



JANUARY-

FEBRUARY 2025

Preparing for a Birthday!



From the Pastor



The Rev. Richard Moeller

Merry Christmas — Happy New Year

I've said it before, and I can't believe I'm saying it again. "Can't believe it is almost Christmas!" Where has the year gone?

It has truly been a great year, despite the quickness in its passing. But lots of great things have occurred. We have seen some wonderful worship at Concord UMC. We have witnessed a Baptism of a young adult. We have heard from a missionary who is working on her doctorate. We have seen children grow in their faith.

We could go on and on.

Joyce and I have been so blessed by our time with Concord UMC. It has been a pleasure to be able to serve this incredible family of faith. We will continue to be with you after Annual Conference in June. This is

Please see Moeller, page 3

The November checking account reconciliation showed an unencumbered operating balance of \$2,289.

This year's apportionment is \$20,712. As of December 10, we have paid \$15,841. The district fund of \$777 has been fully paid. Our balance due to meet 100% of our apportionment is \$4,871.

The end of the year 2024 looks to be another "down-to-the-wire finish" for the financial obligations of Concord UMC. We have offered the church members the "Triple Dog Dare You" Challenge (see details on this page) to help raise the money to meet 100% of our apportionment.

The church's assets include trust funds and endowments that are managed by the United Methodist Foundation of West Virginia. These accounts were valued at \$297,525.62 at the end of September.

We had been insured by Church Mutual Insurance Company for years and years. This year Church Mutual gave us notice that the insurance would be cancelled on December 10, 2024, due to several roof shingles apparently showing need of repair. Jack Fredeking worked diligently on finding us new insurance. We are now insured by the Lewis Insurance Agency in Princeton. Jack's company, Fredeking-Stafford Construction Company, Inc., has paid our first quarter installment for 2025 as a charitable donation to the church. The church is insured!

The exterior lights have been repaired and a spotlight was installed on the back porch to point toward the corner of the building for better security.

In response to the devastation of Hurricane Helene, our congregation raised \$2,200, which we contributed to the UMCOR US Disaster Response and Recovery organization.

The Trustees approved the purchase of *The Faith We Sing* Accompaniment CDs, so we are now able to use both hymnals during our service. The CDs were paid with designated funds from the Memorial Music Fund.

The "Triple Dog Dare You" Challenge

As we approach the end of the year, we are \$4,870 shy of paying 100% of our apportionment — also known as "fair share giving." Sooo...as your pastor, I would like to challenge the congregation to pay the remainder of our obligation. Here's how we can do this.

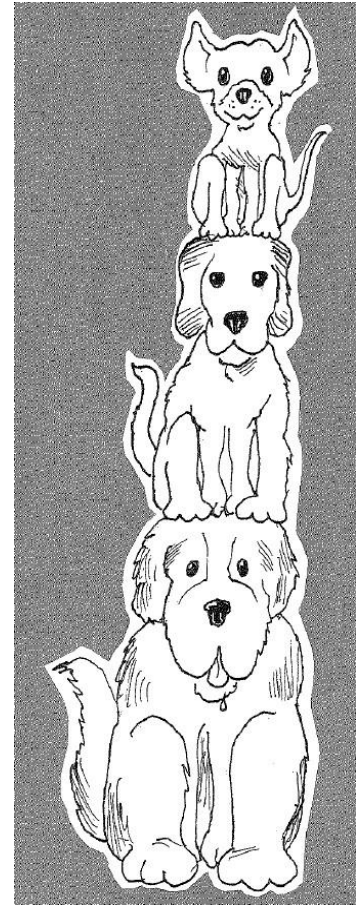
We will call this the "Triple Dog Dare You" Challenge.

We have received \$2500 toward what's left on the apportionments. I would like to challenge each of us to give a "second mile" gift to help pay our apportionments. This will be your gift, above and beyond what you would normally give to the General Budget — we need to continue to fund the daily operation of the church.

Between now and the end of the year, for every dollar given toward the remainder due of the apportionments, it will be matched by an additional dollar, up to and including \$2500 given by the congregation. So, if you give \$50 to the challenge, the apportionment total would realize \$100. Where do you get that kind of return on your investment?

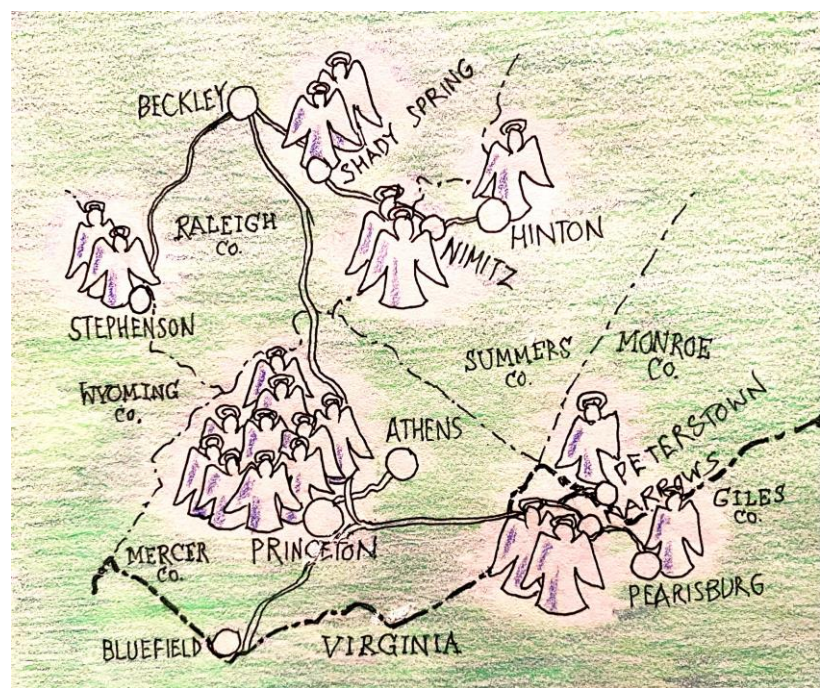
Let's all work together and show our faithfulness to Concord UMC, the Annual Conference mission and ministry, and your faithfulness to God.

Pastor Richard Moeller



Angels among us

Again this season, Concord UMC responded to a community need by providing gifts through the Angel Tree program. The church purchased 22 \$10 McDonald's gift cards to be delivered with presents to the Angel Tree kids. We funded this effort using designated funds we held for the Angel Tree, and the Men's Group helped with the balance to make up the \$220. Jerry Beasley and Bob Whittinghill delivered the presents — quite the undertaking, as shown on this map by Tom Bone. The 21 children are represented by angel figures placed beside the town in which they live.

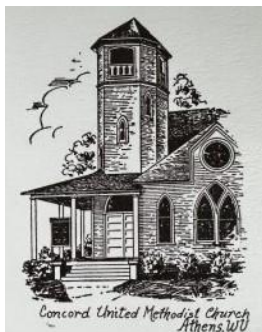


2025 Church Council Officers List

Church Council

The church council shall provide for planning and implementing a program of nurture, outreach, witness, and resources in the local church.

*It shall envision, plan, implement, and annually evaluate the mission and ministry of the church. (It) shall function as the administrative agency of the charge conference.**



Staff/Pastor Parish Relations Committee

*(The) committee shall identify and clarify its values for ministry. It shall engage in biblical and theological reflections on the mission of the church, its primary task and ministries of the local church. The committee shall assist the pastor(s) and staff in assessing their gifts, maintaining health holistically and work-life balance, and setting priorities for leadership and service.**

Phillip Ball
Sarah Beasley
Paulette Belcher
Tom Bone III, Chairperson
Kenneth Graybeal
Scott Inghram
Sheila Mann
Kathy Smith

Nominations Committee

Jerry Beasley
Justin Hill
Sheila Mann
Richard Moeller

Worship Committee

Kris Bailey
Tom Bone III, Chairperson
Mary Graybeal
Elizabeth Muldoon

Finance Committee

The committee on finance shall give stewardship of financial resources as their priority throughout the year.

The committee (has) responsibility for developing and implementing plans that will raise sufficient income to meet the budget adopted by the church council. It shall administer the funds received according to instructions from the church council.

*The committee shall prepare annually a report to the church council of all designated funds that are separate from the current expense budget.**

David Bailey
Greg Ball
Paulette Belcher
Tom Bone III
Jack Fredeking, Chairperson
Ken Graybeal
Jayne Jones
David Mann
Sheila Mann

Outreach Ministry Team

Jerry Beasley
Tom Bone III
Barbara Klingensmith

Parsonage Committee

Jack Fredeking
Kathy Fredeking, Chairperson
Brenda Whittinghill

Offering Counters

Tom Bone III
Ken Graybeal
Justin Hill
Jayne Jones
Bob Whittinghill

Board of Trustees

*The trustees (are directed) to do any and all things necessary (related to) the supervision, oversight, and care of all real property owned by the local church.**

Phillip Ball
Chris Bone
Jack Fredeking
Justin Hill
Scott Inghram
Michael Jones
David Mann, Chairperson
Charles Mann
Matthew Thomas

*The sentences in italics above come from *The Book of Discipline of the United Methodist Church*, 2016 edition, accessed online. They've been heavily edited.

(Moeller, from page 1)

definitely our church home.

I love this time of year because it grounds us back into our faith. We celebrate the coming of the Christ-child, the "reason for the season," and it gives us a chance to anticipate the rest of the year.

We look forward to the



new year and what God has in store for us.

It is amazing what God has

great things God will do for, and to us, in the new year.

From Joyce and me, we would like to wish each and every one of you and your families a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Yours In Christ,

Richard and Joyce

Calendar



Wednesday, January 1, 2025
NEW YEAR'S DAY

Thursday, January 2
6 PM – Yoga, Anderson Hall

Saturday, January 4
8 AM — Men's Breakfast
Anderson Hall

Sunday, January 5
11 AM – Worship & Children's Church & Holy Communion

Thursday, January 9
6 PM – Yoga, Anderson Hall

Sunday, January 12
11 AM – Worship & Children's Church

Thursday, January 16
6 PM – Yoga, Anderson Hall

Sunday, January 19
11 AM – Worship & Children's Church

Thursday, January 20
6 PM – Yoga, Anderson Hall
Martin Luther King Jr. Day

Sunday, January 26
11 AM – Worship & Children's Church

Thursday, January 30
6 PM – Yoga, Anderson Hall

Saturday, February 1
8 AM — Men's Breakfast
Anderson Hall

Sunday, February 2
11 AM – Worship & Children's Church & Holy Communion

Thursday, February 6
6 PM – Yoga, Anderson Hall

Sunday, February 9
11 AM – Worship & Children's Church & Holy Communion

Thursday, February 13
6 PM – Yoga, Anderson Hall

Friday, February 14
Valentine's Day

Sunday, February 16
11 AM – Worship & Children's Church & Holy Communion

Monday February 17
President's Day



Church staff

Pastor:

Richard Moeller

Church Secretary:

Jayne Ford Jones

Worship Leader/Vocalist:

Elizabeth Muldoon

Musician/Technician:

Justin Hill

Technician:

Matthew Thomas

Custodian:

Carol McManaway

CrossTalk Designers:

Tom Bone III

Jayne Ford Jones

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The Light comes into the world...

Please join us on Christmas Eve for our
**Candlelight Service:
a Christmas Eve Festival of
Nine Lessons and Carols
with Holy Communion**

11 PM Tuesday, December 24



Be part of the new Concord Choir



Please come out and play with us! We would like to re-start our church choir and/or instrumental music "jam." We invite all to sing and play! Please contact Elizabeth Muldoon if you are interested in joining us.



CONCORD UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

109 Vermillion Street

P.O. Box 746

Athens, WV 24712-0746

Giving Thanks.....