



A Global Movement of Evangelical Presbyterian Churches

CHURCH INFORMATION FORM

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.

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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





EPC

A Global Movement of Evangelical Presbyterian Churches

Part 1: Church Information

1. Church Name Grace Evangelical Presbyterian Church

Address 3312 Calvin Drive, Lawrence, KS 66049

Telephone (785) 843-2005 Fax (785) 843-6377

E-mail pastorsearch@gepc.org Website www.gepc.org

2. Presbytery: Presbytery of the Great Plains

Presbytery Ministerial Committee Liaison Kent Mathews

3. Search Committee Chairman Scott Rask

Address 3312 Calvin Drive, Lawrence, KS 66049

E-mail pastorsearch@gepc.org

Telephone (785) 764-5904

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

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| <u>Lead Pastor</u> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Full time | <input type="checkbox"/> Part time |
| <u>College Pastor & Congregational Life</u> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Full time | <input type="checkbox"/> Part time |
| <u>Pastor of Care & Compassion</u> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Full time | <input type="checkbox"/> Part time |
| <u>Director of Youth Ministry & Music</u> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Full time | <input type="checkbox"/> Part time |
| <u>College Ministry & Adult Education</u> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Full time | <input type="checkbox"/> Part time |
| <u>Women's Ministry & Connections Coordinator</u> | <input type="checkbox"/> Full time | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Part time |
| <u>Children's Ministry Director</u> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Full time | <input type="checkbox"/> Part time |
| <u>Middle School Ministry</u> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Full time | <input type="checkbox"/> Part time |
| <u>Church Secretary</u> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Full time | <input type="checkbox"/> Part time |
| <u>Church Administrator</u> | <input type="checkbox"/> Full time | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Part time |
| <u>Facilities Maintenance</u> | Full time | |
| <u>Children's Ministry Assistant</u> | | Part time |
| <u>Secretary to Lead Pastor (currently vacant)</u> | Full time | |



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5. List all vacant positions

Position Available Lead Pastor Date of Vacancy 5-1-22

Position Available _____ Date of Vacancy _____

Position Available _____ Date of Vacancy _____

6. Membership (state approximate numbers and percentages)

	Five years ago	Currently
A. Number of church members	<u>471</u>	<u>438</u>
B. Number of family units	<u>225</u>	<u>220</u>
C. Worship attendance	<u>775</u>	<u>500</u>

7. Community Growth Increasing Static Declining

8. Profile of church members

A. Age:

15 % 0-11 10 % 12-18 5 % 19-24 15 % 25-34
30 % 35-49 20 % 50-64 5 % 65+

B. Occupation:

25 % Business 25 % Professional 10 % Trades
0 % Agriculture 20 % Stay-at-Home Parent 20 % Retired
_____ % Other (Please Specify) _____

C. Educational level of adults

5 % some high school 5 % high school 60 % college 30 % graduate school

D. Percentage of members belonging to the congregation

Less than one year 10 %
5 years or less 20 %
6-10 years 35 %
10 years or more 35 %



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9. Racial/Ethnic composition of:

A. **Congregation**

1 % African-American 8 % Asian 89 % Caucasian 1 % Hispanic
1 % Other (Specify) _____

B. **Community** (within 5-mile radius of church)

4.5 % African-American 6.3 % Asian 76.0 % Caucasian 4.2 % Hispanic
2.4 % Other (Specify) Native American

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 98,000

11. Church Programming—Worship

A. **Worship Time**

8:30 AM

11:00 AM

Average Worship Attendance

175

325

B. Frequency of communion celebration: 1st Sunday ea. month, Advent, Lent per year

C. How are members involved in planning and participation in the liturgy/worship?

Primarily determined by music ministry team and pastoral staff.



D. Style of liturgy used in your worship (e.g., traditional, contemporary, variety)

Blend of traditional and contemporary

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

Contemporary-70%, Traditional-30%

12. Church Programming—Sunday School

A. Average attendance in Church School (under 18 years) 112

B. Average attendance in Adult Education (Sunday) 162

13. Church Programming—Organizations/Committees

List major boards, committees, and organizations that are part of your church and frequency of meetings (monthly, weekly, etc.)

Name	Purpose of Group	Number of members	Frequency of meetings	Leadership Role*
Session	Leadership of church	12	2 x month	1
Admin. Team	Financial decisions of church	4	Monthly	3
Missions Team	Support for missionaries	7	Monthly	3
Women's Ministry	Leadership of ministry	Varies	Varies	5
Men's Ministry	Leadership of ministry	Varies	Varies	5
Youth Ministry	Leadership of ministry	Varies	Varies	4
Children's Ministry	Leadership of ministry	Varies	Varies	5

*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.
4. Ministry staff takes primary initiative and responsibility.
5. Ministry staff and laity share responsibility.



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Part 2: Financial/Church Campus Information

1. Current annual budget: \$ 1,250,000 Last year's annual budget: \$ 1,544,000
(Attach a copy of current budget)

2. Percentage of income received toward budget: _____ 100+ %

3. Amount contributed for year _____ (most recent complete reporting year)

A. EPC Per Member Asking \$ 10,097

B. EPC World Outreach Global Workers \$ 3,000

C. EPC Special Projects \$ 0

D. Presbytery Per Member Asking \$ 6,585

E. Other Missions/Missionaries \$ 136,481

4. Property owned by church

A. Describe buildings and property (other than manse).

1. Church house - 58,000 sq. feet, 800 person sanctuary, 17 classrooms, nursery, gymnasium, commercial kitchen, 10 offices for staff

2. Oread Center - college ministry house

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

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 _____



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6. Compensation:

A. The salary range we are prepared to offer:

Position: Lead Pastor \$ 85K-110K depending on experience

Position: _____ \$ _____

Position: _____ \$ _____

B. The average annual increase over the past three years is:

Position: Lead Pastor \$ _____ or 0 %

Position: _____ \$ _____ or _____ %

Position: _____ \$ _____ or _____ %

Position: _____ \$ _____ or _____ %

C. Housing

Housing Allowance

Manse Only

Either of the Above

D. Benefits and expenses

10% Pension (minimum 10% gross effective salary)

X Medical insurance

X Life insurance

X Social Security

X Travel/mileage

X Book allowance

X Study leave allowance (minimum 2 weeks)

X Annual vacation days (minimum 4 weeks)

4 - 6 Number of worship services per year for which pastor is provided relief (in addition to vacation and study leave)

Other (Specify: Benefits and expenses in addition to salary)



Part 3: Church Characteristics

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

Our congregation...	Currently				Goal			
	Agree		Disagree		Agree		Disagree	
1. Supports the pastor.	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4
2. Readily shares their gifts with the rest of the congregation.	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4
3. Places a high priority on sound biblical preaching.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4
4. Gladly welcomes visitors and new members.	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4
5. Is involved in local evangelistic ministries.	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4
6. Is often found living their faith in their communities.	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4
7. Has a spirit of unity.	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4
8. Cares about each other.	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4
9. Looks to its Session for leadership.	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4
10. Ministers well to members who are hurting.	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4
11. Uses members' gifts in its worship.	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4
12. Contains people willing and able to lead the congregation.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4
13. Is capable of change when and where appropriate.	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4
14. Is spiritually alive.	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4



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15. In what ways does your church participate in ecumenical activities?

In a traditional sense, we have not participated in institutional ecumenical activities (church organizations or events); however, our church encourages congregants to be involved in many parachurch ministries that draw from ministries across town.

16. Describe the strengths of your congregation.

The body of Grace truly wants to learn and understand God's Word, and is committed to its authority and in-depth study as manifested through many different Bible studies, small groups, and Sunday School classes.

The church family cares for one another and strives to meet each other's needs.

The church has a core commitment to the spiritual growth of its children.

The church strives to spread the Gospel through its involvement with local and international mission, both through individual callings and engagement with local organizations.

17. List specific problems with which your congregation struggles.

As we discern dramatic cultural changes that are marginalizing and burdening Christian faith and practice, our church needs to be faithful during this transition from a historical period of Christian ascendancy to what is coming next. We desire to discern the times, understand what changes are necessary to be the Church in a new era, and have the courage to implement those changes, all while strengthening the body as a whole. We also need to reconnect following a period of separation in the pandemic, and discern the issues and concerns on which we must be unified, and how to live graciously in the midst of acceptable differences, in light of the eternal and unchanging Gospel.

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

We do not currently have an active goal-setting process for our congregation. Our church's ministry rises and falls on the power of God's Word working by His Spirit to change people's lives. For the practical day-to-day guidance and leadership of the church, we look to the session and ministry staff to set priorities and goals.



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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.

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

Yes No

If yes, Date completed June 14, 2021

If yes, attach copies of each statement or strategic plan the church has completed.



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Part 4: Leadership Expectations

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

Preaching -- gifted with an ability to preach the Word with care, attention, affection, enthusiasm, energy, and discernment, and to apply its timeless truths to people's lives

Leadership -- competent in utilizing and leading staff while developing congregational agency, drawing upon the particular gifts of each. Capacity to utilize staff and congregants equally, though differently, to achieve the mission of being the Church.

Discipling -- has a shepherd's heart and a steady demeanor. Unafraid to actively engage with and participate in the lives of congregants, knowing the church body and being known, sharing Gospel insights into people's lives, bringing wisdom and Scripture to bear.

Holiness -- humble man of prayer with personal integrity and holiness

Discernment -- committed to understanding the times in order to lead the church in what it ought to do in this present age.



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Part 5: Church History

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

The decision to build a house of worship.

Our church's 25th anniversary

Bill Vogler's retirement following 32 years as pastor.

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

The current American cultural-political moment, its polarization, anger, and caricaturization of other perspectives, and the pandemic from which we are just beginning to emerge.

In the course of our current environment, we have lost some dearly loved long-standing members (including an elder).

It has been challenging for both the congregation and the Session to fully understand how to solve some of the miscommunication, misinformation, and distrust that has arisen in the church.



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Part 6: Other Information

1. List the last three individuals who held the position of Lead Pastor

Name	Dates of Service
N/A	_____ to _____
_____	_____ to _____
_____	_____ to _____

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

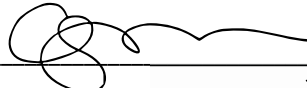
Our church was initially formed by several families who recognized the need to leave another presbyterian congregation in Lawrence.

Our initial pastor has led us from the late 1980's until now.

We are committed to the complementarian understanding to the office of elder.

We embrace the EPC Essentials of the Faith but we are a Church that has always adhered closely to the Westminster Confession, which means we are committed to the reformed tradition in theology as conveyed in the Westminster Confession.

We own a house for ministry within walking distance of the University of Kansas that is used for our church's college ministry endeavors as well as a resource for other Christian campus ministries operating in Lawrence.

Clerk of Session  Date July 15, 2021

Search Committee Chair Scott C. Rask Date July 15, 2021

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

Grace EPC
2021 Annual Budget

	<u>2020 YTD</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2021</u>
	Actuals 12/31/20	Annual Budget	Annual Budget
Income			
Contributions	\$1,282,438	\$1,273,193	\$1,043,691
Other Income(Int.)	6,479	5,650	5,100
Total Income	<u>\$1,288,917</u>	<u>\$1,278,843</u>	<u>\$1,048,791</u>
Expenses			
Worship	\$6,974	\$3,230	\$4,220
Operations	831,529	944,770	776,108
House & Grounds	71,454	94,374	81,144
Capital Expenditures	6,639	3,000	3,000
Koinonia/Visitation	2,119	5,224	2,724
Children's Ministry	16,136	22,950	19,200
Youth Ministry	14,548	45,325	36,325
Adult Education	178	450	250
Women's Ministry	1,351	5,200	4,700
Men's Ministry	(407)	1,600	1,600
College Ministry	5,434	10,400	4,200
Care & Compassion	6,047	8,300	4,840
Congregational Life	1,023	6,700	6,110
Missions	128,244	127,320	104,370
Total Operations Expenses	<u>\$1,091,269</u>	<u>\$1,278,843</u>	<u>\$1,048,791</u>
Surplus/(Deficit)	\$197,648	\$0	\$0
Building Fund Contributions	\$ 193,712	\$ 265,519	\$ 202,619
Building Fund Expenses	244,755	265,519	202,619
Surplus/(Deficit)	<u>\$ (51,043)</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>
Total Surplus/(Deficit)	\$146,605	\$0	\$0
General Fund avg per month	\$ 107,410	\$ 106,570	\$ 87,399
Building Fund avg per month	16,143	22,127	16,885
TOTAL	<u>\$ 123,553</u>	<u>\$ 128,697</u>	<u>\$ 104,284</u>

GRACE EPC MISSION

We are a church that draws our identity as a particular people of God from the reformed understanding of Scripture and the traditions of practice as expressed through the Westminster Confession of Faith and the Larger and Shorter Catechisms. As such, our chief end as a church is simply to glorify the triune God and enjoy Him forever (WSC Q.1). Our mission as the visible church is to be the body of Christ, which is the fullness of God. This mission is summarized in Jesus' 'great commission' to make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them, and teaching them to observe all the commandments of God (Matthew 28:19-20).

We at Grace EPC understand ourselves as one local congregation of the great visible church, which is the kingdom of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the house and family of God. We believe the church to be the ark without which people cannot ordinarily be saved from the judgement of God. We know that in order to gather and perfect the saints in this life, God gives His church the holy scriptures and the ordinances of God—which are His means of grace. There is no head of the church or of Grace EPC other than Jesus. (WCF 25.2-6)

These ordinances of God are the preaching of the Word, by which we receive it, lay it up in our hearts, and practice it in our lives; the sacraments; and prayer. We rely on these means of grace within the church as the effectual ways of building us in holiness, through faith, to salvation. We desire to attend to these means with diligence and preparation. (WSC Q.88-90)

We know that through these practices, we receive the benefits of union with Christ, having been joined with Him by the saving work of God. And having this privilege, we are under God's special care and government, preserved and protected from all enemies. We have fellowship among God's people, receive the ministry of the gospel, testify to an unbelieving world of the saving work of the Lord Jesus Christ, and exclude no one from fellowship who desires to come to Christ. (WLC Q.62-66)

These are the historic beliefs and practices we have received from our fathers in the faith and pass on to our children. It is our mission to embody these truths as fully as we are able, by grace through faith. We understand that to a perishing world the visible church, including Grace EPC, ought to stand as a prophetic rebuke to sin—and as a welcoming refuge to those who might be saved, a fragrance of life to life, and death to death. (II Corinthians 2:16)