The Ministerial Vocation Committee and the Office of the Stated Clerk of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church are responsible for denominational vocational services. As part of the process of “matching” ministers and congregations, the Office of the Stated Clerk provides resources and advice to both pastors and congregational search committees. To that end, we ask congregations and ministers to complete information forms as an introduction to each other, and a first step in the process of calling a minister for a congregation. For both the individual pastor and the congregation, this is an opportunity for self-study and for evaluation of current ministry and goals. This calls for honesty, effort, and commitment to open communication.

The Church Information Form presents the local congregation’s history, challenges, and goals. It is our hope that this will be of help in facilitating the search process, assisting the church in focusing on future directions and pastors in gaining some sense of the nature and uniqueness of this congregation.

**Contents**

| Part 1: Church Information | Part 4: Leadership Expectations |
| Part 2: Financial/Church Campus Information | Part 5: Church History |
| Part 3: Church Characteristics | Part 6: Other Information |

Please return completed form to:

Evangelical Presbyterian Church  
ATTN: OFFICE OF THE STATED CLERK  
5850 T.G. Lee Blvd., Suite 510  
Orlando, FL 32822

Phone: 407-930-4239  
Fax: 407-930-4247  
E-mail: info@epc.org
Part 1: Church Information

1. Church Name  
   First Presbyterian Church of Rome

   Address  
   101 E. 3rd Ave
   Rome, GA 30161

   Telephone (706) 291-6033  
   Fax (706) 291-0924

   E-mail info@fpcrome.org  
   Website www.fpcrome.org

2. Presbytery:  
   Southeast

   Presbytery Ministerial Committee Liaison  
   Andrew Keasling

3. Search Committee Chairman  
   Gardner Williams

   Address  
   P.O. Box 1273
   Rome, GA 30162

   E-mail gwilliams@cwreic.com

   Telephone (706) 235-3030

4. List all paid staff positions (use additional sheet if necessary)

   - Pastor, Two Associate Pastors
   - Four Asst. Youth Directors, Receptionist
   - Nursery Director, Childrens Director
   - Administrative Assistant, Building/Grounds Director
   - Business Admin/Finance Director
   - Two Sextons Connections Director
   - Assistant Childrens Director, Finance Asst
   - Two Nursery Workers, Music Director
   - Pianist, Organist, Two Music Associates
   - Director of Seniors/Visitation

   [ ] Full time  [ ] Part time
5. List all vacant positions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position Available</th>
<th>Date of Vacancy</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Senior Pastor</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

6. Membership (state approximate numbers and percentages)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>A. Number of church members</th>
<th>Five years ago</th>
<th>Currently</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>981</td>
<td>805</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>B. Number of family units</th>
<th></th>
<th>226</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| C. Worship attendance       | 416           | 460       |

7. Community Growth

- Increasing
- Static
- Declining

8. Profile of church members

A. Age:

- 1% 0-11
- 17% 12-18
- 10% 19-24
- 10% 25-34
- 17% 35-49
- 20% 50-64
- 25% 65+

B. Occupation:

- 24% Business
- 12% Professional
- 10.5% Trades
- 0.5% Agriculture
- 10% Stay-at-Home Parent
- 33% Retired
- 10% Other (Please Specify)

C. Educational level of adults

- ___% some high school
- ___% high school
- ___% college
- ___% graduate school

D. Percentage of members belonging to the congregation

- Less than one year 7%
- 5 years or less 33%
- 6-10 years 14%
- 10 years or more 46%
9. Racial/Ethnic composition of:
   A. **Congregation**
      1% African-American  1% Asian  97% Caucasian  0% Hispanic
      ____% Other (Specify)____________________________________________________________________
   B. **Community** (within 5-mile radius of church)
      27.1% African-American  4.3% Asian  53.1% Caucasian  15.5% Hispanic
      ____% Other (Specify)____________________________________________________________________

10. Community Setting (check as many as apply):
    Location
    □ Rural  □ Small Town  □ Metropolitan  □ Suburban  □ Inner City
    Function
    □ Industrial  □ Agricultural  □ Recreational  □ Military  ✔ College/University

    Approximate population of community 95,000 County/38,000 City

11. Church Programming—Worship
    A. **Worship Time**
       Classic 10:30 AM
       Convergent 10:30 AM
       ____________________________     ____________________________
       130                                330
       ____________________________     ____________________________
       ____________________________     ____________________________
       ____________________________     ____________________________
       ____________________________     ___________________________
    B. Frequency of communion celebration: 10 per year
    C. How are members involved in planning and participation in the liturgy/worship?
       Worship Ministry, Member of congregation will read scripture
D. Style of liturgy used in your worship (e.g., traditional, contemporary, variety)

Traditional

E. Type of music used in worship (e.g., traditional, contemporary, variety)

Traditional, Contemporary

12. Church Programming—Sunday School
A. Average attendance in Church School (under 18 years) 71
B. Average attendance in Adult Education (Sunday) 124

13. Church Programming—Organizations/Committees
List major boards, committees, and organizations that are part of your church and frequency of meetings (monthly, weekly, etc.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Purpose of Group</th>
<th>Number of members</th>
<th>Frequency of meetings</th>
<th>Leadership Role*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Please see attachment</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Indicate leadership role expected by using the number below:
1. Pastor takes primary initiative and responsibility.
2. Pastor and laity share responsibility.
3. Laity takes primary initiative and responsibility.
Part 2: Financial/Church Campus Information


2. Percentage of income received toward budget: 94 (2018) %

3. Amount contributed for year 2018 (most recent complete reporting year)
   A. EPC Per Member Asking $18,607
   B. EPC World Outreach Global Workers $92,569
   C. EPC Special Projects $16,179
   D. Presbytery Per Member Asking $329,337
   E. Other Missions/Missionaries $92,569

4. Property owned by church
   A. Describe buildings and property (other than manse).
   Sanctuary, Educational Building, Hardy Chapel
   Christian Life Center
   The Crossing, Crossing Annex
   B. Are your buildings adequate for your present program? Yes No
      If no, please explain:

   C. Is a building program projected? Yes No
      If yes, describe what, when, and projected cost
      -Update mechanical, electrical & plumbing systems
      -Relocate offices & classrooms
      -Add bridge connecting campus

   D. Does the church own a manse? Yes No
      Condition: Good Fair Poor # of Bedrooms
      Pastor’s Office/Study: In Church In Manse Not Provided
      Other
6. Compensation:
   A. The salary range we are prepared to offer:
   Position: _______________ $ _______________ 
   Position: _______________ $ _______________ 
   Position: _______________ $ _______________ 
   B. The average annual increase over the past three years is:
   Position: _______________ $ _______________ or ___ % 
   Position: _______________ $ _______________ or ___ % 
   Position: _______________ $ _______________ or ___ % 
   Position: _______________ $ _______________ or ___ % 
   C. Housing
   [ ] Housing Allowance
   [ ] Manse Only
   [ ] Either of the Above
   D. Benefits and expenses
   [ ] Pension (minimum 10% gross effective salary)
   [ ] Medical insurance
   [ ] Life insurance
   [ ] Social Security
   [ ] Auto Allowance
   [ ] Travel/mileage
   [ ] Book allowance
   [ ] Study leave allowance (minimum 2 weeks)
   [ ] Annual vacation days (minimum 4 weeks)
   Number of worship services per year for which pastor is provided relief
   (in addition to vacation and study leave)
   Other (Specify: ________________________________ )
# Part 3: Church Characteristics

Check the box that most closely describes the current congregation characteristics and future goals

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Our congregation...</th>
<th>Currently Agree</th>
<th>Currently Disagree</th>
<th>Goal Agree</th>
<th>Goal Disagree</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Supports the pastor.</td>
<td>□ 1 □ 2 □ 3 □ 4</td>
<td></td>
<td>□ 1 □ 2 □ 3 □ 4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Readily shares their gifts with the rest of the congregation.</td>
<td>□ 1 □ 2 □ 3 □ 4</td>
<td></td>
<td>□ 1 □ 2 □ 3 □ 4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Places a high priority on sound biblical preaching.</td>
<td>□ 1 □ 2 □ 3 □ 4</td>
<td></td>
<td>□ 1 □ 2 □ 3 □ 4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Gladly welcomes visitors and new members.</td>
<td>□ 1 □ 2 □ 3 □ 4</td>
<td></td>
<td>□ 1 □ 2 □ 3 □ 4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Is involved in local evangelistic ministries.</td>
<td>□ 1 □ 2 □ 3 □ 4</td>
<td></td>
<td>□ 1 □ 2 □ 3 □ 4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Is often found living their faith in their communities.</td>
<td>□ 1 □ 2 □ 3 □ 4</td>
<td></td>
<td>□ 1 □ 2 □ 3 □ 4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Has a spirit of unity.</td>
<td>□ 1 □ 2 □ 3 □ 4</td>
<td></td>
<td>□ 1 □ 2 □ 3 □ 4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Cares about each other.</td>
<td>□ 1 □ 2 □ 3 □ 4</td>
<td></td>
<td>□ 1 □ 2 □ 3 □ 4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. Looks to its Session for leadership.</td>
<td>□ 1 □ 2 □ 3 □ 4</td>
<td></td>
<td>□ 1 □ 2 □ 3 □ 4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. Ministers well to members who are hurting.</td>
<td>□ 1 □ 2 □ 3 □ 4</td>
<td></td>
<td>□ 1 □ 2 □ 3 □ 4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11. Uses members’ gifts in its worship.</td>
<td>□ 1 □ 2 □ 3 □ 4</td>
<td></td>
<td>□ 1 □ 2 □ 3 □ 4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12. Contains people willing and able to lead the congregation.</td>
<td>□ 1 □ 2 □ 3 □ 4</td>
<td></td>
<td>□ 1 □ 2 □ 3 □ 4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13. Is capable of change when and where appropriate.</td>
<td>□ 1 □ 2 □ 3 □ 4</td>
<td></td>
<td>□ 1 □ 2 □ 3 □ 4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14. Is spiritually alive.</td>
<td>□ 1 □ 2 □ 3 □ 4</td>
<td></td>
<td>□ 1 □ 2 □ 3 □ 4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
15. In what ways does your church participate in ecumenical activities?

- Participation in community events involving all denominations of Christian churches, especially around key church events: Christmas and Easter
- Active participation and financial support, along with other Christian churches, in local and worldwide missions.
- MOPS
- VBS for the community
- Crisis Pregnancy Center
- Missionary Support
- Local Food Pantry
- Good Neighbor Ministries
- Rome Action Ministries
- Foster Family Support
- Haven Health Clinic
- Davies’ Homeless Shelter

16. Describe the strengths of your congregation.

- Appreciation for sound Biblical teaching.
- Children's programs & nursery programs
- Faithful to our mission statement.
- The church is intentionally involved in missions.
- Multi-generational congregation
- Healthy budget & zero debt

17. List specific problems with which your congregation struggles.

- There is a need for more accountability among members.
- As a “body” inclined to be obediently welcoming but inwardly can be inclined toward forming cliques.

18. List major goals that the congregation has set for itself.

The mission statement lays out our goal as a church.
19. Has there ever been disciplinary action taken against a pastor of your congregation?

☐ Yes  ☐ No

20. Has there ever been any disciplinary action against an elder or deacon of your congregation?

☐ Yes  ☐ No

If you answered “Yes” to either 19 or 20, please explain.

There have been around a dozen disciplinary actions in the 185 year history of the church.

21. Have you completed a mission statement, vision statement, and/or a strategic plan for your congregation?

☐ Yes  ☐ No

If yes, Date completed August 2015

If yes, attach copies of each statement or strategic plan the church has completed.
Part 4: Leadership Expectations

1. What five key characteristics, gifts, and/or skills should a person bring to the position?

- 1. Strong biblical teaching
- 2. A Shepherd’s Heart
- 3. Holy and Disciplined
- 4. Mission-minded
- 5. Leadership with a Vision
Part 5: Church History

1. What do you consider to be the three most important events in the history of your church?

First Presbyterian Church of Rome was founded in 1833 (predating Rome by one year.) The church struggled to establish itself in the early years but through the leadership of Pastor J. M. Caldwell moved from the community of Livingston to Rome and has served as an important integral part of Rome ever since. The Civil War was both an opportune and a traumatic time for the church. The church ministered to the Confederate soldiers who were stationed there, seeing a number of them come to Christ. The church suffered greatly after the city's destruction by Sherman in 1864. Rev. Samuel Axson was called to serve as pastor in 1866. His leadership along with the Session helped restore and heal the church. It was at First Presbyterian that Woodrow Wilson met his future wife. Rev. Axson’s daughter, Ellen.

In 1982, First Presbyterian joined newly formed EPC. Led by Rev. James Van Dyke, the church overwhelmingly voted to leave the PC-USA due to its doctrinal decline and compromise.

First Presbyterian hosted the EPC’s General Assembly in 1987, 1999 and 2006. The church has also provided four moderators to the General Assembly of the EPC: Dr. Jim VanDyke, Mr. Bill Johns, Dr. Bill Flannagan and Mr. John Graham.

2. What do you consider to be the most interesting and challenging event in the life of your church in the last three years?

- Leadership turnover in junior and senior high programs.
- Potential building renovation.
Part 6: Other Information

1. List the last three individuals who held the position of ____________________________

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Dates of Service</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>James VanDyke</td>
<td>1974 to 1992</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>William Flannagan</td>
<td>1992 to 2008</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jeff Chadwick</td>
<td>2008 to Present</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2. Describe any significant factors about the church not covered in previous questions.

Clerk of Session ____________________________ Date 3-26-2020

Search Committee Chair ____________________________ Date 3-26-2020

We encourage churches to list their vacancies on the Ministry Staff Opportunities webpage at www.epc.org/mso. For more information or to send your posting, email info@epc.org