



September 2025

Dear Friends,

You and other faithful friends are the foundation of the Lord's ministry here at Shepherd's Spring. Your investment of time, talent, and finances provides summer campers, retreaters, and students who learn in the Global Village with a God-touched setting in which to meditate, have fun, make new friends, breathe in the beauty of nature, refresh a burdened spirit, and renew the troubled heart.

We are thankful for your stewardship and pray you will continue. Over the past 35 years, Shepherd's Spring has invested in the lives of thousands, and we pray you will help us improve and expand its reach to even more for the next 35 years.

Those of us on the board of directors are eager to have you join us either in person, via Zoom, email, or by letter as we reassess the operation of SS, envision its future, and craft a new strategic plan that impacts the lives of all who join us. We will host a breakout session at the District Meeting on October 11, as well as other in-person and Zoom gatherings at SS over the next several months. More about that later.

We are deeply appreciative of your financial support. That is always critical, and your monthly commitment would be so helpful. We encourage you to make direct debit deposits that we can count on each month. Note the online giving information in the newsletter and on the website.

We also hope you will help us save on our mailing expenses by sharing your email address. As you know all too well, it's expensive to send our newsletter and monthly updates/notices through the mail. So, please share your email address with us.

Over the next several days/weeks, we will share more about SS and count on your input. Yes, we are eager to hear from you on how best we can all be better stewards of this ministry.

Thank you and blessings,

David Rogers, Chair  
Board of Directors

derogers47@gmail.com  
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drogers@shepherdsspring.org

PS We are eager to hear from you and will appreciate your monthly support.

**16869 Taylors Landing Road, Sharpsburg, Maryland 21782**  
**301-223-8193**

# SHEPHERD'S

## Spring

Fall 2025

Retreats  
Camps  
Global Village

[www.shepherdsspring.org](http://www.shepherdsspring.org)

16869 Taylors Landing Road, Sharpsburg, Maryland 21782

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## Summer Recap

Thanks to generous financial support from multiple individuals and churches we had 12 summer counselors who served 129 campers this year with 504 camper days. Participants in the Adventure Camp rode bicycles along the C&O Canal to Dargan where they loaded the bikes into support vehicles and then hiked to Manadokin Camp. At Manadokin the adventurers set up tents and cooked their dinner over a campfire. The next day they took on the challenge of a ropes course and zip line before returning to Shepherd's Spring in the afternoon. At other times during the week they explored Whittings Neck Cave and canoed the Potomac River.

Special thanks and appreciation to Nancy Schaeffer from Manassas Church of the Brethren (COB) for serving as camp nurse during our largest week, and to Pastor Mandy North, also from Manassas who volunteered and served as a camp counselor for that same week. Appreciation is also given for the service for one full week of Arn Plato from Hagerstown COB who volunteered to serve on the support team in the kitchen so that others could work directly with the youth in camp. Arn's joy experienced from reaching beyond himself was evidenced to everyone throughout the week and even produced joy in others.

Thanks to everyone who played a role in helping to make camp a success this year. Blessings to all.



He is attached to a safety line and the trapeze is only 10' away. Would you dare?

## Tell us what you really think!

We are looking for those with a long history with Shepherd's Spring and many memories, as well as those who may be new to all we have to offer. We want to extend an invitation to join several of our board members and others in mid September through mid October for one of several Listening and Visioning sessions we plan to hold. Dates and locations to be announced. We would like to have representation and input from many churches and individuals as we seek to understand how this resource God has given us should move forward in a changing world.

# Thank you to all the churches that have provided financial support in 2025.

Manassas  
Broadfording

Downsville, Sam's Creek  
Bush Creek  
Mountain View  
Johnstown  
Union Bridge  
Locust Grove  
Fellowship  
Westminster

University Park  
Moler Avenue  
Woodbridge  
Oakton  
Welty  
Grossnickle

Hagerstown  
Arlington  
Midland  
Thurmont  
Dranesville  
Long Green Valley

... And to all the individuals who have given to support the work of Shepherd's Spring

Outdoor  
Ministries



## What Kind of Giving Do You Prefer...

**Gap Giving:** This type of targeted giving is specifically for those who recognize the powerful impact camp has in a child's life and give so as to keep the cost for camper's and their families down to a manageable level. These funds cover the gap between the amount a camper pays to attend camp and the actual cost to the organization to conduct camp .

**Special Project Giving:** This identifies funds that address a specific project. 100% of designated funds go to the project with no admin funding withheld. Scholarships to camp, or purchase of a new board approved HVAC system would be examples.

**Memorial Giving:** Funds given that help the mission of the organization while honoring the memory of a specific person. Both the person being remembered and the giver will be identified in the next news update unless the giver asks to remain anonymous.

**Life Support Giving:** When a gift is given quickly in response to a need after the need becomes evident. A recent gift to replace the HVAC system in the lodge is an example.

**Facilities and Grounds Support:** Funding to help maintain the property. Support given to prevent problems from arising.

## Responsible Giving

- Honors God every time
- 100% of board members and senior staff currently support the organization financially



[shepherdsspring.org](https://shepherdsspring.org)

Did you know you can give by check in the attached envelope or you can also give safely on our website? You can also request your monthly giving to be done automatically if you are tired of writing checks

**ONLINE GIVING**

FAST EASY SECURE

Kathy Powitirly

Chris Thackstagen

# Strategic Forward Motion...



**Diamond Pavilion:** Some will remember coming in the long driveway and seeing the baseball diamond in the field to the right just before getting to the gravel road that leads to the cabins. It is our plan to level a portion of that field and construct a 40'x60' pavilion with solar shingles that can provide the electric needed for the entire campus. The pavilion will serve retreat groups, church picnics, family reunions, and special "Diamond Weddings".

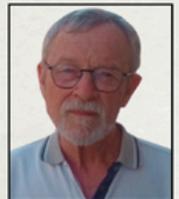
**Nigerian Tree House:** Did you know that whereas many local churches in the Church of the Brethren in the United States have been struggling to maintain their membership that the COB in Nigeria is vibrant and growing with over 1,000,000 members. With such a large portion of the COB represented by the Nigerian Church the decision has been made to add a Nigerian tree house to the Global Village. Nigeria is also one of the nations where Heifer is active today.



**International Global Citizen Training Center:** Plans are currently underway to develop a two month training program for international high school students who will come to Shepherd's Spring where they will: 1. Learn to be servant-leaders who serve others and steward creation. 2. Build practical skills to design, launch, and monitor community projects targeted to help them grow as leaders. 3. Grow intercultural competence and conflict-resolution skills. 4. Develop systems thinking to address issues of sustainability and logical responsibility and to 5. Return home with a fundable Action Project, mentor, and follow-up plan.



**Bruce T. Anderson**, Shepherd's Spring's executive director since 2019, is retiring from that role and will soon shift to focusing efforts towards the development and successful operation of this new International Global Citizen Training Center.



**Sarai Nazar Duron**, is a graduate student at the University of Seoul in South Korea where she is completing her master's degree in international intercultural relations. Sarai has been at Shepherd's Spring all summer where she has assisted with the summer camp program. In addition she has been working to develop the framework for the proposed International Global Citizen Training Center as an internship for her degree. She is currently in central America developing necessary connections with several of the Christian schools that will be working with the program once it is launched.



## Current Projects Seeking Sponsors:

Replace HVAC system for Gathering Room of lodge: \$10,000

**SPONSORED**

Replace aging 15 passenger van (organization's only operating vehicle): \$25,000

Replace shiplap exterior siding on pool house \$5,000

2 Used golf carts: \$8,000 each

Replace hot and cold buffets in dining room - TBD

Pool sponsors to help cover operating costs of pool during swimming season \$250 each

Replace commercial steamer in kitchen \$11,000

Commercial water softener in the lodge \$6,000

Replace commercial stove and oven in kitchen \$8,400

Complete remodel of one lodge bedroom (recarpet, paint, new tile, new counters \$2,500 per room

Smartboard for Global Village and Retreats \$1,800

**Remember to include Shepherd's Spring in your estate planning.**

Support the Fields Summer Camp Scholarship Fund: Currently at \$20,791.66.

Shepherd's Spring  
16869 Taylors Landing Road  
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NON-PROFIT  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
THE MAIL MAN



FALL 25 NEWSLETTER



### Global Village

- Day Tours
- Cultural Luncheons
- One night in the village
- Two nights in the village
- Mission Trip Prep Training
- Experiential learning
- Church youth groups
- Home School Groups
- Private Schools
- Public Schools



### Retreats & Renewal

- Retreats - Weddings - Reunions
- Seminars - Pool Parties - Banquets
- Corporate Meetings



ASLAN  
ADVENTURES  
Adventure Camp  
for Teens



- Classic Summer Camp
- Family & Grandparents  
Camp
- Day Camp



Follow us on:  
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 www.shepherdsspring.org

Engaging the world with  
the reality of the  
risen Jesus so as  
to inspire hope and  
cultivate lifelong learning.

- 2025-2026 Board of Directors
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  - Ed Palsgrove
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