

annual report

2015



The Bridge of the Penn-York Valley Churches

February 2016

P.O. Box 202
Sayre, PA 18840
570-888-8826

www.thevalleybridge.org

Bridging the gaps of life in the name of Jesus Christ

*Whoever oppresses a poor man insults his Maker,
but he who is generous to the needy honors him.*

Proverbs 14:31

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About Us

The Bridge of the Penn-York Valley Churches is a non-profit organization of churches in the Penn-York Valley that serves the residents in the Waverly, Sayre, & Athens school districts. The aim of *The Bridge* is to bridge the gaps of life in the name of Jesus Christ and to help when and where other agencies are not able.

Specifically, the ministries of *The Bridge* in 2015 included offering voucher assistance for emergency needs especially housing related needs; catastrophic assistance; free furniture and household goods through *Helping Hands*; clothing, household goods, toys & books through the *Clothes Closet*; free clothing, hygiene items, school supplies & other assistance through *Kids at Risk*; food assistance through community meals and the *Mobile Food Pantry*; and referrals to other services through our *Clearinghouse*.

The Bridge is supported by its member churches, individuals, The United Way, Waverly Community Chest, businesses, and community organizations. *The Bridge* generally holds one major fundraising event each year on the Friday and Saturday after Thanksgiving, the Sleepout. It is intended to bring awareness to those in need and to raise funds for the ministry. In 2015, we raised \$18,203.08 for this event. In 2015, another event was added as a number of vintage items were donated with the intent to sell for the needs of the ministry. A chicken barbeque and bake sale were added to the idea and it was overwhelmingly successful raising a total of \$5,617.49!

We are so very thankful for all those who participate in the ministry—donors and volunteers alike! We continue to seek God's direction as we serve in the ministry of *The Bridge*.

Our Member Churches and Partners in 2015

Athens United Methodist Church
Athens Wesleyan Church
Bentley Creek Wesleyan Church
Blessed Trinity at St. James
Chemung Christian Fellowship
Christian & Missionary Alliance, Waverly
Christian Life Church
Church of the Nazarene
Church of the Redeemer
Crossroads Family Ministries
Epiphany Parish
Federated Church, East Smithfield
First Baptist Church, Sayre
First Baptist Church, Waverly
First Church of God, Sayre
Grace Episcopal, Waverly
Greater Valley Assembly of God
Litchfield United Methodist Church

Lockwood United Methodist Church
New Generation Church, Milan
North Waverly Chapel
Pilgrim Holiness
St. John Lutheran Church
Sayre Christian Church
Seventh Day Adventist Church
Sonrise Christian Life Church
Trinity Episcopal Church
United Methodist Church, Waverly
Valley United Presbyterian Church

Partners:

Catholic Charities, Tioga Outreach
Robert Packer Hospital Chaplain
The Salvation Army
Tioga Rural Ministries

Serving those in need since 1987



Co-Presidents

In our annual letter last year we talked about the miracle that is “The Bridge.” The miracle continues and thrives.

We finished 2015 with a very healthy year of receiving as well as giving. In September, our Helping Hands ministry held a Vintage Goods sale and Chicken Barbeque. On a beautiful fall day, many people—some Bridge members, some not—came together to organize and run the sale. Hundreds of people from the community came to support us, enjoy the festivities, and take advantage of some excellent donated items that were surplus to our needs. We all had a chance to have some fun outside of our normal routines and we turned surplus goods into security deposits and utility payments. I definitely hope to see a repeat of that event this year.

We are pleased that The Bridge expanded into that community event; it was so much more than a yard sale. But we’re getting itchy to push our “tent pegs” out a bit further again this year.

We have talked about a new category of assistance, which we (unofficially) are calling “Good Samaritan.” Its goal is to not just offer a one-time grant, but to stay with a family until they are safely back on their feet. With our healthy funds balance the only thing holding us back now is the will to do it.

There is also a possibility of getting involved at some level with an effort to open a women’s shelter or half-way house in Waverly; I would love to see that happen and God knows it is needed.

We thank you all for your interest in and support of The Bridge.

Dick Friend Bobette Friend

Dick & Bobette Friend
Co-Presidents



Clearinghouse

The Clearinghouse is the access point for *The Bridge's* services. We respond to inquiries about *The Bridge* and its services as well as directing individuals seeking financial assistance or furniture to a local pastor or church to complete an application and receive a Bridge voucher if they are eligible. Family income, number of people in the household, household expenses, frequency of requests and residence (Sayre, Athens or Waverly school district) determine eligibility. Vouchers are used for rent/security deposit, utility shutoff, furniture and other emergency situations.

Voucher Type	Number
Security Deposit	101
Electric	92
Rent	57
Natural Gas	29
Fuel oil	28
Water	18
Propane	11
Miscellaneous	6
Lodging	3
Gasoline	2
Sewer	2
Kerosene	1
Total	350

2015 Vouchers

Voucher Type	Number
Furniture	158
Catastrophic	0

Clearinghouse Hours

Monday 9 am – 12:30 pm
Tuesday 9 am – 12:30 pm
Wednesday 9 am – 12:30 pm
Thursday 9 am – 11:30 am



Voucher Writer Training

The Bridge is dependent on voucher writers in our member churches to interview people requesting assistance. Three hundred fifty people were interviewed for cash assistance vouchers and 158 for furniture vouchers in 2015. *Without trained voucher writers we would not have been able to assist these individuals and families.*

Voucher writing training was provided to 6 individuals in 2015. This was needed as we lost several individuals who had served as voucher writers in the past. We are grateful for these new people and are thankful for the service of those who have and continue to serve the people of our community in this way.

We are always willing to train more pastors and others to write vouchers. Interested individuals should contact *The Bridge* Clearinghouse at (570) 888-8826.

Respectfully submitted,
Larry Day, Voucher Writer Trainer



Clothes Closet

The Clothes Closet is a ministry of *The Bridge* located at the North Waverly Chapel which provides clothing and apparel, small household items, and toys to those in need without requiring a voucher and with no geographical restrictions. Individuals and families find out about the ministry through voucher writers, churches, friends, medical personnel, and the media. The ministry relies entirely upon donations from generous individuals and businesses in the community.



This year we celebrated our 10th year anniversary at the North Waverly Chapel! We made some exciting improvements which included the addition of a chute which facilitates being able to receive donations when we are closed. This is an outside opening with a slide that goes to the basement to a room constructed to collect the donated items

downstairs. We also installed a dumbwaiter made with a garage door opener which allows for items to be moved easily from one floor to another without carrying the items up and down steps which most of our volunteers are unable to do. We also were blessed with new carpet in the upstairs. Many thanks to **Daryl Wandell** who took a vision and made it a reality!



The Clothes Closet continued to operate twice a week, Tuesdays from 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm and Wednesdays from 12 noon to 2 pm serving those in need. In 2015, we had an average of 136 household contacts and distributed 1,715 items each month of the year for a grand total of 1,636 household contacts and 20,578 items distributed.

We are very thankful for all those who so generously donated items and for the numerous volunteers who make this ministry possible. We have 10 teams of 2-3 people each who work once a month while we are open. We also have two teams which consistently work on Tuesday afternoons and Thursday mornings to restock and sort donations. A special thank you to **Marilyn Weber** who faithfully handled the data entry of clients served and items distributed this year as well as assisting where needed as well as to **Billie Jean White** who served as co-coordinator for the first part of the year.

Sadly, this year we lost one of our faithful volunteers and dear friend, Joyce Guilford, after a long battle with cancer. Her Clothes Closet friends attended her memorial service and provided a meal following for family and friends. We miss her!

So very thankful for all God is doing in and through us at the Clothes Closet.

Kim Paul, Clothes Closet Coordinator



Helping Hands

In 2015, The Helping Hands Used Furniture Ministry in the old Quinlan's building in Waverly on Rt. 17C has been updated by Charlie Hammond with the expansion of our bedding area, allowing us to keep excess mattresses off the ground. Charlie also built a door closing off the front room of the warehouse from the rest so we may store and sort household items, he also built shelves for our lamps, and a cabinet unit to hold DVD's and toys.

A new group of volunteers, the Rollin' Dead Motorcycle Club, joined us this year in January of 2015. There are at least 2 of them that come faithfully each Saturday. They are truly a blessing to us. We had a sad note this summer in which one of the members, Tony Jerzak, lost his daughter Hannah in a car accident. She was one of the faithful ones who came and loved being able to help! We miss her a lot!

This year we had an excess of furniture items such as antiques, that did not meet our client's needs so we decided to do a Chicken BBQ, Vintage Sale and Bake Sale. It was a huge success. Hannah's family did the cooking as a way to give back. Our staff did everything else. It was a wonderful day. We raised over \$5,500. We were truly overwhelmed by the out pouring of support from our community! It was such a success that we will be doing it again this year, and hopefully making this an annual event!

Our open hours of operation are Wednesdays and Saturday's 9:00 am to 12 noon.



2015 Helping Hands Used Furniture Ministry Activity:

Vouchers for goods given out—**166**.

Donations of goods received—**275**.

Thanks to our great staff of volunteers: John Simonds, Charlie Brown, Howard Brewster, C.T. Weber, Jim Harbst, Craig Menning, Tim Shirley, and the Rollin' Dead Motorcycle Club.

Submitted by,

Charlie Hammond, Helping Hands Coordinator
Marilyn Weber, Helping Hands Assistant Coordinator

Kids at Risk



In 1994 the Kids at Risk ministry was started to meet the needs of children in the Sayre, Athens, and Waverly school districts. The main focus of the program is children in uncomfortable or unhealthy situations that risk failure in school and possibly later in life from the lack of hygiene supplies, inadequate clothing and or school supplies are helped with this ministry.

In 2015 Kids at Risk helped approximately 886 students. The counselors, school nurses, teachers and secretary's help make this program work. They take the time to evaluate a child's needs and then e-mail me with those needs. I check supplies on hand to see if I have those items, if not I purchase them.

Individuals, groups and churches in the community support Kids at Risk, and 100% of the donations go back into this ministry. I wish I could highlight every individual and group who has supported Kids at Risk throughout the year. I feel extremely grateful for each and every selfless donation. A few individuals that I would like to highlight for their work to keep Kids at Risk moving in the light of my sometimes difficult work schedule are Mary Rhodes, Cindy Jones, and Sally Harden. These three are always willing to run items to the schools for me, and I appreciate them all greatly!

The beginning balance in Jan. 2015 was \$11,973.39. The decision was made this year to split the account, putting a majority of the account into a Wesleyan Investment fund. At the end of this year, the total that I have in that fund, and my checking account is \$11,696.75.

	Beginning	Income	Expense	Transfer	Ending
Checking	\$11,973.39	\$2,891.61	\$3,295.46	(\$9,679.00)	\$1,890.54
Investment Acct.	\$0	\$127.21	\$0	\$9,679.00	\$9,806.21
Total	\$11,973.39	\$3,018.82	\$3,295.46	\$0	\$11,696.75

Spalding Memorial Library sponsored the Angel Tree book program again this year. This program offers books to children at Christmas that may never receive a gift. We had a great turnout, and once again, over 200 students received books through the program.

This has been a great year with the Kids at Risk program, and I look forward to a third year as coordinator. As always, I hope to raise awareness throughout the valley for Kids at Risk, and the large need in the school districts. This year, a lot of help was given to some students who really had nothing, and I'm so happy to be able to be a part of this organization.

Respectfully Submitted,

Emily Cole, Kids at Risk Coordinator

Mission: We will help children, grades K-12, through the schools in the Athens, Sayre and Waverly school districts, attempting to meet the need which cannot be met in any other way. We will make every effort to preserve the self-esteem of the child and family as we reach out in the name of Jesus Christ.





Community Dinners

In Luke 3:11, John replied, *"If you have two coats, give one to the poor. If you have food, share it with those who are hungry."* These words of John the Baptist reflect the spirit of The Bridge. Dinners served by *The Bridge* in 2015 included:

February 26th - Church of the Redeemer

April 2nd - Waverly United Methodist

July 8th - Athens United Methodist

November 19th – St. James Catholic Church



We prepare and serve all meals except for the meal at The Church of the Redeemer (we provide desserts and servers). The cost of all meals is covered by donations. We have a wonderful group of faithful people who help with these meals.

The schedule for the free dinners offered Thursdays every week in our community are as follows:

1st Thursday - Waverly United Methodist 4:30-6:00 PM

2nd Thursday - Athens United Methodist 4:30-6:00 PM

3rd Thursday – St. James Catholic 4:30-6:00 PM

4th Thursday* - Church of the Redeemer 4:00-6:00 PM

*If a month has 5 Thursdays: The Church of the Redeemer will serve the 5th and the Valley United Presbyterian (Waverly location) serves the 4th

Submitted by:

Sandy Campbell, Community Dinner Coordinator





Mobile Food Pantry

The Bridge has continued to sponsor the Mobile Food Pantry each month on the third Wednesday of each month at the Valley United Presbyterian Church, Waverly location throughout 2015. The time of the distribution changed a few times during the year at the request of the Food Bank of the Southern Tier and started in December at 10a which is the time planned for the 2016 distributions. We provide an average of 20 volunteers for each distribution. Volunteers come from a variety of sources within *The Bridge* as well as a significant number of local homeschool families part of the Valley Area LEAH, a Christian homeschool group in the Valley.

There are a variety of jobs required including directing traffic, signing in people, directing people, stocking the tables, bagging produce, handing out food, and helping people carry food to their vehicles. Many of the volunteers are "repeaters" meaning they come every month which is



a huge blessing and shows what a blessing it is for the volunteers as well. Like most of the ministries of *The Bridge*, it wouldn't be possible without dedicated volunteers!



We are especially grateful for the graciousness and hospitality of the Valley United Presbyterian Church for allowing the distributions to take place on their property and for allowing us to use their social hall and facilities. What a blessing!

In 2015, the 12 food distributions have ranged from 160 to 240 households served.

It has been a privilege to serve God and the people in this community through the ministry of the Mobile Food Pantry in 2015 along with co-coordinator Don Jayne and the many faithful volunteers.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kim Paul

Mobile Food Pantry Co-Coordinator
Waverly Site



Valley Food Pantry

Director: Liz Coco

Assistant: Howard Brewster

2015 Activity Record

2015	PA	NY	TOTAL
Households	896	884	1,780
Adults	1,735	1,536	3,271
Children	726	864	1,590
Total	2,461	2,400	4,861

Valley Food Pantry Hours

Monday – Thursday 10:00 am – 12:00 noon
 2:00 pm – 4:00 pm

Friday 10:00 am – 12:00 noon

Location: 418 Waverly Street, Waverly, NY

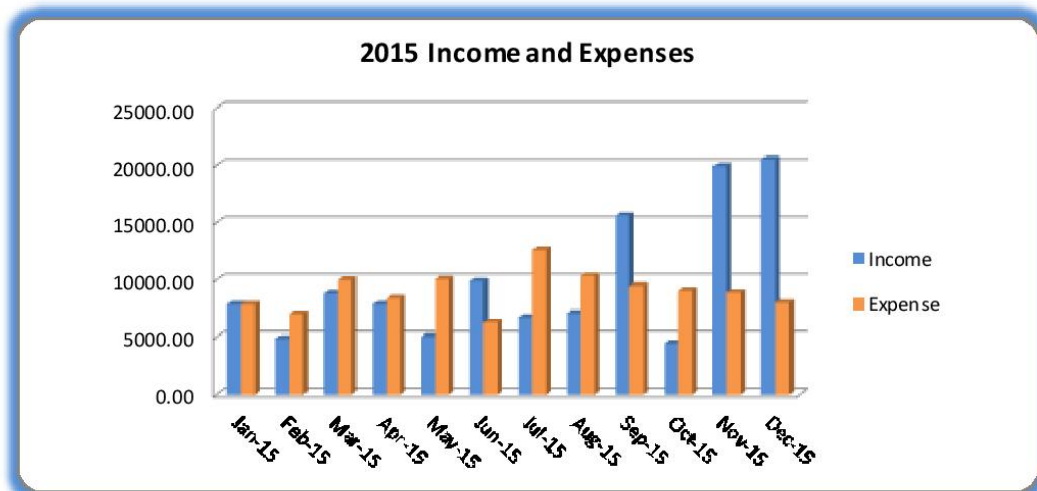
Phone: 607-565-8718



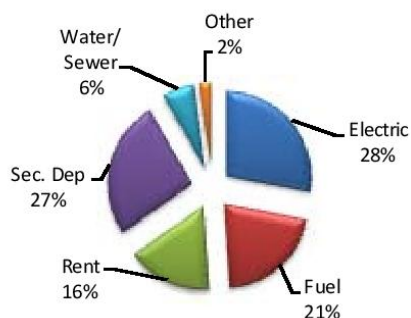
Respectfully Submitted by,
Charles Hammond for **Liz Coco**



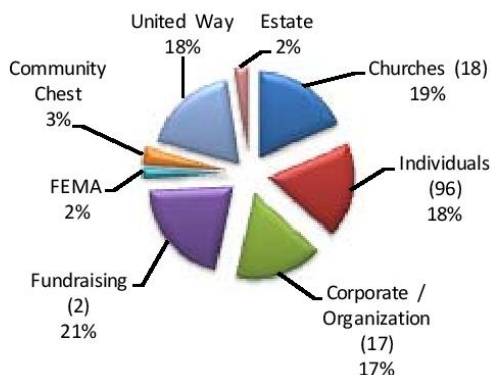
The Bridge of the Penn-York Valley Churches 2015 Treasurer's Annual Report



Types of Vouchers Paid 2015



Funding Sources 2015



Account	Beginning Balance	Income	Expense	Transfers	Balance
Bridge Account	\$ 62,654.31	\$ 118,708.75	\$ (108,183.90)	\$ -	\$ 73,179.16

Designated Funds within Bridge Account

Guthrie Grant (Database)	\$ 1,045.25	\$ -	\$ (159.32)	\$ -	\$ 885.93
Helping Hands Warehouse	\$ 800.00	\$ 9,600.00	\$ (9,600.00)	\$ -	\$ 800.00
Clothes Closet	\$ 117.25	\$ 50.00	\$ (167.25)	\$ -	\$ -
Total Undesignated Funds	\$ 60,691.81	\$ 109,058.75	\$ (98,257.33)	\$ -	\$ 71,493.23

Income and Expense Comparison 2014-2015			
	1/1/2014-12/31/2014	1/1/2015-12/31/2015	Difference
Income	\$138,719.03	\$118,708.75	(\$20,010.28)
Expense	\$118,067.46	\$108,183.90	(\$9,883.56)
Difference	\$20,651.57	\$10,524.85	(\$10,126.72)

Historical look at voucher levels: Previously-\$100; May 2009-\$150; May 2010-\$200; May 2011-\$300

2015 Annual Treasurer's Report Income/Expense Comparison 2014-2015



INCOME	2014	2015	Difference
Churches			
Athens Wesleyan	\$ 200.00	\$ 150.00	\$ (50.00)
Bentley Creek Wesleyan Church	\$ 2,520.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ (1,520.00)
Blessed Trinity Parish (St. James)	\$ 1,843.00	\$ 3,020.00	\$ 1,177.00
Chemung Christian Fellowship	\$ 2,646.00	\$ 2,662.26	\$ 16.26
Christian Life	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 1,100.00	\$ (100.00)
Church of God	\$ 1,575.00	\$ 300.00	\$ (1,275.00)
Crossroads Family Ministries (Keystone)	\$ 698.66	\$ 574.00	\$ (124.66)
E Smithfield Federated	\$ 250.00	\$ 150.00	\$ (100.00)
First Baptist, Waverly	\$ 700.00	\$ 45.22	\$ (654.78)
G.V. Assembly of God	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 2,850.00	\$ 1,350.00
Nazarene, Waverly	\$ 964.33	\$ 100.00	\$ (864.33)
North Waverly Chapel	\$ 1,701.00	\$ 1,200.00	\$ (501.00)
Pilgrim Holiness	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00	\$ -
Redeemer	\$ 330.00	\$ 135.00	\$ (195.00)
Sayre Christian	\$ 1,370.00	\$ 450.00	\$ (920.00)
St. John Lutheran	\$ 2,113.00	\$ 1,072.50	\$ (1,040.50)
UMC, Athens	\$ 3,227.37	\$ 755.50	\$ (2,471.87)
UMC, Litchfield	\$ 2,250.00	\$ -	\$ (2,250.00)
UMC, Ulster	\$ 45.00	\$ -	\$ (45.00)
UMC, Waverly	\$ 3,298.00	\$ -	\$ (3,298.00)
Valley United Presbyterian			
Presbyterian, Sayre	\$ 20.00	\$ -	\$ (20.00)
Presbyterian, Waverly	\$ 10.00	\$ -	\$ (10.00)
Other Churches:Valley United Presbyterian	\$ 8,165.00	\$ 5,900.00	\$ (2,265.00)
TOTAL Valley United Presbyterian	\$ 8,195.00	\$ 5,900.00	\$ (2,295.00)
TOTAL Churches	\$ 37,126.36	\$ 21,964.48	\$ (15,161.88)
Community Chest	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 4,000.00	\$ -
Corporate-Organizational Gifts	\$ 5,356.64	\$ 8,669.60	\$ 3,312.96
Designated Income			
Clothes Closet	\$ -	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00
Helping Hands	\$ 10,400.00	\$ 9,600.00	\$ (800.00)
TOTAL Designated Income	\$ 10,400.00	\$ 9,650.00	\$ (750.00)
FEMA	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 2,054.20	\$ 554.20
Fundraising			
Chicken BBQ & Sale			
BBQ Bake Sale	\$ -	\$ 425.20	\$ 425.20
BBQ Donations	\$ -	\$ 238.50	\$ 238.50
BBQ Furniture Sale	\$ -	\$ 3,858.00	\$ 3,858.00
Chicken	\$ -	\$ 1,573.00	\$ 1,573.00
TOTAL Chicken BBQ & Sale	\$ -	\$ 6,094.70	\$ 6,094.70
Harlan Rowe	\$ 50.00	\$ -	\$ (50.00)
Sleep Out	\$ 23,216.67	\$ 18,787.08	\$ (4,429.59)
TOTAL Fundraising	\$ 23,266.67	\$ 24,881.78	\$ 1,615.11

2015 Annual Treasurer's Report Income/Expense Comparison 2014-2015



INCOME	2014	2015	Difference
Helping Hands Warehouse			
Delivery Fees	\$ -	\$ 795.00	\$ 795.00
Donations	\$ -	\$ 40.00	\$ 40.00
Furniture Sales	\$ -	\$ 420.00	\$ 420.00
Other Helping Hands Warehouse	\$ 310.00	\$ -	\$ (310.00)
TOTAL Helping Hands Warehouse	\$ 310.00	\$ 1,255.00	\$ 945.00
Individual Gifts	\$ 33,029.11	\$ 21,564.72	\$ (11,464.39)
Miscellaneous	\$ -	\$ 2,937.12	\$ 2,937.12
Pass Through Income			
Helping Hands Warehouse	\$ 60.00	\$ -	\$ (60.00)
Valley Food Pantry	\$ 331.83	\$ 145.42	\$ (186.41)
TOTAL Pass Through Income	\$ 391.83	\$ 145.42	\$ (246.41)
United Way of Bradford County	\$ 23,068.33	\$ 20,948.00	\$ (2,120.33)
United Way of the Southern Tier	\$ 270.09	\$ 638.43	\$ 368.34
TOTAL INCOME	\$ 138,719.03	\$ 118,708.75	\$ (20,010.28)

EXPENSES	2014	2015	Difference
Catastrophic Assistance Flood Relief			
Plumbing	\$ 450.00	\$ -	\$ 450.00
Other Catastrophic Assistance Flood Relief	\$ (1,350.00)	\$ -	\$ (1,350.00)
TOTAL Catastrophic Assistance Flood Relief	\$ (900.00)	\$ -	\$ (900.00)
Designated Expense			
25th Anniversary	\$ 129.12	\$ -	\$ 129.12
Amber Project	\$ 235.45	\$ -	\$ 235.45
Designated Expense Clothes Closet	\$ -	\$ 167.25	\$ (167.25)
Helping Hands Furniture House	\$ 9,600.00	\$ 9,600.00	\$ -
Website	\$ -	\$ 159.32	\$ (159.32)
TOTAL Designated Expense	\$ 9,964.57	\$ 9,926.57	\$ 38.00
Fundraising Expense			
Chicken for BBQ	\$ -	\$ 477.21	\$ (477.21)
SleepOut	\$ -	\$ 219.29	\$ (219.29)
TOTAL Fundraising Expense	\$ -	\$ 696.50	\$ (696.50)
Office-Administrative			
Administrative Clearinghouse	\$ 2,450.00	\$ 1,250.00	\$ 1,200.00
Bank Fees	\$ 12.00	\$ 12.00	\$ -
Box.net fee	\$ 275.00	\$ -	\$ 275.00
Clothes Closet			
Clothes Closet Chute & Renovations	\$ -	\$ 2,670.16	\$ (2,670.16)
Electricity for Clothes Closet	\$ 841.72	\$ 993.43	\$ (151.71)
TOTAL Clothes Closet	\$ 841.72	\$ 3,663.59	\$ (2,821.87)
Helping Hands			
Electricity for Warehouse	\$ 630.89	\$ 765.32	\$ (134.43)
Liability Insurance	\$ 800.31	\$ 920.31	\$ (120.00)
Mileage Reimbursement	\$ 11.25	\$ 1,595.25	\$ (1,584.00)
Miscellaneous	\$ -	\$ 134.50	\$ (134.50)
Water & Sewer	\$ 88.00	\$ 190.05	\$ (102.05)
Other Office-Administrative:Helping Hands	\$ -	\$ 25.00	\$ (25.00)
TOTAL Helping Hands	\$ 1,530.45	\$ 3,630.43	\$ (2,099.98)

2015 Annual Treasurer's Report Income/Expense Comparison 2014-2015



INCOME	2014	2015	Difference
Miscellaneous	\$ 176.74	\$ 99.98	\$ 76.76
P. O. Box Fee	\$ -	\$ 18.00	\$ (18.00)
PayPal Fees	\$ 20.90	\$ 70.40	\$ (49.50)
Postage	\$ 390.53	\$ 310.36	\$ 80.17
Supplies	\$ 108.21	\$ 492.30	\$ (384.09)
Telephone, Clearinghouse	\$ 1,326.00	\$ 1,116.30	\$ 209.70
Website Charges Mthly & Annual	\$ 22.28	\$ 300.00	\$ (277.72)
TOTAL Office-Administrative	\$ 7,153.83	\$ 10,963.36	\$ (3,809.53)
Pass Through Expense			
Helping Hands Warehouse	\$ 60.00	\$ -	\$ 60.00
Valley Food Pantry	\$ 331.83	\$ 145.42	\$ 186.41
TOTAL Pass Through Expense	\$ 391.83	\$ 145.42	\$ 246.41
Voucher Expenses			
Electricity	\$ 22,002.05	\$ 23,497.31	\$ (1,495.26)
Fuel	\$ 35,262.96	\$ 18,012.72	\$ 17,250.24
Gasoline, Diesel	\$ 67.51	\$ -	\$ 67.51
Lodging	\$ 1,054.40	\$ 450.00	\$ 604.40
Miscellaneous	\$ 70.00	\$ 300.00	\$ (230.00)
Prescription & Medical	\$ 441.56	\$ 209.17	\$ 232.39
Rent	\$ 16,644.50	\$ 16,230.65	\$ 413.85
Security Deposit	\$ 21,637.00	\$ 23,135.00	\$ (1,498.00)
Sewer	\$ 1,100.00	\$ 600.00	\$ 500.00
Transportation	\$ 137.80	\$ 179.50	\$ (41.70)
Water	\$ 3,039.45	\$ 3,837.70	\$ (798.25)
TOTAL Voucher Expenses	\$ 101,457.23	\$ 86,452.05	\$ 15,005.18
TOTAL EXPENSE!	\$ 118,067.46	\$ 108,183.90	\$ 9,883.56
OVERALL TOTAL	\$ 20,651.57	\$ 10,524.85	\$ (10,126.72)

Respectfully Submitted,
Waneta Warner, Treasurer



Secretary

As secretary for *The Bridge*, I feel honored to be asked to assist *The Bridge* in this position. Many challenges were faced this year and many people have been helped.

Databases were maintained by the secretary. These held the church membership information which included addresses, e-mail addresses, phone numbers and other information needed to communicate with the churches and church representatives. An e-mail address book listing the board members, voucher writers, pastors and officers was maintained by the secretary. Part of the secretarial responsibility was notifying members of the outcome of the monthly board meetings. The secretary also handled the yearly update of the membership renewals.

New members joined *The Bridge* during the year, each bringing new ideas, experiences, etc. needed to complete the fellowship of *The Bridge*. These members have been welcomed, along with their ideas and the strong desire to minister in the name of Jesus.


I would like to say thank you for allowing me to serve in this capacity. It has been a very rewarding experience. While I have stepped down as secretary for 2016, I plan on continuing to serve in various ministries within *The Bridge* and as a church representative.

Respectfully submitted,
Kay Daniels, Secretary

Financial Secretary

In 2015, a total of 56 year-end receipts were distributed to individuals, organizations, businesses, & churches for gifts of \$250 or more. Along with the receipts, the insert below was included with highlights from the year. Donarius software was used to track donations through the year and generate the statements.

Kim Paul,
Financial Secretary



The Bridge
of the Penn-York Valley Churches

Thank you for your contribution in 2015 which enabled us to help those in need in our community!
Specifically, with your help we:

- Provided about \$87,000 in 339 vouchers for basic needs of rent (55), security deposit (90), fuel (71), electric (95), water/sewer (21), and other emergency needs (7) thereby helping 496 adults & 340 children.
- Served 1,336 households in our *Clothes Closet* ministry giving out 17,000 free items of clothing & apparel, small housewares, books & toys.
- Assisted 166 households through our *Helping Hands* ministry with furniture and appliances made possible by 275 donations (often multiple items given each time a household was helped).
- Served a total of 886 students through our *Kids at Risk* program in the school districts of Athens, Sayre, & Waverly with clothing, hygiene items, school supplies, and other needs anonymously by partnering with school personnel who identified needs and distributed items.
- Served the community through our *Clearinghouse* as a referral service for clients to obtain our services and services offered by others in the community.

The Bridge of the Penn-York Valley Churches
570-888-8826 P.O. Box 202, Sayre, PA 18840 www.thevalleybridge.org



Corresponding Secretary

The Bridge of the Penn York Valley Churches continues to exist and function providing a needed helping hand to Valley families in desperate circumstances because of the kind and generous hearts of member churches, community individuals, generous businesses and benevolent organizations. The Lord himself has prompted many to be this blessing. Their gestures reflect this scripture text from Psalm 22:23a, 24 which states: "Praise the Lord, all you who fear him! Honor him! For he has not ignored the suffering of the needy. He has not turned and walked away. He has listened to their cries for help."



So many have stepped forward in love of their neighbors and love for God. Well done Valley friends of the Bridge! What follows reflects their efforts.

Churches:	111
Individuals & Organizations:	243
Responses to bereaved family or others honoring individuals:	23

It should be noted that some donors requested, "No thank you necessary." Also, in addition to acknowledging donations, various cards of appreciation were also sent.

Special thanks to my husband, Nelson Kopatz, for his computer assistance with printing of the letters and envelopes and to Sherry Pinkard and Waneta Warner for keeping the stats of donations and passing them on to us so we can properly thank friends for their gifts of help.

Thank you,

Sue Kopatz, Corresponding Secretary



Audit Committee

Using the checklist previously developed as a guide, a review of the 2015 financial records of *The Bridge* was completed. The main Bridge checking account and the Kids at Risk checking & investment accounts, records, and reports were reviewed. Both accounts were found to be without material errors.

In addition, as is our custom, some suggestions and comments were given to the financial officers in our continual attempt to improve our processes.

Many thanks go to those involved with maintaining the financial records of *The Bridge*, specifically we would like to mention Waneta Warner, Treasurer; Sherry Pinkard, Assistant Treasurer; and Emily Cole, Kids at Risk Coordinator. Thank you so much for your dedicated service to the Lord and to those in need in our community!

Respectfully Submitted,

2015 Audit Committee: Wendy McKeithen, Kim Paul, & Barb Richards

2015 Leadership

Officers:

Co-Presidents: **Dick & Bobette Friend**, Litchfield United Methodist Church

Vice President: **Scott Webster**, Chemung Christian Church

Secretary: **Kay Daniels**, St. John Lutheran Church

Treasurer: **Waneta Warner**, Bentley Creek Wesleyan Church

Other Leadership:

Pastoral Advisor: **Andrew Weidner**, Athens United Methodist Church

Corresponding Secretary: **Sue Kopatz**, Valley United Presbyterian Church

Assistant Treasurer: **Sherry Pinkard**, Valley United Presbyterian Church

Financial Secretary: **Kim Paul**, North Waverly Chapel

Clearinghouse Coordinator: **Larry Day**, North Waverly Chapel

Voucher Writer Trainer: **Larry Day**, North Waverly Chapel

Catastrophic Coordinators: **Don Jayne**, Valley United Presbyterian Church & **Kim Paul**, North Waverly Chapel

Clothes Closet Coordinator: **Kim Paul**, North Waverly Chapel

Helping Hands Coordinator: **Charlie Hammond**, Church of the Epiphany;

Helping Hands Assistant Coordinator: **Marilyn Weber**, North Waverly Chapel

Kids at Risk Coordinator: **Emily Cole**, Church of the Redeemer

Community Dinners Coordinators: **Sandy Campbell & Sue Kopatz**, Valley United Presbyterian

Mobile Food Pantry, Waverly, Site Coordinator: **Kim Paul**, North Waverly Chapel &

Don Jayne, Valley United Presbyterian Church

Facebook: **Marilyn Weber**, North Waverly Chapel

Webmaster: **Kim Paul**, North Waverly Chapel

Historian: **Kim Paul**, North Waverly Chapel