



Sewickley Presbyterian Church

20
24

ANNUAL
REPORT



THEREFORE, IF ANYONE IS IN CHRIST,
HE IS A NEW CREATION:
OLD THINGS HAVE PASSED AWAY;
BEHOLD, ALL THINGS HAVE BECOME NEW.

II CORINTHIANS 5:17





FROM OUR PASTOR

Rev. Dr. Derek R. Davenport

In 2024, we started exploring New Life in Christ. We began by investigating the ways the Spirit works in our lives to bear fruit. Before this current school year ends, we will examine the ways God transforms us through worship. First, though, we will consider stories of people whose lives were transformed by encounters with Christ. Stories of transformation like this can be energizing and exciting. Often, they are also closer to us than we realize.

As you look through this annual report, consider the many transformations that our congregation has witnessed over the past year. You may notice the families blessed by our children's ministry or the new leaders rising up from our youth programs. You may consider the lives changed by our support groups or the ministries that our partnership makes possible. Perhaps you will be encouraged by the neighbors who eat because of our hunger offerings, or the students who receive the backpacks we collect. There are countless examples represented in this report. I encourage you to find one or two that catch your attention, and lift them in prayer.

There is an even more surprising transformation, however. Perhaps what's most surprising is not the way Christ is transforming lives *through* this congregation, but the way Christ is transforming the life *of* this congregation. As we have worked this past year to point to the cross, we have welcomed new members and witnessed the transformation of our ministries. This coming year, we even look forward to the transformation of our physical space.

This has been a year of New Life in Christ. As we continue in this ministry together, I look forward to seeing the ways that God transforms lives through Sewickley Presbyterian Church, and the life of Sewickley Presbyterian Church in this coming year.

Thank you for being part of this ministry!



OUR VISION

We aspire to be a church where the Gospel of Jesus Christ is faithfully proclaimed and faithfully lived in grateful response to God's love.

OUR MISSION

To Live as a Church Family
To Grow as Disciples of Christ
To Serve in God's Mission



FAST FACTS



CHURCH MEMBERS



NEW MEMBERS



BAPTISMS



MEMBERS WHO ENTERED
THE CHURCH TRIUMPHANT
(LISTED ON PAGE 13)



PRESCHOOL
ENROLLMENT



WORSHIP
SERVICES

3,309

LIVE STREAMED
SUNDAY SERVICES

34,346

VISITS TO OUR
WEBSITE

1,173

SOCIAL MEDIA
FOLLOWERS

AS OF NOTE



INSTALLATION OF REV. DR. DEREK DAVENPORT

In May, we installed Rev. Davenport as our Senior Pastor. Derek had served our church for many years in various roles, including as a parish associate and most recently as interim pastor.

NEW GRAND PIANO

In July, we proudly welcomed a new Steinway grand piano to our sanctuary, replacing our beloved piano that had reached the end of its life. To celebrate this milestone and showcase our stunning new instrument, we hosted a special piano concert and dedication in September.

BITTINGER CROSS INSTALLATION

Late in 2023, the Bittering Cross was carefully removed from the roof of our main church building for much-needed repairs. In August, after being restored, the cross was relocated to a new, prominent spot on the ground level, just to the right of the sanctuary. This new placement allows it to remain a powerful symbol of faith and connection, now more visible and accessible to all who enter our church.

HONORED BY SAMARITAN COUNSELING CENTER

At their annual gala in September, the Samaritan Counseling Center honored our church for its unwavering faith, generosity, and active partnership in supporting the Center's ministry. Rev. Derek Davenport delivered the keynote address.

POINTING TO THE CROSS CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

In October, we launched a three-year capital campaign aimed at funding essential repairs and improvements to enhance safety, accessibility, and hospitality across our campus.

JANUARY TO DECEMBER: A QUICK GLANCE

Kids' Night Outs
Interdenominational Services
Great Date Night
Evergreen Gatherings
Middle School Retreat
Youth Sunday
Mardi Gras Pancake Supper
Ash Wednesday Service
Founders' Day Celebration
Lent Soup & Studies with Dr. Tuell
World Day of Prayer Service
Coffee Care
Connect Services
Egg Ciment Hunt
Maundy Thursday Service
Easter Morning Brunch
Child Health House Tour
Word Sung
Club 345
Lemonade on the Lawn
Confirmation Sunday
Popcorn Pop Ups
Montreat Music Conference
Surf City
Vacation Bible School
Guess Who Dinners
Day on the Lawn
Mama Needs Coffee
Women's Retreat
Piano Concert & Dedication
Laurelville Youth Retreat
Choir Retreat
Longest Night Service



FINANCIALS

\$1,929,798

2024 Total Income

\$1,922,702 ... 2023

\$1,815,692 ... 2022

INCOME DETAILS

Tithes & Offerings.....	\$ 1,370,792
Miscellaneous Income.....	\$ 559,006

SPECIAL SUNDAY OFFERINGS

Total for Year..... \$ 6,335

Hunger, Christmas Joy, Blanket Sunday, One Great Hour of Sharing

STEWARDSHIP

2024 Pledges: 218.....	\$ 1,222,460
2023 Pledges: 228.....	\$ 1,179,635
2022 Pledges: 225.....	\$ 1,181,213

MAJOR EMERGENCY REPAIR FUND

2024.....	\$ 294,896
2023.....	\$ 268,597
2022.....	\$ 266,710

UNRESTRICTED ENDOWMENT

2024 End of Year Balance.....	\$ 6,323,500
4.5% Draw.....	\$ 252,141
2023 End of Year Balance.....	\$ 5,899,395
4.5% Draw.....	\$ 238,281
2022 End of Year Balance.....	\$ 5,236,491
4.5% Draw.....	\$ 233,269

\$1,926,595

2024 Total Expenses

\$1,852,056 ... 2023

\$1,758,729 ... 2022

EXPENSES DETAILS

Administrative.....	\$ 148,081
Facilities.....	\$ 358,858
Ministries.....	\$ 40,244
Mission.....	\$ 232,914
Personnel.....	\$ 1,146,499

WAYS TO GIVE



Offering Plate



Our Website



Via Text



Planned Giving



MISSION GIVING

\$232,915

GIVEN TO

40

ORGANIZATIONS
& INDIVIDUALS

RECIPIENTS

Animal Friends
Beaver County Humane Society
Bethlehem Haven
Brother's Brother
Camp Crestfield Capital
Czech Republic, Diakonie
Del Ray Ministries, Dr. Benjamin
ELCA, Dar Al-Kalima
Evangelical Church Czech Brethren
Genesis House
Greater PGH Community Food Bank
Jewish Family & Children's Services
Light of Life Rescue Mission
Ligonier Camp & Conference Center

Locking Arms Men
Medical Benevolence Foundation
Meeting God in Mission
North Boro/Sewickley Meals on Wheels
North Side Community Ministry
Pgh International Partnership-Malawi
Pittsburgh Theological Seminary
Presbyterian Disaster Assistance
Quaker Valley Student Activities Lunch Program
Quaker Valley Youth Worker
Samaritan Counseling Center
Sewickley Community Center
Sewickley YMCA-Faith in Action
Sojourner House

Surplus Mission Giving
Tent of Nations
The Blessing Board
The Center Midland
The Center of Hope
The Ladle
The Protestant Theo Faculty/Charles
TOL, Inc.
Union Aid Society
Water Mission
Women's Center & Shelter
WORK



ADULTS



CHRISTIAN EDUCATION SPEAKERS, TOPICS & GATHERINGS

Intro to Christian Celtic Spirituality by Rev. Dr. Derek Davenport

Around the World Series: Vietnam by Nancy Cochran

Around the World Series: Israel by Caroline Johns

Around the World Series: Kenya by Kim Safran

Spiritual Disciplines; Follow Me curriculum by Adult Education sub-committee

The Religious Roots of the War in Ukraine by Dr. John Burgess

Creative Catastrophes by Rev. Dr. Derek Davenport

Embracing Mysticism, Near-Death Experiences & Spiritual Encounters by Rev. Dr. Graham Standish

WORK Update on Haiti by Christian Shanafelt from WORK

Christians and the Nation: the Barmen Declaration & Hitler's Germany by Dr. John Burgess

Not a Silent Night: Mary Looks Back to Bethlehem; Adam Hamilton Study by Adult Education s.c.

Breakfast Club Discipleship group: Casual Conversation about Faith & Life

Follow Me Through the Scriptures: Bible study

Good News Bible Study by Joan Murdoch & Brian Wood

The Chosen Women's Study by Rev. Emily Miller

Fueling Faith Women's Study by Members & Friends of SPC

Koinonia Women's Chapel & Study

Men's Huddle

Bible Basics

Journeyman Men's Study

IRELAND PILGRIMAGE

From October 5-15, members of our church, joined by Rev. Emily Miller, embarked on a transformative pilgrimage to Ireland to deepen their understanding of Celtic spirituality. Over the course of ten days, they visited more than 14 sacred sites, immersing themselves in the rich history and profound spiritual heritage of the Celtic tradition. Through prayer, reflection, and exploration, they experienced firsthand the beauty of the land and its deep connection to faith, nature, and the divine.

KIDS



YOUTH

150

Kids who participated in events open to the community such as the Easter Egg Hunt and Vacation Bible School

36

Children who showcased their talents in everything from singing to acting during the Christmas Pageant

16

CHILDREN'S CHOIR PARTICIPANTS

The idea of starting a Children's Choir was first discussed in December 2023, and by spring 2024, kids were excited to join and learn under Jeremy Fisher, SPCs Praise Team Director. Dressed in purple robes, they performed at special services like Palm Sunday, Rev. Dr. Derek Davenport's Installation, and Reformation Sunday. Their most challenging piece was Bach's Christmas Oratorio, while their Christmas Pageant performance as angels and shepherds was a favorite.

28

Average attendance for Sunday programs

33

Volunteers who helped to run Children's Ministries

54

Youth Participated

- Sunday Youth Groups
- Middle School Retreat
- Youth Sunday
- Surf City
- Coffee with Mike
- Vacation Bible School
- Laurelville Youth Retreat
- Confirmation
- Starbucks High School Breakfasts
- Open Hands Service Day
- Christmas Stocking Mission Project

STARBUCKS: A POPULAR SPOT

At 6:45 AM every Thursday morning, high school students met at the local Starbucks for breakfast and a Bible study with Rev. Creamer and SPC member Mark Gensheimer. Students, both church members and community teens, filled the popular space as they shared ideas and thoughts about the impact of having Christ in their lives.

12

Youth were Confirmed in May





LEADERSHIP

OFFICERS

Janet Lee, President
Caroline Johns, Vice President

Keith Boyer, Treasurer
Becky Senior, Clerk of Session

RULING ELDERS

Deborah Ash
Don Birnie
Keith Boyer
Bob Burnham
Megan Campbell
Roscoe Carrier
Rich Garbee
Dorothy Getty
Linda Getty
Caroline Johns
Jana Joseph
Janet Lee
Bruce McAdams
Malcolm Nimick
Beth Rom
Becky Senior
Jane Shadle
Jenna Stevenson
Ann Strong
Lizzie Szuba
Rob Thomas
Laura Vassamillet
Don Zier

BOARD OF DEACONS

Gretchen Burnham
Joanne Canan
Sandy Cooper
Sylvia Dallas
Boo Earlewine
Kim Roberts Ference
Tom Getty
Peggie Hatton
Courtney Jones
Erik Lindamood
Gretchen McAdams
Suzanne Morrison
Jane Raymond
Ollie Rea
Judee Rooney
Kelly Stover
Jack Szuba
Jenny Valente
Jane Van Kirk
Heather Wiehe
Adam Zombek



Bittinger Cross



OVERVIEW

In May, we installed Rev. Dr. Derek Davenport as our Senior Pastor. Derek had served as our Designated Associate Pastor - Acting Head of Staff since August of 2021.

In September, Hanna Mellor transitioned to a new role, supporting our Children's Ministries on Sundays as a teacher. Meanwhile, Nicole Quaka assumed the position of Children's Ministry Coordinator. We also welcomed David Blum as a part-time Custodian.

In December, Rev. Emily Miller concluded her two-and-a-half-year tenure as Associate Pastor at SPC to accept a new call at another church.

PASTORS

- Rev. Derek R. Davenport, Senior Pastor
- Rev. Emily I. Miller, Associate Pastor
- Rev. G. Michael Creamer, Associate Pastor for Youth & Young Adults

ADMINISTRATION

- Sharon Barber, Assistant to the Pastor
- David Blum, Custodian (P)
- Laura Mikush, Business Administrator
- Thom Lockward, Custodian (P)
- Gretel Tomales, Housekeeper (P)
- Joey Tomales, Custodian

COMMUNICATION & TECHNOLOGY

- Dave Breit, Media Engineer (P)
- Rici Brockinson, Broadcast Producer & Worship Media Coordinator (P)
- Jennifer Johnson, Director of Communications
- Alexis Merritt, Worship Technician (P)

CONGREGATIONAL MINISTRIES

- Erin Leghorn, Director of Discipleship
- Hanna Mellor, Children's Ministry Coordinator (P) (Jan-August)
- Nicole Quaka, Children's Ministry Event Coordinator (P) (Jan-Aug)
- Children's Ministry Coordinator (P) (Sept - Dec)
- Elizabeth Szuba, Director of Congregational Care (P)

FRIENDSHIP PRESCHOOL

- Bethany Barber, Classroom Assistant (P)
- Dawn Borres, Classroom Assistant (P)
- Jessica Carlson, Assistant Teacher (P)
- Susan Fox, Teacher (P)
- Nancy Friskhorn, Teacher (P)
- Erin Leghorn, Director of FriendShip Preschool
- Erica Lyons, Classroom Assistant (P)
- Gretchen McAdams, Teacher (P)
- Ashley Raymond, Assistant Teacher (P)
- Jill Tyler, Classroom Assistant (P)
- Ann Wood, Teacher (P)

MUSIC MINISTRIES

- Ray Blackwell, Bass Soloist (P)
- Jeremy Fisher, Praise Team Director (P)
- Michael Hammer, Choir Director & Organist
- Xui-Ru Liu, Alto Soloist (P)
- Rosie MacKenzie Wyche, Praise Team Vocalist (P)
- Anna Singer, Soprano Soloist (P)
- Paul Yeater, Tenor Soloist (P)

(P) part-time



IN MEMORIAM

CHURCH MEMBERS WHO ENTERED THE CHURCH TRIUMPHANT IN 2024

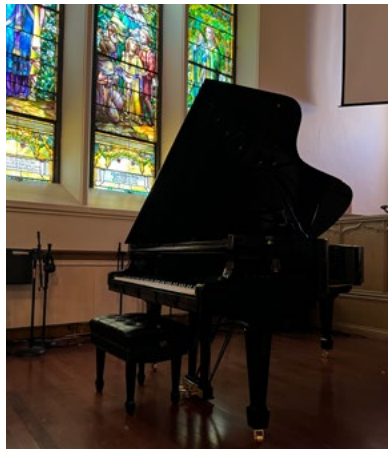
Wayne Croyle, Sr.
Carol Furness
Jessie German
Robert Kopf, Jr.
Robert Leighton, Jr.



David Mitchell
Helen Mitchell
Karen Safran
Dolly Simons
William Tranter, Jr.

PRECIOUS IN THE SIGHT OF THE LORD
IS THE DEATH OF HIS SAINTS.

Psalm 116:15





Sewickley Presbyterian Church

LIVE · GROW · SERVE

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www.sewickleypresby.org