

annual report

2017

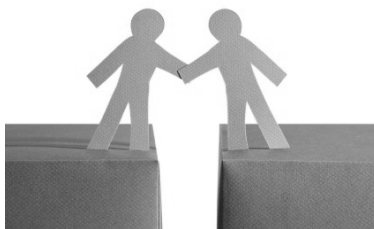


# The Bridge of the Penn-York Valley Churches

February 2018

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

[www.thevalleybridge.org](http://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

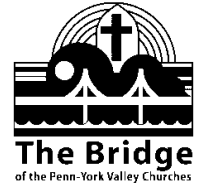
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# About Us



*The Bridge of the Penn-York Valley Churches* is an all-volunteer, non-profit organization of churches in the Penn-York Valley that serves the residents in the Waverly, Sayre, and 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 2017 included offering voucher assistance for emergency needs especially housing related needs; catastrophic assistance; interim assistance, free furniture and household goods through *Helping Hands*; clothing, household goods, toys and books through the *Clothes Closet*; free clothing, hygiene items, school supplies and other assistance through *Kids at Risk*; food assistance through community meals, the *Mobile Food Pantry* and *The Valley 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 two major fundraising events each year. One is the Sleepout held the Friday and Saturday after Thanksgiving. It is intended to bring awareness to those in need and to raise funds for the ministry. The other event is a Chicken Barbeque and Vintage Furniture Sale held in September. The Board of Directors of *The Bridge* meets monthly on the second Thursday of each month.

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 2017

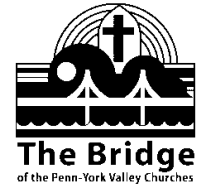
Athens United Methodist Church  
Athens Wesleyan Church  
Bentley Creek Wesleyan Church  
Blessed Trinity at St. James  
Chemung Christian Fellowship  
Christian & Missionary Alliance, Waverly  
Christian Life Church  
Church of the Redeemer  
Crossroads Family Ministries  
Epiphany Parish  
Encounter Church  
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  
St. John Lutheran Church  
Sayre Christian Church  
Seventh Day Adventist Church  
Sunrise Christian Life Church  
The Salvation Army  
Trinity Episcopal Church  
Valley United Presbyterian Church  
Waverly United Methodist Church

Partners:  
Catholic Charities, Tioga Outreach  
Robert Packer Hospital Chaplain  
Tioga Rural Ministries

*Serving those in need since 1987*

# President's Letter



What an exciting year it has been for *The Bridge*! It is so great to see all that God has done as we look back over the past year. We have so very much to be thankful for. Here are a few highlights.

The Valley Food Pantry officially became a part of *The Bridge* in April. We applied for and received a \$5,000 grant from Leprino's. We are looking forward to the upgrades we will be able to do with the grant.

We started our Interim Assistance Program this year and completed the first of 5 cases approved for the pilot program. We look forward to our next case.

We celebrated our 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and the occasion was marked with a dinner held at the Athens United Methodist Church. Kim Paul made a slideshow of the 30 years. It is so amazing to see where we started and where we are today! Also, it was great to take time to appreciate our volunteers. Our ministries wouldn't be able to function without them. We plan to do some form of volunteer appreciation each year as a way to say thank you to those who are so dedicated to *The Bridge*.

Our Bridge Board meetings have been streamlined and are more efficient generally keeping them to about 1 hour each month. Our Leadership Team meetings are now once a month giving us time between Board meetings to discuss ideas and situations before bringing them to the larger group.

Waneta Warner completed 6 years as Treasurer of *The Bridge* at the end of 2017. We are so thankful for the tremendous job she has done for us over the years not only in handling the daily treasurer responsibilities, but also in providing valuable insight in the ministry and developing documents such as *The Bridge* newsletter, Stretch Your Dollar, and Past Due.

The Helping Hands team had a very successful 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Chicken BBQ and Vintage Sale and took in over \$5,800.

Our parade float this year was Happy Birthday Jesus, and thanks to all who helped make it a reality. The float won "Best in Show." After the parade, the float was parked in front of Sayre Theater by our Sleepout, which celebrated its 15<sup>th</sup> year. Over \$8,500 was raised through the Sleepout this year.

The Bridge logo was updated with a modern font and put into formats which make its appearance more polished. Special thanks to Encounter Church for facilitating the process and Claire Printing for donating the work!

We are so very thankful for the support we receive from those in our community through generous contributions and support of our fundraisers. This year we were also blessed by an unusually large donation from a longtime regular contributor, Beulah Merrill, in the form of an estate gift. This gift, along with other generous donations, will allow us to move into some new areas of ministry. We look forward to how God will use *The Bridge* in the coming year and beyond.

I hope that you will take a few minutes and read through the rest of our annual report and rejoice with us in what God has done.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Marilyn'.

**Marilyn Weber**, President



# 2017 Highlights



**30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary** - *The Bridge* celebrated 30 years of ministry in 2017 with a dinner on Saturday, October 21, 2017 at the Athens United Methodist Church.

**Interim Assistance Program Pilot** was launched and completed one case in 2017.

**Valley Food Pantry** became an official part of *The Bridge* in March after being a sister ministry since our inception.

**2017 Mobile Food Pantry Champion Award** - The Mobile Food Pantry of the Food Bank of the Southern Tier celebrated its 10<sup>th</sup> year of operation in 2017. They awarded Kim Paul with a Mobile Food Pantry Champion Award for innovation for the mobile sponsored by *The Bridge* in Waverly for almost 10 years.

**15<sup>th</sup> Annual Sleepout** was held at the Sayre Theatre November 24 & 25 raising awareness and over \$8,500.

**Christmas Parade Float** had a "Happy Birthday Jesus" theme which won "Best in Show" in the 19<sup>th</sup> year of participation.

**3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Barbeque and Vintage Sale** was held on Saturday, September 24 at Helping Hands and raised over \$5,800.

**Pastors'/Voucher Writers' Luncheon** was held at the North Waverly Chapel on March 8 to thank our pastors and voucher writers as well as to update them on the current ministry and to give them an opportunity to give feedback and interact.

**Vouchers** - Paid 287 vouchers for over \$71,000 to assist with electric (113), security deposit (73), rent (62), fuel (45), water/sewer (27), and other emergency needs (5) thereby helping 557 adults and 302 children.

**Clothes Closet** - Served 1,692 households giving out 22,825 free items of clothing, small housewares, books, and toys.

**Helping Hands** - Assisted 135 households with furniture and appliances made possible by 228 donations.

**Kids at Risk** - Served a total of 624 students in the school districts of Athens, Sayre, and Waverly with clothing, hygiene items, school supplies, and other needs anonymously by partnering with school personnel who identified needs and distributed items.

**Community Dinners** - Sponsored 4 of the weekly Thursday community dinners offered in the community.

**Valley Food Pantry** - In 2017, 1,588 households were served including 2,795 adults and 1,269 children.

**Mobile Food Pantry** - Distributed a total of 90,964 lbs. of food assisting 4,059 people: 955 children, 2,367 adults, and 737 elderly with an average of 157 households served each month (11 months as the March distribution was prevented due to snow) at the North Waverly Chapel.



# Clearinghouse



The Clearinghouse serves as an access point for *The Bridge's* services by responding to inquiries regarding *The Bridge* and its services. If applicable, individuals seeking financial assistance or furniture are directed to a member church to complete an application and receive a *Bridge* voucher if they are eligible. Household income, number of people in the household, frequency of requests and residence (Sayre, Athens or Waverly school district) determine eligibility. Referral is made to other organizations when *The Bridge* is not able to help. Vouchers are used for rent/security deposit, utility shutoff, furniture and other emergency situations.

## 2017 Vouchers

Voucher Type	Number
Rent	73
Security Deposit	72
Electric	70
Natural Gas	21
Water	18
Fuel Oil	14
Propane	10
Miscellaneous	4
Sewer	3
Gasoline	2
Kerosene	2
Lodging	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>291</b>

Voucher Type	Number
Furniture	141
Catastrophic Assistance	0
Interim Assistance	1

## 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

570-888-8826

[clearinghouse@thevalleybridge.org](mailto:clearinghouse@thevalleybridge.org)

Respectfully submitted,

**Larry Day**, Clearinghouse Coordinator

# Voucher Writer Training

*The Bridge* is dependent on voucher writers in our member churches to interview people requesting assistance. In 2017, 291 people were interviewed for cash assistance vouchers and 141 for furniture vouchers. Without trained voucher writers we would not have been able to assist these individuals and families.

Voucher writing training was provided to 5 individuals in 2017. 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 pastors and others to write vouchers. Interested individuals should contact *The Bridge* Clearinghouse at (570) 888-8826.

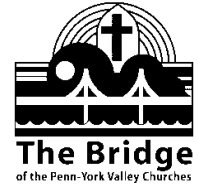
Respectfully submitted,

**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.



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 2017, we had an average of 141 household contacts and distributed 1,902 items each month of the year for a grand total of 1,692 household contacts and 22,825 items distributed.



The chute on the south end of the Clothes Closet continues to be a huge blessing as people can drop off donations in small, tied bags when it is convenient for them instead of being required to do so when we are open. The unintended effect has been that household and toy donations are down because they can't be put down the chute as they need to be brought while we are open. The dumbwaiter, the unseen blessing, makes the chute workable since donations once sorted need to

go upstairs. We are forever thankful for the resourcefulness of **Daryl Wandell** in designing and building the dumbwaiter from my sketchy idea and for Lou and Scott at **Mountain Lake Construction** for a later modification. It is a joy to see God's hand in the ministry as He brings it all together!

Further, 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 to clients as well as a number of people willing to be substitutes. We also have a team led by **Marie Wheeler** which works on Tuesday and Thursday mornings to restock and sort donations as well as a few people who work extra times when needed. A special thank you to **Cathy Moliski** who is one of these people and spends several days each week working with the team and by herself to keep up with the many donations flowing in! Also, a special note of thanks to **Marilyn Weber** who faithfully handled the data entry of clients served and items distributed this year as well as providing support to our work team and assisting in other areas when needed.

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

Respectfully submitted,

**Kim Paul**, Clothes Closet Coordinator



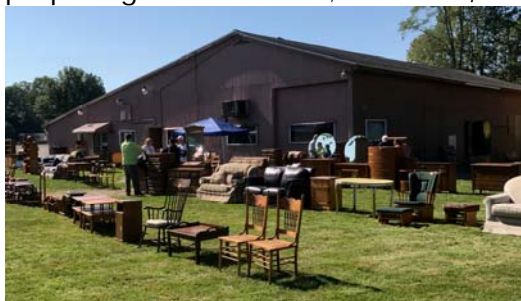
# Helping Hands



Our Helping Hands Ministry is still located at 515 Chemung Street in Waverly. The team continues to do upgrades to the building. Recently, 2 propane heaters were purchased and installed which takes the chill off, on the cold winter mornings.

We are open Wednesdays and Saturdays from 9a-12n except in the winter when we are open 10a-12n. In 2017, we fulfilled 135 vouchers and received 228 donations.

Our 3rd annual Vintage Sale and Chicken BBQ was held in September. The bridge on 17C, which closed last year right before our last BBQ, opened the afternoon before our BBQ this year. It was a beautiful sunny day, and lots of people came out to support the event. We ran out of chicken by 3pm, and raised over \$5,800. It was a lot of work preparing for the event; however, when you have



great friends who come out to clean, price, and setup everything, they make it look easy. Thank you to **Janet Lambert, Cathy Moliski, Belinda Klovekorn** and **MaryEllen Shedd** for their help. Once again, our thanks to the Rollin' Dead for use of the BBQ grill and for cooking the chicken. We couldn't do it without them!



The float for the annual Sayre Christmas Parade is always a treat for us to do each year. Our theme this year was "Happy Birthday Jesus." **Pastor Helen Learn** of the Athens United Methodist Church was the designer and **Cathy Moliski** was the artist. Our Helping Hands team jumped in and built the float. What a beautiful effort by such a great group of people! We won "Best in Show." We had lots of candy to hand out to the kids and then we parked the float next to the Sleepout for all to enjoy through the next day.

Our volunteers are such a dedicated group of guys who come faithfully each week. I want to thank them for all their efforts; they are always there to lend a helping hand!! **Jim Harbst, John Simonds, Howard Brewster, Charlie Brown, CT Weber, Craig Menning, and Tim Shirley.** A special thanks to **Fawn, Emily, and Samantha Shirley** for helping with the chicken at the BBQ, and being in the parade.



Respectfully submitted,

**Marilyn Weber**, Helping Hands Coordinator

# Kids at Risk



Lynch Bustin Elementary School secretaries receiving back to school supplies

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 ministry focus is helping 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.

In 2017 Kids at Risk helped approximately 624 students. School nurses, counselors, teachers and secretaries help make this program work.

They take time to evaluate a child's needs and then e-mail me with those needs. If the needed items are not on hand in the Kids at Risk room, they are purchased and delivered to the schools.



Children from St. James Faith Formation Program holding the hygiene kits they assembled & donated



Members of Sayre Athens Lioness Club giving items collected to Cindy Jones, KAR Coordinator at AUMC

Kids at Risk has received tremendous support from the community this past year. Individual churches, service clubs, community groups, teacher associations, and businesses provided monetary support with 100% of the donations going to the ministry. Donations in the form of clothing, hygiene kits, and holiday family food baskets were also donated.

The beginning balance in the checking and investment accounts for January 2017 was \$10,516.67. The ending balance was \$10,334.81. See the table with details below:

	Beginning	Income	Expense	Transfer	Ending
Checking	\$1,251.41	\$1,926.96	\$2,248.32	\$0	\$930.05
Savings	\$9,265.26	\$139.50	\$0	\$0	\$9,404.76
Total	\$10,516.67	\$2,066.46	\$2,248.32	\$0	\$10,334.81

Respectfully submitted,

**Cindy Jones**, 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



*Make me a servant, humble and meek. Lord, let me lift up those who are weak. And may the prayer of my heart always be. Make me a servant, make me a servant, make me a servant today.* These words from a song by Kelly Willard express how we should be living our lives. Jesus commanded that we take care of his sheep.

*The Bridge* serves four Thursday night community dinners each year. In 2017, they were:

February 23rd – Church of the Redeemer  
April 6<sup>th</sup> – Waverly United Methodist Church  
July 13<sup>th</sup> – Athens United Methodist Church  
November 16<sup>th</sup> – 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. The desserts are provided by The Salvation Army Church. Many thanks to the people who volunteer to help serve and clean up after the meals.



## The schedule for the free dinners in the community is as follows:

1 <sup>st</sup> Thursday	Waverly United Methodist	4:30-6:00 PM
2 <sup>nd</sup> Thursday	Athens United Methodist	4:30-6:00 PM
3 <sup>rd</sup> Thursday	St. James Catholic	4:30-6:00 PM
4 <sup>th</sup> Thursday*	Church of the Redeemer	4:00-6:00 PM

\*If a month has 5 Thursdays: The Church of the Redeemer will serve the 5<sup>th</sup> and the Valley United Presbyterian Church serves the 4<sup>th</sup> at 4:30-6:00p.

In addition to the Thursday night dinners, free meals are provided in the community by The Salvation Army Church on the 1st and 3rd Mondays and The Epiphany Church on the 2nd Tuesday.

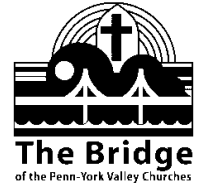
Submitted by:

**Sandy Campbell**, Community Dinner Coordinator





# Mobile Food Pantry



*The Bridge* has continued to partner with the Food Bank of the Southern Tier to sponsor a Mobile Food Pantry each month on the third Wednesday at 10a throughout 2017 except for March when snow prevented the distribution. We provide an average of 25 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/parking, signing in people, directing people, stocking the tables around the truck, bagging produce, handing out food, and helping people carry food to their vehicles. We have very faithful volunteers which make it all possible. In addition, we are very grateful for the graciousness and hospitality of the North Waverly Chapel for allowing the distributions to take place on their property and for allowing us to use their indoor facilities. What a blessing!

In 2017, there were 11 distributions with an average of 157 households served with 8,269 lbs. of food distributed each time. For the year, a total of 90,964 lbs. of food was distributed assisting 4,059 people: 955 children, 2,367 adults, and 737 elderly.



The Food Bank of the Southern Tier received the 2017 Best Food Bank Award. The mobile ministry was part of the reason for winning the prestigious award. In addition, they celebrated 10 years of serving with the mobiles. Kim Paul was awarded the 2017 "Mobile Food Pantry Champion Award" for innovation and we are one of the longest and largest running mobiles.

Towards the end of 2017, we started signing in volunteers on the computer. In 2018, the Food Bank of the Southern Tier plans on having us register clients on the computer as well. This will help the food bank provide more accurate reports and plan the location of distributions more effectively.

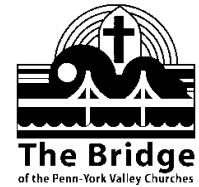
Also, at the end of 2017, we started a hospitality ministry during the mobile headed up by George and Gladys Herrick. We provide beverages and conversation in hopes of connecting and ministering more with the people we are serving as they are waiting.

It has been a privilege to serve God and the people in this community through the ministry of the Mobile Food Pantry in 2017 along with co-coordinator Don Jayne and the many faithful volunteers.

Respectfully submitted,

**Kim Paul**, MFP Site Coordinator

# Valley Food Pantry



The Valley Food Pantry officially became part of *The Bridge* in April of this year after being a sister ministry since our inception. Liz Coco is the director and Howard Brewster is the assistant director. The food pantry is open Monday through Friday 10a-12n and Monday through Thursday 2p-4p. The ministry has been in the same location for many years now at 418 Waverly Street, Waverly and is in need of some updating and improvements. In the fall of 2017, there was an opportunity to apply for a grant from Leprino's which was done and granted--\$5,000! The money will be used primarily for new refrigeration, shelving units, and other improvements necessary for the daily operation of the Valley Food Pantry.



We are truly blessed to have the dedicated volunteers who give of their time to ensure that the Valley Food Pantry remains open daily and is stocked with food to serve those in need in the community. We would like to thank the churches, individuals, and organizations who give so generously both with food and monetary donations. It is because of these donations and dedicated volunteers that we are able to continue this ministry and to be a blessing to those in need in our community.

## 2017 Activity

2017	PA	NY	TOTAL
Households	837	751	1,588
Adults	1,532	1,263	2,795
Children	626	643	1,269
<b>Total Helped</b>	<b>2,158</b>	<b>1,906</b>	<b>4,064</b>

	Beginning	Income	Expense	Transfer*	Ending
Checking	\$0.00	\$10,991.00	\$11,998.05	\$7,643.96	\$6,636.91
Savings	\$0.00	\$183.52	\$0.00	\$20,000.00	\$20,183.52
Total	\$0.00	\$11,174.52	\$11,998.05	\$27,643.96	\$26,820.43

\* When the VFP became part of *The Bridge* in April, there was a total of \$27,643.96 in their account.

Respectfully submitted,  
**Marilyn Weber** for **Liz Coco**

# Interim Assistance Program (IAP) Pilot



The Interim Assistance Program began in 2017 with our first client. The assistance is aimed at helping individuals or families who have experienced a significant event causing a short-term need that requires more than our regular assistance provides. It is only permitted to be used once and given over a period of 3-6 months. Once approved for the program, clients are partnered with a member church by the Interim Assistance Coordinator. Goals are mutually determined and evaluated on a regular basis. The Pilot was approved for 5 cases with an initial limit of \$1,500 each. We look forward to working with individuals and families building relationships as we provide assistance and support. In 2018, we will continue the program making adjustments as necessary along the way.

## Individual Development Account (IDA)

In 2017, *The Bridge* Board approved pursuing the concept of offering a matching savings program, Individual Development Account (IDA), for households at 200% of poverty or below for the purchase of a predetermined asset such as a primary residence or automobile commonly known as an Individual Development Account (IDA). The proposed program will require coming up with a process of identifying potential participants, developing an application and approval process, identifying a financial institution to partner with, providing matching funds at a predetermined rate and limit, and developing educational support necessary for the required training during the process of saving (possibly 1-5 years).

Why are we considering this type of program? We as an organization would like to do more “bridging the gaps” in coming along-side people to support them in their journey and help to make meaningful change in their lives. Though we will not be able to offer this assistance to large numbers of people, we are hopeful that for those we do, we can make a significant difference in their lives as we have the opportunity to have longer-term contact and share the love of Christ.

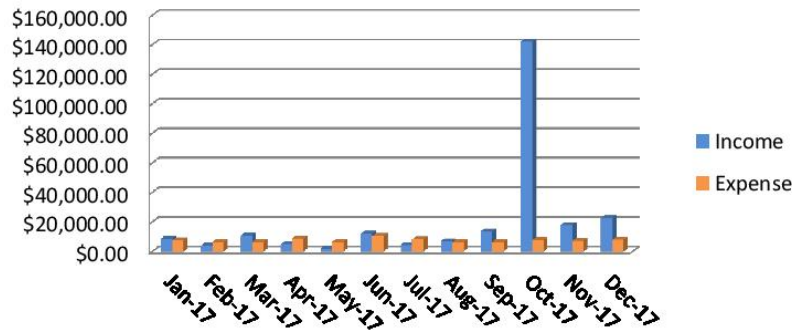
Respectfully submitted,  
**Kim Paul**

*The righteous is concerned for the rights of the poor,  
the wicked does not understand such concern.*

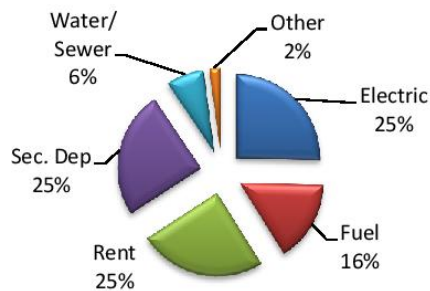
Proverbs 29:7

## The Bridge of the Penn-York Valley Churches 2017 Treasurer's Annual Report

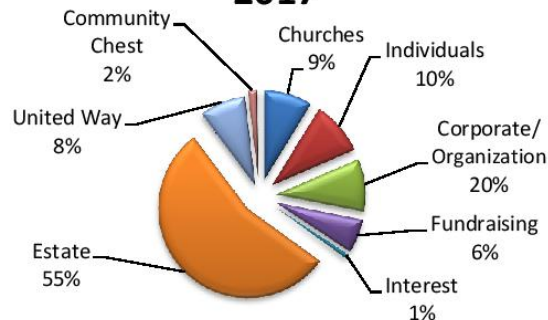
### 2017 Income and Expenses



### Types of Vouchers Paid 2017



### Funding Sources 2017



Account	Beginning Balance	Income	Expense	Transfers	Balance
Bridge Account	\$ 59,297.38	\$ 248,235.83	\$ (89,000.59)	\$ (136,797.76)	\$ 81,734.86
Bridge Savings Account	\$ 50,709.60	\$ 1,987.22	\$ -	\$ 136,797.76	\$ 189,494.58
Total Bridge Funds	\$ 110,006.98	\$ 250,223.05	\$ (89,000.59)	\$ -	\$ 271,229.44

#### Designated Funds within Bridge Account

Guthrie Grant (Database)	\$ 491.73	\$ -	\$ (137.97)	\$ -	\$ 353.76
Leprino Grant	\$ -	\$ 5,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 5,000.00
Helping Hands Warehouse	\$ 800.00	\$ 9,600.00	\$ (9,600.00)	\$ -	\$ 800.00
Clothes Closet	\$ 169.63	\$ -	\$ (28.50)	\$ -	\$ 141.13
Beulah Merrill Estate	\$ -	\$ 136,797.76	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 136,797.76
Total Undesignated Funds	\$ 108,545.62	\$ 98,825.29	\$ (79,234.12)	\$ -	\$ 128,136.79

#### Income and Expense Comparison 2016-2017

	1/1/2016-12/31/2016	1/1/2017-12/31/2017	Difference
Income	\$ 134,721.91	\$ 250,223.05	\$ 115,501.14
Expense	\$ 97,894.09	\$ 89,000.59	\$ (8,893.50)
Difference	\$ 36,827.82	\$ 161,222.46	\$ 124,394.64

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



2017 Annual Treasurer's Report  
Income/Expense Comparison

1

INCOME	2016	2017	Difference
<b>Churches</b>			
Athens Wesleyan	\$ 150.00	\$ 150.00	\$ -
Bentley Creek Wesleyan Church	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ -
Blessed Trinity Parish (St. James)	\$ 1,691.00	\$ 2,012.00	\$ (321.00)
Chemung Christian Fellowship	\$ 3,108.36	\$ 2,450.00	\$ 658.36
Christian Life	\$ 450.00	\$ 450.00	\$ -
Church of God	\$ 300.00	\$ 350.00	\$ (50.00)
CMA, Waverly	\$ -	\$ 135.00	\$ (135.00)
Crossroads Family Ministries (Keystone)	\$ 562.00	\$ 440.00	\$ 122.00
E Smithfield Federated	\$ -	\$ 150.00	\$ (150.00)
Encounter Free Methodist	\$ 1,159.22	\$ 2,013.92	\$ (854.70)
Epiphany	\$ 4,000.00	\$ -	\$ 4,000.00
First Baptist, Waverly	\$ -	\$ 535.00	\$ (535.00)
G.V. Assembly of God	\$ 1,226.00	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 26.00
North Waverly Chapel	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 900.00	\$ 300.00
Redeemer	\$ 132.00	\$ 125.00	\$ 7.00
Sayre Christian	\$ 200.00	\$ -	\$ 200.00
St. John Lutheran	\$ 863.75	\$ 1,262.50	\$ (398.75)
UMC, Athens	\$ 1,852.00	\$ 1,763.34	\$ 88.66
UMC, Litchfield	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ -
UMC, Waverly	\$ 724.00	\$ -	\$ 724.00
Valley United Presbyterian	\$ 6,000.00	\$ 6,000.00	\$ -
<b>TOTAL Churches</b>	\$ 25,618.33	\$ 21,936.76	\$ 3,681.57
<b>Community Chest</b>	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 4,000.00	\$ -
<b>Corporate-Organizational Gifts</b>	\$ 16,268.33	\$ 7,998.83	\$ 8,269.50
<b>Designated Income</b>			
Clothes Closet	\$ 224.63	\$ -	\$ 224.63
Helping Hands	\$ 9,600.00	\$ 9,600.00	\$ -
Estate	\$ -	\$ 136,797.76	\$ (136,797.76)
Grant - Leprino	\$ -	\$ 5,000.00	\$ (5,000.00)
<b>TOTAL Designated Income</b>	\$ 9,824.63	\$ 151,397.76	\$ (141,573.13)
<b>Fundraising</b>			
Chicken BBQ & Sale	\$ 5,170.90	\$ 6,323.10	\$ (1,152.20)
SleepOut	\$ 9,126.11	\$ 8,926.54	\$ 199.57
<b>TOTAL Fundraising</b>	\$ 14,297.01	\$ 15,249.64	\$ (952.63)
<b>Helping Hands Warehouse</b>			
Delivery Fees	\$ 480.00	\$ 610.00	\$ (130.00)
Donations	\$ 60.00	\$ -	\$ 60.00
Furniture Sales	\$ 470.00	\$ 580.00	\$ (110.00)
<b>TOTAL Helping Hands Warehouse</b>	\$ 1,010.00	\$ 1,190.00	\$ (180.00)

## 2017 Annual Treasurer's Report Income/Expense Comparison

2

	2016	2017	Difference
<b>Individual Gifts</b>			
PayPal Deposit	\$ 3,305.00	\$ 4,150.00	\$ (845.00)
Individual Gifts	\$ 24,511.94	\$ 20,185.97	\$ 4,325.97
<b>TOTAL Individual Gifts</b>	\$ 27,816.94	\$ 24,335.97	\$ 3,480.97
<b>Miscellaneous</b>	\$ 1,333.29	628.07	\$ 705.22
<b>Pass Through Income</b>			
Kids at Risk	\$ 375.00	\$ 200.00	\$ 175.00
Valley Food Pantry	\$ 50.00	\$ -	\$ 50.00
<b>TOTAL Pass Through Income</b>	\$ 425.00	\$ 200.00	\$ 225.00
<b>Refund</b>	\$ 140.50	\$ 298.80	\$ (158.30)
<b>United Way of Bradford County</b>	\$ 33,000.00	\$ 21,000.00	\$ 12,000.00
<b>United Way of the Southern Tier</b>	\$ 278.28	\$ -	\$ 278.28
<b>WIF Savings Interest</b>	\$ 709.60	\$ 1,987.22	\$ (1,277.62)
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	\$ 134,721.91	\$ 250,223.05	\$ (115,501.14)

### EXPENSES

#### Designated Expense

Designated Expense Clothes Closet	\$ 55.00	\$ 28.50	\$ 26.50
Designated Expense:Helping Hands Website	\$ 9,600.00	\$ 9,600.00	\$ -
	\$ 394.20	\$ 137.97	\$ 256.23
<b>TOTAL Designated Expense</b>	\$ 10,049.20	\$ 9,766.47	\$ 282.73

#### Fundraising Expense

Chicken BBQ & Sale	\$ 495.30	\$ 411.74	\$ 83.56
SleepOut	\$ 216.65	\$ 194.11	\$ 22.54
<b>TOTAL Fundraising Expense</b>	\$ 711.95	\$ 605.85	\$ 106.10

#### Office-Administrative

Bank Fees	\$ 12.00	\$ 12.00	\$ -
Box.net fee	\$ 300.00	\$ 300.00	\$ -

#### Clothes Closet

Electricity for Clothes Closet	\$ 808.35	\$ 714.67	\$ 93.68
<b>TOTAL Clothes Closet</b>	\$ 808.35	\$ 714.67	\$ 93.68

#### Helping Hands Furniture

Electricity for Warehouse	\$ 856.73	\$ 537.54	\$ 319.19
Liability Insurance	\$ 920.31	\$ 941.31	\$ (21.00)
Mileage Reimbursement	\$ 999.00	\$ 1,478.75	\$ (479.75)
Miscellaneous	\$ 246.11	\$ 631.80	\$ (385.69)
Phone	\$ -	\$ 42.08	\$ (42.08)
Trash Pick Up	\$ -	\$ 181.44	\$ (181.44)
Water & Sewer	\$ 153.53	\$ 114.54	\$ 38.99
Other Office-Administrative:Helping Hand	\$ 69.75	\$ -	\$ 69.75
<b>TOTAL Helping Hands</b>	\$ 3,245.43	\$ 3,927.46	\$ (682.03)
Miscellaneous	\$ 352.12	\$ 614.69	\$ (262.57)
P.O. Box Fee	\$ -	\$ 88.00	\$ (88.00)
PayPal Fees	\$ 75.71	\$ 94.00	\$ (18.29)

### 2017 Annual Treasurer's Report Income/Expense Comparison

3

	2016	2017	Difference
Postage	\$ 305.71	\$ 213.65	\$ 92.06
Supplies	\$ 104.17	\$ 484.89	\$ (380.72)
Telephone, Clearinghouse	\$ 840.38	\$ 973.29	\$ (132.91)
Website Charges Mthly & Annual	\$ 123.97	\$ -	\$ 123.97
<b>TOTAL Office-Administrative</b>	<b>\$ 6,167.84</b>	<b>\$ 7,422.65</b>	<b>\$ (1,254.81)</b>
<b>Pass Through Expense</b>			
Kids at Risk	\$ 375.00	\$ 200.00	\$ 175.00
Valley Food Pantry	\$ 50.00	\$ -	\$ 50.00
<b>TOTAL Pass Through Expense</b>	<b>\$ 425.00</b>	<b>\$ 200.00</b>	<b>\$ 225.00</b>
<b>Voucher Expenses</b>			
Electricity	\$ 28,488.09	\$ 17,425.85	\$ 11,062.24
Fuel	\$ 8,408.16	\$ 10,032.35	\$ (1,624.19)
Gasoline, Diesel	\$ 22.90	\$ 98.06	\$ (75.16)
Lodging	\$ 65.40	\$ 32.70	\$ 32.70
Miscellaneous	\$ 204.00	\$ -	\$ 204.00
Prescription & Medical	\$ 159.99	\$ -	\$ 159.99
Rent	\$ 17,816.00	\$ 19,827.50	\$ (2,011.50)
Security Deposit	\$ 20,023.00	\$ 19,200.00	\$ 823.00
Sewer	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 1,200.00	\$ -
Transportation	\$ 69.00	\$ 343.50	\$ (274.50)
Water	\$ 4,083.56	\$ 2,845.66	\$ 1,237.90
<b>TOTAL Voucher Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 80,540.10</b>	<b>\$ 71,005.62</b>	<b>\$ 9,534.48</b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$ 97,894.09</b>	<b>\$ 89,000.59</b>	<b>\$ 8,893.50</b>
<b>OVERALL TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 36,827.82</b>	<b>\$ 161,222.46</b>	<b>\$ (124,394.64)</b>

Respectfully submitted,  
**Waneta Warner**, Treasurer

# Financial Secretary



In 2017, there were 20 new individual donors and 6 new business donors. A total of 63 year-end receipts were distributed to individuals, organizations and businesses for gifts of \$250 or more as well as receipts sent to our member churches. Along with the receipts, the insert below was included with highlights from the year along with information on how to donate using AmazonSmile. Donarius software was used to track donations through the year and generate the year-end statements.

Respectfully submitted,

**Kim Paul**, Financial Secretary



*Thank you* for your contribution(s) in 2017 which enabled us to help those in need in our community! Specifically, with your help we:

- Provided over \$71,000 in 287 **vouchers** for basic needs of electric (113), security deposit (73), rent (62), fuel (45), water/sewer (27), and other emergency needs (5) thereby helping 557 adults & 302 children.
- Served 1,692 households in our **Clothes Closet** ministry giving out 22,825 free items of clothing & apparel, small housewares, books & toys.
- Assisted 135 households through our **Helping Hands** ministry with furniture and appliances made possible by 228 donations.
- Served a total of 624 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.
- Served a total of 1,588 households including 2,795 adults and 1,269 children for a total of 4,064 people with food through the **Valley Food Pantry**, which became a ministry of *The Bridge* in 2017 after being a sister ministry for many years.
- Started a pilot program called the **Interim Assistance Program** to assist those who experience a significant event causing a short-term need that requires more than the regular assistance provides and help occurs over 3-6 months in partnership with a church.

**The Bridge of the Penn-York Valley Churches**

570-888-8826 P.O. Box 202, Sayre, PA 18840 [www.thevalleybridge.org](http://www.thevalleybridge.org)

Questions about your statement?  
Contact Kim Paul, 570-867-2628  
[financialsecretary@thevalleybridge.org](mailto:financialsecretary@thevalleybridge.org)



Looking for another way to support **The Bridge of the Penn-York Valley Churches**? Here is a quick, easy way to do so without spending a penny!

When shopping online, use AmazonSmile ([smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com)), a simple and automatic way for you to support **The Bridge** every time you shop at no cost to you. And it has all your Amazon.com history!

- Amazon donates 0.5% of the price of your eligible AmazonSmile purchases to the charitable organization of your choice.
- AmazonSmile is the same Amazon you know. Same products, same prices, same service.
- Support **The Bridge** by starting your shopping at [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com)

Register at [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com) and select "**The Bridge of the Penn-York Valley Churches**" as your charitable organization. It's that easy!



*Whoever is generous to the poor lends to the LORD,  
and he will repay him for his deed.  
Proverbs 19:17*



# 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:	86
Individuals and Organizations:	182
Responses to bereaved family or others honoring individuals:	6

It should be noted that some donors requested, "No thank you necessary." Also, in addition to acknowledging donations as listed above, 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



*Whoever gives to the poor will not want,  
but he who hides his eyes will get many a curse.*

Proverbs 28:27

# Audit Committee



The Financial Audit of *The Bridge* 2017

The auditing committee did an audit of *The Bridge's* 2017 Financial Records. We have reviewed the following accounts and reconciliation data for Calendar Year 2017: Main Bridge, Kids at Risk, Valley Food Pantry, and Financial Secretary.

Upon review, we found all accounts are reconciled and balanced correctly according to generally accepted accounting principles.

Respectfully submitted,

**2017 Audit Committee:** David R. Cross, Barbara Richards, and Suzanne Cross

## 2017 Leadership

### Officers:

President: **Marilyn Weber**, Athens United Methodist Church

Vice President: **Kim Paul**, North Waverly Chapel

Secretary: **Meghan Miller**, Chemung Christian Fellowship

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

### Other Leadership:

Pastoral Advisor: **Joshua Householder**, Athens Wesleyan 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, **Marsha Zwierlein**, Epiphany Parish

Interim Assistance Coordinators: **Pastor Pam Washburn**, Encounter Church, **Kim Paul**, North Waverly Chapel

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

Helping Hands Coordinator: **Marilyn Weber**, Athens United Methodist Church

Kids at Risk Coordinator: **Cindy Jones**, Athens United Methodist Church

Community Dinners Coordinators: **Sue Kopatz & Sandy Campbell**, Valley United Presbyterian Mobile Food Pantry, Waverly, Site Coordinators: **Kim Paul**, North Waverly Chapel &

**Don Jayne**, Valley United Presbyterian Church

Facebook: **Marilyn Weber**, Athens United Methodist Church

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

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

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[www.thevalleybridge.org](http://www.thevalleybridge.org)