

First Reformed Presbyterian Church

Grand Rapids, MI

GLG Presbytery Spring 2022 Meeting Congregational Report

“Blessed be the name of the Lord from this time forth and forevermore.” – Psalm 113:2

Dear fathers and brethren,

The year 2021 for First RP of Grand Rapids has been marked by many blessings, but also by trials.

The Lord’s Day: Pastor Scott is currently preaching through Mark during the morning service, and has completed series in the evening on the subjects of revival and angels. The church has also conducted Sabbath schools on the subjects of church history, baptism, and the Lord’s Day. Jake Schwartz has also preached as a student under care.

Sacraments: The congregation has observed the Lord’s Supper 4 times during the year, which has been the highlight of congregational life. 5 babies were baptized.

Men’s Fellowship: The men have been getting together once per month for fellowship. A men’s study was completed with the goal of finding out whether God would raise up more ruling elders in the congregation. Men have experienced growth in grace as a result of the class.

Women’s fellowship: The ladies are reading through *The Fountain of Life* by John Flavel, and they hold a monthly breakfast for fellowship and prayer.

Evangelism: Personal and public outreach continues. Thousands have received tracts, Bibles, and apologetic materials. Many new relationships are built through conversations, one on one coffee meetings, and bringing persons to worship.

Congregation: The church celebrated the wedding of two members in the Fall. Our deacon Jeff Wykstra has a continuing battle with cancer which he is fighting diligently. Jeff experiences days of strength and weakness, but he is growing in confidence and faith in the Lord.

The Session and Diaconate: More elders are needed. We also need at least one other deacon.

Membership: In 2021 the congregation added 2 adults to communicant membership and 3 covenant children to baptized membership. A few members transferred to other congregations in Greenville, SC and Grand Rapids due to work and family dependence. In December three households departed the congregation and began to attend another congregation. This departure was sudden and unexpected, and led to a request to AIC for a visitation committee which will report at this spring presbytery.

Finances: 2021 has been a difficult year financially. The church experienced a loss of \$9,448.95, and we are anticipating a loss of \$17,000 over 2022. We project that at our current rate, the congregation can only sustain through the first few months of 2023.

Pray for the Lord's guidance for the future for us as we evaluate what is the best way forward in our situation. Pray that we as a local church would be made holier through these events. Please pray for God's covenant goodness on all the households, as well as provision for the congregation in the future.

Respectfully submitted,

Craig Scott, TE

Jake Schwartz, RE

Stephen Rhoda, Provisional RE

Congregational Stats as of December 31, 2021

Church membership: 50 (31 communicant and 19 baptized)

Baptisms: 5 infants, 3 of whom belong to current member households

Net change in membership: Increase of 5

Average morning attendance: 40

Average evening attendance: 30

First Reformed Presbyterian Church (Grand Rapids)

Financial Report - 2022 Budget and

2021 Budget to Actual

	2022 Budget	2021 Budget	2021 Actual	2021 Budget vs Actual
INCOME				
101 Contributions	\$70,000.00	\$80,141.40	\$69,607.67	\$ 10,533.73
102 Interest/Dividends	90.00	120.00	109.96	10.04
105 Designated Gifts	-	-	-	-
TOTAL INCOME	\$70,090.00	\$80,261.40	\$69,717.63	\$10,543.77
EXPENSES				
CONGREGATION				
201 Christian Education	400.00	200.00	380.67	\$ (180.67)
202 Fellowship Activities	-	200.00	-	200.00
204 Pulpit Supply	2,000.00	2,000.00	1,875.00	125.00
205 Administration/Office Expenses	1,400.00	1,200.00	1,371.30	(171.30)
206 Ministry Expenses	200.00	200.00	106.00	94.00
Congregation Sub-total	\$4,000.00	\$3,800.00	\$3,732.97	\$67.03
PASTORAL SUPPORT				
301 Salary	25,116.00	25,116.00	\$25,116.00	-
302 Housing Allowance	26,820.00	26,820.00	27,670.00	(850.00)
303 Ministry Expenses	1,500.00	1,500.00	1,828.93	(328.93)
304 Pension (RPCNA Plan)	-	-	-	-
305 Medical Insurance	6,000.00	6,000.00	3,329.51	2,670.49
306 Retirement Contribution	5,850.00	5,850.00	-	5,850.00
Pastoral Support Sub-total	\$65,286.00	\$65,286.00	\$57,944.44	\$7,341.56
MISSIONS				
401 Media	439.45	479.40	439.45	39.95
403 Overseas Missions	-	-	-	-
404 Other Missions/Conferences	-	2,000.00	-	2,000.00
405 Mercy Ministry	-	-	-	-
Missions Sub-total	\$439.45	\$2,479.40	\$439.45	\$2,039.95
DENOMINATION				
501 Presbytery Assessments	540.00	500.00	540.72	(40.72)
502 Synod Assessments	1,750.00	1,200.00	1,771.00	(571.00)
503 Synod & Presby Expenses	500.00	500.00	408.00	92.00
505 Home Missions	500.00	500.00	-	500.00
506 Foreign Missions (Pakistan)	-	3,000.00	3,000.00	-
510 RP Missions/Ministry	-	-	-	-
Denomination Sub-total	\$3,290.00	\$5,700.00	\$5,719.72	\$(19.72)
PROPERTY				
601 Building Rent	13,000.00	10,500.00	10,800.00	(300.00)
602 Utilities	-	-	-	-
603 Maintenance & Supplies	-	-	-	-
604 Liability Insurance	530.00	521.00	530.00	(9.00)
606 Office Equipment	-	-	-	-
607 Other Equipment	-	-	-	-
Property Sub-total	\$13,530.00	\$11,021.00	\$11,330.00	\$(309.00)
800 Benevolence	575.00	575.00	-	575.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$87,120.45	\$88,861.40	\$79,166.58	\$9,694.82
YTD NET	\$(17,030.45)	\$(8,600.00)	\$(9,448.95)	\$848.95
FUNDS				

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2021 Budget to Actual

	2022 Budget	2021 Budget	2021 Actual	2021 Budget vs Actual
General Fund				
Beginning Balance Jan 1	23,916.46		33,365.41	
Change	(17,030.45)		(9,448.95)	
Balance General Fund	6,886.01		23,916.46	
Synod 403b fund Contribution				
Beginning Balance Jan 1	250.00		250.00	
Change	(250.00)		-	
Balance Sermon Audio Fund	-		250.00	
Mission Fund				
Beginning Balance Jan 1	10,392.56		10,392.56	
Change	(1,200.00)		-	
Balance Mission Fund	9,192.56		10,392.56	
Building Fund				
Beginning Balance Jan 1	8,611.87		8,611.87	
Change	-		-	
Balance Building Fund	8,611.87		8,611.87	
Craig Shoemaker Fund				
Beginning Balance Jan 1	575.00		575.00	
Change	(575.00)		-	
Balance Craig Shoemaker Fund	-		575.00	
Deacon Fund				
Beginning Balance Jan 1	1,992.69		1,992.69	
Change	-		-	
Balance Deacon Fund	1,992.69		1,992.69	
Loan				
Beginning Balance Jan 1	1,100.00		1,100.00	
Change	(1,100.00)		-	
Loan Balance	-		1,100.00	
Balance of all funds	27,783.13		46,838.58	