

# SEVERNA PARK EP CHURCH

*To discover in Christ the greatness of God, and share those discoveries with others.*

*A church where Jesus mends broken lives with the goodness of God, and equips us to join him in his work.*

## SEVERNA PARK EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

### **OUR HISTORY**

Severna Park Evangelical Presbyterian Church (SPEP) is a congregation of the Presbyterian Church in America (PCA). SPEP began as a church plant of Evangelical Presbyterian Church of Annapolis in 1977 and became a particular church in April 1978. We have had two senior pastors in the history of the church. Mike Conord was the founding pastor. Glenn Parkinson came to SPEP in 1981 as our first associate pastor, and he was asked to become the senior pastor when Mike left for New Jersey. Over the years, there have been many associate and assistant pastors that have supported the church. Many of these men moved on to shepherd their own congregations.

After meeting in various schools for the first 6 ½ years, we moved into a new facility (now called the Education Center) in Pasadena, MD in 1984. We added a 680 seat sanctuary (Worship Center) in 1994. In 1995 the church purchased an office building (now known as the Ministry Center), located on the property adjacent to the church.

SPEP has also been involved in some church plants in the area. Glen Burnie EP (now Grace Point Presbyterian), Pasadena EP, Broadneck EP, Severn Run EP, and DaySpring Presbyterian Church - all had some support from SPEP in their beginnings. About 4 years ago we sent off one of our associate pastors to plant a church in Westminster, MD.

Two years ago, our Senior Pastor Glenn Parkinson announced to the congregation his plan to retire in 2020. Since that time, the church has taken time to assess where we currently stand, as well as putting together a strategy to plan for specific change. It is our hope that we will find a senior pastor who can lead us as we move forward.

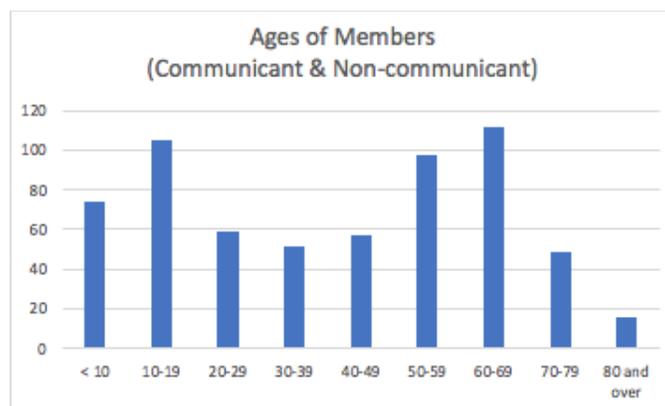


*The Worship Center*

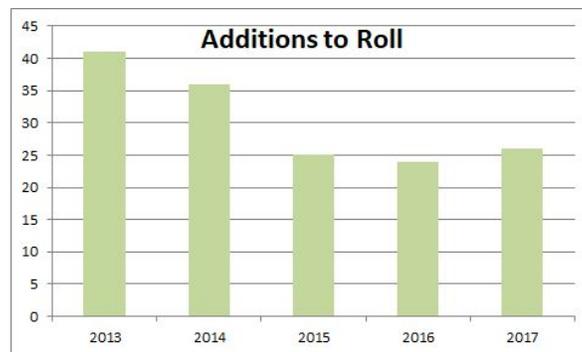
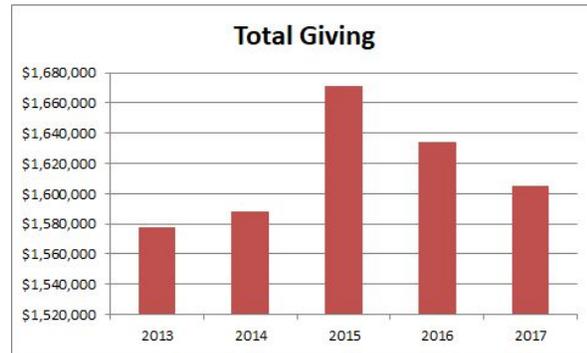
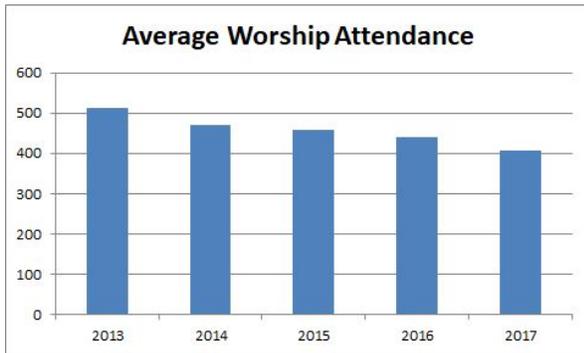
## **OUR BODY**

SPEP is passionate about rich Biblical teaching, eagerly engages in service, enjoys a blended worship style geared for multiple generations, and is seeking to grow in discipleship. SPEP believes all aspects of discipleship (Scripture, Prayer, Fellowship, and Evangelism) are important to a vibrant relationship with our God.

While we live in a transient area that includes members of the military stationed here for only two or three years, we have a dedicated core of members who have been at the church for a long time. In the past few years, we have lost some members to moves because of retirement -- one downfall to an aging congregation. Currently, there are about 680 members (about 500 communicant members) who live in our area. Our average attendance on Sunday morning is currently about 377. We also stream our services and average between 50-65 people each week who view our services online. Many of these people are members/attendees who are traveling for business or leisure.



Presently, we have two nearly identical services each Sunday morning, one at 9:30am and one at 11am. At 9:30, we also offer Sunday School for children, teens, and adults. To better focus on discipleship, plans include a shift to one service in June 2019. You will find a wide range of attire on Sunday mornings - so everyone will fit in!



Worship services at SPEP are thoughtful, lightly liturgical, and energetic. They are filled with joyful, heartfelt prayers, preaching, and music that incorporates traditional hymns, modern worship songs, and a few wonderful things in between. We are theologically reformed and celebrate a breadth of church tradition in practice. Always, God's holy word drives us. Always, we look with hope to the One to whom the Church belongs: Jesus Christ our Lord.

### **OUR MINISTRIES**

Currently there are more than 40 ministries identified at SPEP including a Fostering & Adoption Ministry, a Food Pantry for the community, Mothers Of Preschoolers (MOPS), and a Food Chain ministry.

Our church has strong children's ministries and youth programs. There are three full-time staff positions who oversee these areas. Our annual Adventure

Week (VBS) is a week that is the highlight of the summer for many -- including over 100 volunteers who make it happen! In addition, we have Men's and Women's ministries that oversee bible studies, Sunday School classes as well as events to connect people with each other.

We have developed the role of Woman's Advocate. A Woman's Advocate is a woman (a church member with a godly reputation who has a sound grasp of biblical doctrine) who is a liaison between the Session and female members in distress, to assist women as they plead their needs before the Session.

We also have a group of members who have been trained in Lay Counseling (Iciministry.org). These members counsel others under the guidance of a licensed counselor.

For the past few years we have been operating with a committee structure. Most recently all ministries are overseen by three committees: Worship, Outreach, and Congregational Life. After our recent assessment, our organizational structure is changing, and these committees are shifting as well.

Our current budget is just over \$1.5 million. About 14% of this budget supports our 25 missionaries, many who were sent out from SPEP. We own our buildings free and clear, although we have reached the point where many things are in need of repair. In the past two years, we have replaced some HVAC units, a roof, and carpeting in parts of both buildings. There are more major projects planned in the near future.



*The Ministry Center*

## **OUR STAFF**

Our current staff includes the following people:

Glenn Parkinson - Senior Pastor (4/1981 - present)

Michael Stephan - Assistant Pastor of Congregational Life (11/2015 - present)

Andrew Broadwater - Director of Worship (2/2019 - present)

Michele Prince - Children's Ministry Director (6/2001 - present)

Katie Goslin - Director of Youth Ministry (12/2015 - present)

Brian Richards - Facility Manager (10/2016 - present)

April Foster - Ministry Support Sr. Coordinator (10/2003 - present)

Melissa Drouin - Ministry Support Coordinator (1/2015 - present)

Debbie Gordon - Pastoral Assistant/Bookkeeper (P/T) (5/2014 - present)

We have recently hired a new Director of Worship and are currently looking for an Executive Director. We are in the process of reorganizing our youth ministry as well.

## **OUR LEADERSHIP**

We have 21 elders and 22 deacons.

## **OUR SURROUNDING COMMUNITY DEMOGRAPHICS**

As of 2017, Anne Arundel County has over 560,000 residents and in the one mile radius around our church, the racial demographic of White, Black, Hispanic, and Asian is 84/7/3/6. Age group representation is approximately 14% over 65, 77% over 18, and 6% under five years. The median household income in a one-mile radius of our church is \$89,031, which is 20% higher than Anne Arundel County's average. The average cost of housing in Anne Arundel County is \$336,000.

Nearest our church, nearly 40% of the population has a Bachelor's degree or higher and over 70% are in white collar occupations. Across the county, over 71,000 people are employed by the military or defense industry (13%) and 18% of the population is employed by the government sector.

## **FUTURE**

The Session has formulated a plan for the next three years, which will lead us into making discipleship stronger at SPEP.

Striving to be good stewards of our teaching, worship and prayer, we will:

### *Make Discipleship Deliberate...*

1. Develop a Discipleship Roadmap to Align our Activities to Deliberately Grow Disciples
2. Identify Changes to Sunday that Enhance Discipleship, Fellowship and Worship

### *Make Discipleship Personal...*

3. Fellowship Within Our Programs Before Building New Programs for Fellowship
4. Foster Intergenerational Discipleship - Invigorate & Integrate our Young Adult Program

### *Make Discipleship Fruitful...*

5. Focus on Our Strengths and Partner with Others Who Have Different Strengths
6. Develop our Ministry Style of Extraordinary Openness About Brokenness and Healing
7. Encourage Women and the Unordained In Our Church Life

We are praying that God will provide us a shepherd who will passionately lead us in knowing, following, and exalting Jesus in all we do as individuals and as a church family.

