

# HUFF'S UNION CHURCH ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2025



## MISSION STATEMENT

To reach out to the world around us and share the everlasting love of Jesus Christ!

**Making Disciples: Inside and Out.**

**UCC slogan: God is still speaking.**

**ELCA slogan: God's work, our hands.**

**Huff's Union Church, Inc.**

**Rev. Angelee Benner-Smith, Bridge Pastor**

**January 1, 2025 until January 26, 2025**

**Pastor Mike Todd, Bridge Pastor**

**February 16, 2025 through December 31, 2025**

**Office 610-845-2626 Fax 610-845-8507**

**Email: [office@huffschurch.com](mailto:office@huffschurch.com)**

**Website: [www.huffschurch.com](http://www.huffschurch.com)**

**Facebook Public Page: Huff's Union Church, Inc.**

**Facebook Group Page: Huff's Union Church Member Group**

**(Request to join and we will add you to this group.)**

## INDEX

<b>Huff's Union Church Council and Officers</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Huff's Union Church Staff</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Baptisms, Marriages, Deaths. New Members. Transfer to Another Church</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Confirmands, and Membership Statistics</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Statement of Income and Expenses</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Balance Sheet</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>Capital Expenditures</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>Contributions for 2025 by Category</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Pastor's Report</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>2025 Union Council Highlights</b>	<b>12, 13,14</b>
<b>2025 Committees and Chair Persons</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>Audio Visual and Online Outreach</b>	<b>16, 17</b>
<b>Audit Committee</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>Building and Grounds Committee/Equipment</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>Caring and Sharing Committee</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>Huff's Union Church Cemetery Report - 2025</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>Huff's Union Church Cemetery Investment Activities - 2025</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>2025 Cemetery Board Budget</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>Children, Youth, and Faith Formation Ministry</b>	<b>22-23</b>
<b>Constitution and By-Laws Committee Update</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>Dramatized Lord's Supper</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>Financial and Investment</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>Gift Report - Greeter Report</b>	<b>26</b>
<b>Historian - Hospitality</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>Huff's Church Auxiliary</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>Huff's Union Church Auxiliary 2025 Financial Report</b>	<b>29</b>
<b>Library Report</b>	<b>30</b>
<b>Memorial Park Report</b>	<b>31-32</b>
<b>Memorial Park Board Finance Report</b>	<b>33</b>
<b>Mission Endowment Committee Report</b>	<b>34</b>
<b>Mission Outreach and Special Projects</b>	<b>35-36</b>
<b>Pastor Parish Team - Personnel Committee</b>	<b>37</b>
<b>Prayer Chain Committee - Prayer Partner Committee</b>	<b>38</b>
<b>Vacation Bible School</b>	<b>39</b>
<b>Worship and Music Committee</b>	<b>40</b>

**2025 UNION COUNCIL**

**Members**

Theresa Woloszanski  
James Meitzler, Jr.  
Michael Diehl  
Dan Albert  
Aurel Arndt  
Mabel Bittenbender  
Martin Kriebel  
Lori Lanahan  
Lisa Mohammedein  
Carol Petroske  
Matthew Schantz  
William Stoudt  
Mike Todd, Pastor  
Gabriella Moyer, Youth Representative

**Officers**

Theresa Woloszanski	President
James Meitzler, Jr.	Vice President
Michael Diehl	Secretary
Jon Benfield	Treasurer

## **Huff's Church Staff**

### **Office Manager - Edwina Fox**

Our Office Manager is often the first person many people meet as they look for information on our congregation or historical information. Some of the tasks Edwina does include: management of office files and mail, maintaining congregation membership and financial records, arranging for access to facilities for maintenance and events, advertising events, preparation and printing of newsletters and other documents, and maintenance of ministry supplies and office equipment. Contact at [office@huffschurch.com](mailto:office@huffschurch.com) or 610-845-2626.

### **Ministry Assistant - Kara Benfield (starting August 4, 2025) and Angela Hish (through June 26, 2025)**

The Ministry Assistant supports the Congregation volunteers, Pastor, and Office Manager by providing effective and consistent communication, organization, procedures, and recordkeeping. The Ministry Assistant's work includes preparing the worship service bulletin, designing Facebook and digital advertising posts, maintaining online church calendar and office procedures manual, developing the weekly E-Blast, preparing online worship service bulletin with hymn words, researching music copyright licensing permission, preparing for Council meetings and recording minutes. Contact at [ministry@huffschurch.com](mailto:ministry@huffschurch.com) or 610-845-2626.

### **Music Director - Kathy Anthony**

The Music Director plays the piano and organ for Worship Services and directs the Senior and Bell choirs. In addition to selecting music for the Services and recruiting members for the choirs, the Music Director arranges for special music presentations by vocalists and instrumentalists. When available, the Music Director coordinates and plays music for weddings and funerals. The Music Director monitors the condition of the Church's organ, pianos, handbells, and other musical instruments. Contact by leaving a message with the Ministry Assistant.

### **Media & Technical Specialist - Robert Arner**

The Media and Technical Specialist's work is mostly in the background and includes setting up and closing the facilities for ministry events, controls sound and lighting, and manages the technology to provide online worship. In addition to these general tasks, Robert does weekly water testing, broadcasts the worship service live online, and edits the video recording of worship service to upload to YouTube, provides input on purchase of technology equipment, sets up AV equipment for Council and video events as needed including Parents Night Out. Contact by leaving a message with the Ministry Assistant.

### **Groundskeeping - Kyle Arner, Tom Bull, Larry Follweiler, and Chase Longacre**

The groundskeepers handle the big job of mowing, trimming, and leaf cleanup around the Church, the Cemeteries, and Park. Contact by leaving a message with the Office Manager.

**BAPTISMS**

<u>Name of Child/Parents</u>	<u>Born</u>	<u>Baptized</u>
Kassidy Justine Dalia ...Brandon & Rachel Dalia	7/25/2024	6/1/2025
James Leroy Leshner ...Taylor Marie & Brody James Leshner	12/2/2024	6/1/2025

**MARRIAGES**

NONE

**DEATHS**

<u>Names of Deceased</u>	<u>Date of Death</u>	<u>Date of Service</u>
Ruth Leibensperger	1/22/2025	1/31/2025
Shirley L. Mengel	2/18/2025	Private
Dennis N. Thomas	3/2/2025	3/10/2025
Paul D. Hill, Jr.	3/30/2025	4/4/2025
Dolores D. Haas	4/24/2025	4/29/2025
Colleen J. Arner	5/23/2025	5/31/2025
Nancy L. Meitzler	7/14/2025	At A Later Date
Jean G. Britton	7/19/2025	7/28/2025
Earl E. Greiss	8/28/2025	9/6/2025
Janice F. Rauch	9/30/2025	10/6/2025
Jerome J. Barnes	10/21/2025	At A Later Date
Marian N. Weller	12/28/2025	1/5/2026

**NEW MEMBERS RECEIVED**

<u>Names of Member</u>	<u>Date Joined</u>
Michael Hoffman	1/5/2025
Suzanne Hoffman	1/5/2025
Robin Meitzler	1/5/2025
Travis Mininger, Jr.	1/5/2025
Deb Rogers	1/5/2025
Linda Younes	1/5/2025
Homer Jones	5/4/2025
Lori Jones	5/4/2025

**TRANSFERRED TO ANOTHER CONGREGATION**

Robert Moyer

**CONFIRMANDS**

<b><u>NAME OF CONFIRMAND</u></b>	<b><u>DATE CONFIRMED</u></b>
Maxwell Benfield	5/4/2025
Jackson Hunsberger	5/4/2025
Ely Longacre	5/4/2025
Bowie Richetti	5/4/2025
Tyde Ruch	5/4/2025
Asher Ruth	5/4/2025
Heather Ruth	5/4/2025

**MEMBERSHIP STATISTICS**

Total confirmed membership as of 12/31/2024:	415
Additions to membership:	15
Deletions from Membership - Transfers:	1
Deletions from Membership - Deaths:	12
Moved to inactive status:	0
Total confirmed membership as of 12/31/2025:	417
Average Sunday Worship Attendance:	
Online Worship Service	59
Sunday by Sunday Average Worship Attendance:	73

**Huffs Union Church**  
**Statement of Income and Expenses**

	Audited 2024		Audited 2025		Audited 2026		Notes on 2025 Actual
	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	
Giving for operating expenses	173,763	168,575	184,848	170,540	170,540	170,540	electronic giving comprises 28% of total giving
Funds from Church groups	21,000	21,000	21,000	18,000	18,000	18,000	Cemetery \$15k; \$3k each from Youth Group / Sunday School
Fundraising profit	16,031	14,000	14,971	14,275	14,275	14,275	see Auxiliary report
Facility rentals	940	450	840	700	700	700	rent for park/chapel
Interest income	2,580	1,250	1,778	1,665	1,665	1,665	interest income on money market account
Miscellaneous income		-	250	-	-	-	grant received for Church World Service kits
<b>Total income</b>	<b>214,314</b>	<b>205,275</b>	<b>223,687</b>	<b>205,180</b>	<b>205,180</b>	<b>205,180</b>	
Christian education	3,290	3,625	1,268	3,500	3,500	3,500	VBS, confirmation class, background checks
Evangelism	132	200	227	2,400	2,400	2,400	Hospitality; Caring & Sharing
Insurance	19,213	21,353	21,107	23,300	23,300	23,300	Property/General liability \$20k; workers comp \$1k
Benevolence	24,503	21,800	25,970	23,315	23,315	23,315	\$10k each to UCC/ELCA; \$2k local needy; \$4k designated organizations
Ministry expenses	11,388	11,830	13,731	17,185	17,185	17,185	worship \$5k; office expenses \$5k; music \$2k; IT/software costs \$2k
Payroll	155,671	186,283	129,578	177,040	177,040	177,040	
Pastoral expenses	35,176	30,624	2,986	48,225	48,225	48,225	pastor health insurance; pension; mileage; continuing education
Professional fees	962	1,100	1,145	1,250	1,250	1,250	Ministry Works payroll service
Repairs and maintenance	27,049	32,775	33,878	39,560	39,560	39,560	HVAC \$10k; park lighting \$5k; cleaning service \$4k; water testing \$3k; septic \$2k; church roof \$2k; elevator \$2k; pest control \$2k; water heater \$2k; fire protection \$1k; other \$1k
Utilities	20,087	23,150	22,306	26,743	26,743	26,743	electric \$10k; heating oil \$10k; internet/phone \$2k
Bank charges	608	650	638	750	750	750	we pay 0.9% fee on Simply Giving donations; 8% on Give Now donations
<b>Total expenses</b>	<b>298,080</b>	<b>333,390</b>	<b>252,833</b>	<b>363,269</b>	<b>363,269</b>	<b>363,269</b>	
<b>Operating deficit</b>	<b>(83,766)</b>	<b>(128,115)</b>	<b>(29,146)</b>	<b>(158,089)</b>	<b>(158,089)</b>	<b>(158,089)</b>	
Transfers from investments							
for operating expenses	92,083	128,115	39,343	158,089	158,089	158,089	
<b>Net change in cash</b>	<b>8,317</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>10,196</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	

Audit completed by Jane Leeser, Deb Romig, and Dan Albert, March 2026  
Submitted by: Jon Benfield

**Huffs Union Church  
Balance Sheet**

	<b>Audited 12/31/25</b>	<b>Audited 12/31/24</b>	<b>Change</b>	
<b>Designated Funds</b>				
Electronic Organ Fund	1,170	1,170	-	
Sabbatical Fund	2,255	2,255	-	
Missions Outreach Fund	10,621	10,621	-	
Jane Kulkua Scholarship Fund	2,230	2,230	-	
Capital Improvements Fund	-	-	-	(a)
Local Needy Fund	-	-	-	(a)
Special Music Fund	15,310	16,315	(1,005)	(b)
Sunday School Account	-	3,278	(3,278)	(c)
Youth Group Account	5,698	8,982	(3,284)	(c)
Operations Fund	41,382	48,604	(7,222)	(d)
Total Desig Funds - Truist Money Mkt	<u>78,665</u>	<u>93,454</u>	<u>(14,789)</u>	
<b>General Funds</b>				
Petty cash	265	269	(3)	
Current Fund - Truist Checking	4,933	1,209	3,724	
Total General Funds	<u>5,198</u>	<u>1,478</u>	<u>3,721</u>	
<b>Long-term Fund - Tiller Wealth</b>	<u>4,284,879</u>	<u>3,791,836</u>	<u>493,043</u>	detailed below
<b>Total Assets</b>	<u><b>4,368,742</b></u>	<u><b>3,886,767</b></u>	<u><b>481,975</b></u>	

**Investment Balance Roll-forward**

	<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>	
Beginning balance	3,791,836	3,538,519	
Transfer from Park	12,457	-	(e)
Transfer from Sunday School CDs	-	4,693	(f)
Contributions - estate gifts	14,250	30,000	
Interest & dividends	160,945	125,666	
Realized & unrlzd gains/(losses)	375,536	261,389	
Fees	(20,144)	(18,431)	
Withdrawals (transfers to checking)	(50,000)	(150,000)	(g)
Ending balance	<u>4,284,879</u>	<u>3,791,836</u>	

(a) all donations received designated for capital improvements and local needy were spent within the year

(b) funds used for special music performances throughout 2025

(c) Sunday School and Youth Group funds were contributed to the Union Church to support general operating expenses and Christian Ed and confirmation class events

(d) Operations Fund is to support general operating and capital expenses and for liquidity

(e) Park assets began being transferred to Union Church investment account in 2025 and will be completed in 2026

(f) Sunday School CDs were redeemed and contributed to the Union Church investment account in 2024

(g) withdrawals from investments were used to pay operating expenses and capital expenditures

**Huffs Union Church**  
**Capital Expenditures**

	<b>Audited 2024 Actual</b>	<b>2025 Budget</b>	<b>Audited 2025 Actual</b>	<b>2026 Budget</b>	<b>Notes</b>
Paint & caulk all 3 buildings		25,000		25,000	
Fire system upgrades				19,000	including emergency lighting & exit signs for all buildings
Security system upgrades church \$2k; chapel \$2k				4,000	including cameras to protect entrances to all 3 buildings
Church - Heating/air conditioning system	22,801		952	35,000	2024 - major repairs to boiler piping/valves; replace compressor for 1st floor 2025 - feedwater tank work 2026 - rebalancing/radiators; HVAC assessment
Chapel - major maintenance	18,229	40,000	8,876	35,000	2024 - repair bathroom ceilings & roof 2025 - replace 1st floor windows 2026 - undefined
Park - well pit improvements		10,000	8,988		
Park - prepping & painting bandshell support columns & benches	2,000	5,000	2,770		
Septic system upgrades			4,775		
Church - well pump replacement	1,949				
Church - roof major maintenance	48,341				
Replacement fund		20,000		20,000	unexpected/non-designated costs
<b>Total capital expenditures</b>	<b>93,320</b>	<b>100,000</b>	<b>26,361</b>	<b>138,000</b>	
<b>Funding of capital expenditures</b>					
Giving - capital improvements	5,403	3,000	1,453	1,500	
Estate gifts	30,000	13,500	14,250	14,250	
Transfers from investments for capital expenditures	57,917	83,500	10,657	122,250	
<b>Total funding</b>	<b>93,320</b>	<b>100,000</b>	<b>26,361</b>	<b>138,000</b>	

## Contributions for 2025 by Dollar Category

Dollar Amount Given

Giving Per Unit

Zero	103
.01 - 5.00	3
5.01 - 10.00	9
10.01 - 25.00	26
25.01 - 50.00	28
50.01 - 75.00	16
75.01 - 100.00	33
100.01 - 150.00	13
150.01 - 200.00	15
200.01 - 250.00	5
250.01 - 300.00	10
300.01 - 350.00	2
350.01 - 400.00	3
400.01 - 450.00	3
450.01 - 500.00	4
500.01 - 750.00	10
750.01 - 1000.00	10
1000.01 - 1500.00	15
1500.01 - 2000.00	4
2000.01 - 2500.00	5
2500.01 - 3000.00	2
3000.01 - 3500.00	1
3500.01 - 4000.00	3
4000.01 - 4500.00	0
4500.01 - 5000.00	2
5000.01 - 6000.00	1
6000.01 - Plus	5
<b>Total Giving Units</b>	<b>331</b>

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## **Pastor' Report - Mike Todd**

**Matthew 19:26** - *“With God all things are possible.”*

It was an honor and a pleasure to serve as the Bridge Pastor at Huff's Union Church for most of 2025. From the moment I started in February, the members at Huff's made me feel like family. In addition to leading regular worship services, I have conducted baptisms, funerals, young member Confirmations, new member inductions, the installation of new Council members, led outdoor worship services in the park, and led the children around the sanctuary multiple times singing, dancing, and greeting the congregation.

More often than not, I participated in the monthly Food Truck distribution and gathered in fellowship with the Lunch Bunch. A number of you have welcomed me into your homes for visits and asked me to visit loved ones in the hospital or nursing home in their time of need. It was a joy to assist in two Oyster Pie Sales, a Church Picnic, the Easter Egg Story Hunt, and VBS. Many times we gathered together for fellowship in the chapel to honor each other and the communion of saints who have gone before. The common thread running through all of these is how I was able to witness God's spirit working in and among all of the members, visitors, family, and friends who are blessed by the care and unending generosity of this church family. This is probably why people, who have moved out of the area and come back to visit, make a point of coming up to me to tell me how much they loved growing up in the church and wish they lived closer if only to be a part of the Huff's community more frequently.

I am extremely grateful to all of the members and volunteers who graciously welcomed the opportunity to try new things and worked with me to recognize what did and didn't work. It is that positive attitude of seeing things from different perspectives and moving in new directions that will continue to set Huff's apart and help us to grow into the future. That is why Christmas Eve 2025 will always be a special memory for me as we were able to officially announce that, starting in 2026, I move from Bridge Pastor to Full-time Pastor. I can wholeheartedly state that despite the difficulties encountered here and around the world in 2025, God's light continued to show through in an infinite number of ways and the blessings far outweighed the disappointments.

May God bless you and keep you now and forever! May the Holy Spirit move within each and every one of us and help us to always see what is possible when we have faith.

Blessings and peace,  
Pastor Mike Todd

## **2025 Union Council Highlights**

**NIV Bible Verse: Acts 14:23** - *Paul and Barnabas appointed elders for them in each church and, with prayer and fasting, committed them to the Lord, in whom they had put their trust.*

### **Accomplishments during the past year:**

#### **January 13**

- Election of Church Officers are as follows: Theresa Woloszanski, President; Jim Meitzler, Jr., Vice President; Jon Benfield, Treasurer and Michael Diehl, Secretary.
- An Inclement Weather Staff Policy was created.
- Updates on the Church Profile and Youth Protection Policy were discussed.

#### **February 10**

- Pastor Mike Todd was approved as the next Bridge Pastor, and his Housing Allowance Resolution was approved.
- The Park Well/Pump repair estimate was approved.
- Ash Wednesday and Lenten services were discussed.
- Council decided to terminate food donations to Allentown Rescue Mission and will focus on the other 3 local pantries.
- A clothing drive for the Hope Rescue Mission was scheduled for March and April.

#### **March 10**

- The Church Profile was approved.
- Park Benches and Posts Painting Estimates were approved.
- Park Cleanup was set for April 6th.
- Summer events planned - Outdoor Services were planned, with options for special music once a month. Auxiliary was asked to plan lunch in the park on June 22nd; July 26th date set for the Park Picnic; and August 16th was set for another Park Picnic or Pig Roast.
- The 2024 Annual Report was approved for presentation to the congregation.

#### **April 14**

- The Annual Spring Congregational Meeting was held on April 6th to get congregational approval for the Annual Report.
- Council approved the Good News Travelin' Band to perform on June 22nd; other musical groups were being pursued for the other summer events.
- Marketing strategies were discussed for promoting our church and its events, like using more social media for announcements, posting on the Building Better Boyertown website, and at Diakon - Lutheran Home in Topton.

#### **May 12**

- Some additional Church Park painting needs were discussed.
- Pastoral Search update was given.
- Discussion about getting an Electronic Sign.
- Council approved the printing of yard signs for special events.
- The Memorial Day Special Service was planned for May 25th.

## **2025 Union Council Highlights (continued)**

### **June 9**

- Spring Meeting minutes were approved.
- A musical group was secured for the August 16th picnic.
- UCC Conference and ELCA Meeting highlights were presented.
- A larger donation to the local fire company for their services was approved.
- A vacation request was approved for Pastor Mike
- July Council Meeting was agreed to be skipped, due to vacations. Angela Hish's resignation from the Ministry Assistance Position was accepted.

### **July, 2025**

- No council meeting was planned for July, but the Executive Committee had special meetings and emails in order to interview candidates for a new Ministry Assistant. They were able to approve the hiring of Kara Benfield for the position
- July 13th was an outdoor service, with special music by the Vintage Brass Quintet, and refreshments were served afterwards.
- July 26th was the big summer picnic in the park, with the Majestics musical group.

### **August 11**

- Dan Albert presented info about developing a Care Committee.
- Jim Meitzler, Jr. presented some ideas for Chapel use that he received from other church members.
- Many maintenance or repair items were discussed.
- A new lockbox was installed for the Seisholtzville Fire Company's use.
- The supporting of Operation Backpack (a non-profit organization) was approved.

### **September 8**

- Jim Meitzler, Jr. presented a report on suggested Chapel renovations and its uses.
- Parents Night Out is being organized by Tess and is scheduled for December 5.
- A Nominating Committee was begun and discussion about what members will be needed for 2026.
- A Veterans Appreciation Covered Dish Luncheon began to be planned for November 9th.
- Joyful Noise Collection was set for November 9th and November 16th, with the money being given to Friend, Inc.
- Fall and advent season scheduling was discussed.

### **October 13**

- The 2026 proposed budget was presented and reviewed.
- The Chapel first floor window replacement estimate was approved.
- A picnic in June (20) 2026 was approved, to replace the August picnic (which was not very successful). Hannah Violet Trio has been secured to play at that event.
- Council approved a PSEC donation to honor Bill Worley of the Conference.
- A Search Committee Update was given.

**2025 Union Council Highlights** (continued)**November 10**

- The All-Saints Day Service was on November 2, with light refreshments served afterwards.
- An appeal was made for the Ministry Assistant to move forward with creating a Church Directory.
- The 2026 Budget and Cemetery Board Budget was approved by Council, to be presented to the congregation in December.
- A Membership Role Review Committee was appointed.
- A Soup Sale and Light Lunch was planned for January 11th following the service.

**December 8**

- The Annual Fall Congregational Meeting was held on December 7th to get congregational approval for the 2026 Budget and new Council Members.
- New council Members have been found and will be installed on January 18th.
- December 21st was the Children's Christmas Program, presented during the worship service, with light refreshments afterwards.
- Pastor was given permission to work on a grant from Pennsylvania's Faithful Fund for the improvement of rural historic buildings. The goal would be to use this money to make repairs and improvements to the Chapel.
- Pastor Mike Todd was presented by the Search Committee as our next full-time pastor; Council approved the terms of his call, and Pastor Todd accepted the call and its terms.

**Respectfully Submitted by:** Tess Woloszanski, Council President

## 2025 Committees and Chair Persons

<b>Committee Name</b>	<b>Committee Chair Person</b>	<b>Chairperson Email Address</b>
Audio Visual	Joanne Benfield	jobenfield1213@gmail.com
Audit	Jane Leeser	jmltiki@aol.com
Auxiliary	Lisa Kauffman	lrkauffman5363@gmail.com
Budget	Jon Benfield	jbenfield429@gmail.com
Building & Grounds	William Stoudt	wpslstoudt@gmail.com
Caring & Sharing	Pat Crossley	p.crossley@comcast.net
Cemetery	Steven Lorish	lorishmower@windstream.net
Children, Youth & Faith	Joanne Benfield	jobenfield1213@gmail.com
Dramatized Lord's Supper	Gary Moll & Frank Meitzler	glmoll@cedarcrest.edu
Equipment Oversight	Bill Stoudt	wpslstoudt@gmail.com
Finance & Investment	Justin Miller	jmiller0107@gmail.com
Gift	Rachel Welch	rahelwelch@yahoo.com
Greeters	Jane Leeser	jmltiki.aol.com
Historian	Scott Swackhamer	swackhamer101@gmail.com
Hospitality	Tess Woloszanski	theresawoloszanski@gmail.com
Library	Carol Leh	
Memorial Park	Keith Rauenzahn	kfrau61@ptd.net
Memorial Park Finance	John Leeser	birdmanjhl@aol.com
Mission Endowment	Ernest Geist	epgeist@gmail.com
Mission Outreach	Tom Mitchell	dilligas1213@gmail.com
Pastor Parish	Vacant	
Personnel	Jimmy Meitzler Sr.	pamij6@gmail.com
Prayer Chain	John Leeser	birdmanjhl@aol.com
Prayer Partners	John Leeser	birdmanjhl@aol.com
Sunday School	Rachel Welch	rahelwelch@yahoo.com
Vacation Bible School	Melissa Benfield	mabenfield429@gmail.com
Worship & Music	Kay Kriebel	kaykriebel@gmail.com

**Submitted by:** Tess Woloszanski

## **Audio-Visual and Online Outreach**

**Bible Verse: *Mark 16:15*** *Jesus said, "Go into all the world and proclaim the Good News..."*

**Purpose:** To extend the reach of Huff's Church ministry through audio visual support and online outreach, and provide information about upcoming events to both members and community.

**Staff and volunteer support: Thank-you to all the team who do the "behind the scenes" work!**

Robert Arner, Media and Technical Specialist, handles audio, broadcasting, recording and uploading of worship services.

Our Ministry Assistant (Angela Hish and Kara Benfield) designs and composes Facebook posts, designs online title page and bulletins, researches copyright licensing permissions for online music, maintains online calendar, composes eBlasts, assists as administrator on Facebook, posts services weekly on Facebook, updates website.

Volunteers: Ron Leshner, video camera recording of Services; Jennifer Weaver, designs and maintains website, and Facebook administrator; Joanne Benfield assists with coordination and communication;

**ACCOMPLISHMENTS DURING PAST YEAR.** Huff's Church extended outreach in these various ways:

**WEBSITE:** [www.huffschurch.com](http://www.huffschurch.com) 8250 views in 2025 (4595 more than 2024) \$6,984 received through website in 2025 (\$1,784 more than 2024).

The website provides an introduction to Huff's Church where folks can see photos of our campus, find information about worship times, videos of our worship services, find summaries of our various ministries, and learn about our Pastor and staff. Background is provided about the UCC and ELCA denominations, Huff's Church history, and links to cemetery listings for family research. *Calendar* link provides dates and times of events. *Donate* tab enables convenient online giving.

**LIVE BROADCAST AND RECORDED WORSHIP SERVICES:** [www.youtube.com/@huffschurch](https://www.youtube.com/@huffschurch)

Total views in 2025 – 3789 (1252 more than 2024); Subscribers-86 (28 more than 2024)

Worship Services are broadcast live on Huff's Union Church YouTube Channel at <https://www.youtube.com/@huffschurch> under the LIVE tab. The edited recording of the Service is usually available for replay by 5:00 p.m. at the same link under the VIDEO tab. The recorded Service is usually posted by Sunday evening on Huffs Union Church Facebook pages.

**WEEKLY eBLAST EMAIL:** Total Subscribers in 2025 - 83 (2 more than 2024)

The eBlast can be delivered to your inbox every Thursday. In it you will find a quick reference of the important events going on here at Huff's Church. If you'd like to be added to our weekly eBlast list, please email the Ministry Assistant at [ministry@huffschurch.com](mailto:ministry@huffschurch.com) and ask to be added to the list.

### **Audio-Visual and Online Outreach** (continued)

**FACEBOOK:** Huff's Church maintains a Public Page and a Member Group Page

**Public Page *Huff's Union Church Inc.*** - 346 Followers (45 more than 2024)

**Group Page: *Huff's Union Church Member Group*** - 375 Members (22 new members added in 2025)

We post upcoming events and announcements on these pages several times per week. You can 'share' posts on our public page. Facebook rules do not allow sharing from the private member page. 'Like' our public page or request to 'join' the Member Group page.

### **PARK WORSHIP SERVICES AV SET UP, MUSIC AMPLIFICATION AND BROADCAST TO CAR RADIO**

For the usual 8 summer Services, set-up video and amplification for microphones and keyboard. Several folks with difficulty walking or other reasons enjoy sitting in their car near the Bandshell where they can see both the Service and tune in on their car radio to clearly hear the Service.

### **FUTURE PROJECTS:**

Possibly add some use of video screen during some worship services in the Sanctuary

Update website

**Submitted by:** Joanne Benfield

### **Audit Committee**

**Bible Verse: *Leviticus 19:36*** - *You shall have honest balances and honest weights.*

***Proverbs 11:1*** - *A false balance is an abomination to the Lord, but an accurate weight is his delight.*

**Purpose:** Purpose: The Lord wants us to be accurate and honest in our business and our accounting. To be fiscally responsible we audit all financial records annually.

**Chairperson:** Jane Leeser

### **Accomplishments during the past year:**

Audits were completed on the treasurers' books for the year ending December 31, 2025, for Huff's Union Cemetery, Auxiliary, Park Board, The Endowment Fund, and Huff's Union Church. All records were found to be in order and correct.

Thank you to all of the treasurers for their valuable time and excellent work throughout the year. Thank you to Dan Albert, Deb Romig, Jim Meitzler, Sr. and myself for their help in completing the audits.

**Submitted by:** Jane Leeser

## **Building and Grounds/Equipment Committee**

**Bible Verse:** *Ezekiel 44: 14 - Yet I will appoint them to keep charge of the temple, to do all its chores, all that is to be done in it.*

**Purpose:** The Building and Grounds/Equipment Committee is responsible for maintaining the church campus in appearance and working order.

**Chairperson:** William Stoudt

### **Tasks for 2025:**

1. Review Agreements of Approved Service Contractors
2. Review Work Orders and Invoices
3. Fire Extinguisher and Alarm Test Completed
4. Review Chemical Analysis Treatment
5. HVAC inspections & Repairs.

### **Accomplishments for 2025:**

#### **Chapel:**

- Replace windows on the lower level
- Empty dehumidifiers

#### **Church:**

- Empty Septic System and raised tank lids to ground level of Campus Septic System
- Replace hot water heater
- Installed feed water tank and steam traps to improve boiler operation
- Had water fountain serviced
- Replace Elevator Lights and install Door Lock Assembly to Elevator Equipment Room  
\_\_as required by the State Elevator Inspection Report
- Empty dehumidifiers
- Snow Removal
- Replace water filter in Church Office

Thanks to Martin Kriebel and Jimmy Meitzler, Sr. for their support for many of these accomplishments completed by them. Thanks to Jimmy Meitzler, Sr. for his assistance in the HVAC operations.

**Submitted by:** William Stoudt

## **Caring & Sharing Committee**

**Bible Verse:** *Matthew 25: 10* - *And the King will answer them, "Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me."*

**Purpose:** The Caring and Sharing Committee supervises the Lay Visitors program, whose members visit our congregation's homebound members and those who are temporarily homebound with some volunteers qualified to offer Holy Communion. They also send birthday cards to those members aged 80 and above, and anniversary cards to those members married 50 years or more.

**Members:** Pat Crossley, Norma Greiss, Lisa Kauffman, Jane Leeser and Rhoda Shaner.

**Submitted by:** Pat Crossley

**Huff's Union Church Cemetery**  
**Calendar Year 2025**

Genesis 23:6 –	Bury your dead in the choicest of our burial places; none of us will withhold from you any burial ground for burying your dead.
Purpose –	To maintain the Huff's Union Church burial grounds and grave markers.
Officers –	Stephen Lorish, President; Eric Diehl, Vice President; Kerry Meitzler, Secretary; Martin Kriebel, Treasurer
Members -	Robert Ruch, Matthew Schantz, Ernest Geist, William Stoudt, Terry Ziegenfuss
Accomplishments –	The year 2025 has seen 7 full burials and 3 cremation burials. In addition to burials, new grave footers and markers are being set, and the weekly mowing is being performed. This year we also installed a new fence along the Church Yard Cemetery embankment, replacing the split rail fence which was badly deteriorated.
	In past years, we continued to investigate methods to best repair the broken markers in the Church Yard Cemetery. As a result, we contracted with Roth Cemetery Services to reset, repair, and restore each marker in the Church Yard Cemetery that needs attention. This work will be completed during July and August of 2026.

Respectfully Submitted by Martin L. Kriebel, Treasurer

**Huff's Union Church Cemetery Investment Activities for 2025**

	Hertzog Fund	Permanent Fund	General Fund
January 1, 2025, Market Value	\$503,010.46	\$307,238.15	\$127,359.67
Interest & Dividend Income	<u>\$12,262.49</u>	<u>\$7,762.68</u>	<u>\$3,624.70</u>
Total Funds Available	\$515,272.95	\$315,000.83	\$130,984.37
Disbursements:			
Monthly Withdrawal	-\$6,000.00	-\$3,600.00	-\$2,400.00
Roth Cemetery Services Contract	-\$60,000.00		
Account Fees	<u>-\$2,742.62</u>	<u>-\$1,686.30</u>	<u>-\$698.68</u>
Total Disbursements	-\$68,742.62	-\$5,286.30	-\$3,098.68
Change in Market Value	\$48,618.89	\$29,093.00	\$10,496.75
December 31, 2025, Market Value	\$495,149.22	\$338,807.53	\$138,382.44

2025 Cemetery Board Budget

Huff's Union Church Cemetery Budget

	12/31/2023	12/31/2024	12/31/2025	2026 Budget
<b>Check Book Balance Jan. 1</b>	\$20,375.04	\$10,201.42	\$15,692.98	\$59,063.78
<b>Income:</b>				
Investor's Trust - Hertzog Fund	9,000.00	6,000.00	6,000.00	6,000.00
Investor's Trust - Permanent Fund	3,600.00	3,600.00	3,600.00	3,600.00
Investor's Trust - General Fund	2,400.00	2,400.00	2,400.00	2,400.00
Sale of Lots	6,600.00	8,400.00	8,600.00	8,000.00
Sale of Vaults	0.00	325.00	0.00	325.00
Grave Opening Fees - Full Burial	3,900.00	4,550.00	2,450.00	4,000.00
Grave Opening Fees - Cremation	1,800.00	2,450.00	1,050.00	2,000.00
Saturday Burial Surcharge	750.00	675.00	75.00	450.00
Sallie Bechtel Fund Income	\$0.00	1,886.84	1,024.88	1,050.00
Mae Krause Fund Interest - Odd Years Only	1,100.00	0.00	108.25	0.00
General Fund Transfer for Stone Repair	0.00	20,000.00	0.00	0.00
Hertzog Fund Transfer for Roth Proposal	0.00	0.00	60,000.00	0.00
<b>Total Funds Available</b>	<b>\$49,525.04</b>	<b>\$60,488.26</b>	<b>\$101,001.11</b>	<b>\$86,888.78</b>
<b>Expenses:</b>				
Lawn Mowing and Trimming	15,000.00	15,000.00	15,000.00	15,000.00
Gas and Oil	1,526.43	1,466.19	1,012.01	1,250.00
Equipment Maintenance & Repair	1,369.87	848.34	1,754.01	2,000.00
Transfer to Permanent Fund - 80% of Lot Sales	7,741.00	6,720.00	6,880.00	6,400.00
Snow Removal	0.00	0.00	2,230.00	2,500.00
Esterly Vault Company	0.00	250.00	0.00	250.00
Parking Lot Line Maintenance & Repair	600.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Mulch, Topsoil, Fertilizer & Lime	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Cemetery Wall Repair / Replacement	11,885.00	1,885.00	0.00	0.00
Tombstone Repair /Replacement	0.00	18,625.75	15,000.00	45,000.00
Establish Mae Krause CD	1,100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Miscellaneous Expenses	101.32	0.00	61.43	250.00
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$39,323.62</b>	<b>\$44,795.28</b>	<b>\$41,937.45</b>	<b>\$72,650.00</b>
<b>Check Book Ending Dec. 31</b>	<b>\$10,201.42</b>	<b>\$15,692.98</b>	<b>\$59,063.66</b>	<b>\$14,238.78</b>

## Children, Youth, and Faith Formation Ministry

**Acts 8:30-31** *Do you understand what you are reading?" Philip asked. The man replied, "How can I unless someone teaches me?"*

**Purpose:** Provide variety of faith formation opportunities to children, teens, families, and adults in Church and Community by enabling teachers/leaders and inviting, connecting, teaching, and supporting each individual wherever they are in their own faith journey.

**Facilitators:** Rachel Welch and Joanne Benfield. Thankful for all who serve in the many ways below.

### **ACTIVITIES AND PARTICIPANTS IN 2025 GENERALLY INCLUDED THE FOLLOWING:**

**A-CHILDREN'S MINISTRY: Proverbs 22: 6** *Train children on the right way and they will not stray.*

**\*Sunday School:** During the 10:30 Worship Service, children come to the front for a message. On the first Sunday of each month, children return to sit with their family. Other weeks children preschool through 6<sup>th</sup> grade gather with teachers for Sunday School using multi-age curriculum. Teachers volunteer to teach for different months. About 4-7 children attend.

**Sunday School Teachers and Helpers:** Among the teachers and helpers who share in this ministry: Rachel Welch, Kara Benfield, Stephanie Diehl, Jon Benfield, Melissa Benfield, Joanne Benfield.

**\*Easter Story Egg Hunt** – Despite snow, Egg Hunt held in the Sanctuary on Saturday before Palm Sunday. About 50 people including 23 children attended. Kids received activity booklets and crayons. With generous donations, about 600 eggs prepared.

**Egg Hunt help:** Nick, Jackson, Emily & Stephanie Hunsberger, Tyde & Bob Ruch, Gabriella Moyer, Asher, Heather, & Jeffrey Ruth, Bowie & Meghan Richetti, Joanne Benfield, Bea Fogel, Tess Woloszanski, Emily Ziegenfuss, Lisa Mohammedin, Paul & Breanna Giangiacomo.

**\*Songs for Easter** – 5 children learned 2 songs for Easter Sunday Service coordinated by Kara Benfield.

**\*Vacation Bible School** - 5 Wednesday evenings in July in Park. Bible stories, crafts, science activities. See separate report.

**\*Children's Activities at Picnic** - Self-directed games and activities set up Beth Ciccarone at summer picnics.

**\*Hosted first Parents Night Out in December** – Parents invited to drop off children ages 3-12 at Chapel for a meal, decorate cookies, crafts, games, and holiday movie. 6 children registered.

**\*Children's Christmas Musical Program "Symbols of Christmas"** - 9 children and teens rehearsed during Sunday School for this lively music program celebrating the birth of Jesus coordinated by Stephanie Diehl.

**B-YOUTH/TEEN: Timothy 4: 12** *Let no one look down on your youthfulness, but rather in speech, conduct, love, faith, and purity, show yourself an example of those who believe.*

**\*Confirmation class**-Generally designed for grades 6-9, seven students began Confirmation instruction January 2024, and were confirmed in May 2025. Mentors and families provided support. Confirmation students assist as acolytes and at church events. Collected supplies to make 8 Clean Up Buckets and 24 Hygiene Kits for Church World Service. Coordinators - Tess Woloszanski and Jon Benfield.

### **Children, Youth, and Faith Formation Ministry** (continued)

**C-ADULT/ALL AGES Acts 5:42** *And every day, in the temple and from house to house, they did not cease teaching and preaching that the Christ is Jesus.*

\***Adult Sunday School** - about 5 adults gather every Sunday at 9:15. Facilitators include Mabel Bittenbender, Elvin Keiser and Gary Moll.

\***Lay Bible Study** - 10 adults gather once/month on Saturday for Bible Study and lunch. Facilitators include Lea Kline and others.

\***Weekly Village Volleyball and Gagaball** - June-August and at summer picnics.

**D-ADMINISTRATION: I Corinthians 14:40** *All things must be done properly and in an orderly manner.*

\***Child Protection** - Update PA required Child Protection Clearances as need and comply with 2 Adult Rule.

#### **DURING 2026 CONTINUE ABOVE ACTIVITIES AND POSSIBLY ADD OTHERS:**

-Begin another Confirmation Class.

-Offer more family/kid focus events like Parents Night Out and events in the Park.

-Invite more children to Sunday School and add more teachers.

Involve teens in planning and assisting at events and Services.

**Submitted by:** Joanne Benfield

## Update on Constitution and Bylaws and Merger

**Bible Verse: *Ephesians 4:16*** - *Under Christ's control all the different parts of the body fit together, and the whole body is held together by every joint with which it is provided. So when each separate part works as it should, the whole body grows and builds itself up through love.*

**Purpose:** To finalize documentation of Huff's Union Church Inc. as remaining corporation of merger of Huff's UCC and Huff's ELCA and to assist with understanding and compliance of Constitution and Bylaws.

**Background:** The new Constitution and Bylaws of Huff's Union Church was approved on 3/13/2022. On 9/25/2022 Huff's Union Inc., Huff's UCC Inc, and Huff's ELCA Inc. approved the Plan of Merger to merge into one remaining corporation Huff's Union Church Inc. All documentation was properly signed and sealed by the officers of each corporation. Attorney Keith Strohl prepared the documents required to submit the merger to the PA Dept of State for approval with 12/31/22 as the effective date of merger.

### **In 2025 following done:**

-Obtained PA Sales Tax Exemption Certificate for Huff's Union Church Inc., and cancellation of the sales tax exemption certificates on record for Huff's UCC Inc. and Huff's ELCA Inc. This was final step in legal process to complete the merger into one corporation.

### **Plans for 2026:**

-The Congregation and Council of Huff's Union Church Inc. continue to "live into" and function under the new Constitution and Bylaws.

**Submitted by:** Joanne Benfield

## Dramatized Lord's Supper

**Bible Verse: *Matthew 28:19*** - *Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.*

### **Accomplishments during the past year:**

The Passion Play was not presented in 2025.

## Financial & Investment Committee 2025 Report

**Bible Verse:** *Proverbs 21: 5* - The plans of the diligent lead to profit as surely as haste leads to poverty.

**Purpose:** The Committee's responsibility is to oversee the management and investment of the Long Term and Capital Improvement Funds. These funds were created to hold unrestricted monies other than the Mission Endowment Funds donated to the Church for investment and ultimate use to fund Church programs, projects and other needs.

**Chairperson:** Justin Miller

**Members:** The committee will consist of 5 active voting members appointed by council and include non-voting members represented by the Council President, Treasurer, and Pastor. 2025 members of the committee included Justin Miller, Aurel Arndt, Robin Diehl, Scott Swackhamer as voting members and Council President Theresa Woloszanski and Church Treasurer Jon Benfield as ex-officio, non-voting members.

### Market Review

2025 ended with stock markets around the world performing exceptionally well. The year started on shaky ground when stocks fell almost 20% after "Liberation Day" when President Trump announced aggressive tariffs on trading partners. As the dust settled, the actual tariff rates were much less than initially proposed and markets recovered quickly. For the U.S., the S&P 500 returned over 16%, while international markets were up over 25%. The bond market also produced strong returns as the Bloomberg Aggregate Bond Index was up over 7%. Stock markets around the world have now experienced back-to-back-to-back strong returns.

### 2025 in Review

Our committee met throughout the year to review the investments and the needs of the church. Tiller Private Wealth serves as the investment advisor. The church relies on monthly distributions from the portfolio for ordinary expenses and for long-term capital projects.

The Huffs Church investment accounts ended the year with a 13.77% rate of return. Re-balancing adjustments were made throughout the year to maintain a risk level consistent with the church's goal of income with moderate growth. At the time of this report, the church has adequate reserves in conservative investments to facilitate monthly distributions without having to sell stocks if the market were to decline. A reflection of account activity can be found in Huffs Union Church Annual Report.

We welcome comments and questions on this report and appreciate all feedback. We look forward to reporting results of our continuing investment activity during 2026 and beyond.

**Submitted by:** Justin Miller

## Gift Committee Report

**Bible Verse:** *Deuteronomy 16: 17 All shall give as they are able, according to the blessing of the LORD your God that he has given you.*

**Purpose:** The Gift Committee gathers suggestions for needed or desired items for Huff's Church, evaluates these suggestions, passes them to Union Council for approval, then provides a brochure listing these items and their prices to those who wish to donate a specific item to the church.

**Chairperson:** Rachel Welch

**Members:** N/A

**Accomplishments during the past year:**

During the past year, there were no donations made to the church. There were also no additions to the Gift brochure.

**Submitted by:** Rachel Welch

## Greeter Report

**Bible Verse:** *Hebrews 13:1-2 - Let mutual love continue. Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it.*

**Purpose:** The Greeter Committee helps promote hospitality in our church. To accomplish this mission, we encourage members of our congregation to be greeters, providing them with information on welcoming both newcomers and regular attendees.

**Chairperson:** Jane Leeser

**Greeters:** Last year's greeters were: Dan Albert, Kylee Albert, Aurel Arndt, Pat Crossley, Eric & Robin Diehl, Wayne & Bea Fogel, Paul & Breanna Giangiacomo, Lucy Grampp, Norma Greiss, Dale Heffner, Madison Heffner, Dena Lebo, Lisa Kauffman, Lori Lanahan, Wayne & Leonora Kline, Martin & Kay Kriebel, John & Jane Leeser, Jim & Laura Meitzler, Jim and Pam Meitzler, Bea Miller, Tom Mitchell, Lisa Mohammedein, Randy Moll, Pauline Reinhard, Deborah Rogers, Deborah Romig, Sue Stockdale, Mary Szilli, Ann Taylor, Elaine Witman, Tess Woloszanski, Linda Younes and Charles & Carol Zwoyer.

**Accomplishments during the past year:**

Greeters welcomed people to the church services throughout the year and will continue to do so.

Thank you to all the people who volunteered to be greeters.

**Submitted by:** Jane Leeser

## Historian

**Bible Verse:** *Psalms 71: 18 - So even to old age and gray hairs, O God, do not forsake me, until I proclaim your might to all the generations to come.*

**Purpose:** Our congregation's history needs to be preserved and historical records maintained so we may know our past and see how it might impact our present and future.

**Chairperson:** Scott Swackhamer

**Accomplishments:** On Sunday, November 9, we had a fine Veteran's Day Celebration after the Worship Service in the Chapel. An addition to the bulletin contained samples of the many letters received by the Huff's Sunday School in response to their newsletter mailed to service men and women during World War II. The Huff's Auxiliary provided a lunch and many photos and keepsakes of Huff's Veterans were on display.

**Submitted by:** Scott Swackhamer

## Hospitality

**Bible Verse:** *Luke 10: 38 - Now as they went on their way, he entered a certain village, where a woman named Martha welcomed him into her home.*

**Purpose:** The Hospitality Committee seeks to make members and guests feel welcome at Huff's Church special worship services by serving them refreshments. Members of this committee supervise and set up for covered dish dinners, as well as for special programs.

**Chairperson:** Tess Woloszanski

### Events during the past year:

- January 5 - Coffee and Donut Hour: coffee, juice and breakfast treats served prior to the worship service as we welcomed new church members.
- January 12 - New Year's Wish Service: refreshments served following the service.
- January 26 - Covered Dish in Chapel as we said goodbye to Pastor Angelee Benner-Smith.
- February 23 - Pastor John Steitz's Farewell service: refreshments served following the worship service.
- May 4 - Confirmation Service: cake and drink served in the Chapel following the service as we congratulated confirmands.
- July 13 - Worship in Park with Special Music, refreshments served afterwards in park.
- August 10 - Worship in Park with Special Music, refreshments served afterwards in park.
- November 2 - All Saints Day Service: refreshments served following the service.
- Novembr 9 - Veterans Day Covered Dish in Chapel.
- December 21 - Children's Christmas Program: refreshments served following the service.

**Submitted by:** Tess Woloszanski

## **Huff's Church Auxiliary**

**Bible Verse:** *Peter: 4:10 - As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace.*

**Purpose:** The purpose of the Huff's Church Auxiliary is to work for the betterment of the Christian Church, to provide Christian services and monies to Huff's Union Church and its members.

**Chairperson:** Lisa Kauffman

### **Accomplishments during the past year:**

- The Auxiliary held numerous fundraising events this year: 2 oyster pie sales, red beet sale, 1 soup and sandwich sale and 2 church picnics.
- Oyster pie sales April 5 and October 25 were successful. Profit from the April sale of \$3,603.36 and the profit from the October sale \$4,044.00 for a total of \$7,647.30.
- A soup and sandwich sale was held on May 7 for a total profit of \$454.41. We sold 87 subs, 23 quarts of soup and 9 pints of soup.
- Red Beets were made on May 22. We made 103 quarts and 116 pints. Our profit, for this year long fundraiser was \$1,287.
- July 26 picnic - Our efforts for this fundraiser were met with a profit of \$4,054.
- August 16 picnic - We were able to raise \$1,630.
- The Auxiliary was able to raise funds, with multiple fundraisers, with the help of our long-time members, new members and the youth of our congregation.

**Submitted by:** Deb Romig, Secretary

### Huff's Union Church Auxiliary 2025 Financial Report

	2024	2025
<b>Check Book Balance January 1, 2025</b>	\$6,982.53	\$6,626.74
<b>Income:</b>		
Reimbursement for picnic change	\$2,495.12	\$650.00
Reimbursement for oyster pies	\$7,147.57	\$5,731.82
In Memorium Donation		\$50.00
Donations for serving catered meals	\$125.00	\$75.00
<b>Total Income</b>	<u>\$9,767.69</u>	<u>\$6,506.82</u>
<b>Total Funds Available</b>	\$16,750.22	\$13,133.56
<b>Expenses:</b>		
Trash collection	\$173.70	\$0.00
Propane gas for chapel	\$140.42	\$0.00
Supplies - picnics, ice cream socials	\$2,442.00	\$0.00
Supplies - Oyster Pie Sales	\$7,147.57	\$5,731.82
Change for Church Picnics	\$0.00	\$650.00
Chapel cleaning for 5 months	\$0.00	\$350.00
Chapel Kitchen Floor Mats	\$195.04	\$0.00
Gifts for Shut-ins	\$24.75	\$0.00
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<u>\$10,123.48</u>	<u>\$6,731.82</u>
<b>Check Book Ending December 31, 2025</b>	\$6,626.74	\$6,401.74
<b>Church Donation through Redner's Save-a-Tape Program</b>	\$393.10	\$99.13

**Respectfully submitted:**

Kay Kriebel, Treasurer

**Library Report**

**Bible Verse: Proverbs 23: 12** - *Apply your heart to instruction and your ears to words of knowledge.*

**Purpose:** The Church Library's mission is to provide literature and information that will encourage, teach, or strengthen the Christian faith while remaining true to the beliefs of Huff's Church.

**Chairperson:** Carol Leh

**Members:** Carol Leh, Elvin Keiser, Sharon Muntz and Mary Szilli

**Accomplishments during the past year:**

The Library Committee did not meet in 2025.

**Submitted by:** Carol Leh

## Memorial Park Board

**Bible Verse: Isaiah 4:6** - *It will serve as a pavilion, a shade by day from the heat, and a refuge and a shelter from the storm and rain.*

**Purpose:** The Park Board oversees opening and closing of the park property, including preparing for both summer and winter use, and cleans and repairs equipment, buildings, and furnishings as need.

**Members:** Joanne Benfield (Secretary), John Leeser (Treasurer), Keith Rauenzahn (Vice-Chair), and Matthew Schantz.

In addition to Park Board members, the following are just some of the folks who extended extra efforts to help with water treatment, park set-up and maintenance in 2025: Huff's Council and Property Committee, Confirmation Class, Aurel Arndt, Scott & Lisa Kauffman, Jane Leeser, Jim Meitzler, Jr., Martin & Kay & Kriebel, Jim & Pam Meitzler, Tess Woloszanski, Emily Ziegenfuse. Apologies to anyone we miss naming but know all efforts are greatly appreciated!

### Accomplishments during the past year:

#### Following events were scheduled in the Park in 2025:

Family Easter Egg Hunt	Vacation Bible School	3 Light lunch/refreshments after Worship
6 Outdoor Worship Services	2 Community Picnics	Weekly Vintage Volleyball and Gagaball
4 Private Events		

### Activities of the Park Board with the help of many volunteers include:

Coordinate major cleaning of all buildings in Spring, clear leaves & branches, cleaning buildings & bathrooms through the summer, purchase paper supplies and propane gas, maintain and repair buildings and equipment, set up & storage of tables & benches, check park before and after each event, preparation for winter.

**Funds for repairs in 2025** received through donations and support from Union Church.

**Projects completed or worked on during 2025** in addition to smaller maintenance and repairs:

- Work completed to well pit so it is more stable and secure to control surface water entering the pit. Added concrete well cover with metal hatch, top two block courses replaced, added sump pump, watertight electrical boxes and connections and water seepage prevention on the pit walls.

- Monthly water testing done of Park well. During summer months, water is tested from Park refreshment stand. After Park water system is drained, then monthly testing is done in Schoolhouse Office. Shock treatment was done to Park well when turned on before first Park event and other treatment as needed.

- Bandshell posts and benches painted.

- Seisholtzville Fire Co washed off moss growing on macadam around refreshment stand and bandshell

- Replaced failing ice cream freezer with a used unit from a local school district cafeteria. Thanks to Dale Heffner for finding the unit and helping Matt Schantz to move it to the Park.

- Repaired and replaced pole lights throughout Park and on Stage.

- Septic system clog from tree roots cleared.

- Door replaced on storage building behind bandshell.

- Fluorescent ceiling fixture in refreshment stand repaired.

## **Memorial Park Report** (continued)

### **Great Appreciation and Thanks to all who helped with caring for the Park including:**

- All volunteers including “behind the scenes” folks who pick-up sticks throughout the summer, make repairs, cleaning fryers, and turn on and shut down water system and appliances for season.
- The project coordination, and financial assistance from Council, Property Comm, and Cemetery Board
- Mowers taking care of lawn spring cleanup, mowing, trimming, filling in, fall leaf cleanup.
- Thank-you to Betterscapes, LLC and Emelie Swackhamer for arranging for and donating treatments to preserve a healthy Ash Tree in the Park from the emerald ash borer.

### **Anyone is welcome to join in when work dates are announced.**

#### **Park Future Projects:**

- At end of 2025 the remaining Park assets were turned over to Huff’s Union Church so the Park no longer needs a separate treasurer and the 2026 Union budget will include all expenses for the Park. Under regulations of charitable giving, since the funds were received with the understanding they would be used for the Park, the money in the Park accounts will only be used for the Park. We appreciate John Leeser’s faithful service as Treasurer for the Park for many years.
- Consider Park Board organization
- Sink repair/replacement in restroom
- Bandshell mesh repair
- Electric upgrades in refreshment stand and restrooms

**The Park is available for use by any individual church member** who is at least 18 years old to host a private invitation event such as family reunion, birthday party, anniversary parties, showers, graduation/award parties. No smoking or alcohol. Park is available for private events from May 1 through first weekend in October and scheduled around Church activities. Representative(s) of Church may be on the property during the event and it is expected that the User and all guests will comply with the representatives’ requests and directions regarding use of facilities.

**Requested Use Donation:** \$75. Events shall end at least by 9PM. Use Donation and Rules may be revised depending on the specific nature of an event. Contact Church Office to schedule an event.

**Submitted by:** Joanne Benfield

## HUFF'S CHURCH MEMORIAL PARK BOARD FINANCE REPORT 2025

Checking Account Balance - 1/1/2025 \$3,529.40

Expenses:

Met-Ed 782.90

Park Post Repair - Jason Wanner 1,200.00

Dale Heffner - Freezer 150.00

TOTAL EXPENSES: 2,132.90

INCOME:

Deposit

Suburban Water Overpayment 84.69

TOTAL INCOME 84.69

Checking Account Balance - 12/31/2025 \$1,481.19

Closed account and sent \$1,481.19  
to Huff's Union Church. Balance: 0.00

Savings Account Balance 1/1/2025 \$11,205.26

Interest \$1,251.90

Savings Account Balance 12/31/2025 \$12,457.16

Closed Account and sent check to Union Council  
for \$12,457.16 with new balance of: \$0.00

CD'S - 1/1/2025 \$33,482.05

TOTAL CD'S - 12/31/2025 \$33,482.05

Each CD at maturity will be issued to Union Council  
thus turning all Park Board Monies over to Union Council

**Submitted by:** John Leeser, Treasurer

## Mission Endowment Report

**Overview:** The Endowment Committee manages the assets of the Endowment Fund and oversees the contributions of funds available for various outreach programs in our community. When the funds accumulated over \$50,000, each year 4% of the fair market value of the investment will be pulled from the fund and distributed. Any earnings of the fund, in excess of the 4% distributed, are held in the fund for future years.

Distributions shall be in the various categories of mission and ministry in which the congregation is engaged that is not underwritten by annual giving and will serve as a means of extending and enhancing the church's program beyond the regular budget. Categories include:

1. Christian Education
2. Community Service and Outreach
3. Wider Missions of the UCC & ELCA
4. Capital Improvements
5. Annual operating expenses (Limited portion during temporary or difficult circumstances)

**Committee Members:** Ernest Geist, Jane Leeser, Carol Leh, Kerry Meitzler, Jim Meitzler, Jr and Emelie Swackhamer.

### Items the Endowment Committee completed in 2025:

- Audit Committee reviewed the 2024 Endowment Records.
- The committee has distributed a total of \$5600.00 across 10 organizations:  
*Boyertown Area Multi-Service, The Open Link Multi-Service, Friends, Inc., Grace Lutheran Church Food Cupboard, Helping Harvest Food Bank, Mande's Lunchbox, Hope Rescue Mission, Allentown Rescue Mission, Brandywine Educational Foundation & Jared Yoder Foundation.*

### Financials:

Vanguard Account:    \$141,803.12 Fund value at the end of 2024  
                                   \$139,484.16 Fund value at the end of 1Q2025  
                                   \$151,435.34 Fund value at the end of 2Q2025  
                                   \$160,197.48 Fund value at the end of 3Q2025  
                                   \$159,454.47 Fund value at the end of 2025

The Committee has committed to disburse \$6407.90 in 2026. This value reflects 4% of the fund value on 30-Sept-2025.

### In the 2026, Endowment committee plans include the following:

- Monitor the investment portfolio and remove funds for distribution when needed.
- Distribute \$6407.90 to suitable organizations based on 4% of the fund value on September 30, 2025.
- Audit Endowment records for 2025.

**Submitted by:** Kerry Meitzler, Treasurer

## Summary of Mission Outreach and Special Projects

**Bible Verse:** *Galatians 6:9* – *And let us not grow weary in well-doing, for in due season we shall reap if we do not lose heart.*

**Purpose:** Offer opportunities to reach out to those in need in surrounding communities and beyond.

### Huff's Church Food Pantry Cupboard

Help keep the Food Pantry Cupboard in the lower level of the Church stocked by picking up a few extra items when grocery shopping. Store canned and prepackaged items particularly needed - soups, vegetables, fruits, cereal, rice, pasta, pasta sauce, coffee, pancake mix, canned chicken and tuna. Throughout the year items are delivered to community pantries serving the surrounding area including Boyertown Multi-Service, Kutztown Friend Inc., and Upper Perkiomen Open Link.

The Pantry is available to Huff's member families as well. If anyone needs to "shop" at the Cupboard, please contact Pastor Mike to arrange a time to stop at the Church. All requests are private and confidential.

In 2025: Lots of egg cartons were donated by the congregation for use by the local farmers donating their eggs.

January 2025 - 218 food/personal care items went to Open Link

March 2025 - 210 pounds of food items delivered to Boyertown Multi-Services

July 2025 - 178 donations to Friend, Inc.

September 2025 - 200 donations went to Open Link

December 2025- 249 lbs. went to Boyertown Multi-Services

Friend, Inc. benefited from fresh produce and canned goods collected on Harvest Home Sunday.

**Submitted by:** Sue & Bob Stockdale, Elvin & Jim Keiser

### Friend Inc. Food Truck distribution in Huffs Church Parking Lot on First Thursday of each month

From 3:30 to 4:30 PM each first Thursday, the Friend Inc. food truck is set up on our parking lot loaded with whatever food, household and personal items that Friend, Inc. receives from Helping Harvest to help those dealing with food insecurity. Pet food is also available. Volunteers from our Church fill vehicles with food and related goodies. We average about 8 volunteers per month.

Among those on Huff's team of volunteers in 2025 included:

Dan Albert, Joy Benfield, Karlene Brintzenhoff, Pat Crossley, Dena Lebo-Funk, Maisy Funk, Ernest Geist, Martin & Kay Kriebel, John & Jane Leeser, Bea Miller, Tom Mitchell, Brooke Ruch, Scott Swackhamer, Ann Taylor, Pastor Mike, Ken Whitesell, Emily Ziegenfuss plus other helpers who drop in as they are available. If you can volunteer (age 12 and older) any month to carry items from the Food Truck to vehicles, contact Tom Mitchell

Friend, Inc. has sent us their survey results for people served at Huffs in 2025. Here is a summary:

Average number of households served per month: 50

Average number, total, of all people served per month: 110

About 21 children and 44 Seniors are included in those served each month

**Submitted by:** Tom Mitchell

## **Summary of Mission Outreach and Special Projects** (continued)

**Church World Service Disaster Kits:** The Confirmation Class prepared 8 Clean Up Buckets and 24 Hygiene Kits from supplies donated by the Congregation and purchased with a \$250 grant from Penn Southeast Conference of the UCC.

**Submitted by:** Tess Woloszanski

**Clothing Drive for Reading Hope Rescue Mission:** Over 30 large bags of clothing were collected for all seasons, any gender, age, and in every size and were picked up by Hope Rescue Mission in Reading.

**Submitted by:** Tess Woloszanski

### **St. Vincent's Mission in David, Kentucky**

The Mitten Tree, first started by Carl Arner at Huff's, was available through the 2024 holiday season. When the church was undecorated in Jan 2025, the beautiful items on the tree were packed up for their pending transport to David, Kentucky.

In early March of 2025 while Berks county was indeed still wintery, Dena Lebo-Funk and Maisy Funk delivered donations to St. Vincent's Mission in David, Kentucky where leaves were budding and bulbs were beginning to bloom. Donations from Huff's Church members including hats, socks, gloves, scarves, and new household items (sheets, bath towels, flat ware, bath rugs, shower curtains, wallets, cologne, car care items) for selection by about 200 qualified families at the Mission's 2025 Annual 's Christmas Store; seed packets helping over 50 local families with 2025 gardens; bags of dog food and cat litter and a few cat beds to the woefully rundown county animal shelter.

In early 2025 the Mission relocated their second-hand store from the coal mine's former pool house to the recently expanded warehouse. With more than 25% of Floyd county's 34,000 residents in poverty the Mission's second-hand store is popular in the local community. We spent three days helping the Mission's crew and interns sort a warehouse full of donations, stock the store and serve customers. We especially enjoy meeting the customers with their kindness, quiriness and charming Kentucky accents! While there we sponsored the adoption of cat that was languishing in the shelter. The cat takes care of intruding mice in the Mission's warehouse!

A special thanks to Emilie Swackhamer for seed donations and to Wayne and Bea Fogel, John and Jane Leaser, Joe and Connie Szilli, and Minerva Arner for their thoughtful and generous donations toward the cost of gas.

Thank you everyone at Huffs for your incredible outreach doing Christ's service supporting St. Vincent's. Your support makes a difference at St. Vincent's because they beautifully serve during the sacred Christmas season through their annual Christmas Store reminds their neighbors: *You are seen. You are valued. You are loved by God.* That ministry allows about 200 families in need and that have worked with the Mission throughout the year to "shop" for gifts. The Huff's Mitten Tree was again available through the 2025 holiday season to attach hats, scarves, and gloves that will be delivered in 2026 for distribution to qualified families at St. Vincent's 2026 Annual Christmas Store. And Friends Inc. of Kutztown is donating cleaning supplies for the 2026 trip to St. Vincent's. Those supplies will be available to qualified families in the Mission's food bank. And finally, Emilie Swackhamer is lining up seed donations for 2026!

**Submitted by:** Dena Lebo-Funk

### **Pastor Parish Team**

**Bible Verse:** *Romans 14: 19 - Let us then pursue what makes for peace and for mutual up building.*

**Purpose:** The Pastor Parish team addresses concerns of the pastor, fosters a mutual caring and harmonious relationship between the congregation and the pastor, and evaluates various ministries of the church for effectiveness and continuing relevance

**Chairperson:** Vacant

**Accomplishments during the past year:**

The Pastor Parish Team did not meet in 2025.

### **Personnel Committee**

**Bible Verse:** *2 Chronicles 34: 12-23 - The people did the work faithfully. Over them were appointed the Levites... to have oversight. Other Levites, all skillful with instruments of music, were over the burden bearers and directed all who did work in every kind of service and some of the Levites were scribes, and officials, and gatekeepers.*

**Purpose:** Develop and recommend personnel policies to the Council. Recommend for budgeting the compensation and benefits for the Pastor within the guidelines of the denomination in which the Pastor holds ministerial standing. Prepare new employment documents, develop performance feedback procedures and forms, receive reports of potential employment policy violations. At the request of Executive Committee, Pastor, or Council-assigned staff supervisor, the Personnel Committee may assist in other matters including but not limited to compose and clarify job descriptions, gather salary information from outside organizations, assist with advertising of positions, advise on difficult personnel matters, and sit in on disciplinary conversations with employees.

**Chairperson:** Jim Meitzler, Sr.

**Members:** Julie Brought, Kathy Welch, Tom Mitchell, Bob Ruch and Jim Meitzler, Sr.

**Accomplishments for the past year:**

Personnel Committee did not meet in 2025.

**Submitted by:** Jim Meitzler, Sr.

## Prayer Chain

**Bible Verse:** *James 5: 13-14* - *Are any among you suffering? They should pray. Are any cheerful? They should sing songs of praise. Are any among you sick? They should call for the elders of the church and have them pray over them and anoint them with oil in the name of the Lord.*

**Purpose:** The Prayer Chain members receive prayer and praise requests from church members and friends and offer these to God in prayer. Each month a Prayer Letter is sent to all of the members listing those people in need of prayer. Weekly updates, as needed, are also provided, and emergency requests are sent out immediately. The Prayer Chain always welcomes new members.

**Chairperson:** John Leeser

### Accomplishments during the past year:

The Prayer Chain continues to be a vital part of the Huff's Church prayer ministry. If you have a relative, friend, neighbor, or colleague who needs prayer, please contact John Leeser, other members of the Prayer Chain, or call the church office.

### Thank you to all the Prayer Chain members who faithfully served in 2025:

Minerva Arner	Elvin Keiser	Carol Petroske
Julie Brought	Lisa Kauffman	Bob & Brooke Ruch
Pat Crossley	John & Jane Leeser	Rhoda Shaner
Joan Gouldner	Tom Mitchell	Sue Stockdale
Lucille Grampp	Lisa Mohammedein	Bill Stoudt
Monica Hallman	Gary Moll	Rachel Woodhead
Elizabeth Haines	John & Kathy Moll	

**Submitted by:** John Leeser

## Prayer Partner Committee

**Bible Verse:** *James 5: 6* - *Therefore confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, so that you may be healed. The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective.*

**Purpose:** The Prayer Partners are church members who volunteer to pray each day for one year for one to three other participating church members or families. Signups are usually in the spring of each year.

**Submitted by:** John Leeser

## **Vacation Bible School**

**Bible Verse: Proverbs 22: 6** - *Train children in the right way, and when old, they will not stray.*

**Purpose:** To provide an engaging, interactive experience for our children to learn ways they can put their trust in God when they are afraid, challenged, or called to do God's work and share the good news of God's love through Jesus Christ.

**Coordinator:** Melissa Benfield

**Members:** Pastor Mike Todd, Meghan Richetti, Kerri Longacre, Jake Longacre, Tess Woloszanski, Joanne Benfield, Kara Benfield, Jon Benfield, and Melissa Benfield. The youth assisting this year were Ely Longacre, Max Benfield, and Jace Benfield.

### **Accomplishments during the Past year:**

This year the VBS theme was Road Trip – On the Go with God. Our program was based on the bible verse, "The Lord your God is with you" (Joshua 1:9). The curriculum focused on the fact that God is with us wherever we go and whether we are joyful, lonely, or go off course. This year's program was attended by 18 children. It was held outside in the park on the five Wednesdays in July, and we all had an awesome time!

Daily activities included storytelling, music, arts and crafts, science, and games.

We collected \$55.00 in support of Huffs Church's Ministry.

**Submitted by:** Melissa Benfield

## **Worship and Music Committee**

**Bible Verse: Psalm 33: 2-3** - Praise the Lord with the lyre; make melody to him with the harp of ten strings. Sing to him a new song; play skillfully on the strings, with loud shouts.

**Psalm 96: 9a** - Worship the Lord in holy splendor.

**Purpose:** The Worship and Music Committee assists the pastor and the music director with the preparation of worship services, with special focus on appropriate music. The committee helps plan special worship services throughout the year and arranges for guest musical groups.

**Chairperson:** Kay Kriebel

**Members:** Kathy Anthony, Julie Brought, Kay Kriebel, Carol Leh, and Ann Taylor

### **Special Events during the past year:**

The Longswamp New Year's Wish in the PA Dutch dialect was presented by Mike and Linda Hertzog during the 10:30 a.m. worship service on January 12.

Ash Wednesday service was held on March 5 at St. Peter's Church. No Lenten services were scheduled. A Good Friday service was held at 12 noon on April 18.

The Upper Perkiomen High School A Choir sang during our May 18 church service.

The American Legion Honor Guard from Topton came on Memorial Sunday, May 25, and presented a ceremony at the cemetery to honor those who served in our armed forces.

Outdoor worship services during June, July, and August were held in the park on the second and fourth Sundays. On three of those Sundays, we had special music provided by The Good News Travelin' Band in June, Vintage Brass Quintet in July, and Keith Brintzenhoff in August.

Huff's did not have a Thanksgiving Eve service this year. However, Pastor Mike Todd prepared an online service that could be viewed at Thanksgiving time.

The children presented a Christmas program during the 10:30 a.m. worship service on December 21, which was the snow date.

On Christmas Eve, the Bell and Senior Choirs participated in the 8:00 p.m. service. There were also several congregation members and guests who individually provided special music during both the 4:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m. Christmas Eve services.

We want to thank all the volunteers who helped in so many ways throughout the year to make our worship services special with their talents and work.

Submitted by: Kay Kriebel