

2025 ANNUAL UPDATE

Helping people love and live for Jesus, together.





MEMBERS
617

THE CHURCH IS A FAMILY & PROVISION FROM GOD



**COMMUNITY
GROUPS**
68

CONNECTING PEOPLE TO AUTHENTIC RELATIONSHIPS



BAPTISMS
11

AN OUTWARD EXPRESSION OF AN INWARD CHANGE

CELEBRATIONS IN 2025

COMMUNITY GROUP HEALTH

ESTABLISHING COMMUNITY GROUP SHEPHERDS

It's been such a joy to see how our Shepherds have grown in both confidence and compassion this past year, especially as many have not been in this role before. What encourages me most is seeing Shepherds leaning into one another, praying together, and stepping into shepherding not as a role to fill but as a calling to care for Community Group Leaders and group members.

This year we have raised up 31 Shepherds.

As we look ahead, our vision is to continue building a culture where Shepherds are thriving in gospel-centered community themselves so that they can lead others into the same. We want to grow in multiplying healthy groups, developing new leaders, and seeing our groups increasingly marked by prayer, Scripture, and mission. Our hope is that every group becomes a place where people encounter Christ, experience authentic care, and are equipped to live on mission together. Our Shepherds are the foundation to this happening at the Springs!

BEGINNING COMMUNITY GROUP LEADER TRAINING

Community Groups are the heartbeat of how we live out the gospel together. In Acts 2:42-47 we see the early church gathering regularly, devoted to the Word, prayer, fellowship, and the breaking of bread. That wasn't a clever strategy, it was a Spirit-led community that changed the world. Our vision is to see that same kind of biblical community flourish here at the Springs.

Community Group Leaders are the gatekeepers of this vision. Trainings over this past year have been about creating spaces where people can belong, be known, transformed by the gospel, and sent out on mission. These trainings are about equipping leaders in Community Groups into deeper discipleship with Jesus, and authentic community with one another.

Every conversation, every prayer, every shared meal matters.

Our vision for these trainings is simple: that every person in our church is cared for and growing in Christ through community. Over this next year, our focus will be on communication and care. How can we better care for the leaders and members of our Community Groups?

We desire that our Community Groups become places where people can be honest about their struggles, where lives are being transformed, and where the gospel is shaping real people in real living rooms all across our city. That's what we're building together.

**4 COMMUNITY GROUP LEADER
TRAININGS HOSTED**

QUARTERLY COMMUNITY GROUP LAUNCH

As we care for our Community Groups, we understand that clear guidance and expectations create a healthier, more supportive experience for everyone. That is why we ask each new member joining a Community Group to attend Community Group Launch. We believe this ensures a strong foundation for meaningful connections and growth.

In February of 2025 we began hosting Community Group Launches quarterly. We chose to make this switch to shorten the group placement process to 3 months.

MEMBERS LAUNCHED INTO A
COMMUNITY GROUP
160

NEW COMMUNITY GROUPS
FORMED
25

COMMUNITY GROUP
LAUNCHES HOSTED
5

COMMUNITY GROUP VISION FOR THE NEXT YEAR

Our vision is to see every person at the Springs deeply connected in gospel-centered community, where lives are transformed by God’s Word, prayer, and authentic relationships. We long to be a church where Community Groups are the heartbeat of discipleship where we care for one another, make disciples, and live on mission together.

We envision Community Groups that:

- **Grow Spiritually** – Centering on God’s Word and prayer, fostering lifelong discipleship and obedience to Jesus.
- **Live Authentically** – Practicing honesty, grace, and encouragement, creating safe spaces where people are known and loved.
- **Care Compassionately** – Bearing one another’s burdens in seasons of joy and sorrow.
- **Multiply Missionally** – Reaching neighbors, serving the city, and multiplying groups so that more people experience gospel community.

By God’s grace, our Community Groups will be places where the gospel is lived out, disciples are made, and the Kingdom of God advances in our neighborhoods.

Andy Phipps
Community Director
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MAKING ROOM

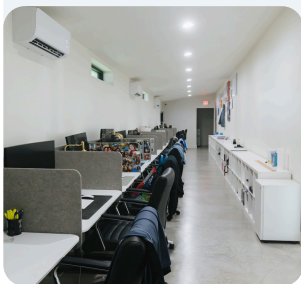
OPENING OF THE SPRINGS ANNEX

In June, our staff made an exciting move from working behind the curtain in the McKenna Auditorium to settling into our newly renovated Springs Annex. This transition marks a big step forward as our team continues to grow and expand.

The Annex was designed with connection and flexibility in mind. It now provides more desk space to accommodate our expanding staff, three private meeting rooms, and a multipurpose area that serves a variety of needs for mid-week meetings and ministries.

Our next phase in renovation will be restoring the outside of the building.

We'd love for you to stop by for a tour!



MOVING BACK THE CURTAIN & SOUND BOOTH RAISING THE STAGE

With the move to the Springs Annex and the added storage space, we were able to make some exciting updates in our main Auditorium space.

We shifted the curtain and sound booth back to create more seating for Sunday morning services, and we also raised the stage. These changes help ensure that, from front to back, everyone has a better view during worship and teaching.

CHAIRS IN AUDITORIUM
BEFORE MOVE
505



CHAIRS IN AUDITORIUM
AFTER MOVE
605



MINISTRY HIGHLIGHTS



MARRIAGE MINISTRY RE | ENGAGE

Over the past year the ministry of re|engage has seen nearly **80 couples** from the Springs and other local churches come together and experience healing and growth in their marriages.

We are currently in our fourth session, and continue to see God move in remarkable ways. Marriages that once seemed hopeless have been brought from death to life and couples are now being equipped to help others on the same journey. One especially moving moment came when a participant in their 70s asked for accountability software to be placed on their phone, showing that transformation and growth in Christ is never limited by age.

Looking ahead, we are excited to see more marriages strengthened, restored, and prepared to pour back into others, multiplying the impact of this ministry for years to come.



Tom Traugott
Marriage & Care Director
ttraugott@springsnb.org

INTERNATIONAL MISSIONS TEAM

As a church, we started the process of identifying international partners to support and link arms with in advancing the gospel across the world. The International Missions Team will help research and identify international partners and explore opportunities for our members to participate in short term discipleship trips.

Our mission is to build lasting, trust-filled partnerships with local pastors, empowering the global Church to thrive within its cultural context. We prioritize sustainable, community-led growth over short-term solutions and encourage active involvement from our church body through prayer, support, and hands-on service.

We have narrowed down and are currently evaluating ministry partners in Peru, Mexico, Panama, and China. Our hope would be to have a partnership in place by the end of the year to share with the body.



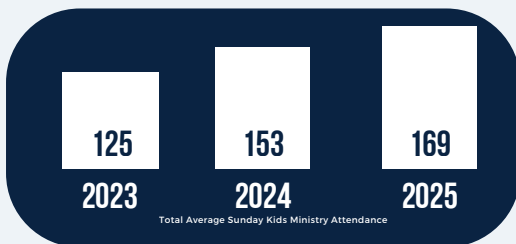
Linda Smith
Ministry Coordinator
lsmith@springsnb.org

SPRINGS KIDS

Springs Kids helps kids love and live for Jesus. Sunday mornings are for discipleship. Not only safety and chaos management! We are intentional about the youngest souls of the Springs knowing they have a Savior who loves them and offers them salvation!

**SINCE BACK TO SCHOOL
OUR AVERAGE ATTENDANCE
HAS BEEN 191 KIDS ON A
SUNDAY MORNING**

**OUR GOAL IS 58
LEADERS EACH
SUNDAY
SO WE CAN
DISCIPLE 250 KIDS**



Jen Adams
Kids Director
jadams@springsnb.org



SPRINGS BIBLE INSTITUTE

Over the course of 2024–2025, about 70 people completed our Springs Bible Institute. It was an incredible group of Springs members representing all walks of life, backgrounds, and stages of faith.

Throughout the year, these men and women journeyed through an overview of the Old and New Testaments while also being introduced to key topics in theology and apologetics. Time and again, God met them with fresh understanding and deeper application of His Word. We could not celebrate more the significant time, energy, and spiritual discipline these graduates demonstrated to complete this class!

While we won't be able to continue the Institute this coming year due to limited teaching resources, we celebrate all that God has done through it. We look forward with hope to relaunch this ministry as soon as possible. The Springs aims to be a premier environment where followers of Jesus can learn the Scriptures, and we see the Institute as a key ministry for that in the future.



SUNDAY SNAPSHOT

EVERY NUMBER HAS A NAME,
EVERY NAME HAS A STORY,
EVERY STORY MATTERS TO GOD.

AVERAGE WEEKLY SUNDAY NUMBERS 2025

633

ADULT WORSHIP

19

MIDDLE SCHOOL

213

KIDS MINISTRY

45

ONLINE



442

2022

702

2023

854

2024

904

2025

Total Average Weekly Sunday Attendance

MID - WEEK SNAPSHOT



50

THE GATHERING
YOUNG ADULTS



63

REJENGAGE
MARRIAGE



112

SPRINGS STUDENTS



62

RE:GENERATION
RECOVERY



30

SPRINGS MEN
BIBLE STUDY



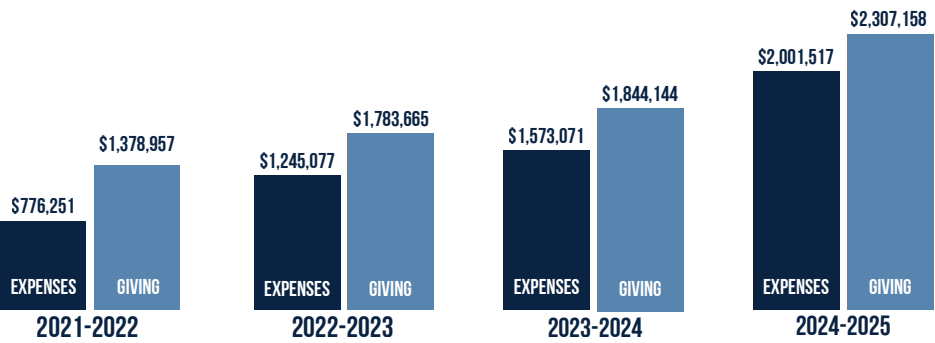
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SPRINGS WOMEN
BIBLE STUDY



FINANCIAL REPORT

EXPENSES VS GIVING COMPARISON

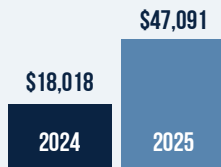


PROJECTED BUDGET 2025-2026

OPERATING INCOME FROM GIVING	\$2,562,657
OPERATING EXPENSES	\$2,561,575
MINISTRIES	\$283,145 (12%)
EXTERNAL FOCUS	\$230,639 (9%)
OPERATIONS	\$498,787 (19%)
STAFF SUPPORT	\$1,549,004 (60%)
NET OPERATING INCOME	\$1,082

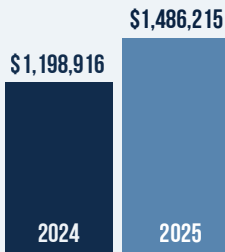
WE CALCULATED OUR PROJECTED OPERATING INCOME FROM GIVING BY AVERAGING THE MONTHLY CONTRIBUTIONS OVER THE PAST YEAR (JULY 2024 TO JUNE 2025). TO ACCOUNT FOR PROJECTED ANNUAL GROWTH, WE THEN APPLIED A 15% INCREASE TO THIS AVERAGE.

432 RELIEF FUND



In addition to operating costs, members can give towards the Springs 432 Relief Fund which seeks to wisely provide for the basic needs (food, clothing, shelter, medical care) of Members during financial hardship.

BUILDING FUND



We have continued to create a building fund where people can give towards a future building opportunity. This reflects \$1 million set aside by the Springs in 2024. The rest is funds that were given during our initial Finding Home campaign in summer 2024 and money given over the past year.

GROWTH ADVISORY TEAM

As seen in the previous pages, the Springs continues to grow, stretching the limits of our spaces. We've adjusted by maximizing the auditorium, expanding Kid's Ministry, and opening the Annex for offices and added meeting rooms. These steps have provided short-term relief while we plan for long-term solutions.

While we celebrate this growth, our Elders remain focused on the spiritual health of our church family. To support them, the Growth Advisory Team was formed to research and recommend space opportunities, always keeping healthy growth at the center. Their work is shaped by research of four key themes:

Healthy Growth

Prioritizing spiritual growth while wisely managing numerical growth.

Financial Readiness

Preparing now so we're ready to act when God provides a property.

Logistical Clarity

Outlining the steps needed to acquire and develop a facility.

Church Communication

Keeping the church family informed and prepared.

After an initial review of the current space and challenges, the team believes that pursuing a permanent facility is the best path forward. The greatest challenge lies in finding a suitable property (either buildable land or existing buildings with remodel potential) in central New Braunfels that fits both our space needs and budget realities.

We ask for your prayers for wisdom as we trust the Lord to guide us, and invite any questions or feedback along the way.

Mike Hamel

Treasurer, Growth Advisory Team
growth@springsnb.org



STAFF



Jen Adams
Kids Director



John Almquist
Lead Pastor, Elder



Leslie Christian
*Recovery & Care
Coordinator*



Jonathan Dennis
*Pastoral Care
Director*



MK Gauci
*Operations
Director*



Lisa Hamel
*Pastoral Care
Coordinator*



Amanda Patrick
*Communications
Coordinator*



Lou Phillips
*Young Adults
Director*



Andy Phipps
*Community
Director*



Garrison Price
*Single Mens
Community Director*



Brittany Sanders
*Connecting
Director*



Linda Smith
*External Focus &
Ministry Coordinator*



Tom Traugott
*Marriage & Care
Director*

Roles to fill in 2025



**Students
Director**



**Worship
Director**

We are prayerfully hoping to fill the roles of Students Director & Worship Director within the next year. Will you join us in praying for the Lord to bring us the right person for these roles?

NEW STAFF IN 2025



Dillon Dees
Facilities Coordinator

I am originally from New Braunfels and have lived here for 35 years. I've been a part of the Springs for 5 years now. Before coming on staff, I worked in Heavy Civil Construction on the management side.

My wife, Hannah, and I have been married for 3 years, and I have three kids: Sterling, Daisy, and Colt.

I came to know Christ when I realized that my sin left me empty and in need of a Savior. By His grace, God opened my eyes to see Jesus as the only one who could forgive and give me new life.



Jena McJunkin
*Students & Young Adults
Women's Director*

I was born and raised in the Dallas area, but I've been living in New Braunfels for nearly two years. I originally moved here for a job at T Bar M Camps & Retreats, where I served as the Family Camp Women's Director. Not long after settling in, I became a member at the Springs and quickly jumped into community. Currently, I am walking in the stewardship of singleness while delighting in the joy of being "Aunt Nena" to seven nieces and nephews.

Part of my story is that I was born with Achondroplasia, Dwarfism. With all the unique challenges that come with that, I've experienced how God uses our "different" to draw us closer to Him. Being uniquely, fearfully and wonderfully made in His image, this has become the foundation for where I find my dependence, and my identity. By His grace, I've come to see it as a privilege to steward this imperfectly perfect body as a way to know Him intimately, and point others to Him. I'm grateful to be here and excited to serve on this team!



Cate Cardenas
Office Manager

I was born and raised in Connecticut before relocating to Texas in 2009, which is when New Braunfels became home. I've been part of the Springs for about three years. My career has always been in the administrative field, most recently serving as an Operational Planning Manager at USAA. After retiring, I launched C2CurateHome, an interior design business, in 2024.

I've been married to my husband, Michael, for 14 years. He is a strong believer in Jesus and an incredible husband, father, and son. Together we share a daughter from his previous marriage, Lauren, who lives in Savannah, Georgia, with her husband Dallas and our two beloved grandchildren, Gabriel and Charlie.

I came to know Christ through Michael, who faithfully pointed me to the truth of the gospel. Through his example and God's grace, I came to understand Christ's love and chose to follow Him.



Dustin Flueckiger
Family & Formation Director

I grew up in Roscoe, Illinois and just recently made the move to New Braunfels! We have lived here and attended the Springs for just 3 weeks. Before joining the Springs, I wore a lot of different hats: pastor, nurse, salesman and most recently working in nonprofit development with Eden Project.

My wife, Kallie, and I have been married for 15 years, and together we're raising a lively crew of five—Rose (10), Isla (8), Jude (6), Elle (4), and Opal (almost 1). Add in our two dogs, Teddy and Darling, and you've got a full house.

For a long time, I pretended to be a Christian when it was convenient, but my heart was far from God. At 23, He stripped away everything I held comfortable and familiar, and in that place of brokenness, He revealed Himself to me as the real Savior. That's when He rescued me, and I've been following Him ever since.

ELDERS



John Almquist

Lead Pastor, Elder

Originally from Woodstock, Georgia, I have lived in New Braunfels for the past eight years, and during that time have been part of the Springs as both Pastor and Elder. My wife, Taylor, and I are blessed with four children—Lily, Tripp, Josie, and Davie—and our family wouldn't be complete without our chocolate lab, Rylee.

I used to think God was a tyrant I had to impress, but I knew I could never be good enough. Then one morning after years of heartache and pain, while sitting alone in my apartment, I read Titus 3:3–7. The Holy Spirit showed me for the first time that Jesus died and rose for me even knowing I was broken. He didn't demand I fix myself first. That's when He saved me by faith, and I've followed Him ever since.

In this season, the Lord is teaching me that the greatest gift I can give, to both my family and the Springs, is to walk daily in a healthy, abiding relationship with Christ.

I was born in Corpus Christi and grew up in Austin, but New Braunfels has been home for the past 17 years. I've been part of the Springs since day one, and today I serve as a college minister with a heart for students at Texas State.

Liz and I have been married for 29 years, and she's still my beautiful bride. We've raised three amazing kids, Alexandra, Aidan, and Alizabeth, and are now stepping into a brand-new season as grandparents. Our oldest

Alexandra and her husband Wes are expecting a baby girl, Nayeli, on September 8 and we're thrilled to answer to our new names: Honey and Bear. My walk with Christ began in 6th grade when a classmate shared the gospel with me in the simplest way. That moment completely changed my life, and through my youth director and church family, God began a work in me that continues to this day.

Lately, the Lord has been teaching me that He's not impressed with my skills or abilities—what matters is faith. Even the smallest steps of trust, He takes and turns into something far more fruitful than I ever could.



Oscar Amaya

Elder



**Brandon
Shamblin**

Elder

I was born and raised in Mexia, Texas (that's Mu-Hey-Uh), proudly home of the Blackcats. New Braunfels has been home since 2012, and I've been part of the Springs since 2014. Professionally, I serve as a pediatric dentist, a calling that allows me to care for kids and families every day.

My wife, Terry, and I have been married for nearly 20 years and will celebrate that milestone this January. Together, we're raising a full and lively household: Jackson (15), our twin girls Cora and Tess (13), Weston (9), and Bowen (5). Life is full, noisy, and filled with the joy of God's blessings.

I can't remember a time when I didn't know the basics of the gospel. Growing up with believing parents in a faith-filled community, God graciously revealed my sin and brokenness at a young age and, in His mercy, adopted me into His family through Christ.

In this season, the Lord has been impressing on me the subtlety of the enemy. He often twists truth with just enough distortion to mislead. God's Word is the anchor that guards us from deception and reveals truth in every circumstance.

I was born in Denton, Texas, but spent most of my growing-up years in Duncan, Oklahoma. New Braunfels became home back in 1986, and about 10 years ago our family found our place at the Springs. By trade, I'm a dentist, and more recently I started a new business with my brother called SleepBroz, where we help people with sleep-related issues.

Linda and I have been married for 38 wonderful years. We were blessed with a daughter, Lindsey, and two sons, Connor and Dawson, who are now married to our amazing daughters-in-law, Sarah and Brooke. Family is one of God's sweetest gifts to us, and we're so grateful for the joy and fullness they bring into our lives.

I was raised in a home where faith was part of daily life, and I learned about Jesus from an early age. In college, through God's grace and the guidance of a faithful mentor, my relationship with Christ became deeply personal. The Springs has been an incredible place of growth, love, and genuine friendship for our family—we are blessed to call it home.

Lately, God has been reminding me of the importance of shining His light in a broken world. Whether it's encouraging a friend, mourning with someone in pain, stepping into spiritual battles, or simply greeting a neighbor with a smile, His love can be shown in countless ways. The depth of Jesus' words in Matthew 5 feels more real to me than ever.



Todd Smith

Elder

LETTER FROM THE ELDERS

Springs Community Church,

As the Elders look back on this past year, we are so grateful for the ways God has moved in our church family. We've witnessed lives transformed. People coming to faith, students taking their faith boldly into college, husbands turning in repentance, men and women growing in love for God's Word, and many sharing the gospel. It is truly a privilege to pursue the Kingdom of God together.

One of the greatest joys this year has been taking intentional steps toward deeper health. Even as numbers grow, our focus remains on spiritual maturity. Under Andy Phipps' leadership, our community group Shepherds and Leaders have received intentional discipleship and training. As the church expands, so must our investment in raising up leaders who can shepherd well. Their faithful prayer, effort, and encouragement are already bearing fruit, and we believe the health of our church is best seen in living rooms throughout the week.

We also celebrate the faithful staff God has entrusted to the Springs. In recent years, the Lord has brought gifted leaders to strengthen key ministries, each committed to equipping the saints and helping us grow in Christlikeness. Looking forward, we're praying for a student pastor to shepherd the next generation, and a full-time worship leader who will not only lead us on Sundays but also foster a culture of prayer and worship throughout the week.

Another long-term focus is stewarding our growth through facilities. We're grateful for the expanded auditorium space, but Kids Ministry continues to face limits. With 12 more volunteers, we could create room for 50 additional children, but that would max out our McKenna facility.

That is why, as we've shared since our Finding Home campaign, we believe God is leading us to pursue a permanent facility. Our Growth Advisory Team is prayerfully exploring land and building options to serve our church now and in the future. When the right opportunity arises, we'll bring it before the body. Until then, we trust God's timing and plans, asking for prayer for wisdom, unity, and excitement as we look ahead.

Most importantly, we want to be clear about what matters most. Even as our church grows forcing our systems and structures to adapt, our love for Jesus must remain central. By His Spirit, our heart is to help people love and live for Him, together. Despite imperfections, we pray God uses us to advance His Kingdom in our city, the hill country, and the world. May our reputation be that Jesus changes everything and He is worthy of everything. His Kingdom come!

It is an honor to run toward the King with you,

The Elders

John Almquist, Oscar Amaya, Brandon Shamblin & Todd Smith

HAVE QUESTIONS?
Email mkgauci@springsnb.org

