" At VBS, kids experience God's Word in surprising and unforgettable ways. Each day, leaders reinforce one simple Bible truth—which makes it easy for kids to remember and apply to real life! Axl, Fern and our other "Bible Buddies" taught us how to use the Bible Lessons in our everyday lives. The daily bible points included: "Even when you're left out...Jesus loves you!", "Even though you're different...Jesus loves you!", : "Even when you don't understand...Jesus loves you!" : "Even when you do wrong...Jesus loves you!", : "Even when your afraid...Jesus loves you!".

Each bible point related to the daily bible story including: Jesus heals the lepers. (Luke 17:11-19), Jesus reaches out to a Samaritan woman. (John 4:1-30), Jesus washes the disciples' feet. (John 13:1-17), Jesus dies and comes back to life. (Luke 22:47-24:12), Ananias bravely helps Saul. (Acts 9:1-19).

The excited children/crew members/station leaders/everyone traveled from activity to activity and heard stories, ate snacks, sang songs, watched plays, did crafts, played games and much more —all tied in together to demonstrate each of the five daily Bible verses and stories of Jesus. These verses included: "I am with you always, even to the end of the age." (Matthew 28:20),"For we are God's masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus." (Ephesians 2:10), "Do to others as you would like them to do to you." (Luke 6:31), "God...loved us and sent his Son as a sacrifice to take away our sins." (1 John 4:10), "Don't be afraid...Take courage. I am here!" (Matthew 14:27).

Planning for this summer event started in the previous year; with discussions of decorations, station leaders, and supplies...Our church family graciously donated food, craft supplies, gift cards – and much, much more – in addition to their talents. Our volunteers gave up a week of their summer vacations to make VBS come to life. The Steeple Kids Pre-School area was utilized extensively (thanks to their summer vacation). The LUMC Youth group was key to clean up and participated in daily volunteer efforts. And the whole church was transformed into different animal habitats: a rainforest jungle in the sanctuary, an "under the sea" fellowship hall, the cold north complete with a 450+ milk jug igloo! Expenses for items not donated were mostly covered by the \$25 fee per family – and the sales of T-shirts and the donations offered during the Thursday night show. The whole week served not only as a chance for the children to learn about the LOVE of GOD – but for them to share this love with their families... Each year at the Thursday night show, one can see over 200 people, many of whom are not your routine Sunday church goers... This is a blessed yearly opportunity to reach out – to a WIDE audience who can truly benefit to hear how GOD is alive and interested in their lives.

With great gratitude, we thank all the wonderful volunteers who helped LUMC during 2014 with VBS "Be the Church". In July 2015, we look forward to "EVEREST" Conquering Challenges with God's Mighty Power.

Youth Report to Charge Conference 2014

2014 was a great year for the youth. We started out going to the Annual Youth Rally in Ocean City, MD. The youth and adult chaperones were treated to excellent speakers, uplifting music and a weekend of fellowship with about 4,000 other youth from the area. In May, the youth delivered two amazing skits/sermons on Youth Sunday. The kids really worked hard on their parts and all were involved in some way during the service. During that same weekend, we did the 30 Hour Famine for World Vision. We raised over \$1800.00 for world hunger.

As we do every year, the youth participated in VBS doing various duties including station leaders, crew leaders and general all-purpose helpers. We also went on various Mission Projects in the afternoons of VBS. Some of our projects included making stuffed animals for the patients at Abington Hospital, worked on the Habitat at a local elementary school, held a car wash to benefit Pediatric Cancer research, painted the youth shed and cleaned the youth room and the choir loft.

Over the next two months, we will have a few more service projects including making meatloaves for Shared Meal Ministry, serve at the Shared Meal Ministry and participate in the Living Nativity, as well as getting ready to go to The Youth Rally in Ocean City, MD.

We are very busy as a group but we also are learning more about being better Christians through our weekly meetings and our service projects. We have had several other youth from other churches coming out to our meetings as well. The youth group continues to grow in not only numbers but spiritually as well.

Submitted by Peter Curtin
Director of Youth Ministries

MINISTER OF CONGREGATIONAL CARE REPORT TO 2014 CHARGE CONFERENCE

Bill Bryan, Minister of Congregational Care

The Caring Ministries continues to provide opportunities for church members to put their faith into action, which results in a blessing to them and to those they serve.

Listed here is the current organizational structure and Caring Ministers area of responsibility:

Hospitality Meal Ministries

Kitchen Guardian: Lyn Wallace

Fellowship & Refreshment: Kathy DiGregorio

Hot Meals: – No Activity in 2014

Meals on Hand: Lyn Wallace – Final Year 2014

Martha & Mary Funeral Hospitality: Lyn Wallace & Carol Nielsen – Final Year 2014

Shared Meal Ministry: Lyn Wallace & Rose Norman

Women Alongside: – Final Year 2014

Personal Touch Ministries

Homebound Visitation Ministry: Bonnie Peiffer, Bev & Tim Eick

Lay Communion Ministry: Mark Letham, CSM

Member and Congregational Cards: Bev Eick

Service of Word and Table Ministry: Bill Bryan, Mark Letham CSM

Prison and Restorative Justice Ministry: Bill Bryan

Individual, Marriage, Family and Group Counseling: Bill Bryan

Prayer Ministries

Men's Prayer Breakfast: Bill Bryan, Mark Letham, David Tyler, Fred Woerner

Electronic Prayer Chain: Bill Bryan

Phone Prayer Chain: Mark Letham

Prayer Walks: Mark Letham – No Activity in 2014

Prayer Hedge: Larry Danas – No Activity in 2014

LORD of the Impossible: Bill Bryan – No Activity in 2014

Small Group Ministries (not including LBE/UMM, UMW or Sunday School)

Men's Breakfast Club: Bill Bryan, Mark Letham

Senior Lunch & Aid for Friends: Lyn Wallace

Women Alongside: Holly Rogerson – No Activity in 2014

Hospitality Meal Ministries

Kitchen Guardians..... submitted by Lyn Wallace

It is the goal of the kitchen committee to provide a respite and friendly atmosphere for congregants to relax and share with one another, and the Kitchen is kept stocked with staples that provide refreshment and encourage Christian fellowship for many activities and events of the church. In the past, these supplies were purchased through church funds.

As a result of our poor financial status at the close of 2009 we volunteered to cut most of the funds for the supplies for the kitchen and we asked the congregation to bring in donations. Throughout 2011 and 2012, and 2013, most of our staples, coffee, tea, sugar, iced tea mix, lemonade mix, and paper goods have been supplied through the donations of members of the congregation. The financial position of the church has not improved, and in January, 2014, our budget was completely eliminated. We are now an all-volunteer kitchen. Throughout the year, announcements are placed in the bulletin asking for specific items, such as iced tea, cups, plates, etc. In doing so, we are able to maintain our supplies for Fellowship and Refreshment on a weekly basis.

Another great help has been the donations of Day Old Bakery items from Giant Food Store. In the beginning of August, 2012 we were given our own pick-up day (Wednesday) at the Flowers Mill store, less than a mile from the church. These donations have been a wonderful blessing, supplying baked goods for Fellowship and Refreshment, The Shared Meal, Senior Lunch, Aid for Friends and the Wednesday Night dinner.

Fellowship & Refreshment submitted by Kathy DiGregorio

Fellowship and Refreshment continues to flourish at LUMC. The donations received from Giant Food Store provide most of the snacks. Once again we were able to extend F&R through the summer months. Our church family seems to really enjoy this informal time of fellowship.

Hot Meals Delivered Ministry submitted by Bill Bryan

The Meals Ministry of Langhorne United Methodist Church exist to provide meals to people in need or crisis; to be a blessing to families who are welcoming a new child into their home; to be a comfort in time of loss and grief; to be a community outreach to the homeless and hungry; and to provide a tangible opportunity for church members to express their love and care for our church body and local community.

There was no activity though this ministry this year.

Meals on Hand Ministry

This ministry was discontinued this year as it was no longer being supported.

Martha & Mary Hospitality Ministry submitted by Lyn Wallace

As Martha and Mary opened their home and offered hospitality and spiritual support; Martha and Mary is an outreach ministry to support families in their own time of grief and loss. We will provide receptions for the bereaved families and their guests on the day of the funeral in the Fellowship Hall of Langhorne United Methodist Church. Members of the congregation donate their time in the preparation of food, set up of Fellowship Hall, and preparing baked goods for desserts. Proceeds are given to the General Fund of LUMC.

Families have a choice of a reception including “finger-foods” and desserts, a luncheon which consists of two soups, sandwiches, salads and desserts or a combination of the two.

We have stopped advertising this ministry with the idea of phasing it out. This ministry is labor intensive, and by its nature, an unplanned or “on call” type ministry. This ministry was discontinued as an outreach ministry this year as it was no longer being supported.

Shared Meal Ministry Submitted by Bill Bryan

This year marks our **fifth** successful year in this ministry. Lyn Wallace and Rose Norman do an outstanding job as they spearhead a team of faithful volunteers who pull together the actual meal preparation and kitchen management. The Shared Meal Ministry is a meal ministry of LUMC which is networked along with other churches in the community to provide an organized and functional approach primarily to providing hot meals to those who are homeless and/or in need. This meal is truly a work of love on the part of our entire congregation. We serve the same exceptional meal every month: meatloaf, mashed potatoes, gravy, green beans, bread and dessert. The meal is provided by our congregation, some making meatloaves at home, others donating potatoes or beans, gravy mix, butter, milk, etc. Some desserts are made and donated by the Family Living classes of Neshaminy High School, and other deserts and bread are received from our local Giant food store.

History: After our failed attempt in 2009, in January of 2010 we became the 4th church to connect and offer free meals to a hurting community. A significant factor contributing to the success of the Shared Meal Ministry has been the foundational networking done by Advocates for Homeless & Those in Need (AHTN) among the homeless in our community and the volunteers who provide rides to the meals. We now stand as a **network of 22 churches and 1 mosque** in the community supported by another ministry called Wheels to Meals. As one of the founding churches, we have provided other churches with the opportunity to come see how we do it and from there they’ve also joined the network. Decisions concerning whom to invite beyond the homeless is left to each church’s discretion. Currently LUMC serves 90-110 meals on average monthly.

We have seen many folks come through our doors in expectation of a meal to nourish their physical body. They have not been disappointed ... but they received more than just a meal, they look forward to some great fellowship and conversation as well. Caring Ministers not only prepare and serve the meal, but we also enjoy eating together with our guests as an expression of community – a foretaste of that heavenly banquet if you would. Our presence and interaction at the meal table provides opportunities for our community to bond, plan, connect, and learn from one another. It’s a chance to share information, the news of the day, and even our favorite sports teams. Shared community meals foster warmth, security and love, as well as feelings of belonging. It is a unifying experience for all.

This ministry continues to be blessed as we remain faithful and obedient to God’s Word: “For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, ...” (Matthew 25:35) The faithful support of our congregation in providing the “best meatloaf in the county” along with the side dishes and other supplies necessary is unrivaled!

Personal Touch Ministries

Homebound Visitation Ministry Submitted by Bev Eick & Tim Eick

No Report

Lay Communion Ministry Submitted by Mark Letham

The UMC official statement on communion, This Holy Mystery: A United Methodist Understanding of Holy Communion, explains, "The Communion elements are consecrated and consumed in the context of the gathered congregation. The Table may be extended, in a timely manner, to include those unable to attend because of age, illness, or similar conditions. Laypeople may distribute the consecrated elements in the congregation and extend them to members who are unavoidably absent.... An elder or deacon should offer appropriate training, preparation, and supervision for this important task."

The vision and mission of the Lay Communion Ministry is: The Lay Communion Ministry will provide Communion to all homebound members of LUMC on a regular basis typically after LUMC has Communion. This ministry will also spend time with our homebound members to strengthen the relationship between LUMC and the member, and to encourage one another as described in Scripture (Hebrews 4, 10) The Lay Communion Ministry will be commissioned by LUMC to provide Communion for our homebound members, to visit the homebound members and encourage one another as described in Scripture (Hebrews 4, 10). These ministers show care in the Body of Christ, presence, healing and hope.

The members of LUMC will be recognizing you as a minister of the church and commissioning you to go forth and be the church. We are extending the communion table for our homebound members each quarter by this recognition.

Responsibilities of a Lay Communion Visitor:

1) Helping Pastor John during the monthly communion services (8:00, 9:00 and 11:00 am) at LUMC. This will allow the members of the body to be aware of the ministry on an on going basis, show that we are extending the communion table to our homebound members and commission those involved with ministry.

2) I will have the elements ready for each visit and I would like at least one other person to help out. We would go every three months, to start. Eventually we would go every month (right after LUMC has monthly communion).

3) This is not just to serve communion. We would take time to visit each member so an appointment would be scheduled. Plan for two to three visits per day.

4) We would start on the Tuesday after Communion Sunday and work through the list until finished. Visitations would be scheduled for Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday of each week and most likely between 9:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.

5) You will have a part in the liturgy as well. The communion services served at the local nursing homes have scripture passages and devotion. We would probably use that liturgy but not use the devotion just the scripture passages.

6) There would be a summary of the visit to be passed on to Pastor John/Bill Bryan/Visitation Committee for follow up as necessary. Mark Letham will handle that for the most part but your input would be welcomed.

LUMC maintains a list of shut-in members that may not be able to get to services on Sunday. We are encouraging church members to get involved or find out more about the complimentary ministries – Homebound Visitation and Homebound Communion. You need not administer Holy Communion to

participate in the Visitation Ministry.

The Homebound Communion Ministry was to be carried out by Jayne Stewart, CSM, and Bill Bryan. This ministry seeks to insure that all homebound members have the opportunity of receiving communion at least one time each month. Jayne began employment at St. Mary's this past year and plans to launch this umbrella type ministry got set aside temporarily.

The Homebound Visitation Ministry seeks to insure that a homebound member's relationship with the congregation is maintained through personal contact. These adults would benefit from some good conversation, and an extra benefit to you, the caring minister, is that you get to hear some great stories, many that may be about the past years of LUMC! Some of the caring ministers involved in this ministry have received training and are comfortable sharing communion with those they visit. The idea of this ministry is to follow-up with our shut-in members to guarantee that they have had contact with the church and an opportunity to receive Holy Communion.

Member and Congregational Card Ministry Submitted by Bev Eick

No Report

Service of Word and Table Ministry Submitted by Bill Bryan

Do This In Remembrance of Me. The Caring Ministry of Langhorne United Methodist has a noteworthy *remembrance* ministry. The Visitation Team over the past year has trained and encouraged a number of Caring Ministers to serve communion to those whom they visit.

Since becoming Minister of Congregational Care, I have had the annual privilege of leading a Maundy Thursday Communion Service at the Attleboro Retirement Village.

On a monthly basis Pastor John, CSM Mark Letham, Caring Ministers Bonnie Peiffer, Ken MacAllister, Mike Hanley and Donna Graf, and I bring the Service of Word and Table to The Brunswick at Attleboro. The Brunswick at Attleboro provides for health and quality of life with life assistance services that span a broad spectrum. Each month we have the privilege of extending the Lord's Table from our church to The Brunswick in the form of two services. One service is held on the second floor for those residents who are mobile and self-sufficient; simultaneously a second service is provided on the first floor for those residents who require a higher level of assistance. Many of these residents experience some form of dementia or memory loss. These residents can often provide for an "interesting" time together – sometimes challenging other times cheerful, always a blessing.

Also, we provide another Service of Word and Table Service held every first and fifth Sunday per month at Langhorne Gardens Rehabilitation & Nursing Home (and on an "on call" basis in the event another minister cancels their scheduled Sunday service).

Prison Ministry and Restorative Justice Submitted by Bill Bryan

Bill attended two significant conferences this year. First a forum in Reading PA entitled *Equal Protection for Return from Incarceration* sponsored by Justice and Mercy Inc. (www.justicemercy.org) and New Person Ministries (www.newpersonministries.org). The second conference was at the Philadelphia Convention Center and was entitled, ***Beyond the Walls: Prison Health Care & Reentry Summit.***

The **Keynote Speaker** was **Michelle Alexander**, *The New York Times* Best-Selling Author of *The New Jim Crow: Mass Incarceration in the Age of Colorblindness*. Her book challenges the conventional wisdom that with the election of Barack Obama as president, our nation has "triumphed over race." Jim Crow laws were wiped off the books decades ago, but today an astounding percentage of the African American community is warehoused in prisons or trapped in a permanent, second-class status, much like their grandparents before them who lived under an explicit system of racial control. Alexander argues that the sudden and

dramatic mass incarceration of African American men, primarily through the War on Drugs, has created a new racial under caste – a group of people defined largely by race that is subject to legalized discrimination, scorn, and social exclusion...

At the Summit I attended panels and workshops, and explored health and reentry challenges facing persons who are incarcerated and persons reentering our communities, including HIV, mental health issues, substance use, housing, employment, advocacy, mentorship and educational programs.

As LUMC's Safe Sanctuary coordinator and Prison Ministry coordinator, I have continued to stay in contact with the folks from Reading PA particularly as it relates to Church and Community providing for the safe re-entry of ex-offenders into society and our churches.

There are two very distinct movements afoot today in American churches concerning "church safety." The two may be mutually exclusive. For the sake of former sex offenders returning to the community, some effort should be made to understand the two approaches and to understand the positives and negatives of each movement for A) church liabilities, B) congregational safety, and C) individual self-worth. Perhaps, some effort should be made to integrate the two into a third approach. The two movements are the "safe church" movement and the "Healing Communities/Sanctuary of Hope" movement

I have continued my role as the United Methodist Men (UMM) prison ministry coordinator for the Eastern Pennsylvania Conference. I also was confirmed again at the 2014 Annual Conference as a founding member of the EPC Prison Ministries and Restorative Justice Committee.

Some of the men of LBE – Leading By Example (LUMC's Men's Ministry/UMM) involve themselves in a) support of inmate ministries behind the bars and b) advocacy for inmates/ex-inmates concerns and c) missional involvement through Missions and Sunday school. Currently there are inmates in PA and in FL who are engaged in ministry behind the bars through Bible studies, prayers groups and worship services. LBE provides encouragement, as well as, the some of the spiritual resources and tools they need to help them become effective ministers of the Word. Future LBE activity will include exploring prisoner advocacy not only while incarcerated but also post-incarceration, including re-entry to society. Of particular interest and concern is how the church and community might respond to ex-inmates especially when it comes to Megan's Law registrants.

Last fall, the General Board of Church and Society (GBCS) of the United Methodist Church recently invited local churches to host an exonerated death-row survivor at their churches. We accepted that invitation and on Saturday evening, October 19, 2013, Langhorne UMC's Prison and Restorative Justice Ministry, the GBCS and several churches of our East District Mission ConneXion* we did sponsoring a WITNESS TO INNOCENCE (www.witnesstoinnocence.org) event at Langhorne UMC from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. We took a love offering to go towards the speaker during this event.

Our speaker, Kirk Bloodsworth, is a death-row survivor and he will be with us to share his journey from death row to freedom, as well as, his take on the current state of the American criminal justice system. Kirk was exonerated in 1993 and was the first prisoner to be exonerated by DNA evidence. By the time he was released, he had spent almost nine years in prison, two of them on death row.

The churches of the East District Mission ConneXion who are co-sponsoring this event are: Bensalem UMC, Langhorne UMC, Scottsville UMC, and St. Matthew UMC.

On September 30, 2013 Bill Bryan was a guest preacher at Curran-Fromhold Correctional Facility (CFCF) in Philadelphia with Chaplain Jack Nigro. I taught on Hebrews 4:12–13:

The Word of God is living and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart. Nothing in

all creation is hidden from God’s sight. Everything is uncovered and laid bare before the eyes of Him to whom we must give account.

To those who fail to see themselves as Jesus’ brothers, and to understand the thought of Hebrews 3 and 4, it may seem frightening. Such people might cringe as they imagine these verses describe God examining them, to highlight each hidden fault. But this is not the point at all! The writer has just explained rest. That rest goes beyond the promise of Palestine to Israel. God’s rest is a rest of soul and spirit, a rest of thought and attitude. The inner person is to be at rest as well. And we can rest, for nothing is hidden from God’s gaze. He knows our deepest, most secret needs, and with His Word lays bare that need—and guides us into rest.

This year we have signed up as local representatives for Angel Tree, a program of Prison Fellowship that reaches out to the children of inmates and their families with the love of Christ. Every child has a story. For 2.7 million American children, that story is filled with the abandonment, loneliness and shame that come from having a mom or dad in prison. For many, it may also include following their parents down the same destructive road to incarceration. This unique program gives our church the opportunity to share Christ’s love by helping to meet the physical, emotional, and spiritual needs of the families of prisoners. You can help change the life of a prisoner’s child FOREVER. (<http://www.prisonfellowship.org/programs/angel-tree/>)

Individual, Marriage, Family and Group Counseling Submitted by Bill Bryan

Most of us have found ourselves in a place in life where we are struggling with emotional or relationship stresses and though we may strive to solve these issues on our own, would greatly appreciate a qualified person who could help us more safely and efficiently move through to a better place in life.

Pastoral counseling is a unique form of counseling/psychotherapy which uses spiritual resources as well as psychological understanding for healing and growth. In other words, it provides for psychologically sound therapy that weaves in the Biblical and spiritual dimensions. Pastoral counselors are not only trained in the area of mental health but also have had in-depth theological training. As a result, they are in an especially advantageous position to integrate the psychological and theological disciplines.

In keeping with the Caring Ministry mission – Serving HIM by serving one another thru Compassionate CARE, Unceasing PRAYER, and Burden BEARING – this counseling ministry seeks to help the broken find wholeness in Christ.

Prayer Ministries

Men’s Prayer Breakfast & Bible Study Submitted by Bill Bryan

The **Men’s Prayer Breakfast** is coordinated by Bill Bryan, Dave Tyler, Mark Letham and Fred Woerner. We are blessed to have Dave Tyler prepare our meals! We meet the third Saturday of every month.

The union between Jesus and God is one of love and obedience. There are differences among our denominations: forms of organization, ways of worship and even specific things we believe. We come together at the Men’s Prayer Breakfast to fellowship in a unity of love. This is in response to Jesus’ prayer for unity (John 17:20-21), a unity of personal relationship, a relationship — one to one, heart to heart. Christian unity defeats our differences and joins men together in love. It is our individual responsibility to demonstrate that unity of love with our fellow men.

Electronic Prayer Chain Submitted by Bill Bryan

The **ePrayer Chain** receives prayer requests via email (bbryan1026@verizon.net) Sometimes prayer requests are passed along “as is” and other times I will add a thought, prayer or Scripture verse. The recipients are members of LUMC, the missionaries LUMC supports and a group of pray-ers from outside LUMC that have asked to be part of our e-prayer chain. From time to time you will see prayer requests/praises shared from other e-prayer chains that have a link to ours, and vice-versa. This year the ePrayer Chain began sharing by using MailChimp. This allows participants to subscribe or unsubscribe on their own.

Phone Prayer Chain Ministry submitted by Mark Letham & Bill Bryan

The traditional weekly phone prayer chain operates by making available copies of the weekly congregational prayer concerns list. This is a prayer list compiled by those attending at each of the Sunday services. The prayer chain consists of 5 groups of Caring Ministers who make phone calls and send cards and receive phone calls from people who are in need of prayers, and they are also added to our list for prayers both for joys and concerns. Mark Letham has agreed to coordinate these weekly leaders for this ministry.

Small Group Ministries

Recovery Ministry Submitted by Bill Bryan

Addictions Victorious meetings have been discontinued at Langhorne UMC.

Our Men’s Ministry – LBE/UMM – will continue to support the mission of Addictions Victorious and Harvest USA through continued recovery connections and referral networking. Our first recovery ministry networking meeting was held on August 18, 2012 at LUMC and the recovery praise and worship service held at Woodside Presbyterian has moved from annual to quarterly. This September 13th marked the 2nd Annual Music Fest Event. This event was sponsored by Christian Life Prison and Recovery Ministry in collaboration with many organizations including Langhorne UMC and LBE/UMM. Notably this year the EPAUMC Prison Ministry and Restorative Justice also invested as a sponsor in this year’s Music Fest.

There is a growing need for support ministries, community outreach ministries that will come alongside of spouses and family members as they too are experiencing pain and hurt as the result of a loved one’s addiction. There is also an ever-increasing need to offer a Christ-centered meeting for those dealing with issues of sexual brokenness. Sexual addiction (sin) is more prevalent than we care to realize and the silence needs to be broken and these issues dealt with in the power and love of Jesus Christ. This is no longer a male only issue (if it every was), more and more women are getting pulled in to sexual addictions as well.

Recently I read that the average age for first exposure to pornography is 11 years old. Moreover, the largest and fastest growing group of internet porn consumers is youth age 12-17.

Perhaps your child is already among those statistics, and you find yourself asking “What now?!”

Have you been impacted by the addiction of a family member or you feel called to minister in this area?—please give me a call—maybe together we can write the next chapter of Recovery Ministry here at Langhorne.

***Leading By Example/United Methodist Men (LBE/UMM) Men’s Group
..... Submitted by Mark Letham, CSM, President***

The mission statement of Leading By Example/United Methodist Men (LBE/UMM) is: we exist to serve our Lord Jesus Christ in self, family, church, community and workplace; to empower men through spiritual growth as devoted disciples of the risen Christ; and to provide a supportive community environment where men are free to unburden themselves in the presence of one another.

LBE/UMM continues to support the Men's Prayer Breakfast (MPB), the Thursday Morning Men's Breakfast Club (TMBC) with our prayers, our presence and our gifts.

LBE continues to give support to all the members during our meetings on the 1st and 4th Saturday of each month (praises and concerns, e-prayer list and members phoning each other), and to encourage the members of LUMC as the Spirit moves LBE members.

LBE/UMM hosted an event on October 19, 2013 in association with Witness to Innocence. Kirk Bloodworth spoke of his journey from death row to freedom. The event was well attended with members from the community, students from St. Joseph's University and LUMC. The GBCS, Scottsdale UMC and LBE/UMM covered the cost for the speaker.

November 2013 we held our annual retreat at Camp Innabah. The theme of the retreat was "Stepping Up: A Call to Courageous Manhood" by Dennis Rainey. The attendance for the retreat was 10 men with three new men attending. All the men were challenged by the subject material to see how God calls us to be men in our lives.

We continue to be active in prison ministry through the conference and with outside groups. Christian Life Prison and Recovery Ministries had their annual music festival on September 13, 2014. We helped sponsor a table and the event.

We are planning our annual retreat (the 11th) in October and we will be using Craig Groeschel's book *Altar Ego* for the study.

Men's Breakfast Club Submitted by Bill Bryan and Mark Letham

The Men's Breakfast Club celebrated its fifth anniversary this year. Since June 2009 some of the men of our church have been meeting for breakfast as a way to touch base during the week for some mutual encouragement, Scripture reading, devotion and prayer. Guided by the Apostle Paul's tutelage of Timothy to "devote yourself to the public reading of Scripture" we sought to leave the comfort of our church building so that we could meet more publicly.

Our small group that began with 4-6 men has grown in regular attendance to 8-10, and on occasion a few more. The men that attend come from different walks of life, different stages of life, where they find comfort in sometimes being able to pour their hearts out to each other, and in so doing discover how they have a lot more in common than they thought. As we develop and strengthen our common bond in Christ Jesus all our other differences seem to fade away. We use Promise Keepers' *Men of Integrity* daily guide to the Bible and prayer as our devotional.

Senior Lunch & Aid for Friends..... Submitted by Lyn Wallace

The Senior Lunch meets on the third Friday of each month. It provides an opportunity for the Senior members of LUMC to share in Christian fellowship, and participate in the packaging of meals for Aid for Friends. It is open to all Senior members of our congregation, and their guests.

Food for the meals is provided by Aid For Friends, then, small group comes to the church at 10:00 to prepare the food both for the luncheon and for Aid for Friends. The rest of the group comes at noon, when we join in a lunch of soup and sandwich, and then begin packing the meals.

There is a great sense of satisfaction in helping others. Each month we packed approximately 200 meals for Aid for Friends at the Senior Lunch.

Women Alongside..... Submitted by Bill Bryan

Women Alongside was dormant again this year and there are no current plans in the works for the year to come.

Langhorne United Methodist Women

The United Methodist Women (UMW) at LUMC invites women of ALL ages, to further the purpose of Mission Outreach. We meet the second Tuesdays at 7:00 p.m. each month (except July and August); we cover a great variety of topics and projects for our members to participate in. Currently we average attendance at meetings from 10 to 15 members, and enjoy a time for fellowship & refreshments, as well as a time for devotions and a meaningful program. As an organized unit of the worldwide United Methodist Women's organization, we are given planning resources and direction for planning a whole year's worth of programs. Some of our recent meaningful and insightful programs, which pertain to current world issues, have covered the gamut of serious social issues (in the developing world and at home). And we have all been inspired by the many stories we hear of worldwide and local UMW efforts to make a difference in the world.

Our programs during 2013-2014 included: a "World Thank Offering" and Pledge service; a collection of new toys and jeans for local families in need; a gift exchange with our secret prayer partners, and the preparation of greeting cards for many homebound and persons of concern. In 2014 to date, we have enjoyed programs of: book reports from our UMW lending library, installation of officers (we had many cancelled church events due to the extra wintery conditions in 2013-2014), a "Calling for Our Time", presentation which studied the many ways that United Methodist Women are "called to service", a Lenten message from Pastor John, and a report by Ginny Rowlands, from her Louisville, Kentucky trip to the 19th quadrennial gathering of more than 7,000 women at the United Methodist Women Assembly 2014: "Make It Happen!". Our annual Salad Supper in June was a hit – it was well attended, delicious and spiritually moving! We shared a meal (salads made by our members) with UMW members from multiple area churches and then enjoyed a performance of "Wings of Victory" an ecumenical liturgical dance troop from our area – with members ranging from 50yrs to over 100yrs! They presented a very spiritual uplifting service. In September, after the summer break, we re-gathered with our friends to recap our summer vacations (with a photo or two), our time with friends over the summer, and to discuss how we are going to re-frame ourselves into a Fall mindset. We also remembered our dear friends and devoted UMW members Mary Rose Hill, Barbara Ashton, and Barbie Weisser, whom we lost during our 2013-2014 year, as well as family and friends.

Over the course of 2013-2014, so far, we have collected donations of new and gently used children's books for the local homeless shelter, new kitchen items for one of our missionaries, associated with the LUMINA cupboard in Lancaster area, new clothing items and knitted items for the "Ingathering" district-wide outreach to a local shelter/agency, cards in May for the local homebound of the church; and non-perishable foods for local families in need, and monetary donations for the global ministries of UMW

Multiple members are involved as officers and as mission coordinators: Secretary Ginny Rowlands,

Treasurer Madge Laughlin, Program Resources “reading program” chair Linda Adams, Social Action chair Sue VanCamp, Sunshine chair Celia Pettit and Melissa Woerner (remembering those ill and in need of prayers and sunshine cheering up), Membership chair Brenda Lauble, Education and Interpretation chair Naomi Rogerson, and the Nominations Committee (Bev Eick). These vacant positions illustrate our need to reach out to more women in the church: Communications chair, Martha Circle leader, Spiritual Growth chair, and Needlework chair (Prayer Shaw Ministry).

You may find United Methodist Women on the web at www.unitedmethodistwomen.org and our local unit shares meeting announcements in the Friendly Voice and the weekly bulletins – but the major way we remind women to come to our meetings is by phone calls... although many other means of communication exist – these simple phone calls – divided amongst the members – and triggered by a phone call from our membership chair – make a huge difference in reminding our women personally about each meeting.

Stewardship Report to Charge Conference

Holly Rogerson, Chairperson

Membership: Ashley Hickman, Lynda Pritchard, Beth Lotocki, Paul Hansen, Jackie Hansen, Pastor John

Stewardship is the responsibility that Christians have in maintaining and using wisely the gifts that God has bestowed, including the environment. Stewardship is living our beliefs, by giving our time, talents and treasures to the church.

The goals of the Stewardship Committee are as follows:

Educate and inspire members to become more involved, to fulfill the challenge of their membership vows and put their resources and talents into practice by sharing them in the work of the church by their prayers, presence, talents and financial gifts.

This year we have:

- Sent unique emails via an application called “Mail Chimp” to the congregation regarding upcoming events and the Sunday worship service. We have also added visitor emails and email addresses from VBS attendees to reach out beyond the immediate congregation in our communications.
- Removed the “Attendance” pads and developed a Contact card that goes directly to the Pastor and can be used by visitors or members.
- Shared a video “The Best Coin Ever Spent and created and presented a presentation to the congregation about Stewardship and how the video can inspire us to be good stewards.
- Apple picking at Styers Orchard, followed by a Bake Sale the following week. The Bake Sale raised \$375 for the general fund.
- Harvest Home Food Collection – November
- Future endeavors: Stewardship Sunday, speakers throughout the year, Lenten activity, Palm Sunday Breakfast

Additionally LUMC continues to face financial challenges and Lyn Wallace and Bill Wallace and Amy Hansen continue to support this through the following:

- Bill Wallace faithfully sells Giant and Redner gift cards every Sunday. We sell gift cards to congregants at their face value, and LUMC makes 5% on each card sold and has been facing many challenges.
- Amy Hansen continues to faithfully sell other retail gift cards each Sunday. These are sold at face value but the percentage of return varies by retailer. We usually see an increase in sales prior to Christmas.

Public Relations Submitted by Barbara Wiley

As the Public Relations Coordinator, I see that our Church is listed in the Bucks County Courier Times Worship Section every Friday with the times of our various Church Services and Sunday School. Our web address is also included. Our church schedule for Easter and Christmas is in both the Courier Times and The Advance of Bucks County. Information about Vacation Bible School is also included in the Courier Times VBS listing.

When we have special events coming up such as the Rummage Sale, etc. the church secretary's email the fliers to me with the information and I send them to about 30 churches in the area to be posted on their Bulletin Board. This information and the Wednesday Night Dinner held the 1st and 3rd Wednesday's of the month is sent to the Courier Times, The Advance of Bucks County, Trenton Times, WBCB in Levittown and WDVR in Warminster to be included in their Community Bulletin Board. I cover any expense for the postage and printing of the fliers for those that have to be mailed.

Hopefully, this publicity is making the community more aware of the many activities we have here at the church and increase the attendance to the various events.

Trustee Report to Charge Conference

Ron Cookson, Chairperson

Members: Vince Belmont, Jeannette Hesser, Sue Bishop, Elmer and Mary Beth States, Mike Hanley, Robert Hickman, Chuck Boyle, and Dave Pascone

LUMC has again had a relatively quiet year concerning church buildings/property issues. There have been no major maintenance issues with the church buildings. The trustees have been attempting to contract work to be conducted on the cemetery, which is under LUMC's care. Many headstones are in need of repair and it is hoped that required work will be completed before the end of the year. Minor maintenance has continued throughout the year.

SPR Conference Report 2014

This year has been a very busy one for the Staff Parish Relations Committee right from the beginning. The SPR's first challenge was to hire a new choir director. We also needed to find someone from within our own group who would step up and take over as chairman. We began meeting and discussing our choir director dilemma. In order to get the interview process rolling, I volunteered as

chairman. We were lucky enough to have several interviews within a short time period and hired our current director, Zachary Beekma. We would like to thank Dick Davis for helping with the interview process as well as directing the choir while we looked for a director.

The SPR committee worked on and revised the choir director's job description, bringing it up to date. The employee handbook was also revised and brought up to date to be more in line and meet the needs of our church employees.

Our next challenge was to hire a new secretary. After several meetings, discussions, and interviews, SPR decided to go with two secretaries. With this change we had to revise and rewrite the secretary's job description. This arrangement seems to be working out fine for everyone .

We are currently working on the Ministry goals with Pastor John, as well as charge conference papers and the Pastoral evaluation for 2014.

Jerry Hill
SPR Chairman

Finance Committee Report to Charge Conference

Submitted by Joe Wachstetter, Chair

Summary

The finance committee completed the 2013 audit and the *Fund Balance Report* and *Report of the Finance Committee* forms as required for reporting to the charge conference. The committee in concert with the Administrative Board completed a *Financial Policy Manual* that documents our internal control policies including an accountable reimbursement policy and a discretionary fund policy based on documents used by other United Methodist Churches.

Year 2013 Synopsis

The year 2013 was a struggle financially to meet our apportionments and fully support our mission. We did have a negative cash flow for several months and only by the grace and generosity of a one time donation in December were we able to end the year on budget. The church:

- paid 95% of its apportionments,
- made its monthly roof loan payments on time.

Year to Date Snapshot

While we are more-or-less on budget for 2014, it is only because workforce changes and overall lower expenses including not meeting 100% of our apportionment have helped offset our stagnant income flow. In spite of this, the church is:

- paying 64% of its apportionments, however, we are meeting 100% of our pension commitments including our Fulfilling Our Covenant share,
- making its monthly roof loan payments on time.

Here is a snapshot of our year to date financial statement as of August 31.

	Jan - Aug 14	Budget	\$ Over Budget	% of Budget
Ordinary Income/Expense				
Income				
4000 · Income	219,471	221,001	-1,530	99%
4310 · Interest Income	26	67	-41	38%
Total Income	219,497	221,068	-1,571	99%
Expense				
5100 · Administrative Board	21,302	19,492	1,811	109%
5200 · Council on Ministries	6,890	8,283	-1,394	83%

5700 · Staff Parish Relations	135,089	135,186	-97	100%
5800 · Trustees	56,884	62,304	-5,420	91%
5900 · Business Operations	4,956	4,786	170	104%
Total Expense	225,122	230,051	-4,929	98%
Net Ordinary Income	-5,625	-8,983	3,358	63%

Here is a snapshot of our year to date financial statement compared to the same period for 2013.

	Jan - Aug 14	Jan - Aug 13	\$ Change	% Change
Ordinary Income/Expense				
Income				
4000 · Income	219,471	223,647	-4,176	-2%
4310 · Interest Income	26	46	-20	-44%
Total Income	219,497	223,693	-4,196	-2%
Expense				
5100 · Administrative Board	21,302	32,073	-10,770	-34%
5200 · Council on Ministries	6,890	8,390	-1,500	-18%
5700 · Staff Parish Relations	135,089	152,078	-16,989	-11%
5800 · Trustees	56,884	64,451	-7,567	-12%
5900 · Business Operations	4,956	3,677	1,279	35%
Total Expense	225,122	260,670	-35,548	-14%
Net Ordinary Income	-5,625	-36,977	31,352	-85%

While income seems to have leveled off, we need to be vigilant about controlling expenses. We need to consider including funds in our 2015 budget for general maintenance which has been cut from the budget for the past two years.

Apportionment Dilemma

Our goal is to pay 100% of our apportionment but in recent years that represented almost 20 percent of our budget. I think that is too high and should not exceed more than 15 percent of our budget. We simply cannot afford to pay our full apportionment and maintain a positive cash flow. I suspect that we will not be able to pay 100% of our 2015 apportionment.

While the *Financial Commitment of the United Methodist Church 2013-2016* book explains the financial plan of the Church in some detail, I doubt that most local Church members understand or are aware of the scope of the commitment. And, the apportionment formula is a bit convoluted, especially the annual conference's percentage adjustment.

Here is a snapshot of our apportionments since 2012 and the reductions we needed to make in 2014.

			%		\$		\$	%
Church Account	2012	2013	Chg	2014c	Chg	2014r	Chg	Chg
5121 · Connectional Ministries Commit.	20,057	20,821	4%	21,175	354	4,525	-16,650	-80%
5122 · General Church Commitment	7,420	7,426	0%	7,269	-157	3,000	-4,269	-57%
5124 · Pension Contribution	12,677	12,823	1%	12,385	-438	12,385	0	0%

			%		\$		\$	%
Church Account	2012	2013	Chg	2014c	Chg	2014r	Chg	Chg
5125 · World Church Commitment	7,904	7,832	-1%	7,648	-184	2,000	-5,648	-72%
5126 - CHC - Connectional Health Care	1,587	1,705	7%	1,705	0	1,705	0	0%
5725 · Pension	8,000	8,000	0%	6,005	-1,995	6,005	0	0%
5723 · Health Insurance	135	150	11%	300	150	300	0	0%
5728 · Defined Contribution	2,357	2,357	0%	2,357	0	2,357	0	0%
5728.1 · CPP	2,357	2,357	0%	2,357	0	2,357	0	0%
5811 · Property & Liability Insurance	10,729	11,160	4%	11,551	391	11,551	0	0%
5775 · Workers' Compensation Insurance	1,167	960	18%	931	-29	931	0	0%
Total Conference Apportionment Expense	74,390	75,591	2%	73,683		47,116	-26,567	-35%
Fulfilling Our Covenant				2,900		2,900		
Adjusted Total				76,583		50,016	-26,567	

Roof Loan Project

The monthly roof loan payment of \$3,093 depends on dedicated giving which is in addition to the regular offerings used to fund the operating budget. The loan principle for the Roof Replacement Project is **\$135,946** after the August loan payment. The support for this project has been truly amazing, but it is obviously putting a financial strain on the congregation.

I am very **thankful** for the faithful support of the finance committee members and the dedicated and talented treasurer/ financial secretary.

Something to Think About

The following is a quote from *The Church Money Manual* by J. Cliff Christopher: "Giving USA, the leading authority on charitable giving released its findings for 2011. Giving as a whole rose by roughly 4 percent to \$298 billion. This is about a 1 percent increase when inflation is factored in. Giving was particularly strong from individuals with bequest giving up over 12 percent. Giving to health, education, human services, arts, international affairs, environment, and animal organizations were all up. Giving to religion decreased by nearly 2 percent and is now down to 32 percent of all giving, its lowest level on record." I feel this trend doesn't bode well for the Langhorne United Methodist Church with its aging congregation

"Commit to the Lord whatever you do, and he will establish your plans." (Proverbs 16:3)

Committee on Lay Leadership Report to the 2014 Charge Conference: LUMC Leadership Positions for 2015

New to Position; ‡ Staff position

ADMINISTRATIVE BOARD	
Pastor	John W. Lutz ‡
Minister Of Congregational Care	Bill Bryan ‡
Chair, Administrative Board	Paul Hansen (2014)
Recording Secretary	Erika Paton
Lay Leader	Tom Romspert (2014)
Lay Delegate to Annual Conference	TBC
Treasurer/Financial Secretary	Amy Hansen
Director of Music Ministries	Zachary Beeksmat ‡
Youth Director	Pete Curtin ‡
Chair, Finance Committee	Joe Wachstetter
Chairs, Staff Parish Relations Committee	Jerry Hill
Chair, Board of Trustees	Ronald Cookson
Chair, Council on Ministries	Carol Nielsen
Chair, Stewardship Committee	Holly Rogerson (2014)
Chair, Steeple Kids Board	Dawn Thomson
Public Relations/Communications Coordinator	Babs Wiley
Website Ministry	TBC
Youth Representative	TBC
Administrative Board Members-at-Large	TBC
COUNCIL ON MINISTRIES	
Chair, Council on Ministries	Carol Nielsen
Worship Coordinator	Pastor John Lutz ‡
Education Coordinator	TBC
Missions & Outreach Coordinator	Jeff Tihansky
Caring Ministries Coordinator	Bill Bryan
Area Ministries Coordinator	TBC
Lay Leader	Tom Romspert

C.O.M. MINISTRIES AREAS

C.O.M./Worship

Worship Coordinator	Pastor John Lutz
Traditional Worship Team	Pastor John Lutz, Chr. Zachary Beeksmas Tom Romspert, Leader
Contemporary Worship Team	Pastor John Lutz, Chr. Mike Raab Anthony Vigile ‡ Sean O'Neill Ben Ketterer Rich Cook Stacey Dixon Wayne Eik Jeff Rowlands Mike Raab Greta Carlton
Music Ministries, Director	Zachary Beeksmas
Woods Services Coordinator	Anthony Vigile
Sanctuary Servants:	
Altar Guild	Louise Cookson
Altar Flower Coordinator	Office
Ushers Coordinator	Paul Hansen
Acolytes Coordinator	Louise Cookson
Communion Stewards	Helen McDonald Erika Paton
Sound Engineer	Jeff Rowlands & Tim Eick

C.O.M./Education

Education Coordinator	TBC
Children's Sunday School Superintendent	Kim Smigiel (2014)
Forward Look Class President	Lyn Wallace
Vacation Bible School, Co-Coordinators	Debbie Letham
Steeple Kids Board	Barb Davis Robyn Rowlands Rita Cresswell Dawn Thomson Kim Stockburger

C.O.M./Missions & Outreach

Missions & Outreach Coordinator	Jeff Tihansky
Worldwide Missions	Madge Laughlin Alice Stott Bill Bryan Bev Eick Tim Eick
Social Concerns/Local Missions Coordinator	TBC
Evangelism/Church Growth Coordinator	Wayne Eik
Website Ministry Coordinator	TBC
Living Nativity Coordinators	TBC

C.O.M./Caring Ministries

Caring Ministries Coordinator	Bill Bryan†
Personal Touch Ministry	Beverly Eick
Fellowship & Refreshment Coordinators	Kathy DiGregorio
Greeters Coordinator	Office
Kitchen Committee	Lyn Wallace
Prayer Ministries Coordinator (includes Men's Prayer Breakfast, ePrayer Chains)	Bill Bryan
Prayer Chain Coordinator	Mark Letham

C.O.M./Area Ministries	
Area Ministries Coordinator	Linda Rutledge
Nursery Coordinator	Aubrey Gilbert
Children's Ministries Coordinator	Bonnie Peiffer
Youth Ministry Coordinator	Pete Curtin†
Church Family Ministries Coordinators (incl. Christmas Dinner)	Carol Deibler The Curtin Family
Campus Ministries	Laurie Carson Carol Deibler
Camping Ministries Coordinator	Ron Cookson
Young Adults Coordinator	TBC
Scouting Coordinator	Angie Manning for Girl Scouts
United Methodist Women, President	Debbie Letham
Church Historian & Librarian	TBC
LBE Men's Ministries Coordinator	Mark Letham

FINANCE COMMITTEE	
Chair, Finance Committee	Joe Wachstetter
Senior Pastor	Rev. John Lutz
Lay Leader	Tom Romspert
Representative of Administrative Board	Paul Hansen
Representative of Council on Ministries	Carol Nielsen
Representative of Stewardship Committee	Holly Rogerson
Representative of the Trustees [Treasurer]	Ron Cookson
Treasurer/Financial Secretary	Amy Hansen
Members-at-Large	Jane Schmidt Beth Lotocki Sue Webster

STAFF PARISH RELATIONS COMMITTEE	
Chairs, SPR Committee	Jerry Hill
Senior Pastor:	Pastor John Lutz
Lay Leader:	Tom Romspert
Lay Delegate:	TBC
Class of 2014	
Class of 2015	Raul Torres Erika Paton Keith Rudat (coming on in 2014)
Class of 2016	Jerry Hill Becky Remillard Ken McAllister

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Chair, Board of Trustees	Ron Cookson
Class of 2014	Ron Cookson Jeannette Hesser
Class of 2015	Vince Belmont Elmer/Mary Beth States Sue Bishop
Class of 2016	DJ Pascone Chuck Boyle RJ Hichman
Class of 2017	Ron Cookson

STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

Chair, Stewardship Committee	Holly Rogerson
Class of 2014	
Class of 2015	
Class of 2016	Ashley Hickman Jackie Hansen Lynda Pritchard Paul Hansen

COMMITTEE ON LAY LEADERSHIP

Chair	John Lutz, Pastor
Lay Leader	Tom Romspert
Class of 2014	
Class of 2015	
Class of 2016	Carol Nielsen, Holly Rogerson, Angela Lutz, Bill Bryan, Jerry Hill, Paul Hansen, Ron Cookson