

SYCAMORE REFORMED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH REPORT
Great Lakes-Gulf Presbytery Mar 3-5, 2022 (Lafayette, IN)

“Now may the God who gives perseverance and encouragement grant you to be of the same mind with one another according to Christ Jesus, so that with one accord you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore, accept one another, just as Christ also accepted us to the glory of God.” –Romans 15:5-7

We are thankful for the example that Christ provides for us in His acceptance of each one of us. He continues to bring us into greater unity in truth and love that we may be united in our worship and service. How encouraged we are to see Christ’s sufficient grace at work in our congregation.

<u>2021 Congregational Stats:</u>	
2020 Total Members: 36C/29B	65
2021 Total Members: 35C/28B	63
Ave Attendance AM Worship:	57
Ave Attendance PM Worship:	37
Baptized Members Profession:	0
New Members by Profession:	1
Net Change in Total Membership:	(-3/+1)

The session completed Tim Keller’s *“Walking with God in Pain and Suffering”* which was a help to us as we comfort and encourage the flock of God facing various trials individually and corporately. We also spent time on other devotional materials. We intend to take an in-depth look at how to discern and shepherd people in abusive situations, working through Darby Strickland’s *“Is It Abuse?”*.

Statistically speaking, the Session constituted as a court **10** times in 2021 and met informally many other times for counsel and discussion. Sycamore RPC currently has **34** communicant members and **29** baptized members. We witnessed Brenna Morrow’s profession of faith and the birth of Nathan Dinkledine. We also transferred Adam & Heidi, and Nathan Dinkledine to Second RP Church. Not counting those who attend on Zoom, our average turnout was approximately **57** people in the morning service, and **37** in the evening teaching service (same numbers as last year).

Reflecting on our church life, we hosted both the Spring Presbytery meeting in March and the annual northern Indiana Thanksgiving Psalm Sing in November. We participated in a Presbytery-wide day of Prayer and Fasting (Oct 27). We also enjoyed fellowship at our annual RP Night at the Indians baseball game (Indy). In our community, we attended the Recovery Celebration in May and the annual PRC Life Banquet in September. As a congregation, we enjoyed a Memorial Day picnic at a new location, and we were able to contribute to the RP Youth Fall Ministry Project. A class on the US Constitution was hosted at our church with several members participating. For various reasons, our family visitation schedule was interrupted since the introduction of COVID. We plan to remedy this, recommitting to a 2022 family visitation schedule. The session also believes that we need another elder to be added to the session and hope to have a new elder by the end of the year.

Regarding our preaching & teaching ministry, we have heard from the Spirit of Christ speaking in and by His Word, as we have completed Romans 12-16, wherein we have considered many ways to live “by the mercies of God” (12:1). We also had several one-off sermons often related to communion. We celebrated the Lord’s Supper 5 times this year, including our Communion Weekend (April) where we considered the theme of Christ’s threefold office. Guest preachers included Zachary Blackwood, Ed Blackwood, Jason

Camery, Keith Dewell, Ian Wise, and Steven Work. In our evening teaching service, we finished the lives of Elijah and Elisha and moved into part 1 of the Westminster Shorter Catechism. We sang consecutively through Psalms 119N to 138B.

We also kept up a weekly schedule of classes, including Ruth and Judges on Mondays; James then Genesis in our women's study; and a men's study on the theology of the Puritans, as well as a Thursday evening Communicants' Membership class. Apart from weekly Biblical counseling, our pastor tutors the Challenge B community for Classical Conversations each Wednesday, of which there are several students from our church.

Regarding our budget, our average monthly income this year was around \$8,000 (below the \$8,883/mo. Budgeted). We came in \$7,100 under budget for income, and spent \$1200 over the budgeted amount of \$106,600, giving us a total deficit of around \$8,300 for the year. Big purchases in 2021 were \$6500 for new doors (608), \$3350 for replacement of downspouts (604), and \$1260 media (209 – nursery TV, sound booth equipment). We have adjusted our budget to correct this deficit.

We trust and pray that as we experience our God's benediction of His love, grace, fellowship, & trial, we would increase in our knowledge and experience of His all-surpassing love.

SYCAMORE REFORMED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
2021-22 Financials

100 Income	2021 Budget	2021 Actual	2022 Proposal
101 Interest	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
102 Tithes and Offerings	\$106,600.00	\$94,948.84	\$100,000.00
103 Flow-In (<i>Anonymous & RP Witness</i>)		\$4,143.00	
104 Building Emergency Fund		\$4,179.96	
105 Compassion International		\$0.00	
107 Other Income		\$0.00	
108 Building Improvements		\$0.00	
110 Building Cleaning		\$150.00	
111 Special Gifts (Mercy Ministry)		\$300.00	
<i>Subtotal</i>	\$106,600.00	\$103,721.80	\$100,000.00
200 Administration			
201 Administration	\$3,000.00	\$2,946.41	\$3,000.00
202 Christian Education	\$1,200.00	\$1,164.19	\$1,200.00
203 Library Education	\$250.00	\$195.00	\$150.00
205 Anderson Ministry Expense	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.24	\$2,000.00
206 Miscellaneous	\$100.00	\$5.00	\$50.00
207 Gift/Donation	\$750.00	\$278.00	\$500.00
208 Speakers	\$1,500.00	\$1,025.00	\$1,500.00
209 Media		\$1,259.24	\$500.00
<i>Subtotal</i>	\$8,800.00	\$8,873.08	\$8,400.00
300 Congregation			
301 Fellowship & Hospitality	\$1,000.00	\$1,587.33	\$1,000.00
303 Mercy	\$1,500.00	\$728.58	\$1,000.00
304 Memorials	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$100.00
305 Outreach & Evangelism	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$100.00
306 Compassion International	\$456.00	\$456.00	\$456.00
310 Sermon Audio	\$480.00	\$479.40	\$480.00
311 Pastoral Continuing Education	\$500.00	\$380.00	\$500.00
323 Conference and Missions	\$800.00	\$0.00	\$800.00
<i>Subtotal</i>	\$4,936.00	\$3,731.31	\$4,436.00
400 Denomination & Missions			
403 Presbytery Assessments	\$1,200.00	\$1,199.40	\$1,200.00
405 RPM&M	\$1,200.00	\$1,200.00	\$1,200.00
407 Synod Assessments	\$2,240.00	\$2,235.00	\$1,765.00
410 Synod	\$400.00	\$408.00	\$400.00
<i>Subtotal</i>	\$5,040.00	\$4,340.00	\$4,565.00

500 Pastor			
501 Health	\$10,000.00	\$8,000.01	\$10,000.00
502 Housing	\$19,000.00	\$18,999.96	\$19,000.00
503 Salary	\$26,132.00	\$28,132.11	\$26,132.00
504 Pension	\$5,200.00	\$5,200.00	\$5,200.00
<i>Subtotal</i>	\$60,332.00	\$60,332.08	\$60,332.00
600 Building			
602 Domestic Supplies	\$1,000.00	\$1,199.63	\$1,200.00
603 Maintenance	\$3,500.00	\$3,658.01	\$3,500.00
604 Building Emergency Fund	\$2,600.00	\$3,880.08	\$2,127.00
605 Insurance	\$3,792.00	\$3,836.00	\$3,840.00
607 Utilities	\$8,000.00	\$9,267.56	\$9,000.00
608 Building Improvements	\$6,000.00	\$6,000.00	\$0.00
610 Building Cleaning	\$2,600.00	\$2,050.00	\$2,600.00
703 Flow Out (<i>Anonymous & RP Witness</i>)	\$0.00	\$4,143.00	\$0.00
<i>Subtotal</i>	\$27,492.00	\$34,034.28	\$22,267.00
Total	\$106,600.00	\$112,013.15	\$100,000.00
Over/Under Budget	<i>\$0.00</i>	<i>-\$8,291.35</i>	<i>\$0.00</i>
<i>2021 Ending Balance</i>		\$25,262.83	
<i>2020 Ending Balance</i>		\$33,554.18	
Emergency Fund Balance 2021: \$299.88			
Emergency Fund Balance 2020: \$4,179.96			