



2025

Bulletin of Annual Reports

2026 Congregational Council

Kathy Arndt, *treasurer* *

Ruby Baker, *president*

Megan Catherman

Ken Criswell

Dave Davies

Beth Guffey, *vice president*

Kristie Koch

Gwen Murphy

Michelle Shearer, *secretary* *

Randy Sprenkle

* denotes council member in their second term

Pastor's Report

Dear United In Christ,

Looking back at the last calendar year together, I am filled with so much gratitude for the work we have done together. I think that 2025 was a year that put the scrappy mettle of this community to the test, but you have proven that you were up for the challenge! But more than just figure out what we needed to do to survive this year, I feel like 2025 really provided the fertile ground for our community to *thrive*. Over and over, you have given me glimpses of what it means to move faithfully in our corner of the kingdom while doing so in a way that is distinct and authentic to who you are. Let me show you what I mean!

Having Fun While Doing Good

One of the things that has always impressed me about this community is your genuine heart for service. Over and over again, you prove that you are not a community interested only in its own survival, but one that has a heart for pouring itself out for the sake of the neighbors whom God places in our midst. In fact, you've baked such a heart for service into the very fiber of your being! From kids to seniors and everyone in between, you take Jesus' instruction to love God by loving neighbor to heart!

But more than simply reach out in service to our neighbors out of a sense of inherent obligation, what you have



UIC at Central Pennsylvania Food Bank

proven to be time and time again is that you take true and genuine joy in doing so! I'm hard pressed to find a crew who has as much *fun* in service as you all do! You sing out in the freezing warehouse of the Central Pennsylvania Food Bank as you pack up boxes for families experiencing food insecurity. You joke your way around tables full of packaged food as you help pack Panther Packs with our neighbors at St. Andrew's UMC. You brighten the halls of the state Capitol building while on your way to meet with



UIC packing Milton Panther Packs



UIC at Lutheran Day at the Capitol

representative in advocating for our most vulnerable neighbors.

I think I was most struck by this joy-filled service this past year as part of our annual Egg Hunt! If you've never made it out, the Egg Hunt is truly a remarkable event filled with all manner of excitement! Families are filled to the brim with gusto as kids sprint for eggs scattered around the property. The anticipation is palpable when they all come back inside and wait for the opportunity to pick prizes from the table with each successive number called out. Much like the thanks that surrounds our Trunk or Treat event, all of this is washed with a gratitude from parents for providing this free opportunity to celebrate the holiday with their families.



UIC's annual Egg Hunt

What struck me this year, however, wasn't the joy that came from the hunt itself; we've come to expect that with each passing year. It was the joy that came the day before as a group of our folks gathered around a handful of tables sandwiched together in the Fellowship Hall as they set themselves to filling a couple hundred eggs with candy and tchotchkes for the following day. Walking in to the sounds of laughter, storytelling, and kids lending a hand (in between running laps around the table), my heart was filled with a sense of wonder. What could have otherwise felt like a begrudgingly necessary process in its monotony actually became its own source of fun! It was a beautiful reminder that joy is of your essence, UIC, and you bring it with you to whatever is at hand!



UIC filling eggs ahead of the hunt!

I've worked with a decent number of congregations over the years, but you have me absolutely convinced that none serves with a joy like yours. From distributing diapers to feeding seniors; from meeting kids at a free day camp to veterans in Orangeville, you have shown that you can embody joy in the midst of service. This year was a wonderful reminder that you have figured out the recipe to having fun while doing good for the sake of our larger community!



Summer Day Camp!

Doing Good While Having Fun

At the same time, this past year you have continued to show your creative mettle by repeatedly finding ways to do good while having fun. It would be easy to simply plan activities that are meant to be fun for ourselves, but you have a knack for finding ways to take our fun and turn it into meaningful opportunities to inject good back into our communities. This year, you could see that in the ways in which you chose to show up in the larger community.

Take, for example, the annual Milton Harvest Festival. This year you maintained a stalwart presence, even while pivoting to a new avenue of experience. You *could have* simply planned to go to the festival and enjoy the day, meandering among booths, eating some good food, and watching the delightful parade. You *could have* easily chosen to show up with a booth with the



UIC's pierogie booth at the Milton Harvest Festival

hopes of pocketing a few bucks to cover some church expenses. But instead, *you chose* to show up and sling pierogies for six hours and not keep a dime of it. You took the fun of the festival and leveraged it to make an impact in our community, this year by supporting God's Chuckwagon, a ministry dedicated to feeding the hungry by simply showing up and feeding folks in places where meals are needed. In this way, you once again took the fun of the Harvest Festival and made it do good beyond our

walls!

Likewise, leveraged fun for good once more this summer at the Lewisburg Pride festival. While it once again would have been easy to meet up as groups to attend the day, you instead chose to do good by embodying God's courageous love and showing up to extend hospitality to neighbors who historically have not experienced such welcome from the church. With stickers, temporary tattoos, and bottles of water, you heaped grace upon grace into the community. In this, you leveraged a spirit of fun for the sake of doing good by those who need a glimpse of good news around us!



UIC's crew at Lewisburg Pride

But you know what, UIC? I think your means of doing good while having fun is becoming contagious! It seems that others have taken notice to how you choose leverage fun for good over



Pr. Justin, Pr. Gary (MLC), Korey (Rusty Rail), Angela (Rusty Rail), Pr. Katy (CELC), and Emily (DIG) teaming up at Beers & Carols

and over and have decided to give it a go as well! This was on perfect display this past year during our annual Beers & Carols event at Rusty Rail! In building a relationship with the staff and managers over at Rusty Rail through our regular "Theology on Tap" group, they have come to know all about the fun that this community can leverage. But when we began coordinating this year's annual event, Rusty Rail took a page out of your playbook and gave the opportunity to do good by donating 10% of all sales from the night to a charity of our choice! Seizing the opportunity to build upon new partnerships, we were able to get those proceeds to DIG Furniture Bank in Milton as they seek to provide dignity while furnishing apartments and homes for low-income

households in transition. What a great opportunity it was to do some good through the fun we had together!

Once again this year, you really flexed those creative muscles and carved out plenty of good from the fun at hand!

Work in Progress

Yet, for all of the ways in which you, as a community, could choose to simply throw things into coast and rest on your laurels (if you'll allow the mixed metaphor), this year has proven that simply holding to the status quo is not enough! In so many ways this year, I have felt the Spirit stirring this community to always be made new. In addition to so many opportunities that have helped us look out to face the world and neighbors who surround us, this year has been *filled* with diligent work intended to build up our community into as healthy a place as we can be.

We saw this early as last year we engaged in not one, but *two* stewardship campaigns together. These short series provided us with the opportunity to reflect on how God is calling us to be faithful stewards of the gifts of this community. Together, these campaigns took root in such a way that has set us on surer footing than we've experienced in decades as a community. By doing this faithful work now, we have worked to ensure that our progress continues to thrive within our larger community and into the future!

Behind the scenes, though, this year our Council has been diligently hard at work discerning where God's Spirit is moving in this community and how we are being called into God's future. Using a lot of the data gathered during our 2024-ward campaign, this past year Council has spent a lot of time developing the short-term Strategic Plan that was presented at the November congregational meeting. The objectives found therein reflect the opportunities being presented from the values and gifts native to United In Christ. Our hope and prayer is that these objectives will build us up



Art installation from "Our Money Story"

as the body of Christ that cares for one another and the world around us. By focusing on building relationships, carving space for younger voices and leadership, and ensuring that our sense of welcome takes root well beyond the first time someone steps through the doors, we hope to see our community grow in its commitment to one another and the Spirit who draws us close!

It has been a real privilege to accompany you in this work this past year. I have taken great confidence from the ways in which you have faced real challenges head on and seen us come through in a healthier place than ever before. While we remain (and always will) a work in progress, I have every confidence that we will continue to take each new step with authenticity and faithful courage that God is drawing us into the future together.

All for Joy

To put the metaphorical bow on it all, I suppose, I think it's right to once more lift up the unfettered joy that makes you all tick. You're hard pressed to roll up to a worship service, event, or even simple meeting here at UIC and not see the joy of the Spirit on the faces of the gathered. Even out and about, the joy goes with you hither and yon! From baptisms to bowling, picnics to ballparks, you have shown this pastor what it looks like when a community of faith takes joy in one another as the beloved body of Christ!



So thank you, UIC. Thank you for an incredible year together. Thank you for the heart of service you continue to embody and demonstrate to the communities around us. Thank you for the spirit of hospitality that you embody and continue to strive towards. Thank you for the joy with which you carry out everything you do.

Thank you for being you!

Yours, united in Christ,

~ Pastor Justin

United In Christ Lives in Transition

2025 Baptisms

Ella Catherman	Baptized 4/20/25
Maisey Catherman	Baptized 4/20/25
Jack Catherman	Baptized 4/20/25
George Guffey	Baptized 4/20/25
Jane Guffey	Baptized 4/20/25
Milo Lingenfelter	Baptized 4/27/25

2025 Affirmations of Baptism (Confirmation)

2025 New Members

Bradley Catherman	Jack Catherman
Megan Catherman	Dave Davies
Ella Catherman	Michelle Davies
Maisey Catherman	Danielle Murphy

2025 Funerals

Alan Anderson*	d. 3/5/25
The Rev. Kenneth Louder	d. 4/20/25
Mildred Noll*	d. 6/25/25
Joyce "Dolly" Bittner	d. 8/19/25
Diane Gottlieb	d. 9/10/25
Rick Guffey	d. 9/20/25
Shirley Russell	d. 11/19/25

**denotes individuals who were not members of UIC, but for whom UIC provided services*

Parish Administrator's Report

Working 25 hours a week, the Parish Administrator manages the church's office and email, provides administrative support for staff, council, and committees. The administrator also coordinates and schedules the use of the church's facilities, maintains the church's website, prepares worship bulletins, sends weekly update emails, monthly newsletter, processes all account payables and offerings, including payroll and paying/filing taxes, maintains church database, coordinates worship volunteers, orders supplies, and weekly programs the heating schedule.

It is a true blessing to do God's work at United In Christ!

Submitted by Terri Cromwell

Property Committee Report

1. Cupola Roofing Project
 - a. HPCI lost employees, still looking to subcontract out repair
 - i. Ken received a quote from Rogers Roofing in November
 1. Repair rubber roof leaks on Bell Tower and Repair Shingle Roof Leak on Sanctuary Roof - \$750 - \$1000 (5yr workmanship warranty)
2. Septic Tank Pumped 10/31/2024
 - a. Due again – October 2027
3. Future Projects to Consider
 - a. Recoat & Restripe Parking Lot (sealing Season starts around May)
 - i. Shek Quote - \$6480
 1. Does not include Cemetery Drive
 2. Possibly needs updated
 - ii. Riteway Paving - \$7537.53
 1. Includes Cemetery Drive
 2. Valid for 30 Days
 - b. Increase Door Glass Size
 - i. Fellowship Hall
 - ii. Two Doors to Office hallway
 - c. Polish/Seal Basement Floor
 - d. Paint Interior Walls / Woodwork
 - e. Remodel Kitchen, including new floor
 - f. Paint Narthex
 - g. Install vinyl flooring in the Narthex and hallway to the elevator.
 - i. We have Flooring on hand.
 - h. Replace Timers
 - i. Water Heater
 - ii. Narthex
 - i. Investigate Solar

Submitted by Randy Sprenkle

Worship and Music Report

Throughout the year, Worship and Music continued to see to the needs of weekly worship and special services like Christmas Eve, Ash Wednesday, Holy Week, and All Saints Sundays. Together we have helped explore ways to adjust Sunday morning worship, but have provided input on larger changes to help accentuate our life of worship. Some of this year's worship highlights include:

- Worshiping in the round downstairs through the “Our Money Story” stewardship series.
- Holding our first “God’s Global Table” Sunday using breads from across continents and cultures for communion!
- Working with new vendors for Christmas Eve poinsettias.
- Welcoming five of our kids into the community through baptism on Easter Sunday.



As we look to the year ahead, Worship and Music will be looking for opportunities to fulfill one of our Strategic Plan Objectives that involves worshiping alongside another community, even if that means being somewhere else on a Sunday morning! We will also be working closely as we develop the new Welcome Team to see how we can best bake welcome into our worship experience. As a final goal, we will also be looking to see how we can roll out some use of contemporary music in our worship life together!

If you’d like to have a hand in any of these processes, we’d love to have you join the fun! Touch base with Pr. Justin to learn more!

Submitted by Pastor Justin

Outreach Committee Report

The Outreach Committee is a small but mighty group of passionate disciples who care about giving to others. In 2025, we tried to stretch funds whenever possible using the Thrivent Action Team Grants from congregation members in the amount of \$250 each. Twelve different congregational members used their TATGs to give an additional \$3,000 in outreach items.

SOUPER BOWL OF CARING

On Sunday, February 9, 2025, we participated in the Souper Bowl of Caring to benefit Milton Panther Packs which provides over 256 students at Baugher and White Deer Elementary Schools with a bag of food over every weekend during the school year. Mark Rabuck used a Thrivent Action Team Grant to stretch the number of food items to be given. A total of 660 food items were donated to Milton Panther Packs. Items were dropped off at the St. Andrew’s United Methodist Church in Milton where the packs are constructed to be used for the March Panther Packs.



VALENTINES PACKAGE FOR COLLEGE STUDENTS

You supported our college students once again with the Valentines Care Packages. To save on shipping costs, pre-constructed snack boxes were ordered from Amazon and delivered directly to Owen A., Mya C., Emma D., Grant R., and Sarah S. In addition, \$265 was collected by

congregational member sand was used to purchase gift cards for each student. Terri sent the signed Valentine's Day cards and gift cards in a manila envelope to each college student.

MILTON PANTHER PACKS

Congregational members participated in **two** packing events at St. Andrew's United Methodist Church in Milton for the Milton Panther Pack program in 2025. On Wednesday, February 26 from 6 – 7 PM, congregational members packed the 256 Panther Packs for the month of March seeing donated items from the Souper Bowl used. Finally, on Wednesday, October 1 from 6 – 7 PM, congregational members packed the Panther Packs for the month of November seeing donated items from Harvest Home Sunday collection used.



RONALD MCDONALD HOUSE

During the beginning of March, congregational members donated food items and National Beef donated beef ribs for the March OAKS meal and an additional 35 meals for the residents of the Ronald McDonald House in Danville. With a Thrivent Action Team Grant by Ruby and Ken Baker, the team purchased items on the Ronald McDonald Wish List such as individual snacks, reusable microwavable dishes, bottled water, and more. Kathy Arndt and Michelle Shearer delivered the meals and wish list items to the Ronald McDonald House in Danville.



COMMUNITY MEALS

In 2025, congregational members helped to feed people in the community. First, on Monday, April 14, eight members helped Bucknell University and AmeriCorps employees at the Community Harvest Meal at St. Andrew's Methodist Church in Milton. They prepared, packaged, and distributed 150 take-out meals to people in the community of Milton. When the meals ran out, pre-packaged microwaveable meals were handed out to the remaining people who showed up for dinner.



Also, members of the Outreach Committee provided meals for the participants of the Getting Ahead program at Milton Lutheran Church. On Thursday, August 7, a meal of taco bar and salads, drinks, and ice cream sandwiches were made and served. Then on Thursday, November 6, a meal of shepherd's pie, turkey noodle casserole, green beans, drinks, and applesauce were made and served by congregational members.

COMMUNITY EASTER EGG HUNT

The congregation donated candy and small trinkets to fill the plastic eggs the UICLC has recycled over the years and purchased new. On Friday, April



18, congregation members filled the plastic eggs with the donated items in preparation for the egg hunt. With the help of a Thrivent Action Team Grant from Michelle Shearer, prizes were purchased for each of the three age groups. Then on Saturday, April 19, members helped put out over 1,100 filled eggs and 30 prize eggs for almost 100 kids aged 1 – 12 years old.



SUPPORTING VETERANS

The Outreach Committee chose to support veterans living at Our Orangeville Manor, a men’s shelter for homeless veterans in Benton twice in 2025. Congregational members donated items during May for residents. With the help of a Thrivent Action Team Grant from Randy Sprengle,



more snacks and coffee were purchased to bring with the other items. On Thursday, May 29, Michelle Shearer, Terri Cromwell, and Kathy Arndt went to the facility in Benton,

delivered the donations, and ran Bingo with the residents, giving prizes to the winners. Kathy A. made beef ribs donated by National Beef, vegetables, and dessert in advance which was warmed up and served to the veterans. Each resident received a gift bag filled with Thrivent shirts, personal care items, and



candy. Then during November congregational members donated personal care items, snacks, and coffee for residents of Our Orangeville Manor. With the help of a Thrivent Action Team Grant from Ken Criswell, more personal care items and coffee were purchased to bring with the other items. On Thursday, November 21, Michelle and Kathy A made pierogi casserole, green beans, and applesauce to take to the Benton facility. Pam Hauck joined them to deliver the donations and run Bingo with the residents, giving prizes to the winners. Lastly, each resident received a gift bag filled with Thrivent shirts, personal care items, and candy.

CENTRAL PA FOOD BANK BOX PACKING

Congregational members participated in one food box packing event at the Central PA Food Bank in Williamsport. On June 3, from 9 – 11 AM, congregational members packed Veterans Share boxes for local military veterans and their families at the warehouse on 3301 Wahoo Drive in Williamsport.



SELF-CARE SANCTUARY DRIVE

During the month of July, congregational members donated personal care items to be given to the Milton Lutheran Church for their Self-Care Sanctuary. With the help of a Thrivent Action Team Grant from Bob and Trudy Swartz, other items were purchased to stretch the number of items given for the monthly distribution in August. Terri Cromwell and Michelle Shearer helped with the distribution on August 3 seeing donated items given to people in Milton.



SUMMER LUNCH PROGRAM

On Friday, July 18, 2025, Ruby, Gwen, Sherry, Heather and the Catherman family helped with the Summer Lunch Program at the Pentecostal Church on Route 192 outside of Lewisburg. They packed and distributed approximately 45 grocery bags of food. Participants received food for two weeks determined by the number of school age children in their family. UIC has participated in the Lewisburg Summer Lunch Program for the last 10+ years. The Rich Huff Fund paid for the fresh fruit and vegetable donations which were given to the families receiving the bags of food.



DIVERSITY FEST

On Saturday, August 16, 2025, UICLC had a space at the Diversity Fest at Hufnagle Park in Lewisburg from 10 AM – 5 PM. Al, Ruby, Kathy A, and Sherry represented the church, handing out free bottles of cold water and individual snack packages. The UICLC tri-fold flyer and photo cards of events as well as stickers, coloring sheets, and keychains were available for anyone to take.

BLESSING BACKPACKS AND DONATING SCHOOL SUPPLIES

Blessing of Backpacks Sunday was celebrated on Sunday, August 17, 2025. Congregation members donated backpacks and school supplies. The Rich Huff Funda donated backpacks. With the help of a Thrivent Action Team Grant from Kathy Guffey, pencil boxes, notebooks, folders, etc. were purchased to increase the number of items donated. We partnered with Milton Lutheran Parish to collect crayons, pencils, notebooks, markers, colored pencils, backpacks and more. We were able to attend all five Milton School District's Open Houses and Back-to-School Nights to hand out some of the items. The remaining items were put into storage for next year's events.



MILTON HARVEST FESTIVAL

The Outreach Committee decided to change the tradition of the Annual Ham and Bean Soup Sale during the Milton Harvest Festival. Instead, Mrs. Pierogies from Shenandoah sold the church their bulk pierogi bags for a reduced price. On Saturday, September 13, UICLC sold boats with three pierogies on Bound Avenue during the Milton Harvest Festival. With the help of a Thrivent Action Team Grant from Mark and Lisa Rabuck, most of the expenses were paid. A total of \$850 was given to God's Chuckwagon, a local mobile soup kitchen in Northumberland County.

HARVEST HOME SUNDAY

Harvest Home Sunday was celebrated on Sunday, September 21, 2025. Congregation members donated items for the Milton Panther Packs. With the help of a Thrivent Action Team Grant from Ken Criswell, canned soup and macaroni and cheese cups were purchased to increase the

number of items donated. The items were dropped off at St. Andrew's UM Church and used on Wednesday, November 4 for the November Milton Panther Packs.

DANVILLE STATE HOSPITAL

In December, Ruby organized a donation of holiday gifts for fifteen residents based on their gift requests for Christmas. Congregation members adopted Danville State residents and purchased gifts on their wish lists. Unwrapped gifts were returned to the church. Ruby collected the gifts for the residents at Danville State Hospital and Donna C delivered them to Danville State Hospital before Christmas.

BLESSING BAGS FOR SENIOR EXPRESS PARTICIPANTS, HOMEBOUND MEMBERS, AND COUNTRY COMFORT

With the help of a Thrivent Action Team Grant from Sherry Bingaman, fifty-two blessing bags for the Senior Express Participants, Homebound Members, and Country Comfort Members were constructed and given to them in December. The blessing bags consisted of personal care items, word find books, notepads, pens, and candy.



COUNTRY COMFORT GIFTS

Kathy G organized our annual donation of gifts for some of the residents at Country Comfort Home in December. Congregation members adopted County Comfort resident and purchased gifts on their wish lists. Wrapped gifts were returned to the church and delivered to specific residents at Country Comfort Home in time for Christmas.

If you are interested in being a member of the Outreach Committee, we regularly meet on the Second Sunday of the month immediately following the church service. In addition, sign-ups are regularly posted on the bulletin board for help and are open to any congregation member. Lastly, if you have Thrivent Action Team Grants and want to use them for outreach events in 2026 or want to know how you can receive a Thrivent Action Team Grant with an Associate Membership or User of Thrivent Services, please contact Michelle Shearer at 570-768-8316 for more information.

Submitted by Michelle Shearer

Rich Huff Committee Report

Year 2025 was a busy one for The Rich Huff Committee and The Baby Steps Diaper Pantry. Along with giving out 20,200 diapers this year, we also gave out two \$500 scholarships to local graduating seniors, toys for a fire victim, backpacks for Milton students, and bought food for Lewisburg's Lunch and Learn Program.

This year we are starting our 10th full year of our Diaper Pantry. To date, we have given out over 123,540 diapers.

Submitted by Shirley McPherrin

OAKS Senior Center Report

INCOME		EXPENSE	
Meal Donation	\$1,938.10	Food	\$736.82
		Supplies (+ \$60 for Rabbit fund)	\$469.07
		Bingo Prizes	\$552.18
TOTAL INCOME	\$1,938.10	TOTAL EXPENSE	\$1,758.07

OAKS is a FREE senior center but some of our attendees want to give a donation. We do not ask for donations as we do not want anyone to feel like we expect them!

2025 Senior Attendance												
Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	Jun.	Jul.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total
47	36	45	47	42	46	49	46	42	46	45	43	534

Of the 534 people that attended OAKS (not counting staff or volunteers) only 89 are congregation members. The other 445 are people from the community!

83% Community Members 17% UIC Members

OAKS Senior Center celebrated its 12th anniversary in September 2025.

OAKS Senior Center served a total of 704 meals in 2025. This number does include meals for staff and volunteers, and also 32 meals which were taken for a loved one that couldn't attend or a neighbor and 35 meals packaged and taken to the Ronald McDonald House in Danville.

Lewisburg Senior Center closed in 2025. UIC Council approved OAKS to reimburse those attending who travel via Rabbit. The cost is \$3 per ride, \$6 for round trip.

List of activities and speakers OAKS had in 2025

- Love bug craft
- Presentation on Indians, Bruce Teeple from Union County Historical Society
- CarFit, WellSpan
- Nane That Tune, game
- Warning signs of a stroke, WellSpan
- What is A.I.?, Jeff Seebold from Union County Library
- Scams, Trooper Robert Evanchick from PA State Police
- Halloween wreath craft
- How to make a Go Bag, American Red Cross
- Sang Christmas carols

OAKS continues to be my favorite day of the month. OAKS is truly a blessing for so many people within the community. They really look forward to coming out and spending time with each other.



~ Terri Cromwell
OAKS Senior Center Director

Senior Express Ministry

Greetings everyone!

For those who don't know, the Senior Express Ministry is our food box delivery ministry to (mostly) homebound low-income seniors. We receive filled boxes from the PA Food Bank once a month and deliver them directly to the seniors at their homes. The boxes are federally funded, so UIC has no expense. We also occasionally include cards and small gifts throughout the year to remind seniors that they are loved! For these "extras" we try to get Thrivent Action Team Grants.

We continue to add recipients, currently delivering to up to 32 recipients each month. I try to keep the routes short- between 3 and 5 people. Several volunteers have also gone to the PA Food Bank in Williamsport during the year to help fill boxes for recipients, which is always a fun and fulfilling experience.

I would like to thank all who make this ministry possible: our delivery drivers, Ruby Baker, Janine and Garrett Glather; Ted and Shirley McPherrin; Jeff and Julie Rowe and their family; Michelle Shearer; Warren Shipe; and Bob and Trudy Swartz; our callers: Kathy Guffey and Rosemary Kline and Terri Cromwell who keeps our records. We couldn't do this without all of you! And I certainly want to acknowledge Diane Gotleib, who delivered with Garrett as long as she was able. We are thankful for her ministry and her life.

A special thank you goes out to Bob Swartz, who meets the Food Bank truck each month and brings all the boxes into the church.

I'd also like to thank the Outreach Committee, which prepared Christmas bags for each recipient. They were very grateful.

This ministry began during the COVID shutdown, and I am so grateful to all of you who help to continue to make it happen.

If you are interested in joining us- the more, the merrier, and more hands make light work!- please contact Terri at the UIC office.

Peace,
Sherry Bingaman
Senior Express Co-Ordinator

Financial Secretary Report

UNRESTRICTED INCOME:

Money given to be used for budgeted items, which we call Unrestricted Expenses

\$ 148,521.95	Offerings in Church
\$ 30,057.69	Offering through Tithely
\$ 310.00	Wine
\$ 1,938.10	OAKS Meal Donations (donations given by attendees at OAKS)
\$ 400.00	Facility Rental
\$ 404.00	Activities: Bowling
\$ 223.00	Thrivent Action Teams
\$ 265.00	Thrivent Choice Dollars
<u>\$182,119.74</u>	Total money given to pay for budgeted expenses

UNRESTRICTED EXPENSES	BUDGETED	ACTUAL
Administrative	\$27,840.00	\$26,100.28
Benevolence	\$7,920.00	\$7,920.00
Christian Education	\$1,325.00	\$629.75
Employee FICA Tax	\$2,841.28	\$2,792.38
Evangelism	\$450.00	\$445.80
Fellowship	\$1,200.00	\$515.23
Outreach	\$2,750.00	\$2,209.72
Pastoral	\$94,988.58	\$93,252.99
Property	\$26,165.98	\$25,395.74
Worship and Music	\$11,175.00	\$10,425.79
Totals	\$176,655.84	\$169,687.68

Giving increased in 2025, a huge blessing! We finished 2025 with a surplus of \$5,463.90. We continue to be diligent in church expenses and to be good stewards of what you have given us.

Throughout the year you also generously gave the following:

RESTRICTED FUNDS: cannot be used for budgeted expenses	INCOME
Advent Offerings: given to DIG Furniture Bank	\$680.00
Capital Express Fund	\$4,466.50
ELCA Good Gifts	\$190.00
ELCA World Hunger	\$70.00
Lutheran Church in Liberia	\$100.00
Milton Harvest Festival: Given to God's Chuck Wagon (sold pieorgies)	\$794.78
Memorial Fund	\$1,375.00
Lenten Offerings: given to the Lutheran Global Refuge	\$660.00
Pastor's Discretionary Fund: used for aid requests	\$100.00
Rich Huff Fund	\$8.00
Valentine's Day Care Packaging for our College Students	\$265.00
Ungard Family Fire Recovery	\$150.00

Submitted by Terri Cromwell, Financial Secretary