

# Report of the Bloomington Congregation To the Great Lakes-Gulf Presbytery 2023

Concerning Year 2022

*“Witnessing for Christ in Bloomington for 201 Years”*

*“The LORD declares to you that the LORD Himself  
will establish a house for you” – 2 Samuel 7:11b*

## **Membership:**

Communicant: 154 (+13)

Baptized: 51 (+5)

Total: 205 (+18)

## **Changes:**

Transfers in: 17

Professions of faith: 1

Covenant baptisms: 6

Transfers out: 5

Transfers to glory: 0

Removal: 0

Excommunication: 0

## **Attendance:**

AM: 172 (+19)

PM: 119 (+8)

We look on the past year as one of remarkable provision and grace in the face of some difficult times that we face as a nation and as God’s people. We have continued to see spiritual growth in so many people in the congregation, growth in the strength and capacity of leadership across the congregation, and the Lord continues to draw His people into our fellowship. We stand in humble awe of the Lord’s grace in bringing us all together to live, grow, and serve in His name.

The Bloomington session has met 11 times (monthly minus one meeting over the summer) as regular session meetings, and 3 additional meetings for particular purposes, such as communion interviews.

As the core of the session’s work centers around taking care of individuals and families in the congregation, we take the first half hour of each meeting in systematic prayer for individual families, and often the majority of the rest of our meetings involves thinking

through pastoral questions and situations. On a similar note, some of our regular meetings have focused almost entirely on interviewing brothers and sisters who are joining the congregation. This has been a real joy for us. Since we hope to establish open relationships with all of the members of the congregation, these interviews are very helpful steps along the way. We also continue to work on a method to allow us to be more systematic in our care for the people in the congregation, and we ask you to continue praying for us in this regard.

We continue to consider paths forward for expanding our facilities for the growing congregation, and we have been able to arrange for helpful input from outside counselors on the use of the current building. We continue to make persistent progress towards a longer-term solution. This is on the forefront of our logistical thinking for the new year.

Concerning the overall congregational membership, we see a pattern of growth in our community. The following figures pertain to the comings and goings of the calendar year 2022.

- The average in-person morning worship service attendance was 172, an increase of 19 over 2021.
- The average in-person evening worship service attendance was 119, an increase of 8 over the attendance after the break in 2021.
- The average SS class attendance was 102, a decrease of 8 from 2021.

- The total communicant (154) and baptized (51) membership on December 31, 2022, was 205, a net increase of 18 over 2021.
- Seventeen new communicant members were added. In addition, one baptized member made profession of faith.
- Along with these additional members, 3 children joined the congregation as baptized members with their parents, and three infants were baptized.
- Three members were transferred to other churches; one to an RP congregation, and 2 were transferred to other congregations where they are worshipping with their new families.
- Communicant membership at the end of 2021 was at 141 and rose to 154 at the end of 2022. The number of baptized non-communicant members at the end of 2021 was at 46 and rose to 51 by the end of 2022.

There were two major events that enabled us to develop our pastoral leadership this year. The first was the completion of Pastor Holdeman's sabbatical in Ireland. We believe that this time was fruitful for many different aspects of his ministry and for the Irish church. In addition, we also saw our own congregation flourishing over the summer with a record turnout in our VBS program as well as in continuous ministry in other directions. We are thankful for the obviously excellent leadership of Pastor McCollum over the summer. In addition, we were able to work out an internship with a young man in the congregation (John Punt) who is considering pursuing a call to pastoral ministry. Originally, this internship was considered over the summer months, but given Pastor Holdeman's sabbatical time, we decided that having John work with both pastors in the fall was more important than filling the gaps created by the sabbatical. John's work this fall went well, and the session is considering with the Punts what the next steps ought to be as we develop a longer-term plan toward the pastoral ministry.

We continue to have people taking distance-learning classes from our seminary for various purposes related to equipping them for service in the church. We wish to continue supporting this.

In terms of regular activity, the session has overseen communion on an alternating-month basis, and has spent some time considering the impact of having larger numbers of people on the logistics of the services, since our practice is to gather around the front in communion. In addition, the session continues to think through the logistics each week of offering regular services with the larger number of people in the building.

The session continues to meet jointly with representatives of the deacon board on a (roughly) quarterly basis to discuss issues of finances, facilities, and how to administer tangible mercy to our members and neighbors with their resource needs.

We have also seen the continual formation of Bible studies among various groups in the congregation. We are thankful for the active ministry of the Word throughout the congregation and throughout the week.

The session has also been joining with others in the congregation concerning the care and growth of the larger number of children in the congregation. We have interacted with the nursery committee in their effort to sharpen up their policies and practices. We are also

happy to see mutual support among mothers of younger children in the congregation through the formation of a well-attended MOPS group.

Members of our congregation have been involved with work with high schoolers in both the summer presbytery camp program as well as the winter conference. In addition, we were happy to have three members of the congregation participate in the TFY program. In addition to this, 6 high schoolers were involved in the Echo project in missions down in Florida. We are very thankful for the maturity and level of spiritual interest in the next generations in our congregation.

We have continued to interact with the Bloomington Chinese Christian Church, as they been working to rebuild after the severe degradation of their services during the various phases of the shut-down over the last two to three years. We are committed to supporting their work toward independence, though we also note that their members often visit our services. We recognize the positive work that the pastor and his wife are doing with us in the congregation. The congregation voted to extend our current facilities arrangement with them for the coming year again. In addition, we continue to think of directions for possible church plants, though we do not have any concrete planting activity or plans for such at this time.

Finally, we would be ungrateful not to note the remarkable growth in financial giving over this last year. We give the Lord thanks for his provision. One obvious direction for these resources is to address the issue of facilities expansion, but we have also been considering how to also support others outside the congregation. For instance, this last year we helped the Providence congregation in Rhode Island with their facilities problem through the purchase of a building. We thank the Lord for the growth in our congregation and pray the He would use it to overflow to others who give Him praise.

Respectfully submitted by the Session of the Bloomington Congregation

Wes Archer, Eric Cosens, CJ Davis, Ken de Jong (clerk), Rich Holdeman (moderator), Philip McCollum, & Stephen Shipp

## Bloomington Reformed Presbyterian Church Budget Summary - January 28, 2023

Revised

<b>Income</b>		<b>2022 Budget</b>	<b>2022 Actuals</b>	<b>2023 Budget</b>
External Income				
	Book Table Income		2,421.90	
	Contributions - Offerings	400,000.00	527,555.68	488,000.00
	Designated Income		4,589.25	500.00
	Diaconal Ministry - Vol. Fund		-	
	Facilities Capital Income		5,000.00	
	Facilities: 619 S. Lincoln Income	18,000.00	14,226.79	10,000.00
	Interest - Capital Investments & Savings	200.00	345.24	400.00
	Miscellaneous Income	75.00	150.00	75.00
	Offerings & Donations	-	7,361.66	-
	<b>Total External Income</b>	<b>418,275.00</b>	<b>561,650.52</b>	<b>498,975.00</b>
	Designated Income from Savings Revolving Funds	6,734.31	2,183.11	5,105.88
<b>Total Income</b>		<b>425,009.31</b>	<b>563,833.63</b>	<b>504,080.88</b>
<b>Expense</b>				
External Expenses				
	Book Table Expense	649.05	2,482.33	588.62
	Facilities Capital Expense	25,000.00	5,040.00	45,000.00
	Facilities: 619 S. Lincoln St.	9,600.00	5,971.70	7,600.00
	Facilities - Operating	43,230.00	31,131.30	52,000.00
	Finance Committee	13,134.40	12,169.11	14,330.00
	Ministry: Diaconal	2,500.00	3,364.54	3,000.00
	Educational	17,085.26	13,899.81	15,517.26
	Fellowship	3,860.00	3,463.60	3,860.00
	Library	1,000.00	513.10	1,000.00
	Nursery	350.00	188.86	1,000.00
	Outreach	5,480.00	3,981.45	8,480.00
	Session	4,275.00	373.42	1,500.00
	Student	1,400.00	278.86	1,400.00
	Technology	4,320.00	2,998.54	6,275.00
	Youth	1,200.00	718.53	1,200.00
	Missions	23,825.00	29,492.94	30,000.00
	Offerings - Disbursements		1,540.00	
	Office Expense	16,870.00	17,370.73	22,800.00
	Pastoral Compensation - Holdeman	103,751.00	104,001.00	113,826.00
	Pastoral Compensation - McCollum	83,433.00	83,683.00	93,508.00
	Pastoral Internship	4,375.40	3,944.31	-
	Pastoral Expenses	7,300.00	2,038.97	7,000.00
	Presbytery	4,636.95	4,636.95	6,319.61
	RPCNA Works	15,765.00	25,487.00	17,413.82
	Special Funds	9,000.00	9,236.08	-
	<b>Total External Expenses</b>	<b>402,040.06</b>	<b>368,006.13</b>	<b>453,618.31</b>
	Designated Disbursements - to Savings Revolving Funds			
	Benevolence		-	
	Book Table			
	Camp Fundraiser		-	
	Facilities Capital	50,000.00	55,000.00	50,000.00
	Ministry Hedge	-		4,000.00
	<b>Total Disbursements to Savings Revolving Funds</b>	<b>50,000.00</b>	<b>55,000.00</b>	<b>54,000.00</b>
<b>Total Expense</b>		<b>452,040.06</b>	<b>423,006.13</b>	<b>507,618.31</b>
<b>Net Income</b>		<b>(27,030.75)</b>	<b>140,827.50</b>	<b>(3,537.43)</b>

**Bloomington RP Church**  
**Balance Sheet**  
As of December 31, 2022

	Dec 31, 22	Dec 31, 21
<b>ASSETS</b>		
<b>Current Assets</b>		
<b>Checking/Savings</b>		
<b>Old National</b>		
<b>Checking</b>	13,584.38	3,585.23
<b>Savings</b>		
<b>6 Year Plan - Ministry Hedge</b>	31,878.12	32,432.80
<b>Benevolence</b>	8,416.05	9,416.05
<b>Book Table</b>	588.62	649.05
<b>Facilities Capital</b>	70,000.00	15,000.00
<b>Facilities Renovation Reserve</b>	7,218.00	7,218.00
<b>Fundraiser-Camp Assistance</b>	4,517.26	5,085.26
<b>General Savings</b>	368,239.94	237,411.59
<b>Security Deposit</b>	500.00	500.00
<b>Total Savings</b>	491,357.99	307,712.75
<b>Total Old National</b>	504,942.37	311,297.98
<b>Total Checking/Savings</b>	504,942.37	311,297.98
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	504,942.37	311,297.98
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>504,942.37</b>	<b>311,297.98</b>
<b>LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	0.00	0.00

**Balance Sheet – Other Assets  
May 31, 2022**

**Deposits to Accounts: From December 1997 to December 2021**

Capital Investments – RPCN	121,835.35
McClintock Endowment Fund	<u>10,000.00</u>
Total Deposits	131,835.35

**Capital Investments Fund**

<b>Balance – 12/31/2020</b>	<b>157,661.17</b>
2021 Dividend Reinvested	5,869.78
2021 Gain/(Loss)	<u>26,480.12</u>
<b>Balance 12/31/2021</b>	<b>190,011.07</b>

**McClintock Endowment Fund**

<b>Balance 12/31/20</b>	<b>12,341.85</b>
2021 Dividend Reinvested	459.49
2021 Gain/(Loss)	<u>2,072.89</u>
<b>Balance 12/31/2021</b>	<b>14,874.23</b>

Note:

The Capital Investments fund is invested with the denomination's pooled investments. The pooled investments have generally increased in value over the years, while also paying out a dividend on the funds. The dividend this year has been reinvested in the fund. It is noted that the dividend payout is calculated as 4.2% of the previous 12 quarters' average market value. In order to avoid a decline in the principal of the funds, the Trustees will reduce this amount by 0.1% for the next few years. We will be notified of the Gains/Losses for 2022 in March of 2023.

The Thomas and Grace McClintock Memorial Fund was established by Ralph McClintock when he bequeathed \$10,000 to the church. At his request, the \$10,000 remains in the fund while the interest income may be used by the Bloomington Reformed Presbyterian Church.