



Spring of Life Mission

Offering the Living Water of Jesus Christ to all who are thirsty,
so that they will believe in Him and have Life in His name.

Dear Spring of Lifers,

Thank you so much for your faithful support of Spring of Life! Attached to this letter you will find your end-of-year contribution statement for 2017. If you have any questions about your statement, please contact Shirley Stoffer (Shirley.Stoffer@springchurch.org).

God did wonderful things here at Spring of Life in 2017, and you stepped up and participated in His work in amazing ways! Here are a few of the highlights:

- Thanks to generous end-of-year giving, we ended 2017 with a budgetary surplus. Our Leadership Council will be overseeing the expenditure of these funds in conversation with our Discipleship Team.
- Our attendance continued to grow. Our average worship attendance grew by 2% to 292 people.
 - o Between our five Christmas services, we welcomed 1,181 people to our campus! We added a new Preschool Christmas Service this year, and it was full!
 - o During the summer, we expanded our capacity for Vacation Bible School and filled that expanded capacity.
 - o We also saw more people attend our Night in Bethlehem event!
- We are seeing increased numbers of children and youth involved in programs tailored to teach them about Jesus. The energy is amazing!
- We began a new group structure including the Table Groups. We have seen people attending these groups who have not been part of groups before!
- We approved our new, simplified governance structure (details below), which will help our leadership focus on ministry priorities while handling the administration of the church in a more efficient manner.

We would not have been able to do any of this without your faithful support. Your prayers, financial giving, volunteering, and regular participation make ministry possible here at Spring of Life.

In 2018, our focus is to develop a clear discipleship process at Spring of Life, where more people come to know Jesus and learn to help others come to know him as well. We will be adding a staff position to oversee this process. We are developing systems and processes to achieve this goal, and we look forward to seeing what God will do!

As we look forward to all God will do in our church and community this year, thank you for your faithfulness in 2017 and thank you in advance for your faithfulness in 2018!

God's peace and power to you,
Pastor Josh

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Spring of Life United Methodist Church
New Governance Structure

In order to create a more efficient method of church governance, Spring of Life UMC has instituted a **Leadership Council** that will function as the primary directional and administrative body of the church. The purpose of the Council is to locate the functions of the committees (Staff Parish, Finance, Trustees, Development, and Nominations) as outlined by Paragraph 258 in *The Book of Discipline* into one guiding and decision making team. By doing so, decisions can be reached more quickly as all affected parties will be present and communication can flow easily. The Council will be responsible for *Discerning God's will* for the future of the congregation, overseeing the *Administration* of the church, *Empowering* disciples in ministry, *Praying together*, and *Training* leaders. The Leadership Council will consist of approximately 12-15 lay members of the congregation alongside the Pastor.

The **Discipleship Team** at Spring of Life will focus their efforts on developing, implementing, evaluating and enriching the processes by which we move people from spiritual seeking, to new life in Jesus Christ, and on to spiritual maturity. The Discipleship Team will develop and implement cohesive, cooperative discipleship processes for our multicultural, multigenerational congregation that effectively incorporate our core values of welcome, community, growth, and service.

This proposal was approved by the Spring of Life Charge Conference on November 5, 2017.

2018 Leadership Council Membership:

Steve Dininger (Chair), Josh Bell (Pastor)

SPRC: Kathy Rhodes, Joe Gracy (chair), Jeff Ramsey

Finance: Jeff Tinkey (chair), Jeff Mitchem (Treasurer), Carter Burks, Caesar Cabral

Trustees: Mark Benson (chair), Reece Philpot, Ariel Lovera

Development/Vision: Jo Barsh (chair), Mark Benson, Jeff Mitchem

Ex Officio: Joel Frieze, Church Administrator

2018 Discipleship Team Membership:

Kristie Frieze (chair, and Adult Discipleship), Rob Githens (Youth), Kelie Harris (Children), Andy Gonzalez / Caesar Cabral (Hispanic Min.), Gay Aaron (Welcome), Sid Newcomb (Missions), TBD (Worship), TBD (Care)

Ex Officio: Rev. Mary Downey, TBD Dir. of Discipleship, Holly Eby, Katie Bell, Brittany Hawthorne