

Elkhart, IN RPC Session Report For Great Lakes-Gulf Presbytery Meeting, March 3-5, 2022

“Those who trust in the LORD Are as Mount Zion, which cannot be moved but abides forever.” (Psalm 125:1 NASB)

1) Total Membership: Communicant and Baptized (12/31/21), 59. (2) Average AM Worship Attendance, 46. (3) Average PM Worship Attendance, 21 [1st, 3rd, & 5th Lord's Day]. (4) Baptized Members Professing, 0. (5) New Members by Profession, 1. (6) Net Change in Total Membership, -2.

Session met 16 times in constituted court in 2021 to care for God's people and oversee the general progress of the work of the ministry; this includes 4 joint meetings held with the Board of Deacons. Elders took turns leading devotions at the start of every Session meeting using *Learning to Love the Psalms*, by Robert Godfrey.

Preaching in 2021 focused on a series through 1 & 2 Timothy with praise, prayer & sermon discussion in the evening services on the first and third Lord's Days. We had four congregational Psalm Sings at the church, normally on the fifth Lord's Day evenings. Worship with the Lord's Supper was held six times on the first Lord's Day evenings of alternating months. The Adult SS Class completed Robert Godfrey's *Survey of Church History* series, a study on evangelism by Stephen Abbott, *Christian Worldview* by R.C. Sproul, and *Union with Christ*, by Sinclair Ferguson. Children and youth classes continue to use Great Commissions Publications materials.

In May small group Bible studies concluded on the miracles of Christ from *Mery Revealed*, by Gerald Bilke led by Elder Menbere; on Jesus' parables from *Glory, Veiled and Unveiled*, by Gerald Bilke led by Elder DeRosa; and a third study on parenting based on *Shepherding a Child's Heart*, by Tedd Tripp led by Pastor Mann. In September Pastor Mann began leading a DVD series called *The Art of Marriage*, and Elder Menbere began leading a study of the Gospel of John. The women's study finished *Overcoming Fear, Worry, and Anxiety*, by Elyse Fitzpatrick and began a new study in the fall on *With the Master on Our Knees*, by Susan Heck. The men's group concluded an audio series on *Church and State* by R.C. Sproul, then began an inductive study called *Abiding in Christ* focusing on John 13-17. In June it was a great blessing to host our first VBS program. In September after 20 years of ministry, we hosted our final Fresh Lunch Thursday. Community Dinner Wednesdays began the following week. We pray God will bring fruit from this new kingdom endeavor.

We rejoiced in the reception of new members: John Landi by profession (4/4/21) with his baptism on May 30, and Cody and Emily Work by transfer on April 14, 2021. It has been a blessing to have them as part of the body. On February 10, 2021, Myra (Mann) Held was transferred to Immanuel RPC after her marriage to Calvin, December 30, 2020. On April 14, 2021, Mark and Aljean Loving were transferred to Providence ARPC in Bartlett, TN, with Aljean passing into glory on September 24, 2021. On July 14, 2021, we were saddened to remove Jonathan Dean from the roll as an indifferent member, and to dismiss Michael Betts at his request. We pray for God's gracious work in their lives. We grieved the losses of Tom Fisher on October 11, 2021, and Joshua Menbere on October 14, 2021. Yet in our sorrow, our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ has provided much comfort. On October 28, 2021, we accepted the resignation of Keith Lorenz from diaconal service with thanks for his good work. On January 9, 2022, we dismissed Joe Moore to the Nappanee Missionary Church at his request. Also, in late January 2022 the DeRosas and Ummels both announced their plans for departure and will be greatly missed. Pray for God to raise up additional elders and families for ERPC. Overall, we

are encouraged to see the involvement of many in the various Committees and Ministry Teams. We thank the Lord for His bountiful supply for the life and ministry of ERPC.

In December, the Session and Deacon Board after discussion with Pastor Mann approved a 4-month sabbatical for him during May—August 2022. This is something the Session had been considering for over a year and is a provision for pastors which has been recommended by Synod. Plans are still being made, but please pray for the Lord's guidance and blessing for the Manns and ERPC.

Recommendation: That Pastor Ian Wise be appointed as Interim Moderator during May through August 2022, while Pastor Mann is on sabbatical.

Respectfully submitted,

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

ERPC 2021 Financial Report and 2022 Budget

	2021 Budget	2021 Actual	2021 Difference	2022 Budget
INCOME				
101 Contributions	138,000.00	149,501.98	11,501.98	143,803.00
102 Interest	0.00	8.46	8.46	0.00
105 Designated Gifts	0.00	1,485.00	1,485.00	0.00
107 Other	0.00	1,203.87	1,203.87	0.00
TOTAL INCOME =	138,000.00	152,199.31	14,199.31	143,803.00
EXPENSES				
CONGREGATION				
201 Christian Education	1,000.00	1,127.84	(127.84)	1,000.00
202 Fellowship Activities	1,000.00	845.55	154.45	1,750.00
203 Youth Ministry	500.00	335.65	164.35	500.00
204 Guest Ministry	2,200.00	2,551.91	(351.91)	2,200.00
205 Administration	1,500.00	979.12	520.88	1,500.00
206 Pastor's Ministry Expenses	3,000.00	2,676.34	323.66	3,000.00
207 Workman's Comp Insurance	350.00	330.68	19.32	350.00
208 Group Study Resources	250.00	51.36	198.64	250.00
209 Session Expenses	0.00	96.80	(96.80)	0.00
210 Other	0.00	635.26	(635.26)	0.00
<i>Congregation Sub-total =</i>	<i>9,800.00</i>	<i>9,630.51</i>	<i>169.49</i>	<i>10,550.00</i>
PASTORAL SUPPORT				
301 Salary	28,960.00	28,960.00	0.00	31,960.00
302 Parsonage Allowance	33,740.00	33,739.84	0.16	33,740.00
303 Salary Supplement	0.00	1,235.00	(1,235.00)	0.00
304 Pension	6,000.00	5,150.00	850.00	9,620.00
305 Medical Insurance	6,400.00	6,400.00	0.00	6,400.00
<i>Pastor Sub-total =</i>	<i>75,100.00</i>	<i>75,484.84</i>	<i>(384.84)</i>	<i>81,720.00</i>
306 Associate Pastor (Sabbatical)*	0.00	0.00	0.00	3,000.00
307 New Pastor Relocation	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
308 Professional Development	1,500.00	1,509.55	(9.55)	1,500.00
<i>Pastoral Support Sub-total =</i>	<i>76,600.00</i>	<i>76,994.39</i>	<i>(394.39)</i>	<i>86,220.00</i>
MISSIONS				
401 Local Outreach (fresh lunch)	2,000.00	893.55	1,106.45	2,000.00
402 Vacation Bible School	500.00	291.49	208.51	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	1,193.72	306.28	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	2,878.76	2,871.24	5,750.00
DENOMINATION				
501 Presbytery Assessments	1,551.64	1,551.64	0.00	1,532.00
502 Synod Assessments	2,970.00	3,132.00	(162.00)	2,970.00
503 Synod & Presby Delegate	300.00	510.00	(210.00)	300.00
505 RP Home Missions	1,000.00	1,000.00	0.00	1,000.00
506 RP Global Missions	1,000.00	1,000.00	0.00	1,000.00
510 RP Missions/Ministry	6,978.36	7,746.56	(768.20)	7,181.00
<i>Denomination Sub-total =</i>	13,800.00	14,940.20	(1,140.20)	13,983.00
PROPERTY				
601 Mortgage	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
602 Utilities	7,500.00	9,640.82	(2,140.82)	9,500.00
603 Maintenance & Supplies	7,000.00	5,269.23	1,730.77	9,000.00
604 Property Insurance	5,000.00	6,544.50	(1,544.50)	5,000.00
605 Property Improvements	11,250.00	37,127.58	(25,877.58)	3,000.00
606 Office Equipment	500.00	0.00	500.00	500.00
607 Other Equipment	800.00	689.00	111.00	300.00
<i>Property Sub-total =</i>	32,050.00	59,271.13	(27,221.13)	27,300.00
TOTAL EXPENSES =	138,000.00	163,714.99	(25,714.99)	143,803.00
YTD NET =	0.00	(11,515.68)	(11,515.68)	0.00

2021 Budget

Total Cash Balance

Beginning Balance January 1:	99,319.12
Net from This Year:	(11,515.68)
Balance =	87,803.44

* Up to \$15,000 is set aside to provide for interim ministry and sabbatical expenses with the balance beyond \$3,000 coming from savings.