

# Annual Report 2025



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# Senior Pastor

## **Our Church Staff Team:**

After a process involving various conversations and interviews in late 2024 and early 2025, Michael Nelson began to serve as our Associate Pastor (with a major focus in worship and music) this past April. And I am so very thankful that he is with us! Michael and Brittni and their four boys settled into their house here in West Chester, and they dove into our church family life. I really appreciate the steady, thoughtful, wise, and encouraging presence Michael brings to our worship life and to our church body life on the whole.

What's more, I am deeply thankful for the entire staff team God has assembled here at Goshen—with Tara Mummert holding down the fort in the office (she's been here almost 10 years!), Lori Herson serving in family and children's ministries, and Jake Lawton ministering with students. Plus Melanie Aber assisting in children's ministry, Denise Parshall helping out in the office, Russ Nixon helping us all stay on track, Jason Grothmann and Nate Koechig managing all of our facilities and grounds, and Jen Duguid and her team blessing area families through Goshen Baptist Preschool.

## **Proclaiming God's Word:**

I began the year with a sermon series called "Entrusted" to help us reflect on what it means to be good stewards of time, talent, treasure, and truth. Then in the spring came the series, "Anticipation," to focus our attention on weighty and wonderful eternal things. I then did a short series on several of the Psalms, and in much of the summer we were in the Minor Prophets unpacking messages on "Warning & Hope." Last fall I preached on "Exploring Faith" (asking just what it means to believe in Jesus), and I ended the year with a series called "Truth & Love: Christian Cultural Engagement."

## **Sunday Seminars:**

Last spring I led a Sunday Seminar on "Questioning AI: Artificial Intelligence & the Christian Life" (to help us grapple with what it means to be made in God's image). And last fall I led a Sunday Seminar entitled "Under Deconstruction: Faith Formation & Restoration" (in which Rick James shared about his book, *Jesus Reconstructed*). I personally was stretched and enriched by preparing for these in-depth sessions, and I very much appreciated all of the thoughtful input from the Goshen family.

Stepping back and looking ahead into a new year, I thank God for his saving grace, the lamp of his Word, the presence of his Spirit, the sure hope of heaven, and the privilege of being part of Goshen. It's an honor to serve as your Senior Pastor!

Your brother in Christ, Pastor Peter Nelson

# Associate Pastor

Since stepping into this role in April, I've been blessed and encouraged to see God's faithfulness at work through the Goshen family in so many ways. I'm incredibly grateful for the support and assistance of Pastor Peter, Russ Nixon, Sean Ellsworth, Jason Grothmann, the entire staff team, and many more who have eased my transition. Thank you for the privilege of serving in this position!

As I look back at 2025, I praise the Lord for a team of dedicated musical servants. They not only sustained worship ministry at Goshen for over a year before I arrived, but continued to eagerly use their creative talents to lead us each Sunday. And they did that while adapting to the new guy, showing patience and grace as I navigated my way through these months!

During the year, our weekly worship services were led by teams of musicians and supported by a faithful A/V crew whose primary goals were not to showcase their talents or entertain, but rather to magnify Christ and encourage our congregation's worship of and focus on him. Well-known staples of Goshen's worship were combined with newer songs, fresh musical settings of old texts, and new texts set to familiar tunes—all to comfort and challenge us in our faith, connect us with our brothers and sisters in Christ across the continents and centuries, and give us biblical vocabulary to both shape and express our hearts. (Romans 12:1-2)

We have received a gift of infinite value in God's inerrant, life-giving Word. Preaching and teaching it fills me with humility, joy, awe, and wonder every time. I'm grateful for the opportunities to preach several times this year and teach occasional Sunday School classes. (Psalm 138:2)

What a privilege to gain insight into various ministries and connect with their leaders in my role as staff liaison to the Deacons, Building & Property Committee, and Finance team. Goshen is blessed with competent, caring, and compassionate leaders. (1 Thessalonians 1:2-3)

How comforting to know that God has not asked us to walk this journey of faith alone! He has given us the gift of community, a family to encourage and refine us. My family has felt the love and support of Goshen as we transitioned here earlier this year. Brittni and I have also begun meeting with and leading a small group with five other couples that meets in our home, exploring the Gospel of John as we pray and care for each other. (Acts 2:42-47)

Looking ahead to 2026, I'm excited about our opportunity to discern how the Lord wants us to move forward as a church. We aim to close the strategic planning cycle begun several years ago by defining Goshen's approach to engaging our community. This will allow us to impact lives for Jesus in Chester County and beyond in a focused way, keeping our eyes open to the opportunities in front of us as well as those harder to see. I pray that God will spur us on to motivate, equip, and deploy the entire Goshen family, exercising our full potential as disciple-makers as we engage our community and world for Christ.

For God's glory,

Michael Nelson

# Director of Family & Children's Ministry

The children's ministry at Goshen thrives on the gifted and caring volunteers who pour into our children every year. Whether through snack donations, birthday card greetings, helping at special ministry moments, nursery care or teaching and leading in Children's Church, KTC, Sunday school, Awana, and VBS, our adults and teens who faithfully serve are the heartbeat of this ministry. Thank you for blessing our church family with your time, energy, and commitment to training a younger generation to know and love the Lord.

Highlight events and activities from our 2025 year include the continuation of our 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday family suppers, August Goshen Sports Camp, December Parents' Night out, and Game Night in February. Our Sunday morning offerings expanded to include a younger preschool Sunday school and Children's Church room. Our mid-week Awana ministry hosted (and continues to host) almost fifty K-5<sup>th</sup> graders. With the help of about sixty volunteers, our summer VBS program, *True North*, welcomed around 125 children in preschool through 5<sup>th</sup> grade. In the spring, we were challenged to see the unique creation of all types of reptiles through our visit with experts from the "Forgotten Friends" sanctuary.

This summer we hosted two training events for our Goshen volunteers. The first training certified approximately fifteen individuals in CPR/First Aid and AED. We hosted our local Awana representative for our 2<sup>nd</sup> training and considered ways that we can effectively teach our children in God's Word.

Additional opportunities for families to grow and connect happen through our Family Foundations Sunday school class, Trunk or Treat, and Tuesday morning women's Bible study.

It is a privilege to pray for our Goshen families and children. I know there are many in our church congregation who join with me in asking for God's protection and provision and that Goshen's dads, moms, and kids would pursue God and His Word in their families and homes.

Because of Him,

Lori Herson

# Director of Student Ministries

2025 has been a great year for Goshen Student Ministries. Highlights from the year include our first Winter Peak retreat and our first summer missions trip to Camp Promise. We have also adjusted our youth group programming, welcomed in a handful of new volunteers, and kept events like Waypoint and the Lock-In going strong.

Attendance at youth group is roughly 30-35 kids per week. A majority of them are in high school, but the middle school has grown significantly as well. We thank the Lord for his faithfulness in growing GSM and helping more and more students to hear the word of God.

Last year we took a total of four people to Camp Promise for a mission trip. We served as counselors at a day camp for people with special needs for a week. All of those who attended loved the trip, and did a wonderful job of serving the Lord and the campers. This year we are planning to return, and at least six kids are interested in attending.

We praise God for a lot of fun and successful events last year as well. Our Lock-In was a massive hit, and the winter retreat was a great experience. We have already done our Lock-In for the 2025-26 school year, and are planning to attend the Winter Peak retreat again. And of course, Waypoint was an excellent kickoff to the summer, with roughly 75 kids and 40 volunteers attending throughout the week. We look forward to another great Waypoint in 2026. Please join me in praying for all of these events and the lives of the kids that they will impact.

We have also started smaller discipleship groups for the high school students. These are optional studies for kids who want to go deeper with their faiths and learn more about what it means to walk with the Lord. These evenings are the highlight of my week, and have been a great way to connect the students to the leaders and to one another.

Going forward, I would love for the youth ministry to be more involved in volunteering and being involved in other areas of church life. We are planning a trip to help with a homeless ministry in January, and will hopefully find other avenues to serve our community, both near and far.

You can be praying for me (Jake) and the other volunteer leaders, that we would serve the Lord and the students well and make wise decisions about programming, events, and study topics. And most of all, you can pray for the students, that God would speak to them and change their hearts so that they want to love and follow Him. We praise the Lord for all He has done in 2025 and eagerly anticipate what He will do next year!

Jake Lawton, Director of Student Ministries

# Adult Ministries Team

In the fall of 2024, we began to track Adult Sunday School Attendance. On average we had 65 “students” spread across four classes. In the winter of 2025, attendance jumped to an average of 80 students per Sunday, growing to 82 in the spring and averaging 85 in the fall. Though at the same time, Goshen attendance has grown, Adult Sunday School attendance has grown even more. This is a great encouragement. New to Goshen regular attenders are plugging into our Adult Sunday School program.

We have maintained the same four classes we had in 2024, three being team taught and one taught by an individual. Over the past 2 years long-standing teachers have stepped back and new teachers have stepped forward. We continued our summer Sunday School program that broadens opportunities for others in our church to teach and share and we have supplemented our “school year” classes with seminar series taught by our pastor and the elders.

Goshen Baptist is blessed with members and regular attendees desiring to grow deeper in their knowledge of God’s word and a great base of teachers who continue to use their spiritual gifts and do the hard work of lesson preparation to serve the church.

Mark Boyer

# Attendance

2023				2024				2025			
Date	1st Service	2nd Service	Total	Date	1st Service	2nd Service	Total	Date	1st Service	2nd Service	Total
Jan. 1		151	151	Jan.7	39	189	228	Jan.5	51	203	254
Jan. 8	48	189	237	Jan. 14		156	156	Jan. 12	52	174	226
Jan. 15	51	196	247	Jan. 21		191	191	Jan. 19		187	187
Jan. 22	62	182	244	Jan. 28		198	198	Jan. 26	46	154	200
Jan. 29	52	178	230	Feb. 4		196	196	Feb. 2	60	185	245
Feb. 5	49	177	226	Feb. 11		200	200	Feb. 9		205	205
Feb. 12	48	203	251	Feb. 18		188	188	Feb. 16	41	186	227
Feb. 19	50	196	246	Feb. 25		245	245	Feb. 23	54	177	231
Feb. 26	52	190	242	Mar. 3		217	217	Mar. 2	47	181	228
Mar. 5	48	169	217	Mar. 10		175	175	Mar. 9	53	241	294
Mar. 12	42	180	222	Mar. 17		213	213	Mar. 16	49	194	243
Mar. 19	49	156	205	Mar. 24		217	217	Mar. 23	48	189	237
Mar. 26	39	191	230	Mar. 31		300	300	Mar. 30	48	221	269
1st Qtr.	49	181	227	1st Qtr.	39	207	210	1st Qtr.	50	192	234
Apr. 2	43	215	258	Apr. 7		232	232	Apr. 6	55	227	282
Apr. 9	98	223	321	Apr. 14		202	202	Apr. 13	49	217	266
Apr. 16	50	181	231	Apr. 21		198	198	Apr. 20	102	220	322
Apr. 23	42	174	216	Apr. 28		192	192	Apr. 27	45	160	205
Apr. 30	46	189	235	May. 5		201	201	May.4	54	175	229
May. 7	38	152	190	May. 12		220	220	May.11	49	201	250
May. 14	58	177	235	May. 19		209	209	May. 18	57	164	221
May. 21	48	162	210	May. 26		196	196	May.25	50	157	207
May. 28	44	172	216	Jun. 2		220	220	Jun.1	46	209	255
Jun. 4	42	183	225	Jun. 9		202	202	Jun.8	51	206	257
Jun. 11		263	263	Jun. 16		231	231	Jun.15		230	230
Jun. 18		194	194	Jun. 23		190	190	Jun.22		201	201
Jun. 25		230	230	Jun. 30		160	160	Jun.29		218	218
2nd Qtr.	49	193	233	2nd Qtr.		204	204	2nd Qtr.	56	199	242
Jul. 2		161	161	Jul. 7		191	204	Jul.6		199	199
Jul. 9		186	186	Jul. 14		210	210	Jul.13		234	234
Jul. 16		214	214	Jul. 21		195	195	Jul.20		216	216
Jul. 23		207	207	Jul. 28		191	191	Jul.27		176	176
Jul. 30		208	208	Aug. 4		200	200	Aug.3		205	205
Aug. 6		180	180	Aug. 11		200	200	Aug.10		160	160
Aug. 13		223	223	Aug. 18		174	174	Aug.17		225	225
Aug. 20		184	184	Aug. 25		206	206	Aug.24		246	246
Aug. 27		223	223	Sep. 1		210	210	Aug.31		170	170
Sep. 3		201	201	Sep. 8		218	218	Sep.7		215	215
Sep. 10		223	223	Sep. 15	43	150	193	Sep.14	59	207	266
Sep. 17	48	186	234	Sep. 22	45	165	210	Sep.21	71	171	242
Sep. 24	58	160	218	Sep. 29	54	144	198	Sep.28	74	179	253
3rd Qtr.	53	197	205	3rd Qtr.	47	189	201	3rd Qtr.	68	200	216
Oct. 1	55	136	191	Oct. 6	45	140	185	Oct.5	61	196	257
Oct. 8	45	126	171	Oct. 13	45	155	200	Oct.12	55	179	234
Oct. 15	46	152	198	Oct. 20	37	172	209	Oct.19	61	219	280
Oct. 22	43	200	243	Oct. 27	32	186	218	Oct.26	53	211	264
Oct. 29	44	186	230	Nov. 3	56	222	278	Nov.2	51	161	212
Nov. 5	55	176	231	Nov. 10	56	186	242	Nov.9	69	227	296
Nov. 12	75	135	210	Nov. 17	53	164	217	Nov.16	62	189	251
Nov. 19	55	197	252	Nov. 24	42	198	240	Nov.23	62	179	241
Nov. 26	46	163	209	Dec. 1	47	200	247	Nov.30	61	180	241
Dec. 3	49	161	210	Dec. 8	46	169	215	Dec.7	49	200	249
Dec. 10	50	194	244	Dec. 15	67	168	235	Dec.14			
Dec. 17	44	198	242	Dec. 22	67	211	278	Dec.21	73	208	281
Dec. 24		179	179	Dec. 29	31	185	216	Dec.28	42	166	208
Dec. 31	46	166	212								
4th Qtr.	50	169	216	4th Qtr.	48	181	229	4th Qtr.	58	193	251
Year	50	185	220	Year	45	195	211	Year	58	196	236



# Building & Property Annual Report 2025

How many years can I say the same thing? Once again, He has been faithful to us as we have cared for His property. He has provided the funds that we have needed when we have needed them. And as we reflect on this truth, we rejoice and give Him the credit for sustaining us. It was somewhat a quiet year, which is not a bad thing when there are 5 acres and a large building to steward. Here's a highlight of what was done:

1. Retaining wall near the FLC HVAC system was repaired.
2. The section of fence above the retaining wall was replaced.
3. Window Genie came and cleaned the office windows, inside and out.
4. Room 109, affectionately known as Helen's room, had a major makeover including new cubbies, new countertop and sink. Bright new paint for the entire wall system. New furnishings for the toddlers that use that room each week. And a lively mural encompassing the room.
5. The steps to the boiler room and wall had the stucco repaired.
6. Spring cleanup and fall cleanup of the property.
7. Three trees removed from the hillside near the upper parking lot.
8. Worked with Troy Miller on his Eagle Scout Project and created new landscaping next to the sidewalk to the upper parking lot.
9. New windows in the library.

New projects are already being discussed, and I am sure that when 2026 comes to a close, we will look back and marvel at all the ways that the Lord has provided for His home on West Chester Pike.

As always, I am grateful to Nate, Jason, The Goshen Gray Guys and the entire team.

Barb Smith

## Church Clerk

New Members: Megan Kutz, Nate Kutz (1/26); Emily Johnson, Tyler Johnson, Brittni Nelson, Michael Nelson (6/1); Melanie Aber, Brett Fassnacht, Sarah Fassnacht, Marci Heller, Nate Heller, Kyle Steinfield, Benisha Stewart (11/23)

Deaths: Richard Schuster (3/15); Edna Mae Dulaney (4/11); Steve McEvoy (5/29); Robert Ellis (9/3); Chris Cunningham (9/18); Leona Burke (10/21); Marshall Strode (12/4); Lillie Minshall (12/27)

Births: Florence (Flora) Kathyrne Speers (5/29); Walter Eugene Daller V (9/4)

Baby Dedications: Aliyah Jayne Kutz (2/2)

Baptisms: Walt Daller, Lena McCord, Maya Taylor, Chris Wesler (4/6); Addy Heller, Annelynn Heller, Linda Schanes, JoAnne Wilson (11/16)

Marriages: Kirsten Boyer & Matt Rhine (9/13); Becca Ceffaratti & Ryan Fink (10/25)

# Deacon Chair

The Deacon's had six meetings during 2025, most were in-person meetings along with one Zoom meeting. GBC is fortunate to have such a solid group of Godly men and women that are willing to serve in these important Deacon roles. All Deacon Roles were fully filled during 2025. I'm happy to report that in 2026 we will again not have any open Deacon positions. Our 2026 Deacons are as follows: Matthan Ruch-- Fellowship, Dee and Terry Stick-- Hospitality, Barb Smith -- Building & Property, Cheryl Nelson-- Small Groups, David and Janet Smyth-- Lay Care, Chip Scott -- Missions, Ed Duguid and Steve Butler -- Worship & Service, Mark Boyer-- Adult Ministries, Colleen Boyer-- Finance, and Darrel Tedrow-- Deacon Chairman. I want to thank Arlene Flye for completing her very successful term as our Fellowship Deacon. Les Farrell and Dennis Balicke continue in their role as Security Leaders. Welcome to our new Deacons, Darrel Tedrow, and Dee and Terry Stick. Also, I would like to thank everyone who participated in serving as a member on one or more of the Deacon committees. God has truly blessed us with a strong dedicated team of Deacons along with all the members of the various Deacon area teams. Thank you all for your service! Finally, I have enjoyed my time serving as Deacon Chair and wish Darrel the best as he transitions into this role.

Respectfully submitted, Larry Smith, Deacon Chair

# Elder Chairman

In 2024, Goshen went through a year of trials, and the church congregation was steadfast in those trials. In 2025, God responded to that steadfastness with a year of growth and blessing.

2025 started out with God answering our prayer for a new Worship Pastor. Pastor Michael Nelson joined our staff and his wife Brittini and their 4 sons immediately enhanced our Church body. Michael's musical talent, love for the Lord, and administrative gifting has allowed him to have a quick impact both in his weekly leading of worship and his engagement with our staff, elders, and Deacons.

We've also seen growth in the congregation. If you think you're seeing many new people on Sunday morning you're right. Our Sunday morning attendance in 2025 was more than 10% higher than the attendance in 2024. Sunday School attendance has also been strengthened in 2025. Many of our ministries such as youth, family, small group, men's, women's, etc... have also shown momentum. The growth we're seeing is exciting and we ask that the long-time members actively seek out these new attenders and get to know them.

We were blessed to find out in late December that the congregation gave sufficiently to meet our church budget for 2025. Thank you to everyone who participated and gave so graciously towards the work God is doing at Goshen Baptist Church. The blessing of meeting our budget in 2025 will ensure that our ministries remain strong in 2026 and can continue doing the work of growing God's Kingdom.

As an elder group, in addition to meeting monthly to discuss administrative and spiritual guidance for the church we've continued to study together as well. In the Spring, we read through *Confronting Christianity* by Rebecca McLaughlin. The book lays out 12 tough questions for the church such as *How Could a Loving God Allow So Much Suffering* and *Doesn't the Bible Condone Slavery* and then addresses these questions using

scripture. In the Fall we studied *The Atonement: An Introduction* by Jeremy Treat. This book went deep into the Theology of atonement and looks at the full picture of all that our Savior accomplished on the Cross.

As we enter the New Year we ask that the congregation join us in thanking God for the year of growth and blessing we've just experienced. From Psalms 9 "I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart; I will recount all of your wonderful deeds."

Your Brother In Christ, Darrel Tedrow

On behalf of the Goshen Elders

## Fellowship Team

*"For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ." 1 Cor. 12:12*

We were blessed with many opportunities to gather together in 2025. There was an Easter reception, summer and fall picnics, and a Christmas eve reception to end the year. Many hands have gone into all those events and reflect the wonderful body of believers at Goshen. Here's to the start of a New Year and new ways to grow together in Christ.

Matthan Ruch

## Finance Team

### 2025 Recap:

Thanks to Larry Bazar for the years he served on the finance team. Leigh Ann Tedrow will be taking over his duties of Financial Secretary (handling invoice payments and payroll). Kevin Braun is the new Financial Steward in 2026 (handling receipts/donations).

The financial year ended with receipts exceeding expenses by \$42K due to late year extra-ordinary giving. See the Steward's Report for details.

Working Capital is consistently in the \$350K range. The year ended with \$422K in Working Capital again due to year end giving. It is in the best interest to preserve Working Capital.

E-Giving was moved from Ministry Brands to Planning Center, which produced savings in fees. The move also consolidated the tracking of giving with other GBC Planning Center activities.

Payroll was moved from Quickbooks to OnPay to reduce processing fees. Leigh Ann is evaluating if OnPay is the best tool for GBC going forward.

Banking was moved from Fulton Bank to Citizens Bank to receive better customer service, improved online access and bill pay services along with better interest on money market funds and lower fees.

Committee reports are available on request.

**2026:**

Excess cash will be invested in secure and easily redeemable CDs with Edward Jones. Despite the drop in interest rates, our investor finds good rates for GBC.

Leigh Ann has accomplished a huge undertaking in preparing the application for GBC to receive 501c3 status. She expects to finalize and submit in early 2026. This status will enable GBC to take advantage of significant saving on software, contracts, etc., that will reduce operating expenses.

Staff credit cards will change from Fulton to Citizens affording better online card management and improved customer service.

Respectfully Submitted

Colleen Boyer, Deaconess for Finance, and Treasurer

# Financial Secretary

## Goshen Baptist Financial Secretary Report as of Dec 31, 2025

	2025 YTD	2025 Budget	Difference	Percentage
General Fund	986,100	946,622	39,478	104%
Other Donations:				
Forward in Faith	123,235	128,322		
Special Missions Offering	7,204			
Missions Designated	50			
Missions Undesignated	817			
Youth/Waypoint/Camp Promise	5,379			
Children/Awanas/VBS	2,490			
Pastor Appreciation	5,010			
Building	5,087			
Fellowship/Lay Care Fund	665			
Senior Fellowship	600			
Other	2,225			
Initial Offering Envelopes	21			
Total	<u>1,138,884</u>			

	Total Giving	Goal	Difference	Percentage
Forward in Faith Pledge Total	600,000	600,000	-	100%

Monthly General Fund Donations	2024	2025
January	85,969	50,665
February	65,297	66,337
March	87,048	92,661
April	60,078	63,348
May	72,159	51,630
June	88,580	84,744
July	59,758	64,676
August	72,472	71,820
September	78,478	63,835
October	62,049	60,877
November	52,035	100,973
December	132,346	214,535
Total	<u>916,268</u>	<u>986,100</u>

<b>2025 Total Missions Support</b>	
Missions Spending from General Budget	202,380
Congregation over and above donations:	
Undesignated Missions Giving	817
Designated Giving various ministries	50
Baby Bottle Campaign	3,131
Special Missions Offering	7,204
2025 Total Goshen Missions Support	<u>213,583</u>

Respectfully Submitted by:  
Leigh Ann Tedrow  
Financial Secretary

# Hospitality Team

Never has it been more important to show hospitality at Goshen Baptist Church than it became last January after the fire in our building. Our hospitality team stepped up to extend the warmest of welcomes on the coldest of Sundays when we were worshipping at Delaware County Christian School. Even people who were not scheduled to greet volunteered to help so we could have multiple greeters not only in the lobby but also in the parking lot. Trudie McGarvey and Barb Kelly arrived early each Sunday to have hot coffee and bagels ready for when our church family arrived. There were extra ushers in the “sanctuary” to greet and help people. It truly was a team effort of ministry staff, elders, deacons, and hospitality volunteers that made the time when we were “displaced” a warm and welcoming experience for all.

When we moved back to Goshen to meet in the FLC, people continued to reach out in warm and meaningful ways; there seemed to be a special atmosphere at church during that long time of transition before we could get back upstairs and move forward with all our programs functioning.

In the months since we returned to “normal”, there has been an emphasis on extending hospitality beyond the doors and lobby to making sure we notice who’s new, who’s missing, who might need some encouragement. Who arrives early and goes directly to the sanctuary and sits down... can we extend a warm welcome without overwhelming? We have also taken a page from the “Where’s Waldo” books to notice certain people and keep watch for them, reaching out if they are absent for more than a week.

There are currently 61 people on the email list for the Hospitality Team. That does not include some who don’t “do” email; we reach out to them in other ways. Thank you to every one of you who has served as a greeter or an usher or made and served up coffee. Some of you volunteer to serve in all 3 roles. Thank you to Tara, Trudie, and Ed who serve as leaders for service and hospitality to the Goshen family and guests.

“...Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me.” Matthew 25:40

Arlene Flye

Hospitality Deacon

# Lay Care Team

The Lay Care Ministry Team exists to facilitate efforts to assist those in the Goshen Baptist Church congregation and West Chester in need of physical, emotional, financial, and/or spiritual support.

The Lay Care ministry team ministered to the Goshen Baptist Church congregation by supporting those during times of emotional, physical, and spiritual needs such as illness and death of a loved one. As administrators of the Fellowship Fund, financial needs were brought to our attention. After prayer and further consideration of the need, with the approval of elders, checks were provided to meet specific needs. Over the past year people generously gave to the Fellowship Fund. At this time, the funds are available to meet foreseeable needs. If the fund drops to a low level, the congregation will be notified of the need.

David and Janet Smyth

# Membership Roster 12/31/25 (154 members)

1	Aber, Melanie	40	Cunningham, Michelle	79	Johnson, Emily	118	Palsgrove, Dawn
2	Alexander, Ruby	41	Duguid, Ed	80	Johnson, Tyler	119	Parshall, Denise
3	Aubert, Carol	42	Duguid, Jennifer	81	Judkins, Bill	120	Parshall, Thomas
4	Balickie, Dennis	43	Ellsworth, Sean, Sr.	82	Judkins, Therese	121	Perkins, Keith
5	Barcusky, Bruce	44	Ellsworth, Betty	83	Kelley, Barbara	122	Ruch, Emily
6	Barcusky, Marian	45	Ellsworth, Phil	84	Krug, Mike	123	Ruch, Matthan
7	Bard, Jonathan	46	Ellsworth, Akiko	85	Krug, Vicki	124	Santner, Drew
8	Bard, Katie	47	Engelman, Brian	86	Kutz, Megan	125	Santner, Laurel
9	Bateman, Ruth	48	Engelman, Sandy	87	Kutz, Nate	126	Scotese, Michael
10	Bateman, Scott	49	Engelman, Joel	88	Lane, Matthew	127	Scott, Chip
11	Bazar, Larry	50	Engelman, Katy	89	Lane, Tracy	128	Sidilau, Liz
12	Bazar, Martha	51	Engelman, Sue	90	Lawton, Jake	129	Sidilau, Matt
13	Bell, Peggy	52	Ericson, Laura	91	Lendrat, Ed	130	Smith, Barbara
14	Bishop, John	53	Farrell, Les	92	Litzenberg, Steve	131	Smith, Larry
15	Bishop, Mary	54	Fassnacht, Brett	93	Madigosky, René	132	Smyth, David
16	Boyer, Colleen	55	Fassnacht, Sarah	94	Manni, Katy	133	Smyth, Janet
17	Boyer, Mark	56	Fay, Nancy	95	Manni, Pete	134	Steinfeld, Dan
18	Braun, Kevin	57	Finch, Suzanne	96	Mattis, Jeff	135	Steinfeld, Kim
19	Braun, Lucy	58	Flye, Arlene	97	Maxwell, Cindy	136	Steinfeld, Kyle
20	Briele, Eileen	59	Flye, Jim	98	McCumber, John	137	Stewart, Benisha
21	Buddenhagen, Tom	60	Garver, John	99	McCumber, Terri	138	Stick, Terry
22	Buddenhagen, Nicki	61	Garver, Cathy	100	McEneaney, Sally	139	Stick, Dee
23	Buehler, Marian	62	Gifford, Amy	101	Miller, Joshua	140	Tedrow, Darrel
24	Butler, Joan	63	Gifford, Paul	102	Miller, Rebecca	141	Tedrow, Leigh Ann
25	Butler, Steve	64	Grothmann, Jason	103	Mummert, Hannah	142	Terjanian, David
26	Caldwell, Caryl Sue	65	Grothmann, Liz	104	Mummert, Tara	143	Terjanian, Lori
27	Caldwell, Mark	66	Grothmann, Rick	105	Naseef, Donna	144	Thomas, Marilyn
28	Carslaw, Carole	67	Grothmann, Deb	106	Nelson, Peter	145	Videon, Dan
29	Ceffaratti, Kyle	68	Heller, Marci	107	Nelson, Cheryl	146	Videon, Lauren
30	Ceffaratti, Megan	69	Heller, Nate	108	Nelson, Michael	147	Vincent, Brown
31	Ceffaratti, Rachael	70	Hellyer, Carol	109	Nelson, Brittni	148	Vincent, Stephanie
32	Colberg, Harriet	71	Herson, Mark	110	Nichols, David	149	Westerberg, Paul
33	Cornejo, Carlos	72	Herson, Lori	111	Nichols, Anna	150	Westerberg, Dyanne
34	Cornejo, Leonor	73	Hontz, Duane	112	Nichols, Bernardine	151	Williams, Tobias
35	Cowen, Ashley	74	Hontz, Diana	113	Nixon, Russ	152	Yeung, Paul
36	Cowen, Dan	75	Huddy, Inday	114	Nixon, Linda	153	Yocum, Jim
37	Cowen, Kara	76	Huddy, Steve	115	O'Leary, Patrick	154	Zane, Robin
38	Craemer, Sue	77	James, Rick	116	O'Leary, Molly		
39	Cunningham, Aaron	78	James, Katie	117	Palsgrove, Drew		

# Men's Ministry

The Men's Ministry began the year continuing with our hybrid Bible Study format (meeting in-person at the church in Fellowship Hall and by video via Zoom). We began 2025 by continuing our New Testament study of the Book of Acts exploring the theme "Putting Your Faith Where the Action Is". From there we rotated into our Summer Topical Video study. We explored "Living with Confidence in a Chaotic World" by Dr. David Jeremiah and "The Titus Ten – Foundations for Godly Manhood" by J. Josh Smith. We concluded the year by starting an Old Testament study on 1 Samuel using the Warren Wiersbe Study Guide "Attaining Wealth That Money Can't Buy". As is our usual post-study tradition, our Celebration Pie Nights continued in 2025.

In October we held a weekend retreat up in the Pocono Mountains with a focus on Apologetics. Our guest speaker was our own Rick James.

The Goshen Men's Bible Study Group meets on Thursdays at 7:00PM to 8:30PM and welcomes all men to join us in study, discussion, prayer and fellowship either in-person or in-video.

We are asking God to mold and shape the men of Goshen spiritually in 2026 as we continue to focus on our roles as men of Christ. The Men's Ministry Leadership Team is co-chaired by Dennis Balickie and Les Farrell with team members: Ed Duguid, Larry Smith and Steve Butler. Contact Dennis or Les for more information.

Dennis Balickie & Les Farrell

# Missions Team

The Goshen Baptist Missions Team continues its support for missions here and abroad. We used 21% of the church budget to support 30 missionaries and mission agencies serving in various ways in many countries to bring the Gospel to a lost world. Dona Sensenig retired this year due to failing health. Chris Cunningham passed away but Karen will continue with Cru at Penn State. We added Carl & Patsy Green of Global Training Network, Chris Lovelace with The Seed Company (Wycliffe), and Jon & Alma Stream with OMF International, plus more Worldlink missionaries with unreached people groups. We have monthly Great Commission Updates during services to keep the congregation informed about our missionaries and the work the Lord is doing through them and the ministries to which He has called them.

Again, this year, we supported the Baby Bottle fundraising campaign for Chester County Connect Care. We helped support Short Term Missions for Drake Buddenhagen and Michael Rhine. We added a couple of Stories of Grace (stories from our missionaries about God's work in people's lives) on the mission's page of our church website. We distributed Christmas cards to members of the congregation to be sent to each of our missionaries. Paul Westerberg coordinated the collection of over 100 shoe boxes for Operation Christmas Child. Barb Smith coordinated the Salvation Army bell ringing.

The theme for the Fall Focus on Missions was "On the Move: Spreading the Gospel from Everywhere to Everywhere." Bulus Galadima of the Lausanne Movement preached on "Christian Hospitality and the Gospel" from Ruth 2 and taught during the combined Adult Sunday School hour. Shelby Abott with FamilyLife preached on "Answering the Purposeful Call" from Matthew 4:18-22. The Missions Team created a slide show of our missionaries which was shown before and after services and in the lobby for several weeks. Our Fall



Focus on Missions project was “Feeding Body and Soul” which provided meals to refugees and Bibles to those who have expressed a desire to read God’s Word. God exceeded our goal of \$6,000 by raising \$7,200.

We added Mark Herson to our team. The rest of the members are: Chip Scott (Chair), Vicki & Mike Krug, Trudie McGarvey, Josh Miller, Keith Pound, Barb Smith, Debbie Yeung and Paul Westerberg as well as Pastor Peter.

Respectfully submitted,

Chip Scott

## Preschool

For more than 41 years, GBP has been a meaningful ministry of the church, faithfully serving children and families in our community. What began in 1984 with a single class of 15 students has, by God’s grace, grown into seven classes serving over 70 children each year. Through a play-based, Christ-centered approach to early education, GBP has touched the lives of thousands of students and their families, planting seeds of faith, learning, and belonging.

During the current school year, GBP offers one class for children aged two and a half, three classes for three-year-olds, two classes for four-year-olds, and one Pre-K 2 class. Our fourteen teachers and assistants continue to pour their time, gifts, and hearts into nurturing each child’s cognitive, social, emotional, physical, and spiritual development. As we reflect on this year, we give thanks for the opportunity to serve, to grow, and to partner with families as we live out the church’s mission of sharing God’s love with the youngest among us.

For the 2025-2026 school year, we added one new teacher this year: Carmelle Hontz. We also added a new assistant; Jacqueline Idelson. The new staff joins the returning staff of Sue Gramling, Amy Maraini, Shannon Peters, Kristen Richards, Kerry Lewis, Suzanne Finch, Danica Frazier, Melanie Aber, Kristin Girvan, Melissa Hackman, Rachelle Engel and Colleen Rogers. Melinda Quinn continues to oversee the finances for the preschool and does a superb job.

Our school is led by a board which Martha Bazar chairs. The other members include Duane Hontz, Denise Parshall, Sandy Engelman, Carolyn Miller, Laurel Santner, and Paul Gifford. Dan Werner joined our board in November 2025. Lori Herson is the liaison with the church’s Children Ministry, and Russ Nixon is our elder church liaison. We give thanks for God’s continual faithfulness to our preschool, as He has graciously guided and sustained our ministry to students and their families in the West Chester area.

Jennifer Duguid, Director

## Senior’s Ministry

Once again, we have had a good year as a Senior Fellowship at Goshen. We enjoyed a game of corn hole, which led to a lot of cheering and a little competition, along with some delicious soup. Several youths for Delaware Christian School presented their redemptive messages with us. They did an outstanding job, and we look forward to hearing from them again this March. Detective Hale talked with us about the issue of fraud, and we were pleased to be able to share with Bob Ellis his 100th birthday. In September Mark Cable joined us.

He is a professional musician and song writer. His message was wonderful and we all enjoyed his music. Pastor Michael Nelson shared his testimony with us and talked with us about music in general. It was good to get to know him on a more personal level. We look forward to the year ahead and thank God every day for the wonderful group of seniors at Goshen. If you are a senior, we would love for you to join us. We meet every other month beginning in January. The Fellowship Team is made up of Tom Parshall, Terri McCumber, Janet Vogt, Carol Hellyer, John Kelley, Jeff Mattis, and Jim Flye.

## Small Groups

For the past year, the small group leaders have been reflecting with me on ideas relayed in a great book by husband and wife professor team, Todd and Elizabeth Hall. In their book *Relational Spirituality*, the Halls (professors at Biola) seek to make a case for the necessity of being planted in a healthy local church for the development of one's spiritual life. Specifically, being in committed supportive relationships with other believers within that church:

is what we deeply long for: "'As children of God, we belong to the body of Christ in an objective sense. However, we also desire to subjectively experience a sense of belonging to God's new family - to be part of not just a group, but the ultimate family that is centered around God's love."

is God's intended setting in which our spiritual growth most deeply flourishes: "Involvement - ongoing, long-term involvement - in a spiritual community is the relational context for being transformed to become more like Christ."

is how we best display God's trinitarian character: "As God is trinitarian, we image God most fully in community. The spiritual life is essentially life-in-relation patterned after and sustained by the Trinity."

What an unbelievable privilege this is! There are several smaller settings at Goshen where people can connect with brothers and sisters in Christ on an on-going basis: Bible study groups, Sunday School classes and serving teams. But small groups are an ideal setting where we can experience spiritual growth through supportive relationships. I am so grateful for our 20 terrific small group leaders who care for and shepherd over 125 people:

- Larry & Martha Bazar
- Sean & Betty Ellsworth
- Jim & Arlene Flye
- Josh & Rebecca Miller
- David & Anna Nichols
- Michael & Brittni Nelson
- Peter & Cheryl Nelson
- Pat & Molly O'Leary
- Chip & Polly Scott
- Terry & Dee Stick

Rejoicing,

Cheryl Nelson

Deacon for Small Groups

# Women's Ministry

Women's Ministry continues to thrive as the Lord is drawing women to gather each week for bible study and for new and interesting events. The four bible studies remain strong powerful testimonies that there is nothing like the word of God. Women are faithfully coming each week for a deep dive into the word and new women are seeking these studies as well.

In addition to bible study, women are desiring to serve. So bountiful baskets for the Urban Promise spring auction were created in March. Our college students were blessed with a care package in October. Who doesn't need a box of junk food and supplies along with words of encouragement? In November we created a record setting 30 advent bags for our shut-in and homebound friends. What a blessing it was to see the women gather for dinner and then fellowship all evening as they wrapped 750 items to fill the bags. In addition to the advent bags, 40+ no snow pillows were created and were later distributed by the Heller and McCumber families. I'm not sure who was blessed more, the Hellers and the McCumbers or the residents of the nursing home.

In September the ladies were invited to a beautiful tea party. Fellowship hall was filled with women enjoying vintage china, platters of tea sandwiches and sweets and a table full of tea choices to sample. A panel style program rounded out the event as women at varying stages of life shared. And each woman took home a lovely teacup and journal to remember the event.

December brought our annual Christmas brunch. Tonia Kohler presented a lovely message on how to obtain rest on every side at Christmas. This message based on the book of Kings resonated with the room as we left recommitted to resting in the Lord's presence and not allowing the December frenzy to not do us in. We were blessed to have ministries come representing numerous local organizations. They brought items for sale, and it was a blessing to see the ladies' shop and learn more about the ministries. We are thankful for the men who came and helped serve, bus and clean up.

Joyfully we dive into ministry and study in 2026. It's going to be a great year!

Barb Smith