

An Update from your Finance Team at Spring Hill Baptist Church, First Quarter of 2024

How does your giving... Bring Hope, Share Christ, and Impact the World?

Easter Services and Events

The celebration of the most amazing day in history, Christ's resurrection, fell on the last day of March this year. Our church family at Spring Hill was able to offer several services and ways to worship and contemplate Easter. These included the Journey to the Cross on Good Friday in the sanctuary, an opportunity to come by anytime throughout the day for a time of reflection, contemplation, prayer and communion.

Easter Sunday services included the always popular (with early risers!) 6:45 Sunrise Service at the Spring Hill Cemetery. We also had the regular 9:00 Worship Service in the sanctuary (and online) that included some special Easter worship and praise music. A Family Service was held at 10:00 at the barn at Dover-Foxcroft Farm, and we finished out with the 11:15 Worship Service in the sanctuary with the Worship Choir providing more special Easter music. Looking around at any of these events that day, it was easy to see that our church family takes the art of invitation seriously. For many, that simple invitation can be life-changing!

Small Groups

We are excited to report that our small groups are growing. We have a new group meeting on Sunday evening led by Blair and Sara Cellon, covering the well-known Financial Peace University (FPU) material. The response has been very positive, and we hope to hold another session soon for those who are interested in this life-education. We have also started another small group, "Living with Grief," a support network for those who are experiencing grief over the loss of loved ones.

Dana Hodges, our Small Group Ministry leader also hosted a Celebration Dinner for all the group leaders, an important time for these folks to share and receive training on small-group leadership. Finally, because our current small

groups are getting larger (a great problem to have!), we hope to start some new ones in the fall.

Women's Ministry Team

The spring Women's Breakfast was a well-attended event which provided Spring Hill women an opportunity to practice the art of invitation. Around 60 women of all ages attended this fun and inspirational event. The Women's Team is also working on Welcome to Our Church informational packets to be given to new guests.

As a part of the Missions Team, we have a group of women who visit the JABA Senior Center once a month, September through June. They do a devotional, play bingo and deliver small gifts during the holidays for local seniors.

Men's Breakfast

The first Friday of each month we hold a Men's prayer breakfast in the Fellowship Hall at 5:45 AM. Of course, Brian Mellott and his team of cooks get there much earlier to get the delicious food line ready for the group. We are reading in the Book of Acts, and our first breakfast of the year in January saw a huge uptick in attendance, especially by younger men. Seven different churches are represented at the breakfast meetings. This is another great example of Spring Hill practicing the art of invitation to men in the community.

Missions Team

Spring Hill Baptist Church has a missions team that is focused on our church's vision, missions and values statement: "Bring Hope, Share Christ, Impact the World!" 2024's first quarter has been busy for missions. We helped with the church-wide pasta lunch, served 135 people at Tuesday's Table, had a kick-off preparation meeting for Operation Christmas Child (yes we're already working on Christmas 2024!), collaborated with Feeding Greene and GRACE, and had a team that served in Kentucky with Hope for Appalachia on a week-long mission trip telling schoolchildren about Christ. Several of our members serve with other organizations that support community needs such as Habitat for Humanity and the Second Time Around thrift store. We are working hard to

implement the art of invitation in all of our projects. As we look forward to the next quarter, we continue to seek God's direction.

Children's Ministry

This first quarter has been one in which we experienced exciting growth, welcomed new families with children, and now have members serving within the Kid's Club and many participating as part of the Children's Ministry leadership team. In 2024 we changed to an exciting Bible-filled curriculum that the children and leaders enjoy and feel good about. We have hosted several Family Events, including the Snow Ball, Pot Lucky and an egg hunt for the children who attended the Easter morning service at Dover-Foxcroft. All of our events have seen a tremendous turnout that included many visitors.

At a recent Children's Ministry team luncheon, we celebrated Tammy Wills for 16 years of service within our baby and toddler room. We also planned for our upcoming Spring Fest community event and started planning for VBS. The Kids Club room has been a huge success as we all meet to praise and pray before going to the different classrooms.

A Closing Note from the Finance Team

During the first quarter, giving trended higher than what was budgeted with total giving \$14,887 more than expected. However, necessary maintenance at the Dover property and upgrades at the church, including a full refresh of the Fellowship Hall, resulted in higher expenditures during the quarter. Still, we ended March with positive net income over expenses of \$4,887.

Once again, we would like to thank you for your faithful giving of tithes and offerings. Your generosity helps us reach our neighbors and support local ministries as well as participate in sharing the message of the gospel across the nation and around the world.

With sincere thanks,
The Finance Team