

Silver Spring Presbyterian Church



444 Silver Spring Road
Mechanicsburg, PA 17050
717.766.0204
www.silverspring.org

2022 Annual Report



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THE PASTOR'S ANNUAL REPORT—January, 2023

Rev. Don Wahlig, Senior Pastor, Head of Staff

As I reflect on the past year of our mutual ministry here at SSPC, I find myself overwhelmed with gratitude. First, gratitude to God for blessing us with the gift of one another. We are truly a family, brothers and sisters in Christ. Our congregation is as faithful a group of Christian disciples as any I have ever been privileged to serve.

Friends, I do not say this lightly or without evidence. When I look at other congregations, I am reminded once again of the faithfulness that distinguishes the Silver Spring faith family. Together, we are living into God's vision for us, that we would become more and more of a **grace-filled family of faith sharing Christ's love with all**. Our faithfulness, though naturally imperfect, nevertheless is demonstrated in the way that we are living out the values our Session has identified as essential to realizing the vision God has placed before us: glorifying God, showing compassion, sharing hospitality, nurturing relationships, and stewarding God's gifts.

Our progress in implementing the Core Values which will lead us to realize our vision

After our Session identified our five core values in 2021, we identified specific ideas from the congregation for living out these values. The following is an update on these initiatives and the inclusion of a few new ones. Please pay special attention to the highlighted comments and / or questions requesting your input.

1. Glorify God

a. New Small Groups

- **TASK:** Develop small groups/programs to encourage our members to become more engaged and grow and sustain their faith.
 - ◇ **STATUS:** In May 2022, we hired Rev. Lisa Chase to be our new Associate Pastor. Thank you Elder Bill Vipperman and the members of the APNC you chaired! Lisa's enthusiasm and experience have made her a valued colleague and an integral part of our staff. Already she is in the process of creating new small groups to better engage all our members in the ministry and congregational life of SSPC. The goal is to grow closer to one another and to God. Lisa has done an excellent job of planning, structuring, and supporting the leadership of these new small groups.
 - ◇ **Next Steps: Small groups launch this month (January 2023). Are you part of a small group?**

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b. Improve Communication

- TASK 1: Implement online communications to increase worship/event attendance and engagement
 - ◇ **STATUS:** The Membership Committee, together with our Office Manager, Priscilla Biller, has expanded the use of online Google search ads to promote our various programs and events. These include our Lenten/Easter programming, Rally Day, Fall Faire, and Advent/Christmas worship and activities. The cost of this advertising is minimal, and the targeting is very specific. **We continue to see high levels of worship participation. Our combined online and in-person attendance has reached levels we have not seen for a decade or more. Good news indeed!**
- TASK 2: Engage our online worshippers in the life and ministries of the church
 - ◇ **STATUS:** Elder Bill Vipperman and I are beginning the process of investigating how we might better engage those who join us online for worship. For us and many other churches, this is the cutting edge of evangelism.
- TASK 3: Use videos more effectively on our website.
 - ◇ **STATUS:** In addition to the SSPC history video which was uploaded to the website, we have recently incorporated new member testimonial videos as well. Thanks to Ryan Edwards for making these possible!
- TASK 4: Create a Young Adults & Families newsletter
 - ◇ **STATUS:** Done. Many thanks to Heather McCarthy and Amy Meadows who have launched the Enlighten newsletter for SSPC families, with an emphasis on families with young children.
- TASK 5: Make recommendation to Session regarding creation of communications sub-committee / task force
 - ◇ **STATUS:** This is an ongoing concern of the Membership Committee. One of the questions we confront is whether this can / should be a function of the Membership Committee or a special task force. We have so far not been able to identify members with these skills. **Do you know of someone who has communication / marketing skills? If so, please let me know – we can surely use them.**

2. Show Compassion

a. Serve Refugees:

- TASK 1: Conduct drive to collect food and other essential items to address basic needs for refugees
 - ◇ **STATUS:** Done. Thanks to our Mission Committee who organized food drives to benefit refugees in 2021.

- TASK 2: Explore other ways to serve refugees (micro-finance opportunities, sponsoring/hosting families, etc.)
 - ◇ **STATUS:** With the influx of refugees from Ukraine and elsewhere **what might we do to better assist them in their efforts to find a better, safer life? The question remains for our Mission Committee to consider and recommend to Session to act upon.**

3. Practice Hospitality

a. Create new name tags:

- TASK: Use name tags in worship with larger font and offer opportunity for visitors to identify themselves
 - ◇ **STATUS:** Done. Thanks to Elder Scott Pepperman for coordinating the creation of new badges. **Please support this effort by paying the \$6 per badge and wearing yours!**

b. Expand SSPC presence on Election Day 2022

- TASK: Set-up table to sell soup and distribute information.
 - ◇ **STATUS:** Sadly, the state Election Commission has determined that our facilities, specifically our uneven parking lot (as I understand it), have been determined to be unsuitable / unsafe for us to continue as a polling location. Frankly, this decision bears further conversation. **Can we change this?**

4. Nurture Relationships

a. After-Church Gathering

- TASK 1: Hold lunch, fellowship after worship – simple meal or brown bag
 - ◇ **STATUS:** This past year the restrictions of COVID were largely lifted, enabling us to do much more in-person socializing. **Many thanks to Elder Ellen Frey for her leadership in creating new opportunities for congregational fellowship. Have you made your reservations for the Jazz Lunch on Sunday, February 5th?** The quartet of four young musicians will be outstanding. **Please join us!**
- TASK 2: Hold sermon talkback sessions to discuss questions.
 - ◇ **STATUS:** We tried to do this on Zoom, but the sessions were poorly attended. **How else would you like me to do this? Should this be the subject of a CE class? Would you like to participate in a small group to discuss the issues I bring up in sermons? Please let me know – I am open to all the above and more.**

5. Steward God's Gifts

a. Encourage the community to use our campus

- TASK 1: Create trail / path to link the Retreat Center with the rest of the campus
 - ◇ **STATUS:** Done. Many thanks to Elders John Ake and Jerry Schnell for creating the walking trail from the rear of the Retreat Center to link it with the meadow (including the wildflower garden created at the behest of Stephan Karkuff and the Earth Care Committee) and the rest of the campus.
What else might we do to make our campus a physical and spiritual resource to benefit our neighbors?
- TASK 2: Explore installation of other recreational / sports facilities (e.g. Basketball, Disc Golf, Pickle ball)?
 - ◇ **STATUS:** Thanks to the Buildings and Ground Committee (and the encouragement of Business Manager Diane Rabold who led the staff in a pickle ball retreat this past fall) **we are in the process of creating new pickle ball courts in our gym. Pickle ball is an easy sport to learn and fun to play. Want to get involved? Contact Priscilla Biller.**

b. Increase our Financial Stability

- Task 1: Continue to grow the SSPC Endowment
 - ◇ **STATUS:** We continue to receive gifts to our three endowment funds which support pastoral staffing, buildings and grounds, and our operating budget. This past year in June, the Commitment, Legacy, and Endowment Committee held a luncheon for those who have participated in the 1734 Legacy Society through their estate planning and direct cash giving to the Endowment funds. A number of very good ideas came out of that luncheon, some of which are reflected in this report. **Thanks to CLE for leading this very important effort to provide a financial cushion that will carry us through lean times which all churches are increasingly facing. Have you become a 1734 Society member? Contact me or Bill Resser for more information.**
- Task 2: Continue to grow our giving through a robust Season of Commitment.
 - ◇ **STATUS:** We are all aware that this past year has been a challenging one for our finances. The hiring of new staff members into important roles, including our new Associate Pastor, combined with the death of a number of our longer-term members has made it necessary for our Session, the Finance Committee, and our Treasurer, Don Winning, to do the difficult work of creating a budget for the coming year which is both faithful and prudent. We all owe them a debt of gratitude. We are also grateful to the CLE Committee for coordinating the annual Season of Commitment effort in October. It is a sure sign of the spiritual growth of the congregation that we continue to see dozens of our members who are continuing to follow the road to tithing by gradually increasing their giving each year. Our financial

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giving to God's work here at SSPC is one of the surest signs of our spiritual maturity and a reliable indicator of a growing relationship with God. **If you have yet to experience the great joy of moving toward tithing, please contact me and I will be happy to help you devise a plan to do so. It is an exhilarating experience!**

Summary and Thanks to the Staff

This past year has had its challenges, but as we have done for almost 300 years, we have joined together in responding faithfully to meet these challenges. I am grateful to God and to you, the congregation, for your commitment to serving God through your active involvement in the life of the SSPC faith family.

I conclude by thanking the staff. What a great team! We work hard and we have fun, too. We welcomed a new member this year, Associate Pastor Lisa Chase. Lisa is an outstanding partner in ministry and she has quickly become integrated into the staff. Congratulations to our gifted Director of Music, Dr. Kyle Weary upon completion of his PhD! Kyle's partner in our music ministry is Tracy Wieseman, our Music Associate whose vocal and piano skills are a gift to us all. Likewise, Erica Ickes is our talented organist whose unflappable nature and dedication are also a true blessing. Bryan Corbin has done an excellent job leading our CORE youth program and helping Lisa and me lead worship. Ryan Edwards has made our online ministry possible and also helps with other tech-related projects which are increasingly important to our congregational growth. Priscilla Biller keeps the office organized as she also takes on any number of projects which stretch her and help us all be more effective. Thanks, too, to Diane Rabold, our Business Manager who keeps the numbers straight, never an easy task in an organization of our size and complexity, and to John Clegg, whose new title of Sexton more accurately reflects the wide variety of tasks he undertakes around the church campus. We are grateful, too, to Emily Cocores for her outstanding leadership of the SSPC preschool. This year we said goodbye to Barb Shoun, our long-time parish nurse, who has retired. After a heartfelt send-off by the staff and congregation, Barb moved to Pittsburgh to be closer to her family. We miss her, and we are very glad when she can be with us from time to time in worship. Thank you to all the staff for helping make SSPC the special place it is!

Finally, many of you have asked about my progress in the Doctor of Ministry program at Pittsburgh Theological Seminary. This month I will be in Pittsburgh for the next to last 2-week intensive classroom session. The final intensive classroom session will be held this June in Edinburgh. After that, I will begin work on the final DMin project with a target completion date of Spring 2024. Please keep me in your prayers!

Blessings,
Don

THE ASSOCIATE PASTOR'S ANNUAL REPORT

From the Associate Pastor, the Rev. Lisa Strong Chase, MBA, MDiv.

I joined Silver Spring Presbyterian Church in early May 2022, with a loud Whoop, Yay (!) and JOY! The church ordained me in a special service on Sunday, May 15, 2022, where the praise band performed, the choir sang to me, and my best friend from childhood and my family were in attendance. I will always treasure the processional, where my husband Randall, and my father, Dr. Thomas Strong, escorted me in. Elder emeritus John Robert Crocker (1901-1988), my maternal grandfather was also represented, as I carried his elder emeritus plaque in with me. The Dr. Lee Barrett, Mary B. and Henry P. Stager Chair in Theology, Professor of Systematic Theology, Lancaster Theological Seminary, gave the sermon that day. Next to my wedding day, and the birth of our two children, this day was one of the most special of my life and my family's lives.

In this annual report, I will break down Associate Pastor activities by category: Children, Youth and Family Ministries, Pastoral Care, Small Group Ministry, Worship, and other duties as assigned. I am a member of the following committees: Christian Education, Deacons, Fellowship, and Missions.

With the church's core values at the forefront of my mind, much has been accomplished this first year. The Core Values are:

***Silver Spring Presbyterian Church Seeking to be a grace-filled family of faith
sharing Christ's love with all.***

- ***Our values: Glorify God: Glorify and praise God through worship, discipling, sharing faith and serving with love***
- ***Show Compassion: Compassion expressed as care and concern for all***
- ***Share Hospitality: Inclusive hospitality through welcome, acceptance and fellowship***
- ***Nurture Relationships: Nurture relationships through respect, support and communication***
- ***Stewarding God's Gifts: Faithful stewardship of all God's gifts***

Children, Youth and Family Ministries

June 2022 began with a wonderful bang, as Youth Ministries and Christian Education organized a Pentecost All-Church Gathering, which was held Sunday, June 5, 2022 in the afternoon. As CE, led by the well-abled and gifted Drew Crompton and Scott Pepperman, wanted to get people back into church and church functions after the two, awfully long years of COVID, this was the first all-church CE gathering of the year. Complete with a Dunk Tank, through which several of

us enjoyed being dunked: Me, Bryan Corbin, Steve Rexford, Meri Beck, Chris Kavulich, and others. We had some amazing pitchers: Chris Cocores (Emily's husband) and Greg Gemedschiew, who were successful in throwing spot-on balls that hit the Dunk bullseye. But the real prize goes to Youth Director Bryan Corbin, after removing his glasses and lamenting he could not see a thing, hit the bullseye with one toss, which dunked an incredulous Pastor Lisa Chase in the water. Other activities the attendees enjoyed at this event were burgers, hot dogs, water games, corn hole (where Ralph Tygard remained Central PA champion) and other activities. We also invited the Preschool, and a few Preschool families attended.

In late June, CE learned that Krislund would not be able to provide VBS activities planned later in August 15-19, 2022, due to staffing shortages. With just five weeks to plan, CE members and I came up with a VBS planned around a Creation Pageant and important Earth Care themes, that I had directed at two other churches. Called ***Celebrating God's World***, we recruited amazing volunteers, developed crafts (making of Pentecost sticks, hand-printed T-Shirts, and the making of each child's animal, bird, reptile, or insect masks), held our breath, said prayers, and held what was a marvelous VBS, complete with opening and closing worship with songs, videos centered around caring for God's earth and creation, (reduce, reuse, recycling, cleaning up plastics, pollinator gardens and MORE!), yoga, games, and delicious food. The week culminated with the Creation Pageant—a telling of the Creation Story in Genesis, including the introduction of Sin through the presence of the Lantern Fly (wonderfully portrayed by Senior Pastor Don Wahlig), Jesus' birth, ministry, death and resurrection, and the birth of the church at Pentecost. We performed this on Friday, followed by a celebratory luncheon, Piñatas, and a rousing Slip and Slide, and again on Sunday, for the worship service. There are so many people to thank for their contributions: our special donor who made all the extras possible, the volunteers, both adults and youth, who led and instructed the children, the prayers of the church – you know who you are, and I thank you! As I write this report, we have begun working on our 2023 VBS, which will be held June 19-23, and to say it will be akin to a Hollywood production, is an understatement. CE member Meri Beck has found an incredible program, and possesses an amazing vision for the program, and I cannot wait for the planning to begin, because it will be spectacular. All I can say is “Looking for the Treasure, and X Marks the Spot!”

Core Values: Glorify and praising God through discipling, worship, sharing faith and serving with love, nurturing relationships, sharing hospitality and stewarding God's gift of creation.

Sunday School and Confirmation

Scott Pepperman recruited Sunday School teachers for both youth and adult classes, and Sunday School for the 2022-2023 academic year began September 18th. Our loving, energetic and wonderful teachers patiently guide the children through lectionary-based lessons, and

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Scott led an adult class using Max Lucado's work. Our children and youth painted exquisite wooden nativity scenes to give to our homebound members in early December.

Over the summer of 2022, Elder and teacher extraordinaire Diane Lupia and I organized confirmation for our eligible youth, completed with a detailed schedule of topics, retreat date, confirmation date, etc. We are half-way through the teaching year, and the youth are learning much. They read the Gospel of Mark, completed a journal, and are required to attend 14 worship services and fill out a worship response form. They have been assigned mentors from the church, who will meet with them, help them with service projects, and shepherd them in the faith. One of the wonderful service projects was collecting dog and cat food for the Helen O. Krause Animal Foundation during the church's Drive-Thru Animal Blessing in October. The Confirmands collected about 200 lbs. of food. Three of our confirmands participated in our Christmas Eve Nativity Program, by playing important roles and narrating the play. We will have our Retreat on January 28, 2023, the confirmands will continue to learn about our faith within the Presbyterian Church, be examined by the Session in April, and be confirmed on May 7, 2023.

Core Values: Glorifying and praising God through discipling, showing care and concern, sharing faith and serving with love, nurturing relationships, and sharing hospitality.

Advent Feast and Festival and Christmas Morning Breakfast

CE organized the Advent Feast and Festival and the Christmas Morning Breakfast, which I attended. Both were well attended by members. Scott Pepperman secured a DJ, who played Christmas music and carols, and we performed the 12 Days of Christmas, a time-honored tradition. Christmas morning breakfast was delicious and so appreciated, and it was wonderful to see the church family seated together for Christmas morning before the 11 am service.

Christmas Nativity Play – Christmas Eve 5:30 pm Service

Children and youth from SSPC Preschool and the Church participated in a joyful celebration of Christ's birth, complete with youth musicians, narrators, costumes, Peaceable Kingdom animals, and a special Christmas skunk, spider and llama, who were on hand to celebrate (and protect) the Christ Child. We pulled the wonderful program off with just four one-hour practices! Work is underway for Christmas 2023, where we will do a sort of "Prairie Home Companion Radio-type" program complete with the Nativity Tableau, and a lively cast of animals who magically begin to talk after Christ's birth. Practices for this program begin in September 2023.

Core Values: Glorifying and praising God through discipling, worship, sharing faith and serving with love, nurturing relationships, and sharing hospitality.

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Youth Ministries CORE

CORE is directed by the most abled Bryan Corbin, whose creativity, coordination, calm demeanor and dry wit bless the program. CORE youth group meets most Sundays throughout the year, including the summer months. The youth have enjoyed podcasts by Francis Chan, an American Protestant author, teacher, and preacher, service projects, fun outings, and we witness their amazing growth in faith and maturity. Bryan led Backyard Missions in June 2022, which quickly became everyone's favorite mission outreach gig, as we helped members of the church and the Preschool with important projects. Top favorites of the youth are the Lock-ins (May and September 2022), complete with trips to the Sports Emporium, where we played laser tag (a new fun activity for the competitive-sports-and-games minded Associate Pastor), drove go-carts, followed by a 12-midnight run to Sheetz for a food run. Mrs. Cindy Corbin provided breakfast for the May 2022 event, and I cooked a quick breakfast for the September event.

Our middle school and high school youth showed outstanding teamwork and leadership during VBS, and we could not have pulled it off without them. From helping to narrate the program, helping Bryan with recreation, group helpers, etc. as I write this, I am filled with so much gratitude for them and for Bryan's and the youth partners participation. Many of our youth helped out with the Christmas Eve nativity program, by playing parts, performing music on their instruments, and narrating the service.

Youth Ministry Director Bryan Corbin's ministry gifts continue to bless us all, as he leads youth group, and now, having preached recently, his preaching skills are coming forth, and I look forward to hearing him from the pulpit in 2023. He is a wonderful colleague in ministry, and we all enjoy working with him so much. He is a huge support to me, as I can rely on him to help me with the less exciting work (putting away costumes, taking down decorations), and he is a great sounding board for me to share ideas for youth programs. As I am writing this report, Bryan is leading and shepherding us in what will be a spectacular Youth Sunday Service, February 19th.

Core Values: Glorify and praising God through worship, discipling, sharing faith, showing compassion and care, serving with love, nurturing relationships, and sharing hospitality.

SSPC Preschool

My ministry at SSPC provides me joyful opportunities to visit our wonderful preschool classes, which I try to do at least a couple of times a month, where I read to the children and we sing a song together. Thanks to Ms. Cocores and Ms. Becky Montney's help, we had several pre-school children join our 2022 VBS. I look forward to opportunities to visit with our children's

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classes and be there for the families in 2023, and Ms. Cocores is such a fun, delightful, and very accomplished colleague!

Core Values: Glorify and praising God through discipling, sharing faith, serving with love, nurturing relationships, and sharing hospitality.

***Young Adult and Family Ministries – we are getting this group started in January 2023!
More to follow.***

Rally Day

Rally Day, a component of membership, was a great success, as ministry/church committees decorated their tables, and we had a contest (of sorts) for the best decorated table. Each table came in first place in some category. Christian Education sponsored a pig roast, and we had a DJ, and the ever-popular Dunk Tank, where Don and I were the Dunkees. The best throwing arms ever were the Kavulich boys, who averaged six dunks apiece!

Core Values: Glorify and praising God through nurturing relationships, and sharing hospitality.

Fellowship

I serve on the Fellowship Committee, which is incredibly organized and creative, with a deep sense of fun and community! I have attended all Fellowship-directed functions, including the Halloween party and the Bon Fire, and I look forward to what this amazing group of people have in mind for the church. I help provide support, direction and logistics for this august group of event planners.

Pastoral Care

Pertaining to pastoral care responsibilities, I serve on the Deacons and Stephen Ministry committees. Don and I share pastoral care duties. During the month of July, I assigned many of the elders and deacons their people to call and check-in on, so that almost every person in the church has someone to call and check-in on them. Don and I continued to provide pastoral care to those members in need on a weekly basis. Stephen Ministers, Health Ministries and Deacons also help with providing that important care to members.

Core Values: Glorify and praising God through discipling, sharing faith, showing compassion, serving with love, nurturing relationships, and sharing hospitality.

Deacons

I serve on the Committee comprised of the Church's ordained deacons, who provide excellent care to the congregation, by providing meals, prayer shawls, mailing cards, providing

refreshments during Coffee hour, serving as ushers during funerals, providing support during funerals, and many more responsibilities.

Core Values: Glorify and praising God through discipling, sharing faith, showing compassion, serving with love, nurturing relationships, and sharing hospitality.

Missions

I also serve on the Mission Committee, where I hope to take a more active role in 2023. I helped to develop the Mission Sunday Worship Service for January 22, 2023, and I helped with the CORE's Backyard Mission projects summer of 2022.

Small Group Ministries

Don and I developed a framework for an expanding Small Group Ministries, which began in earnest in late January 2023, where we provided several course offerings that will last through March 2023. In preparing for the framework, Don and I met with SSPC's current small group leaders to get an idea about best practices. I recruited members for a Small Group Leadership team, which will help oversee the small groups by providing guidance, support, and ideas for small groups. The plan is to hold three separate small group series (2-3 program offerings) three times a year. We are basing this program on a Small Group Resource, ***Small Groups with a Purpose***, written by Steven Gladden. Through this program, we hope that the members will deepen their faith and relationships and invite friends to participate. The Small Group Ministries is an umbrella over all group activities the church offers: Bible Studies, Dining Out, Wine Tasting, Circle Rebekah, Quilting, and more.

Worship

I preached on average at least once a month in 2022, but preached a total of five times over June and July 2022 while Don was away. I also sing in the Sanctuary Choir and participate regularly in worship when I am not preaching.

Core Values: Glorify and praising God through worship, discipling, sharing faith, serving with love, nurturing relationships, and sharing hospitality.

Other duties as Assigned

Other/duties I attended and assumed in 2022: I was asked to be the keynote speaker at the 1734 Legacy Society lunch in June, which was an honor. Randall and I made a financial commitment to the church through this august society. I am working on an oral history project with Beth Wahlig, which will take several years to complete, and I meet monthly with church members through a Grounded in Faith Coffee Talk/Sharing. I also assist with or lead funerals, depending on Don's availability. 2022 was a difficult year, as we had a funeral at least

once a month, including six in July. Don's way of honoring and eulogizing the deceased by giving a wonderful overview of the decedent's life has been a technique I have adopted for myself, and SSPC's funeral services are incredibly special and meaningful because of the exceptional care and concern shown to the families from developing the service to providing pastoral care. I also help with the *Enlighten Newsletter*, by writing articles and taking photographs, and posting special things via our social media, and attend the monthly session meetings.

Core Values: Glorify and praising God through worship, discipling, sharing faith, serving with love and compassion, sharing hospitality, and through stewardship (Legacy and Commitment).

Thank you for calling me to Silver Spring Presbyterian Church as your Associate Pastor. I have a wellspring of joy serving the church, and I thank God for you and pray for you daily. To God be the Glory!

Respectfully submitted,
The Rev. Lisa Strong Chase, Associate Pastor

DIRECTOR OF YOUTH MINISTRY

Dear SSPC Family,

It has been an amazing year, full of love and joy. Even in the hard times, we come together to support one another in ways only the body of Christ can.

Our Youth Ministry Leadership Team continues to be phenomenal. Thank you to all who have joined the team. The youth and I appreciate you more than words can say. The team, youth and I have had a great time this past year! We have been successful in living into our values allowing us to meet our mission and continually strive towards our vision.

We updated our visioning documents as follows:

Mission: CORE Youth Ministry connects students and adults as we become more faithful disciples of Christ while growing spiritually, serving others, and having fun.

List of CORE values:

- **Christ-Centered:** We seek to have an authentic relationship with Jesus and each other, remembering that God is the source of everything we are and do. We are saved by God's grace through Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior.
- **Love:** We love through compassion, concern, and care for others because Christ first loved us.
- **Welcome:** We model God's grace by understanding the needs of students and ensuring everyone feels safe and accepted, no matter where they are on their faith journey.
- **Fun:** Together we build a climate where everyone can be themselves while experiencing structured chaos filled with joy.
- **Spiritual Growth:** We intentionally learn about our faith, explore our gifts, and encourage everyone to be lifelong disciples of Christ.
- **Service:** We put our gifts into action by being the hands and feet of Christ, joining in God's work by serving others and caring for God's creation.

Vision: To be a youth ministry that unites students, congregation members, and staff in an environment of acceptance and authenticity as we learn and share Christ's love with all.

I want to take a moment to describe our CORE Youth Group nights. We have a short check-in time to see how everyone is doing. Sometimes this includes a highs and lows conversation. Then we have a lesson for 45-60 minutes. This past school year, we did a self-made, lectionary-based

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curriculum dubbed A Closer Look. This does just that to our lectionary scripture connecting Sunday School, Worship, and Youth Group.

We had plenty of awesome events! We started the year with our annual Youth Sunday which takes all of January and most of February to prepare. This past year, we focused on God's grace and his call for us to love others, even those we do not like, through forgiveness and understanding! We had a Lock-in, one of our staple events, which does not really hold up to its name. We went to Sports Emporium this time. Of course, there was the traditional Sheetz run. We played plenty of games to keep us awake and busy. We also took a trip to Knoebels, Dave and Busters, and an escape room! We had an amazing Backyard mission trip. We were able to help church members and local ministries. There are many ways the youth are involved at the church as well. From helping with church workdays to being a lay liturgist for worship and more. We helped stuff Easter Egg and set up the dunk tank for multiple events. We also helped with the amazing VBS and Christmas Eve programs. We helped raise approximately \$22,000 for the Mechanicsburg/West Shore Crop Hunger Walk. Of course, we continued the tradition of helping with the luminaries for the Live Nativity. Even though it was canceled, we helped prepare them so they'll be all ready for next year!

I am so excited to continue integrating the youth further into the church through service and fellowship. I am also ecstatic to further assist in deepening the student's faith through CORE Youth Ministry.

Respectfully Submitted,
Bryan Corbin, Director of Youth Ministry

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS COMMITTEE

The Buildings and Grounds (B&G) Committee is responsible for the operation, maintenance, and overall management and protection of the physical assets of the church. This includes its real and personal property, including the Meiting House and the Christian Education Building, the Manse, the Waugh Wilson House (SSRC) and grounds, the cemetery, and the church's roadways, parking lots, and grounds.

In addition to the many regular and recurring maintenance demands of our church campus and the Retreat Center this past year, the Committee also undertook a number of projects and events including:

- \$139,499 roof replacement project completed by Houck Services at the start of the year
- Installed inside wiring for the new security camera system (John Clegg - \$2,200 savings)
- Initiated plans to enclose the columbarium/Peace Garden area with metal fencing
- Organized spring and fall workdays attended by many dedicated volunteers
- Installed 18 new smoke detectors in the Retreat Center
- Installed UV ionizing system in the Meiting House to ensure proper air quality
- Installed new security camera equipment (contracted to LowV)
- Completed the conversion of lighting on the lower level from incandescent to direct wired LEDs
- Replaced two faucets in the main kitchen
- Acquired a cloud sourced app for the new camera system which allows access from anywhere
- Repaired a split pipe that was discovered in the basement of the CE Building
- Added brighter lighting to three preschool bathrooms
- Planted a small garden area near the preschool entrance and also along the rear wall
- Repaired the panic bar on the door in the gym and replaced the bent flush bolts on the new storage room doors
- Planted shrubs in the garden area in front of the main kitchen
- Planted a small Japanese Maple in the SW corner of the cemetery (donated by Sue Spangler)
- Replaced the fan motor in one of the preschool bathrooms
- Replaced four roof mounted heat pumps
- Replaced the fan motor in the men's bathroom adjacent to the offices
- Replaced the mailbox post that had been struck by a vehicle
- Removed the large rotting white oak that had been leaning severely near the Peace Garden

Cont. on next page

- Organized a mid-summer workday in which 20 volunteers cleaned lamp posts and lantern glass, weeded, trimmed shrubbery, spread mulch, and cleaned the parking lots
- Completed 38 cemetery monument repairs (contracted to Roth Cemetery Service)
- Replaced the 30 year old water treatment equipment in the SSRC (softener, filter, UV light)
- Replaced an additional (5th) failed heat pump behind the Meiting House
- Power-washed and repainted the two ramps going into the storage garage
- Investigated alternative power supply sources to reduce our electrical costs (no change)
- Repaired the kitchen dishwasher pump and a motor (contracted to K&D Factory Services)
- Organized a ROAR at home week led by Terry Reed which included numerous small projects
- Completed construction of the columbarium/Peace Garden stamped concrete walkway (contracted to DanTam)

The committee is thankful for those who have faithfully stepped up with their financial support of the maintenance needs of our church facilities, as well as the many dedicated volunteers who are always ready to share their time and talents when called upon.

Buildings and Grounds Committee members and participants:

Jerry Schnell (co-chair)

John Ake (co-chair)

Terry Reed

Alan Flenner

Terry Jones

Fred Voigt

Rodger Hoke

Karen Karkuff

Stefan Karkuff

Diane Rabold

Rev. Don Wahlig

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION COMMITTEE

The Christian Education Committee (CE) supports the worship life of our congregation by helping Silver Spring members and friends address our inherent hunger to know and love God with our minds as well as our hearts.

The year 2022 presented various challenges as we sought ways to restart our programs and opportunities. Although limited in our activities, CE still found ways to work with our youth and adults and plan for 2023. Here are some of the events that were completed.

The biggest news of 2022 was the start of Sunday School for both adults and youth. The Committee decided to use Seasons of the Spirit curriculum. Seasons is an intergenerational curriculum designed so that all generations can study separately but discuss together later as a family. This is a choice that we have been discussing for several years and we have been able to bring it to fruition. Both students and adults are enjoying this curriculum, based on the books of the Bible.

During Lenten season in 2022, the Sunday School and SSPC Preschool got together and made Lenten gardens. These gardens were then delivered to families and individuals who cannot attend church services for a variety of reasons. One dozen gardens were made, delivered, and used as well in our Gathering Service.

An Easter Egg hunt was set up and conducted by CE and the SSPC Preschool. We had eighty children in attendance, along with the Easter Bunny. Hundreds of eggs were distributed, and hundreds of pictures were taken on a beautiful day at the church!

Our teachers were once again thanked and recognized for the past year, presented with flowers and cards. We wanted to thank all the teachers and partners who gave of their time to continue to bless our congregation with their gifts of teaching and nurturing faith formation.

The Christian Education Committee along with Pastor Lisa Chase, decided to conduct our own VBS in 2022. With approximately thirty-five students attending from SSPC, the Preschool and the local neighborhoods, it was amazing. Many of the youth of the church helped, along with several adults and did an excellent job. Plans are already being made for VBS 2023; watch for announcements, sign up and help—you will love it!

During the beginning of the school year, we again held a service of Blessing the Backpacks as students began another difficult year, along with teachers, administrators, and bus drivers.

This annual event was back live and very well received.

Also to kick off the church year, the CE Committee sponsored the first annual Pig Roast! A DJ provided dinner music, and the event followed a Rally Day celebration for the entire church, with over fifty members participating. Although there was no charge, a generous sum of money was donated towards our CE programs.

On the heels of our successful Pig Roast, the Committee sponsored a bus trip to Sight and Sound in Lancaster, to see the presentation of "DAVID"! Over thirty members of our congregation and other congregations traveled to the Theatre and then enjoyed fellowship and lunch at Miller's Smorgasbord, also located in Lancaster. A wonderful time was had by all, and plans are being made for a trip back in 2023 to see the presentation of "MOSES." Watch for announcements in early 2023!

The Committee was pleased to again this year present Bibles to our second-grade students. This year we also presented Bibles to our third graders since they did not get Bibles last year. Co-chairs Drew Crompton and Scott Pepperman made the presentation during Advent, with the promise, if the students "wore" them out, we would replace them!

CE closed the year with the Christmas Eve pageant, presented by Pastor Lisa, CE and the SSPC Preschool. Two dozen students, adults, and youth and even one dog, rehearsed for several weeks, costumes were made, and props assembled. It was an evening to remember and helped to begin a wonderful Christmas week celebration. The very next day, Christmas morning, CE was pleased to bring back another wonderful tradition at SSPC, Christmas breakfast. Members of CE entertained thirty-five members of the congregation with a breakfast buffet. What a terrific way to begin Christmas day!

The Committee looks forward to celebrating these events again in 2023 and more!

In God's Peace.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the Committee,
Drew Crompton and Scott Pepperman, Christian Education Co-Chairs

CIRCLE REBEKAH

At SSPC we have a small group of Presbyterian women called Circle Rebekah. We meet at 1:00 pm on the second Thursday of the month from September to May for a Bible Study in person in the Chapel and simultaneously on Zoom for those who cannot attend in person. Some of our members bring a sack lunch and eat together in the Parlor at 12:15. Around 12:40 we share a dessert with anyone who would like to join us before moving over to the Chapel for Bible study.

From January to May, we utilized and discussed the Horizon's Bible Study 2021-2022 entitled *"What My Grandmothers Taught Me: Learning from the Women in Matthew's Genealogy of Jesus"* by Meryl Blair.

From September through the current month, our group is studying the Horizon's Bible Study 2022-2023 entitled *"Celebrating Sabbath – Accepting God's Gift of Rest and Delight"* by Carol M. Bechtel.

"In the nine lessons of this Bible study—with passages from Genesis, Exodus, Deuteronomy, Isaiah, Matthew, Luke, and Acts—we'll consider Sabbath

- as a celebration, not a day of dreary formality
- as God's intent for all of creation that includes busy women too
- as one day of the week, perhaps a Sunday
- as a time to surrender unhealthy striving and frantic busyness, and instead trust that God will provide
- as a reminder that life is precious and working too much is against God's plans for our precious lives
- as a day devoted to community and justice and not exclusively to self-care.

Ultimately, Sabbath reminds us to honor God who honors us by giving us a day each week to reset our pace, our priorities, and our lives."

We welcome all women to join us whenever they are available.

Respectfully Submitted,
Emily Krebs

COMMITMENT, LEGACY AND ENDOWMENT COMMITTEE

The Commitment, Legacy and Endowment (CLE) Committee has the mission of connecting the personal Stewardship of the membership of the church to the overall Stewardship of our ministry together as the Body of Christ at Silver Spring Church. Stewardship is an essential and lifelong activity. As we, individually and as a church, are blessed with our time, our talents, and our treasures, it is imperative that each of us faithfully discerns and acts upon what God is calling us to do with these gifts. At the core of this is the decision of what we need to do now and what we need to invest in for the future. The committee breaks this down into two separate areas: (i) current year support of the church's ministry and mission (operations) and (ii) long-term support through development of legacy gifts (through wills and trusts) and the establishment of endowment funds.

Current Year Stewardship

Our stewardship program conducted in 2022 for 2023 focused on three areas in which we are *"Seeking to be a grace-filled **family** of faith sharing Christ's love with all"* – (i) working to meet and get to know people where they are; (ii) stepping into the future as a "seamless" church by meeting people's needs both in-person and online; and (iii) supporting our family of faith with our time and talents.

We continued with our theme of individually approaching stewardship decisions as a spiritual journey on the "Road to Tithing" referring to the biblical standard of giving 10% of one's income to the mission of the church.

The results of the 2022 Stewardship Campaign for 2023 show that many in the congregation are moving along the "Road to Tithing." This year's campaign received pledges totaling \$672,254 from 165 pledgers. We had outstanding results, with seventy-six (76) generous givers increasing their pledged giving for next year by an average of 13%! In addition, sixteen (16) givers joined in pledging for the first time. Overall, total pledged financial support of Silver Spring increased by 11.6%.

The committee extends their thanks on behalf of the entire congregation for the faithful and very generous support of all members contributing to the ministry and mission of Silver Spring in 2022 and for 2023.

Legacy and Endowment

The 1734 Legacy Society was established in mid-2019 with the purpose of building *The Silver Spring Church Endowment* which is intended to support the ministry of the church for future generations. The cash contributions in 2022 were \$39,377. The current value of the three funds, *The Fund for the Living Word*, *The Building and Grounds Fund*, and *The Heritage Fund* was \$487,108 as of December 31st. These funds have the current capability to provide \$19,484 to the church annual operating budget (assuming a 4% annual payout, typical of trust funds).

The 1734 Legacy Society is also encouraging members to consider the church in their long-term financial planning. Since the establishment of the society 18 members have notified the church of their intent to include Silver Spring Presbyterian Church in their wills and/or long-term financial planning.

For information about the Legacy Giving and Endowment, please see the GIVE tab on the church's website at www.silverspring.org.

An invitation to get involved

The Commitment, Legacy Giving, and Endowment committee is focused on the total stewardship of the time, talents and treasures of the members of the congregation. We are grateful for the continued embrace of the “call to stewardship” by the congregation. We invite you to join our committee or any of the committees and task forces listed in this annual report. If you need to get connected, please do not hesitate to contact either of us.

For the committee,

Bill Resser and Bill Vipperman

Co-chairs Commitment, Legacy and Endowment Committee

BOARD OF DEACONS

The year 2022 was a busy, positive one for the Deacons as we returned to many of the activities in place prior to Covid. An exciting and wonderful addition to our Board of Deacons has been our new Associate Pastor, Lisa Chase. Lisa brings so much to our monthly meetings, and we are grateful for her experience, positivity, and tutelage. The Deacons have been meeting in person with the option of zoom for those unable to attend. We all believed that face-to-face gives greater opportunity for collaborative ideas. Barbara Shoun who so generously gave of her time for many years as chair of our Health Ministries Committee retired. However, our Associate Pastor has assumed the role of point person along with assistance from resident nurses, and committee members to fill this vacancy. With the able assistance of Betsy Nielson, the Deacon Budget was prepared. A fair amount of time was spent by our Treasurer, Susan Evans, with Betsy's help streamlining our categories. Outdated budget categories were removed or renamed. Requests for funding emphasize needs within our congregation and out-reach to our community.

The Care Groups continue to do great work. Their activities are as follows:

Communications – Chair, Melanie Pepperman

This group sends various cards year-round to SSPC members celebrating birthdays, births, expressing get well and sympathy. The number of cards sent during 2022 were as follows: 815 Birthday, 92 Get Well/Thinking of You, 54 Sympathy, 6 Births and 4 significant anniversaries.

Community Service – Chair, Claudia Brown

Deacons in Community Service provide for needy families through Thanksgiving and Christmas. This year we formally went to providing Giant gift cards for needy families at Thanksgiving identified by church members. It has been decided that while many in our community give thanks; a traditional turkey meal is not necessarily how they celebrate. Gift cards in the amount of \$900 were purchased in \$50 increments based on the generosity of members and in turn distributed in the community. The Angel Tree also falls under Community Service and once again our members were extremely generous. Claudia reported a total of 104 gifts were distributed among three elementary schools and two middle schools.

Outreach – Chairs, Roxanne and Charlie Dagino

This group provides, meals, childcare, and transportation as directed by our Pastors. Meals were provided for families experiencing health issues or a family loss. The Friendly Visitor program which assigns an individual to touch base with our homebound members also falls

under Outreach. Those who act as friendly visitors have been finally able to meet in person with our homebound members. Typically they visit every four to six weeks. This year in conjunction with our Youth Groups, poinsettias and hand made Nativities were distributed to our homebound members at Christmas.

Transition – Chair, Megan Crompton

Transition contacts members who have had a life altering event. Members who have experienced a death in their immediate family are provided prayer shawls. Transition also reaches out to members celebrating the birth of a child or grandchild with a handmade baby hat. A total of eighteen baby hats and shawls were distributed this year.

Funeral Luncheons – Chair, Christa Lenk

This is the first full year of this new care group assigned to Deacons. Those members wishing to have a funeral luncheon at the church are contacted by the chair and advised of procedures. Families are given a list of various local caterers who will provide food. Table setups are coordinated with the assistance of our Sexton. The Deacons are present during the luncheon providing beverages, flowers, set up and clean up. Depending upon the size of the luncheon, assistance is provided by three or four volunteers for an average of four hours. As of July 2022 we have had seven memorial luncheons.

In addition to the above Care Groups, Deacons provide coffee for both services, support the Fall Faire, and Tinner/Fehr Scholarship. We also have a Deacon representative to the below committees and provide input and assistance as needed:

- Worship—Melanie Pepperman
- Health Ministries—Lisa Chase and Melanie Pepperman
- Youth Groups—Brady Miller
- Membership—Mary Jane Voigt
- Nominating—John Shoop
- Coffee—Matt Wieseman
- Session—Rotating Deacons

Respectfully Submitted,

Shawn Marshall

Deacon Moderator, 2022-2023

DEACON ANGEL TREE

Once again the congregation and friends came forth to help bring joy and love to area school students in the Cumberland Valley School District. Gift tags were selected from the colorful angel tree and 104 gifts were delivered in a timely manner to three elementary schools and two middle schools. The generosity shown by Silver Spring Presbyterian Church provided much happiness to less fortunate students. Many favorable comments were received by school counselors as well as grateful parents. The counselors were very pleased that we have continued this project as we have established a wonderful rapport with them making for a smooth process.

Thank you to all who purchased gifts as well as deliverers which included Christa Lenk, Mary Jane Voigt, Chris Sebring, Susan Evans, and John Shoop. Thank you, also, to Tracy Bryan for preparing Angel Tags and to those who helped fill out angel tags. This heartwarming experience allows SSPC to give back for all the blessings we have received.

Respectfully submitted,

Claudia Brown

EARTH CARE TEAM



The Earth Care team continues to keep busy with an assortment of projects around our campus. In 2022, we continued our monthly meetings over Zoom. This continues to be the most efficient way for our group to convene. Our first initiative was to educate the congregation on the invasive Spotted Lanternfly, a grasshopper size insect, which displays attractive red and black spots during flight, but is a pest capable of damaging trees and shrubs. In 2022 the first major 'wave' of this species hit the West Shore, and our campus was not spared, as large infestations were discovered on several trees around buildings and in the woodlot. Fortunately there are DIY spotted lanternfly traps that can reduce infestations on individual trees. We deployed traps on two trees next to the Meeting House this spring, and checked them monthly through the summer. We successfully trapped hundreds of lanternflies from these trees, limiting the damage done by these sap-sucking pests. We plan to continue our trapping efforts in 2023. A display of spotted lanternfly information was available to the congregation for several weeks in the Gathering Place.

On May 15, we hosted a virtual discussion about a docuseries, "The Story of Stuff," a collection of short videos that explain the greater environmental impact of everyday household items (microfibers, bottled water). We had about 10 zoom attendees.

On April 24, we established two new native plant gardens; one outside the CE building entrance and a second under the preschool room windows that face the playground. Laura Schlitter acquired native plants from a local nursery. Together with the CORE youth group, we removed turf grass, then planted and mulched 15 native plants. We had nine volunteers help complete the transformation. The Earth Care team monitored the gardens during the heat of summer and watered plants as needed. The plants will help beautify our campus, while also providing food for native insects.

Our existing pollinator meadow continues to flourish by the old volleyball court. Compost is added annually from our on-campus compost bin. This year the meadow was left unmown after Fall Work Day to save dead standing wildflower stalks that are overwintering homes for native insects. Leaving the stand unmown will not affect the floral display in 2023. Bill Schneider and Tanya Wager continued their maintenance of the Peace Garden. In Fall 2022 Buildings and Grounds Committee approved a concrete path connecting the columbarium to the Peace Garden. This was a welcomed surprise to Earth Care; the impervious surface greatly reduces the weeding efforts on the Peace Garden path.

Around the holiday season we hosted a toy exchange with the preschool, where parents could bring old toys in, and leave with a new toy from our table. The exchange table was available

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over four days when parents were dropping off- or picking up- their kids from preschool. On the first Sunday in December, we held an earth-friendly home product sale in the Gathering Place. Stefan Karkuff answered questions and took orders for items like Ethique soap, reusable produce bags, reusable straws, and wool dryer balls. Our goal was to introduce these items to the congregation, and we ended up selling 12 items!

We continue to maintain our status as an Earth Care Congregation and look forward to new and exciting projects in 2023!

Respectfully submitted,
Stefan Karkuff

FALL FAIRE

For the first time since Covid, we produced a full fledged Fall Faire event with all components in person on the church grounds on Saturday, October 8, 2022. After many years of faithful leadership, Claudia Brown turned the reins over to a volunteer committee of five to keep it going. Goals this year focused on getting families, children, church members and community members to come for a day of shared fellowship to enhance our Membership Committee's efforts. This goal was met with a day full of fun, food and families.

Our traditional components of White Elephant, crafts, homemade lunch and baked goods were enhanced with a hayride/pumpkin patch, scarecrow making, outdoor children's games, fresh floral arrangements, Facebook Marketplace and eBay sales and perennial sales and the Veterans Tiny House.

Income was \$12,364.60, expenses were \$4639.81, resulting in a net profit of \$7,724.79.

Disbursements included:

- \$1,000.00 to Beacon Clinic
- \$1,000.00 to Mission Needs Acct.
- \$500.00 to SSPC book scholarship
- \$500.00 to Deacons discretionary
- \$4724.79 to Silver Spring Retreat Center

Many, many hands made our Fall Faire a successful event and much appreciation is extended for all the many hours of time donated.

Respectfully,
Karen Karkuff for the committee
Nancy Gawlas
Bonnie Davis
Lisa Janson
Linda Azen

FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE

Fellowship Mission Statement

The Fellowship Committee Mission is to host events and activities that foster a sense of church community in an atmosphere that encourages meaningful interrelationships and interconnectedness through a variety of fun shared experiences that promote feelings of belonging and inclusion.

Valentine – Thinking of You – Delivery event in February

51 Valentine boxes were prepared and delivered to widows, widowers and homebound in our church family. Received many letters and calls of appreciation.

New Associate Pastor Reception - Sunday March 20th

Hosted a formal reception in the Gathering Place with lots of food to celebrate the hiring of our new Associate Pastor, Lisa Chase. There were over 100 people who attended the reception.

Ordination Reception for Lisa Chase - Sunday, May 15th

Hosted a formal reception with lots of food in the Gathering Place. There were about 85 people at the Ordination service, including dignitaries from the Carlisle Presbytery. Most of the people attending the ordination also attended the reception. Many people commented on the very nice spread of food, and the variety.

Summer Brunch –Sunday August 14th

Hosted a summer brunch in the Gathering Place with lots of finger food. There were over 100 people in attendance.

Rally Day – September 11th

The Fellowship Committee had a patriotic table display theme, and a Fellowship banner hanging from the ceiling. Popcorn was served, and for those that signed-up for the Fellowship Auxiliary Team, they received a cupcake.

Children’s Halloween Party - Sat, October 29th

Approximately 30 children attended the party from a combination of church members and the Preschool. There was lots of appreciation from parents, and multiple requests to host this event again next year.

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Fall Bonfire – Sunday November 6th

Approximately 45-50 people attended the event. The weather was unseasonably warm, but made for a great time outdoors. Kids were playing in the grass, food was being served, the bonfire was blazing. **Flip Jones** was the master fire builder. Dinner was served in the meadow as well, consisting of chicken corn soup, sausages and hot dogs, apple wedges chips and S'mores. We sang campfire songs and made S'mores.

Cookie Social - December 4th

Approximately 115 people attended the cookie social + the choir and instrumentalists for a total attendance of around 150 people, after the Voices of the Valley concert. Collected \$101 in donations, and received nice feedback from the event.

Cantata Reception - December 11th

Approximately 100+ people attended the choir cantata reception. Collected \$203 in donations, and received very nice feedback for this event.

Live Nativity – Thurs, Dec. 22nd

The Fellowship Committee was poised to assist the Worship committee with the refreshments at the Live Nativity. Over 100 cookies were baked and plans for hot cocoa made. Unfortunately, the event has to be cancelled due to inclement weather.

In addition to all the activities listed above, the committee continues to keep the Fellowship closet #1 stocked with plates, cups, napkins, utensils, and table covers that are used by various other committees and programs of the church.

Fellowship Committee: Ellen Frey and Kathryn Ressler, Co-chairs

Tracy Bryan, Claudia Brown, Kathy Yinger, Lisa Scherlinsky, Diana Gray, Dale Darkes, Mary Jane Jones, Jane Bishop, Carol Service and Fred Shatto

FINANCE COMMITTEE

The following is a summary of the activities and actions of the Finance Committee for 2022:

1. Monitored income and expenses throughout the year, reporting detailed line-by-line results to the Session and providing weekly summaries to the membership.
2. The fiscal year for the Preschool was changed to the calendar year to match the church calendar year.
3. Overdraft protection was set up at Centric Bank for SSPC 's checking account.
4. The excess funds from the 2021 – 22 Preschool Fund in the amount of \$11726.70 was moved to the SSPC Emergency Reserve Funds.
5. Worked with Session and Committees to prepare a detailed budget for 2023.

Respectfully submitted,

Gary Karkuff and Gary Hollinger
Co-chairs, Finance Committee

GATHERING SERVICE

The Gathering Service at SSPC is our contemporary service, held each Sunday morning in the Chapel. This service was begun by members of congregation and pastors over 10 years ago, due to the need to serve young families and children in our church and community. Over the years, the service has changed in many ways. Prior to COVID, the service was conducted in our Fellowship Hall. The liturgy of the service has also changed over the years, as different pastors passed through our church. Currently the service mirrors very closely the liturgy we use in our Traditional Service. The most important differences are the music of our Praise Band and the interactive involvement of the members of the congregation who attend.

As the years progress, many other changes may be needed. For example, we are now live streaming the service. This service also has the most children in attendance and on any given Sunday, they could make up 20% of the total attendees.

If you are a young family looking for a contemporary service, relaxed, educational, full of conversation and Christianity, we invite you to attend. All are welcome!

In God's Peace.

Respectfully submitted,
Scott Pepperman

HEALTH MINISTRY

Barbara Shoun's departure from Mechanicsburg and SSPC has left a big hole in our hearts as well as our committee. We have picked up the pieces and are taking time to re-group and move forward. We are a group of believers, skilled in areas of health care, who work collaboratively for the health of individuals and of the congregation as a whole.

We will continue with Blood Pressure Sundays on the second Sunday of each month.

We will keep watch over the equipment for which we are responsible:
automatic defibrillators, first aid kits, wheel chairs, medical supply closet, calibrating the blood pressure cuffs, etc.

Now that we are without a Parish Nurse, our team will be caring for our congregation by taking two week periods of being "On Call." If a medical event should occur and someone has a problem or a family member needs to report an issue with one of our members, a call will come into the church office. At that time, Priscilla, Lisa or Don will contact the "On Call" team member and we will take it from there.

We are open to presenting Health In-Service Forums several times per year. Suggestions for topics are always welcome.

Respectively submitted,
Mary Poague Rexford, RN
Member of the Health Ministry Team

INTERGENERATIONAL CHOIR

The Intergenerational Choir meets during the first 10-15 minutes of Sunday School and is run by Tracy Wieseman. The Intergenerational Choir is a choir for all ages. The members of the Intergenerational Choir enjoy sharing their love of music through singing with each other and with the congregation. We perform on the last Sunday of the month during the school year.

The Intergenerational Choir performed several times in the Gathering Service in 2022. We enjoyed singing with the Gathering Band and had a blast singing a round with the congregation. We will begin alternating between the Traditional and Gathering Services during 2023. We hope to continue to grow as more people at SSPC hear our music and will continue to include opportunities for the congregation to sing along with us during our performances.

Submitted by,

Tracy L. Wieseman

Music Associate-SSPC

LIFE CHANGES IN 2022

Births

Claudia Alba Parents: Jeffrey and Jillian Alba	March 10, 2022
Crew Dierich Parents: Ashley and Kayla Dierich	April 4, 2022
Dani Farinelli Parents: Dan and Courtney Farinelli	October 11, 2022

Deaths

Lynn Johnson	January 18, 2022
Nancy Hocker	May 18, 2022
Walt Pomeroy	May 24, 2022
Betty Kreitzer	July 13, 2022
Ron Nisson	September 13, 2022
Mark Basehore	October 5, 2022
Dale Taylor	October 10, 2022
Marie Schleicher	October 17, 2022
Louise Lauchlan	October 19, 2022
Vivian Swan	October 29, 2022
David Foy	November 20, 2022
Florence Bellis	December 11, 2022
June McDougall	December 22, 2022

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

This past year the Membership Committee focused its work on digital strategies to reach prospective members, efforts to connect and reconnect with current members, and welcoming visitors through the Manna Project.

Digital Strategies

- Rolled out a video depicting SSPC's rich history and present efforts as we continue our work seeking to be a grace-filled family of faith sharing Christ's love with all.
- Produced member testimonial videos called "A Minute with Members" that highlight what attracted them to SSPC, how the church supports their faith journey and how they have plugged into ministries here.
- Became more intentional with Google advertising to help increase in-person and online attendance to our worship services.

Member Connections

- Launched the Enlighten newsletter that highlights church events, groups and activities of specific interest to young adults, families with children and recent (or soon-to-be) empty nesters.
- Brought back the Rally Day event that featured informational tables hosted by church committees and groups, fun prizes for creativity and a "Pig Roast" luncheon.
- Promoted the per-capita apportionment and its importance to support the work of the larger church and help SSPC stretch funds for our ministry and mission work.
- Supported Scott Pepperman's work to introduce new member name tags that are easier to read.
- Linked mentors with new members and redefined mentor responsibilities.

Manna Project

- Continued to line up volunteers who delivered bread to repeat visitors and potential new members.

New Members

- There were seven new members who joined Silver Spring in 2022: Ashley Dierich, Kayla Dierich, Kate Flessner, Max Flessner, Jan Larson, Chris Lawrence and Shannon Leary.

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Silver Spring Active Roll Membership
Silver Spring Active Member Roll, as of December 31, 2021 – 549
Number of Members Added to the Active Roll in 2022 – 7
Number of Members Removed from the Active Roll in 2022– 12
Silver Spring Active Member Roll, as of December 31, 2022 – 544

Respectfully submitted,
Mark McGaffin and Susan Neville , Co-Chairs

MISSION COMMITTEE

Mission outreach is an important emphasis of Silver Spring Presbyterian Church (SSPC). In addition to the Mission Committee, various committees, task forces and individuals within the church accomplish mission outreach. This includes the South Africa Partnership Committee, Reach Out and Rebuild (ROAR), Downtown Daily Bread volunteers, Rebuilding Together participants and Handy Helpers. Additionally, many mission projects are accomplished through the Deacons including: flowers to shut-ins, Thanksgiving baskets, Angel Tree gifts, and others.

During 2022, the Mission Committee served as stewards of gifts by generous members of SSPC as well as non-members. Our members contribute time, talent, energy and distribution of funding for many charitable agencies. These actions demonstrate a strong commitment by SSPC congregants to doing God's work in feeding, sheltering and caring for those who are less fortunate. We managed both monetary donations and/or hands-on projects in the Greater Harrisburg area, Maine, the Gulf Coast and South Africa. Key 2022 Mission Committee activities are summarized in this report.

Hands-On

ROAR Winter Mission Report

Twenty six members and friends of Silver Spring Church traveled to Gainesville, Florida to work with Alachua Habitat For Humanity to build homes for our neighbors in need. We worked on two homes, one for Ashley Burke and one for Monieke Hall.

Monieke's home was framed by other volunteers. The Roar Team installed the roof trusses, the cement board siding, and trim. Support posts and framing for the front porch were added. This home is ready for electrical, plumbing and HVAC trades to do their work.

Ashley's home was a bare concrete slab when the Team arrived on Monday morning. We framed and sheeted the exterior walls, built, and installed interior walls and installed the roof trusses from Monday morning till noon on Friday. This home is ready for siding and for electrical, plumbing and HVAC trades to start their work. Ashley, the homeowner, worked with the ROAR Team all week constructing her home.

MATE (Mission At The Eastward)

During the week of July 30 through August 06, eight members and friends of Silver Spring Church answered God's question, "Who shall I send" when they answered, "Here I am Lord". The week began with worship at the Fairbanks Union Church. During the week the Team enjoyed a picnic at the Ratcliff's home on Sunday evening and a picnic at the Fairbanks Union Church on Wednesday evening. The Team hosted the families for dinner on Thursday evening.

The ROAR Team worked on two different project sites. The work varied from installing a new handicapped friendly sink faucet to renovating a mobile home kitchen, replacing windows, installing new floor materials, building an egress porch and steps, repairing holes in the floor of a mobile home, and repaired a rotted window sill.

ROAR AT HOME WEEK PROJECTS

Monday, Oct. 10 through Saturday Oct. 15, 2022

Fifteen SSPC volunteers worked on various projects around the SSPC campus and in the community. Projects included:

- Installed a window, insulation and floor support posts at home in Carlisle.
- Tree limbs on campus were trimmed to allow 6'-0" clearance.
- Removed old, cracked caulking at joints where sidewalks abut the Meiting House and Gathering Place and re-sealed the joints with new caulk.
- Old loose paint was removed from the cross on the north end of the C.E. building. The cross was primed and repainted.
- The walls of the new chair storage room were painted including the trim molding.
- A deteriorated railing at the steps on the south side of the Retreat Center was replaced with a new railing.
- Some organizational/storage work was done in the garage at the Retreat Center.
- Debris that partially blocked the large drain pipes along the Silver Spring Creek was removed.

Rebuilding Together Projects

Thirteen SSPC volunteers worked on three separate projects starting in the spring and ending in December.

One project, a mobile home, included the following work:

- Power wash the exterior of the home; Remove the existing storm door and main entrance door and install a new combination storm door and interior door system; Remove carpeting from a large deck at the front of the home; Power wash the deck and replace deteriorated boards; Install and secure new carpeting on the deck.

A second project made repairs to a bathroom which required the following:

- Remove the existing shower and toilet; Rework the plumbing piping to accommodate the new shower; Install the new shower unit and make all plumbing connections; Install a new toilet; Caulk all joints to make the installation watertight.

The third project dealt with a roof leak in the bathroom of a mobile home that damaged part of the exterior wall, the bathroom floor and part of the floor in the adjacent bedroom. This

project required many hours of work from multiple volunteers over a four-week period. Demolition of the existing bathroom has been completed by Rusty Koch from the West Shore Free Church. Rusty also assisted in the renovation work with the SSPC Rebuilding Together Team. Repairs included:

- Damaged floor and wall sections, wall studs, and insulation were removed as well as an existing window above the former tub location; A broken bedroom door was replaced; The subfloor was repaired and the exterior wall was rebuilt; New insulation was installed in the wall and floor; A new wall was erected to separate the bathroom and bedroom; A ceiling was built above the shower to receive a bathroom vent fan/light unit; Plumbing was reworked/extended to accommodate the new walk-in shower; A vinyl composite floor system in the bathroom and bedroom; A new vanity and toilet were installed with the required plumbing connections; The new pre-hung door to the bathroom was installed; New door hardware was installed the two new doors and one existing door; Finished trim was installed around the doors, at the ceiling and baseboards; Three open shelving units were installed in the bathroom; The ceiling, walls and trim in the bathroom and bedroom were painted.

2022 HANDY HELPERS REPORT

Handy Helpers (HH) was organized and initiated by the Mission Committee to help meet the property maintenance and changing lifestyle needs of SSPC members, attendees and their neighbors. Our Handy Helper participants were very busy this year. Nineteen different church members, assisted by three friends of SSPC performed approximately 72 man days of work completing 42 different projects. In addition to giving advice on numerous home repair requests a partial summary of projects completed includes: moving furniture, cleaning out living spaces, replace faucets, repair outside mail box, replace storm door/screen door, split and stacked firewood, install kitchen cabinet drawer slides, train a Handy Man on installation of drawers and corner rotating cabinet, dig plants for sale at Fall Faire, replace downspout, replace flag pole, remove large pergola, paint huge picket fence, remove dead evergreens, install over the counter microwave, power wash porch/deck area and furniture, pulled weeds, spray Wet and Forget, install new exhaust fan, and much more.

SPECIAL OFFERINGS 2022

SSPC has five special offerings each year. Two of the offerings, Peacemaking and Pentecost, send a portion of the money collected to the General Assembly and Presbytery. The remaining portion remains at Silver Spring for a use designated by the Mission Committee.

The Peacemaking Offering was \$2,951.00. Our portion \$739.00 went to our partner church, the New Castle Presbyterian Church, South Africa in support of their Soup Kitchen; \$737.00 went to the Carlisle Presbytery; and \$1474.00 went to PCUSA.

The Pentecost Offering was \$2,416. Our portion \$966.40 went to the Bethesda Mission's Tutoring Program; \$1449.60 went to the Carlisle Presbytery.

The Mission Sunday offering that is collected on Mission Sunday is designated to the Mission Needs Fund to support ongoing mission work locally, regionally, nationally or internationally.

The One Great Hour of Sharing offering generated \$5071.00 which helps fund disaster relief, refugee assistance and development aid through the PCUSA.

The Christmas Joy Offering provides funding support for retired Presbyterian Church staffing in times of need and for Presbyterian-sponsored racial/ethnic schools and totaled \$2,726.00. This amount was collected in December of 2021 but it is not possible to forward it by the end of the fiscal year and is not dispersed until the January of the following year (2022).

DENOMINATIONAL SUPPORT

A total of \$7,344.00 was given to the General Assembly, Synod, and Presbytery through Presbytery Shared Mission.

SOUTH AFRICA PARTNERSHIP

2022 brought continued communications with our sister congregation in South Africa, the Newcastle Congregation of the Uniting Presbyterian Church. Although COVID shut downs are fewer and activities have begun to resume, travel has been curtailed so we ZOOMED and emailed and stayed in touch via Facebook. In preparation for sending budgeted contributions to South Africa, we asked for, and received a detailed letter from their Session on how money was to be spent and the needs they have for all the various programs of their church. Their Soup Kitchen has resumed and the funds we sent were directed towards the upkeep of the food distribution. We put up a bulletin board at SSPC highlighting their mission and included articles in our church communications. Additionally, we highlighted our partnership on World Communion Sunday in October, receiving a video address from their pastor. The Special Offering taken that day was sent to them in addition to our budgeted donation. We continue this wonderful relationship with our third world sisters and brothers. We are tentatively making plans for future travel, hoping to bring some of their members here in August, 2023 and a reciprocal trip for our members in February, 2024.

MISSIONARY SUPPORT

This year our missionary Support fund amount of \$2500 was split between Madagascar Health Work and Madagascar Fruit Tree Work. The Turk Family through PCUSA administers those two Missionary Programs.

OTHER OUTREACH ACTIVITIES 2022

Truck Stop Ministry: Four Mission Committee members and fourteen SSPC volunteers baked, packaged, labeled and delivered 192 dozen chocolate chip cookies to the Carlisle Truck Stop Ministry as part of the annual Roy McLain/SSPC local Christmas Mission project.

ONGOING AGENCY FINANCIAL SUPPORT

During 2022, SSPC provided \$27,100 to 17 charitable agencies through regular donations. SSPC congregants through their time and talents also support these local agencies. The following is a list of those agencies and contributions:

- Downtown Daily Bread - \$5,500
- Ecumenical Food Pantry - \$2,000
- Fruit Belt Farm Workers - \$1,200
- Habitat for Humanity Harrisburg - \$1,000
- Habitat for Humanity Cumberland Valley - \$1,000
- Perry Housing Partnership - \$1,000
- Meals on Wheels - \$1,600
- New Hope Ministries - \$1,500
- Christian Churches United - \$2,000
- South Central PA Food Bank - \$1,000
- Truck Stop Ministry - \$1,200
- Just for Today - \$200
- Cumberland / Perry Domestic Violence - \$1,300
- Mechanicsburg Area Council of Churches - \$100
- Beacon Medical Clinic - \$4,500
- Rebuilding Together - \$1,000
- Healthy Steps Diaper Bank - \$1000
- The Mission Committee also provided \$1,000 in SSPC Preschool scholarships to those in need.

ONE-TIME FINANCIAL SUPPORT

PROJECTED 2023 ACTIVITIES

During 2023, the Mission Committee will continue to work with the partner agencies we support to assist them to meet their goals. SSPC members provide hands on support to nine of the agencies we currently support financially. We will continue to strive to expand that to other agencies. The ROAR team plans on three mission trips in 2023 to build or rehab houses for the needy.

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IN CLOSING

Although the specific agencies supported by SSPC may change from year to year, the Mission Committee remains committed to providing strong community outreach support for less fortunate brothers and sisters in Christ. We strive to make a significant impact on the well being of others through organized agencies and hands-on projects. Glory be to God for giving all of us the needed energy, skill, time and patience to make a difference in many folks lives. Hallelujah!

Respectfully Submitted by Fred Shatto and Lydia Fehr
Mission Committee Co-Chairs

MUSIC MINISTRY

2022 was a year of restart, rebirth, and rethinking of our music ministry at SSPC. I would still consider it another successful one for music for Silver Spring Presbyterian Church!

SSPC is blessed with a talented and dedicated group of people that work hard to make beautiful music each and every week. In the fall, the Sanctuary Choir eagerly returned to sing. With new members joining us, the Sanctuary Choir is averaging 25-30 members on a “full” Sunday morning!

The annual Christmas Cantata was presented on December 11, 2022 with a large attendance at the service. The choir presented “Joy” a Cantata by Joel Raney accompanied by a rhythm section of piano, drums, percussion, guitar, and bass.

Overall, it has been an exciting year at SSPC for music. I will continue to explore new opportunities for growth within the music program, and am always open to new ideas.

Kyle continues to direct the Gathering Band for the Gathering Service. We have upgraded our lighting and sound systems to better serve the congregation. The band continues to strive to bring more people to know Jesus.

In the six years that I’ve been at SSPC, I feel blessed to be a part of God’s work at Silver Spring and I look forward to what is in store in the coming year.

Musically Yours,

Kyle J. Weary, Director of Music

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Each year the Nominating Committee is responsible for identifying open leadership positions called by the congregation, as well as positions appointed by session. The committee meets early in the year to address this responsibility, and also as needed throughout the year to fill vacancies that may arise due to a variety of reasons. Members of the congregation are invited to consider their own gifts and callings for leadership positions by contacting current Ruling Elders / Committee Chairs or identifying themselves to the Nominating Committee.

All of our meetings were held in person.

The candidates nominated and approved in 2022 are listed below:

NOMINATING COMMITTEE (Term of One Year, with no more than three consecutive terms)

Sally McGaffin (2nd term)
Jim Anderson (3rd term)
Bill Cook (3rd term)
Connie Spangler (3rd term)
John Shoop (1st term)

Ruling Elder (Term of Three Years, not to exceed two consecutive terms)

Class of 2025

Christian Education	Drew Crompton
Membership	Susan Neville
Mission	Fred Shatto
Personnel	Forrest Adams
Worship	Bethany Kavulich

Youth Representative to Session (Term of One Year)

Nicholas Pierce

Deacons (term of Two Years, not to exceed three consecutive terms)

Class of 2024

Christa Lenk
Shawn Marshall – Moderator
Heather McCarthy
Melanie Pepperman
Deb Pfaff
John Shoop
Mary Jane Voigt
Matt Wieseman
Angie Katzenstein
Charlie Dagino
Cindy Corbin
Shannon Leary
Linda Adams—Vice Moderator
Claudia Brown
Chris Sebring
Susan Evans –Treasurer

Class of 2023

Roxanne Dagino
Holly Lawrence –Secretary
Sheri Miller

Youth Deacon

Brady Miller

Respectively submitted,

Kris Carpinello (Co-Chair)
Diane Lupia (Co-Chair)

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

The Silver Spring Presbyterian Church Personnel Committee began 2022 with members: Emily Krebs (co-chair), Maryan McCormick (co-chair), Don Wahlig (Head of Staff), and the following members-at-large: Art Glockner, Betsy Neilson, and Tony Meadows. During the Session term of 2022-2023 the committee is comprised of: Emily Krebs (co-chair), Forrest Adams (co-chair), Don Wahlig (Head of Staff), and the following members-at-large: Betsy Neilson, and Dave Dagle.

The Personnel Committee provides oversight for personnel matters. It recommends salary and benefits for staff and oversees the budget for office supplies. It ensures that annual performance reviews are conducted for all staff by the appropriate supervisor. The review of the Head of Staff is conducted by the co-chairs of the Personnel Committee.

The SSPC Preschool teachers had been given one handbook containing both general employee information and preschool guidelines. The office staff had been given a handbook with their general employee information. During 2022, the Personnel Committee and the Preschool Director revised the various handbooks. Now there is one SSPC Employee Handbook which contains general employee information for all employees. The Preschool staff are also given a separate Preschool Guideline Handbook which includes more detailed information about their work. The Associate Pastor Nominating Committee nominated Rev. Lisa Chase at a congregational meeting on March 20, 2022. Lisa was approved and began her call at SSPC on May 4.

Barbara Shoun resigned as the Parish Nurse in June. Instead of hiring another Parish Nurse, the functions of this position were divided between the Health Ministries Team, the Stephen Ministers, and the Associate Pastor.

Juneteenth Holiday was added as a day that the church office will be closed.

In September, an employee appreciation luncheon was given for the staff, including the Preschool teachers.

In October, Becky Montney resigned as our Part-time Custodian. After numerous attempts to find a replacement, the Preschool proposed an idea of paying the teachers to clean their own classrooms and the common areas. Everyone agreed to this option. The additional pay will be taken from the Preschool budget. This solved two issues: daily cleaning of the preschool areas and freeing the custodian up to work on tasks from the Buildings & Grounds Committee. The Custodian title was changed to the Sexton to better reflect these duties and responsibilities.

Respectfully submitted,

Emily Krebs and Forrest Adams (Co-chairs)

PRAYER CHAIN

Members of the congregation of SSPC conduct a prayer chain, as needed, on a routine basis. The routine depends on the need of the church and its members. Currently the prayer chain is distributed to approximately 60 members, who pray and send prayers to those in need. We pray for both concerns and joys of our brothers and sisters in Christ.

We start each prayer chain with a Bible verse and end with a brief prayer, based on that Bible verse. We pray for health and peace and strength and miracles, and we have seen all come to fruition!

If you would like to join the prayer chain, simply contact the church office and let them know and you will be added. It is a faithful and easy way to serve, to be, the hands and feet of Christ, here on earth.

In God's Peace.

Respectfully,
Scott Pepperman

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

Presbyterian Women held one luncheon this year on Saturday, September 24 with Deb McLain from Beacon Clinic as the speaker. Deb gave an inspiring presentation of the many facets of Beacon Clinic from providing free healthcare to the underserved or uninsured, to helping with financial needs and showing love and care to those less fortunate. Silver Spring is an integral part of this clinic through volunteer hours, donations, and outreach. A collection was taken for the Clinic and all involved were very gratified with the generous outpouring of support. Please continue to remember Beacon Clinic through the new year and look ahead and plan to attend their annual fundraising dinner.

The meal was well received and consisted of a variety of Jimmy John sandwiches, broccoli salad, fruit bowls, chicken corn soup, beverage, and delicious cookies made by Tanya Wagner. It was a wonderful gathering of thirty women who had a chance to once again be together and share in food, fellowship, and a chance to learn more about Beacon Clinic. Anyone who has an idea for a future PW luncheon, please feel free to chair another one in the spring.

Blessings to all,
Claudia Brown

SSPC PRESCHOOL

SSPC Preschool currently enrolls 133 students distributed amongst 10 classes. We have begun registration for in-house families are only have 25% left to fill from the community registration that will begin on February 1st. We are so thankful and thrilled to continue offering our love and education to the families of Mechanicsburg.

2022 was a time of much change regarding procedures and activities for the students. Almost all communication is online. We have a closed, private Facebook group where families can access information quickly, thereby eliminating confusion. Weekly newsletters sent to emails through constant contact keep families and teachers connected and involved. This year, the Capital Area Intermediate Unit and SSPC formed an inclusion class for students with special needs and PreK students in the area needing preschool services. Room Parents have also been a helpful addition. They received a calendar at the beginning of the year outlining what their tasks would look like throughout the year. The teachers are loving the extra support from the families!

With the relaxation of COVID protection measures, Lunch Bunch and Friday Friends are popular extracurricular activities for students to stay at school longer to engage in more learning and socialization. This continues to be a very large contribution to our preschool budget and we're thankful for that support!

We currently have 19 staff, including myself, at the preschool. The number is larger than normal because we have multiple people covering one position. This is helpful when people want to take off, so no one tires quickly! Many of our teachers are young mothers who want to be part of this special preschool family but also want time with their children. Working less per week and sharing the position helps them to do just that! In addition, teachers are now cleaning their rooms and restrooms attached to their classrooms. We have hired a preschool custodian who cleans the shared areas at the end of the hallways.

Lastly, we would like to thank so many church and Session members for the support we have received this year. Diane Lupia writes Santa Letters to children who excitedly await them! Buildings and Grounds have supported our redecoration and updating of areas of the pre-school, and families are so happy. CE has partnered with us as well for egg hunts and coffee Fridays. We are so much more with your faith and support! Thank you for loving the preschool and for helping us touch the lives of so many children!

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In Christ's love and education,

Carrie Ball	Shelly Maffei	Anna Sharp
Sheri Bock	Sally Martin	Tiffany Smith
Lauren Brown	Sue Martinelli	Kristie Spain
Emily Cocores, Director	Amanda Milliron	Erin Stone
Jen Gibson	Becky Montney	Kristin Wilson
Ashley Hampton	Candace Paul	Tricia Yost
Laurie Keatting-Duttry		

SILVER SPRING RETREAT CENTER (Waugh-Wilson House)

The Silver Spring Retreat Center continued to provide excellent lodging and gathering facilities for groups in 2022. We began to see returned consumer confidence in gathering once again post-Covid, although we still had five groups cancel at the last minute in January and September due to high Covid transmission. We hosted a total of 63 groups in 2022 compared to 45 in 2021, 24 in 2020, 70 in 2019 and 58 in 2018.

The breakdown of occupancy mix in 2022 was:

1 Day bookings:	30 groups with an average daily rate of \$122 per day
Weekend bookings:	20 groups with an average daily rate of \$164 per day
Multi Day bookings:	6 groups with an average daily rate of \$171 per day
Mission Group bookings:	7 groups with an average daily rate of \$28 per day

Some significant developments in 2022 include:

1. Drywall repair, window repair, upholstery cleaning, carpet cleaning, window cleaning, and a new outdoor railing
2. The Building and Grounds Committee continued to keep maintenance projects updated and Glen Weber did a wonderful job daily of maintaining the very expansive grounds.
3. Our cleaning crew from CIT provided reliable, timely cleaning between reservations. Susan Bruner cleaned whenever the check outs were on the weekend. Lin Pomeroy and Kathy Furr greeted groups and provided services when Karen was out of town.
4. The groups that use the Retreat Center are many and diverse: mission groups coming to town to do work, local church denominations on retreat, weddings, baby showers, SSPC groups, local business meetings, sewing and quilting groups, and youth groups.

We are blessed to be able to maintain this ongoing mission to those in our community. Please come visit, become a volunteer, or recommend the space to someone you know.

With gratitude,
Karen Karkuff
Retreat Center Coordinator

STEPHEN MINISTRY

In May 2022, Rev. Lisa Chase assumed pastoral leadership/mentorship of the important pastoral ministry - Stephen Ministry. During the summer, we began to meet monthly, and I assigned Care Receivers to those Care Givers who could provide care. We are undergoing a leadership transition, and new leaders have been identified.

The active Stephen Ministers were recognized on Stephen Ministry Sunday, November 21, 2022, and as a team, we organized and held the Blue Christmas Service on Tuesday, December 20, 2022, after the first date, December 15, 2022 was snowed out.

Respectfully submitted,
Rev. Lisa Chase

WORSHIP COMMITTEE

The Silver Spring Presbyterian Church Worship Committee is comprised of the following: Carol Bogar and Bethany Kavulich (co-chairs), Reverend Don Wahlig, (Head of Staff), Kyle Weary, (Director of Music Ministry), Pat Ferris, Bob Davis, Mary Lou McLain, Margaret Glockner, Kathryn Ressler, Teena Russell and Melanie Pepperman, Deacon Representative.

The committee thanks both Priscilla Biller and John Clegg (Office Manager and Sexton) for their ongoing support and guidance to the Worship Committee.

The Worship Committee supports the pastors for both the Traditional service at 9 am in the Meeting House and the Gathering service at 11 am in the Chapel. Both services continue to be live streamed every Sunday.

The committee schedules lay liturgists, ushers, communion preparers, communion servers and pulpit supply. Communion is served the 1st Sunday of every month and on special occasions. Directions for these volunteers are provided and updated as needed.

The committee is instrumental in organizing and supporting the following worship services:

- Lent: Provide support for both the Ash Wednesday and Good Friday Services. Provided a Simple Supper for the Maundy Thursday service in the Gathering Place and Communion by intinction
- Organized a strawberry and ice cream social in May.
- Scheduled a Hymn Sing Sunday in August
- Participated in Rally Day, on September 11th, by providing information and sign-up sheets for volunteers and decorating our display with Worship-related items including flowers, candles, Communion Service items and a Bible.
- World Communion Sunday, October 2nd: Theme for 2022 was a focus on our partnership with the Newcastle Congregation in South Africa. Greetings and prayers were offered at both services and made available on YouTube for our friends in South Africa and a greeting in return was received from the Newcastle Church. Many of our members who traveled to South Africa were included in the services by ushering, serving Communion, and wearing African themed clothing. Photos from our travelers were posted at both services. African themed music was also incorporated into both services.

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- Reformation Sunday, October 30th: Arranged for the bag piper, Jon Heller, to play, provided tartan plaid bookmarks, and a skit presentation between John Calvin and Rev. Craighead (Steve Rexford and Rev. Don Wahlig).
- Veterans Day: Worship Committee encouraged recognizing our veterans and incorporating appropriate music selection.
- Advent: Organize the “Hanging of the Greens” to decorate the buildings and grounds for the season of Advent, provide ushers for Christmas Eve services, prepare the candles for Christmas Eve services, support the Live Nativity, and the “Taking down of the Greens” following the Advent season.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Bogar and Bethany Kavulich, Worship Committee Co-chairs

