



Springdale Presbyterian Church

Annual Report 2022

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CLERK OF SESSION REPORT

New Members: We received new members into the congregation in 2022:

- Carolyn Pritchett, 2/24
- Jill Warner, 3/24
- Ellie Woertz Englehart, 4/28
- Barbara Mayfield, 6/23
- James Mayfield, 6/23
- David Burkholder, 8/25
- Helen Burkholder, 8/25

Baptisms: We baptized one infant/toddler just shy of 2 years old on 7/24

- Charles Ryan Erhart

Member Deaths: We grieve the deaths of members:

- Bob McDearman, 2/26, member since 12/24/78
- Richard Trautwein, 3/08, member since 12/31/67, ordained elder 1/3/71
- Betts McKenzie, 6/14, member since 5/16/65
- Doug Young, 9/5, member since 9/25/66
- Kenneth Hines, 10/06, member since 10/25/15
- Edgar Vaughn, 10/06, member since 8/25/96
- Doug Kraus, 10/16, member since 5/23/19

Letters of Transfer: At their request, we have transferred the following membership:

- Diane Kirkpatrick

Removed from the Roll

- Ann and Eric Michalsen, 1/27/22 (at their request)

The Session- Elders in Active Service

Class of 2022

Weldon Maisch
Jean Podbelsek
Mark Levdahl
George Sherrard

Class of 2023

Katherine Bradbery
Jean Hainer
Trace Martin, installed 1/8/2023
Matt Sanders
Shannon Swartzentruber, installed 1/8/2023

Class of 2024

Susan Cohen
Scott Furkin
Jim Van Daalen
Cathy Weishaar

Class of 2025, installed 1/8/2023

Susan Hankins
Jane Jones
Andy Martin
Greg Nickels

Respectfully submitted by Kay Levdahl, Clerk of Session

PASTOR'S REPORT

Hi friends,

In a recent clergy workshop I was part of, the facilitator talked about the concept of “branding.” We’re probably all familiar with that idea in the business world, and especially in consumer marketing. It refers to a company’s ability to cohesively and consistently convey to others – in that case, to consumers – just what the company or product is all about. There is always a give-and-take in the discussion of how and when a church congregation is like a business, and how and when it differs, as it clearly does. But I think that the idea of “branding” is an important concept for congregations to consider. Honestly, I generally understand and accept the term “branding” being applied to the church, there’s still a little bit of me that isn’t totally comfortable with it. Maybe, instead of “branding”, we could say “our image and our reality as seen by the community at large and ourselves.” That’s more wordy, but when I talk about branding in this report, that’s what I mean.

There are real differences between church and commerce, of course. Most notably, our truest “mission statement” was written for us by Christ: to share the good news of God’s love for all people and to live out our lives in accordance with God’s reign as we see it personified in Christ himself. In the business world, “increased market share” is practically everything. For us, we certainly hope that membership grows, but that we understand that whatever we do, it might not. And if it does, it needs to be growth that is a result of our living out that mission Christ gave us. It can’t simply be growth for growth’s sake, at the expense of living out the mission. That’s an important aspect to consider as a church considers its “brand.”

Given that, I’ve been thinking about our “brand” at Springdale. What exactly is our “brand” to the community, and how did that “brand” do this past year?

I think that our brand is expressed very well in our motto “Open-Loving-Thinking-Doing”. We are an open and welcoming congregation that lovingly supports and cares for both members of our own church family and the community beyond. We engage our faith deeply, authentically, and without checking our intellects at the door. And we don’t just talk a good game; we put action to our words.

We faced significant challenges in 2022. While some of those challenges are still being worked out, for the most part, we’ve done well. We are by most applicable metrics a healthy, vibrant congregation. One characteristic of a healthy congregation is that it continually evolves to reflect continually changing context. At Springdale, we’ve seen our understanding of both mission and outreach evolve in recent times. Our establishment of The Link, our new in-house food pantry, our ongoing periodic provision of meals to the Hope Village, and even hosting the Louisville Civic Orchestra as a service to the community and the arts – all three very positive

developments - are just three examples of how we understand mission to be evolving, and what our response to that evolution should be.

Another example of our understanding of missional evolution was born out of the pandemic. We have continued to reach out to the community near and far with our worship livestreams, and after our very humble – sometimes downright comical – first efforts in 2020, we've become quite adept at it. After some initial hesitance, we've all gotten quite comfortable with the idea of livestreaming. We know that worshiping and enjoying fellowship in person is important, but for some it just isn't a possibility, whether all the time or just a single week. It has also become an important way to express our "brand" to people who might be looking for a church, but who want to check us out online before showing up in person, to make sure that we might be a good fit. Livestreaming has become vital ministry tool in congregational care, mission, and community outreach. Edwin Gonzalez-Castillo and Larry Weishaar have been the primary point people in our livestreaming, assisted with several others, and they've all done an incredible job. With Edwin's recent promotion as head of PDA, and in order to not burn out Larry and the other volunteers, we do need to train a handful of others to help in this very important aspect of our brand, and our ministry, in this year.

Another development this past year was the expansion of the bilingual nature of our worship services. I know that it undoubtedly took some getting used to, seeing our Sunday liturgies in both English and Spanish on our screens or printed in the paper bulletins; or hearing some portions of the service offered in a language that isn't the first language for most of us. But this is an important, positive development in our mission, our outreach, and in our "branding," consistent with our Springdale Welcome Statement. For years, we've been involved in refugee and migrant ministries, and that has only increased in recent times, often while serving people who speak Spanish as a primary language. Making this relatively minor adjustment is a way to making our worship and our life together more welcoming, accessible, and responsive to a broader range of potential worshipers within our community – and thinking preemptively about what we need to do to reach and help more of God's people is at the core of our Springdale brand.

This past year, we've also faced some challenges, including staff turnover in both our children's and youth ministry leadership. We all understand that social and family dynamics have significantly changed the shape of children and youth ministry from what was possible a generation ago, and that will bear heavily on how we proceed. Volunteers have been doing an excellent job at continuing these ministries, but we continue to discern the right long-term solution to this important part of our life together. We are currently exploring several interesting possibilities, but in any case, we will continue to need volunteer support in these ministries in 2023 and beyond.

Statistically, 2022 was a relatively stable year for us in terms of membership – we lost a few dear members of our family, while we gained some new faces who have quickly become equally beloved parts of that family. This is no small thing. In a time where actuarial tables,

demographics, and social trends are all working against churches, we have maintained a reasonably stable membership. At our current size, we are more than two and a half times the size of the average Presbyterian congregation, and we remain one of the largest congregations in the Presbytery. At the same time - like most congregations, as we continue to become a "post-Christian" society and just as importantly, a "non-joiner" society - we will need to continue adjusting our budgets to a new normal, as the ability to provide financial support to the church by more recent generations is less than what was possible by the generations we are gradually losing.

Overall, I think that 2022 was a bit of a milestone year for our congregation. During the year, after several years of upheaval and change, we saw the evolution of what we've been in the past start to take real, and positive, shape into what we are now, and what God is leading us to become.

Grace and peace,
Dwain

MUSIC DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Your Springdale Music Ministry strives to prepare and present blended music selections designed to enhance our worship services and to be in accord with the lectionary passages and general theme of each week.

The Springdale choir meets on Wednesday evenings to rehearse and prepare music for each Sunday and upcoming events.

The Belles and Beaux, our handbell choir, meets on Monday evenings and rehearses music for regular participation in worship services. They also presented our annual Chili and Chimes program to a receptive audience.

We are thankful for our many talented members for their special musical offerings; Debbie Martin-Herrell, Leah Link-Ulrich, Scott Furkin, Katherine and Steve Bradbery, Kenny Pritchett and George Yu.

Thank you to our wonderful congregation for your continued support of our ministry. Another cabaret is upcoming, February 17, and other special events are forthcoming.

Peace and Harmony,

Warren Broome

PARISH VISITORS' REPORT

Parish Visitors—Greg Cohen and Dottie Willis—served together during 2022 to support Springdale members experiencing life challenges and health crises. Weekly we visited members in hospitals or rehab and residential care centers, where we shared the good news and continuing love of our congregation. Through phone calls, emails, texts, Zoom, Face Time, cards and prayer notes, driving ministry and food ministry, Parish Visitors offered personal and pastoral care to the SPC family. We also experienced end-of-life journeys with dear Springdale friends and their families during the past year, by far the most difficult part of our mission.

During weekly Parish Visitor meetings with Dwain Lee on Mondays, we reviewed individual needs and prayer requests from the congregation, which we recorded on an Excel spreadsheet to maintain continuous communication. We prayed together about personal and group concerns and gave thanks for members' birthdays and anniversaries. In addition, Parish Visitors attended staff meetings. We composed the SPC Prayer Chain, which is emailed weekly to 23 caring individuals who offer prayers, send cards, and help support our church family and community.

Monthly, either Greg or Dottie met with the Congregational Care Ministry Team. We reported our pastoral care activities to Congregational Care, submitting the specific number of visits, calls, emails/texts, etc. to keep Congregational Care and the Session aware of our activities. In addition, we personally participated in this committee's special projects such as card care and food ministry. We collaborated with Donna Sheffer, the coordinator of Springdale's Food Ministry program, who then contacted volunteers to prepare or deliver food to SPC members as needed.

Greg Cohen remained active with the Men's Prayer Breakfast which meets on the first Saturday of the month. Under the leadership of Stan Hankins, Larry Weishaar and Tom Darrah, we gather for breakfast and a presentation on a book from the New Testament. Everybody takes turn at cooking and preparing breakfast, some volunteer to be the monthly presenter and from time-to-time Dwain and Edwin have joined us and presented the monthly lesson. A highlight for this year was a breakfast in July with boys from Bellewood.

Dottie Willis continued to facilitate Alone-Together, a group of approximately 15 active seniors who learned and served and shared both our joys and challenges together. To celebrate the group's third birthday, Alone-Together members showered the Link Food Pantry with items for holiday baking: cake mixes, sugar, flour, etc. Monthly Dottie hosted a Zoom to electronically connect local members as well as two former members who have moved away. In addition to monthly bridge games at Springdale coordinated by Cindy Ward in 2022, Alone-Together also added weekly Chair Yoga led by Jill Warner as a new opportunity to develop seniors' bodies and spirits.

YOUTH COORDINATOR'S REPORT

May the peace of Christ be with you all!

As a result of the pandemic in 2020, my work in Springdale went through some changes. I was blessed with the opportunity to assist in the development of our worship streaming capabilities. We went from a cellphone in a tripod to a whole production area where we have been able to record, edit, and stream not only our services, but concerts, weddings, and ordinations. For almost 3 years we have been improving the way Springdale does streaming. As of now our services can be seen on Facebook, Youtube and our website. I'm grateful for the amazing work the production and sound team has done for these many years. I'm especially grateful for Larry Weishaar and his commitment since day one. This church is blessed by his ongoing support and desire to help and learn how to run the production area.

In addition to the tech work that I have been doing this year, I also had the opportunity to develop activities and events for our youth. During this year we welcome the Serrano family. Even with the language barrier they were able to connect with our youth and participate in many of the activities. One of the most memorable meetings we had was a conversation with them about their journey to Kentucky. It was a great opportunity for our youth to reflect on the realities many refugees and immigrants have to endure to have a better life.

Our youth engaged in many other events as part of the church calendar, including the outdoor service, the chili, chocolate, and chimes; and recently, helping in the production area, learning how to operate the cameras and sound board. Garen has become an integral part of our team, helping with the camera controls and the sound system.

I'm grateful for the other opportunities I had this past year to serve in this church. I've been able to preach, officiate communion and moderate session meetings. I also worked with the children's summer camp. For the past five years, my wife Flor and I have been welcomed by many of you in your homes and we have been blessed with great friends.

As many of you know, I have been promoted to director of Presbyterian Disaster Assistance. This position includes new responsibilities that will limit my possibilities of working in this congregation. In conversations with Pastor Dwain, I have indicated my desire to continue collaborating in any way I can during the time that I'm available and until I'm needed. In the meantime, we hope to be able to train new people that can help with the production area.

In Christ, Edwin González-Castillo

BUILDING & GROUNDS REPORT

Description

The SPC Building and Grounds committee oversees the care and maintenance of the church's property and facilities.

The Past Year

As we always state, much of what B & G does is "behind the scenes" stuff. During 2022, we replaced 2 of our large roof-top air conditioner units. These units will operate much more efficiently than what was in use. Also, these have the potential to help with heating those area which can help reduce the load on our aging boiler system.

Other projects or tasks completed during 2022 include, but is not limited to:

- Had an addition to the drainage system under Klein Chapel (In the youth area). This completes the exterior walls and should prevent any future drain related issues in that part of our building.
- Replaced damaged studs in walls associated with above and finished walls.
- Added door sweeps to several of our exterior doors to prevent entry by small "critters".
- Coordinated the installation of EV Charging Stations (funded by a grant from the Presbytery).
- Replaced an outside light and had other outside lights serviced by LG&E.
- Coordinated both a springtime and winter "Clean Up Days" with members of SPC as well as some Rabbouni members.

Upcoming in 2023

This team will continue to be responsive to maintenance and repair issues as well as work to best manage our building and its facilities.

B & G Team Members

Greg Buelt, Bruce Bunger, Dave Butke, Leah Bradley, Rick Davis, Greg Nickels, Eddie Riddle, Matt Sanders (Session Liaison) and Larry Weishaar

CONGREGATIONAL CARE REPORT

Mission Statement: We are called to continue the ministry of Jesus Christ by offering caring, meaningful, and personal relationships to those within our community as they encounter life's joys and challenges. *"I give you a new commandment that you love one another. Just as I have loved you so you must love one another."* John 13:34

We endeavor to live out our mission statement to serve and provide for the needs of our church community on an ongoing basis. The services and outreach provided under Congregational Care cannot be done by this team alone. It truly does require a village. With the loving help of many volunteers in our church, we have been able to:

- Send cards, through our different forms of card care ministry, to the homebound via a team of 15 card-senders who send one thinking-of-you card per month to members unable to attend services, also to the homebound via the Congregational Care team to send uplifting cards at Valentine's, Halloween and Christmas, to students and school workers (to recognize the difficulties and challenges presented to them as they traverse in-person schooling or non-traditional instruction to let them know we are thinking and praying for them in these unusual times and throughout the school year), to those experiencing some sort of physical condition (illness, surgery, etc.), the death of a loved one, having a significant birthday or anniversary, as well as to those welcoming a new baby.
- Review the membership rolls and contact distant members by phone call, card, or letter. Members who have been inactive in the work and worship of Springdale are encouraged to reconnect with us through our in-person services and activities or via our live stream services.
- Prepare and deliver meals to church members experiencing life's challenges or joys. We have nineteen meal preparers and six meal delivery volunteers. Donna Sheffer continues to be our Meal Ministry Coordinator.
- In July 2022, we coordinated and held one blood drive for the American Red Cross. In years past we hosted two blood drives, one in March and one in September. Due to the Red Cross's limited equipment and staffing situation, we were unable to coordinate a second Sunday blood drive in 2022. We hope these challenges can be improved upon so that Springdale can once again offer 2 blood drives in 2023.
- Provide support for the Hot Topics Book Club. Hot Topics is another outlet available for fellowship at Springdale and was established by Dayle Darby as former chair of Congregational Care. They offer interesting and relative material sparking lively discussions on current topics. They meet once a month on the first Monday of the month at 2 pm.
- Work closely with Springdale's Parish Visitor's (Greg Cohen and Dottie Willis) who provide calls, texts, emails, prayer notes, Face Time, food ministry, hospital visits, nursing home and home visits, and home communion to our members.

- Provide support and assistance as needed to the Alone-Together Group (facilitated by Janet Parker, and Dottie Willis). The group continues to connect members facing the challenges of growing older by offering information, helpful tips, pearls of wisdom, resources, and new and old friendships. They also provide congregational outreach by organizing activities and projects to show exceptional care for each other and others in the church. And they continue to hold their monthly First-Friday-Zoom meeting. They are a close and connected group.
- Prepare and serve a beautifully laid out bereavement refreshment table for members and their family members at Springdale-hosted funeral services. A team of resolute volunteers provide a variety of finger foods and assorted munchies at the visitation or funeral service of a church member. Barb Link is the Bereavement Services Coordinator.

Team members having served in the last year include Donna Sheffer, Leslie Phillips, Judy Riddle, and Cathy Weishaar, as well as our Parish Visitor's, Dottie Willis, and Greg Cohen.

Submitted by Cathy Weishaar, Chair

CREATION & SUSTAINABILITY REPORT

Springdale has completed seven years as a certified PCUSA Creation Care Congregation. We have achieved this goal by meeting targeted objectives in four areas of focus: worship, education, outreach, and facilities management.

Worship. For our Lenten study we read A Time to Grow by Kara Eidson, which speaks to re-connecting with our food sources and ecological themes of soil, light, and water, in addition to fasting and feasting. These themes were carried forward in sermons during Lent. For Earth Day, the Sherrard family created a multimedia video while reading the Earth Care Pledge. In late summer, we held an earth care themed service using the Haudenosaunee Prayer in liturgy, along with projected photos of flora and fauna. We held our annual worship and picnic at The Parklands of Floyd's Fork in Louisville and another outdoor picnic following worship in our parking lot. We serve communion by intinction, eliminating plastic waste and print only a limited number of bulletins as needed for those congregants leading worship. Our stewardship campaign included a minute for mission during worship on environmental stewardship

Education/Spiritual Nurture. We featured newsletter articles that tied into our Lenten theme (A Time to Grow, mentioned above): (composting (soil); timing for garden clean-up (order); reducing (water) usage; ways to reduce (light) pollution.) We featured additional articles, including testimonies on following a plant-based diet, reducing purchase of, or not buying new clothes, reducing electricity use, and maintaining a pollinator garden. For our summer day camp, the children performed the musical "In the Image" by Mark Burrows and learned about creation and the interconnectedness that all living things share. We supplied and taught eco-friendly crafts (pinecone feeders and eggshell seed planters) to camp attendees. Our book club read Disasterology: Dispatches from the Frontlines of the Climate Crisis by Samantha Montano and Finding the Mother Tree: Discovering the Wisdom of the Forest by Suzanne Simard.

Outreach. Springdale hosted the annual Ramblers Garden Club sale in our front lawn and our members donated plants. We also served as a weekly pick-up point for A Place on Earth CSA, owned by member Carden Willis. Our creation care team member, Stan Hankins, volunteers regularly at the CSA farm. As indicated by road signage, Springdale adopted a highway many years ago and our men's breakfast group picks up trash along a section of Highway 22 near the church.

Facilities. Creation Care team and several additional members watered and maintained the church's gardens and re-vamped our front pollinator garden for greater year-round interest. We added signage to call attention to our two pollinator gardens. Our Building & Grounds team oversaw installation of two EV stations and replaced the office A/C with a more efficient heat pump. We use ceramic mugs for our coffee hour and re-usable service ware for meals.

Team members: Hester Haick, Stan Hankins, Jane Jones, Jill Warner, Dwain Lee (Session Liaison), Debbie Bunger (Chairperson). Our thanks and appreciation to those members who helped us water the gardens: Scott Furkin, Mary Pace, and Sandy Gillespie. ***Please consider joining our team on an ongoing or project basis. We would love to have you!***

DISABILITY & FAITH INCLUSION REPORT

This group exists for the purpose of mindfully and proactively raising awareness and implementing policies to welcome and provide inclusion of ALL people within our community of faith to have full accessibility in our church life, regardless of their level of physical, mental, or other abilities.

This group was started on an informal basis in 2001 and has met regularly in recent years. In 2022, the group became an official Session committee. Present members are Jean Hainer, Leah Link-Ulrich, Jean Podbelsek, Kay Sherrard, Milt Tyree, Larry Weishaar, and Ellie Woertz. Meeting dates this past year were January 12, April 19, September 13, and November 1. Fortunately, all meetings this past year have been “in-person” (not on Zoom). Our next meeting will occur late this month (January 2023)

Our major project this past year was helping to lead the worship service on Sunday, November 13, based on the theme of “accessibility for all.” All committee members took part in the service, with Jean Hainer serving as liturgist and Milt Tyree presenting the sermon. Milt based his sermon on his many years of work with people who have disabilities. Larry Weishaar shared via video (and in person) the many accommodations that Springdale has made for our church to be as accessible as possible. Ben Craig, (Jean P.’s grandson) lit the candle at the beginning of the service, and Robbie Sherrard (Kay’s grandson) led the opening prayer and gave the closing charge.

We continue to place a wheelchair at each entrance door to assist those who have mobility problems. Wheelchairs can be loaned out to church members for short periods of time, if needed. The electronic doors are useful, and we have audio loops and earbuds available for those who wish to use them. In the future, it is hoped that the sanctuary can be “surrounded” with enhanced hearing accessibility. Hand rails are available near the steps in the sanctuary.

Having the church bulletin printed in both English and Spanish has been helpful for several families who do not have English as their first language. Dwain also uses Spanish in part of each of our communion liturgies.

Our committee looks forward to another interesting year of working together and making plans to assist as needed.

Submitted by Jean Podbelsek, Chairperson

ENDOWMENT FUND REPORT

Springdale’s Endowment Fund [“Fund”] was established October 10, 1984, with money from sale of the manse. The Fund is established and maintained, as provided in the provisions of the Book of Order Chapter 4 Section G-4.0201 Property as a Tool for Mission.

The Session can request that the Fund distribute monies each year to be used for the general purposes of the mission of the Church, including, but not limited to, in that definition of purpose, expenditures in the missionary field and the field of theological education and improvement and additions to church physical facilities; provided, however, that insofar as possible, the Fund shall be used for special purposes or projects which would not ordinarily be possible to accomplish through the regular stewardship program and other regular income of the Church.

The intent of the Fund is long range in nature and has been interpreted as subscribing to the basic concept of an Endowment, that is, the preservation and growth of the corpus while utilizing the income as required to fulfill the original intent. Except for an extreme emergency, no money will be distributed if the balance is \$125,000 or less. The congregation of Springdale Presbyterian Church realizes that in times of diminishing sources of income, and/or in an emergency, the Session has the authority to distribute corpus to assure the continuance of the Church and its ministry.

In March of 2016 all Endowment monies were transferred from the New Covenant Mutual Funds to a brokerage account at TD Ameritrade. The Trustees have adopted an Investment Policy Statement (IPS) to manage and monitor the investment portfolio. Detailed investment reports and relevant documents are available upon request. The Trustees meet quarterly to review the portfolio in accordance with the IPS.

As of 12/31/2022 the asset allocation was as follows:

Equities.....	91.00%
Fixed Income.....	07.50%
Cash.....	01.50%

2022 Investment return/ (loss) = (15.80%)

Fund Values and Distributions

Amount of 2021 Distribution	\$10,401
Fund Value 12/31/2020	\$205,111
Fund Value 12/31/2021	\$231,276
Fund Value 12/31/2022	\$184,526
Average 3 Yr. Account.....	\$206,971
2022 Distributable Amount (5% of 3 yr. Avg.)	\$10,349

Report submitted by the Endowment Trustees and Committee Members:

Susan Cohen (2023); Nancy Lewis (2023); Nancy Skiles (2024) secretary; Loren Hincker (2024); Rob Locke (2025) chair; Bruce Bunger (2025); Al Nocito, Treasurer/Advisor

FELLOWSHIP & HOSPITALITY REPORT

The year 2022 began with high COVID positivity rates being reported locally, so no after-worship fellowship coffees were held in January, February, or March.

On Sunday, April 10, our committee provided fruits, lemonade, crackers and cheese for adults who brought children to the EggVent on the church playground after the worship service. Several people helped with set-up, serving, and clean-up.

Planning meetings began in late March for the upcoming Maundy Thursday potluck/communion service held at 6 p.m. on April 14. Sara Babcock, seminary intern, and Nell Herring, Coordinator of Children's and Special Ministries, helped with the plans. Many volunteers helped with set-up and clean-up on the day of the event.

Weekly Sunday fellowship coffees with snacks after worship began in the gathering area on Sunday, April 17. On June 5, we changed from serving coffee to lemonade. Sometimes this was served outside on the driveway, but often, because of hot weather, serving and visiting was done in the gathering area. Various church members volunteered to provide the snacks and to be hosts each Sunday. Sign-up sheets were available in the gathering area, and announcements were made regularly in the worship services to ask for volunteers.

During the week of July 25-29, a children's music camp was held at Springdale, directed by Nell Herring. On Friday p.m. July 29, a musical production, "In the Image," was presented by the children participating in the camp. Following the production, this committee provided popsicles on the front lawn for all attendees while they celebrated and congratulated the actors/singers.

On August 28, an outdoor worship service and all-church picnic were held at Broad Run Park (off Bardstown Road). The fellowship committee provided set-up and clean-up for the picnic, which was successful, even though the day was very hot! Larry Weishaar kindly purchased hamburgers, hot dogs, buns, and condiments for the event, as well as serving as grill-master (along with Greg Nickels).

In September we started serving coffee again for fellowship time in the gathering area. It was suggested that we serve lemonade also because some members do not drink coffee. We encouraged "simplicity" in snacks, e.g. grapes, cheese and crackers, and store-bought cookies, to make Sunday volunteering easier. Some volunteers do enjoy making homemade treats, etc., which are always appreciated by attendees.

On Saturday, September 17, our committee hosted a reception in the gathering area to celebrate the ordination of Gina Meester. Jean Podbelsek and Joy Cashman provided punch, cake, sandwiches and cupcakes/cookies to 40-50 guests in attendance.

On the morning of October 5, a dedicated group of volunteers worked diligently to clean and re-organize both kitchens. This work was greatly appreciated, and often-used items are easier to locate.

On Sunday, October 16, an all-church picnic was held on the church grounds after the worship service. Due to the small group of people presently available on this committee, the GO team did all of the preparations and hosting. Our committee (2-3) helped with clean-up.

A new hospitality event was started on Saturday, December 3, when the Louisville Civic Orchestra played a Christmas concert at Springdale (the orchestra's present "home"). Our committee served glasses of lemonade to attendees in the gathering area as they visited and congratulated players. It is hoped that this service will continue at future concerts (usually at intermission).

On Sunday, December 4, at 5 p.m., our committee hosted a potluck in fellowship hall, part of an Advent Event, with crafts for all ages preceding and a Christmas carol sing-along following it, as well as a "visit from Santa" for the young children. More than 80 people enjoyed fried chicken from Kroger and delicious side dishes made by attendees. Joy Cashman made all of the table decorations for the event and was a main helper. Many people helped to do set-up and clean-up.

Coffee fellowship continued through December 18, with "sweets" provided by the bereavement committee, following a memorial service on December 17.

Frankie Moore was originally a co-chairperson of this committee but in April had to leave town for an undetermined length of time to help with a family member who is ill. She subsequently chose to resign from the Session.

Submitted by Jean Podbelsek, chairperson

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

In 2022 the Finance team continued to do its regular duties, which are the following:

The Finance Team oversees the financial and business functions of the church, serving as a resource for recommendations to and actions by the session. The team meets monthly to review and examine the financial reports related to the General Fund for operations, the Endowment, and Memorial Funds as well as other funds designated for special purposes.

The maintenance of the monthly financial reporting has been outsourced to the MCM accounting firm, which is a mid-sized firm that can provide backup and is experienced in non-profit accounting. The Financial Secretary and administrative assistant provide MCM with the financial transactions on a monthly basis and, in coordination with the Finance Team, the accounts to use and the desired reporting formats. The Treasurer reviews the financial transactions for proper authorization and approves their payment.

Finance team members take an active role in counting, recording and depositing the regular offering and other revenues. We count on a weekly basis after the church service.

We work with the various committees to develop a monthly budget for the following year and provide preliminary budget numbers for the annual stewardship campaign. Part of our monthly financial review involves understanding actual spending deviations from budget and providing feedback to the committees and session when necessary.

Members do other internal reviews on an as needed basis.

Actions taken during 2022 include:

We conducted a preliminary capital campaign to address immediate and near future capital needs. \$67,795 was raised from our generous membership. Two new HVAC units were installed for \$19,739 – leaving \$51,965 to fund replacing fire suppression equipment and other capital needs, such as a new sanctuary roof.

With Bernie's announced retirement from the financial secretary role, we started and made some progress on documenting our monthly reporting procedures and our budgeting procedures. In 2023 we need to finish this and revisit our ongoing reporting process.

We employed the accounting firm DMLO to conduct a financial review of the 2021 financials. They found we were in compliance with general accepted accounting principles for nonprofits. This was a tribute to Bernie Backert's hard work and expertise over the past few years.

We worked with committees and made sure our building users and contract employees have workmen's compensation and liability coverage per our insurance agent's recommendation.

We continue to work with the new food pantry committee members to develop simple ways to keep track of food donations and monetary donations and the resulting food distribution. This can help with grant writing and budgeting needs.

We worked with the Stewardship campaign team to provide preliminary 2022 budget revenue and expense information and charts and then follow up on campaign results.

We provided forms for ministry teams to present their budget requests and to allocate them by quarter. We developed several drafts and updates of the 2023 budget after receiving funding requests from the ministry teams and session and updates from the Stewardship campaign. A final 2023 budget was approved by Session this January.

We welcomed David Butke as a new member this past year and would welcome others who have an interest in helping maintain the financial wellbeing of the church. We were sorry to see Dallas Skiles have to leave our committee for health reasons. We started training three new counters, David Butke, Weldon Maisch, and Hester Haick, in December. We could really use a fourth new counter to reduce our counting duties to once a month. (Joining the Finance team is not required)

In December we have started to investigate whether Springdale is eligible for government funds available in the Economic Recovery Acts of 2020 and 2021. The act is to help organizations who lost revenue during the covid epidemic or were affected by government restrictions due to the epidemic.

We provided advice and assistance on various other items as needed.

Team members during 2022 included session liaison Dallas Skiles, Financial Secretary Bernie Backert, Treasurer Phillip Swartzentruber, Leah Bradley, Gil Gillespie, Jean Hainer, Sarah Abraham and George Sherrard.

Respectively submitted,

George Sherrard, chairperson

<u>Annual Report Expense Categories:</u>	<u>Budget:</u>
Building & Grounds	\$97,580
Growth & Communications	\$1,600
Creation Care	\$550
Congregational Care	\$525
Fellowship	\$650
Direct Missions	\$80,000
Special Offering Missions	\$9,000
Office Administration	\$28,938
Per Capita Assessment	\$7,226
Personnel	\$250,602
Spiritual Nurture	\$3,150
Session/Stewardship	\$325
Worship & Music	\$4,450
Total Expense Budget	\$484,596

FOOD PANTRY COMMITTEE REPORT



The Link food pantry opened in March, 2022 with a ribbon cutting and much excitement. The ESL classes helped with a test run early in March. The regular schedule of 2nd and 4th Wednesdays started on March 9. The number of people served has grown steadily from a total of 80 people served to over 135. Our largest numbers were in August with 189 people served. This planted a seed to

possibly have a back-to-school project for 2023!

The Link is built on a philosophy of serving with dignity in a welcoming and friendly manner. We are one of a handful of "choice pantries" where a family can actually shop and make food choices. The Link partners with Dare to Care to provide food and produce. We are blessed to have the Rabbouni congregation now partnering by providing food and volunteers.

The planning and labor to open the pantry involved lots of Springdale members and family. The pantry is named for one of Springdale's most loyal food volunteers, Leo Link. I think of him every time the pantry is open. I'd like to thank several people who were instrumental in getting the pantry ready:

- Larry & Patrick Weishaar for construction and painting tasks along with Rick Davis.
- The pantry committee for all the research, cleaning, shopping, signs and shelf assembly: Weldon Maisch, Cathy Longstreet, Ginny Darah, Angela Nickels, Susan Cohen, Barb Link, Paige Erhart, Hester Hauck and Eddie Riddle.
- Greg Nickels and Mark Hebert helped whenever they were asked.
- A shout out to Building & Grounds, the GO Team and Men's Breakfast for support and encouragement.
- The faithful volunteers: the pantry committee as well as Greg Cohen, Stan Hankins, Dave Dockstader, Clay Lamb, Debbie Martin-Harrell, Donna Sheffer and Judy Riddle. You all inspire me with the way you live out your faith.
- Eddie Riddle continues to provide books from the Little Free Library. He also recycles all the cardboard boxes after each pantry.
- Leah Bradley is a continuing source of help and support. The list of tasks is long and very much appreciated.

Thank you to everyone that has donated food, personal care items, money and gift cards. Our goals for 2023 are to continue to grow the number of families served; increase record keeping and stats for donations; and begin to connect families to other resources in the area. The next big project will be during Lent so please watch for details soon.

Submitted by Lisa Hebert

GROWTH & OUTREACH REPORT

The mission and goal of the Growth and Outreach (GO!) ministry team is to help Springdale become a more invitational and welcoming church by equipping members to share the love of God with those God brings across our paths or through the doors at Springdale. The team works through partnership with other SPC committees and SPC staff to develop strategies which strengthen connections between members of the congregation, neighbors, friends, and the community. We do this by identifying innovative approaches for effective communication as well as planning and participating in community-building events. Active members of the team include Katherine Bradbery (session liaison), Stefan Granito, Mark Hebert, Rachel Imam, Tanya Imam, Anne Locke (current chair), Brie Sanders, and Matt Sanders. We are guided by the SPC motto – Open, Loving, Thinking, Doing.

GO! partnership with other SPC committees kicked off in 2022 by partnering with Mission to drive a cross-committee discussion on congregational communication and engagement with a goal of finding ways to better coordinate as a congregation for community outreach. The event started with large posters hanging in the fellowship area which encouraged passers-by to answer “great questions” about what is working well and where there are opportunities to better connect with people. SPC seminary interns Nell Herring and Sarah Babcock were instrumental in partnering with GO! to make this event happen. The conversation identified insights both to help the community learn about Springdale and to stay better connected within the congregation.

Multiple other partnership opportunities made 2022 great –

- In May, GO! connected with the congregation by leading a worship service to share our mission and purpose.
- During the spring and summer of 2022, GO! partnered with SPC’s children’s ministries to support the Summer Musical.
- In both July and October, a partnership with Fellowship helped host family picnics.
- A partnership with the new Link Food Pantry was developed to support the start-up through reusable grocery bags with the Link branding. These bags were used as handouts at the Louisville Pride Festival in September and will be used by the food pantry program as incentives for donations in the future.
- GO! continues to connect with folks new to SPC. The primary approach for this connection includes inviting new folks to our monthly meetings – which in 2022 were held at a variety of restaurants around the Louisville area as the GO! team is first and foremost about fellowship and connecting with one another.

To stay connected and grow as a congregation, GO! encouraged several new and old practices for communication.

- Throughout the year, the team evaluated Springdale’s outreach materials, social media, and online presence with the goal of ensuring clear communication of SPCs programs and culture of inclusion. Welcome packets were reviewed and updated for hand out at the Pride Festival.

- As far as online presence, while the work primarily focused on accounts controlled by SPC, several external websites were also reviewed and confirmed including mlp.org (More Light Presbyterians), Gaychurch.org, and ChurchClarity.org.
- Other online opportunities were also reviewed for future follow up with Inclusive Kentucky Weddings and the Louisville Pride Foundation.
- We connected with other committees to encourage monthly Roof Lines updates to encourage more communication and awareness within the congregation.
- The text notification system continues to send out regular digital reminders about SPC church live worship and events (anyone can get Springdale updates and reminders through text alerts events by texting Springdale to 502-425-1760).

One of the key community partnerships GO! supports each year is SPC's participation in Pride events in the local area. In 2022 this included both the June Kentuckiana Pride Parade and the September Louisville Pride festival in the Highlands – both events were amazing community outreach opportunities and were well attended. The festival was a new event for SPC and included a family-friendly booth with sidewalk chalk, bubbles, and lots of opportunities to connect with the Louisville community.

The Issues Classes continues to facilitate community outreach through conversation with classes in 2022 led by:

- Congressman John Yarmuth
- JCPS Superintendent Dr. Marty Polio
- Rebecca Fleischaker representing the downtown Louisville Corporation
- Taylor Ryan from Change today/Change tomorrow
- Tameka Laird who works in the Metro Office for homelessness, and
- University of Louisville professor Khalilah Collins who helped the city set up a program to ensure appropriate social service response was possible for emergency calls.

GO! has laid a foundation for 2023 to continue partnership with other SPC committees and SPC staff to develop strategies which strengthen connections between members of the congregation, neighbors, friends, and the community. The current plan includes the following programs to ensure ALL who interact with SPC experience the love of God.

- Partnership with Worship to continue evaluating how SPC welcomes visitors on Sunday mornings
- Continued partnership to help drive insights improve communication and connectedness within the congregation
- Community outreach to continue to raise awareness of SPC outside our walls.
 - Dave Ramsey Financial Peace University group starts late February 2023,
 - Participation in local Pride events
 - Issues classes, and
 - A fundraiser with SPC t-shirts ordered in 2022.

LITTLE FREE LIBRARY

Springdale's Little Free Library stewards worked to keep our offerings in both the adult and youth book boxes current by changing them out twice per month. We received many books from Springdale members and our neighborhood and because of this abundance we were able to share with the broader community:

- Portland Community ministries
- Habitat – books to fill bookcases for new homeowners with children
- Other LFLs in disadvantaged areas – Metro United Way distributed books around the metro area
- Mayfield area for those affected by tornadoes
- Locust Grove for their book sale

Our library is a nice resource and full of books. Please feel free to enjoy the books in the LFLs and in the chapel and save a trip to the library.

Thanks to this year's stewards: Jayne Babbitt, Susan Cohen, Hester Haick, Jane Jones, Kay Lev Dahl, Debbie Martin-Herrell, Frankie Moore, Eddie Riddle, Judy Riddle, Donna Sheffer, Debbie Bunger

Are you interested in being a steward? Please contact Debbie Bunger

Submitted by Debbie Bunger

MEMORIAL FUND COMMITTEE REPORT

The Memorial Fund receives contributions given in the name of a deceased relative or friend to acknowledge and honor that person's place in the church and in the heart of the donor. Each donation is recognized by a note to the donor and recorded in a book on display in the Gathering Area.

Memorial Fund gifts are used to obtain items of permanent and meaningful nature for use in the church. For example, these funds were recently tapped to purchase new table drapes for the handbell tables.

In general, a committee or ministry in the church will request funds for a one-time purchase of an item outside of its normal budget. Upon approval by the Memorial Fund committee, funds are released and used to enhance our congregational life.

As of December 31, 2022, the Memorial Fund balance was \$16,099.76.

Submitted by:

Marcia Jumblatt

Karen Miller

Jackie Ridsdale

MISSION & SOCIAL WITNESS REPORT

This is the Annual Report for Springdale's Mission and Social Witness Committee for the year 2022.

Springdale continues to financially support its traditional Mission Partners: Habitat for Humanity, Kentucky Refugee Ministries, Eastern Area Community Ministries, Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, Brooklawn/ Brookwood, La Casita, Prison Fellowship Angel Tree, Portland Avenue Community Trust, Change Today/Change Tomorrow, Hope Village, and our own Link Food Pantry.

Springdale supports several international and local initiatives: Mid-Kentucky Presbytery, the Synod of Living Waters, the Presbyterian Church USA, General Assembly and the Office of the General Assembly, Forman Christian College in Pakistan, and Mission Co-Workers serving along the US Mexico Border, Costa Rica, and Taiwan. Springdale also participates in our denomination's four special offerings: One Great Hour of Sharing, Peace and Global Witness, Pentecost, and the Joy Gift Offering.

Hands-on mission efforts include participating in the building of Habitat for Humanity's Presbyterian Home, resettling and supporting a refugee family with Kentucky Refugee Ministries, breakfast with boys residing on the Brooklawn/Bellewood campus in Anchorage, providing food, clothing, diapers, and other necessities for La Casita, Portland Avenue Community Trust, and Eastern Area Community Ministries.

An expanding initiative for 2023 will be The Link Food Pantry. The Link Food Pantry is staffed by Springdale volunteers and serves over a hundred families and individuals monthly. The Link is open on the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month.

Hope Village will continue to receive a hot meal cooked by Springdale volunteers, for approximately 60 people, every fifth Sunday of the year.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE REPORT

MISSION STATEMENT

The role of the Personnel Team is to insure the right people are in the right place, at the right time, with the right skill set, to fulfill the mission of SPC. We work to ensure that there is an environment that supports the development of staff and builds a culture of accountability.

DESCRIPTION

The purpose of the team is to assist in the evaluation process for the staff at Springdale Presbyterian, as well as development of procedures for hiring new staff. Matters involving salaries, benefits, and other related to compensation of staff are determined, reviewed, or revised as needed.

DESCRIPTION OF MINISTRY IN THE PAST YEAR

The Personnel Team was involved in several activities related to staff issues at SPC this past year, including the following:

- Provided support to the Pastor, Ministry Teams, and Session
- Transition related to combining the children's and youth Spiritual Nurture roles.
- Reviewed job description for all staff.
- Surveyed randomly selected members of the congregation to get feedback on the Pastor, Choir Director, and Office Administrator.
- Interviewed all staff members, both full and part time.

UPCOMING IN THE NEXT YEAR

A review of church Personnel Handbook will occur in 2023 to ensure that it reflects current law and best practices.

Hiring and onboarding of a staff member for children's and youth Spiritual Nurture.

The team will support the Pastor in the management of staff, along with the procedures and timelines for employee evaluations.

NAMES OF TEAM MEMBERS

Current team members include: Pastor Dwain Lee, David Erhart, Peggy Murphy, Leah Link-Ulrich, Loren Hincker, and Jim Van Daalen – Session Liaison.

REPORT SUBMITTED BY

Loren Hincker

SPIRITUAL NURTURE AND EDUCATION COMMITTEE REPORT

In 2022, Spiritual Nurture and Education was able to begin the process of “getting back to normal” after almost two years of working with our children and families remotely. Due to the amazing work our current chair, JOYce Ochs, accomplished as the Children’s Ministry Coordinator during the pandemic, our families were excited to come back as we re-opened the nursery, began to hold Spiritual Nurture classes and special events. JOYce’s hard work keeping children and families engaged virtually and through drive-by home visits helped families feel connected to Springdale during the pandemic, which made it easier for them to be willing to come back in-person since they never were truly “away” from Springdale.

Once our children and families came back around Easter, we were able to staff the nursery with two volunteers each Sunday as well as having Nell Herring, Children’s Spiritual Nurture Coordinator, conduct Spiritual Nurture classes for elementary age children. Children were engaged during worship through the use of “Children’s Bulletins,” at the Coloring Table. These special bulletins were interactive and followed along with the actual order of worship.

Community Events and Special Activities:

Our annual community “EggVent” was held on Palm Sunday with 26 children and their families participating in hunting for eggs, enjoying petting rabbits, doing crafts, taking pictures at the photo booth and enjoying refreshments provided by Fellowship.

The children in the nursery celebrated Mother’s Day by singing “This Little Light of Mine” during the worship service. They obviously were quite a hit!

Another highlight of the year was the Summer Musical Camp held the last week in July. The week-long camp, using a Vacation Bible School format, saw 26 children and over 20 adult volunteers participating in a full week of activities: Bible stories, crafts, games, music, snacks and lunch. The week culminated in the performance of the musical, *In The Image*. All but 4 of children participating in this camp were non-Springdale children, making this a fantastic community outreach activity.

In conjunction with the church-wide picnic on October 16th, Spiritual Nurture planned activities for the children that included pumpkin decorating, crafts, coloring sheets and a gratitude tree.

The annual Advent event was held on December 4th that included a crafts workshop with 11 different crafts, potluck dinner and carol singing with the special appearance of Santa Claus. The event was well attended by children and their families. The Youth Group members were a great help during the crafts workshop along with many volunteers. Thank you!

The final event of the year was actually held on New Year’s Day due to our Christmas Eve service being postponed due to the cold, snow and ice. JOYce planned the Christmas Pageant

that involved children playing the roles of Mary, Joseph, Angels, shepherds, sheep and Wise Men. The pageant was narrated by our youth and JOYce. The pageant was a highlight of the service.

Safety and Children's Ministry:

In addition to having nursery volunteers wear masks when the Covid-19 spread so warranted (being in the yellow or red zone), the ministry team and the session adopted a Child, Youth and Vulnerable Persons Protection Policy drafted by Nell Herring and Edwin Gonzalez-Castillo. The policy helps to ensure Springdale provides a safe and secure environment for all children, youth and vulnerable adults and volunteers who participate in ministries and activities sponsored by the church. The policy was presented at an adult Spiritual Nurture class in June and at a session prior to the Summer Musical Camp to ensure all camp volunteers thoroughly understood the policy.

Background checks were conducted on all nursery and Summer Musical volunteers. These background checks will be updated every three (3) years for each individual with background checks conducted on all volunteers working with children and youth with our church activities and events.

Children Spiritual Nurture Coordinator:

Nell Herring was hired in early 2022 to serve as Springdale's Children's Spiritual Nurture Coordinator. Nell did an outstanding job, bringing forward many new and creative ideas and activities for our children and their families. Nell left this position in August, after having accepted a full-time position with PCUSA Disaster Assistance.

Upon Nell departure, Jenny Edlin was hired as an interim Children's Spiritual Nurture Coordinator. Jenny has a full-time position as Chaplain at Peace Hospital. Jenny also did an outstanding job in this interim capacity, but left the position in mid-October.

Beginning in November, we contracted with The Family Tree to provide a nursery worker each Sunday, which then allows us to only have one (1) volunteer in the nursery working with this person. We have had a small, but dedicated group of individuals who have been volunteering in the nursery (2 volunteers per Sunday) since March. Since March, we have been consistently having 6-8 children in the nursery each Sunday.

Children and Youth Active in Worship:

Continuing to seek ways to engage children and youth in all aspects of church-life, especially worship, Spiritual Nurture with the assistance of the ushers have been coordinating the children and youth in lighting the Christ candle during the Prelude each Sunday, extinguishing the candle at the end of the service and bringing the communion bread to the table on communion Sundays.

The children in the nursery are invited into the sanctuary each Sunday to participate with the school-age children and youth in the Children's Sermon.

The children and their families were provided an Advent devotional, "Journey to Christmas," to help families celebrate this special time of year together with prayer, Scripture readings, and family activities.

Monthly Meetings:

Spiritual Nurture has been meeting on the second Tuesday of each month as 5:30 p.m. in the Gathering Space at church. All are welcome to join!

Submitted by Susan Cohen, ministry team member and session liaison on behalf of:

Spiritual Nurture Ministry Team Members:

JOYce Ochs, chair

Susan Cohen, Paige Erhart, Edwin Gonzalez-Castillo, Frank Hainer, Tonya Imam, Dwain Lee, Wendy Mullins, Ellie Woertz

WORSHIP & ARTS REPORT

DESCRIPTION

Provide for appropriate and meaningful worship of God through the proclamation of the gospel as revealed in the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ; effectively using prayer, scripture, liturgy, preaching and other spoken word, and effective and creative use of music and other performing and visual arts in traditional and innovative ways in worship and the life of the congregation.

DESCRIPTION OF MINISTRY IN 2022

Activities and special worship experiences in 2022:

The Worship and Arts team helped plan and implement worship throughout the year. This committee is responsible for organizing and scheduling weekly volunteers who help make worship happen: ushers, greeters, liturgists and communion servers and preparers. We implemented a new process for communion preparation, established and scheduled a new communion prep team. Additionally, we addressed worship issues that arose during the year.

The Worship & Arts committee again decorated outside for Easter and in the Gathering Area for Pentecost. We coordinated the decorations for advent in the sanctuary and Gathering Area and created a festive atmosphere outside the church; received assistance from members of Buildings and Grounds, other various SPC members and a group from the Rabbouni congregation.

UPCOMING IN 2023

During 2023, the Worship and Arts Committee will continue the process of implementing the changes to its mission and incorporating more arts into the worship experience at Springdale. We would like to begin incorporating more video and multimedia elements in worship occasionally.

NAMES OF MEMBERS: Scott Furkin (Session Liaison), Lisa Hebert, Jane Jones, Debbie Martin-Herrell. Dwain Lee attends meetings and consults with the Worship & Arts Committee.