Springfield Area Congregations Study
Profile and Community Engagement
2016

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Executive Summary

Southwest Missouri and Springfield are part of the “Bible Belt,” and even referred to as the “buckle of the Bible Belt,” emphasizing the prominence of religion in the Springfield region. The title may derive from several factors, such as the presence of the headquarters for the Assemblies of God and the Baptist Bible Fellowship International, multiple Bible colleges and a seminary, as well as hundreds of congregations scattered throughout nearby cities and in rural areas.

Although congregations have a long and important history here, few studies have explored their dimensions and community impact. The Springfield Area Congregations Study (SACS) is a first-of-its-kind report providing an in-depth look at important traits and contributions of these groups in the Springfield area.

This study serves as a companion report to Drury University’s 2014 Nonprofit Impact Study and focuses on congregations as part of the nonprofit sector and their engagement in social services, volunteer activity, and other forms of civic activity. It also complements the Missouri State University studies on social capital and civic engagement by exploring how congregations foster member interaction (bonding social capital) and member engagement with the community (bridging social capital).

Key findings about Springfield area congregations:

- Greene County has a higher density of congregations compared to other similarly sized counties nationwide.
- About 80% of Springfield area congregations are Evangelical Christian.
- The average Springfield area congregation is larger than congregations nationwide.
- 16% of congregational leaders are women and 7% are members of a racial minority.
- 91% have at least one organized group for members such as Bible studies and social groups.
- 72% have three or more member groups.
- 91% provide support services for congregation members.
- 88% sponsor social service programs that serve the broader community.
- 82% provide volunteers for schools, social service and other community agencies.
- 77% of congregations have leaders who are involved in community activities.
- 90% collaborate with other congregations or community groups.
- Congregation size has the most notable effect on community engagement. Larger congregations are more likely to be involved.

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2. Acknowledgements

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Three prior research projects provided the foundation and direction for the Springfield Area Congregations Study (SACS): (1) Drury University’s study of Springfield nonprofits, (2) Missouri State University’s reports on social capital and civic engagement, and (3) the National Congregations Study (NCS).

The Nonprofit Impact Report 2014 is a comprehensive profile of nonprofit organizations in Springfield. The study provides information on several key areas: a profile of the nonprofit sector; the impact of nonprofits in terms of employment and provision of goods and services; a focus on organizations addressing Red Flag issues (from the Springfield Community Focus 2013 report); and a description of the density of nonprofits in Springfield. IRS 990 forms, which nonprofit organizations must file to maintain their tax-exempt status, comprise the primary data source. Because religious congregations are not required to file 990 forms to maintain tax-exempt status (although some choose to), most congregations are not reflected in the nonprofit report.

Religion is an important part of the culture in Springfield, Missouri, and an important component of the nonprofit sector in general. In addition to the primary focus as places of worship and religious education, congregations bring many benefits to communities. They provide economic value through job creation and relief to government-funded programs. Congregations sponsor vital social projects, increase a sense of belonging, and give direct assistance to their membership as well as to the broader community. The SACS helps complete the description of nonprofit organizations in the region by providing a profile of religious congregations and exploring how congregations participate in social service provision and civic activity.

The Missouri State University studies on civic engagement and social capital found that the Springfield community exhibits high levels of bonding capital (where people foster relationships with others like themselves in terms of race, social class, religion, education, etc.), but has lower levels of bridging capital (relationships with people who are different). The analysis suggests that higher bonding and lower bridging social capital results in lower levels of civic engagement and political participation, which impacts overall civic health.

Religious congregations foster bonding capital, providing opportunities for members to come together for worship as well as social and educational activities. They also typically offer a variety of support services for members in need. While worship and religious education are the primary functions, congregations also sponsor social services programs for the broader community. Religious congregations can be a valuable community resource as places where bonding capital can potentially lead to bridging capital. This report describes the extent to which congregations in the Springfield area participate in activities that foster both bonding and bridging capital.

The National Congregations Study (NCS) is a series of surveys conducted in 1998, 2006, and 2012, each one using nationally representative sample of U.S. religious congregations. The NCS provides a national profile of congregations in America, including information about religious tradition or denomination, size, leadership, worship style, types of groups, member demographics, resources, and congregational relations to broader society (social services, political involvement, ecumenical activity, etc.). The SACS used the NCS as a baseline for creating survey questions which allows for comparisons between congregations in the Springfield area and nationwide.

4. Study Design

Creating a Comprehensive List of Congregations

The first research task was to create a comprehensive list of congregations in Greene and Christian counties in Missouri (the Springfield Area). The definition of congregation follows the one used by the National Congregations Study:

A social institution in which individuals who are not all religious specialists gather in physical proximity to one another, frequently, and at regularly scheduled intervals, for activities and events with explicitly religious content and purpose, and in which there is continuity over time in the individuals who gather, the location of the gathering, and the nature of the activities and events at each gathering. 8

Although religious communes and informal prayer groups that meet regularly would technically fit this definition, they are not commonly understood to be congregations, so they are not included in the definition.

No single, official comprehensive list of religious congregations in the Springfield area exists, so multiple sources were used to create a list that is as comprehensive as possible.

Sources include: internet yellow page directories; Dun & Bradstreet business listings; denominational websites with regional or county-based listings; city listings of congregations; and three general website lists.9 These lists typically included address and phone numbers, and in some cases e-mail and website addresses. Accessing websites provided additional e-mail addresses and updated phone numbers. This information was used to create a population list of congregations in the Springfield area.

Congregations do not need to be incorporated as businesses, and some congregations are small, independent or non-traditional. These characteristics make them easy to overlook and leave out of the available lists. Unfortunately, the available resources do not include non-traditional religious groups that still fit within the definition of congregations, such as Pagans or Wiccans. Even with this limitation, the list is arguably the most comprehensive one available at this time.

The Springfield area list includes 549 congregations. The 2010 Religious Congregations and Membership Study (RCMS) reports a total of 454 congregations in Greene and Christian Counties.10 Based on recent internet searches, 52 congregations on the Springfield list only appear on generic web listings. However, no specific evidence was found indicating closure so they are included in the list, but they might no longer be active.

The final list was used to create a directory of congregations in the Springfield area as of 2015 and can be found in the Appendix.

Survey Design

A survey was designed to collect information. To facilitate comparison with national data, some of the SACS questions are from the NCS. Questions on both surveys about congregational characteristics include: religious tradition, founding date, size, member racial composition, and member gender composition. Leader characteristics include: age, gender, race, and tenure. The SACS also includes information on leader community activities. Three sets of questions about congregational activities are shared by the NCS and SACS: (1) groups for congregation members; (2) help services for members; and (3) congregation-sponsored service programs available to the broader community. The SACS includes questions about congregation-sponsored volunteering at other organizations. The NCS has questions about joint prayer services with other congregations and collaboration with civic groups in social services or volunteering. The SACS explores collaboration on prayer services, civic engagement or political activity with three different types of groups: congregations within their faith, congregations of different faiths, and civic or community groups.

9. See Appendix, the Directory of Congregations, for a list of website addresses for these sources.
The questions about member groups and help services for members reflect forms of bonding capital. Bridging capital is reflected through leader community engagement, congregational collaborative activities, social service programs for the broader community, and volunteering.

Questions about member groups, member help, and community service programs asked for a list of five groups or activities with the highest attendance or the five “most notable” services. It is likely that some congregations participate in more activities than were reported, but the top five indicate the primary activities.

Prior research on congregations’ community involvement focuses on social services and political activity. A common form of research explores how activities vary based on congregational characteristics such as: religious tradition or denomination; congregation size; location (urban/rural); member composition—including age, race, gender, income, and education; and leader characteristics—including age, race, and gender. Additional research considers the relationship between clergy gender and congregational characteristics.

Both the NCS and SACS used “key informants” (pastors or others in leadership) to report on behalf of the congregation. Prior research suggests that key informant reporting is most valid when related to observable organizational activities. Some research gives mixed results about the reliability of key informant reporting on congregant characteristics. One study found reports on congregation race and gender composition reliable while observations about congregants’ age might be less accurate. Another study found discrepancies between leader and member reports on estimating congregants’ gender and race, and more notably for education and income. The SACS includes congregation gender and race composition, but did not collect information on congregant education or income.

Survey Distribution

The full population list of 549 congregations was used to attempt to collect data. A web-based survey tool was used to create and distribute a survey to a contact person (generally the pastor) for congregations that had e-mail addresses. The initial invitation was sent in mid-January 2015. Three reminder e-mails were sent over a period of four weeks. After this, paper copies of the survey were mailed with pre-paid postage return envelopes to the congregations without e-mail addresses, as well as the congregations that did not respond to the online survey. Phone calls were also made to the congregations without e-mail addresses to encourage participation.

Survey Response

Of the 549 congregations identified in the Springfield area, 176 completed the survey for a response rate of 31%. Comparing the population list with the respondent list, based on religious denomination/tradition, there is a possibility of some under-representation of Evangelical congregations and an over-representation of Mainline Protestants, but, overall, the sample is reasonably representative of the population of Springfield area congregations.


16. Survey responses were anonymous but the survey tool separately tracks respondents and non-respondents.

Analysis and Presentation of Results

The analysis follows prior research by comparing congregational activities (dependent variables) across different congregational and leader characteristics (independent variables). This resulted in an extensive set of analyses considering each congregational activity (member groups, member help services, volunteering, community services, and collaboration with other groups) in relation to each congregational characteristic (religions tradition; size; congregation age, race, and gender composition; leader age, tenure, race, and gender).

The results describe both local and national congregations and highlight comparisons between the local and national data. Since the focus of this report is on Springfield area congregations, charts are presented only if the Springfield area results are statistically significant.

The NCS distinguishes over 130 different religions and denominations. To facilitate analysis, researchers often use a “religious tradition” classification system with separate categories for Roman Catholic and Jewish, and Protestant denominations divided into three groups: Mainline, (White) Evangelical, and Black Protestant. All other groups are designated as “Other.” The SACS adjusted this classification system based on the Springfield area’s high representation of Assemblies of God and Southern Baptist congregations and small number of Other Faith congregations. This results in the following seven categories: Assemblies of God; Southern Baptist, Other (White) Evangelical (Protestant); Black Protestant; (White) Mainline Protestant; (Roman) Catholic; and Other Faiths.

All seven religious traditions are presented in the descriptive results and charts, but due to the small number of Black Protestant (3), Catholic (6), and Other Faith (3) congregations, tests for statistical significance only include the Mainline Protestant, Assemblies of God, Southern Baptist, and Other Evangelical congregations.

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5. Profile of Congregations

Religious Density

Based on RCMS data, Greene County has similar or higher measures of religious density than comparably sized counties, both statewide and nationwide. Table 5.1 compares Greene County to other U.S. counties. Greene County has the largest number of congregations, the highest ratio of congregations per 1000 people, and the second highest percentage of the population who are religious adherents.

Table 5.2 compares the religious density of counties in Missouri. Jackson County has the highest percentage of religious adherents, 53%. Greene County shares a close second of 52% with St. Charles and St. Louis counties. Greene County and St. Louis City tie for the highest rate of congregations per 1000 people.

Religious Tradition and Denomination

Table 5.3 compares distributions of religious traditions from several data sources: (1) The Springfield Area Congregation Study respondents; (2) The full list of Springfield Area congregations; (3) The 2010 U.S. Religious Congregation Membership Study, showing percentages for both congregations and individual adherents; and (4) The 2012 National Congregations Study. The SACS full list and the RCMS data are both population counts for Greene and Christian county, and theoretically, they should be the same. The SACS reports more Other Evangelical and fewer Mainline Protestant congregations than the RCMS does, but the other counts are fairly similar. The percentages from the SACS respondents match the RCMS percentages fairly closely. The SACS under-representation of Assemblies of God congregations is the most notable deviation.

Figure 5.1 provides a visual comparison between the SACS and NCS. Three notable comparisons are that, relative to the nation as a whole, the Springfield area has: (1) higher percentages of Assemblies of God, Southern Baptist, and Other Evangelical congregations; (2) approximately the same representation of Mainline Protestants; and (3) lower percentages of Black Protestant, Catholic, and Other Faith congregations.

Congregation Age and History

The oldest congregation in the SACS sample was founded in 1838. The four newest ones were established in 2014. About one-fifth of congregations were founded before 1900, 17% between 1900 and 1949, and 40% between 1950 and 1999. Almost one-quarter were founded after 2000. Almost half of congregations nationwide were founded before 1950. The foundation of congregations between 1950 and 1999 shows opposite patterns locally and nationally. Locally, more congregations were founded between 1950 and 1974, and nationally, more congregations were founded between 1975 and 1999. Only 15% of congregations nationwide were established after 2000, compared to 24% of local congregations.

Figures 5.2 and 5.3 show congregation founding dates for different religious traditions. The General Council of the Assemblies of God was established as a denomination in 1914, so none of the AG churches were founded in the pre-1900 period.

Locally, only 3% of Other Evangelical congregations were founded before 1900. Almost one-third of Southern Baptist, one-half of the local Mainline Protestant congregations, and two of the six Catholic parishes were established before 1900. The two Other Faith congregations that reported founding dates were established before 1975. The Assemblies of God and Black Protestants had the largest percentage of congregations founded after 2000, with one-third of the current congregations in both traditions founded in this period. However, the Southern Baptist and Other Evangelicals had the largest absolute number of new congregations, with 11 and 22, respectively.

Nationally, over half of Mainline Protestant congregations were established before 1900, and along with Southern Baptists and Catholics,

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19. Ibid.
## Religious Density of Missouri Counties Comparable in Size to Greene County

**Table 5.2**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2010 Population</th>
<th>Total Congregations</th>
<th>Congregations/1000 persons</th>
<th>Total Adherents</th>
<th>Adherents % of Population</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Boone</strong></td>
<td>162,642</td>
<td>167</td>
<td>1.03</td>
<td>63,949</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Jefferson</strong></td>
<td>218,733</td>
<td>162</td>
<td>0.74</td>
<td>79,939</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Clay</strong></td>
<td>221,939</td>
<td>215</td>
<td>0.97</td>
<td>105,280</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Greene</strong></td>
<td>275,174</td>
<td>355</td>
<td>1.29</td>
<td>143,541</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>St. Louis City</strong></td>
<td>319,294</td>
<td>411</td>
<td>1.29</td>
<td>147,353</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>St. Charles</strong></td>
<td>360,485</td>
<td>224</td>
<td>0.62</td>
<td>186,493</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Jackson</strong></td>
<td>674,158</td>
<td>812</td>
<td>1.20</td>
<td>355,967</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>St. Louis County</strong></td>
<td>998,954</td>
<td>730</td>
<td>0.73</td>
<td>516,073</td>
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## Distribution of Religious Traditions

### Table 5.3

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<th>Religious Tradition</th>
<th>Greene &amp; Christian Counties</th>
<th>National</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2015 SACS</td>
<td>2010 RCMS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Responding Congregations</td>
<td>Full Congregation List</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assemblies of God</td>
<td>#  12</td>
<td>%  6.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Southern Baptist</td>
<td># 46</td>
<td>% 26.1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other Evangelical</td>
<td># 71</td>
<td>% 40.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mainline Protestant</td>
<td># 35</td>
<td>% 19.9</td>
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<tr>
<td>Black Protestant</td>
<td># 3</td>
<td>% 1.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Catholic</td>
<td># 6</td>
<td>% 3.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Faiths</td>
<td># 3</td>
<td>% 1.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>#176</td>
<td>%100</td>
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</table>

### Congregations by Religious Tradition

**Figure 5.1**

- **Springfield Area**
- **National**

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<th>Religious Tradition</th>
<th>0%</th>
<th>20%</th>
<th>40%</th>
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<td>Assemblies of God</td>
<td>🟥</td>
<td>🩸</td>
<td>🩸</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Southern Baptist</td>
<td>🟥</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other Evangelical</td>
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<td>Mainline Protestant</td>
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<td>Catholic</td>
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<td>Other Faith</td>
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Congregation Founding Date by Religious Tradition

**Springfield Area**

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<td>30%</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Southern Baptist</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other Evangelical</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>30%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mainline Protestant</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Black Protestant</td>
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<tr>
<td>Catholic</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other Faith</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>30%</td>
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**National**

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<td>Assemblies of God</td>
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<tr>
<td>Southern Baptist</td>
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<td>30%</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other Evangelical</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>30%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mainline Protestant</td>
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<td>30%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Black Protestant</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>30%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Catholic</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other Faith</td>
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</table>
show a pattern of higher percentages of early foundations and increasingly fewer in subsequent time periods. Other Evangelical and Other Faith congregations generally show the opposite pattern, with more foundations in later periods. Half of Assemblies of God congregations were founded between 1900 and 1949, and over one-third between 1975 and 1999. Over one-third of Other Evangelical congregations were established between 1975 and 1999, and over one-quarter after 2000. Over half of the Other Faith congregations were founded between 1975 and 1999.

**Congregation Size**

The NCS and SACS surveys measure congregation size using the number of regular participants, both adults and children. For analysis, congregations were divided into five size categories:

- **Very Small**: Less than 50
- **Small**: 50 – 99
- **Medium**: 100 – 249
- **Large**: 250 – 899
- **Very Large**: 900 or more

Figures 5.4 and 5.5 show the distribution of congregations by size for different religious traditions. Locally, only one-quarter of the Other Evangelical congregations are very small, but they make up over half of the very small congregations. The other half of the very small congregations are Southern Baptist, Mainline Protestant, and one of the three Black Protestant congregations. None of the Assemblies of God, Catholic, or Other Faith congregations are very small. Only one out of the six local Catholic churches is very large, but the other five are all large. The three Other Faith congregations are small or medium sized. Less than one-quarter of Mainline Protestant churches are very small and almost 9% are very large.

Nationally, over half of Assemblies of God and Other Faith congregations are very small. Only 7% of Catholic churches are small or very small, the others are fairly evenly divided among the other larger size categories. Southern Baptist, Other Evangelical, Black Protestant, and Mainline Protestant all show similar size distributions with 30% to 40% very small, 25% to 30% small, 20 to 35% medium, and less than 15% large and very large.

The Springfield area tends to have larger congregations than the country as a whole. Only one-fifth of local congregations are very small, compared to over one-third of the congregations nationally. Very large congregations comprise 7% of Springfield area congregations, but only 3% nationwide. There are no very small local Assemblies of God congregations, but over half of AG congregations nationwide are very small. Compared to the nation, there are relatively fewer very small, and relatively more very large, local Mainline Protestant congregations. There are fewer local Catholic churches compared to the nation in general, and they tend to be smaller.

When comparing the relative presence of different religious groups, it is important to consider the number of people, the number of congregations, and the size of congregations. The RCMS report for Greene and Christian counties estimates that the total number of attendees (persons attending religious services) are about the same for both SBC and AG
Congregation Size by Religious Tradition

**Springfield Area**

- Assemblies of God
- Southern Baptist
- Other Evangelical
- Mainline Protestant
- Black Protestant
- Catholic
- Other Faith

**National**

- Assemblies of God
- Southern Baptist
- Other Evangelical
- Mainline Protestant
- Black Protestant
- Catholic
- Other Faith
(approximately 20,000 each). In the Springfield area there are more Southern Baptist than Assemblies of God congregations, but SBC congregations tend to be smaller than AG. In the SACS sample, no AG congregations are very small. One-quarter of AG are very small while 20% of SBC congregations are very small. The Southern Baptists have a slightly higher percentage of both older and younger congregations and fewer middle-aged ones. Other Evangelical churches have a fairly even age distribution, with slightly higher rates of younger congregations. Nationally, almost half of AG churches are younger. Over three-fourths of Mainline Protestant churches are older and only 3% are younger. Over half of SBC congregations are older and only 3% are younger. Other Evangelical and Other Faith congregations are mostly split between younger and older congregations with few middle age or mixed ones.

Both locally and nationally, congregations with higher levels of older members are the largest group, although the Springfield area (35.7%) has relatively fewer older congregations than the nation in general (43.6%). The predominance of older congregations is consistent with prior research that reports that the U.S. church-going population is aging. About one-quarter of congregations have a fair representation of younger members. Congregations classified as middle-aged are the smallest group. The majority of Mainline Protestant congregations are older and there are very few younger ones. This reflects observations about decline in Mainline Protestant denominations.

Race

Congregations reported the percentage of members in each racial group: White, African-American, Hispanic, Asian, Native American, and Other. Because the Springfield area has a small minority group population, congregations were categorized as:

- **Primarily White**: 80% or more White members.
- **Some Racial Diversity**: less than 80% White members.

The 2010 U.S. Census indicates that the Springfield metropolitan area is 4.5% Black, 3.7% Hispanic, 1.9% Asian, and 86.8% White. In the Springfield area, 85% of congregations are primarily White, therefore, the racial composition of congregations is fairly consistent with the overall population racial distribution.

Among the congregations that responded to the SACS, four have 90% or more African-American members, have over half African-American members, and one has 40%. One congregation is almost exclusively African American and another is 28% Asian. One congregation is 20% Native American.

Figure 5.8 shows congregational racial composition across religious denominations. Locally, other than the Black Protestants, most congregations are predominantly White. Nationally, over 95% of Southern Baptist congregations are predominantly White. In contrast, over one-quarter of Assemblies of God, 36% of Other Evangelical, and over 40% of Catholic and Other Faith congregations have some racial diversity.

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24. Ibid.
26. Four congregations are over 90% African-American, but denominationally only three are classified as Black Protestant. The fourth is affiliated with a Mainline Protestant denomination.
Gender

Congregations reported what percentage of members are female. This was used to create a measure indicating the gender mix of the congregation.

- **Majority Males:**
  < 40% female members

- **Gender-balanced:**
  40-60% female

- **Majority Female:**
  > 60% female

About half of the Springfield area congregations are relatively gender-balanced. Predominantly female congregations are 42% of the sample. Only 10% of congregations have an under-representation of women but this is notably larger than the national sample at only 2%.

Figure 5.9 compares congregation gender composition for different religious traditions. Locally, almost two-thirds of Mainline Protestant, Black Protestant, and Other Faith congregations, and 60% of Catholic churches, have a majority of female members.

Nationally, 71% of Black Protestant and 45% of Mainline Protestant congregations are predominantly female. Southern Baptist, Assemblies of God, Other Evangelical, Catholic, and Other Faith congregations are less likely to be predominantly female.

Congregation Racial Composition by Religious Tradition (Percent of Primarily White Congregations)  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Religious Tradition</th>
<th>Springfield Area</th>
<th>National</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Assemblies of God</td>
<td>60%</td>
<td>80%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Southern Baptist</td>
<td>80%</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Evangelical</td>
<td>60%</td>
<td>80%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mainline Protestant</td>
<td>80%</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black Protestant</td>
<td>60%</td>
<td>80%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Catholic</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Faith</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>40%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Figure 5.8
Compared to national patterns, Springfield area congregations are: larger; slightly less likely to have higher concentrations of older members; less racially diverse; and more likely to have higher concentrations of male members.
Description of leader characteristics is an important part of a profile of congregations. The SACS and NCS surveys included questions on leaders’ age, tenure (length of time at the congregation), race, and gender. The SACS survey also includes a question asking if the congregation had co-pastors with equal responsibility. Half of the Springfield area congregations reported information for two leaders.

The analysis of leader characteristics includes two dimensions. The first includes both Springfield area leaders if a congregation reported two. This analysis focuses on the leaders themselves rather than the congregations. The second analysis focuses on congregations and compares leader characteristics locally and nationally. The NCS does not include information about co-pastors, therefore, only the first leader listed for each Springfield area congregation is used for the local-national comparison.

Table 6.1 presents an overview of leader characteristics. Information for all Springfield area leaders is shown, then for just the first leader listed, which can be compared to the national data. Focusing on the Springfield area, comparing the first-listed leader with all leaders shows that first leaders are, on average, older and have been at the congregation longer. This gives some support to the assumption that when two leaders were identified as having equal responsibility, the first leader listed might tend to be the senior one.

More women were listed second than first.

Comparing the first-listed leader for Springfield area congregations with the national leaders shows a similar average age. Local leaders have a longer average tenure than leaders nationwide. The representation of women leaders is almost identical locally and nationally, at about 11%. Nationally, one-third of congregational leaders are racial minorities, compared to only about 7% of local clergy.

The analysis explored how likely different types of congregations are to have different types of leaders. Leader age, tenure, race, and gender were compared across religious tradition and congregation size. To see if leaders reflect congregational demographics, the analysis also explored the relationship between: leader age and congregation age composition; leader race and congregation racial composition; and leader gender and congregation gender balance. Prior research

### Table 6.1: Overview of Leader Characteristics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Springfield Area</th>
<th></th>
<th>National</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>All Leaders</td>
<td>First Leader</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mean Age</td>
<td>51.7</td>
<td>54.1</td>
<td>55.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mean Tenure</td>
<td>8.6</td>
<td>8.8</td>
<td>9.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% White</td>
<td>92.7</td>
<td>93.7</td>
<td>67.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% Minority</td>
<td>7.3</td>
<td>6.3</td>
<td>32.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% Men</td>
<td>84.0</td>
<td>88.8</td>
<td>88.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% Women</td>
<td>16.0</td>
<td>11.2</td>
<td>11.4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

suggests women tend to be less likely to lead younger congregations. Therefore, relationship between leader gender and congregation age composition was also considered.

**Leader Age**

Locally, the average age of all congregational leaders is 51.7. The youngest is 21 and the oldest is 88. The average age for the first listed Springfield area leaders is 54.1, compared to the national average of 55.2.

Figure 6.1 compares the average leader age across religious traditions. Locally, Catholic leaders are the oldest and the White Protestant leaders tend to be younger. Nationally, the Assemblies of God, Southern Baptist, and Other Evangelical congregations tend to have older leaders than larger congregations do. However, there is not a significant difference in “first leader” average age. This could be because larger congregations might tend to have one older leader and a younger co-pastor. Nationally, the very small and small congregations have younger leaders than the medium and large congregations, but there is not a significant difference between the small congregations and the very large ones.

**Leader Age by Congregation Size**

Locally, the average age of all congregational leaders is 51.7. The youngest is 21 and the oldest is 88. The average age for the first listed Springfield area leaders is 54.1, compared to the national average of 55.2.

Figure 6.2 shows differences in leader age based on congregation size. Including co-pastors in the Springfield area, smaller congregations tend to have older leaders than larger congregations do. However, there is not a significant difference in “first leader” average age. This could be because larger congregations might tend to have one older leader and a younger co-pastor. Nationally, the very small and small congregations have younger leaders than the medium and large congregations, but there is not a significant difference between the small congregations and the very large ones.

---

**Figure 6.1**

*Leader Age by Religious Tradition*

**Figure 6.2**

*Leader Age by Congregation Size*
Figure 6.3 shows the relationship between leader age and congregation age composition. Locally, when considering both leaders, younger congregations tend to have younger leaders. There is not a significant relationship between congregation age composition and first leader age. Nationally, the older congregations have older leaders than younger congregations do, but the middle-age congregations have youngest leaders, on average.

**Leader Tenure**

The average leadership tenure in Springfield area congregations is 8.6 years. The longest-serving leader reported had been at the congregation 60 years, with the shortest time served at less than a year. Local congregations’ first leaders have somewhat short leader tenures (8.8 years), compared to the national average (9.4 years).

Figure 6.4 compares leader tenure across religious traditions. Locally, Black Protestant congregations have a notably longer average tenure. The substantial difference may be influenced by the fact that there are only three Black Protestant churches. The White Evangelical congregations (including AG and SBC) tend to have longer average leader tenures than the Mainline Protestant, Catholic, and Other Faith congregations. On the national level, Assemblies of God and Black Protestant congregations have longer leader tenures than other religious traditions.

Both locally and nationally, there is no relationship between leader tenure and congregation size.
Leader Tenure by Religious Tradition

- **Springfield Area - All Leaders**
- **Springfield Area - First Leader**
- **National - (First) Leader**

![Figure 6.4](image)

Leader Race

Leaders were categorized as being White or a member of a racial minority group. Among all Springfield area congregation leaders, 7% are racial minorities. For first listed leaders, 6% are racial minorities compared to 33% of national leaders.

Figure 6.5 displays the relationship between leader race and congregation racial composition. Both locally and nationally, only a very small percentage (2% – 4%) of primarily White congregations have a leader who is a racial minority. Locally, one-third of the congregations with some diversity have a leader who is a racial minority, compared to three-quarters of congregations nationally.

Figure 6.6 shows leader race in relation to religious tradition. Locally, leaders for all three Black Protestant congregations identified as African-American. Since there are only six Catholic churches in the sample, the three minority leaders represent a notably higher percentage than the comparable or larger absolute numbers in other religious traditions. There is not a significant difference in leader race among the White Protestant denominations.

Nationally, 99% of Black Protestant, 31% of Catholic, and 23% of Other Faith congregations have a minority leader. White Protestant congregations are less likely to have a minority leader but Other Evangelical congregations are more likely than Assemblies of God, Southern Baptist, or Mainline Protestants to have minority leaders.

One out of the six local Catholic parishes listed the first leader as belonging to a minority group, compared to one out of three Catholic churches nationwide. All the Assembly of God congregations that responded to the SACS reported having White leaders. In the NCS, 10% of AG leaders are minorities. For Other Evangelicals, 9% of local congregations have a minority leader compared to 17% nationally.

Locally, there is not a statistically significant relationship between leader race and congregation size. Nationally, minority leaders are less likely to be at larger congregations.

Leader Race by Congregation Racial Composition

**Figure 6.5**

- **Springfield Area - All Leaders**
- **Springfield Area - First Leader**
- **National - (First) Leader**

![Figure 6.5](image)
Leader Race by Religious Tradition
(Percent of Congregations with a Minority Leader)  

Figure 6.6

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Religious Tradition</th>
<th>Springfield Area - All Leaders</th>
<th>Springfield Area - First Leader</th>
<th>National - (First) Leader</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Assemblies of God</td>
<td>80%</td>
<td>60%</td>
<td>40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Southern Baptist</td>
<td>60%</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Evangelical</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mainline Protestant</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black Protestant</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Catholic</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Faith</td>
<td>80%</td>
<td>60%</td>
<td>40%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Leader Gender

Figure 6.7 shows the distribution of congregations with women leaders across different religious traditions. Locally, none of the Black Protestant leaders and all of the Other Faith leaders are women. The small number of these congregations make it difficult to conclude whether these results are due to the Springfield area culture or just chance. No local Assemblies of God congregations listed a woman as the first-listed leader. Considering all leaders, Mainline Protestant congregations have some balance between men (58%) and women (42%) leaders. Two-thirds of Springfield area Mainline Protestant congregations list a male leader first. Catholic, and Southern Baptist, and some denominations in the Other Evangelical category do not allow ordained women clergy. Therefore, it is not surprising that these traditions do not have a woman as the first-listed leader for any congregation.28

Nationally, Black Protestant congregations’ leader gender balance is almost identical to Mainline Protestants (rounding to whole numbers both have 22% women and 78% men). Other Faith congregations have 11% of their congregations led by women. Only 3% of Other Evangelical and Assemblies of God congregations have women leaders. None of the Southern Baptist or Catholic congregations have a woman leader.

The Springfield area has a higher percentage of Mainline Protestant female leaders than is represented nationwide.

Figure 6.8 shows the relationship between leader gender and the size of the congregation. Locally, all size congregations are equally likely to have a woman as one of the leaders. However, women are less likely to be the first-listed leader in large or very large congregations compared to smaller ones. This pattern is repeated on the national level. This supports research that shows congregational size is one of the notable differences in characteristics between male- and female-led congregations.29

Figure 6.9 displays the relationship between leader gender and congregation gender balance. Both local and national results support prior research indicating that congregations led by women tend to have a larger percentage of female members.30

Figure 6.10 shows the relationship between leader gender and congregation age composition. The Springfield area results support prior research showing that women leaders are more likely to be at congregations with higher concentrations of older members.31 However, nationwide, women leaders are more likely at the middle-aged and mixed-age (both younger and older) congregations and less likely at younger and older ones.

28. However, it is possible for Catholic congregations to have a woman leader because the Catholic Church allows for non-ordained people (including women) to be assigned as a parish leader when there is a shortage of priests. A priest still comes to lead the worship service.
30. Ibid.
Leader Gender by Religious Tradition  
(Percent of Congregations With a Minority Leader)  

Figure 6.7

Leader Gender by Congregation Size  
(Percent of Congregations With a Female Leader)  

Figure 6.8

The SACS supports prior research that shows that congregational size is one of the notable differences between male- and female-led congregations. Women are less likely to be the primary leaders of larger congregations.
Leader Gender by Congregation
Gender Composition
(Percent of Congregations With a Female Leader)

Figure 6.9

Leader Gender by Congregation Age Composition
(Percent of Congregations With a Female Leader)

Figure 6.10

Leader Civic Engagement

Congregational leaders are personally involved in a variety of civic activities, clearly providing an example to congregation members and establishing or strengthening relationships between their congregations and local community organizations. Table 6.2 highlights congregational leaders’ involvement in different types of community organizations. A majority of leaders, 60%, are involved with local social service agencies and almost one-quarter reported involvement with other religious organizations. Leaders’ involvement with schools (15%) and civic groups (11%) are other common forms of engagement.

Leader Community Involvement

Table 6.2

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Social Service Agency</td>
<td>60.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Religious Groups</td>
<td>24.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Schools</td>
<td>14.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Civic Group</td>
<td>11.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neighborhood Groups/Associations</td>
<td>7.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chamber of Commerce</td>
<td>5.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>College/University</td>
<td>5.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prison Ministry</td>
<td>3.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LGBT Advocacy</td>
<td>2.3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The regular gathering for weekend worship services creates an opportunity for spiritual and communal bonding within congregations. In addition, congregations often provide other ways for members to gather together, often in smaller groups that share common interests. Based on his research reported in *Bowling Alone*, Robert Putnam expressed concerns about the decline of civic life in America due to decreasing participation in social and civic groups. In his recent work, *Our Kids: The American Dream in Crisis*, Putnam notes the continued presence of religious congregations as places of community support amidst the decline of other traditional community organizations. Evidence of participation in church groups, beyond weekend worship, is an important indicator of the health of civil society.

The SACS survey included an open-ended question asking respondents to list up to five groups or regular meetings the congregation has for its members. If there were more than five groups, they listed the five with the highest attendance. Local-national comparisons use the 2006 NCS because the question format for member groups in 2012 is different from the SACS. Locally, 91% of congregations reported having some member groups. The national level is similar at 88%.

Table 7.1 shows the groups that were listed by more than 20% of the Springfield area congregations. Since responses were limited to five groups, it is likely that more congregations have some of the groups, but these results highlight the most prominent groups in local congregations.

In the Springfield area, separate general groups for men and women were among the most commonly mentioned. Men’s and women’s Bible studies were also reported, as well as Bible studies that were presumably co-ed. One-quarter of congregations have men’s groups while over 40% of congregations have women’s groups. Between 10% and 20% of congregations listed senior citizen groups, groups involving some form of “food activity,” general study groups, adult religious education, and a choir group as being among the five most highly attended. Fewer than 10% of congregations mentioned outreach, recreation, support, congregational leadership or business groups, crafts, or groups for college students or families.

The 2006 NCS included a question asking if the congregation had a religious education program. Almost 90% of congregations nationwide responded yes to this question. In the Springfield area, only 25% of congregations listed religious education as a member group. This key activity might be more common locally, but perhaps was not interpreted as “member group” by the key informants completing the survey. It might also be that children’s religious education is not one of the five most highly attended activities.
Variations Based on Congregational Characteristics

To explore how different characteristics relate to the number of member groups, congregations were divided into three categories, those with: (1) no groups; (2) one or two groups; and (3) three or more groups. Figure 7.1 shows variations in the number of member groups by religious tradition. Locally, Catholic and Mainline Protestant congregations are more likely than other religious traditions to have at least three groups. Other Evangelical congregations were a little more likely to report 1-2 groups. Nationally, Assemblies of God are more likely than other religious traditions to have at least three groups.

Number of Member Groups by Religious Tradition

Figure 7.1

Number of Member Groups by Congregation Size

Figure 7.2

- No Groups
- 1-2 Groups
- 3+ Groups

Springfield Area

- Less than 50: No Groups 40%, 1-2 Groups 30%, 3+ Groups 30%
- 50-99: No Groups 30%, 1-2 Groups 40%, 3+ Groups 30%
- 100-249: No Groups 20%, 1-2 Groups 50%, 3+ Groups 30%
- 250-899: No Groups 0%, 1-2 Groups 80%, 3+ Groups 0%
- 900 or More: No Groups 0%, 1-2 Groups 100%

National

- Less than 50: No Groups 80%, 1-2 Groups 20%
- 50-99: No Groups 60%, 1-2 Groups 40%
- 100-249: No Groups 40%, 1-2 Groups 60%
- 250-899: No Groups 20%, 1-2 Groups 80%
- 900 or More: No Groups 0%, 1-2 Groups 100%

Number of Member Groups by Leader Tenure

Figure 7.3

- No Groups
- 1-2 Groups
- 3+ Groups

Springfield Area

- Newest Leader: No Groups 15, 1-2 Groups 10, 3+ Groups 5
- Longest Leader: No Groups 20, 1-2 Groups 15, 3+ Groups 10
- First Leader: No Groups 10, 1-2 Groups 5, 3+ Groups 5

National

- First Leader: No Groups 5, 1-2 Groups 5, 3+ Groups 5

---

30
Figure 7.2 shows how congregation size relates to the number of groups. Locally, very small congregations are less likely than other sized congregations to have three or more groups. However, over one-third of very small congregations have 1–2 groups. Nationally, having more groups is increasingly likely as congregation size increases. The local to national comparison shows that smaller congregations in the Springfield area report higher numbers of groups than the same size congregations nationwide.

Figure 7.3 shows the average leader tenure based on number of groups. Locally, congregations that reported no groups have leaders with a longer tenure than average. The opposite is the case nationally, where congregations with no reported groups have leaders with a shorter average tenure.

Locally, neither the age, race, nor gender composition of congregations has a significant effect on the number of member groups. Nationally, congregation racial composition is also not a factor, but there are age and gender differences. Younger congregations are more likely to have at least three groups. Older congregations often have less than three groups. Congregations that have a majority of male members are more likely than gender-balanced or majority female congregations to have three or more groups. Congregations that have a majority of female members are less likely to have three or more groups.

Locally, there is no relationship between leader age and number of groups. Nationally, congregations with 1–2 groups have older leaders, on average, than congregations with either no groups or at least three groups.

Local results show no relationship between leader race or gender and the number of member groups. However, on a national level, congregations with a White leader are more likely to have three or more groups and less likely to have no groups. Congregations led by women are also more likely to have three or more groups.

**Congregation size is the primary factor influencing number of groups. Larger congregations are more likely to have three or more groups. Smaller congregations in the Springfield area report higher numbers of groups than the same size congregations nationwide.**

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The SACS and NCS surveys included the following question about services provided for congregation members:

**Does your congregation have any organized effort, designated person, or committee whose purpose is to coordinate or provide help to members, for example by cooking meals for a new mother or someone just home from the hospital, or providing financial assistance to someone who needs it?**

If the response was “yes,” the SACS included a set of questions in the same format as the member group question, for a list of up to five services. So again, it is possible that congregations engage in more activities than are reflected. However, the advantage to this form of question is the results indicate the most notable services in which each congregation engages.

More than 90% of Springfield area congregations reported providing aid to their members with basic needs such as clothing, food, financial assistance, etc. Nationwide, 80% of congregations provide assistance to members in need.

Table 8.1 shows the most common services Springfield area congregations provide. Over one-third of congregations reported helping members respond to immediate needs with some form of financial support: help with utilities, rent, and other financial needs. This can be an invaluable resource for individuals or families who generally have enough income to support their needs, but little or no savings to address unpredictable events. People with these needs do not necessarily need to seek out formal services or aid, but might otherwise have to resort to high-interest, short-term loans that could lead to more serious, long-term financial issues. This type of informal aid is an important niche in the overall social service sector filled by religious congregations.

Over one-quarter of congregations reported having a food pantry that is available for members of the congregation. Further research could explore whether member-oriented food pantries are more likely to serve people with ongoing needs, or if they are more commonly used by those who are able to cover an unexpected financial expense but then do not have enough left for food for the month.

Providing meals for funerals or families with new babies and visits to the hospital and homebound members, reflect a more personal, family-type of support that is distinctive, if not unique to, religious congregations.

Almost 10% of congregations reported providing some form of counseling for members. This is an area that is possibly under-reported as pastors might not view this as a social service type activity, especially if the counseling tends to be spiritual in nature.

Additional types of services were reported at lower frequencies. Between 5% and 9% of congregations provide members with help around the house; bereavement support, help to families, new mothers, etc.; and help at holidays. Up to 5% of congregations reported providing health services, transportation, financial education, and clothing.

### Variations Based on Congregational Characteristics

For the Springfield area, size is the only congregational characteristic related to whether or not congregations provided member services. All of the very large congregations have such programs. Although they are the least likely to provide internal assistance, more than three-quarters of very small congregations offer these benefits.

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**Most Common Member Services**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><em>General benevolence, financial support, utilities, etc.</em></td>
<td>34.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Food pantry</em></td>
<td>26.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Meals for funerals, new babies, the sick, etc.</em></td>
<td>25.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Visits to homebound, retirement, hospital, etc.</em></td>
<td>15.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Counseling</em></td>
<td>9.7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Nationally, the results follow the local pattern related to congregation size. There are also differences based on religious tradition. Assemblies of God and Southern Baptist reported the highest frequency (about 90%), Other Evangelical, Black Protestant, Mainline Protestant, and Other Faith congregations reported slightly fewer programs (around 80%). About 60% of Catholic congregations reported providing member services. There is no relationship between providing member services and congregation age, race, or gender composition. Congregations that provide member services have younger leaders with slightly shorter lengths of service. There are no differences related to leader race or gender.
The SACS included a question asking respondents to list any Springfield area schools, social service or community organizations that the congregation provided support to in the prior 12 months, either with donations or volunteers. This reflects whether or not the congregation provides an organized congregational effort, not necessarily volunteering by individual congregation members. Table 9.1 lists the most commonly reported organizations.

In addition, between 5% and 9% of congregations volunteer at: domestic violence programs; foster children support programs; Friends Against Hunger; neighborhood associations or community centers; colleges and universities.

**Agencies Where More than 9% of Congregations Volunteer**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pregnancy care centers*</td>
<td>25.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Victory Mission</td>
<td>23.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Denomination-sponsored agency†</td>
<td>20.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crosslines</td>
<td>17.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Convoy of Hope</td>
<td>15.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Kitchen</td>
<td>13.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Least of These</td>
<td>12.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Salvation Army</td>
<td>10.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children’s Homes</td>
<td>10.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Various other food partners</td>
<td>10.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ozark Food Harvest</td>
<td>9.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nursing homes, senior center, aging council</td>
<td>9.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rare Breed</td>
<td>9.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Council of Churches</td>
<td>9.1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

There are some differences in the agencies congregations volunteer with based on religious tradition. Some social service agencies have formal or informal affiliations with specific religious denominations. For example, Crosslines, a ministry of the Council of Churches of the Ozarks, has volunteers from close to 60% of Mainline Protestant congregations, compared to 10% or less of Other Evangelical congregations and one of the three Other Faith congregations. None of the Catholic or Black Protestant congregations reported volunteering at Crosslines.

Convoy of Hope is the designated relief partner for the Assemblies of God and draws support from 36% of AG congregations, a marginal difference compared to 20% of Southern Baptist, 14% of Other Evangelical, and 6% of Mainline Protestant. Convoy has volunteers reported from one of two Black Protestant, one out of six Catholic, and none of the Other Faith congregations.

The Kitchen, which includes Rare Breed, has a Catholic foundation. This agency has volunteers from almost one-quarter of Mainline Protestant, 10% or less of any Other Evangelical congregation, and none of the Black Protestant or Other Faith congregations. One out of six Catholic congregations reported volunteering with Rare Breed and five out of six volunteer at or donated to the Kitchen. Catholic congregations might be aware that Rare Breed is associated with the Kitchen and, therefore, might not typically report it separately.

All reports of participation with an agency formally affiliated with a specific denomination were combined into one category identified as a ‘Denominational Agency.’ These

---

* Pregnancy Care Center – Springfield, Republic, Lifehouse, etc.
* Grand Oaks Mission, Lutheran Family Services, etc.

35. Only two of the three Black Protestant congregations responded to the volunteer question.
include: Greene County Baptist Association, Grand Oak Mission, Lutheran Family Services and Catholic Charities. For Southern Baptist congregations, 60% reported a connection with a denominational agency, often specifically referencing Grand Oaks Mission. Less than 3% of Assemblies of God, Other Evangelical, or Mainline Protestants reported providing volunteers or donations to denominationally affiliated groups. Half of the Catholic congregations report participating in denomination-based agencies (i.e., Catholic Charities).

Differences in participation also vary based on congregation size. Several agencies seem to attract larger congregations. For example, about 30% of large congregations volunteer with Convoy of Hope, compared to 15% or less for smaller congregations. A similar pattern is evident for The Kitchen—about one-quarter of large and very large congregations reported a connection, where only 15% or less of smaller congregations did so. For pregnancy care centers, the larger the congregation, the more likely it is to be involved—10% of very small congregations have organized volunteer efforts at local pregnancy care centers, but about 60% of very large congregations are involved with the organizations. Larger congregations might not be more volunteer-driven than smaller ones, but rather, they might have more capacity to develop formal and organized volunteer endeavors. Smaller congregations might rely on individual members to pursue volunteer activity beyond the congregation’s ability to coordinate these efforts.

### Variations Based on Congregational Characteristics

A single indicator of whether or not the congregation is involved in any volunteering was used to analyze the relationship between congregational characteristics and congregational volunteering. For the SACS, a positive indication was recorded if a congregation listed any volunteer activity. The closest comparison to the 2012 NCS is the question: “Within the past 12 months have people at worship services been told of opportunities to volunteer to provide assistance for people outside your congregation who are in need?”

Figure 9.1 shows congregational volunteer activity by religious tradition. Locally, about 80% of congregations reported some volunteer activity, and there is a fair amount of variation across different religious traditions. All of the Catholic and Other Faith, over 90% of Mainline Protestant and Southern Baptist, 83% of Assemblies of God, about 70% of Other Evangelical, and one out of the three Black Protestant congregations report volunteer activities.

Nationally, 90% of congregations told members about volunteer opportunities. The national rate might be higher than the Springfield area because being told about volunteer opportunities does not necessarily mean that members did, in fact, volunteer. The national results show somewhat less variation than the Springfield area. Evangelical congregations (including...
Southern Baptist and Assemblies of God) and Other Faith congregations report at rates of 95% or more. Mainline Protestants have a 92% rate and Catholics report an 83% rate.

Locally, differences in congregation size do not influence the likelihood of volunteering. Nationally, the smallest congregations are less likely than larger ones to volunteer.

Locally, congregation age composition is also unrelated to volunteering. Nationally, middle-age congregations are less likely than congregations with more younger or older members to notify congregants of volunteer opportunities.

Figure 9.2 shows volunteer activity by congregational racial composition. Both locally and nationwide, congregations that are primarily White are more likely than congregations with some diversity to volunteer or notify congregation members of volunteer opportunities.

Locally, congregation gender composition does not impact volunteering. Nationally, gender-balanced congregations are most likely to notify congregants of volunteer opportunities, followed by majority female congregations.

Figure 9.3 shows volunteer activity by leader race. Locally, 83% of congregations with White leaders report volunteering, compared to 53% of congregations with minority leaders. Nationally, congregations with White leaders are also more likely than those with minority leaders to notify congregants of volunteer opportunities.

Locally, congregational leaders’ age, tenure, and gender do not influence congregations’ likelihood of volunteering. Nationally, congregations with leaders who are male, younger, and have shorter tenure are more likely to notify congregants of volunteer opportunities.

---

### Congregations with Volunteer Activity by Congregation Racial Composition

**Figure 9.2**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Congregation is Primarily White</th>
<th>Congregation has Some Diversity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Springfield Area</strong> (100%)</td>
<td><strong>National</strong> (80%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Springfield Area</strong> (80%)</td>
<td><strong>National</strong> (60%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Springfield Area</strong> (60%)</td>
<td><strong>National</strong> (40%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Springfield Area</strong> (40%)</td>
<td><strong>National</strong> (20%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Springfield Area</strong> (20%)</td>
<td><strong>National</strong> (0%)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Congregations with Volunteer Activity by Leader Race

**Figure 9.3**

- **Minority Leader**
- **All White Leaders**

---

**Non-Profit or Community-Based Organization?**

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The recent recession may have spurred an increase in the number of people asking congregations for help with food, paying rent and utilities, and health care. A 2013 survey by The Christian Chronicle found requests for benevolence are up 25% or more. A similar 2010 study by LifeWay Research reports that more than two-thirds of U.S. congregations had increased requests for financial assistance from individuals outside the congregation, and 46% had increased requests from those within the congregation.

To explore congregation provision of services to the broader community, the SACS and NCS included the following question:

**Within the past 12 months, has your congregation provided human services or other resources intended to help people in the local community who are not members of the congregation; or sponsored projects to address needs of the local civic community?**

Those responding ‘yes’ identified the five most notable programs.

Locally, 88% of congregations provide service programs for the community. This compares favorably to the national rate of 61%.

Table 10.1 shows the most commonly reported types of services for Springfield area congregations. Mainline Protestants are somewhat more likely than other denominations to have addiction/recovery programs. Southern Baptist congregations are more likely than other White Protestant denominations to report providing general benevolence.

There might be some overlap in services provided to the community and services for members. While some programs might be only available to members, and not the broader community, if a service is available to the broader community, it is reasonable to assume it is also available to members. For example, 42% of congregations report having a food pantry available to the broader community, but only 27% reported having a food pantry for members. This could mean that 27% of congregations provide food only for members, but 42% provide food for both members and the broader community.

Up to 10% of congregations provide: education, training, or workshops for the broader community; job services; health services; prison visits; support groups other than 12-step programs; scouts or sports; LGBT support; general social justice activities; or space for other groups.


congregations are more likely than smaller congregations to have community service programs. Locally, over 70% of very small congregations have programs, all of the large congregations reported having community programs, and 90% of medium and very-large congregations do. The effect of size is more notable at the national level where 45% of very small congregations have programs and there are consistent increases in percentage as congregation size goes up, ending with 81% of very large congregations having programs.

Congregation member composition (age, race, gender) and leader characteristics (age, tenure, race, gender) are not related to providing community services, either locally or nationally.

Urban versus rural location is another factor which might explain the difference in engagement levels among congregations. Unfortunately, the SACS did not include a question asking about rural versus urban location. Congregations in urban areas are often close to schools, government agencies and nonprofit organizations. This provides more volunteer options than those in rural, less-populated areas. In addition, prior research suggests urban populations may have a higher percentage of people within the community in need than those living in rural communities.

Table 10.3 shows the relationship between congregations providing service programs, volunteering, and collaboration on social services. Contrary to the idea that congregations which may not be able to provide their own programs might compensate by volunteering more, it appears that the two activities reinforce each other. Congregations that provide community services are also more likely to have members volunteering in the community. Among congregations that provide community services, 89% reported volunteering in the community. Among congregations that do not provide community services, 65% report volunteering in the community.

Of the congregations that sponsor service programs for the community, 28% of them collaborate on these programs with other congregations or groups. The insert to table 10.3 highlights the relationship between collaborating on community service programs and volunteering. All of the congregations that collaborate on social service programs also volunteer with other social service agencies.

**Variations Based on Congregational Characteristics**

Locally, religious tradition is not a significant factor. Nationally, community programs were reported by 80% of Mainline Protestants, about two-thirds of Catholic and Other Faith congregations, over half Southern Baptist and Other Evangelical, and 40% of Assemblies of God.

Figure 10.1 shows the relationship between congregation size and community service programs. Both locally and nationally, larger congregations are more likely than smaller congregations to have community service programs. The effect of size is more notable at the national level where 45% of very small congregations have programs and there are consistent increases in percentage as congregation size goes up, ending with 81% of very large congregations having programs.

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Springfield Area Case

Central Assembly of God in Springfield is an example of how congregations and nonprofit organizations work together to provide services to the community and avoid duplicating services.

For more than a decade, Central Assembly hosted a Thanksgiving meal for the Springfield community. A few miles across town, Crosslines – a nonprofit organization that assists those in poverty – was also providing a Thanksgiving meal.

The congregation made a decision to stop doing their own meal and to start helping Crosslines with their meal. “We did that because 7 out of 10 people were getting food from us and from Crosslines,” says David Jayne, pastoral care/community pastor for Central Assembly. “We decided rather than duplicate it, let’s help them do it better.”

Central Assembly now hosts the Crosslines Thanksgiving meal. The two organizations work side-by-side to provide the community meal to about 1,200 people on that one day. “Our families so enjoy doing it, and they like coming into contact with other volunteers working for a good cause,” says Jayne. The congregation hosts the meal in their facility, donates money to purchase food, and provides volunteers to assist serving the meals.

Central Assembly also partners with the nonprofit organization SingleMomzRock, hosting a program called “Empowered for Life.” The 16-week program helps single moms become self-sufficient, providing training on relationships, budgeting and other important areas. The congregation provides use of their building, free meals for the women and their families, scholarships, and mentors to help the women stay on course.

General Outreach Activity

Most of the congregations surveyed were deeply involved in their communities. While caring for their own members remains a high priority, congregations also invest their time and resources to support to the larger community.

Springfield Area - Relationship Between Volunteering and Community Service Programs

Table 10.3

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Volunteering</th>
<th>Community Service Collaboration</th>
<th>Community Program</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>%Yes</td>
<td>%No</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>88.5</td>
<td>65.0</td>
<td>85.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>53.0</td>
<td>7.7</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>%No</td>
<td>11.5</td>
<td>35.0</td>
<td>14.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>0.0</td>
<td>---</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>10.1</td>
<td>4.2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number</td>
<td>148</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>168</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Springfield Area - Overall Scope of Services for Members, Community, or Volunteer Efforts

Table 10.4

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Spirituality-related</td>
<td>95.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social groups</td>
<td>85.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food pantry</td>
<td>80.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Child-related</td>
<td>77.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Activities with schools</td>
<td>49.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Help for women</td>
<td>34.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Help for homeless persons</td>
<td>30.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Group of members who provide service activity</td>
<td>16.5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Several common service activities were represented in all three types of congregational service activity: member help, volunteering, and programs serving the community. In some cases, service type activities were also reflected in member groups. Table 10.4 shows the scope of any type of congregational activity in common services, regardless of who the services are for.

Spirituality-related and social groups were more often reported as member groups, but activities including these components were also reported in volunteering or community service. Groups or services related to food are another very common aspect of congregational life. Activities or services oriented for children are also common practice, with over three-quarters of congregations reporting child-related groups or programs.
11. Collaboration with Community Groups

Prior research indicates that although American congregations are more civically and socially engaged than other nonpolitical organizations, their primary function in society is the production and enactment of religious culture. In other words, congregations carry a deep commitment to political and social ideals that often inspires community action, but they are not, by definition, political or civic organizations. Federal law prohibits some forms of political activity, such as endorsing specific candidates, but congregations are still able to participate in a variety of politically-oriented activities. The overall level of political activity is consistent across the religious traditions, but different traditions emphasize unique political commitments. Evangelical Protestant groups regularly distribute voter guides, Catholic congregations tend to organize marches and demonstrations, and Mainline Protestant congregations host discussion groups. Campbell highlights these qualitative differences, arguing that Evangelical Protestant congregations tend to encourage more internal participation whereas Mainline Protestant and Catholic congregations foster more explicit external political activity.

The SACS survey included questions that provide a view of various ways congregations collaborate with other groups for both religious and civic purposes. These include three different types of activities: (1) prayer services; (2) civic engagement or volunteer activity; and (3) political marches, demonstrations or rallies. Respondents also reported collaboration with any of three different types of groups, each group type representing greater extents of “bridging” to more diverse groups. The closest connection is to congregations within their faith tradition. Next, congregations often collaborate with congregations of another denomination or faith. Finally, congregations establish broader outreach to civic or community groups.

The NCS explored congregational collaboration differently, although there are some questions that can be compared with the SACS. The 2006 NCS (but not the 2012) included a question about participation in joint worship services with any other congregation (it did not specify whether it was within the faith group or another faith). The 2012 NCS recorded social service collaboration (on programs run by the congregation) and interfaith service work or volunteering. These two questions are used to compare to the SACS question about civic engagement. The 2012 NCS also included a question about participation in marches, rallies, or protests, but it did not inquire about collaboration.

Table 11.1 shows the percentage of Springfield area congregations participating in each type of activity with each type of group and includes a summary column indicating collaboration of any type. Collaborative prayer services and civic engagement are fairly common activities for congregations, with about 80% and 70% of congregations reporting these activities, respectively. Collaborative political activity is much less common, with 15% of congregations engaging in this type of activity.

In the Springfield area, the most common form of collaborative prayer was within faith communities. More than half of the respondents said that they participate in such services with congregations in the same faith.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Within Faith Group</th>
<th>Within Another Faith</th>
<th>Civic/Community Group</th>
<th>Any Collaboration</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>% Prayer Service</td>
<td>57.6</td>
<td>30.6</td>
<td>22.9</td>
<td>71.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% Civic Engagement</td>
<td>38.2</td>
<td>26.5</td>
<td>62.4</td>
<td>81.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% March, Rally, Protest</td>
<td>7.1</td>
<td>5.9</td>
<td>11.8</td>
<td>15.3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Almost one-third of congregations share in prayer with congregations of a different faith. Over one-fifth of congregations participate in prayer services with civic or community groups. Overall, a little over 70% of congregations engage in collaborative prayer services with some other group.

Springfield area congregations are most likely to participate in civic engagement or volunteering with civic or community groups, with over 60% of congregations responding affirmatively. Joint efforts between congregations is somewhat less likely, though congregations are slightly more likely to collaborate within their own faith (38%) than with congregations of different faiths (27%). Civic or community groups are more likely than religious congregations to have civic engagement activities as their primary focus, so it is reasonable to conclude that congregations report higher levels of collaboration with these groups because of their pre-existing activities.

Congregation participation in political marches, demonstrations or protests is not particularly common among Springfield area congregations. Within their own faiths, 7% of congregations participate in political marches, rallies, demonstrations, or protests. About 6% participate in such activities with groups of a different faith. Congregations are slightly more likely to participate with civic or community groups for political reasons, with about 12% responding affirmatively.

Figure 11.1 shows the local and national comparison of all types of collaborative activities, with any type of group. Joint prayer services occur at very similar rates. Local civic engagement participation appears slightly higher than the national level, but the SACS questions cover a broader scope of activity than the NCS questions do. Therefore, it may be reasonable to conclude that local congregation civic engagement is comparable to the national level. Local congregations’ rate of collaborative participation in marches, rallies, or protests is slightly higher than the national rate, which includes both collaborative and independent activity.

Variations Based on Congregational Characteristics

Analyzing the three types of activities with each of three different groups for all the congregational and leader characteristics produced too many local significant findings to reasonably display in chart form. Therefore, while all the significant results are described, charts are only shown for the comparison across religious traditions.

Prayer Services

Figure 11.2 compares the likelihood of congregations having joint prayer services, with any type of group, across religious traditions. One-third of the Springfield area Assemblies of God congregations participate in prayer services with some other group, compared to at least two-thirds of congregations from all other religious traditions.

Nationally, Assemblies of God and Black Protestant congregations are more likely to participate in joint prayer services, while Catholic and Other Faith congregations are least likely. Southern Baptist, Other Evangelical, Black Protestant and Mainline Protestant congregations all have similar rates of participation locally and nationally. Assemblies of God have higher rates nationally than locally. Catholics have higher local rates than national ones.

Locally, congregation size is not a significant factor. Nationally, very small congregations are more likely than other size congregations to participate...
Collaboration with Community Groups

**Congregations Having a Joint Prayer Service by Religious Tradition**

*Figure 11.2*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Religious Tradition</th>
<th>Springfield Area</th>
<th>National</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Assemblies of God</td>
<td>80%</td>
<td>60%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Southern Baptist</td>
<td>60%</td>
<td>40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Evangelical</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mainline Protestant</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black Protestant</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Catholic</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Faith</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Congregations Engaged in Collaborative Civic Engagement by Religious Tradition**

*Figure 11.3*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Religious Tradition</th>
<th>Springfield Area</th>
<th>National Social Service</th>
<th>National Volunteer</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Assemblies of God</td>
<td>80%</td>
<td>60%</td>
<td>40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Southern Baptist</td>
<td>60%</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Evangelical</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mainline Protestant</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black Protestant</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Catholic</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Faith</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
in joint prayer services.

Both locally and nationally, there is no variation by congregation age composition.

Locally, there is no variation by congregation racial composition. Nationally, participation in joint prayer services is more likely with more racially diverse congregations than primarily White congregations.

Locally, majority male congregations are less likely than majority female or gender-balanced congregations to have joint prayer services. Nationally, congregation gender composition is not a factor.

Both locally and nationally, there is no variation by leader age or tenure.

Locally, more than half of congregations with at least one minority leader participate in a prayer service with a congregation of a different faith, compared to 29% of congregations with all White leaders. National results show a similar pattern; congregations with minority leaders are more likely than those with White leaders to participate in joint prayer services.

Locally, there is no variation by leader gender. Nationally, congregations with female leaders are more likely than those with male leaders to have joint prayer services.

**Civic Engagement**

Figure 11.3 compares local and national overall civic engagement across religious traditions. In the Springfield area, different religious traditions are just as likely to participate in civic engagement with congregations within their faith and with civic groups. However, Southern Baptist congregations are notably less likely to participate with congregations of different faiths, and Assemblies of God congregations are somewhat less likely. Two-thirds of Catholic congregations reported civic engagement with different faiths, and none of the three Other Faith congregations reported this type of activity.

Nationally, for all religious traditions, over half participate in collaborative social service activity, but Mainline Protestant, Catholic, and Other Faith groups are more likely than Black Protestant or White Evangelical groups to collaborate in this way. Assemblies of God congregations are less likely to engage in interfaith volunteering.

Locally, small and very small congregations are less likely than medium, large, and very large ones to collaborate in civic engagement activities. However, medium and larger congregations are more likely than very large ones to engage in this form of collaboration. Nationally, the larger the congregation, the more likely it is to engage in collaborative activities.

Both locally and nationally, there are no differences based on congregation age composition.

Locally, there are no differences based on congregation racial composition. Nationally, primarily White congregations are more likely than congregations with some diversity to collaborate in social service activities. There are no differences related to volunteering.

Locally majority male congregations are less likely than gender-balanced or majority female congregations to participate collaboratively in civic engagement activities with civic groups. Nationally, majority male congregations are more likely than gender-balanced or majority female congregations to collaborate in social service programs, but less likely to share in volunteer activities with different faith groups.

Both locally and nationally, there are no differences based on leader age or gender.

Locally, congregations with newer leaders are more likely to collaborate with civic or community groups.

Nationally, congregations with newer leaders are more likely to collaborate on social service programs.

Locally, there are no differences based on leader race. Nationally, congregations with White rather than minority leaders, are more likely to collaborate on social service programs.

**Political Activity**

Figure 11.4 compares local and national participation in political activity (with any type of group) across religious traditions. Locally, Black Protestant congregations appear more likely to participate in political activity with all three types of groups. Catholic and Other Faith congregations also appear more likely to have joint political activity with civic or community groups. However, with the small number of congregations in these faith groups, these differences cannot be confirmed with statistical analysis. Mainline Protestants are somewhat more likely than Assemblies of God, Southern Baptist, or Other Evangelical Protestant groups to engage in political activity with congregations of another faith group. Catholic and Other Faith congregations are more likely to participate in marches and demonstrations.

Locally, collaboration in political activity does not vary by congregation size. Nationally, the larger the congregation, the more likely it is to engage in collaborative activities.

Both locally and nationally, collaboration in political activity does not vary by congregation age or gender composition.

Locally, more racially diverse congregations are more likely than their predominantly White counterparts to participate in political marches, demonstrations, or protests. Nationally, there are no differences in the likelihood of participating in marches based on congregation racial composition.
Collaboration with Community Groups

Both locally and nationally, collaboration in political activity does not vary by leader age or tenure.

Locally, one-third of congregations with at least one minority leader participate in a political march, rally, demonstration, or protest, compared to 14% of congregations with all White leaders. The most significant difference is related to collaboration in these activities with congregations within the same faith group. Over one-quarter of congregations with at least one minority leader collaborate in political marches, rallies, demonstrations, or protests, but only 5% of congregations with all White leaders do so. Nationally, there are no differences in the likelihood of participating in marches based on leader race.

Locally, congregations with at least one female leader are more likely than those with all male leaders to collaborate in marches, rallies, or protests. Nationally, the likelihood of participating in marches is not related to leader gender.

Springfield Area Case

One particular example illustrates congregational collaboration. In the summer of 2013 Deron Smith, preaching minister at East Sunshine Church of Christ, had a desire to expand beyond his church’s four walls and collaborate with other congregations. He sent an e-mail message to local pastors, asking them if they would be willing to have coffee with him and discuss an idea.

Pastors from Schweitzer United Methodist Church, Glendale Christian Church, and Hope Church met with Deron. “I asked them a simple question: ‘Can we work together?’ and they all agreed to give it a try.”

Even though the congregations represented different faith groups, and even though some of their doctrine and practices were quite different from each other, the churches agreed it would be good to work together and to support one another.

In June of 2014, the four congregations met as one group for a unity prayer and worship service. Since that time, the groups continue to meet. “I don’t see East Sunshine Church of Christ in competition with these other churches,” says Smith. “We all share the same goals.”

The congregations continue to meet on a consistent basis, and members have joined together to help the community by starting “Jobs for Life,” a nonprofit organization that engages and equips local churches to address the impact of joblessness through the dignity of work. The program is housed at Schweitzer United Methodist Church.

East Sunshine Church of Christ participates in several other community collaborations to help those in need. During cold-weather months November 1 - March 31, they provide emergency shelter for men in Springfield who do not have a warm place to sleep. Beginning in April, the church serves as hosts to the overnight shelter for women called Safe-to-Sleep, a program of the Council of Churches of the Ozarks.
12. Conclusion

The Community Focus Report (CFR) is an ongoing project, the purpose of which is to assess the overall conditions that represent community strengths (blue ribbons) and challenges (red flags) in Springfield and Greene County. In 2015, the blue ribbon themes were: collaborative culture, awareness of shifting civic and cultural realities, and community revitalization. The red flag themes were: poverty, insufficient funding, and looming threats of civic infrastructure. In 2013, the blue ribbon themes were: collaboration, community engagement, and innovation and leadership. The red flag themes were: poverty, insufficient funding, concerns for children and youth, and lack of investment in prevention efforts. Each report also assessed specific areas of community life, ranging from arts and culture, to business and economic climate, to natural environment. Highlighting how local congregations address these issues serves to summarize some of the key findings of the Springfield Area Congregations Study.

Springfield Area Congregations’ Responses to Community Focus Report Themes

Collaboration and Community Engagement

In addition to providing a profile of Springfield area congregations, a primary goal of the SACS was to describe how congregations are engaged in the community. Summarizing the study results, about 80% of Springfield area congregations reported some volunteer activity with other community organizations. Social service programs available to members of the broader community are provided by 88% of Springfield area congregations. About 70% of congregations participate in collaborative prayer services, 80% collaborate in civic engagement, and 15% participate with other congregations or civic groups in political marches, rallies, or protests.

Leadership

Congregational leaders are often personally involved with organizations that congregations volunteer or collaborate with in providing social services. Religious leaders are also often involved with other civic organizations. Over three-quarters of Springfield area congregations reported having leaders involved in the community in some way. Consistent with prior research, this study show a relationship between leadership characteristics and congregational activity.

Poverty

This report has shown that the social service programs and volunteer efforts supported by congregations address the basic needs faced by the impoverished members of the community. These include: food pantries, clothing, assistance with utilities and other general benevolence support, and services for the homeless.

Insufficient Funding

The SACS did not attempt to directly measure the economic impact of congregational social service activity. However, the goods and services provided by religious congregations undoubtedly serves to fill some part of the gap in funding identified by the CFR. This is an area where further research to assess more specific value.

Concerns for Children and Youth

Many congregations provide programs and groups for their own young members. In addition, a notable number of congregations volunteer with agencies that provide service to foster children, children’s group homes, and a variety of other children’s services. Volunteering and collaboration with schools is also a common congregational activity.

It is significant that prevention can...
often be a difficult term to define in the context of child abuse and neglect, although multiple research studies have demonstrated that congregations often provide a variety of protective factors including parenting support and education, community support networks, and tenets that encourage the strength of positive and nurturing parenting.43

Summary and Conclusions

Findings from this report support the Springfield area’s designation as the “Buckle of the Bible Belt.” Greene County has a higher density of religious congregations than comparably-sized counties nationwide and congregations are slightly larger, on average, than those nationwide. A substantial majority of congregations reflect an Evangelical Christian tradition and have a majority white membership.

This study focused on congregational activity beyond that of worship and religious education, exploring ways congregations contribute to broader civil society. Congregations are involved in the charitable activities aligned with the doctrines of most major religions: providing food, clothing, and shelter; visiting the sick; and help for mothers and children.

This report explored variation in congregational activity based on a number of different congregational and leadership characteristics. Congregation size affected the likelihood of congregational involvement in several different activities. Larger congregations are consistently more likely than smaller ones to have more member groups, social services for members, and service programs for the broader community. Larger congregations are also more likely to collaborate in civic engagement activities. Congregation size was not a factor in volunteering activity, or collaborating in joint worship services or political activity.

This study raised new questions to explore.

- Why does congregation size have such a substantial influence on congregations’ scope of civic engagement?
- What barriers or limitations do smaller congregations face?
- What resources might small congregations need to better enable formal collaboration?
- Would outreach from larger congregations or community agencies provide additional opportunities for smaller congregations to be involved in the broader community?

This report covers congregations in Greene and Christian counties, which is a moderate-sized metropolitan area. Smaller neighborhood areas, such as the “Zones” identified within the City of Springfield, could benefit from using this report as a model to explore congregational civic activity and collaboration even more locally. The Zone Blitz project focusing on community improvement projects in neighborhoods in northwest Springfield includes a number of congregations as partners. Congregations, especially small ones, are neighborhood-based resources that are more likely to be able to collaborate with other neighborhood organizations.

In Our Kids, Robert Putnam explored changes in opportunities for youth from different socioeconomic backgrounds and noted the decline of supportive local community institutions. He highlighted the challenges faced by local schools in disadvantaged neighborhoods, expressed concern about the decline in civil society, and identified religious congregations as “the last remaining community institutions.”44 Putnam summarized research indicating the positive effects of religion for young people but also noted a class gap in religious involvement, with poor families being less involved.45 In his concluding recommendations he called for a greater role from religious institutions in providing informal mentoring for youth.46 Over 75% of Springfield area congregations reported volunteering or providing services focusing on children and almost 50% are engaged with activities or support to schools. Neighborhoods could benefit by developing and expanding the relationships between these two key neighborhood institutions.

The goal of the Springfield Area Congregations Study is to serve as a resource by providing a profile of religious congregations in Greene and Christian counties and exploring patterns of social service and civic activity involvement of local congregations. The hope is that the information presented can be used by congregational and civic leaders, as well as congregation members and local citizens to continue to serve our community.

44. Putnam, Our Kids, p. 206.
45. Ibid, p. 224.
46. Ibid, p. 258.
## 13. Appendix: Directory of Churches in Greene & Christian Counties

Congregations are listed alphabetically by city name, then by congregation name. The sample entry shows the order of information for each congregation. The information available varies by congregation. E-mail addresses have a distinguishable format, they all include @. Facebook page address are preceded by an ‘f’ to distinguish them from website addresses.

To save space, facebook page addresses do not include the portion that is identical for all pages. Be sure to include the https://www.facebook.com/ prefix when entering the address.

All information was collected from publicly available sources, including congregation websites, online yellow pages, Dunn & Bradstreet listings, several ‘find a church’ directories, city or chamber of commerce listings, denominational directories, as well as general “Google searches.” See the end of the directory for specific sources.

The specific information is the most current available at the time it was collected. However, phone, e-mail, and websites show a notable degree of change over time (Facebook pages are somewhat more stable, but more congregations are creating Facebook pages – as well as websites – over time).

### SAMPLE
- **Church Name**: St Joseph Catholic Church
- **Street Address**: 320 NW Washington Ave
- **City**: Billings
- **State Zip**: MO 65610
- **Phone**: 417-744-2490
- **e-mail**: stjosephbillings@aol.com
- **website**: http://saintjosephbillings.weebly.com

---

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<tr>
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<th>Email Address</th>
<th>Website Address</th>
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<td>Apostolic Church of Promise</td>
<td>415 E Walker Ave</td>
<td>Ash Grove, MO 65604</td>
<td>417-751-2428</td>
<td><a href="mailto:magberry@me.com">magberry@me.com</a></td>
<td><a href="http://unexpectedjoychurch.org">http://unexpectedjoychurch.org</a></td>
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<td>411 N Crestview Ave</td>
<td>Ash Grove, MO 65604</td>
<td>417-751-2302</td>
<td><a href="mailto:ashgroveag@hotmail.com">ashgroveag@hotmail.com</a></td>
<td><a href="http://ashgroveag.org">http://ashgroveag.org</a></td>
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<td>201 E Walker Ave</td>
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<td>417-751-2441</td>
<td><a href="mailto:pastor@agfirstbaptist.org">pastor@agfirstbaptist.org</a></td>
<td><a href="https://sites.google.com/site/agfirstbaptist">https://sites.google.com/site/agfirstbaptist</a></td>
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<tr>
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<td>Ash Grove United Methodist/Presbyterian Church</td>
<td>403 E Boone St</td>
<td>Ash Grove, MO 65604</td>
<td>417-882-1116</td>
<td><a href="mailto:dpratt@ag.org">dpratt@ag.org</a></td>
<td><a href="http://kelleybaptistchurch.lifewaylink.com">http://kelleybaptistchurch.lifewaylink.com</a></td>
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<td>ASH GROVE</td>
<td>Bible Baptist Church</td>
<td>405 N Crestview Ave</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Center Baptist Church</td>
<td>5124 N Farm Road Rd</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:info@centerbaptistchurch.org">info@centerbaptistchurch.org</a></td>
<td><a href="http://www.centerbaptistchurch.org">www.centerbaptistchurch.org</a></td>
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<td>ASH GROVE</td>
<td>Church Theotokos Unexpected</td>
<td>810 W Woodland Rd</td>
<td>Ash Grove, MO 65604</td>
<td>417-672-3033</td>
<td><a href="mailto:magberry@me.com">magberry@me.com</a></td>
<td><a href="http://unexpectedjoychurch.org">http://unexpectedjoychurch.org</a></td>
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<tr>
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<td>14251 W Farm Road 84</td>
<td>Ash Grove, MO 65604</td>
<td>417-788-2436</td>
<td><a href="mailto:robertjodson@yahoo.com">robertjodson@yahoo.com</a></td>
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<tr>
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<td>First Christian Church of Ash Grove</td>
<td>211 N Calhoun Ave</td>
<td>Ash Grove, MO 65604</td>
<td>417-751-2912</td>
<td><a href="mailto:tom.geer@sbcglobal.net">tom.geer@sbcglobal.net</a></td>
<td><a href="http://www.firstchristianchurchofashgrove.org">http://www.firstchristianchurchofashgrove.org</a></td>
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<tr>
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<td>Kelley Baptist Church</td>
<td>12725 W Farm Road 64</td>
<td>Ash Grove, MO 65604</td>
<td><a href="mailto:dpratt@ag.org">dpratt@ag.org</a></td>
<td><a href="http://kelleybaptistchurch.lifewaylink.com">http://kelleybaptistchurch.lifewaylink.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>BILLINGS</td>
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<td>5154 S State Highway FF</td>
<td>Battlefield, MO 65619</td>
<td>417-883-2468</td>
<td><a href="mailto:pastor@wilsoncreekbaptistchurch.com">pastor@wilsoncreekbaptistchurch.com</a></td>
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<tr>
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<td>231 NE Hamilton Ave</td>
<td>Billings, MO 65610</td>
<td>417-744-2000</td>
<td><a href="mailto:BillingsAssembly@sbcglobal.net">BillingsAssembly@sbcglobal.net</a></td>
<td><a href="http://www.billingsassembly.org">http://www.billingsassembly.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>BILLINGS</td>
<td>Billings Assembly of God</td>
<td>749 State Highway 14 W</td>
<td>Billings, MO 65610</td>
<td>417-744-2000</td>
<td><a href="mailto:BillingsAssembly@sbcglobal.net">BillingsAssembly@sbcglobal.net</a></td>
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<td>Billings, MO 65610</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:BillingsAssembly@sbcglobal.net">BillingsAssembly@sbcglobal.net</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>BILLINGS</td>
<td>Billings Mt Olive United Methodist Church</td>
<td>113 SE Hamilton Ave</td>
<td>Billings, MO 65610</td>
<td>417-744-2555</td>
<td><a href="mailto:fin_treas@billingsumc.com">fin_treas@billingsumc.com</a></td>
<td><a href="http://www.billingsumc.org">http://www.billingsumc.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>BILLINGS</td>
<td>Billings Full Gospel Church</td>
<td>607 Clay Hill Rd</td>
<td>Billings, MO 65610</td>
<td>417-744-2555</td>
<td><a href="mailto:BillingsAssembly@sbcglobal.net">BillingsAssembly@sbcglobal.net</a></td>
<td><a href="http://www.billingsassembly.org">http://www.billingsassembly.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>BOIS D'ARC</td>
<td>Bethel Romanian Church</td>
<td>1288 S Spring Lake Ln</td>
<td>Bois D'Arc, MO 65612</td>
<td>417-742-3995</td>
<td><a href="mailto:pastor@boisdarcumc.org">pastor@boisdarcumc.org</a></td>
<td><a href="http://boisdarcumc.org">http://boisdarcumc.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>BOIS D'ARC</td>
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<td>417-744-2555</td>
<td><a href="mailto:fin_treas@billingsumc.com">fin_treas@billingsumc.com</a></td>
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<td>4224 S Farm Road Rd</td>
<td>Springfield, MO 65619</td>
<td>417-836-9091</td>
<td><a href="mailto:office@cccspringfield.org">office@cccspringfield.org</a></td>
<td><a href="http://www.cccspringfield.org">http://www.cccspringfield.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>BROOKLINE</td>
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<td>5746 W US Highway 60</td>
<td>Brookline Station, MO 65619</td>
<td>417-881-0671</td>
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50
CHADWICK
First Baptist Church of Chadwick
123 S Rose Ave
Chadwick, MO 65629
417-300-1519
f - First-Baptist-Church-of-Chadwick-Missouri-245103319015045

Pine Ridge Church
3234 Blue Creek Rd
Chadwick, MO 65629
417-634-5332
f - Pine-Ridge-Church-35459484368485

Union Hill Southern Baptist Church
1165 Swan Cave Rd
Chadwick, MO 65629
417-634-3983

CLEVER
Clever First Baptist Church
105 S Kennedy
Clever, MO 65631
417-743-2541
bwjump@gmail.com
www.fbcclever.org
f - cleverfirstbaptist

Clever United Methodist Church
202 S Kennedy Ave
Clever, MO 65631
417-942-7098
cleverumc@gmail.com
f - pages/Clever-United-Methodist-Church/2773167716109

First Christian Church
201 W Carpenter St
Clever, MO 65631
417-743-2587
nx2@aol.com

Jamesville Missionary Baptist Church
213 Riverview Rd
Clever, MO 65631
417-379-9741

Mt. Sinai Baptist Church
156 Mount Sinai Rd
Clever, MO 65631
417-724-1562

The Road Church
6800 State Highway 14 W
Clever, MO 65631
417-849-2515
dan@myroadchurch.com
www.myroadchurch.com
f - TheRoadChurch

Triune Church
155 Little Pond Rd
Clever, MO 65631

FAIR GROVE
Cedar Bluff Baptist Church
8505 State Highway E
Fair Grove, MO 65648
417-759-7892
info@cedarbluffchurch.com
http://www.cedarbluffchurch.com
f - pages/Cedar-Bluff-Baptist-Church/342967522410887

Community Southern Baptist Church
4686 E State Highway CC
Fair Grove, MO 65648
417-759-9551
dair79@gmail.com
http://communitysbc.org

Fair Grove Assembly of God
255 W Cherry St
Fair Grove, MO 65648
417-759-2220

Fair Grove Baptist Temple
532 S Orchard Blvd
Fair Grove, MO 65648

Fair Grove First Baptist Church
220 S Main St
Fair Grove, MO 65648
417-759-2760
info@fgbc.org
http://www.fgbc.org
f - fgfirstbaptist

Fair Grove United Methodist Church
83 E Hickory St
Fair Grove, MO 65648
417-759-2508
office@fairgroveumc.org
http://www.fairgroveumc.org

Faith Freewill Baptist
373 N Union Grove Rd
Fair Grove, MO 65648
417-759-7410

Lamp Lighter Church
117 S Rock Ridge St
Fair Grove, MO 65648

Peace Chapel
9260 N Farm Road 183
Fair Grove, MO 65648
417-759-2045
PeaceChapelAG@gmail.com
http://www.peacechapelag.org
f - PeaceChapelAG

GARRISON
First Church of the Nazarene
225 Turkey Creek Rd
Garrison, MO 65657
417-796-2137

HIGHLANDVILLE
Cathedral of the Prince of Peace
405 Kentling Ave
Highlandville, MO 65669
Archbishop@ChristCatholicChurch.org
http://cathedraloftheprinceofpeace.org

First Assembly of God
706 Gossip Ave
Highlandville, MO 65669
417-443-6217
contact.hlfirst@gmail.com
http://www.hlfirst.org
f - pages/First-Assembly-of-God-Highlandville-MO/113411912025176

First Baptist Church
3744 State Highway EE
Highlandville, MO 65669
417-443-3334
f - FirstBaptistHighlandville

First Central Baptist Church
794 Hopkins Rd
Highlandville, MO 65669
417-443-2615

Life Tabernacle Church
7104 US Highway 160
Highlandville, MO 65669

Pleasant Grove Baptist Church
7254 US Highway 160 S
Highlandville, MO 65669
417-860-2868
dhartwell48@yahoo.com

NIXA
Aldersgate United Methodist Church
460 W Aldersgate Dr
Nixa, MO 65714
417-725-4949
dmiller@aldersgatechurch.com
http://aldersgatechurch.com
f - AldersgateUMCNixa

Calvary Baptist Church
206 S Smalley St
Nixa, MO 65714
417-725-3023
ckurtis@calvaryrooste.org
http://calvarybaptistnixa.org
f - pages/Calvary-Baptist-Church/116508491704544

Calvary Bible Church
130 S Nicholas Rd
Nixa, MO 65714
417-725-4437
CalvaryBibleNixa@gmail.com
http://www.calvarybiblenixa.org
f - CBCNixa

Cassidy United Methodist Church
5151 N Fremont Rd
Nixa, MO 65714
417-582-3632
cassidyumc@cebridge.net
http://www.cassidyumc.net
f - CassidyUnitedMethodistChurch

Church of Christ
1915 S Hiawatha Rd
Nixa, MO 65714
417-714-4143
pastor_howchurch@hotmail.com

Church of Christ
313 S Main St
Nixa, MO 65714
417-725-5784
nixauchurchofchrist@gmail.com
http://www.nixauchurchofchrist.org

Connecting Point Ministries
715 Spruce St
Nixa, MO 65714
417-459-3669

Country Side Christian Church
3350 W Jackson St
Nixa, MO 65714
417-581-6290
pastor@ccc4him.com
http://ccc4him.com
f - CountrySideChristianChurch

Crossroads Baptist Church
423 W South St
Nixa, MO 65714

Family of Christ Lutheran Church
504 Hightower Ave
Nixa, MO 65714
417-724-9424
familyofchrist@corpranet.net
http://www.familyofchrist.org

First Baptist Nixa
601 W Wasson Dr
Nixa, MO 65714
417-725-3867
contact@fbcnixa.org
http://www.fbcnixa.org
f - fbcnixa

First Korean Presbyterian Church
205 E South St
Nixa, MO 65714
417-725-2300
juheonlyu@hotmail.com
http://fkcpsf.onmam.com

Fremont Hills Baptist Church
4375 N Fremont Rd
Nixa, MO 65721
417-581-7424
pastor@fremonthillsbaptist.org
http://fremonthillsbaptistchurch.org
weebly.com

Grace Community Worship Center
380 E State Highway CC
Nixa, MO 65714
417-844-3975
info@graceccw.org
http://graceccw.org
f - pages/Grace-Community-Worship-Center/20634414301955

Heart of Worship Church
1330 Carriage Ct
Nixa, MO 65714
417-714-4143
pastorhowchurch@hotmail.com

Higher Vision Community Church
825 N Kenneth St
Nixa, MO 65714
417-753-3049
pastorlance@gmail.com
www.highervisioncommunity.com
f - HigherVisionCommunityChurch

James River Chapel
206 Water St
Nixa, MO 65714
417-725-8974

Jehovah’s Witnesses
205 E South St
Nixa, MO 65714
417-724-9774

Higher Vision Community Church
825 N Kenneth St
Nixa, MO 65714
417-753-3049
pastorlance@gmail.com
www.highervisioncommunity.com
f - HigherVisionCommunityChurch
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<td><a href="mailto:jan@hhbcrogersville.org">jan@hhbcrogersville.org</a></td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Oak Grove Heights Seventh Day Adventist Church</td>
<td>2007 S State Highway 125</td>
<td>417-753-2264</td>
<td><a href="mailto:eghsda@aol.com">eghsda@aol.com</a></td>
<td><a href="http://www.oakgroveheightssda.org">http://www.oakgroveheightssda.org</a></td>
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<td>Plainview Church of Christ</td>
<td>3739 Johns Ford Rd</td>
<td>417-753-3147</td>
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<td>River of Life Lutheran Church</td>
<td>4900 S Farm Road 189</td>
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<td>Rogersville Assembly of God</td>
<td>201 S Marshall St</td>
<td>417-753-3177</td>
<td><a href="mailto:robertsong@junio.com">robertsong@junio.com</a></td>
<td><a href="http://www.rogersvileag.com">http://www.rogersvileag.com</a></td>
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<td>Rogersville Church of Christ</td>
<td>109 S Harper Dr</td>
<td>417-753-3126</td>
<td><a href="mailto:info@RogersvilleMoChurchofChrist.com">info@RogersvilleMoChurchofChrist.com</a></td>
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<td>Smyrna Baptist Church</td>
<td>3401 Smyrna Rd</td>
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<td>Spring Hill Baptist Church</td>
<td>5409 State Highway U</td>
<td>417-753-3400</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Eric.Gann@mchsi.com">Eric.Gann@mchsi.com</a></td>
<td>f - pages/SpriingHill-Baptist-Church/116325018415206</td>
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<td>The Summit Church</td>
<td>1605 S State Highway 125</td>
<td>417-753-5000</td>
<td><a href="mailto:tplaster@summitchurch.net">tplaster@summitchurch.net</a></td>
<td><a href="http://www2.summitchurch.net">http://www2.summitchurch.net</a></td>
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<td>Victory Life Church</td>
<td>303 W Center St</td>
<td>417-753-4405</td>
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<td>Westside Christian Church</td>
<td>537 W Elm St</td>
<td>417-732-6082</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:rpatton@republicwsc.com">rpatton@republicwsc.com</a></td>
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<td>Rogersville, MO 65721</td>
<td>417-429-6016</td>
<td><a href="mailto:pastor@breadoflifemo.org">pastor@breadoflifemo.org</a></td>
<td><a href="http://www.breadoflifemo.org">http://www.breadoflifemo.org</a></td>
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<td>Rogersville, MO 65742</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Rogersville, MO 65742</td>
<td>417-753-2902</td>
<td><a href="mailto:hoopersseven@yahoo.com">hoopersseven@yahoo.com</a></td>
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### SPRINGFIELD

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<td>Abundant Life Covenant Church</td>
<td>3531 S Scenic Ave</td>
<td>417-881-1532</td>
<td><a href="mailto:abundant@alspringfield.org">abundant@alspringfield.org</a></td>
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<td>Act Ministries</td>
<td>233 E Norton Rd</td>
<td>417-886-0223</td>
<td><a href="mailto:drpaulcollins@sbcglobal.net">drpaulcollins@sbcglobal.net</a></td>
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<td>Acts of Praise Whole Life Ministry</td>
<td>937 E Dale St</td>
<td>417-873-2223</td>
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<td>Agape Life Fellowship</td>
<td>6185 W State Highway 266</td>
<td>417-831-2333</td>
<td><a href="mailto:pastor@agapelifellowship.org">pastor@agapelifellowship.org</a></td>
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<td>All Saints Anglican Church</td>
<td>2751 E Galway St</td>
<td>417-888-3001</td>
<td><a href="mailto:office@allsaintsspringfield.org">office@allsaintsspringfield.org</a></td>
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<td>Antioch United Methodist Church</td>
<td>3614 N State Highway H</td>
<td>417-833-6171</td>
<td><a href="mailto:antiochmethodist@mcshsi.com">antiochmethodist@mcshsi.com</a></td>
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<td>Apostolic Tabernacle of Praise</td>
<td>2136 W Atlantic Ave</td>
<td>417-886-7283</td>
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<td>Asbury United Methodist Church</td>
<td>1500 S Campbell Ave</td>
<td>417-865-1335</td>
<td><a href="mailto:asburyumc@sbcglobal.net">asburyumc@sbcglobal.net</a></td>
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<td>417-887-8212</td>
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<td>Assembly of God Immanuel Korean Church</td>
<td>554 W Walnut Lawn St</td>
<td>417-761-9842</td>
<td><a href="mailto:koc4@gmail.com">koc4@gmail.com</a></td>
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Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints - Springfield 1st Ward
1357 S Ingram Mill Rd
Springfield, MO 65804
417-883-9533

Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints - Springfield 2nd Ward
1357 S Ingram Mill Rd
Springfield, MO 65804

Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints - Springfield YSA Ward
904 S Kimbrough Ave
Springfield, MO 65806
417-831-5818

Church of Restoration
2920 W Water St
Springfield, MO 65802

College Street Baptist Church
7600 W Farm Road 108
Springfield, MO 65802
417-742-2587
darilycbbc@gmail.com

College Street Baptist Church
2216 W College St
Springfield, MO 65807
417-862-4242

Community Christian Church of Springfield
4806 E. Cherry
Springfield, MO 65809
417-877-7821
RevDrRay@aol.com
http://www.spcfc.org
f - Community-Christian-Church-of-Springfield-200378270024778

Community of Christ
2722 N National Ave
Springfield, MO 65803
417-865-6195
pastor@centralcofchrist.org
http://www.centralcofchrist.org
f - pages/Community-Of-Christ/159017393713

Cornerstone Church
1701 S Fort Ave
Springfield, MO 65807
417-831-7242
info@cornerstone417.com
http://www.cornerstone417.co

Covenant of Grace Christian Center
713 S Newton Ave
Springfield, MO 65806
417-866-1125

Covenant Presbyterian Church
2441 S Lone Pine Ave
Springfield, MO 65804
417-881-4449
covpreshurch@sbcglobal.net
http://www.covenantspringfield.org
f - covenantpresbyterian

Crimson House
1616 N Robberson Ave
Springfield, MO 65803
417-831-1818
pastor@crimsonhouseministries.org
http://www.crimsonhouseministries.org
f - pages/Crimson-House-Ministries/105138761010

Crossway Baptist Church
2900 N Barnes Ave
Springfield, MO 65803
417-865-7311
crossway@crosswaybc.org
http://crosswaybc.org
f - crosswaybc

Dale Street Baptist Church
1311 E Valley Water Mill Rd
Springfield, MO 65803
417-833-8176
(e-mail via website contact form)
http://mydbsc.com
f - dalesstreetbaptistchurch

Dayspring Christian Fellowship
2157 N Prospect Ave
Springfield, MO 65803
417-864-4338
rbchel@visitsdayspring.org
http://visitsdayspring.org
f - pages/Dayspring/184324783957

Dayspring Church of the Nazarene
2812 E Grand St
Springfield, MO 65804
417-883-3323
wham450@gmail.com
http://dayspringnaz.org
f - Dayspringnaz

Deliverance Temple Church
2101 W Chestnut Expy
Springfield, MO 65802
417-865-4338
info@deliverancetemple.org
https://deliverancetemple.org
f - groups/8478439430

Dinh Quang Buddhist Temple
2001 W High St
Springfield, MO 65803
417-866-1095
dinhquangtemple@yahoo.com
http://www.dinhquangtemple.com
f - pages/Dinh-Dinh-Quang/437048159652510

Dol Sem Korean Church
4547 S Fremont Ave
Springfield, MO 65804
417-877-8402

Eagle Heights Worship Center
3285 W Farm Road 146
Springfield, MO 65807
417-865-5145
ehwpastor@yahoo.com
http://www.eaglezone.org
f - EagleHeightsWorshipCenter

Eastern Gate Freewill Baptist Church
922 S Eastgate Ave
Springfield, MO 65809
417-882-1429

Ebenizer I United Methodist Church
1795 W Farm Road 56
Springfield, MO 65803
417-848-9866
jmhanche@gmail.com
http://myumc.org
f - pages/Ebenizer-1-United-Methodist-Church/299531833431159

Ebenizer Romanian Assembly
2233 N East Ave
Springfield, MO 65803
417-316-2541
IonelePopa4God@yahoo.com
http://ebenzerromanianassembly.org

Eckankar of Springfield
1740 S Glenstone Suite I-J
Springfield, MO 65808
417-881-2630

El Faro Assembly of God
644 S Eastgate Ave
Springfield, MO 65801
417-569-7886

Elwood Full Gospel Word Church
6242 W Farm Road 124
Springfield, MO 65802
417-865-8091

Elwood United Methodist Church
1225 N State Highway AB
Springfield, MO 65802
charhas@sbcglobal.net

Emmaus
431 S Jefferson Ave #132
Springfield, MO 65806
417-459-1446
ron@emmausspringfield.com
http://www.emmausspringfield.com
f - EmmausSpringfield

Et-B’Nai Israel
648 S Scenic
Springfield, MO 65802
rabbi@messianicvoice.org
f - pages/%D7%90%D7%AA-B’nai-Israel/275164622536033

Evangel Temple
2020 E. Battlefield
Springfield, MO 65804
417-883-0676
office@etchurch.org
http://www.etchurch.org

Evergreen Church
3225 N Farm Road 123
Springfield, MO 65803
417-833-8309
contactus@evergreenchurch.org
http://www.evergreenchurch.org

Faith Assembly of God
3001 W Division St
Springfield, MO 65802
417-865-2126
info@springfieldfaithag.org
http://springfieldfaithag.wix.com/faith
f - FaithAGSGF

Faith Baptist Church
2920 W Nichols St
Springfield, MO 65803
417-862-3176
faithbaptistmo@gmail.com
http://faithbaptistmo.org
f - pages/Faith-Baptist-Church/118420634838878

Faith Lutheran Church
1517 E Valley Water Mill Rd
Springfield, MO 65803
417-833-3749
faithsc@mchsi.com
www.flc-s.org

Faith Outreach Pentecostal Church
2100 N Boonville Ave
Springfield, MO 65803
417-865-7325

Faith Pentecostal Tabernacle
1436 W Hovey St
Springfield, MO 65803

Faith Tabernacle Apostolic Church
2548 N Fremont Ave
Springfield, MO 65803
417-864-6110
(e-mail via website contact form)
http://faith-tabernacle.org
f - faith.tabernacle.apostolic.church

Filipino-American Christian Fellowship
413 S Glenstone Ave
Springfield, MO 65804
ednors@yahoo.com

First & Calvary Presbyterian Church
820 E Cherry St
Springfield, MO 65806

First Calvary Presbyterian Church
2920 W Nichols St
Springfield, MO 65803
417-862-3176
faithbaptistmo@gmail.com
http://faithbaptistmo.org
f - pages/Faith-Baptist-Church/118420634838878

First Church of Christ Scientist
417-865-7325
2100 N Boonville Ave
Springfield, MO 65803
417-865-7325

First Church of God
1436 W Hovey St
Springfield, MO 65803

First United Methodist Church
225 N Grant St
Springfield, MO 65806
417-883-2078

First United Methodist Church
417-889-9604
FirstChurchOfChristScientist.org
f - firstandcalvary

First and Calvary Presbyterian Church
820 E Cherry St
Springfield, MO 65806
blessings@firstandcalvary.org

Flomar United Methodist Church
2100 N Boonville Ave
Springfield, MO 65803
417-865-7325

Fellowship Filipino-American Church
1436 W Hovey St
Springfield, MO 65803
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<td>Springfield, MO 65804</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:reformedminister@yahoo.com">reformedminister@yahoo.com</a></td>
<td><a href="http://www.firstcpc.net">http://www.firstcpc.net</a></td>
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<td>5500 S Southwood Rd</td>
<td>Springfield, MO 65804</td>
<td>417-889-9445</td>
<td><a href="mailto:office@firstefc.com">office@firstefc.com</a></td>
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<td>2850 N Farm Road 141</td>
<td>Springfield, MO 65803</td>
<td>417-616-3080</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jf@freshwaterchurch.tv">jf@freshwaterchurch.tv</a></td>
<td><a href="https://freshwatersgf.com">https://freshwatersgf.com</a></td>
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<td><a href="mailto:kellamyj@hotmail.com">kellamyj@hotmail.com</a></td>
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<td><a href="mailto:dlmasters@mchsi.com">dlmasters@mchsi.com</a></td>
<td><a href="http://www.fruitlandroadchurch.org">http://www.fruitlandroadchurch.org</a></td>
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<td>417-889-9393</td>
<td><a href="mailto:gatewaywc@gmail.com">gatewaywc@gmail.com</a></td>
<td><a href="http://gatewaywc.us">http://gatewaywc.us</a></td>
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<td>417-865-1410</td>
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<td>Springfield, MO 65803</td>
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<td>5801 N Farm Road 141</td>
<td>Springfield, MO 65803</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:nfchild56@yahoo.com">nfchild56@yahoo.com</a></td>
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<td>Golden Avenue Baptist Church</td>
<td>558 S Golden Ave</td>
<td>Springfield, MO 65802</td>
<td>417-862-9857</td>
<td><a href="mailto:boone@goldenavenue.org">boone@goldenavenue.org</a></td>
<td><a href="http://www.goldenavenue.org">http://www.goldenavenue.org</a></td>
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<td>Harvest Baptist Church</td>
<td>4327 W Chestnut Expy</td>
<td>Springfield, MO 65802</td>
<td>417-860-2129</td>
<td><a href="mailto:goldenharvestchurch@gmail.com">goldenharvestchurch@gmail.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Grace Assembly of God</td>
<td>1001 N National Ave</td>
<td>Springfield, MO 65808</td>
<td>417-886-2129</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Pastor@GospelofGraceChurch.com">Pastor@GospelofGraceChurch.com</a></td>
<td><a href="http://www.gospelofgracechurch.com">http://www.gospelofgracechurch.com</a></td>
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<td>Grace Church of the Nazarene</td>
<td>540 E Walnut Ln</td>
<td>Springfield, MO 65807</td>
<td>417-887-5625</td>
<td><a href="mailto:contact@gracechapelchurch.org">contact@gracechapelchurch.org</a></td>
<td><a href="http://www.gracechapelchurch.us">http://www.gracechapelchurch.us</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Grace Church of the Nazarene</td>
<td>1139 E Church St</td>
<td>Springfield, MO 65810</td>
<td>417-888-4950</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grace Independent Bible Baptist Church</td>
<td>2101 N Johnston Ave</td>
<td>Springfield, MO 65803</td>
<td>417-869-8226</td>
<td><a href="mailto:gracecbe@juno.com">gracecbe@juno.com</a></td>
<td><a href="http://www.gracecbe@juno.com">http://www.gracecbe@juno.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grace United Methodist Church</td>
<td>600 South Jefferson Ave</td>
<td>Springfield, MO 65806</td>
<td>417-869-0765</td>
<td><a href="mailto:graceunoffice@sbcglobal.net">graceunoffice@sbcglobal.net</a></td>
<td><a href="http://www.yourgraceplace.org">http://www.yourgraceplace.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Gracey Baptist Church</td>
<td>5010 S Farm Road 135</td>
<td>Springfield, MO 65810</td>
<td>417-887-0212</td>
<td><a href="mailto:bobstephenson@graceywayonline.com">bobstephenson@graceywayonline.com</a></td>
<td><a href="http://www.graceywayonline.com">http://www.graceywayonline.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Grand Community Church</td>
<td>1330 W Grand St</td>
<td>Springfield, MO 65807</td>
<td>417-522-8736</td>
<td><a href="mailto:james@grandcommunitychurch.org">james@grandcommunitychurch.org</a></td>
<td><a href="http://www.grandcommunitychurch.org">http://www.grandcommunitychurch.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Grandview Baptist Church</td>
<td>3208 N Barnes</td>
<td>Springfield, MO 65803</td>
<td>417-833-3620</td>
<td><a href="mailto:grantaveb@sbcglobal.net">grantaveb@sbcglobal.net</a></td>
<td><a href="http://www.grantaveb@sbcglobal.net">http://www.grantaveb@sbcglobal.net</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Greater Metropolitan Baptist Church</td>
<td>1400 N West Ave</td>
<td>Springfield, MO 65802</td>
<td>417-869-0548</td>
<td><a href="mailto:grantaveb@sbcglobal.net">grantaveb@sbcglobal.net</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Great Light Baptist Church</td>
<td>3322 S Campbell Ave</td>
<td>Springfield, MO 65807</td>
<td>417-719-4201</td>
<td><a href="mailto:greatlightbaptist@gmail.com">greatlightbaptist@gmail.com</a></td>
<td><a href="http://www.greatlightbaptist.com">http://www.greatlightbaptist.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Great Light Baptist Church</td>
<td>1120 E Main Ave</td>
<td>Springfield, MO 65810</td>
<td>417-887-2632</td>
<td>f - groups/GreatLight-Baptist-Church/199801596719318</td>
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<tr>
<td>Greater Metropolitan Baptist Church</td>
<td>1400 N West Ave</td>
<td>Springfield, MO 65802</td>
<td>417-942-3052</td>
<td><a href="http://www.messiahproject.org/">www.messiahproject.org/</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Hamlin Memorial Baptist Church</td>
<td>820 W Atlantic St</td>
<td>Springfield, MO 65803</td>
<td>417-869-4949</td>
<td><a href="mailto:office@hamlinbaptist.com">office@hamlinbaptist.com</a></td>
<td><a href="http://www.hamlinbaptist.com">http://www.hamlinbaptist.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Hamlin Memorial Baptist Church</td>
<td>820 W Atlantic St</td>
<td>Springfield, MO 65803</td>
<td>417-869-4949</td>
<td>f - Hamlin-Memorial-Baptist-Church/610207899011073</td>
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<tr>
<td>Harvest Ministries</td>
<td>3114 E Sunset St</td>
<td>Springfield, MO 65804</td>
<td>417-886-1120</td>
<td><a href="mailto:brian@briansmccoy.com">brian@briansmccoy.com</a></td>
<td><a href="http://www.harvestsgf.com/index.html">http://www.harvestsgf.com/index.html</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Congregation Name</td>
<td>Address</td>
<td>Phone</td>
<td>Website/Email</td>
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<tr>
<td>High Street Baptist Church</td>
<td>900 E North Ave</td>
<td>417-862-5502</td>
<td><a href="mailto:receptionist@highstreet.org">receptionist@highstreet.org</a> <a href="http://www.highstreet.org">http://www.highstreet.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Hillcrest Presbyterian Church</td>
<td>818 E Norton Rd</td>
<td>417-833-1746</td>
<td><a href="mailto:hillcrestchurch@gmail.com">hillcrestchurch@gmail.com</a> <a href="http://www.hillcrestchurch.com">http://www.hillcrestchurch.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>House of Prayer Holiness Church</td>
<td>400 W Edgewood St</td>
<td>417-315-8343</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ilesia Bautista Nuevo Pacto (Centro Familiar Cristiano)</td>
<td>2517 N Fremont Ave</td>
<td>417-862-8189</td>
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<tr>
<td>Iglesia Cristiana Casa De Oracon</td>
<td>3935 W Sunshine St</td>
<td>417-887-0600</td>
<td><a href="mailto:staff@ic-parish.org">staff@ic-parish.org</a> <a href="http://www.ic-parish.org">http://www.ic-parish.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Immaculate Conception Church</td>
<td>3555 S Fremont</td>
<td>417-869-7990</td>
<td><a href="mailto:info@ibcspringfield.org">info@ibcspringfield.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Immanuel Baptist Church</td>
<td>1931 W Nichols St</td>
<td>417-881-1020</td>
<td><a href="mailto:ramsbacher@gmail.com">ramsbacher@gmail.com</a> <a href="http://immanuelbaptist.org">http://immanuelbaptist.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Impact Baptist Church</td>
<td>604 E Kerr St</td>
<td>417-881-6363</td>
<td><a href="mailto:hello@kwumc.com">hello@kwumc.com</a> <a href="http://kingswayumc.com">http://kingswayumc.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Islamic Center of Springfield</td>
<td>2151 E Division St</td>
<td>417-887-1102</td>
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<tr>
<td>James River Church West Campus</td>
<td>3953 W Farm Road 168</td>
<td>417-887-5433</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jefferson Avenue Baptist Church</td>
<td>316 W Sunshine St</td>
<td>417-881-8866</td>
<td>staff@<a href="mailto:jace@yahoo.com">jace@yahoo.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Jehovah's Witness Cedar Valley Congregation</td>
<td>2857 East Ave</td>
<td>417-865-2158</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jehovah's Witness Ritter Springs Congregation</td>
<td>2857 East Ave</td>
<td>417-865-2158</td>
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<tr>
<td>Journey Church</td>
<td>214 W McDaniel St</td>
<td>417-882-6009</td>
<td><a href="mailto:info@journey417.com">info@journey417.com</a> <a href="http://journey417.com">http://journey417.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Kansas Expressway Church of Christ</td>
<td>2540 N Kansas Expy</td>
<td>417-864-8571</td>
<td><a href="mailto:info@kingschapel.org">info@kingschapel.org</a> <a href="http://kingschapel.org">http://kingschapel.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Kings Chapel Assembly of God</td>
<td>2434 E Cherry St</td>
<td>417-831-1483</td>
<td><a href="mailto:kingsway417@gmail.com">kingsway417@gmail.com</a> <a href="http://kingsway417@gmail.com">http://kingsway417@gmail.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Kings Way Free Will Baptist Church</td>
<td>2615 N Park Ave</td>
<td>417-831-1483</td>
<td><a href="mailto:kingsway417@gmail.com">kingsway417@gmail.com</a> <a href="http://kingsway417@gmail.com">http://kingsway417@gmail.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>King's Chapel Assembly of God</td>
<td>2401 S Lone Pine Ave</td>
<td>417-881-6363</td>
<td><a href="mailto:helio@kwumc.com">helio@kwumc.com</a> <a href="http://kingswayumc.com">http://kingswayumc.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Kings Way United Methodist Church</td>
<td>2316 W Atlantic</td>
<td>417-831-1483</td>
<td><a href="mailto:kingsway417@gmail.com">kingsway417@gmail.com</a> <a href="http://kingsway417@gmail.com">http://kingsway417@gmail.com</a></td>
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<td>Kinser Chapel Church</td>
<td>3877 S State Highway J</td>
<td>417-882-3133</td>
<td><a href="https://sites.google.com/site/kinserchapelofhope">https://sites.google.com/site/kinserchapelofhope</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Life 360 Church Calvary Temple Campus</td>
<td>1349 Meadowmere St</td>
<td>417-447-9001</td>
<td><a href="mailto:calvary@life360.org">calvary@life360.org</a> <a href="http://life360.org/calvary">http://life360.org/calvary</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Life 360 Park Crest Assembly of God</td>
<td>3581 S Kansas Ave</td>
<td>417-447-9000</td>
<td><a href="mailto:teds@life360.org">teds@life360.org</a> <a href="http://life360.org/parkcrest">http://life360.org/parkcrest</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Life Fellowship Church</td>
<td>5335 S Campbell Ave</td>
<td>417-886-6464</td>
<td><a href="mailto:info@lifefellowship.com">info@lifefellowship.com</a> <a href="http://lifefellowship.com">http://lifefellowship.com</a></td>
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<td>Lighthouse Anabaptist Church</td>
<td>2136 W Atlantic</td>
<td>417-831-6672</td>
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<tr>
<td>Living Spring Christian Fellowship</td>
<td>2835 E Division St</td>
<td>417-209-3390</td>
<td>f - LivingSpringChristianFellowship/3598950828</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lutheran Student Center</td>
<td>848 S National Ave</td>
<td>417-866-5543</td>
<td><a href="mailto:info@thsloc.org">info@thsloc.org</a> <a href="http://lsc-springfield.wix.com/lsc-">http://lsc-springfield.wix.com/lsc-</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Macedonia Baptist Church</td>
<td>3110 N Sunshine St</td>
<td>417-882-6647</td>
<td><a href="mailto:richj@macedoniabc.com">richj@macedoniabc.com</a> <a href="http://macedoniabc.com">http://macedoniabc.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Messiah Lutheran Church</td>
<td>925 E Seminole St</td>
<td>417-881-2192</td>
<td><a href="mailto:messiah@macedoniabc.com">messiah@macedoniabc.com</a> <a href="http://macedoniabc.com">http://macedoniabc.com</a></td>
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<td>Messiah Lutheran Church</td>
<td>925 E Seminole St</td>
<td>417-881-2192</td>
<td><a href="mailto:messiah@macedoniabc.com">messiah@macedoniabc.com</a> <a href="http://macedoniabc.com">http://macedoniabc.com</a></td>
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Midtown Recovery Ministries
719 W Commercial St
Springfield, MO 65803
417-869-1909

Monger Historical School & Church
2017 W Inglewood St
Springfield, MO 65810
417-882-7716

Mt Carmel United Methodist Church
1001 N National Ave
Springfield, MO 65802
417-866-7039
mtcarmelumc_1@juno.com

Mt Comfort Church
2376 E Farm Road 66
Springfield, MO 65803
417-833-3340
information@mountcomforthurch.com
http://www.mountcomforthurch.com

National Avenue Assembly of God
931 N National Ave
Springfield, MO 65801
417-869-1860
info@nationalavenueag.org
http://nationalavenueag.org

National Avenue Christian Church
1515 S National Ave
Springfield, MO 65804
417-869-9176
natave@scbglobal.net
http://nationalavenuecc.com
f - nationalavenue

National Heights Baptist Church
3050 N National Ave
Springfield, MO 65803
417-833-4111
nhbc@nationalheights.org
http://www.nationalheights.org
f - nationalheights

New Beginnings Fellowship
4560 S Campbell Ave
Springfield, MO 65810
417-887-0414

New Hope International Church
901 N Prospect Ave
Springfield, MO 65802
417-831-3400
newhope.ministries928@gmail.com
f - wearenhim

New Hope Primitive Baptist Church
1419 W Florida St
Springfield, MO 65803
417-869-1666

New Life Church
776 W Farm Road 186
Springfield, MO 65810
417-881-5558
info@nlspringfield.com
http://nlspringfield.com

New Life Harvest Church
225 E Primrose
Springfield, MO 65807
417-592-3300
jmwigant@hotmail.com
www.nlhchurch.org
f - nlhwnewline

New Life Hmong Alliance Church
4436 W Tilden St
Springfield, MO 65802

New Testament Christian Church
403 E Bennett St
Springfield, MO 65807

New Vision Ministries
1440 N State Highway AB
Springfield, MO 65802
417-865-8833
(e-mail via website contact form)
http://www.newvisionmo.org

Newstart Community Chapel
309 S Scenic Ave
Springfield, MO 65802
417-799-0897
garymn@att.net
f - NewStartCommunityChapelbc

North Bridge Church
3765 N State Highway H
Springfield, MO 65803
417-833-4830
tturner@mynorthbridge.org
http://www.mynorthbridge.org
f - northbridgechurch

North Point Church - Springfield
3401 W Norton Rd
Springfield, MO 65803
417-833-1950
pastorjeremy@northpointchurch.tv
http://www.northpointchurch.tv

North Side Assembly of God
2310 N Campbell Ave
Springfield, MO 65803
417-866-3080
northsideag@scbglobal.net

Northside Christian Church
4902 State Highway H
Springfield, MO 65803
417-833-1861
Wayne@northsidechristianchurch.net
http://www.northsidechristianchurch.net
f - northsidechristianchurch

Northside General Baptist Church
2305 N Golden
Springfield, MO 65803
417-300-2844
jpmntz@yahoo.com

Northwest Baptist Church
3075 W Norton Rd
Springfield, MO 65803
417-833-1175
nwbaptist@yahoo.com
http://www.nwbc.springfield.com
f - pages/Northwest-Baptist-Church/90421199901

Oak Grove Assembly of God
1320 S Oak Grove Ave
Springfield, MO 65804
417-881-6528
info@oakgroveag.org
http://www.oakgroveag.org
f - Oakgroveag

One Life Church of the Nazarene
3245 S Kansas Ave
Springfield, MO 65807
417-882-5992
info@417onelife.com
http://www.417onelife.com
f - 417onelife

Open Door Fellowship Springfield
1317 E Republic Rd
Springfield, MO 65804
417-880-1411
odfpastor@gmail.com
http://www.odfspringfield.com

Orchard Crest Baptist Church
320 S Orchard Crest Ave
Springfield, MO 65802
417-865-0395
office@orchardcrest.org
http://www.orchardcrest.org

Outpost Christian Ministry
1115 N Chelmsworth Ln
Springfield, MO 65802
417-866-4728

Ozark Mountain Deaf Church
776 W Farm Road 186
Springfield, MO 65810
417-449-4113
kevinbabin@usmissions.org
http://www.omdgc.org

Palmer Heights Missionary Baptist
1606 W High St
Springfield, MO 65803
417-865-1070
bronorris@palmerheights baptist.org
http://missionarybaptistchurches.com/
bronorris

Paris Springs United Methodist Church
3247 W El Castile
Springfield, MO 65807
417-742-3327

Park Crest Baptist Church
816 W Republic Rd
Springfield, MO 65807
417-883-1676
office@parkcrestbaptist.org
http://parkcrestbaptist.org
f - ParkCrestBaptistChurch

Parkview Christian Church
1362 S Campbell Ave
Springfield, MO 65807
417-862-8281
bomith@parkviewchristian.org
http://parkviewchristian.org
f - pages/Parkview-Christian-Church/d3997759523

Passion Assembly of God
806 N Forest Ave
Springfield, MO 65802
417-831-6138
passion@hnm@att.net
http://www.passionassembly.org
f - pages/Passion Assembly of God/139593399381915

Pathways United Methodist Church
1232 E Dale St
Springfield, MO 65803
417-866-4378
pathwayspastor@gmail.com
http://pathwaysumc.net
f - PathwaysMethodist

Pitts Chapel United Methodist Church
600 N Benton Ave
Springfield, MO 65806
417-866-1720
p.umc@att.net

Pleasant Home Baptist Church
3630 E State Highway AA
Springfield, MO 65803
417-833-4610
home@pleasanthomebaptist.org
http://www.pleasanthomebaptist.org

Pleasant Valley Church
722 E Farm Road 80
Springfield, MO 65803
417-833-4993
pvspringfield@aol.com
http://pv.springfieldio

Power of Acts Apostolic Ministries
3125 W Madison
Springfield, MO 65801
417-414-3258
misdsmith@yahoo.com
http://www.powerofactsapostolic.org
f - acts24

Praise Assembly of God
3535 N Glenstone Ave
Springfield, MO 65803
417-833-3000
office@praiseassembly.org
http://www.praiseassembly.org

Praise Fellowship
3335 S Scenic Ave
Springfield, MO 65807
417-848-7507
revdlh@scbglobal.net
http://www.praisefellowship.cc/who-are
f - praisefellowship

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church
815 E Farm Road 182
Springfield, MO 65810
417-881-0833
prince-of-peace@scbglobal.net
http://www.pop-elca.net
f - pages/Prince-of-Peace-POP-Lutheran-Church/ELCA/12765837260644

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<tr>
<th>Springfield Area Congregations Study</th>
<th>Congregation Directory</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Providence Seventh Day Adventist Church</strong></td>
<td>1402 N Prospect Ave Springfield, MO 65802 417-862-5499 <a href="mailto:PastorRoberts1844@gmail.com">PastorRoberts1844@gmail.com</a> <a href="http://providence24.adventistchurchconnect.org">http://providence24.adventistchurchconnect.org</a></td>
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<td><strong>Pythian Avenue Baptist Church</strong></td>
<td>1001 N Rogers Ave Springfield, MO 65802 417-862-5386 f - pages/Pythian-Ave-Baptist-Church/121447181198618</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Queen of All Saints Catholic Church</strong></td>
<td>1505 Atlantic St Springfield, MO 65803 417-862-0994</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Red Recovery Fellowship Ministries</strong></td>
<td>2235 E Fritts Ln Springfield, MO 65804 417-887-2663</td>
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<td><strong>Redeemed Christian Church of God</strong></td>
<td>1410 E Kearney St Springfield, MO 65803 417-501-1388 <a href="mailto:avosuhai2001@gmail.com">avosuhai2001@gmail.com</a> <a href="http://www.rcgspringfieldmissouri.org">http://www.rcgspringfieldmissouri.org</a> f - RccgCovenantHouseSpringfield</td>
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<td><strong>Recreational Church of God</strong></td>
<td>303 N Grant Ave Springfield, MO 65801 <a href="mailto:Greg@RecCreer.org">Greg@RecCreer.org</a> <a href="http://www.recreational.org">http://www.recreational.org</a> f - Rec ovenHouse of God Springfield</td>
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<td><strong>Refuge of Love Ministry</strong></td>
<td>661 S New Ave Springfield, MO 65807 417-719-4681 f - Refuge-Of-Love-Ministry-COGIC-982000151845345</td>
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<td><strong>Restoration Center Ministry</strong></td>
<td>1039 W Nichols St Springfield, MO 65802 417-880-5226 <a href="mailto:rmc@restorationonline.net">rmc@restorationonline.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Restoration Church</strong></td>
<td>910 W Battlefield Rd Springfield, MO 65807 417-233-1539 <a href="mailto:info@therestorationchurch.tv">info@therestorationchurch.tv</a></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Ridgesteq Baptists Church</strong></td>
<td>2210 W Republic Rd Springfield, MO 65807 417-887-2317 <a href="mailto:PastorChad@ridgecrestbaptist.org">PastorChad@ridgecrestbaptist.org</a> <a href="http://www.ridgecrestbaptist.org">http://www.ridgecrestbaptist.org</a> f - ridgecrestbaptist</td>
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<td><strong>Sac River Cowboy Church</strong></td>
<td>1278 E Crystal Wood Ln Springfield, MO 65803 417-399-3791 <a href="mailto:sacrivercowboychurch@gmail.com">sacrivercowboychurch@gmail.com</a> <a href="http://www.sacrivercowboychurch.com">http://www.sacrivercowboychurch.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Sacred Heart Church</strong></td>
<td>1609 N Summit Ave Springfield, MO 65803 417-869-3646 <a href="mailto:shearthc@sbcglobal.net">shearthc@sbcglobal.net</a> <a href="http://www.sacredearthurch.org">http://www.sacredearthurch.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Sanctuary of Praise</strong></td>
<td>5420 N State Highway H Springfield, MO 65803 417-833-8511 <a href="mailto:cognizmarty@sanctuaryofpraisecogic.org">cognizmarty@sanctuaryofpraisecogic.org</a> <a href="http://www.sanctuaryofpraisecogic.org">http://www.sanctuaryofpraisecogic.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Scenic Church of the Nazarene</strong></td>
<td>550 S Scenic Ave Springfield, MO 65802 417-862-7126 <a href="mailto:springfieldscenicnaz@gmail.com">springfieldscenicnaz@gmail.com</a> <a href="http://www.theheartscenic.com">http://www.theheartscenic.com</a> f - scenicchurch</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Seminole Baptist Church</strong></td>
<td>4221 S National Ave Springfield, MO 65810 417-881-4200 <a href="mailto:Staff@seminolebaptist.org">Staff@seminolebaptist.org</a> <a href="http://www.seminolebaptist.org">http://www.seminolebaptist.org</a> f - SeminoleBaptist</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Seventh Day Adventist Church</strong></td>
<td>702 S Belview Ave Springfield, MO 65802 417-865-5226 <a href="mailto:dakeh@centurytel.net">dakeh@centurytel.net</a> <a href="http://www.springfieldsdachurch.org">http://www.springfieldsdachurch.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Sikh Temple of the Ozarks</strong></td>
<td>2516 W Mill St Springfield, MO 65802 417-860-4323</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Silver Springs Church of God</strong></td>
<td>1010 E Pythian St Springfield, MO 65803 417-831-6518</td>
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<td><strong>Silver Springs New Hope Gospel Church</strong></td>
<td>1119 N National Ave Springfield, MO 65802 417-865-4005</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Solid Rock Church</strong></td>
<td>1040 N Sherman Ave Springfield, MO 65802 417-413-9460 <a href="mailto:info@solidrocksgf.org">info@solidrocksgf.org</a> <a href="http://www.solidrocksgf.org">http://www.solidrocksgf.org</a></td>
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<td><strong>Sound Doctrine</strong></td>
<td>1433 N Summit Ave Springfield, MO 65802 417-831-1064</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>South Campbell Avenue Baptist Church</strong></td>
<td>935 S Campbell Ave Springfield, MO 65806 417-862-8471 <a href="mailto:contact.Scampbell@gmail.com">contact.Scampbell@gmail.com</a> <a href="http://www.sgfmagnifychrist.org">http://www.sgfmagnifychrist.org</a> f - magnifyingchrist</td>
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<td><strong>South Creek Church</strong></td>
<td>3145 W Republic Rd Springfield, MO 65801 417-888-5155 <a href="mailto:southerncreekchurch@yahoo.com">southerncreekchurch@yahoo.com</a> <a href="http://www.southerncreekchurch.org">http://www.southerncreekchurch.org</a></td>
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<td><strong>South Fremont Free Will Baptist Church</strong></td>
<td>4547 S Fremont Ave Springfield, MO 65804 417-887-1927</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>South Gate Baptist Church</strong></td>
<td>5701 S Farm Road 157 Springfield, MO 65810 417-886-3851 <a href="mailto:canderson@southgate.org">canderson@southgate.org</a> <a href="http://www.southgate.org">http://www.southgate.org</a> f - southgatebaptist/</td>
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| **South River Church** | 2235 S Campbell Ave Springfield, MO 65806 417-881-3131  
<p>| <strong>Southside Church of Christ</strong> | 1517 E Cherokee St Springfield, MO 65804 417-881-3131 <a href="mailto:ssstchurch@gmail.com">ssstchurch@gmail.com</a> <a href="https://sites.google.com/site/southsidechristian">https://sites.google.com/site/southsidechristian</a> |
| <strong>Sovereign Grace Baptist Church</strong> | 2766 W Weaver Rd Springfield, MO 65810 417-883-0342 <a href="mailto:gwlone@juno.com">gwlone@juno.com</a> <a href="http://sbgcspringfield.org">http://sbgcspringfield.org</a> |
| <strong>Southview United Methodist Church</strong> | 465 S Grant Ave Springfield, MO 65806 417-869-5496 <a href="mailto:sbtcourse@gmail.com">sbtcourse@gmail.com</a> <a href="http://www.springfieldbiblechurch.org">http://www.springfieldbiblechurch.org</a> |
| <strong>Springfield Area Congregations Study</strong> | 2353 S Campbell Ave Springfield, MO 65807 417-869-5070 f - Springfield-Chinese-Church-Assembly-of-God/111672078868144  |</p>
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<tr>
<th>Congregation</th>
<th>Address</th>
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<tr>
<td>Springfield First Baptist Church</td>
<td>525 South Ave Springfield, MO 65806</td>
<td>417-866-7202</td>
<td><a href="mailto:info@fbcspiringfield.com">info@fbcspiringfield.com</a></td>
<td><a href="http://www.fishspringfield.org">http://www.fishspringfield.org</a> f - firstbaptistspringfieldmo</td>
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<tr>
<td>Springfield Korean Presbyterian Church</td>
<td>1559 S Grant Ave Springfield, MO 65807</td>
<td>417-450-8822</td>
<td>f - pages/Korean-Presbyterian-Church-of-Springfield/116274928400895</td>
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<tr>
<td>Springfield Second Baptist Church</td>
<td>3111 E Battlefield St Springfield, MO 65804</td>
<td>417-887-3111</td>
<td><a href="mailto:info@secondbaptist.org">info@secondbaptist.org</a></td>
<td><a href="http://www.secondbaptist.org">http://www.secondbaptist.org</a> f - TheWaysgf</td>
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<tr>
<td>St Agnes Cathedral</td>
<td>533 S Jefferson Ave Springfield, MO 65806</td>
<td>417-831-3565</td>
<td><a href="mailto:frontdesk@saintagnescathedral.org">frontdesk@saintagnescathedral.org</a></td>
<td><a href="http://saintagnescathedral.org">http://saintagnescathedral.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>St Elizabeth Ann Seton</td>
<td>2200 W Republic Rd Springfield, MO 65807</td>
<td>417-887-6472</td>
<td><a href="mailto:parishinfo@seachurch.org">parishinfo@seachurch.org</a></td>
<td><a href="http://www.seachurch.org">http://www.seachurch.org</a> f - pages/St-Elizabeth-Ann-Seton-Church/121588391185167</td>
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<tr>
<td>St James Episcopal Church</td>
<td>2645 E Southern Hills Blvd Springfield, MO 65804</td>
<td>417-881-3073</td>
<td><a href="mailto:stjamesspringfield@gmail.com">stjamesspringfield@gmail.com</a></td>
<td><a href="http://stjamesspringfield.diowestmo.org">http://stjamesspringfield.diowestmo.org</a> f - StJamesSpringfield</td>
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<tr>
<td>St John’s Chapel United Church of Christ</td>
<td>4344 S Fremont Ave Springfield, MO 65804</td>
<td>417-881-5175</td>
<td><a href="mailto:sec@stjohnschapel.org">sec@stjohnschapel.org</a></td>
<td><a href="http://www.stjohnschapel.org">http://www.stjohnschapel.org</a> f - stjohnschapelucc</td>
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<tr>
<td>St John’s Episcopal Church</td>
<td>1115 N Campbell Ave Springfield, MO 65802</td>
<td>417-865-1112</td>
<td><a href="mailto:stjohnschapeluccf@yahoo.com">stjohnschapeluccf@yahoo.com</a></td>
<td><a href="http://www.stjohnsspringfield.org">http://www.stjohnsspringfield.org</a> f - stjohnsnepiscopalspfield</td>
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<tr>
<td>Springfield Church</td>
<td>1110 N Main Ave Springfield, MO 65804</td>
<td>417-862-8161</td>
<td><a href="mailto:info@stjohnsuecctandmain.org">info@stjohnsuecctandmain.org</a></td>
<td><a href="http://www.stjohnsuecctandmain.org">http://www.stjohnsuecctandmain.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>St Joseph Church</td>
<td>1842 E Richmond PI Springfield, MO 65804</td>
<td>417-569-5779</td>
<td><a href="mailto:st.thomasanglicans@gmail.com">st.thomasanglicans@gmail.com</a></td>
<td><a href="http://www.stthomasanglicans.org">http://www.stthomasanglicans.org</a></td>
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<td>The Catalyst Community Church</td>
<td>3146 S Golden Ave Springfield, MO 65807</td>
<td>417-866-4545</td>
<td><a href="mailto:info@thecatalyst.church">info@thecatalyst.church</a></td>
<td><a href="http://thecatalyst.church">http://thecatalyst.church</a> f - pages/The-Catalyst-Springfield/17508292551612</td>
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<tr>
<td>The Community Church</td>
<td>308 South Ave Springfield, MO 65806</td>
<td>417-414-0728</td>
<td><a href="mailto:contact@thecommchurch.org">contact@thecommchurch.org</a></td>
<td><a href="http://thecommchurch.org">http://thecommchurch.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>The Courageous Church</td>
<td>2848 N Broadway Ave Springfield, MO 65803</td>
<td>417-865-5236</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Tylerpadgett@gmail.com">Tylerpadgett@gmail.com</a></td>
<td><a href="http://courageouschurch.cc">http://courageouschurch.cc</a> f - thecourageouschurch</td>
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<tr>
<td>The Downtown Church</td>
<td>413 E Walnut St Springfield, MO 65806</td>
<td>417-866-4326</td>
<td><a href="mailto:llampert@wesleymethodist.com">llampert@wesleymethodist.com</a></td>
<td><a href="http://thedowntown.church">http://thedowntown.church</a> f - TheDowntownChurchSGF</td>
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<tr>
<td>The Edge Outdoorsmen Church</td>
<td>1840 E State Highway AA Springfield, MO 65803</td>
<td>417-838-8448</td>
<td><a href="mailto:pastordan56@gmail.com">pastordan56@gmail.com</a></td>
<td><a href="http://www.trinitypentecostal.org">http://www.trinitypentecostal.org</a> f - TheEdgeOutdoorsmenChurch</td>
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<tr>
<td>The Pursuit Church</td>
<td>3304 S Cox Ave Springfield, MO 65807</td>
<td>417-501-5633</td>
<td><a href="mailto:contact@thecommchurch.org">contact@thecommchurch.org</a></td>
<td><a href="http://thecommchurch.org">http://thecommchurch.org</a> f - pages/Pastor-Terry-White-TurningPointChurch.com</td>
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Online Reference Sites

Online Yellow pages

General Church Listings

Denominational Directories
Church of God (Holiness), accessed January 21, 2015, http://www.cgoh.net/directory/regions
“Find a Meetinghouse or Ward,” The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, accessed January 22, 2015, https://www.lds.org/find/a-church
City Listings
(Additional Google searches were made using pastor or church name.)
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