

**Atlanta Reformed Presbyterian Church**  
*Report to Great Lakes-Gulf Presbytery*  
*March 5<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup>, 2026*

The Atlanta RPC Session is pleased to present this, its first report to Great Lakes-Gulf Presbytery, following upon our organization as a congregation on October 5<sup>th</sup>, 2025.

**An Amazing Day!**

As noted by numerous folks who were present for the organizational service, the first Sabbath of October was indeed an amazing day. About 80 people were in attendance, including a representative of the Atlanta mayor's office; the local Atlanta city councilman; and the widow of the former local councilman. Most importantly, the Holy Spirit showed up. An extensive description of the day's proceedings can be found at the end of this report.



**The sanctuary was filled on the day of organization.**

## **Membership**

Our membership is 15 (thirteen communicants and two non-communicants), representing 10 families. Of the 15 members, two-thirds are male. During the course of 2025, prior to organization, one member was dismissed, one member was transferred to the general roll of Presbytery, and three members were received (one by transfer and two by profession of faith). The list of members as of December 31, 2025, can be found at the end of this report.

## **Contacts and Prospects**

We come across a lot of people in our ministry, some of whom remain anonymous to us. However, we keep track of those whose names we are able to learn and for whom we are able to glean contact information for possible follow-up. In 2025, we made a total of 153 contacts. Some of these are not necessarily prospects for church membership (examples would include out-of-towners whom we might happen to meet); nevertheless, we try to place such people on the Penny's Pen email list. Others, though, can be considered potential recruits for Atlanta RPC.

## **Attendance and Visitors**

In 2025, the average attendance was 15.62. This represents a significant increase of about 27% from 2024, when the average attendance was 12.33.

In 2025, there were no fewer than 65 first-time visitors in attendance at a worship service.

## **Worship**

Customarily, in the worship service, we sing five psalm selections (including one sung as a doxology after the benediction). In 2025, we observed the sacrament of communion three times. Our ongoing goal is to have the Lord's Supper on a quarterly basis.

In 2025, the pastor preached sermons from a variety of texts. He completed a series on the Law of God and the Ten Commandments, covering the Seventh through the Tenth Commandments. In conjunction with the series on the Decalogue, there were sermons entitled "Til Death Do Us Part"; "Civil Government's Seventh Commandment Duty"; "Transgenderism"; "Theft by Government"; "Happy Is He Who Is Generous"; and "Miserable Miser!" Among other sermons, there were three on "The Office of Elder"; and one entitled "Elders in Every City."

The flock has also benefited by hearing sermons from others this past year: Rev. Chris Strevel, pastor of Covenant Presbyterian Church (OPC), Buford, Ga.; Elder T.J. Pattillo; and Rev. George Palombo, who is on staff at the Reformed Presbyterian Theological Seminary.

### **Sunday School**

In 2025, our Sunday School was a combined class, taught by Elder T.J. Pattillo until his recent move to Pittsburgh. Since then, Elder David Leap and Daiyaan Winston have been the teachers. In January 2026, we began to plan a class for children as well, with Miss Amanda Rosa Leap to be the primary teacher.

### **Church Life**

Every Lord's Day, we experience warm and sincere fellowship. There is a genuine sense of *koinonia* amongst our people, and a real caring for one another. In numerous informal ways, folks maintain contact with each other during the week.

### **Community**

In early 2026, three of our members were slated to move into a house just three doors from the church building. This development helps us in our quest of establishing a noteworthy "presence" in the heart of Atlanta. We believe that having these three people, along with most likely an additional person or two, will not only serve toward the building of community among these individuals, but also help with outreach.

### **Discipleship**

In the past, we have had midweek studies. We are planning to re-establish them in the near future.

Also, the local elders serving on the Session are getting together every month for prayer and study. Initially, the study will be using *Timothy, Titus, and You*.

### **Pastoral Activity**

In 2025, the pastor engaged in at least 346 counseling occasions. Sometimes this counseling might last only a few minutes; other times, it took hours. He has counseled many people in the congregation, but also has counseled others who do not attend ARPC, and still others from across the RPCNA and in other branches of the church on a wide variety of topics, including ecclesiastical matters.

In late fall 2025 (October 31<sup>st</sup>-November 2<sup>nd</sup>), Pastor Smith was the speaker at a conference at Christ Reformed Presbyterian Church, Paris, Tennessee, on the general theme of Applying Biblical Truth to Contemporary Church & Society. The topics of the lectures were "The Issue of Creation," "The Issue of Sex," "The Issue of Race," "Worship," and "The Issue of Feminism," and the Sunday morning sermon was entitled "Transgenderism."

In December 2025, Dr. Smith penned “John Lafayette Girardeau’s Treatise on Instrumental Music in Public Worship,” slated for publication in the academic journal *The Confessional Presbyterian*.

### **The Pastor’s Wife**

Penny Smith continues to play a key role in the life of the congregation, including serving as the Financial Secretary.

In September, she was diagnosed with bladder cancer, and in November, with breast cancer. Thankfully, these two cancers appear not to be connected, and there is no indication that either one has spread. She has undergone three surgeries and is undergoing treatment. As one would expect from a Brit, she is a real trooper, and has a good spirit and optimistic attitude.

### **Ministerial Intern**

From September 2019 to November 2025, Elder T.J. Pattillo faithfully served as a ministerial intern. He filled the Atlanta pulpit several times this past year. Upon the urging of members of the Presbytery, he and his family moved to Pittsburgh so that he could complete the last two quarters of his studies at Reformed Presbyterian Theological Seminary in person.

### **Sextons**

One of the ways that we hope to develop leadership while also engaging in outreach is through the use of sextons, who will live in the church building. Recruiting such individuals remains a matter of prayer. We are hoping to recruit one or more young men, such as those graduating from Covenant College, who aspire to the gospel ministry.

### **Outreach**

The pastor’s wife continues to write Penny’s Pen, with a new article about two or three times per year. There are more than 1000 names on the email list.

The weekly pulpit messages are placed on SermonAudio. Also, Daiyaan Winston has been facilitating the livestreaming of our services, available through our YouTube channel.

We are still trying to find ways to establish an effective “presence” in our neighborhood. Among the ideas broached is setting up a prayer table in the park two blocks away.

### **Renovating the Building**

The significant renovations begun in 2024 continued in 2025. Volunteers from Covenant Presbyterian Church (OPC), Buford, Georgia, came in September to repaint the outside of the structure. However, the most extensive work was undertaken by Martin Lugo, a general

contractor originally from Mexico. Through his craftsmanship and ingenuity, the old broom factory has taken on a new persona, and the edifice is barely recognizable from what it once was.

Over the porch, international flags, representing the 17 nations where the Reformed Presbyterian Church has a presence, are flown four at a time. And high above those flags is a metal Blue Banner—the traditional Covenanter logo declaring “For Christ’s crown and covenant.”

In early 2026, the tile flooring was being installed in the social hall and the foyer, thus completing that project. Still to come are the installation of a kitchen; new light fixtures and ceiling fans in the social hall; outdoor lighting; and landscaping.

### **A New Elder**

We are blessed to have David Leap as our new elder, filling T.J.’s role as a ruling elder in the congregation. He was ordained and installed on November 16<sup>th</sup>, 2025. Participating in that service were three elders representing three fraternal denominations: Dr. Robert Horton (Covenant Presbyterian Church [OPC], Buford, Ga.); Dr. Patrick Coppock (Tucker [Ga.] Presbyterian Church [PCA]); and Mr. Jake Wasdin (White Oak Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church [ARP], Senoia, Ga.).



**Pictured here from left to right are Dr. Patrick Coppock; Elder T.J. Pattillo; Elder David Leap; Dr. Frank J. Smith; Dr. Bob Horton; and Elder Jake Wasdin.**

## **Finances**

Cash assets at the end of 2025, including CDs, totaled \$176,488.52. By way of comparison, total cash assets at the end of 2024 were \$183,261.38. The financial statements for 2025 and the budget for 2026 are attached.

We would add that we continue to be amazed at the Lord's provision for our financial needs, as well as the generosity of many folks from far and wide.

## **Mission Statement**

The following mission statement, which was adopted by the Atlanta Commission on January 19, 2023, continues to guide our endeavors.

Atlanta Reformed Presbyterian Church aims to be a faithful church, in doctrine, worship, personal piety, church life, fellowship, outreach, and hospitality, with specific focus on downtown Atlanta, demonstrating the love of Jesus to all people, and seeking to impact the Atlanta metro area by modeling a covenantal Christ-like community and by the multiplying of other Reformed Presbyterian congregations.

## **Prayer Requests**

1. For the addition of several members this year.
2. For strength and stamina for the leadership, that they might not be discouraged or lose heart.
3. For courage and boldness in the gospel, so the church would be a faithful witness for King Jesus.

## **Recommendations**

1. That Rev. Brian Coombs be re-appointed as a member of the Session.
2. That this report be approved.

Respectfully submitted,

**Frank J. Smith**

Frank J. Smith, Ph.D., D.D.  
Pastor

2025 General Fund Checking Account

	January	February	March	April	May	June	Totals
<b>General Fund Chk Acct Opening Balance</b>	\$23,538.61	\$21,210.89	\$18,751.68	\$27,871.99	\$27,586.27	\$24,271.56	\$20,540.90
Undesignated Giving	\$1,598.51	\$3,108.18	\$15,074.10	\$2,917.50	\$3,427.00	\$4,255.00	\$30,380.29
Designated Giving	\$0.00	\$100.00	\$25.50	\$400.00	\$0.00	\$500.00	\$1,025.50
<b>Total Inflow</b>	\$1,598.51	\$3,208.18	\$15,099.60	\$3,317.50	\$3,427.00	\$4,755.00	\$31,405.79
Sub-total	\$25,137.12	\$24,419.07	\$33,851.28	\$31,189.49	\$31,013.27	\$31,483.59	\$20,978.00
Budgeted Expenses	\$3,926.23	\$5,567.39	\$5,953.79	\$3,603.22	\$4,204.68	\$7,292.03	\$68,924.66
Designated Expenses	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$25.50	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3,025.50
Zephy Transfers into Building Fund	\$0.00	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$100.00
Transfer into Certificate of Deposit	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>Total Outflow</b>	-\$3,926.23	-\$5,667.39	-\$5,979.29	-\$3,603.22	-\$4,204.68	-\$7,292.03	-\$30,972.84
<b>General Fund Chk Acct Closing Balance</b>	\$21,210.89	\$18,751.68	\$27,871.99	\$27,586.27	\$26,808.59	\$24,271.56	\$20,540.90
General Fund Checking Account Closing Balance	\$21,210.89	\$18,751.68	\$27,871.99	\$27,586.27	\$26,808.59	\$24,271.56	\$20,540.90
General Fund Certificate of Deposit	\$63,378.67	\$65,312.03	\$65,312.03	\$65,312.03	\$65,312.03	\$66,143.32	\$61,061.69
<b>GENERAL FUND TOTAL</b>	\$84,589.56	\$84,063.71	\$93,184.02	\$92,898.30	\$92,120.62	\$90,414.88	\$61,602.59
Building Fund Checking Account + CD	\$60,185.27	\$54,848.65	\$41,566.27	\$35,310.25	\$36,310.25	\$48,442.19	\$128,987.07
General Fund + Building Fund Grand Total	\$144,774.83	\$138,902.28	\$134,798.29	\$128,208.55	\$127,430.87	\$138,857.07	\$189,589.57
B/F							
<b>General Fund Chk Acct Opening Balance</b>	\$24,271.56	\$24,075.41	\$31,502.29	\$28,412.19	\$33,336.16	\$30,540.90	\$20,540.90
Undesignated Giving	\$0,390.29	\$6,382.34	\$10,821.00	\$6,907.00	\$5,734.00	\$9,998.00	\$51,061.69
Designated Giving	\$1,025.50	\$30,360.00	\$4,500.00	\$4,500.00	\$10,250.00	\$730.00	\$46,135.50
Other Inflow		\$270.00	\$300.00	\$400.00	\$100.00	\$730.00	\$2,070.00
<b>Total Inflow</b>	\$31,405.79	\$36,742.34	\$11,091.00	\$11,707.00	\$11,238.06	\$5,834.00	\$20,978.00
Sub-total	\$81,013.90	\$55,166.41	\$43,209.29	\$44,209.29	\$39,351.25	\$39,170.16	\$41,518.90
Budgeted Expenses	\$30,547.34	\$6,228.49	\$3,664.12	\$4,115.09	\$6,629.56	\$7,142.96	\$68,924.66
Designated Expenses	\$25.50	\$3,000.00	\$10,597.10	\$4,115.09	\$6,629.56	\$7,142.96	\$3,025.50
Transfers to Bldg Fund	\$100.00	\$27,710.00	\$4,500.00	\$1,900.00	\$12,000.00	\$10,250.00	\$56,460.00
<b>Total Outflow</b>	-\$30,672.84	-\$36,938.49	-\$3,664.12	-\$15,097.10	-\$6,015.09	-\$18,629.56	-\$128,410.16
<b>General Fund Chk Acct Closing Balance</b>	\$24,075.41	\$31,502.29	\$28,112.19	\$33,336.16	\$30,540.90	\$24,125.64	\$20,540.90
General Fund Checking Account Closing Balance	\$24,075.41	\$31,502.29	\$28,112.19	\$33,336.16	\$30,540.90	\$24,125.64	\$20,540.90
General Fund Certificate of Deposit	\$66,143.32	\$66,143.32	\$66,800.39	\$66,800.39	\$66,800.39	\$67,447.69	\$61,061.69
<b>GENERAL FUND TOTAL</b>	\$90,218.73	\$97,645.61	\$94,912.58	\$100,136.55	\$97,341.29	\$91,573.33	\$81,602.59
Building Fund Checking Account + CD	\$55,130.15	\$30,441.36	\$33,775.75	\$33,775.75	\$33,775.75	\$48,442.19	\$128,987.07
General Fund + Building Fund Grand Total	\$145,348.88	\$128,086.97	\$128,688.33	\$133,912.30	\$131,116.74	\$139,015.52	\$210,590.07

(The \$67,447.69 in the CD's includes \$4,069.02 earned interest)

2025 Building Fund Checking Account

	January	February	March	April	May	June	Totals
<b>Building Fund Chk Acct Opening Balance</b>	\$64,399.25	\$28,181.35	\$21,820.41	\$8,557.13	\$2,282.11	\$2,282.11	\$2,282.11
Inflow							
Donations	\$5,000.00	\$7,100.00	\$220.00	\$1,775.00	\$0.00	\$540.00	\$14,635.00
Refund			\$2,024.35			\$18,924.00	\$2,024.35
Donation In Kind						\$19,464.00	\$18,924.00
<b>Total Inflow</b>	\$5,000.00	\$7,100.00	\$2,244.35	\$1,775.00	\$0.00	\$19,464.00	\$35,583.35
Sub-total							
Outflow from May							
Outflow from June							
<b>Total Outflow</b>	-\$41,217.90	-\$13,460.94	-\$15,507.63	-\$8,050.02		-\$6,767.44	-\$85,003.93
<b>Building Fund Chk Acct Closing Balance</b>	\$33,181.35	\$28,920.41	\$10,801.48	\$4,057.11	\$2,282.11	\$14,978.67	\$14,978.67
<b>Building Fund Checking Account Closing Balance</b>	\$28,181.35	\$21,820.41	\$8,557.13	\$2,282.11	\$2,282.11	\$14,978.67	\$14,978.67
<b>Building Fund Certificate of Deposit</b>	\$31,944.52	\$33,028.14	\$33,028.14	\$33,028.14	\$33,028.14	\$33,443.52	\$33,443.52
<b>Building Fund Checking Account + CD</b>	\$60,125.87	\$54,848.55	\$41,585.27	\$35,310.25	\$35,310.25	\$48,422.19	\$48,422.19
<b>Brought Forward</b>							
<b>Building Fund Chk Acct Opening Balance</b>	\$14,978.67	\$21,686.63	-\$3,002.18	\$4,803.65	\$3,703.65	\$7,553.65	\$7,553.65
Inflow							
Donations	\$14,635.00	\$4,775.00		\$3,900.00	\$250.00	\$54,350.00	\$80,840.00
Refund	\$2,024.35						\$2,024.35
Donation In Kind	\$18,924.00		\$10,044.00				\$32,118.00
Grant							\$25,000.00
Transfer from Gen Fund							\$12,000.00
<b>Total Inflow</b>	\$35,583.35	\$4,775.00	\$10,044.00	\$3,900.00	\$12,250.00	\$54,350.00	\$139,982.35
Sub-total							
Outflow	-\$85,003.93	-\$29,463.79	-\$2,238.19	-\$5,000.00	-\$8,400.00	-\$11,091.50	-\$165,566.45
<b>Building Fund Chk Acct Closing Balance</b>	\$21,686.63	-\$3,002.16	\$4,803.65	\$3,703.65	\$7,553.65	\$50,812.15	\$50,812.15
<b>Building Fund Chk Acct Closing Balance</b>	\$21,686.63	-\$3,002.16	\$4,803.65	\$3,703.65	\$7,553.65	\$50,812.15	\$50,812.15
<b>Building Fund Certificate of Deposit</b>	\$33,443.52	\$33,443.52	\$33,443.52	\$33,775.75	\$33,775.75	\$34,103.04	\$34,103.04
<b>Building Fund Checking Account + CD</b>	\$55,130.15	\$30,441.36	\$38,579.40	\$37,479.40	\$41,329.40	\$84,915.19	\$84,915.19

(The \$34,103.04 in the CD's includes \$2,158.52 earned interest)

## 2026 Budget for Atlanta Reformed Presbyterian Church

	<u>2025</u>	<u>2026</u>
<u>100 Facilities and Operation</u>		
101 Mortgage	\$ 9,982.80	\$ 9,982.80
102 Utilities	4,800.00	4,800.00
103 Building Insurance	5,300.00	5,300.00
107 Mileage	4,500.00	6,500.00
108 Building Supplies/Maintenance	1,000.00	1,000.00
109 Synod/Presbytery/Conference	500.00	1,000.00
110 Office Supplies	500.00	500.00
111 Other Supplies (paper goods, etc.)	400.00	500.00
112 Hospitality (coffee, snacks, food, etc.)	900.00	1,000.00
113 Administration	900.00	2,000.00
113 Administration—website maintenance	500.00	500.00
<u>200 Ministerial Compensation</u>		
201 Housing Allowance	19,500.00	19,500.00
202 Pension	5,000.00	5,000.00
<u>300 Expenses for Diaconal Workers</u>	100.00	100.00
<u>400 Pulpit Supply</u>	1,200.00	600.00
<u>500 Edification</u>		
501 Teaching Supplies	150.00	100.00
<u>600 Synod and Presbytery</u>		
601 Synod and Presbytery Assessment	1,500.00	1,500.00
<u>700 Mercy</u>		
701 Benevolences	1,000.00	500.00
<u>800 Intern</u>	10,000.00	0.00
<u>900 Miscellaneous and Contingency</u>		
901 Miscellaneous Travel	2,000.00	2,000.00
902 Miscellaneous General	1,267.20	2,417.20
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$71,000.00</b>	<b>\$65,000.00</b>

**Report of Rev. Joshua Smith to the Board of Home Missions  
Regarding the Organizational Service of Atlanta Reformed Presbyterian Church**

I was given the opportunity to take part in the incredible organization service for the Atlanta Reformed Presbyterian Church on October 5, 2025. This is something that many have been in prayer for many years. But the blessing of that weekend did not only take place that Lord's Day. It began the day before when the Atlanta commission interviewed a new member. It was such a blessing to get to hear a woman give her testimony of her faith in Christ and how the work of Pastor Frank Smith has impacted her life. It was truly a testament of the great effort that he has put into seeing the Gospel of Jesus Christ be proclaimed in that area. I was also given the privilege of getting a tour around the ministry area by Pastor Smith. He showed those of us who were there the different places in which they had met throughout the years of ministry. It was truly amazing to see where their humble beginnings were and knowing how the Lord has graciously provided for them their own building in the shadows of downtown Atlanta.

The Lord's Day was one of the most joyous and blessed days of my life, and I mean that with no exaggeration. Being surrounded by brothers and sisters in Christ, some who I already knew, many others who I met for the first time, was a foretaste of what awaits us in glory. By the grace of God, there were around eighty in attendance for the organization service of Atlanta RPC. This included the retired minister of the former congregation which had previously owned the building, ministers and elders from other local congregations, a city council member, and a representative from the mayor's office. They spoke of how amazed they were to see the work of Pastor Smith and the Atlanta RPC congregation in that area and how the congregation was impacting the community in ways that may not even be seen. This is an incredible encouragement considering impacting the community with the Gospel of Jesus Christ is what we are all called to do, and it is something that we at the Home Mission Board look for in our church plants. While the area in which that ministry is taking place does seem to be changing over the years, the greatest need of the area remains the same. That is why Pastor Smith and the Atlanta congregation will, Lord willing, continue to see fruit from their labors and make an impact in the community, because they know that the community needs the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ.

As the service began on that Lord's Day, there was an overwhelming sense of the Holy Spirit among us. The singing of Psalms was joyful and loud as the saints of God from several different states and multiple denominations all lifted up a shout of exaltation unto Jehovah for His goodness and mercy. Prayers were offered unto the Lord for His great provision throughout the years, for His great blessing in more recent times, and for His continued favor moving forward in seeking to see not only the community but the city of Atlanta, the state of Georgia, the United States of America, and all the nations of the earth won for Christ's crown and covenant. Rev. Colin Samul then preached an incredible sermon on unity within

the congregation from Psalm 133, something which is essential if the congregation is to have lasting success. Afterwards, the administration and signing of the vows of communicant members were done. Then the administration and vows to install Rev. Dr. Frank Smith as pastor and Elder T.J. Patillo as church governor for the newly established congregation were done. The service then concluded with further time of praise and receiving of God's blessing.

After the service, there was a time of food and fellowship. This was an incredible opportunity to get to know some of the congregants of Atlanta and to hear of how they are personally engaging in the work of the ministry there. While my time with the Atlanta Reformed Presbyterian Church congregation was much too short, it was overwhelmingly sweet, and I thank the Lord for the opportunity to go there and be part of that historic occasion. It is my prayer that the Lord would continue to bless the saints there, to bless the work of Gospel ministry under the leadership of Pastor Smith and Elder Patillo, and that we would see that congregation grow into a mighty work for the cause of Christ. It is also my prayer that we would see more congregations raised up throughout our nation, but especially in the long-neglected South, and that ministers would not be apprehensive about stepping out in faith and trusting the Lord will work something mighty just as what happened when Pastor Smith began in Atlanta.



**Just a few blocks from the ARPC building, million-dollar views of Atlanta at night illustrate the darkness and the need of a great yet wicked city.**



**Representing four of the seventeen countries where there is a Reformed Presbyterian presence, the flags of the United Kingdom, Scotland, Canada, and the United States of America adorn the porch at sunset.**



**All nations will indeed recognize the reign of King Jesus. Symbolizing that reality, pictured here, from right to left, are the flags of Ireland, China, Australia, and Japan, flying underneath the traditional Blue Banner logo that proclaims "For Christ's crown and covenant."**

**List of Members**  
**Atlanta Reformed Presbyterian Church**  
**December 31, 2025**

*Michele Ruth Haag*

*Kecia Len Hamilton*

*Felson Harden*

*Amanda Rosa Leap*

*David Wright Leap*

*Hannah Louise Pattillo\**

*Nancy Catherine Pattillo*

*Sawyer Blake Pattillo\**

*Trevor J. (T.J.) Pattillo*

*Miyoshi Umeki Robinson*

*Frank J. Smith*

*Penelope Ann Smith*

*Jimmie Lowe Snider, Jr.*

*John Wilson*

*Daiyaan Levert Winston*

\*—Non-communicant member