



Springdale Presbyterian Church

Annual Report 2024

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CLERK OF SESSION'S REPORT

NEW MEMBERS: New Members received into the Congregation 2024

April 25, 2024

David Bolus
Jane Bolus
Joe Hamilton
Shannon Hamilton
Mary Yarmuth

December 15, 2024

Virginia (Ginger) W. Chapman

Baptisms: none

Member Deaths: We grieve the loss of these members:

Ralph Holsclaw January 13
Barabara McClain February 4
Clergy Friend, Reverend Frank Hainer March 12
Long- time past member, Diane Kirkpatrick March 19
Malcolm Campbell June 25
Shirley Mendell June 26
Tom Long July 7
Damon Willis July 30
Francis (Frankie) Moore October 7
Steve Cross (spouse of former pastor, Marie Cross, 1979-1983, interim 1994-95)

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

Becky Backert to Highland Presbyterian- February
Sharon Shelton to Pee Wee Valley Presbyterian- April

Members who have been removed from the Rolls:

Scott and Jennifer Anderson - October 24, 2024

The Session: Elders in Active Service

Class of 2025

Susan Hankins
Jane Jones
Andrew Martin
Greg Nickels

Class of 2026

Susan Cohen
Evan Gribbins
Jim Mayfield
Lisa Hebert
Trace Martin (Youth Rep)

Class of 2027

Steve Bradbery
Barbara Link
Leah Link-Ulrich
Renee Moffett

PASTOR'S REPORT

Hi friends,

When I sit down to write this 2024 annual report, I generally pull up the one from the previous year to use as a template. This year is no exception, and as I look over last year's report, I can say that this past year was actually quite similar to the previous one. From a staff perspective, we were saddened that Kat Bradbery stepped down from her position as Youth Ministry Coordinator, which she had done so very well, and we continue to seek a new coordinator at this time. Otherwise, there weren't any major staff or administrative changes. Of course, we had a major event to deal with in the HVAC project and all that came along with it, but we survived that with the congregation stepping up in large measure to meet most of the financial investment that required.

All of our major and emerging mission initiatives, as well as our routine congregational activities, continued to flourish. This past year, we did decide to pursue affiliation with Catholic Charities to be a partner in our refugee resettlement activities, and we expect that to develop well this coming year. On the outreach/fellowship/social sides of things, we maintained all of our normal activities, while adding a few new things – we experienced our first Trunk or Treat, and we enjoyed our first evening cruise together on the Belle of Louisville. I hope that this year, we'll be able to repeat both of those wonderful additions to our congregational life. We've also seen slow but steady growth via new Active memberships this year, indicating that we seem to be doing something right in terms of presenting and living out the gospel in ways that resonate with members of the greater community.

On the adult education side, the adult class engaged with a number of classes, a mix of both Bible studies and topical series, and some that were a hybrid of both genres. Maybe most notably, the class grappled with two classes that were especially well attended and engaged – a series discussing the nature and rise of Christian Nationalism in our country, as well as a fresh study of the Book of Revelation.

This was my first full year back after my 2023 sabbatical, and I can definitely say that it was energizing to have a fresh, rested set of eyes as I've served as pastor this past year. It's also helped me to think about things for short-term future consideration.

Our congregation and facility have continued to move more toward being a resource to the broader community, as opposed to just being our private members-only facility. This has been something that our congregation has always seen as important to some degree, and I think that in order for both our long-term mission and viability, this should continue, and we should examine new ways that we can expand that form of mission even more. More congregations are moving toward that missional model, and it's something highly encouraged by our

denomination. I think that given our membership, our strong missional and outreach mindset, we are ideally poised to develop that even further in the near future.

Based on our situation this past year, and the outlook for this year and beyond, I am very pleased and confident that Springdale is very well situated to engage in the mission God has chosen for us.

Grace and peace,
Rev. Dwain Lee
January 16, 2025

MUSIC DIRECTOR'S REPORT

The music ministry of Springdale enjoyed a successful year of presenting blended music and choral readings appropriate to the lectionary and seasons.

The Springdale choir along with The Singing Men of Springdale and the Womens Ensemble and out talented soloists and superb guitarist enhanced our worship services highlighted by the Christmas cantata "Nativity".

The Belles and Beaux rang joyfully with seasonal selections throughout the year.

We welcome new members of all our groups. If you sing or play an instrument let us know how you would like to participate.

Let Music fill your heart and soul!

Peace and Harmony;

Warren

PARISH VISITORS' REPORT

As Parish Visitors, Greg Cohen and Dottie Willis collaborated to support Springdale members facing life's challenges and crises during 2024. Weekly we visited homes, hospitals, memory units, rehab and residential care centers. We also traveled end-of-life journeys with dear SPC friends and their families. Through visits, phone calls, emails, texts, cards, prayer notes, driving and food ministry, we offered personal and pastoral care to the Springdale Presbyterian Church (SPC) family.

Weekly, Greg and Dottie logged records of our individual visits and contacts in the CDM+ system, Springdale's electronic database. We shared these reports with Dwain Lee at Parish Visitor meetings each Monday and prayed together after reviewing members' concerns and prayer requests. We emailed the weekly Springdale Prayer Chain to 22 members who also offered prayers, sent cards, and further extended congregational care to both our church and community. In 2024, we grieved the loss of two long-serving SPC Prayer Chain members, Barbara McClain and Diane Kirkpatrick along with members.

Parish Visitors participated in monthly Congregational Care Committee (CCC) meetings. We engaged in CCC projects such as reviewing church rolls, sending cards, hosting fellowship, and delivering meals. We kept this committee aware of our activities and SPC members' needs. We regularly communicated with Donna Sheffer, coordinator of Springdale's Food Ministry, to ensure that volunteers provided meals for SPC families whenever needed. CCC kept the Session informed about our work as Parish Visitors.

In addition to sharing Parish Visitors' responsibilities in 2024, Dottie Willis began, with Leah Bradley's help, to recognize SPC members' birthdays by creating a monthly photo bulletin board in the upstairs Gathering Area. She led Alone-Together, a support group involving Springdale seniors in fellowship, learning, service, and exercise. Alone-Together members connected via monthly Zooms, attended LCO concerts, and invited SPC members to monthly birthday celebrations. Our farewell luncheon honoring Brenda McGavic was a highlight of 2024. Alone-Together's monthly bridge games were coordinated by Donna Sheffer; Chair Yoga on Tuesday afternoons was led by Jill Warner. Both these well-attended programs served not only Springdale but also our Rabbouni partners and local community. Greg continued to participate in the monthly Men's Prayer Breakfast, cooking breakfast or teaching the monthly lesson from time to time. Greg also coordinated Men's Luncheons that were held occasionally throughout the year.

PARISH ASSOCIATE'S REPORT

1. I continued to be a resource to the Perez/Serrano family and Thalia and Hector Garcia. On a quarterly basis, I also collected food items from my personal circles and delivered them to LaCasita Center.
2. I continued to monitor groups at the border assisting immigrants and following pertinent news feeds. Locally, I continued to monitor local groups: La Casita Center, Immigrant Coalition for Immigrant Justice, and LSURJ.
3. My plan was to begin online training so that I could be certified by the Department of Justice to submit forms on behalf of immigrants. That class, provided by the Catholic Legal Immigration Network wasn't offered until September 2024, the same week I was having surgery.
4. In 2024 I had hoped to begin analyzing the possibility of the establishment of a Legal Clinic here in Louisville. My main target partner was Jewish Community Services who had expressed an interest in 2023. With it being an election year, the outbreak of war in Gaza, the massive immigration issue at the border, the lack of immigration support from the citizens of this country and the impending change in administration, I've been in a holding pattern, trying to decide how to best proceed with and all my future work. The threats by the incoming administration against undocumented immigrants, even those with filed asylum claims and those who have received Temporary Protected Status, have left many, many immigrants regardless of their status, scared and vulnerable. This would include the two asylum seeking families known to this congregation. I know that nationally and locally Immigration Attorneys are scrambling to file briefs that may or may not protect their clients. Immigration Legal groups are already prepared to file briefs that will counter any unjust action ordered by the incoming administration.

The Future:

Until the incoming administration takes office, I do not have a clear picture of what my work will be in 2025. I sense that it will be supporting the families in some way yet to be determined who have had a family member deported. I believe strongly that this is also the work of The Church and our work as a congregation in whatever way we can. I know too, that my work will continue to support the Asylum-seeking families already known to this congregation. To that end I do plan to spend a month in San Miguel de Allende in a Spanish Immersion Program, date to be determined so that I can better hone my Spanish speaking abilities to provide aid.

Sharon Kutz-Mellem, Parish Associate for Immigrant Advocacy

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 Building and Grounds does is "behind the scenes" stuff. During 2024, we had a much more visible and environmental task over much of the year. The decision to stop using the boiler system and replace most of our HVAC systems with high efficiency dual fuel systems was approved and the project has been completed. The total cost for this project was \$173,099.50. This changed how we heat and cool the sanctuary, fellowship hall, the lower-level classrooms (where the Link and ESL classes operate from), second level offices and Klein Chapel and the youth area. We should be able to save thousands of dollars each year with these new high efficiency systems and eliminating the recurring expenses of maintaining the boiler system.

Another significant issue that came up was the damage and decay of part of the façade across the front of the church, from the main entrance west (right) to the short roof of the sanctuary narthex. We obtained bids for the removal and restoration of roof and drainage in the area and as of this writing (the lowest bid was \$10,000+). The contractor began working on the project in November.

Other projects or tasks completed during 2024 include, but is not limited to:

- Replaced much of our inside lighting systems from fluorescent can lights to LED fixtures. This not only provides much brighter light in those area, it also operates much more efficiently. We are still working on some areas of the church with this as funds are made available.
- Coordinated both a springtime and winter "Clean Up Days" with members of SPC as well as some Rabbouni members.

Upcoming in 2025

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:

Bruce Bunger, Dave Butke, Leah Bradley, Rick Davis, Greg Nickels (Session Liaison), Eddie Riddle, Tomas Aguilera (Rabbouni Representative), Milton Tyree, Bob Mellem and Larry Weishaar (Chair)

CONGREGATIONAL CARE REPORT

Mission statement: The Congregational Care team seeks 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. "A new commandment I give you, that you love one another; just as I have loved you, you also are to 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 Congregational Care team cannot provide the services and outreach listed below without the loving assistance of many volunteers in our church. It truly does require a village. With the loving help of our volunteers, we have been able to:

- Send cards, through our different forms of card-care ministry, to various members of our church: to the homebound via a team of fifteen card-senders who send one thinking-of-you card per month to members unable to attend services (for health reasons or other restrictive conditions), 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), to those experiencing some sort of physical condition (illness or surgery, etc.), the death of a loved one, having a significant birthday, or anniversary, as well as those welcoming a new baby.
- Prepare and deliver meals to church members experiencing life's challenges or joys. We have seventeen meal preparers and five delivery volunteers. Donna Sheffer continues to be our Meal Ministry Coordinator.
- Review the Membership Rolls and contact distant members by phone call, card, or letter. The Congregational Care team encourages members who have been inactive in the work and worship of Springdale to reconnect through in-person services and activities, or via our live stream services. If those members show no indication of reconnection, after two years or more, the Congregational Care team evaluates them for removal from the church rolls and submits the names to Session for approval.
- Prepare and serve a beautifully laid out refreshment table for members and their family members at Springdale-hosted funeral and visitation services. The coordinator, and a team of 8-10 devoted volunteers, provide a variety of finger foods and assorted munchies for the bereavement services. Barb Link has been our Bereavement Reception Coordinator for fifteen-plus years. She has decided to step down from that role. We are incredibly grateful for her years of hard work and dedication to this ministry. Her shoes will be hard to fill. So, currently we do not have a coordinator and are in search of a person or a team of people to assume this role.

- Work closely with Springdale's Parish Visitors (Greg Cohen and Dottie Willis) who provide calls, texts, emails, prayer notes, food ministry, transportation, hospital visits, nursing home and home visits, and home communion to our members.
- Provide as needed assistance to the Alone-Together group, facilitated by Dottie Willis. This form of congregational outreach connects members facing the challenges of growing older by offering information, helpful tips, pearls of wisdom, resources, activities, and projects, and new and old friendships. They are a close and connected group.
- list members' birthdays in the weekly newsletter and display their names and birthdays on the overhead TV monitors during church services (thank you Leah for your ongoing and valuable part in this). A bulletin board, located in the Gathering Area, displays pictures of the birthday celebrants and is updated monthly (thank you Dottie). Congregational Care initiated this practice in 2023 and it has been well received by our congregation. Sharing this information affords people the opportunity to reach out to the birthday person by phone call, text, email, card, or in-person.
- Review the First Aid kits for expired over-the-counter medications and supplies and order their replacements. We are in the process of restocking the kits. The kits are located at the Welcome Desk and in the Nursery.

Cathy, as Session Liaison to the Congregational Care Committee, shares agenda items discussed at Session as well as information gleaned from the committee reports each month. This information about the workings of our church has proved to be enlightening, educational, and much appreciated by the team. We hope to continue this practice throughout 2025.

The Congregational Care Committee officially moved our monthly meeting day and time from Thursday evening to Tuesday afternoon to eliminate nighttime travel. We are currently meeting on the second Tuesday of each month at 3:30 p.m. (right after Chair Yoga), in the downstairs 'fishbowl' classroom.

Team Members having served in 2024 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 nine years as a certified PCUSA Creation Care Congregation. We continue to focus on targeted objectives in four areas: worship, education, outreach, and facilities management.

Worship. For Lent, we inserted the Presbyterians for Earth Care calendar with environmental themes into our weekly newsletter. For Earth Day, our choir and congregation sang earth-themed selections and held a dedication outside for our newly planted white oak tree. Our youth planted sunflower seeds and made pinecone bird feeders. We included PEC's Advent devotional in our newsletter.

Education/Spiritual Nurture. Our issues class showed a YouTube video of renown entomologist Doug Tallamy and discussed the importance of native plants. Issues also met to discuss Walter Brueggeman's Materiality as Resistance: Five Elements for Moral Action in the Real World, which includes an environmental component. We included a flier in our stewardship packet asking our congregation for their renewed commitment to eight earth care initiatives: reduce use of plastic bags; use re-usable drink bottles; use earth-friendly cleaning and laundry products; reduce clothing purchases; move to battery-powered tools; plant native trees, shrubs; avoid chemical pesticides; compost kitchen and yard waste. We chose to focus on native plants this past year and used our weekly newsletter and posters in our gathering area to highlight native plants and to explain the importance of leaving leaf and plant material in place over the winter. We included an article in our newsletter about the April 8th solar eclipse and afterwards sent glasses to Astronomers without Borders that sorts and reuses them. For holiday gift-giving, we proposed using fabric bags and wrap that can be used multiple times. Representatives from our team attended the April 16th National Faith & Climate Forum zoom meeting. Our book club read Frederick Law Olmsted and the Origin of National Parks by Dennis Drabelle.

Outreach. Springdale hosted the annual Ramblers Garden Club sale in our front lawn and our members donated plants. We now host the Ramblers' monthly meetings. We served as a weekly pick-up point for "A Place on Earth" CSA. One of our creation care team members has volunteered for almost 20 years at the CSA farm. As indicated by road signage, Springdale adopted a highway years ago and our men's breakfast group picks up trash along a section of Highway 22 near the church. We simplified our web presence and added photos of our activities. We held two outdoor worship services/picnics at a local park and asked the congregation to take photos of surrounding nature; photos were then shown in a PowerPoint during a subsequent Sunday worship. We also shared bounty from our gardens while at the park, with monetary donations benefiting our food pantry.

Facilities. The Creation Care team and three additional members watered and maintained the church's garden. We added a redbud tree to our yard. Creation Care hosted our coffee hour one Sunday in June to demonstrate using reusable plates and cups. We continue to encourage

the use of reusables with all groups using the church. To minimize food waste, we created a food labeling system for the food various groups keep on hand in our kitchen. We installed a new high efficiency HVAC system over a sizable portion of our building, replacing the defective 14-year-old boiler system and 24-year-old air conditioning equipment that served the sanctuary, Fellowship Hall, the units serving pastors' and music directors' offices, and the education wing. This should substantially lower energy usage.

Team members: David Burkholder, Helen Burkholder, Brita Dockstader, Hester Haick, Stan Hankins, Susan Hankins (Session liaison), Jane Jones, Marcia Jumblatt, Nancy Patten, Allan Podbelsek, Jill Warner, Dwain Lee (pastor), Debbie Bunger (chairperson)

Our thanks and appreciation to those members who helped us water the gardens: Scott Furkin, Mary Pace, and Sandy Gillespie.

DISABILITY & FAITH INCLUSION REPORT

This committee exists for the purpose of mindfully and proactively raising awareness and implementing policies and services needed to welcome and to 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.

Present committee members are Jean Hainer, Leah Link-Ulrich, Jean Podbelsek, Kay Sherrard, Milt Tyree, Larry Weishaar, and Ellie Woertz. Session liaison was to be Joy Cashman, but she had to take a leave of absence from the Session due to health problems. Meetings this past year were held in January, April, September, and December.

This committee did not lead a worship service this past year but has plans to lead one in 2025. Ellie Woertz, a committee member who continues as a post-MDiv student at the Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary, will provide the sermon for the planned service. Ellie was previously a seminary intern here at Springdale. The committee hopes that this service will take place in the spring.

For two Sundays in May and again in July, Milt Tyree led adult church school classes based on the need for people to be valued and supported in their aging journeys. Milt has studied in depth and has much “real world” experience in the area of social role valorization. Through the use of videos and group discussions, Milt was able to clarify and strengthen coping methods for people in our church community.

The church continues to loan wheelchairs, walkers and a knee scooter to church families who have a short-term need for them. We have made known the availability of this equipment to the Rabbouni community, and several members of that group have used them. Hand rails, electronic doors, ear buds, hearing loops, and updated first-aid kits are also available for regular use at the church.

We are preparing to straighten a closet located in the front church hall so that our equipment is in plain sight and available for use and that all enhancements are helping to keep Springdale accessible to all. We are always open to new ideas and needs of the congregation as we become aware of them, so feel free to let any member of the committee know of ways we can be of help.

Respectfully submitted by Jean Podbelsek, chairperson

ENDOWMENT FUND REPORT

While the committee agreed to a special distribution to support the new HVAC system, it was ultimately not needed due to a timely loan from the Presbytery. The Endowment brochure was updated and placed in the sanctuary. The rest of the report provides fund history and performance details. 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 Fund annually anticipates the Session's request for a regular distribution of 5% to support the general purposes of the Church. Other special distributions may be requested by the Session for a variety of missional purposes including improvement and additions to church physical facilities particularly projects that 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 which merged with Charles Schwab & Co in September of 2020. 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.

2024 Investment return/(loss) = 23%. As of 12/31/2024 the asset allocation was as follows:

Equities	83%
Fixed Income	12%
Cash	5%

Fund Values and Distributions

Amount of 2023 Distribution	\$10,376
Fund Value 12/31/2022	\$184,526
Fund Value 12/31/2023	\$206,755
Fund Value 12/31/2024	\$244,172

Average 3 Yr. Account	\$211,818
2024 Distributable Amount (5% of 3 yr. Avg.)	\$10,591

Report submitted by the Endowment Trustees and Committee Members: Nancy Skiles (2024) secretary; Loren Hincker (2024); Rob Locke (2025) chair; Bruce Bunger (2025); Bob Mellem (2026); Milt Tyree (2026); Al Nocito, Advisor

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

In 2024 the Finance Committee continued to do its regular duties, which are the following:

The Finance Committee oversees the financial and business functions of the church, serving as a resource for recommendations to and actions by the session. The committee 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. It prepares monthly financial reports for session and for the Rooflines report.

We started using CDM+ for our accounting software system and financial report source for 2024. It separates financial activity into general fund activity, that is supported by unrestricted revenue and expenses, and other funds that are supported by restricted donations and associated expenses. The Financial Secretary and Office Manager administer the payroll system and interact with the Board of Pensions to pay benefits. They also prepare invoices, record the financial transactions and prepare financial reports on a monthly basis. In coordination with the Finance Committee and with a lot of extra work, the Financial Secretary established the new chart of accounts and the desired reporting formats. She also has documented most of the new financial procedures required by the new system. The Treasurer reviews the financial transactions for proper authorization and approves their payment.

Finance committee members and others 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 2024 include:

As referenced above, the Financial Secretary installed a new accounting software system that we started using in 2024.

In January, 2024, the HVAC system went down. Rather than continue expensive repairs, Session voted to replace it with a new system. Cost estimates were given and a vendor chosen. Early on, there was concern about loan delays or availability. We needed to make sure enough money would be available to purchase the equipment on the scheduled basis to obtain the initial favorable purchase terms available in January. To that end congregational approval was granted to obtain a “bridge loan” from the endowment fund to be paid back by a third-party loan. Meanwhile, certain members choose to give matching grants, which were easily matched

and others, including Rabbouni members, chose to donate as well. In all, \$95,000 was generously donated for the HVAC system in 2024 and \$10,000 was pledged for January, 2025. This went a long way towards covering the \$173,000 cost. Finance managed the cash flow process and investigated the different loan and grant options. It was able to secure a \$75,000 loan from the Presbyterian Loan Investment Program to be paid back at the favorable terms of 4.85% for 15 years. The increased efficiency of the new HVAC system allowed a .5% reduction in the loan rate. Donations came in fast enough and in large enough amounts, that the bridge loan was not needed and we only needed a \$75,000 loan. Finance kept the membership informed of the project progress with monthly reports of donations and project costs. They also participated in a presentation to Rabbouni to help with the fund raising (who will have given \$16,000 by the end of January, 2025).

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. In 2023, in accordance to new accounting guidelines, we started to recognize in kind (food, et al) donations in revenue and expenses. Food pantry members have estimated the weight of full grocery carts. They count the number of carts full of donated items and we use the per pound costs DARE to CARE uses for its food distributions to estimate the value of in-kind donations. This can give us a better idea of what Springdale is doing to help our community and can help with grant writing, if we need more sources of funding, and with budgeting needs. We still do not, at this time, recognize in our financial statements donated labor or use of building space. Monetary donations to the Link Food Pantry and its purchases are accounted for under the restricted fund accounting process.

We received some donations in stock this year and used the procedures for processing this type of donation we developed in 2023.

We provided forms for ministry teams to present their budget requests and to allocate them by quarter. Using these forms, we provided preliminary 2025 budget revenue and expense information and charts for the Stewardship campaign. We developed several drafts and updates of the 2025 budget after receiving funding requests from the ministry teams and session and updates from the Stewardship campaign. A final 2025 budget was approved by Session this past November.

Finance along with Rabbouni sponsored two joint Issues classes – the first was led by Al Nocito and covered end of life financial considerations; the second was led by Deb Nocito and Micaela Nocito and covered Medicare plans and options. People who attended found them very informative.

Finance also provisioned two fellowship tables in December.

Dennis McNulty and Jim Mayfield reviewed and approved the 2023 finance reporting and procedures. We thank them for their efforts.

We continue to appreciate the help our two nonmember counters, Weldon Maisch, and Hester Haick, have provided this year. We could really use a new counter to reduce our counting duties to once a month. (Joining the Finance team is not required)

Due to the age and discontinued support and availability of parts of the current copier, we investigated the purchase or lease of a new copy machine. We purchased the new copier with \$10,000 from the Memorial funds. It will save about \$1900 a year in print costs.

We waited to see whether Springdale’s eligibility for government funds available in the Economic Recovery Acts of 2020 and 2021 would be approved. The act is to help organizations who lost revenue during the covid pandemic or were affected by government restrictions due to the pandemic. In October we were notified the preschool portion of our amendment filing was approved and we received \$35,000 of refund and interest in November.

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

Team members during 2024 included session liaison Jane Jones, Financial Secretary Mary Ann Meaney, Treasurer Phillip Swartzentruber, Leah Bradley, David Butke, Gil Gillespie, Sarah Abraham and George Sherrard.

Respectively submitted, George Sherrard, chairperson

2025 Annual Expense Budget	from General Offerings and other Unrestricted Revenue	from Restricted Revenue	Total expense 2025 Budget
Personnel	\$293,481		\$293,481
Building & Grounds	\$100,300	\$10,600	\$110,900
Direct Missions	\$62,100	\$3,500	\$65,600
Mission – LINK in-kind dist.		\$55,000	\$55,000
Mission – LINK food pantry	\$6,000	\$6,000	\$12,000
Special Offering Missions	\$6,000		\$6,000
Office Administration	\$16,065		\$16,065
Per Capita Assessment	\$5,278		\$5,278
Interest paid on loan	\$3,504		\$3,504
Worship & Music	\$3,500		\$3,500
Spiritual Nurture	\$250	\$3,100	\$3,350
Growth & Communication	\$1,700		\$1,700
Creation Care	\$500		\$500
Fellowship	\$400		\$400
Congregational Care	\$350		\$350
Session/Stewardship	\$200		\$200
Total Expense Budget	\$499,628	\$78,200	\$577,828

GROWTH & OUTREACH REPORT

The mission and goal of the Growth and Outreach (GO!) ministry team is to help Springdale Presbyterian Church (SPC) 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 SPC. The team works through partnership with other 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 David Burkholder, Helen Burkholder, Mark Hebert, Rachel Imam, Tanya Imam, Anne Locke (current chair), Barb Mayfield, Jim Mayfield, Gina Meester, Evan Gibbons (session liaison), and Katherine Bradbury. We are guided by the SPC motto – Open, Loving, Thinking, Doing.

One of the key community partnerships GO! supports each year is SPC's participation in Pride events in the local area. In 2024, this again included both the June Kentuckiana Pride Parade and the September Louisville Pride Festival – both events were amazing community outreach opportunities and were well attended. Other GO! planned and supported community events included:

- Trivia night as fundraiser for the youth
- Congregation-wide community picnic in April
- Fall cruise on the Belle of Louisville
- Christmas caroling in early December

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

- Refreshed web page with a dedicated section for GO!
- Funded the purchase of new festival gear – awnings and signage
- Connected with new members to help them get introduced to the congregation
- Throughout the year, the team evaluated Springdale's outreach materials, social media, and online presence with the goal of ensuring clear communication of SPC's programs and culture of inclusion.
- 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).

GO! has laid a foundation for 2025 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 programs and approaches to ensure ALL who interact with SPC experience the love of God.

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 children's bookcases (for new homeowners)
- Locust Grove for their book sales
- The Grand Senior Living

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 Levdahl, Debbie Martin-Herrell, Eddie Riddle, Judy Riddle, Donna Sheffer, and Debbie Bunger. Special thanks to Eddie and Judy for their frequent attention to the LFLs and for managing our book supply.

***We need several more stewards to help and hope you will consider joining us. The "job" entails changing out books in both LFLs twice per month for one month per year.

Please contact Debbie Bunger at debbie@bungernet.win.net

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. Another note is sent to the family of the person being memorialized, telling them who made the donation.

Memorial Fund gifts are used to obtain items of permanent and meaningful nature for use in the church. In 2024, these funds were used to purchase a church yearbook reflecting 2023, two sets of small chairs (6 chairs in each set) to be used in the nursery and Fellowship Hall, a printer/scanner/copier for the front office, a set of news letters and numbers for the sign in front of the church, and to cover the cost of fabric for seasonal drapes for the Communion Table.

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, 2024, the Memorial Fund balance was \$15,891.

Submitted by the Memorial Fund committee:

Judy Riddle
Karen Miller
Debbie Martin-Herrell

MISSION & SOCIAL WITNESS REPORT

Below is a dashboard created by our Mission & Social Witness committee, summarizing where Springdale put its time, talent and treasure in 2024.

Mission Partners	Financial Support	In-Kind Giving	Volunteers
Mid-Kentucky Presbytery	\$13,000/year		
Presbyterian Disaster Assistance	\$2,500/year		
Mission co-workers (6)	\$10,500/year		
Forman Christian College	\$500/year		
Eastern Area Community Ministries	\$4,400/year		
Kentucky Refugee Ministries	\$850/year		
Bellewood & Brooklawn	\$3,000/year		
THE LINK food pantry	\$6,000/year	We fed 2,268 people with food donated by members, nonmembers and Dare-to-Care	30
Habitat for Humanity Metro Louisville	\$14,000/year	We helped build two houses	25
Portland Ave. Community Trust	\$1,000/year	We collected clothing all year long	2
English as a Second Language program	\$1,100/year	We provided classroom space the equivalent of \$625/month in rent	2
Angel Tree Prison Fellowship		Members provided gifts for 20 children	10
Hope Village 5 th Sunday meal		Members donated food to feed 30 people four times per year	8

Below is a summary of our Mission & Social Witness activity in 2024:

January	THE LINK food pantry open second and fourth Wednesdays
February	THE LINK food pantry open second and fourth Wednesdays
March	THE LINK food pantry open second and fourth Wednesdays First quarter mission grant payments made Meal provided to Hope Village One Great Hour of Sharing offering collected
April	THE LINK food pantry open second and fourth Wednesdays
May	THE LINK food pantry open second and fourth Wednesdays Pentecost offering collected
June	THE LINK food pantry open second and fourth Wednesdays Second quarter mission grant payments made Meal provided to Hope Village
July	THE LINK food pantry open second and fourth Wednesdays
August	THE LINK food pantry open second and fourth Wednesdays
September	THE LINK food pantry open second and fourth Wednesdays Third quarter mission grant payments made Habitat House workdays Meal provided for Hope Village
October	THE LINK food pantry open second and fourth Wednesdays Peace & Global Witness offering collected STITCH hosted
November	THE LINK food pantry open second Wednesday Angel Tree of Prison Fellowship
December	THE LINK food pantry open second Wednesday Fourth quarter mission grant payments made Kroger cards collected for THE LINK Meal provided for Hope Village

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 2024

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

- Updated some job descriptions.
- Reviewed and updated as appropriate parts of employee handbook.
- Solicited feedback through surveys to congregants on employee performance.
- Seeking candidates for Youth Ministry and Nursery roles.

UPCOMING IN 2025

Hire candidates for positions in Youth Ministry and Nursery roles.

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

The team will solicit feedback through surveys to congregants on employee performance.

NAMES OF TEAM MEMBERS

Current team members include: Pastor Dwain Lee, Loren Hincker, David Erhart, Peggy Murphy, Leah Link-Ulrich, and Scott Furkin - Session Liaison

REPORT SUBMITTED BY

Leah Link-Ulrich

SPIRITUAL NURTURE AND EDUCATION COMMITTEE REPORT

Community Events:

SN hosted several community events this year. Family events included the Easter EggVent, Trunk or Treat, and Advent Event - each with crafts, games, and other activities. The EggVent and Advent Event were not as well-attended as in the past, probably due to scheduling conflicts, but our first Trunk or Treat was a great success drawing about 60 kids from the church, neighborhood, ESL, and food pantry. The youth also hosted Mardi Gras Murder Mystery and Trivia Night fundraisers, which were very successful and great fun. In collaboration with Growth and Outreach, SN also hosted a family-friendly craft at the SPC booth at the Louisville Pride Festival, which was well-received by the community.

Nursery Highlights:

Lauren Mullins provided excellent care in the nursery for a portion of the year before leaving for school. Despite a diligent effort to find a replacement, we haven't been able to find someone interested in the position. As an alternative, we will now have one youth (paid) in the nursery each week along with an adult volunteer.

Children's Ministry (0-5th grade) Highlights:

We continued to welcome 8-10 young kids to church each week. On a typical Sunday, the children were supervised in the nursery, heard a Children's Message during the worship service, and were taught a Bible lesson using the Godly Play curriculum. Our first full year of using Godly Play saw amazing interest and investment from the children. Memorial Funds were used to invest in additional short chairs for our growing population.

Youth Ministry (6th-high school) Highlights:

In addition to the community events highlighted above, the youth had several meetings throughout the year, including a Christmas party and a lock-in where they planned and executed a worship service. During the worship service on May 12th, youth being promoted from elementary to middle school or middle school to high school were recognized, along with high school and college graduates. Discussion about interest in a confirmation class and youth retreats are ongoing with the youth and their parents, but scheduling has proved challenging. Katherine resigned as Youth Coordinator, effective January 1, 2025. We are looking for new Youth Coordinator.

Adult SN Classes:

Dwain coordinated numerous adult education offerings during the course of the year. Some of the highlights included:

- Lee Gill, VP of Institutional Equity at the University of Louisville, spoke about his job to "establish inclusive excellence at the University in the face of attacks on Diversity, Equity and Inclusion programs at universities and public school systems across the country.
- A two-part overview of The Major Minors: Amos, Micah Hosea.

- A two-part series on “Aging and the Good Things of Life” led by Milt Tyree that explored how aging affects our ability to have those good things of life, such as family, friends, belonging, safety and security, being treated as an individual, respect, opportunities to contribute and maintain valuable social roles.
- A class covering estate planning and tax efficient charitable giving led by Al Nocito
- A class led by Dwain on planning for death that talked about the types of services, guiding principles for funerals and memorial services in the Presbyterian tradition.
- A series led by Dwain on understanding Christian Nationalist ideology and movement, and how to respond to it as diverse people. The series included watching two documentaries – “Bad Faith” and “God and Country: The rise of Christian Nationalism.”
- A four session series led by Dwain on *Revelation: Professing Christ Today*. This curriculum, written by Mark Hinds, included short video clips, imagery, and much needed discussion as it examined how this much-studied book of the Bible informs us as Christians living in our own context.

Women’s Bible Study:

The Women’s Bible Study gathered on the third Wednesday of each month to share lunch together and study the Bible, using curriculum from Presbyterian Women, PCUSA. The first six months of the year, the curriculum was “Sacred Encounters: The Power and Presence of Jesus Christ in Luke-Acts” by Olive Mahabir and beginning in the Fall, they used the Bible Study called, “*What She Said – Quotable Women in Scriptures,*” by Dale Lindsay Morgan.

Men’s Prayer Breakfast:

Through the efforts of Stan Hankins, Larry Weishar and Tom Darrah, the men of the church host a Men’s Prayer Breakfast on the first Saturday of the month in Fellowship Hall. Participants cook a great breakfast, a presentation is made by another member of the group and it is a great time of fellowship and fun. In 2024 we completed a study on the Old Testament and are now discussing selected TED talks. One of our original members and often presenter, Frank Hainer passed away in 2024, Frank was a faithful member and a great asset and enhancement to our gatherings even if he always wore his Duke Hat and Sweatshirt every time we met to irritate other members of the group; especially the UK faithful. In memory of Frank the Men’s Prayer Breakfast collected money to re do the lighting in Fellowship Hall which was completed in the fall – a special Thanks to Larry Weishar for purchasing and installing the lights.

Monthly Meetings:

Susan Cohen, Session Liaison
 Rachel Imam, Children’s Ministry
 Katherine Bradbury, Youth Ministry
 Members: Paige Erhart

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 2024

Activities and special worship experiences in 2024:

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.

The Worship & Arts committee added new drapes and a wreath for the choir loft for Ordinary Time. We decorated and prepared the Sanctuary for Easter after spending worship time during Lent in the Klein Chapel while the new HVAC was installed. We decorated in the Gathering Area and choir loft 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 multiple SPC members, special help from Building and Grounds members, and received help from a few members of the Rabbouni congregation.

Jane Jones is a member of and Worship liaison to the sewing group which is now implementing its plans to create the new cloth drape for the Communion table which will be suitable for advent and Lent/Easter.

We worked on Manual of Operations with the help of Leah Bradley; submitted to Session.

Following a request from the Disabilities Committee, we discussed and implemented a new communion protocol to add a gluten free chalice along with wafers for those who need it. Debbie worked with Communion preparers to implement this change.

Advent decorations were updated and refreshed – many thanks to Jill Warner for her efforts on this!

UPCOMING IN 2025

During 2025, the Worship and Arts Committee will continue all current efforts. Goals: seek new spaces for outdoor worship; continue to update and implement new decorations for seasonal celebrations.

NAMES OF MEMBERS: Jim Mayfield (Session Liaison), Lisa Hebert, Jane Jones, Debbie Martin-Herrell, Jill Warner. Dwain Lee attends meetings and consults with the Worship & Arts Committee. Leah Bradley provides guidance and helps implement many of our tasks.