

INTERPRETATION

Sewickley Presbyterian Church Newsletter | May 2025

Faith Moves Us. Change Builds Us.



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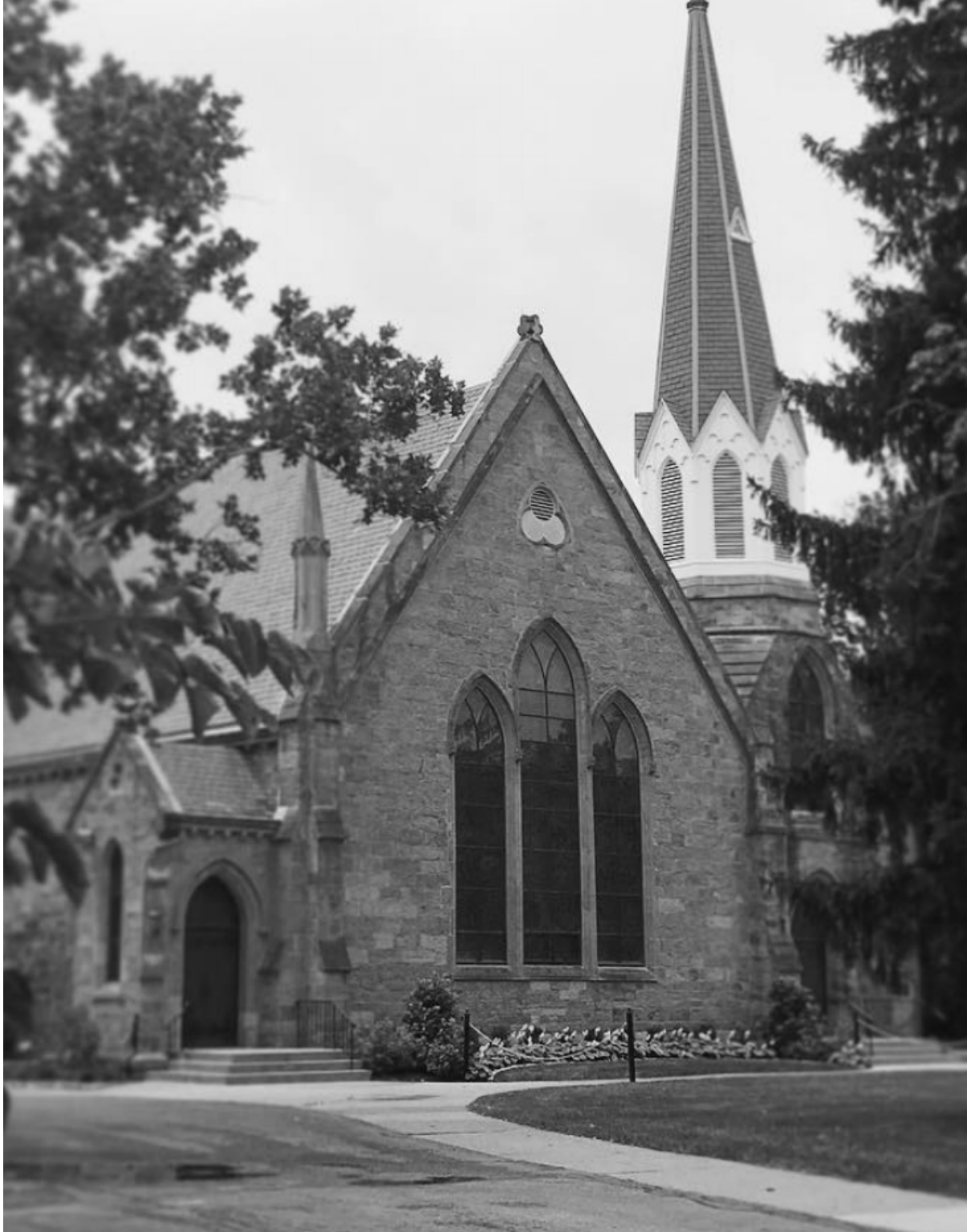
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SOCIAL MEDIA





IN BETWEEN

By Rev. Dr. Derek Davenport, Pastor

Some of our greatest memories are of big events or important moments. Others, though, are more surprising. Some of our most cherished memories are of unexpected moments – the moments in between the big events. A car ride with a friend. An otherwise unremarkable meal with family. Working on ordinary tasks with loved ones.

That's the funny thing about memories. You never really know when you're making them.

Over the past few weeks, Phase One of our capital campaign has begun. We've worked hard to prepare, we've given sacrificially, we've seen the plans, and we've moved out of the sanctuary. We anxiously await the return to our regular worship space, looking forward to enhanced safety, hospitality, and access.

But here in between what was and what will be, we've begun worshipping in the dining room. We've had to adapt to a new space. We are sitting next to different people. We've shifted our routines. And as we find ourselves in between what was and what will be, something strange has happened.

We've found joy in this in between time.

As we work and worship, learn and grow, pray and praise together, we've grown closer to one another. We've embarked on this strange adventure as a congregation, and we have discovered that the in between time itself is filled with grace and joy.

In the pages of this Interpretation, you will see many snapshots of that joy. You will find glimpses of construction, favorite hymns, new members, staff anniversaries, rock snakes, cross dedications, mysticism, turtles, care packages and even the FBI.

Over these next few months, I invite you to be part of this adventure. Join us in these joyful moments, the moments in between.





CAMPAIGN UPDATE: MOVING FORWARD WITH PHASE 1

By Malcolm Nimick, Stewardship Committee Chair

May has been a busy month! We have settled into holding worship services in our dining room for the summer and the sanctuary is being renovated as we've kicked off Phase 1 of our Pointing to the Cross project.

Thank you to everyone who helped to move equipment and furniture on May 4. It was a HUGE help and we were able to accomplish the move in just under an hour. May 5 brought even more "moving" as our Tech Team moved the soundboard and streaming equipment to the dining room.

To help keep things on track and ensure we're ready for fall activities and next summer's weddings and events, the Session gave the Finance Committee the go-ahead to work with FNB PA on a loan. This loan - up to \$1.5 million or the total amount of pledges we've received but not yet used (whichever is less) - allowed

us to begin work now, while staying committed to only spending what's been pledged. As pledges come in, the loan will be paid back.

The interest costs for this loan have already been included in the overall campaign budget, so our regular ministry and mission work won't be affected.

We're deeply grateful for the many ways you've supported this campaign—through your pledges, your prayers, and your encouragement. Thank you for helping care for the future of our church home!

If you have not yet committed to helping with the campaign, we ask that you prayerfully consider making a pledge so that we are able to move on with Phase 2 of the project.

Please contact one of the individuals below with any questions:

- ▶ Mark Gensheimer: mgensheimer@cs McCormick.com
- ▶ Malcolm Nimick: malcolm.nimick@gmail.com
- ▶ Keith Boyer: kdb323840@gmail.com
- ▶ Rev. Dr. Derek Davenport: ddavenport@sewickleypresby.org



CAPITAL CAMPAIGN GOAL

\$3,000,000

112 Pledges Received as of May 2025

\$1,731,259



LIFT EVERY VOICE CONCERT

By Jane Shadle, SPC Member

On Saturday, March 15, a group of 24 people—including members of Sewickley Presbyterian Church, St. Matthew's AME Zion, St. Paul's Lutheran, and Sewickley United Methodist—gathered at Heinz Hall for the powerful Lift Every Voice concert.

This inspiring evening of music was more than a concert—it was an expression of unity and shared commitment to justice. The event grew out of the ongoing work of Justice Ministries and the partnerships among our four congregations.

Friends and family joined us for an unforgettable night that celebrated diversity, hope, and the power of community. It was a beautiful reminder of how music can bring people together and move us forward in faith and fellowship.



SPRING CLEAN-UP RAINY & COLD

For the first time in many years, the weather didn't cooperate for our spring clean-up day. April 26 was rainy, cold, and downright miserable—and it only got worse as the day went on. Despite the less-than-ideal conditions, a dedicated group of volunteers showed up to help clean up the church property after the long winter months.

Thank you to the brave souls who endured the dreary weather to lend a hand—we are truly grateful!



PASTORAL CARE CONFERENCE

By Elizabeth Szuba, Director of Congregational Care

On Friday, May 2, Susie Wardrop, Matt Braksick, and I - members of the CCM team - had the opportunity to attend the 25th Annual Pittsburgh Pastoral Care Conference, held at St. Luke the Evangelist Roman Catholic Church.

This year's theme, "Making the Impossible Possible," offered a powerful reminder of the transformative role of faith in caregiving and community support. Throughout the day, we engaged in sessions focused on healing from trauma, the church's response to trauma, end-of-life spiritual care, and how to minister effectively to both the Latino community and individuals experiencing homelessness.

We're grateful for the chance to grow in our understanding and bring back insights to strengthen our own ministry efforts.



DOLLARS & SENSE

By Laura Mikush, Business Administrator

Did you know? The following groups use our buildings on a weekly basis:

Seven Different Alcoholics Anonymous groups, Al Anon, Overeaters Anonymous, Narcotics Anonymous, Nar-Anon, Boy Scouts, Cub Scouts, and Girl Scouts.

THE POWER OF A SMILING FACE ON SUNDAY MORNING

There's something sacred about Sunday mornings. The hush before the service begins. The hum of conversation. And at the heart of it all—someone standing by the door with a smile, a handshake, and a heartfelt “We’re so glad you’re here.”

It might seem like a small gesture, but to someone walking into church for the first time—or the first time in a long time—that warm welcome can make all the difference. In fact, it might be the first sermon they ever hear.

WHY IT MATTERS

Scripture is filled with reminders of how God calls us to hospitality. Romans 12:13 tells us to “Share with the Lord’s people who are in need. Practice hospitality.” And in Hebrews 13:2, we’re encouraged, “Do not forget to show hospitality to strangers, for by so doing some people have shown hospitality to angels without knowing it.”

Greeting someone at the door, helping them find a seat, or simply offering a smile is more than just good manners—it’s a ministry. It reflects God’s own welcome to each of us. Jesus said in John 13:35, “By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.” That love often starts with a simple hello.

WE NEED YOU

The truth is, we consistently find ourselves short on volunteers to serve as ushers. It’s not a glamorous role, and it’s often unnoticed—but it’s absolutely vital. When people walk through our doors, they are often carrying burdens, questions, or wounds. A friendly face can help soften their hearts and open them up to what God is doing in the service.

You don’t need to be a public speaker. You don’t need a seminary degree. You just need to be willing to smile, show up a few minutes early, and reflect the love of Christ.

A SMALL STEP, A BIG IMPACT

If you’ve ever thought, “That’s not really my thing,” or “Someone else will do it,” consider this: maybe you are the someone God is calling. Ushering on a Sunday morning is a simple act with eternal impact. It’s a way to serve that blesses others and often blesses you right back.

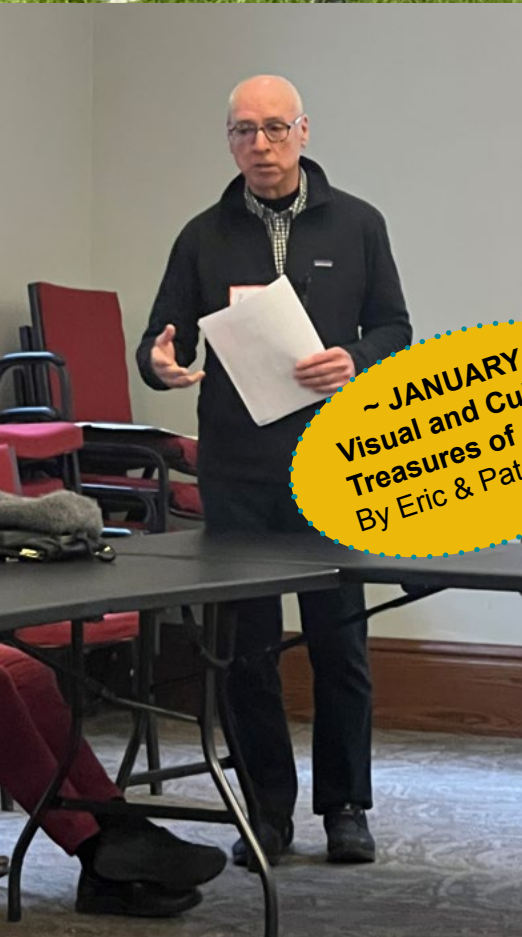
If you’d be willing to serve once a month—or even just occasionally—please let us know. We’d love to plug you in and help you be part of this important ministry. Let’s be the church that welcomes like Jesus does—with open arms, open hearts, and joyful smiles.

Usher Here: sewickleypresby.org





~ MAY ~
Pittsburgh
Botanic Gardens
Tour & Lunch



~ JANUARY ~
Visual and Cultural
Treasures of Japan
By Eric & Pat Fulmer





STAYING SAFE IN A DIGITAL WORLD: FBI SPECIALIST SPEAKS ABOUT FINANCIAL FRAUD

By Annie Gensheimer, SPC Member



In April, the Evergreens welcomed FBI Cybersecurity Specialist and Community Outreach Officer Felicia Trovato for a presentation on Financial Fraud Exploration. The event drew a group of nearly 50 folks, all eager to learn how to protect themselves from the growing threat of elder fraud.

Ms. Trovato began by explaining what elder fraud is—when scammers specifically target older adults with the intent of stealing money or personal information. She shared real-life examples of common scams including fraudulent phone calls from imposters claiming to be grandchildren in trouble, fake charities requesting donations, and tech support schemes that trick people into giving away control of their devices.

As Ms. Trovato explained, these scams are not only increasing in number—they're becoming more sophisticated. With the rapid advancement and availability of artificial intelligence (AI), scammers can now clone voices, create fake images or videos, and craft emails or messages that are nearly indistinguishable from the real thing. This makes it more difficult than ever to tell fact from fiction.

The financial cost is staggering. According to the FBI, in 2023 alone, Americans over the age of 60 lost more than \$3.4 billion to fraud—a record high. These crimes don't just impact bank accounts; they take an emotional toll as well, often leaving victims feeling embarrassed or isolated.

Despite the seriousness of the topic, Ms. Trovato's message was filled with encouragement and hope.

She provided practical, easy-to-follow tips to help attendees recognize and avoid scams:

- Never give out personal or financial information over the phone or via email unless you're certain of who you're speaking to.
- Be wary of high-pressure tactics or emotional pleas—scammers often try to rush people into making decisions.
- Use strong, unique passwords and keep your devices and software updated.
- Don't be afraid to hang up, delete, or double-check with a trusted family member or friend.
- Use a doorbell camera like the Ring doorbell.
- Use a secure web browser like Duck Duck Go rather than Google.

Participants left the session feeling more informed, aware, and equipped to protect themselves. Many expressed their appreciation for this valuable information, and several noted how timely and relevant the topic was.

We are deeply grateful to Felicia Trovato and the FBI for their commitment to educating and empowering our community. As scams continue to evolve, especially with the rise of AI, it's more important than ever that we stay informed, cautious, and connected.

If you or someone you know suspects fraud or has questions, don't hesitate to reach out—for support, or simply to talk it through. Felicia provided the group with her contact information and noted that the FBI can be contacted directly.



LIVING FAITHFULLY: APPLYING CHRISTIAN VALUES IN A MODERN WORLD

By Jane Shadle, SPC Member

For three weeks in March, Rev. Ralph Lowe, Associate Minister for Congregational Support and Justice Ministries at Pittsburgh Presbytery, led about 30 people in examining an oft-raised question: *How do we live out our Christian faith in today's world?*

Ralph Lowe is no stranger to the congregation of Sewickley Presbyterian Church. During the pandemic, Ralph and his colleague at Pittsburgh Presbytery, Rev. Brian Wallace, provided an online adult education program that SPC used. The two men, one a black Presbyterian pastor, the other, a white Presbyterian pastor, sat down to talk about life, race, and faith. These fascinating conversations were called "Awareness and Transformation." Two years ago, Rev. Lowe spoke in adult education about "Courageous Discipleship." Additionally, Rev. Lowe helped guide the process of moving our own Derek Davenport from parish associate to head pastor of our church.

This year, Rev. Lowe's presentation tackled the topic of "Living Your Faith in a Modern World." He began by asking, "How are you living your gospel life? Is it hard or easy to be a believer?"

Answers included these:

- *I have trouble listening to the morning news*
- *Not everyone plays by the same rules*
- *There are political tensions within my family*
- *It's difficult to have a genuine conversation with others*

Ralph encouraged honest discussion about these issues. He talked about having an "infinite mindset," where relationships have an opportunity to grow, despite differences of opinion. The opposite of this is a "finite mindset," where there are winners and losers, with judging, blaming, and doing damage to relationships. He reminded us repeatedly of Jesus' s commandment to love God with all our hearts, and to love our neighbor as ourselves. This is not always easy to do.

In another week, Ralph emphasized essential practices in our faith, where people feel safe to grow, confess, and support one another in love. Audience members talked about challenging people- those "sandpaper people"- who rub the rough edges off us. Ralph also spoke of approaching our Christian faith with a "scientist mode." A scientist-minded Christian remains humble, curious, and committed to truth-not trying to coerce people into believing.

Ralph encouraged us to lead people with humility, courage and faith. He ended his three weeks by challenging us to show love to our neighbor-even those whom we find it difficult to love.



SCHOOL'S OUT FOR SUMMER!

By Erin Leghorn, Director of FriendShip Preschool



May 23, 2025 marked the last day of school for the '24-'25 school year! Every year, I am amazed by how fast the year goes by, how much the children grow and learn, and how much love and dedication our teachers put into their groups of children. This year was no different!

We said a bittersweet farewell to our FriendShip II teacher Mrs. Nancy Frishkorn. Nancy retired after 21 years at FriendShip! She has truly touched the hearts and lives of

countless students and their families during her tenure. We will miss her sweet, loving presence at FriendShip but wish her the best in retirement!

After enjoying a relaxing summer break, we look forward to starting the new school year in September. There are still a few spots available in some classes. If you, or someone you know, is interested in enrolling your child, please reach out to me at eleghorn@sewickleypresby.org.



Joey Tomales

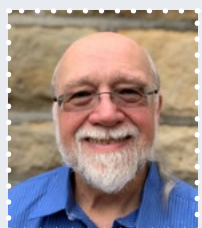
CELEBRATING TWO 10-YEAR ANNIVERSARIES

Our church is fortunate to have dedicated staff members who not only enjoy their jobs, but also love being part of such an amazing community!

In January, we celebrated Joey Tomales and his 10-year anniversary at SPC! Joey is our full-time custodian, and his contributions are countless—from setting up meeting rooms and cleaning buildings to removing snow, picking up Communion bread, installing signs, and offering general help whenever it's needed. His support truly keeps things running smoothly.

This month, we also celebrate Dave Breit, our Media Engineer. Dave came to us through the Faith House Project, and since his arrival, he has made a lasting impact. He redesigned our sanctuary sound system and created the infrastructure that allows us to live-stream our worship services. In addition, Dave keeps our computers functioning, our Zoom stations up to date, and handles any technical issues that arise.

Thank you, Joey and Dave, for your consistent smiles and your willingness to roll up your sleeves—often going above and beyond your job descriptions. We deeply appreciate and value your time, energy, and dedication!



Dave Breit



WE ARE GROWING!

In April, we welcomed six new members to our church family! If you see them, please make them feel welcome! If you are interested in membership, please contact Sharon Barber in the church office.



Nancy Cochran



Ryan Courneen



Chris Chan



Ayana Plocki



Carolyn Smith



Wayne Murphy



CHILDREN'S MINISTRY SHARING GOD'S LOVE

By Nicole Quaka, Children's Ministry Coordinator



The new year started with a burst of momentum with the Penguin Party on January 20 hosting 35 children from our church and community with 13 joyful volunteers sharing their excitement about Penguins (and Jesus) in the Dining Room. Not only celebrating National Penguin Day, this was a conclusion to our January Children's Church lessons where we explored themes of faith by looking at the unique personality traits of various penguins. This day was filled with stations of crafts, games, and food where each child took home a goodie bag filled with all the penguin creations they made.

Shortly following the Penguin Party on February 8, families of our church attended Fiddlesticks together at Heinz Hall. They enjoyed the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra presenting and performing The Sounds of Invention, where they celebrated unique inventions through instruments.

On Valentine's Day members of our congregation were able to drop off their kids at church for a night of fun with their friends for Kids Night Out while their parents were able to go out for Valentine's Day. This is where "Sammy the Snake" was first started, with kids working on coloring rocks for our upcoming kindness snake which is now featured just outside of the church playground. Sammy the Snake invites kids (and adults) from our community and church to grow our snake by adding a rock to Sammy to symbolize shared kindness and love.

On Palm Sunday, the sun shone over 85 eager egg hunters as they rushed onto the Faith House lawn and playground to find close to 1,000 eggs. Festivities

before and after had kids making sand art creations, playing easter games to win prizes, blowing bubbles while decorating our parking lot with sidewalk chalk, and making many Easter crafts. We were thankful for ice water and lemonade to break up the effects of the sunny day mixed with tremendous amounts of candy. Kids also had the chance to guess how many cotton tails were in our giant Easter egg. Emma Kharitonov and Lydia Davenport guessed the closest with Emma guessing 240 and Lydia guessing 400. The actual number of cotton tails was 310. Nice job girls!

During all these exciting events, the Children's Choir continued to steadily practice each week during the 10 AM Sunday School hour with Jeremy Fisher for the spring Word Sung performance. There was a short pause from singing, however, to become a Children's Bell Choir! Sixteen of our Children's Choir singers had the privilege to perform with their bells during the Introit on March 9. We are thankful for all the opportunities the Children's Choir has been able to participate in this year. We were especially excited for another Word Sung with our Children's Choir on May 4 where 11 of our kids performed alongside our Chancel Choir and instrumentalists.

We can't forget about Club 345, our weekly after school program for kids in 3rd-5th grade, who have had a very fruitful second semester participating in mission projects for Neighbors in Need, The Ladle, Cards for SPC College Kids, and raising money to donate backpacks to Center for Hope for Backpacks in July with a Lemonade Stand on May 14 in front of the Faith House on Beaver Street. The stand raised over \$550!





GROWING TOGETHER IN CHRIST'S LOVE



From September through May, a group of women gathers on Tuesday mornings to share Communion, prayer, study, and fellowship. As they grow together in their faith journeys, they also share their lives, offering support, encouragement, and friendship. The photo above captures just a portion of the women who are part of our Koinonia group.

There are many groups like Koinonia that welcome new participants throughout the year. If you're looking for a way to grow in your faith and build meaningful friendships, we invite you to visit the Adult Groups page on our website. There, you can find a place to connect and become part of our church family!



A DEDICATION OF FAITH

THE BITTINGER CROSS HAS A NEW HOME

On a cool Sunday morning in April, Rev. Davenport gathered with members of our church family to dedicate the Bittinger Cross to its new home. The cross had been removed from the roof of the main church building in 2023 due to safety concerns. Cracks had developed at the base, raising fears that it might fall.

After being carefully repaired, the cross was installed in its new location next to the sanctuary in the fall of 2024.

Following the dedication ceremony, the group moved to the chapel, where Rev. Derek shared the history of the cross and spoke about the legacy of Rev. Dr. Bittinger, a beloved former pastor of our church for whom the cross is named.

We invite you to stop by and see the cross for yourself this summer—a symbol of both faith and the generations who have shaped our church community.



By Erin Leghorn
Director of Discipleship

GROWING IN THE SPIRIT GROUP

In October 2024, Rev. Dr. Graham Standish presented a series in our Ansby class called *Embracing Mysticism, Near-Death Experiences and Other Spiritual Encounters*. The topic created a lot of curiosity and interest in discussing spiritual experiences further. Because of that interest and curiosity, a small group of church members met with Graham about starting small groups centered around near-death and spiritual experiences.

After a few months of learning and planning, two Growing in the Spirit groups were created. These groups met for five weeks to read and discuss the book *Knowing: Memoirs of a Journey Beyond the Veil and Choosing Joy After Tragic Loss* by Jeffrey Olsen. In the book, Jeffrey shares his story of loss, coming close to death, and a difficult period of recovery after a tragic car accident. He also shares the many encounters he has with the spiritual world after his accident. Each group has had deep, meaningful discussion about the book as well as their own spiritual experiences.

We hope to continue our groups in the fall. If you are interested in joining in the discussion in the fall, please reach out to Erin Leghorn.

THE CHOSEN

In late February and early March of this year, more than 30 women from our church as well as other churches in our community gathered on Saturday mornings to watch episodes from the television series *The Chosen*.

This series, created by Dallas Jenkins, follows the life of Jesus Christ and his disciples. It depicts the Roman oppression in Israel during the first century. After each episode, the women engaged in a deep discussion of the stories depicted, the teachings of Jesus, and how it all relates to their lives. We look forward to gathering again next winter for Season 4!



FAITH IN BLOOM

By Rev. Mike Creamer
Associate Pastor for Youth & Young Adults

Over the last few months, we've enjoyed spending time together to grow in our faith, build community through fellowship, and have plenty of laughter throughout. The changing of winter into spring marks new life, new opportunity, and change—and that characterizes our time with our teens this spring well.

- We began January by ordaining and installing four youth officers at our annual meeting, including two youth elders (Rachel Bartels & Maggie Watson) and two youth deacons (Anna Campbell & Maggie Doz).
- Our Middle School Late Night was a blast, filled with team challenges and a lot of snacking. There is something chaotic yet exciting about keeping middle schoolers out late to see what kind of craziness might happen.
- This year we had over 20 kids participate in Youth Sunday where our teens led us in worship, including our three youth preachers.
- We also made a return to the PKF for Spring Session up at Laurelville for a one-day retreat focusing on spiritual formation; but of course, there was still time for plenty of games.
- With the help of our club 345 group, we were able to send out college care packages to our college kids with some helpful advice from our kids about how to manage stress during finals week (which included careful advice to find a turtle to pet).
- Our High School Breakfast group spent the spring going through the seven vices and their opposite virtues, which offered plenty of opportunity for good conversation at Starbucks on Thursday mornings.
- We are excited to have wrapped up another year of Confirmation class with 8 students, spending time exploring the foundations of our faith together.

As we shift into the summer, we are excited to announce that we will be having Lizzie Szuba come onto staff for the next few months as our Summer Youth Intern. As a former youth elder here at SPC and a longtime member of the youth program, she'll be a very welcome addition to the youth ministry team! She'll be helping put on programs and building community with our teens this summer, so be on the lookout for communications from her.

We will see you soon!
Mike





~ February ~
Youth
Sunday



~ April ~
PKF



~ May ~
Summer
Coffee



~ February ~
Late Nite



SINGING OUR FAITH: A SUMMER OF HYMNS

By Michael Hammer, Director of Music Ministries

This summer at the 10:30 service, we are singing many familiar hymns—songs that have comforted, challenged, and inspired generations. Our hymnal is an incredible resource, filled with hymns that span cultures, centuries, and spiritual experiences. It's remarkable to think how all these diverse voices came together in one collection.

Many hymns began as deeply personal reflections of faith. *Amazing Grace* was written by John Newton after a dramatic conversion from his former life as a slave trader. Originally titled *Faith's Review and Expectation*, it accompanied one of Newton's sermons. Similarly, *It Is Well with My Soul* was penned by Phillip Bliss following the tragic loss of his family in a shipwreck. *Shall We Gather at the River?* was written by Robert Lowry during a deadly epidemic, expressing hope of reunion in the life to come.

Some hymns were written during theological conflict, aiming to clarify or affirm doctrine. The Church's *One Foundation* was one such hymn, crafted during debates about the nature of the Church. *Holy, Holy, Holy*, that grand Trinitarian hymn by Reginald Heber, was once considered controversial simply because it wasn't a direct paraphrase of a Psalm—a practice not widely accepted at the time. Isaac Watts helped pioneer the modern hymn with original words, writing classics like *When I Survey the Wondrous Cross* and *Joy to the World*. Charles Wesley followed with over 6,500 hymns, including *Christ the Lord is Risen Today* and *O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing*.

Not all hymn writers were clergy. Fanny Crosby, blind from infancy, wrote nearly 9,000 hymns. One of her best known, *Blessed Assurance*, was written with composer Phoebe Knapp, who had the tune before Crosby added the lyrics.

Some hymns trace back more than a thousand years. *Be Thou My Vision* may date to the 6th century, and *Of the Father's Love Begotten* to the 5th. *All Creatures of Our God and King* is based on a 1225 poem by St. Francis of Assisi. While some original hymns have twenty or more verses, modern hymnals typically include just three or four.

Of course, not every hymn's story is pure. The popular *How Great Thou Art* was translated and adapted in the 20th century, but the adaptor copyrighted his contribution and claimed sole authorship in many hymnals, overshadowing its 19th-century Swedish roots.

Some hymns are written from the perspective of the individual ("I"), others from the worshipping community ("we"). Some originated in comfort and security, others in hardship and poverty. Some writers remain anonymous. But together, they offer a reflection of the diverse, global body of Christ—believers across time, place, and circumstance—raising their voices in praise and prayer.

This summer, as we sing these hymns, may we be reminded of the faith stories behind them—and how they continue to shape our own.

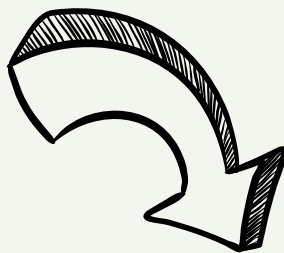
DAY ON THE LAWN RUMMAGE SALE

A Day for Mission

DAY OF SALE
SEPT 6, 2025

DONATION DROP-OFF DAYS

9 AM - 12 PM
June 7 • June 28 • July 19
August 16 • August 30



We invite you to be a part of our BIGGEST mission project of the year! All proceeds from the sale benefit our mission partners.

Bring us your donations, volunteer your time on donation drop-off days, and on the day of the sale!

BEFORE BRINGING DONATIONS:



**PLEASE REVIEW OUR
DONATION GUIDELINES:**

sewickleypresby.org

WE'VE MADE A FEW CHANGES!

A STRONG START

By Marcia McClintic Coates, SPC Member



Mama Needs Coffee has been going strong since kickoff began in November. Every first Friday we welcome mamas with little ones three and under to come have coffee in the Faith House and share in community with other moms going through this same life stage. Our amazing church volunteers bake breakfast treats for them each month and even volunteer to watch their kiddos in the playroom next door so moms can get some time for themselves.

We've hosted over 50 moms to date and watched over 50 kiddos through this ministry that's open to anyone in the community. It's a blessing to see who God sends our way each month and to watch moms gain new friendships and support.



During the summer months Mama Needs Coffee will move to a play date format at our playground every first Friday of the month from 10 AM -11 AM and will return in the fall with childcare provided in the Faith House. If you would like to get involved or volunteer, please email Marcie McClintic Coates at marcie_mcclintic@yahoo.com.



Sewickley Presbyterian Church

LIVE • GROW • SERVE

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www.sewickleypresby.org

Dated Material PLEASE EXPEDITE

This newsletter is published by
Sewickley Presbyterian Church

SURVIVING COLLEGE: A BRIGHT SPOT IN THE MIDST OF STUDIES

Every spring, as the school year begins to wind down, we send a small care package to our college students—a thoughtful little “treat” paired with a personal note. Our hope is that this small gesture offers a bit of encouragement and a welcome distraction during the often stressful days of final exams and the conclusion of the semester.

Over the years, we’ve received notes of appreciation from students who tell us how much this simple act of kindness means to them. It’s always wonderful to know that our efforts bring comfort and support when it’s needed most.

We wanted to share one such thank-you note with you. We hope it reminds you how meaningful even the smallest acts of care can be—and how each one is a opportunity to reflect and share the love of Christ with others, especially during times of stress and uncertainty.

Please keep students of all ages in your prayers as they enjoy their summer break from school.

