



Moxham Lutheran Church
Congregation Annual Report
2024

Pastor's Message 2024

Dear Friends,

In late January of 2024, Moxham's council was approached (through me) by Christ Lutheran's leadership to consider a possible ministry partnership. Thus began the lengthy process of discerning if the Spirit was leading us to a shared ministry arrangement. The acceptance of this discernment included a unanimous agreement from both Councils of the need to be open to adjusting worship times (a required first step in the process).

Soon a steering committee consisting of three leaders from each congregation was appointed by each congregation council: from Christ Lutheran: Mike Crum, Jill Bauer and Linda Prozialeck; from Moxham: Carol Harding, Diane Rugh, and Kim Williams. Along with the Pastors West, all agreed to serve on the steering committee which was named the "Shared Ministry Exploration Committee (SMEC).

In February, I received the following email from the Assistant to the Bishop, Pr. Kevin Shock: *"Bishop Paula and I ... give our assent to Moxham and Christ exploring shared ministry. You are welcome and encouraged to provide opportunities for the congregations to gather and get to know one another, worship with one another...Our prayers are with you in exploring ministry together."*

We began this venture with Lenten midweek services based on the theme, *Holy Lament*, which were held each week at both congregations (Moxham @ 11:30 am and at Christ at 7 pm with light meals at both). This was a first step in creating shared ministry opportunities. Soon thereafter, both Pastors shared in facilitating a mid-week lectionary study for both congregations.

By July, both congregation councils had approved a three-month interim parish agreement, which was to take effect in September as Pastor Jim West stepped down from serving Christ the end of August. During this interim time, I served both congregations while a final parish agreement was reviewed and approved by both councils. That agreement was to be recommended to the congregations for approval at their November annual meetings.

Simultaneously, a formal call process was to be put in place by Christ Lutheran, so that a call vote would take place at each congregation in November and an installation service for my new call was to follow as "Living Waters Lutheran Parish" was to be formed. This ministry was to begin following that crucial and required call vote.

At the beginning of November, Christ Lutheran had not made sufficient progress on the formal call process. Also, there was concern among some Christ Lutheran members that the congregation was “losing its identity.” To the disappointment of many in both congregations, I discerned that all the required steps in forming a parish and calling me as pastor were not going to be completed in time for those November votes. Nonetheless, I continued serving both congregations through the end of December.

While some would see this as a “failure,” I contend that Moxham Lutheran Church remained open to the whispers of the Spirit during this process of discernment and that is a testament to your faithfulness. We entered this time with hope, prayer, and a deep trust that the Spirit was leading us. I am proud of the efforts we made towards shared ministry and of my own efforts in managing the entire process by preparing for and conducting meetings, drafting communications, and creating a reasonable and flexible timeline. I faithfully served both congregations from September through December of 2024.

The Apostle Paul writes in Romans 8:28, *“And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.”* We trust that the Spirit is still at work, even when plans do not unfold as expected. Sometimes, closed doors are just as much a part of God's guidance as open ones.

We will continue to be the church God has called us to be—faithful, prayerful, and open to new possibilities. We remain committed to our mission, to one another, and to the work of Christ in our community.

Let us move forward with hope, trusting that God is leading us toward something new, something good, something life-giving.

“May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit”.

—Romans 15:13

In Christ's Peace,
Pastor Rebecca

Highlights from 2024

Worship

- Of the Land and Seasons Liturgy on 5/5/24
- W/M set up fellowship hall for worship in case of very hot weather
- New Lectors – Sharon Berkebile; Cynthia Greig (guest who has been coming to worship since Fall 2023)
- New EM: Sandra Esposita
- All Saints Sunday – blessing of Funeral Pall
- 18 people attended a Service of Healing on December 1, 2024 with a reception following. We will have these services quarterly in 2025.

Continuing Ed

- Attended Festival of Homiletics online
- Trained and certified as a volunteer crisis counselor for the Crisis Text Line
- Caring for those with Dementia and those who love them – ULS Pastoral Care Series
- Coaching for Women in Ministry
- Podcasts: Sermon Brainwave, Tend
- Books: Christian Nationalism; various feminist authors, *1619 Project*, books about Appalachia, Creation Care; *Book of Revelation*

Adult Faith Formation

- Christian Nationalism 3-part series
- Sunday Adult Class — *Holy Talk*
- Weekly Lectionary Study
- Prayer Ventures (off and on)
- Lenten Wednesdays at Moxham and Christ — Topic: *Holy Lament*
- *From Widows to Warriors* and *From Daughters to Disciples*

Johnstown Pastors' Conference

- Pastor provided pastoral care coverage for Pastor Mark Fischer (Davidsville) and for Pastor Doug Knupp
- Moxham hosted two Pastors' Conference meetings in 2024

Misc.

- Commissioning of Teachers/Blessing of Backpacks on Sept 8th
- Commissioning of Eucharistic Ministers on Sept 15th (Moxham)
- Pastor attended Synod Assembly in June and Bishop's Convocation in Sept
- Attended *The Weekend* with Camedon Williams
- Attended all meetings of the following committees: Finance, Faith Formation, and Worship and Music
- Re-designed the Welcome Place area
 - Instituted Vanco online giving and developed communication to congregation
 - Prepared fellowship hall for summer worship use; purchased 80 new chairs
 - Shepherded shared ministry process

Parish interim Ministry

- Shared Ministry Exploration Committee oversight
 - Organized kick-off meeting
 - Developed agenda and provided handouts for mtg
 - Provided a draft timeline for SMEC work
 - Researched Parish Agreements across ELCA synods
 - Drafted an agreement for SMEC review
 - 4/21/24 SMEC conversation with congregation went well
 - Next meeting is on 5/19/24 to discuss Parish Agreement
 - May meeting — recommendation to Councils to approve Interim Agreement at June meetings
 - Committee will not meet in June/July
- Congregational letter sent to Moxham members re: Interim Parish ministry
- Shared Ministry Exploration Committee (SMEC) has completed their work
- Completed Parish Agreement approved by council
- Pastor began presiding at two services on Sunday, Sept 1st thru Dec 31st

Current Staff Information & Contact Info

Church Staff

The Rev. Rebecca S. West, Pastor
Mr. Matthew Sprinkle, Minister of Music
Mrs. Denise Ragan, Administrative Assistant
Ms. Carol Harding, Faith Community Nurse
Mrs. Kim Williams, Housekeeper
Mr. Michael McCreary, Groundskeeper

Contact Info

Moxham Lutheran Church
500 Park Avenue
Johnstown, PA 15902
Phone (814) 539-8664
Office e-mail: office@moxhamlutheran.org
Pastor's email: pastor@moxhamlutheran.org
Pastor's cell: 724-689-5996
Website: www.moxhamlutheran.org
Office hours: Tuesday thru Thursday from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Congregation Council 2024

Kim Williams, President
Randy Lear, Vice-President
Scott Rugh, Treasurer
Linda Carrier, Council Secretary (non-voting)
Michael McCreary
Rick Kirk
Carol Harding, Faith Community Nurse (non-voting)
Pastor Rebecca West

Council Committee Liaisons 2024

Pastor Rebecca West and Kathi Lepere, Faith Formation
Scott Rugh, Finance
Kim Williams, Worship and Music
Michael McCreary, Property
Pastor Rebecca West and Linda Carrier, Caring Ministry

Pastoral Acts

Sacrament of Holy Baptism — Atlas Nicholas Miller 08/25/2024

Parents— Tristan & Emily Miller

First Holy Communion — NONE

Affirmation of Faith — NONE

Rite of Marriage — NONE

Deaths

Evelyn Jean Calhoun — 08/11/2024

Memorial Service — NONE

Committal Service — NONE

Membership Changes

Received into membership

Michael & Cindy Doherty — 1/24/2024

Transferred Out — NONE

Removed per other reasons/statistical adjustment

Approved by Council — 11/14/24

Robert Lohr

Barbara Connell

Paula Viscusi

Ken Gibson

Removed per member request — NONE

Finance Committee

Finance Committee, of which the treasurer shall be a member ex-officio, shall prepare a financial plan for the succeeding year, submit such plan to the Congregation Council for approval, and then present the plan at a meeting of the congregation for adoption. The committee shall exercise oversight of all financial affairs of the congregation to ensure they are being conducted with transparency and efficiency.

The finance committee counts and records offerings, pays bills, keeps financial records, prepares an annual budget, exercises oversight of all financial affairs of the congregation and prepares reports for the congregational council.

The finance committee meets the second Thursday of every month. At this meeting the monthly financial reports are reviewed. Members of the finance committee are responsible for reporting and paying all bills, invoices, and charges. All financial records are kept electronically.

Our constitution defines the duties and responsibilities of a Financial Secretary for the church. Kathie McCreary has been re-appointed by the council as the Financial Secretary. The Financial Secretary oversees and/or participates in the accounting of the offerings and depositing of receipts ensures that two non-related people are present when counting offerings. The Financial Secretary also oversees the recording of the contributions to the individual members records and prepares annual statements for the contributors for tax reporting.

Committee members maintain financial records in the "Church 360" software package. This software keeps records in two separate parts call "Members" and "Ledger". The "Members" package is used to record individual contributions in deposits. The "Ledger" package is for income and expense records. These records include account balances for checking, investment accounts, income and expenses. Access to both of these confidential records is restricted.

Online giving or E-giving is now an option for your offerings. Online donations can be either from a bank account, credit or debit card. The link to give online is <https://secure.myvanco.com/L-ZJTP/home> or a QR code can be used from a cell phone.

We worked with the shared ministry taskforce and the Christ Lutheran Church Treasurer to define the payment plan for the shared ministry trial from September 1 to December 31. During that time Christ Lutheran paid half of the minister's salary and expenses.

Some other actions of the committee:

- We opened a \$ 52,000 Certificate of Deposit (CD) with Slovenian Savings and Loan in December 2024. The CD had a 12-month term and earned 5.12% interest.
- We also reinvested a 12-month term CD for \$ 36,266 with the Mission Investment Fund.
- Kathie McCreary trained Rick Kirk and Randy Lear as offering counters.
- The council approved a document retention policy, following the ELCA recommendations. This policy states that we can destroy (shred) financial records over 5 years old.
- The parsonage renter, Pastor Knupp and family moved at the end of June. The property committee obtained a property manager's services to find a new tenant. A new tenant moved into the parsonage in December.
- The Industrial Appraisal Company revaluated the value of our buildings and contents. The combined appraised value is \$ 10,677,829.
- On March 26, we were notified of a falling accident on the Ohio Street Sidewalk. We turned this information over to our insurer, Church Mutual United. They are handling all aspects of the case. As of the end of the year, the insurance claim has not been resolved. The claim is based on a broken 4 ft by 4 ft section of sidewalk. The property committee replaced the sidewalk slab in May. To perform this work, we got a building permit from the city.
- We had a major increase in the insurance premium for our property. The cost of property insurance is skyrocketing all over the country. We were able to save some money by reducing or coinsurance to 80% and dropping a \$ 1 Million umbrella.
- We set a goal to keep at least \$ 40,000 in our checking account to pay for current expenses.

Thanks to finance committee members Lisa Layton Kathie McCreary, the many counters and Denise Ragan for their time and talents to support the finance committee.

Scott Rugh, Treasurer

Mission Endowment Fund

The Mission Endowment Fund (the *Fund*) was established at the November 2022 congregational meeting. The purpose of the endowment fund is to provide funds for internal ministries, mission work beyond the congregation and capital improvement projects. The endowment fund is used to support all three of these types of projects outside of the annual spending plan. The Mission Endowment Fund is guided by the approved By-Law.

The *Fund* is managed by three trustees. The terms of the trustees are up to three calendar years. The terms are staggered so that only one trustee is elected each year. The trustees for 2024 are Dennis Kotzan, one year remaining in term, Dan Berkebile, 2 years remaining and Randy Lear, 3 years remaining.

The trustees selected Fred Thomas of Raymond James to invest the funds. The trustees decided to invest in fixed rate certificates of deposit and money market funds. These funds are to be insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC).

Income from the Investments shall be used for designated purposes such as internal ministries designated by the congregation council. The 2024 spending plan included a transfer of \$ 10,100 in income to be made available for spending in 2024.

The *Fund* balance at the beginning of 2024 was 258,530, and as of December 31, 2024 the fund balance was \$264,961.

Submitted for the trustees by Scott Rugh, Treasurer

Treasurer's Report

Our Statement of Financial Position is presented in the Balance and Income and Expense sheets below. The Balance Sheet shows that our asset balance was \$ 419,931 on December 31, 2024 compared to \$ 463,963 at the beginning of 2024.

In 2024 our income was \$ 202,982, and our expenses were \$ 247,014. The deficit is taken from checking, and investment account balances. The approved 2024 spending plan anticipated "balancing" budget with \$35,302 from savings. At the end of the year, we balanced the expenses with \$ 44,032.

We developed the 2025 spending plan by asking each committee to prepare a budget. The budget included projected expenses for insurance utilities and salaries. The 2025 spending plan was approved at the annual congregational meeting on November 17, 2024.

As treasurer, I also met with the trustees for our Moxham Lutheran Church Mission Endowment Fund. This fund was created at the congregational meeting of November 2022. A separate report on the Endowment Fund is attached.

The Finance Committee is tasked with developing plans to balance our budgets. We project that we can continue at the current spending level for 2 more years.

In summary, we need to be flexible in our financial management to continue our mission. Our membership is getting smaller and older. We have to face the reality that we are changing. I am optimistic that we can meet these changes because you, our members, are caring, and generous. Please review the 2025 Spending Plan when you consider your offerings.

Prepared by Scott Rugh, Treasurer

Statement of Financial Position

Income & Expense

Jan 01, 2024 through Dec 31, 2024

Account	Budgets 2024	Actuals 2024	% of Budget	Remaining
Income	\$ 174,661.00	\$ 202,982.99	116.22%	\$ (28,321.99)
General Giving (440000)	\$ 150,000.00	\$ 132,531.24	88.35%	\$ 17,468.76
Building Useage (440280)	\$ 150.00	\$ 250.00	166.67%	\$ (100.00)
Rental for Parsonage (444200)	\$ 8,400.00	\$ 5,250.00	62.50%	\$ 3,150.00
Parsonage Utility Reimbursement	\$ 5,400.00	\$ 2,250.00	41.67%	\$ 3,150.00
Interest Income (440100)	\$ 611.00	\$ 1,206.38	197.44%	\$ (595.38)
Endowment Distributions (444250)	\$ 10,100.00	\$ 10,100.00	100.00%	\$ -
Christ Lutheran expense reimburs	\$ -	\$ 18,053.31	0.00%	\$ (18,053.31)
Vanco Offset Fee Income (444310)	\$ -	\$ 25.53	0.00%	\$ (25.53)
Misc Income (treas only) (444050)	\$ -	\$ 11.80	0.00%	\$ (11.80)
Restricted Income	\$ -	\$ 33,304.73	0.00%	\$ (33,304.73)
Expense	\$ 209,963.00	\$ 247,014.77	117.65%	\$ (37,051.77)
Administration	\$ 26,550.18	\$ 27,178.59	102.37%	\$ (628.41)
Benevolence (Synod)	\$ 15,300.00	\$ 14,103.41	92.18%	\$ 1,196.59
Faith Formation	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 651.92	43.46%	\$ 848.08
Finance	\$ 9,982.00	\$ 12,554.21	125.77%	\$ (2,572.21)
Caring Ministry	\$ 3,300.00	\$ 1,245.13	37.73%	\$ 2,054.87
Property	\$ 17,048.60	\$ 14,170.65	83.12%	\$ 2,877.95
Pastoral Ministry	\$ 92,190.22	\$ 97,575.55	105.84%	\$ (5,385.33)
Utilities	\$ 20,310.00	\$ 23,089.60	113.69%	\$ (2,779.60)
Youth	\$ -	\$ 11.37	0.00%	\$ (11.37)
Worship and Music	\$ 23,782.00	\$ 23,522.92	98.91%	\$ 259.08
Other	\$ -	\$ 58.00	0.00%	\$ (58.00)
Restricted Funds	\$ -	\$ 32,853.42	0.00%	\$ (32,853.42)
Income less Expense	\$ (35,302.00)	\$ (44,031.78)	124.73%	\$ 8,729.78

Balance Sheet

Jan 01, 2024 through Dec 31, 2024

Account (*=Inactive)	2024-01-01	2024-12-31	Debits	Credits	Change +/-	Change %
Assets	\$ 466,787.02	\$ 421,529.75	\$ 361,204.56	\$ 406,461.83	\$ (45,257.27)	-9.70%
General Operating	\$ 73,634.96	\$ 46,999.11	\$ 281,892.64	\$ 308,528.49	\$ (26,635.85)	-36.17%
Business Checking (SSLA) (11000)	\$ 73,634.96	\$ 46,999.11	\$ 281,892.64	\$ 308,528.49	\$ (26,635.85)	-36.17%
Unrestricted (Business Checking (\$ 47,405.82	\$ 14,934.61	\$ 185,852.38	\$ 218,323.59	\$ (32,471.21)	-68.50%
Unrestricted Mem/Bequests	\$ 75,092.15	\$ 49,383.12	\$ 10,149.79	\$ 35,858.82	\$ (25,709.03)	-34.24%
PPP Account (1st National) (11008	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%
Mission + (unrestricted) (110109)	\$ 18,166.57	\$ 8,225.66	\$ 10,059.09	\$ 20,000.00	\$ (9,940.91)	-54.72%
Mission Term Select (unrestricted	\$ 55,768.72	\$ 40,000.00	\$ 90.10	\$ 15,858.82	\$ (15,768.72)	-28.28%
Savings (SSL) memorial/bequests	\$ 1,156.86	\$ 1,157.46	\$ 0.60	\$ -	\$ 0.60	0.05%
Unrestricted (Savings (SSL) memc	\$ 126.29	\$ 126.89	\$ 0.60	\$ -	\$ 0.60	0.48%
Bequests (savings) Fund (110200)	\$ 663.89	\$ 663.89	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%
Memorials (savings) Fund	\$ 366.68	\$ 366.68	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%
Restricted	\$ 318,059.91	\$ 325,147.52	\$ 69,162.13	\$ 62,074.52	\$ 7,087.61	2.23%
Mission (Youth Endowment) (116	\$ 9,529.34	\$ 9,874.21	\$ 344.87	\$ -	\$ 344.87	3.62%
Somerset Trust C.D. (bequests/m	\$ 50,000.00	\$ -	\$ 1,974.52	\$ 51,974.52	\$ (50,000.00)	-100.00%
SSL C.D.-Mem/Bequest (110205)	\$ -	\$ 52,000.00	\$ 52,000.00	\$ -	\$ 52,000.00	0.00%
Endowment Fund-Raymond Jame	\$ 258,530.57	\$ 263,273.31	\$ 14,842.74	\$ 10,100.00	\$ 4,742.74	1.83%
Liabilities	\$ 2,823.72	\$ 1,598.23	\$ 14,616.60	\$ 13,391.11	\$ (1,225.49)	-43.40%
Assets less Liabilities	\$ 463,963.30	\$ 419,931.52			\$ (44,031.78)	-9.49%

Human Resources

The Human Resources Committee helps guide staffing needs and is responsible in part for annual staff reviews and staffing recommendations. The committee helps keep staff up-to-date as to expectation and needs of the congregation.

Housekeeper position for the church, the job description, evaluation form and task list were updated for this position. Kim Williams received an annual evaluation.

Groundskeeper position, the job description, evaluation form and task list were updated for this position. Mike McCreary received an annual evaluation.

Minister of Music position, the job description, evaluation form and task list were updated for this position. Matthew Sprinkle received a 6th month annual evaluation. Matthew has been working with Sharon Berkebile. (Thank you Sharon)

Church administrative assistant position, the job description, evaluation form and task list were updated for this position. Denise Ragan received an annual review.

Work continues on updating the employee workbook. Cindy Doherty (thank you Cindy) has agreed to work with the Human Resource area.

In his service,
Carol Harding, RN, FCN

Landscape Team (ad hoc)

The Church Council created the Landscape Team in 2022 as an ad hoc committee with the goal of considering all landscape areas on church property and making recommendations to Council on ways to improve and maintain them.

Since then, the original team studied the areas and noted landscaping ideas, specifically considering looks, growth and care over time, and placement (soil, light, etc.), and cost. In late spring 2023, the team met with Stuver's Nursery for ideas and proposals and decided to postpone major landscaping until 2024. The team then decreased in size, but with the help of the Property Committee and Mike McCreary, all areas were cared for in 2024- weeding, trimming or pulling out plants, and mulching. Thanks to all who helped.

The team looks to meet with Council and continue on its original goal.

Diane Rugh, Chair

Faith Formation Committee

The Faith Formation Committee seeks to meet and embrace our mission, as designated in the Moxham Lutheran Church Constitution: Continuing Resolutions. "There shall be a Faith Formation Committee which, in conjunction with the pastor, shall oversee the educational ministry of the congregation. It shall encourage selection of curriculum materials that are in accordance with the guidelines of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America."

Adult Faith Formation Opportunities

- *Sunday Adult Learning*: Spring 2024, conclusion of *Holy Talk*, by Pastor Harold Jacobson that began in Fall 2023 – Fall 2024 Classes based on *Manna and Mercy*, led by Cindy Doherty, plus one class on ELCA site, Martin Luther and the Reformation
- *Weekday Adult Study (days/time vary)* scheduled periodically, Lectionary Study and Prayer Ventures - February, conclusion of Christian Nationalism that began in Fall 2023 – Fall 2024 classes led by Pastor based on the book, *From Widows to Warriors*

Children/Youth Faith Formation Opportunities

- *Sundays*: Two children's classes, using *Spirit and Truth* material – Age-appropriate Bibles presented to children
- Children's Sermon included in Sunday services with children in attendance

Faith Journey Milestone Recognition

- *Baptism of Atlas Miller*: sent *Splash!*, a monthly Augsburg Fortress publication plus annual CD, birth-12 months, to Atlas and family

Special/Seasonal Programs

- *January*: Baptism of Jesus table display in Welcome Area
- *Time after Epiphany*: bulletin inserts and Welcome Area star words, lights to guide, inspire, and challenge our thoughts, actions, and words in 2024
- *Lent*: *Luther Seminary* devotionals printed, online & sent to homebound - continue 2023 Creation & Care of the Earth Lenten theme with battery recycling & emphasis on aluminum can Camp Sequanota recycling - ***Change for Change* collection for St. Mark's Episcopal Church Pet Food Pantry – *The Lord's Prayer* in American Sign Language (ASL) Sundays in Lent during Children's sermon
- *Reformation*: bulletin insert, display in welcome
- *Advent/Christmas*: *Augsburg Fortress* *devotional Good News, Great Joy: Devotions for Advent and Christmas*, Advent calendars, children's book library (all available in Welcome Area)– Advent bulletin insert by Pastor - ***Warming Basket* for Early Head Start children, birth through age three, 95 items collected - ***Christmas tree craft* completed by children in Sunday Learning Time, available for congregation, homebound, and community in Welcome Area
- *Camp Sequanota*: 1 youth, one week day camp - Money from yearlong aluminum can recycling sent to Sequanota
- *The Weekend*, a grades 6-12 synod event, St. James, Juniata in December: Pastor & one youth.
- *Partnerships*: MLC/Professional Family Care Services (PFCS) agreement for Early Head Start use of nursery.

Our team asks for continued support with your time, talents & prayers as we proceed in our faith formation mission. New team members and ideas are welcome.

***Social Service Ministry (Outreach) by Faith Formation*

Linda Cover, Carol Klavuhn

Kathi Lepere, 2024 Council Liaison

Diane Rugh, Team Chair and Pastor Rebecca West

Caring Ministry Committee

Caring Ministry includes the following: Social Service Ministry Team (including Growing in Faith Garden), Fellowship Team/Parish Life, and Faith Community Nurse

Faith Community Nurse

The very nature of Moxham Lutheran Church is to be a healing community. Moxham Lutheran Church Parish Nurse recognizes health as encompassing the whole person; body, mind and spirit. Therefore, she dedicates herself to providing ministry, which embodies this concept and allows for the integration of faith and wellness for every person.

Visited many parishioners' homes this year.

Provided Home Communion on a monthly basis to two different families.

Helped several persons with needs for help in the home with outside sources.

Visited a number of members in their homes.

This year I held a program one Saturday monthly from April through October. The program was entitled "Joy" from 10am to noon. Members from both Moxham and Christ Lutheran attended the programs.

Some of the areas covered were:

- Healthy Bones
- Heavy Purse Syndrome
- Best Walking Shoes for Seniors
- Depression in Senior
- Osteoporosis
- Falls

All AEDs checked monthly. New Pads and batteries added for all 3 AEDs.

NARCAN® naloxone nasal spray as an over-the-counter opioid overdose treatment has been located in the hallway outside of the Finance/Nurses office.

I am a member of a number of organizations in the Johnstown, Cambria County Area.

- Cambria Residential Service secretary of the board
- 1889 Foundation and the Community Hub
- Women's Cancer Support Group Facilitator
- Westmont Family Ministry vice president board of directors
- Advisory Board for the Area on Aging
- Advisory Board for Senior Life and arbitrator for grievances.
- Board of Victim Services
- Walk of Hope member and reviewer for Children are Precious Fund

On the Professional side

- I carry my own insurance for liability.
- I have obtained my 32 hours of continuing education.
- My nursing license is current.
- I am a member of the National Lutheran Parish Nurse Association.

Respectfully submitted,
Carol Harding, RN, LFCN

Social Service Team (Outreach)

This team shall actively involve congregation members in works of service, extending Christian compassion, helpfulness, and fellowship to persons within the congregation, and ministering to those in need in the wider community.

Growing in Faith Garden

Begun in 2016, Moxham Lutheran's Growing in Faith Garden continues in its mission to serve those in need with fresh vegetables. All produce is delivered to Goodwill's Moxham Food Pantry on Central Avenue, open now as a store. Qualified individuals choose items from the shelves according to their household situation. The number of individuals and families served there increased again in 2024.

This year's garden included beets, broccoli, green, yellow, and burgundy beans, sweet peppers, Brussel sprouts, zucchini, summer squash, and tomatoes. Asparagus, a perennial, was added to the back garden. Rye grass was planted in the fall to be tilled and turned over in spring as a nutrient to the soil.

Thanks to all who helped this year. As usual, we look for more individuals to become involved in this mission. Please contact us if interested in helping, either just one or a few times or off and on throughout the season, in any way: planting, watering, weeding, picking, delivering produce to the Food Pantry. Instruction provided.

Submitted by Scott and Diane Rugh

Faith Formation Initiatives

Lenten *Change for Change* collection for St. Mark's Episcopal Church Pet Food Pantry and Warming Basket for Early Head Start children are in the 2024 Faith Formation Annual Report.

Goodwill Moxham Food Pantry

We support the Goodwill Moxham Food Pantry with more than the produce from the Growing in Faith Garden. A few of our members who regularly help at the pantry. Birthday bags for children through age twelve continued to be sent there in the first half of 2024. Bags included such items as cake mix, frosting, candles, plates, napkins, and balloons. Also, after assessing our church's own mini-food pantry, it was evident that the Food Pantry is able to better handle food distribution. Any remaining food items from our mini-pantry were delivered to Goodwill. The Social Service Outreach Team will continue to consider ways to support this local effort.

Diane Rugh, Chair

Fellowship (Inreach)

Team members who have served throughout this year: Linda Carrier, Carol Harding, Kathie McCreary, Carol Klavuhn, Sharon Berkebile, Pam McKendree, Kathi Lepere, Sue Shumar, Jeanne Fleegle

Birthday and Anniversary cards were sent to church members.

Cards were sent to home bound on special holidays, such as Valentine's Day, Easter, Thanksgiving and Christmas.

Gifts were prepared and given out for Valentine's Day, Mother's Day and Father's Day.

Lambs have replaced the teddy bears and are available to purchase to give to the sick and hospitalized.

Programs:

- Trinity Romesburg was the guest speaker at April's Friendly Fellowship gathering. She informed us a campus ministry that she is doing to help young people find God and faith.
- A Tea party was held in May.
- Sally Stewart presented a program on Grace in June.
- Sally Stewart presented a two-part program on Angels in October.
- A Christmas program was held in December.

A light lunch was served after each program.

Respectfully submitted
Linda Carrier

Property Committee

Property Committee shall see to the proper maintenance and protection of all property of the congregation and shall take care that the same is kept in good repair.

The Property Committee was active throughout 2024. Routine annual tasks included changing paraments and worship tools for the appropriate seasons, as well as setting up and taking down Christmas decorations. We undertook the repair and painting of the plaster in the stairwell adjacent to the front office, and cleaned the carpets in the fellowship room, adult Sunday school room, and financial office. Additionally, we repaired the church's front door, changed locks, fixed lighting in both the office and fellowship hall, repaired the dishwasher, and repainted the parking lot lines.

The committee also replaced and sealed a section of the sidewalk in front of the church. We extend our sincere appreciation to Dan Berkebile for providing his jackhammer and his expertise in assisting with the removal of the old sidewalk.

In addition to their efforts at the church, the committee undertook minor maintenance tasks at the parsonage. These included repairing the front door, water line, and towel racks, as well as installing new smoke and carbon monoxide detectors and fire extinguishers.

I want to thank my team members, Scott, Durwin, Randy and Mike for their help, support and hard work this year.

Respectfully submitted
Your Brother in Christ,

Rick Kirk, Property Chair

Worship & Music Committee

Worship and Music Committee shall assist the pastor in seeing that the services of God's house are conducted regularly and in accordance with the liturgical guidelines of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. All items pertaining to the worship life of this congregation shall be the responsibility of this committee.

- January – We started presenting the Communion elements and ringing the bell three times for call to worship.
- Ash Wednesday service was held in the sanctuary at 11:00 a.m. There was only one service.
- Mid-week Lenten Services were held in the Parlor 11:30 a.m. the topic for these services was "Holy Lament".
- Palm Sunday, the procession started in the overflow area.
- Maundy Thursday Service with the stripping of the altar was held at 7:00 p.m. in the sanctuary.
- Good Friday Service was held in the sanctuary at 7:00 p.m.
- Easter Sunday Service was held at 10:00 a.m. The organist Matthew Sprinkle put together a bell choir.
- Sunday May 5th – we introduced the liturgy of The Land and Seasons.
- August 18th – we held a special sendoff service for Jeanne Fleegle who was moving to Florida.
- August 25th – Baptism of Atlas Miller, son of Tristan and Emily Miller.
- October 27th – Reformation Sunday.
- November All Saints Sunday we honored Evelyn Calhoun, Sally Lou Taylor and Anne Marie Fogle. We also had the Blessing of a new Funeral Pall.
- December 1st – Healing service of the word and a blessing was held after the worship service. A light reception and fellowship followed.
- Christmas Eve service was held at 4:30 p.m. This year we had a choir that sang four anthems.
- On December 29th a service of Lessons and Carols with readings from Martin Luther's Reflections of Christmas.
- Supply pastors for the year were Pastors Jerry Nuernberger, Doug Knupp, Jim West and Lay Minister, Marsha Hutzell. Guest ministers/speakers for this year were Bishop Paula Schmitt and Sister Marianne Brock.
- A thank you to Karyn Verhovsek, Mark Koch, Kim Williams, Mike McCreary, Susan Bullock, Sharon Berkebille, Lisa Layton and Kathie McCreary for sharing their talents for the Bell choir.
- A thank you to Carol Klavuhn, Nancy Johnson, Sharon Berkebille, Karyn Verhovsek, Kathie McCreary, Susan Bullock and Kim Williams for sharing their talents for the choir on Christmas Eve.

Committee members: Pastor Rebecca West, Matthew Sprinkle, Sharon Berkebille, Susan Bullock, Kim Williams and Kathie McCreary

Submitted by chairperson: Kathie McCreary