

Session report to Great Lakes-Gulf Presbytery, spring, 2021, at Sycamore RP Church, Kokomo, Indiana

From: Second RP Church, Indianapolis, 2020

Current events interrupted church life in 2020 but our pastors made good use of the interruptions.

Pastor Faris was preaching from Lamentations, noting how our cities emptied, as in the opening of the book: "How lonely sits the city that was full of people." He showed us how social isolation could be a warning. Social isolation is painful but could be God's way of warning what complete separation from the Lord would be like in the day of judgement.

James also preached from the book of Ruth, on how God uses hard times for larger purposes. In his series on the book of Daniel, he pointed us beyond current events to Christ and His Kingship, beyond yesterday's events, or last week's election, to see the bigger story of redemption. Jesus is King, no matter who sits on the current political throne.

Pastor Hart preached through Proverbs, which offered much timely wisdom on the pandemic. One example: We need discipline throughout life, in pandemics and after them. Chapter 27 helps prepare us for hard times. Tackle responsibilities day to day, verses 23-24, Give careful attention to your herds. That faithfulness prepares us for the bigger challenges.

We are thankful for Dean Filson's 20 years of service as an assistant to the pastors, with his retirement in 2020. We also are thankful for the 15 years of service by Jenny Blankenship Wilson, with her marriage to Jeremy and move to Georgia. We also are thankful for the tech services of Rich and Barbara Blum, who moved us to livestream very quickly in March, keeping our worship doors open electronically. We also thank Aaron Murray and Andrew Gilhooley for their good property work, as well as the David Blank family scout project on an old railroad track on the west side of our property.

The Presbytery Visitation Committee (Adam Niess, chairman, Philip McCollum, Stephen Shipp) came September 19-20 and provided us with helpful feedback and perspective on the growth they saw among us, as well as the big challenges.

We were sending in the Matthew 28:18-20 theme in 2020. Zach and Beth Smith were sent to South Sudan for Christ's building of the young church there. The B family was sent to California for training in preparation for world missions. Aaron and Mary Murray were sent to RPTS seminary in Pittsburgh, for training and a timely opportunity for a pastoral internship with George Gregory in the Hope Community RP church in Beaver Falls.

We have been "perplexed but not driven to despair," II Cor. 4, as several ministries have been limited to Zoom. The pandemic has helped us better understand Paul's desire to see people face to face, and we look forward to more face-to-face doors opening in 2021.

Some members have plugged into one another's lives in new ways, by phone calls or emails and especially a 7 a.m. daily prayer meeting by Zoom, hosted by elders Dean Filson and Richard Blankenship. These daily prayer warriors, and their occasional drop-ins, are praying through the

church membership day by day, as well as a rotation of prayer for individual members of the Indiana General Assembly.

We also have been thankful for the continuation of so many mid-week activities, including Bible studies; marriage and family study group with the Mausers; the Friendship connection group; midweek studies on Romans, prophecies of Christ and the Psalms, by Zoom; creative outdoor fellowship in the summer, including children's Sunday School; ESL by Zoom; youth classes and activities both indoors and outdoors; outdoor porch visits with senior saints. An example of a new online option – Choi-ha Cassell and her family and ESL friends had a Christmas celebration with a Christian friend in Beijing by zoom in December.

1. This past year the session held 19 meetings: 12 regular meetings and 7 special meetings. Total membership as of Dec. 31, 2020, was 233, with 178 communicant members and 55 covenant children.

2. The congregation observed the sacrament of Communion on 8 occasions.

3. We rejoiced in these births:

Everly Sage Cutter, daughter of Philip and Ashley Cutter, January 24, 2020

Alexander Justus Smith, son of Zach and Beth Smith, April 22, 2020

Elle Zariah Nwosu, daughter of Obi and Anna Nwosu, November 21, 2020

4. The sacrament of baptism was administered to:

Grant Edmund Filson, son of Eric and Alissa Filson, January 12, 2020

Everly Sage Cutter, daughter of Philip and Ashley Cutter, February 9, 2020

Joanna Ruth Turner, daughter of Ben and Laura Turner, February 23, 2020

Calvin Ross Olson, son of Justin and Leah Olson, March 1, 2020

Alexander Justus Smith, son of Zach and Beth Smith, June 21, 2020

5. We are thankful for these marriages: Jenny Blankenship and Jeremy Wilson, at 4800 N. Mich. Rd., June 6, 2020 by James Faris

Katie Witcher and Tyler Vanderveen, in Bristol, Tennessee, July 18, 2020 by James Faris

Rachel Dinkeldine and Andrew Gilhooley, at 4800 N. Mich. Rd., Aug. 7, 2020 by James Faris

6. Uree Kincaid went to be with the Lord, March 29, 2020.

7. Elder delegates to the Presbytery in Elkhart were: Dean Filson and Rich Blum, February 28-March 2. James Faris and Joel Hart went as teaching elders. Presbytery, September 11, 4800 N. Michigan Road, September 13, Russ Pulliam and Jeff Platt, ruling elders; James Faris and Joel Hart, teaching elders. Presbytery, October 23, at Southside RP: David Pulliam, Terry Magnuson, ruling elders; Joel Hart, teaching elder.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the Session,

Russ Pulliam

Clerk of Session

SECOND REFORMED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF INDPLS

BALANCE SHEET

As of December 31, 2020

	TOTAL
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Bank Accounts	
CHASE	
Chase Checking	483,920.45
Total CHASE	483,920.45
FIRST INTERNET	
First Internet Bank Money Market	1,919.09
Total FIRST INTERNET	1,919.09
First Internet CD	
FIB CD 2631 (matures 1/15/21)	45,008.41
FIB CD 7638 3.12.2021	78,170.10
Total First Internet CD	123,178.51
FIRST MERCHANTS BANK	111,799.86
Subsplash	13,696.68
Total Bank Accounts	\$734,514.59
Other Current Assets	
Payroll Corrections	0.00
Prepaid Expenditures	0.00
Uncategorized Asset	0.00
Total Other Current Assets	\$0.00
Total Current Assets	\$734,514.59
TOTAL ASSETS	\$734,514.59

**SECOND REFORMED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
2021 PROPOSED BUDGET**

	Proposed 2021 Budget	Variance 2021 Budget to 2020 Budget	Variance 2021 Budget to 2020 Actual	FYE 12.31.2020 Actual 2020	Budget 2020	Actual 2020 vs. 2020 Budget	Actual 2019
Revenue							
Regular Contributions	\$600,000	\$75,000	(\$120,361)	\$720,361	\$525,000	\$195,361	\$525,346
Housing Contributions	\$10,800	\$2,796	(\$743)	\$11,543	\$8,004	\$3,539	\$9,305
Rebate Income	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$8
CD Interest	\$2,600	(\$600)	(\$333)	\$2,933	\$3,200	(\$267)	\$4,594
Interest	\$1,100	(\$950)	(\$779)	\$1,879	\$2,050	(\$171)	\$2,468
Total Revenue	\$614,500	\$76,246	(\$122,217)	\$736,717	\$538,254	\$198,463	\$541,721
Expenditures/Disbursements							
Activities							
A/V Equipment & Supplies	\$15,000	\$14,750	\$14,579	\$421	\$250	\$171	
Christian Education	\$1,400	\$200	\$352	\$1,048	\$1,200	(\$152)	\$1,370
College & Career	\$150	\$0	\$116	\$34	\$150	(\$116)	
ESL	\$500	\$0	\$500	\$0	\$500	(\$500)	\$564
Fellowship Activities	\$2,000	\$0	\$1,413	\$587	\$2,000	(\$1,413)	\$2,208
Friendship Bible Study	\$600	\$300	\$338	\$262	\$300	(\$38)	\$734
Hospitality	\$950	\$0	\$688	\$262	\$950	(\$688)	\$143
Womens', Ministry (New)	\$300	\$300	\$300	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Iron Man	\$300	\$250	\$300	\$0	\$50	(\$50)	\$240
Seminary Student Support (New)	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Library-Books	\$250	(\$35)	\$430	(\$180)	\$285	(\$465)	
Total Activities	\$23,450	\$17,765	\$21,015	\$2,435	\$5,685	(\$3,250)	\$5,259
Administrative							
Administrative Support							
Office Manager	\$30,600	(\$4,080)	(\$2,250)	\$32,850	\$34,680	(\$1,830)	\$34,894
Admin. Support	\$6,610	\$6,610	\$4,703	\$1,907	\$1,907	\$1,907	
Digital Media	\$6,000	\$3,000	(\$637)	\$6,637	\$3,000	\$3,637	\$3,128
Guest Ministry	\$2,000	\$0	\$600	\$1,400	\$2,000	(\$600)	\$2,909
Kitchen Supplies	\$1,400	\$0	\$1,300	\$100	\$1,400	(\$1,300)	\$1,545
Ministry Expense	\$16,925	\$300	\$1,945	\$14,980	\$16,625	(\$1,645)	\$15,846
Nursery	\$750	\$85	\$615	\$135	\$665	(\$530)	
Office Expense	\$15,000	\$0	(\$2,508)	\$17,508	\$15,000	\$2,508	\$16,621
Payroll Taxes	\$21,724	\$13,994	\$13,342	\$8,382	\$7,730	\$652	\$9,732
Pensions	\$14,661	(\$1,567)	(\$1,165)	\$15,826	\$16,228	(\$402)	\$18,000
Salary - Faris	\$111,460	\$4,340	\$4,340	\$107,120	\$107,120	\$0	\$104,000
Salary - Hart	\$71,800	\$2,790	\$2,790	\$69,010	\$69,010	\$0	\$67,000
Bookkeeping & Report Prep (New)	\$8,000	\$8,000	\$8,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Salary - Filson		(\$20,215)	(\$21,381)	\$21,381	\$20,215	\$1,166	\$47,800
Supplemental Comp.	\$22,000	\$12,000	\$12,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$0	\$7,900
Total Administrative	\$328,930	\$25,257	\$21,695	\$307,235	\$303,673	\$3,562	\$329,375
Denominational							
Great lakes/Gulf Presbytery Fund	\$5,975	(\$589)	(\$589)	\$6,564	\$6,564	\$0	\$8,093
RP Missions & Ministry	\$0	(\$20,000)	(\$20,000)	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$0	\$20,000
Synod Assessments	\$16,208	\$3,608	\$4,289	\$11,919	\$12,600	(\$681)	\$12,668
Total Denominational	\$22,183	(\$16,981)	(\$16,300)	\$38,483	\$39,164	(\$681)	\$40,761
Other Missions							
Other Missions	\$20,000	\$4,400	\$3,925	\$16,075	\$15,600	\$475	\$19,388
Total Other Missions	\$20,000	\$4,400	\$3,925	\$16,075	\$15,600	\$475	\$19,388
Properties							
Capital Improvements	\$67,000	\$19,700	\$19,657	\$47,343	\$47,300	\$43	\$35,990
Decorating (New)	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Cleaning	\$10,400	\$1,040	(\$960)	\$11,360	\$9,360	\$2,000	\$9,120
Insurance & Legal Fees	\$13,000	\$4,150	(\$18,848)	\$31,848	\$8,850	\$22,998	\$7,827
Maintenance & Supplies	\$31,200	\$0	(\$727)	\$31,927	\$31,200	\$727	\$25,282
Property Taxes	\$12,200	\$2,300	\$2,560	\$9,640	\$9,900	(\$260)	\$9,955
Salary - Property Manager	\$41,500	(\$1,156)	(\$10,008)	\$51,508	\$42,656	\$8,852	\$41,820
Electric Utilities	\$18,000	(\$6,500)	\$6,391	\$11,609	\$24,500	(\$12,891)	\$25,732
Gas Utilities	\$5,000	\$1,300	\$116	\$4,884	\$3,700	\$1,184	\$4,915
Telephone & Internet Utilities	\$4,000	\$750	\$159	\$3,841	\$3,250	\$591	\$3,179
Trash Service	\$2,016	(\$1,534)	(\$264)	\$2,280	\$3,550	(\$1,270)	\$3,515
Water Utilities	\$7,800	\$400	(\$155)	\$7,955	\$7,400	\$555	\$7,857
Total Properties	\$215,116	\$23,450	\$920	\$214,196	\$191,666	\$22,530	\$175,192
Merit Increases Provision		\$0	\$0				
Total Expenditures	\$609,679	\$53,891	\$31,255	\$578,424	\$555,788	\$22,636	\$569,975
Net Revenue	\$4,821	\$22,355	(\$153,472)	\$158,293	(\$17,534)	\$175,827	(\$28,254)

ALLOCATION OF SUPPLEMENTAL COMPENSATION	
JAMES FARIS	\$10,000.00
JOEL HART	\$8,000.00
LAURIE TERPSTRA	\$1,500.00
LAUREN SAUNDERS	\$400.00
ANDREW GILHOOLEY	\$2,100.00
	\$22,000.00