

Elkhart, IN RPC Session Report For Great Lakes-Gulf Presbytery Meeting, March 4-6, 2021

“Wait for the LORD; Be strong and let your heart take courage; Yes, wait for the LORD.” (Psalm 27:14 NASB)

1) Total Membership: Communicant and Baptized (12/31/20), **61**. (2) Average AM Worship Attendance, **55**. (3) Average PM Worship Attendance, **25** [1st, 3rd, & 5th Lord's Day]. (4) Baptized Members Professing, **0**. (5) New Members by Profession, **1**. (6) Net Change in Total Membership, **0**.

What a year of unexpected twists and turns 2020 has been! Yet through it all, our sovereign God and gracious heavenly Father has guided, protected, and upheld us in His everlasting arms. We humbly praise Him for His constant care and pray that we will learn the lessons He has for us through the coronavirus pandemic.

Session met 27 times in constituted court in 2020 of which 10 were conducted online. Six of the Session meetings were jointly held with the Board of Deacons. At our regular monthly meetings, the elders began with devotions reviewing two chapters from Sinclair B. Ferguson's book *In Christ Alone*.

In mid-March, we entered a new medium of preaching ministry via internet livestream, as did most of your congregations. We are grateful for the work of our Sound and Recording Team and a grant from Eli Lilly to make this happen. Morning worship services focused on a series through Exodus and Numbers. In the summer, we took a break to consider Jesus' parables in Matthew 25, as well as the office of deacon in preparation for an election of deacons which yielded three new deacons after losing two. In the evening services we studied further the morning sermon passages, focusing on personal application. Four Lord's Day evenings we considered texts from Hebrews followed by the sacrament of the Lord's Supper. We are thankful for the ministry of guest preachers: Garrett Mann, Rich Johnston, Bill Roberts, and Allen Blackwood. Allen was our summer intern, preaching through Titus. While the virus limited some activities, Allen and his family engaged well in the life and ministry of ERPC, and we were blessed by their service.

Due to COVID restrictions, Bibles studies concluded in the spring via Zoom with SS Classes being suspended from mid-March until September. At that time, we also resumed in-person small group studies with Elder Fik Menbere leading a study on *In Christ Alone*, by Sinclair Ferguson; Elder Andy DeRosa a study on Jesus' parables from *Glory, Veiled and Unveiled*, by Gerald Bilke; and a third study on parenting based on *Shepherding a Child's Heart*, by Tedd Tripp led by Pastor Mann. Also, the Women's Study finished *Side by Side*, by Ed Welch and began a study on *Overcoming Fear, Worry, and Anxiety*, by Elyse Fitzpatrick. The Men's group concluded a study of the Sermon on the Mount and began an audio series on *Church and State* by R.C. Sproul.

The Fresh Lunch Thursdays ministry was interrupted in mid-March but restarted in the fall. We carried on with the monthly meal ministry and tract distribution at Faith Mission, less a few months in late spring.

In January, Ellen Smith was received from Terra Haute RP Church; the Dowell family transferred to Houston Lake Presbyterian Church, Kathleen, GA; Becky Arndt was received as a communicant member by transfer from Michiana Covenant Presbyterian Church. Also, Chris and Becky's children Michael, Mercy and Mara were received as baptized members. In June we grieved the loss of longtime adherent JoAnn Fisher, who left behind her husband Tom after 60 years together. On July 18, 2020 we celebrated the wedding of Sam Stearns and Ellen Smith. Later on November 11, 2020, Ellen (Smith) Stearns's membership was transferred to Columbus RP Church, and Jonathan Daniels' membership was transferred to 2nd RP Church, as he became a new student at IUPUI. We rejoiced when Peyton Markel publicly professed faith in Christ and was baptized on September 13, 2020. On December 30, 2020 we celebrated the marriage of Myra Mann to Calvin Held.

We are grateful to God for His abundant grace in preserving His flock at ERPC during this past year of much turmoil politically, socially, and medically. “To Him be the glory forever and ever. Amen.”

Respectfully submitted,

Andy DeRosa—RE, Wade Mann—TE, Fikre Menbere—RE, Jon Ummel—RE

ERPC 2020 Financial Report and 2021 Budget

	2020 Budget	2020 Actual	2020 Difference	2021 Budget
<i>INCOME</i>				
101 Contributions	135,000.00	142,341.31	7,341.31	138,000.00
102 Interest	0.00	2.84	2.84	0.00
105 Designated Gifts	0.00	2,620.00	2,620.00	0.00
107 Other	0.00	5,562.25	5,562.25	0.00
TOTAL INCOME =	135,000.00	150,526.40	15,526.40	138,000.00
<i>EXPENSES</i>				
CONGREGATION				
201 Christian Education	1,000.00	1,017.63	(17.63)	1,000.00
202 Fellowship Activities	1,000.00	366.84	633.16	1,000.00
203 Youth Ministry	500.00	126.58	373.42	500.00
204 Guest Ministry	2,200.00	843.82	1,356.18	2,200.00
205 Administration	1,500.00	810.93	689.07	1,500.00
206 Pastor's Ministry Expenses	3,000.00	2,095.30	904.70	3,000.00
207 Workman's Comp Insurance	350.00	332.69	17.31	350.00
208 Group Study Resources	250.00	44.67	205.33	250.00
209 Session Expenses	300.00	0.00	300.00	0.00
210 Other	500.00	1,825.26	(1,325.26)	0.00
<i>Congregation Sub-total =</i>	10,600.00	7,463.72	3,136.28	9,800.00
PASTORAL SUPPORT				
301 Salary	28,960.00	28,960.00	0.00	28,960.00
302 Parsonage Allowance	33,740.00	33,740.00	0.00	33,740.00
303 Salary Supplement	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
304 Pension	4,400.00	5,750.00	(1,350.00)	6,000.00
305 Medical Insurance	6,400.00	6,400.00	0.00	6,400.00
<i>Pastor Sub-total =</i>	73,500.00	74,850.00	(1,350.00)	75,100.00
306 Associate Pastor (Intern)	10,000.00	9,368.93	631.07	0.00
307 New Pastor Relocation	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
308 Professional Development	1,500.00	0.00	1,500.00	1,500.00
<i>Pastoral Support Sub-total =</i>	85,000.00	84,218.93	781.07	76,600.00
MISSIONS				
401 Local Outreach (fresh lunch)	2,000.00	671.68	1,328.32	2,000.00

402 Vacation Bible School	500.00	0.00	500.00	500.00
403 Short Term Missions	250.00	0.00	250.00	250.00
404 Other Missions (Family Conference)	1,000.00	0.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
405 Mercy Ministry	1,500.00	0.00	1,500.00	1,500.00
406 Protection and Preservation of Life	500.00	500.00	0.00	500.00
<i>Missions Sub-total =</i>	5,750.00	1,171.68	4,578.32	5,750.00
DENOMINATION				
501 Presbytery Assessments	1,661.65	1,523.68	137.97	1,551.64
502 Synod Assessments	2,373.00	3,266.00	(893.00)	2,970.00
503 Synod & Presby Delegate	300.00	1,411.97	(1,111.97)	300.00
505 RP Home Missions	1,000.00	2,020.00	(1,020.00)	1,000.00
506 RP Global Missions	1,000.00	2,350.00	(1,350.00)	1,000.00
510 RP Missions/Ministry	7,165.35	6,379.48	785.87	6,978.36
<i>Denomination Sub-total =</i>	13,500.00	16,951.13	(3,451.13)	13,800.00
PROPERTY				
601 Mortgage	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
602 Utilities	7,500.00	8,085.94	(585.94)	7,500.00
603 Maintenance & Supplies	7,000.00	6,883.44	116.56	7,000.00
604 Property Insurance	5,000.00	4,858.90	141.10	5,000.00
605 Property Improvements	0.00	6,770.39	(6,770.39)	11,250.00
606 Office Equipment	300.00	0.00	300.00	500.00
607 Other Equipment	200.00	4,891.50	(4,691.50)	800.00
<i>Property Sub-total =</i>	20,000.00	31,490.17	(11,490.17)	32,050.00
TOTAL EXPENSES =	134,850.00	141,295.63	(6,445.63)	138,000.00
YTD NET =	150.00	9,230.77	9,080.77	0.00

	2020 Actual	2021 Budget
Total Cash Balance		
Beginning Balance January 1:	90088.35	
Net from This Year:	9,230.77	
Balance =	99,319.12	