



**EPC**

*A Global Movement of Evangelical Presbyterian Churches*

**CHURCH INFORMATION FORM**

**Introduction**

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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(2) Occupation:

17% Business    17% Professional    6% Trades    0% Stay-at-home parent  
6% Agriculture    53% Retired      % Other (Specify: \_\_\_\_\_)

(3) Educational level of adults

0% some high school    36% high school    18% college    22% graduate school

(4) Percentage of members belonging to the congregation:

Less than one year 0%  
5 years or less 9%  
6-10 years 20%  
10 years or more 71%

(5) Racial/Ethnic composition of congregation

  % Asian      % Hispanic      % African American    100% Caucasian  
  % Other / Specify: \_\_\_\_\_

6. Worship

A.    Time                      Average Attendance

<u>10:45</u>	<u>70</u>
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

B. Frequency of communion celebration: 12 per year

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

We have a worship team composed of a ruling elder, the choir director, a deacon, a member of the choir and 2 members from the congregation. Our elders take turns each month being the liturgists and leading worship.

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



**Part 2: Building/Financial Information**

1. Current annual budget: \$ 121,850\* Last year's annual budget: \$ 86,792\*\*

*(Please attach a copy of current budget)*

2. Percentage of income received toward budget: 153 %

3. Amount contributed for (last complete reporting year: \$132,769):

A. EPC per member contribution \$ NA

B. EPC World Outreach Missionaries \$ NA

C. EPC Benevolence Askings \$ NA

D. Presbytery giving \$ NA

E. Other Missions/Missionaries \$ \$11,500

4. Property owned by church

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

-The Kirk.

-Mt. Canaan, which is a one-room school house about 10 miles away where we have weekly prayer meetings.

B. Are your buildings adequate for your present program?

Yes  No If no, please explain:

Our Kirk is adequate, but there is a need for a more handicap accessible fellowship hall.

C. Is a building program projected?

Yes  No If yes, describe what and when and projected cost:

We would like to build a new fellowship hall, but have not started planning yet.

D. Does the church own a manse?

Yes  No

Condition:  Good  Fair  Poor  Number of bedrooms: \_\_\_\_\_

Office/study:  In Church  In Manse  Not provided  Other: \_\_\_\_\_

6. Compensation:

A. The salary range we are prepared to offer:

Position: Teaching Elder \$ competitive for our area

Position: \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

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

Position: Teaching Elder \$ \_\_\_\_\_ or 2 %

Position: \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_ %

C. Housing

Housing allowance

Manse only

Either of the above

D. Benefits and expenses:

Negotiable Pension (minimum 10% gross effective salary)

Negotiable Medical insurance

Negotiable Life insurance

As required Social Security

Per State Rate Travel/mileage

Negotiable Book allowance

Negotiable Study leave allowance

Negotiable Annual vacation

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

\_\_\_\_\_ Other (Specify: \_\_\_\_\_)

**Part III: Church Characteristics**

*Circle the number that most closely describes the current congregation characteristics and future goals:*

Our congregation...	<u>Currently</u>				<u>Goal</u>			
	Agree		Disagree		Agree		Disagree	
1. Supports the pastor.	<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
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 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
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 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
7. Has a spirit of unity.	<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
8. Cares about each other.	<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
9. Looks to its Session for leadership.	<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
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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1	<input 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

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

- Annual Bible readings at the courthouse the first of each year
- Various prayer vigils throughout the year
- Weekly community prayer group and prayer meetings at Mt Canaan
- Food Bank Ministry and Thrift Store Ministry
- Run an annual summer camp at a local Christian Camp facility one week a year and it is open to all kids ages 9-15 from our area. We usually have 60-70 in attendance.
- Lead Bible study at local boy's home
- Men's prayer breakfast-quarterly

16. Describe the strengths of your congregation:

- Solid leadership that work well together
- Our body is united, encouraging, and there is a strong sense of family
- Genuine fellowship, a strong sense of commitment, and a willingness to help
- Great location
- Consistent, loving, encouraging, and community minded
- Faithful choir and music ministry
- Active youth program, led by volunteer youth leaders for elementary, middle, and high school students
- Strong sense of mission to our community
- Our core group are mature and demonstrate a wealth of spiritual wisdom
- Strong prayer commitment
- Visitors are generously welcomed

17. List specific problems with which your congregation struggles:

- We have been without a pastor for 18 months and do not pay enough attention to discipleship and the development of new Christians.
- Lack of organization in regards to scheduling various church events
- Poor participation in Sunday school, Sunday evening worship, and Wednesday night prayer meetings
- An aging congregation
- Losing many of our young people after they graduate from school
- Need to focus more on God's word
- Sometimes too "frozen" in worship, but we are thawing out
- Not utilizing everyone's spiritual gifts
- LIMITED MALE LEADERSHIP
- Need to improve outreach to sick and shut-ins

18. List major goals that this congregation has set for itself:

- Reach more of the youth and young adults in our county, retain more of our young adults after they graduate
- Rethink Sunday night worship, Wednesday night prayer service
- Involve more people in our worship services, and do a better job developing the spiritual gifts of our members,
- Improve discipleship, spiritual growth, AND IMPROVE MALE INVOLVMENT.
- Excited about hiring a new pastor and training new leadership
- Have more of a presence in community events
- Be more involved in the Ministerial Society of Powell County and educate our visitors on the tenants of the Presbyterian denomination.



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    Date: June, 2018     No

If yes, please attach copies.

#### **Part 4: Leadership Expectations**

22. What five key characteristics/gifts/skills should a person bring to the position?

1. Teach from the Bible.
2. Be actively involved in the community.
3. Have good leadership and organizational skills.
4. Help develop the spiritual gifts of our body of believers.
5. Be a humble servant who puts God first in all things.

## **Part 5: Church History**

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

1. The establishment of the Stanton Academy, which was started by the Presbytery. It put the First Presbyterian Church of Stanton, KY in the forefront of the protestant churches in Powell County.

2. The ministry of Brother David Rule from 1952-1995.

3. Participation in Church Camps-Word of Life, the camp at Center College, and Camp Burnamwood, as they have brought enthusiasm and spiritual growth to our members.

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

Our Minister retired in October of 2016, and then we started the process of leaving the PCUSA and joining the EPC. We were accepted into the Southeast EPC on May 5, 2018. Despite not having a pastor, we have grown in number during this transition. . Our body is united and are excited to see what God has in store for us next.

**Part 6: Other Information**

1. List the last three persons in this position: Position: Teaching Elder

<u>Name</u>	<u>Dates of Service</u>
<u>David Rule</u>	<u>1953</u> to <u>1995</u>
<u>Ernie Walls</u>	<u>1998</u> to <u>2004</u>
<u>Phillip Pogue</u>	<u>2006</u> to <u>2016</u>

2. Other significant factors about our church not covered in previous questions:

- Wonderful location in Stanton, Kentucky
- We are in the beautiful foothills of the Appalachian mountains and are equal distance to Lexington, Richmond, and Morehead, KY
- The Red River Gorge is 15 minutes away and provides beautiful trails, hikes, canoeing, and rock climbing
- 20 minutes from Natural Bridge State Park.
- We have added 5 new members and there are several other young families that have been attending worship with us regularly but have not joined yet

Miana G. Elam  
Clerk of Session  
Date: 07/29/2018

Joy Beeler  
Chair, Search Committee  
Date: 07/29/2018

We encourage churches to list their openings on the EPC Ministry Staff Opportunities List ([www.epc.org/mso](http://www.epc.org/mso)). For more information or to send your posting e-mail [epchurch@epc.org](mailto:epchurch@epc.org).

The vision of the First Presbyterian Church of Stanton, Kentucky is to be a Christ-Centered Church, to disciple individuals into faithful followers of Jesus Christ, and to reach the lost and expand the Kingdom of God.

The mission of the First Presbyterian Church is to Serve God and glorify Him always. We strive to share the love of Christ and demonstrate His spirit through worship, witnessing, and ministering to the needs of the people of this church and our community.