



20

25

ANNUAL REPORT



Classes available in-person in TWO locations!

Conway:
First United Methodist Church
1610 Prince St.

Little Rock:
Second Presbyterian Church
600 Pleasant Valley Drive

And ONLINE from anywhere!



OUR MISSION

To promote healthful longevity and active aging through lifelong learning and meaningful volunteerism within the community.

OUR SUPPORT

- 18 corporate sponsors
- 2 foundations
- 20 interfaith supporting congregations
- hundreds of individual donors!

OUR IMPACT

- 2,337 participants
- 225 classes
- 336 volunteer instructors
- 17 Arkansas counties
- 9 states outside of Arkansas

OUR EDUCATIONAL PARTNERS

- Arkansas Museum of Fine Arts
- Central Arkansas Library System
- Hendrix College
- Mosaic Templars Cultural Center
- Literacy Action of Central Arkansas
- William J. Clinton Presidential Library and Museum

info@lifequestofarkansas.org
501-225-6073

Office hours: Mon.-Thurs.
9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

LifeQuest is a community

Since 1981, LifeQuest has been dedicated to the belief that **lifelong learning** is a vital pursuit—fueling curiosity, broadening horizons, and building connections for a fulfilling post-retirement life.

Thanks to our members, donors, sponsors, congregations, educational partners, and volunteers, LifeQuest continues to make a **profound impact** in our community and state.

The support and endorsements given to this organization ensure that LifeQuest will continue offering programs that **enrich the lives** of intellectually inquisitive older adults.



Dr. David and Pebble Sutherland, Co-Chairs of the LifeQuest at Conway Steering Committee; Leah Greenfield, Executive Director and Gina Bridges, Program Director

Measuring our success

At LifeQuest, we evaluate our success through **enrollment, member satisfaction, and financial support**—all of which reflect the strength of our organization.

ENROLLMENT

We grew in 2025! Last year a total of 2,337 participants enrolled in 225 classes. Each term’s enrollment numbers exceeded expectations, achieving the highest participation since the pandemic. In fact, last fall’s enrollment of 779 tied with an all-time record for fall!

Attendance for Previous Years

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Winter	645	622	700	711	687	356	320	482	565	583
Spring	570	560	603	593	0	322	348	467	495	573
Summer	286	294	338	354	0	192	265	387	391	402
Fall	694	765	779	735	447	302	467	552	637	779
Totals	2195	2241	2420	2393	1134	1172	1400	1894	2088	2337

Highest ever

LifeQuest Welcomes New Participants

LifeQuest continues to attract new participants each year. In the United States, an estimated 10,000 people turn 65 every day, and the average age of a LifeQuest member is 75. In Arkansas, adults age 65 and older make up 18% of the population, closely mirroring the national average. As LifeQuest’s programming and outreach have expanded, participation has grown steadily year over year.

New participant enrollment increased by 77% from 2023 to 2025, reflecting LifeQuest’s growing reach and relevance:

- 2023: 204 new participants
- 2024: 224 new participants
- 2025: 362 new participants

MEMBER SATISFACTION

Last fall, 414 LifeQuest members participated in the **Impact and Evaluation Survey** to measure members’ satisfaction and their perceptions of the impact of LifeQuest on their lives. The survey findings affirm that LifeQuest is effectively fulfilling its goals to promote healthful longevity, active aging, and community engagement among older adults in Arkansas. For example, reports from survey respondents:

- **96%** rated classes as “high quality”
- **93%** agreed or strongly agreed that LifeQuest is a good value
- **92%** said classes helped them stay mentally active and curious
- **92%** agreed topics are diverse and relevant
- **79%** agreed LifeQuest improves their sense of purpose or wellbeing
- **78%** felt “a little more” or “much more” socially connected

Inspiring support

FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Thanks to you and others in our community, 2025 was a record-breaking year for fundraising support.

The **LifeQuest Gives** fundraiser is held in April each year and as a one-day giving event where members and friends demonstrate their endorsement of LifeQuest programming and quality instruction through their generous giving.

LifeQuest Gives yearly comparisons:

2024

Goal = \$45,000

93 donors raised \$47,000

2025

Goal = \$50,000 goal

132 donors raised \$59,125

That's a 42% increase in number of LifeQuest Gives donors, and an 26% increase in overall giving.



LifeQuest Gives matching gifts totaled \$20,000 and were generously provided by Mary Frances Cotham, the family of Dorothy Pumphrey, and the family of Eve Yancey.

Thank for your inspiring support!

70%

Approximately 70% of all contributions come from LifeQuest members and volunteers!

As income from registrations covers only **50%** of LifeQuest's expenses, contributions from individual donors, corporate sponsors, and supporting congregations are vital to our success. Thankfully, we have a village of generous supporters who endorse our mission to serve our members in Central Arkansas and across the state!



Charlie and Charlotte Frith



Bob Burns and Mary Lindsey



Cathy and John Slater

Inspiring Impact

Dr. Garrett and Judy McAinsh



Last November, Judy McAinsh gave a generous gift of \$30,000 in memory of her husband, long-time LifeQuest instructor, Dr. Garrett McAinsh.

Garrett retired from Hendrix College as a Distinguished Professor of History. Since teaching his first class at LifeQuest in 2005, Garrett made a lasting mark on the LifeQuest community both as an instructor of European History and as a valued member of the Curriculum Committee. His deep knowledge of history, command of all the kings and queens of England, and his unmistakable dry wit greatly enriched our curriculum and the learning experiences of countless members. Garrett had many friends at LifeQuest and has been deeply missed.

Judy shared that Garrett would be so pleased to make this donation “for the future of LifeQuest.” As Judy wrote, “Garrett so appreciated his time at LifeQuest. He enjoyed learning, teaching, and spending time with so many interesting friends.”

We are grateful for contribution and legacy of Dr. Garrett McAinsh - an incredible endorsement of the work and impact of LifeQuest.

NET ASSETS

\$817,554

LifeQuest’s prudent investment strategy provides stability and resilience amid fluctuating financial markets.

TOTAL REVENUE

\$426,273

Revenue from registration fees alone covers only 50% of LifeQuest’s operating costs.

OPERATING BUDGET - What does it cost to run LifeQuest?

\$370,216

LifeQuest of Arkansas is a nonprofit with a relatively small annual operating budget.

The Power of Volunteerism

At LifeQuest, volunteerism is our foundation—it's what fuels our success!

LifeQuest members volunteer in their community through Literacy Action of Central Arkansas and the Arkansas Foodbank.

From the dedicated board of directors and curriculum committee to our incredible volunteer instructors and member volunteers, approximately 10,000 hours of volunteers hours enriched our community in 2025 and brought LifeQuest programs to life!



In October, Ginney Pumphrey received the **Eve Shackelford Yancey Volunteer Service Award** for her years of dedicated volunteerism to the LifeQuest community!

Larry Yancey presented Ginney with the award named this year in memory of his wife, Eve Yancey, whose service to LifeQuest as Chair of the Board of Directors in 2021 made an indelible mark on the organization, staff, and membership.

Marcie Smith was inducted into **Aging Forward National Gallery of Volunteers** in October.



We fondly remember Marcelline Lide Smith.
February 22, 1922 - December 21, 2026

Her contributions as a LifeQuest member, instructor, and friend left a lasting and positive impact on our organization.

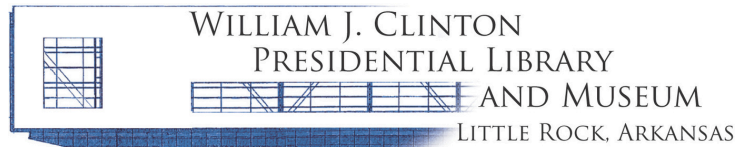
She exemplified the spirit of LifeQuest—active, engaged, intellectually curious, and committed to building meaningful connections through lifelong learning.

She was a model of what our mission seeks to inspire: older adults who continue to grow, connect, and contribute in impactful ways.



Educational Partners

Arkansas Museum of Fine Arts *
 Central Arkansas Library System
 Hendrix College *
 Literacy Action of Central Arkansas
 Mosaic Templars Cultural Center
 William J. Clinton Presidential Library



We are grateful to our incredible educational partners who enrich LifeQuest's curriculum and broaden its community engagement!

**New in 2025!*

LifeQuest at Conway



In September 2025, LifeQuest marked a major milestone by launching its first satellite campus in Conway, Arkansas. Supported by First United Methodist Church–Conway as congregational host, Hendrix College as educational partner, and generous start-up funding from the Methodist Foundation for Arkansas, LifeQuest at Conway debuted with 130 participants enrolled in nine classes.



We are grateful to The Methodist Foundations for Arkansas for their generous gift to First United Methodist Church in Conway to support LifeQuest of Arkansas’ first satellite campus, LifeQuest at Conway in partnership with Hendrix College!

Pictured left to right:

- Melody Sargent, LifeQuest at Conway Steering Committee;
- Rev. Nathan Kilbourne, Senior Pastor, FUMC;
- Drs. Pebble & David Sutherland, Co-chairs, LifeQuest at Conway Steering Committee;
- Leah Greenfield, Executive Director, LifeQuest of Arkansas;
- Macey Yokem, Dir. of Leadership Ministries, The Methodist Foundation for Arkansas;
- Martha Hunt, Chair of Board of Directors, LifeQuest of Arkansas;
- Rev. J.J. Whitney, Director for Alumni & Constituent Engagement at Hendrix College



We are grateful for the \$15,000 gift received in July 2025 from the Methodist Foundation for Arkansas to support LifeQuest at Conway!

Corporate Sponsors

Corporate sponsors are leaders in the community who care about the lives of retired-aged adults. Their generous support allows LifeQuest to offer scholarships to cover registration fees. At LifeQuest, we never want our fees to discourage a member from participating.

2025 Corporate Sponsors

DIAMOND

Arkansas Democrat-Gazette

PLATINUM

Arkansas Blue Cross and Blue Shield

GOLD

Advanced Physical Therapy

Collette Travel

ServiceMaster Restoration by Advanced
Wellcare

SILVER

Archwell Health

Arkansas Ophthalmology Associates

The Athletic Clubs of Little Rock

Bank of Little Rock

The Blake at Chenal Valley

Chenal Pines Retirement Resort

Friday, Eldredge & Clark LLP

The Manor Senior Living Community

Oak St. Health

Presbyterian Village

Sage Health

Vitality Living Pleasant Hills

Woodland Heights



We are grateful to our corporate sponsors who make LifeQuest programs accessible to members all across Arkansas and in several surrounding states!

Supporting Congregations

LifeQuest of Arkansas began in 1981 as Shepherd's Center of Little Rock. The Shepherd's Centers of America originated in 1972 in Kansas City, Missouri, by a group of faith leaders who wished to improve the lives of the older adults.

Shepherd's Centers of America celebrated 50 years in 2024 and commemorated the milestone with new branding and a new name: Aging Forward. LifeQuest continues to be a proud member of the Aging Forward alliance and is distinguished as the largest affiliate organization for the size of our educational program.

Inspired by the mission of Shepherd's Centers, W. "Jay" Jernigan, Jr. brought the concept to his congregation at Second Presbyterian Church in Little Rock. With the help of 14 area congregations and the Presbytery of Arkansas, the Shepherd's Center of Little Rock opened its doors on October 7, 1981. The vision behind the dream had been realized! An interfaith, ecumenical "mutual ministry" for older people in the community had become a reality.

2025 Supporting Congregations

Christ Episcopal Church
 Christ the King Catholic Church
 Congregation B'nai Israel
 Grace Presbyterian Church
 Jewish Federation of Arkansas
 Kirk in the Pines Presbyterian Church
 Little Rock Friends Meeting
 Our Lady of Good Counsel Catholic Church
 Our Lady of the Holy Souls Catholic Church
 Pulaski Heights United Methodist Church
 Second Presbyterian Church
 St. James United Methodist Church
 St. Luke's Episcopal Church
 St. Margaret's Episcopal Church
 St. Mark's Episcopal Church
 St. Michael's Episcopal Church
 Trinity Episcopal Cathedral
 Trinity United Methodist Church
 Unitarian Universalist Church
 Westover Hills Presbyterian Church

We are grateful to the following congregations who support LifeQuest and contribute to our mission.

LifeQuest Leadership 2025

Board of Directors

Martha Hunt, Chair
 Nancy Fleming, Vice Chair
 Doris Krain, Secretary
 Mike Watts, Treasurer
 Connie Wardell, Member at Large
 Rev. Ben Kane, Ex Officio
 Mary Ruth Brown
 Chuck Chappell
 Mary Frances Cotham
 Quantia “Key” Fletcher
 Pat Goss
 Melissa Hawkins
 Kristen Lippencott
 June Lloyd
 Beverly Milford
 Priscilla Pittman
 Marvin Schwartz
 Sheri Simon
 Laura Spradley
 Sabrina Taylor
 Larry Vaught
 Mike Walden

Curriculum Committee

Elizabeth Vines, Chair 
 Wayne Chapman
 Chuck Chappell*
 Juliana Flinn
 Joan Gage
 Regina Gibson
 John Mize
 Daniel Kirkpatrick
 Doris Krain
 Anne Parat*
 Melanie Pilcher*
 Jon Poteet
 Brian Rodgers
 Roby Robertson
 Lynn Senn
 Ruth Shepherd
 Sheri Simon
 Eileen Turner
 Larry Vaught
 Connie Wardell
 Ann West*
 Dick Williams*

*Advisory Group

LifeQuest at Conway Steering Committee

David Sutherland, Co-chair
 Pebble Sutherland, Co-chair
 Rev. Nathan Kilbourne
 Rebecca Mills
 Becky Rasnick
 Melody Sargent
 Mary Margaret Satterfield
 Warfield Teague
 J.J. Whitney

***We are grateful to our volunteer leaders who work tirelessly to shape LifeQuest into
Arkansas’s center of excellence in lifelong learning for older adults!***

LifeQuest of Arkansas

Located within Second Presbyterian Church, the LifeQuest Office is open Monday - Thursdays, 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.



LifeQuest staff pictured left to right:

Leah Greenfield, Executive Director
lgreenfield@lifequestofarkansas.org

Gina Bridges, Program Director
gbridges@lifequestofarkansas.org

Heather Thompson, Business Manager
hthompson@lifequestofarkansas.org

Donna Elkey, Program and Volunteer Coordinator
delkey@lifequestofarkansas.org



Chef Brenda Majors and Samantha West prepare Wednesday's lunch!

Contact us - We're here to help!

LifeQuest main office:

Hours: Mon-Thurs, 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.



600 Pleasant Valley Dr., Little Rock, AR 72227



501-225-6073



info@lifequestofarkansas.org



www.lifequestofarkansas.org

LifeQuest at Conway:

Hours: Mondays, 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.



1610 Prince St., Conway, AR 72034



501-514-8932

