

Church Profile and Pastor's Job Description

Buffalo Presbyterian Church, EPC

803 16th Street, Greensboro, North Carolina 27405 (336)375-3380



Where God is Changing Lives

Every Sunday, we begin our worship service with: “Welcome to Buffalo Presbyterian Church, EPC, where God is changing lives.” We say these words with conviction and joy, because we see evidence of their truth each week in our church and in our members. The Holy Spirit is alive and at work at Buffalo Presbyterian Church.

Read on to learn about our deep history, our warm and inviting community, our tangible dedication to Christ and to service in His name, and how God is leading us into the future.

About Buffalo Presbyterian Church

Organized in 1756, Buffalo Presbyterian Church predates the United States of America and is one of the two oldest churches in Guilford County. Our sanctuary and cemetery are listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Seventeen pastors have served Buffalo since its founding. The church is located in Greensboro—in the heart of Piedmont North Carolina—an easy drive to both the Atlantic Ocean and the Appalachian Mountain range.

The Rev. Dr. David Caldwell, Buffalo's first pastor, served from 1768 until 1820, retiring at the age of 95. He lived 100 years and is buried in our cemetery next to his wife Rachel, the daughter of Rev. Alexander Craighead, a pioneer Presbyterian minister from the Charlotte area. Dr. Caldwell was a member of the conventions that framed the first state constitution and approved the U.S. Constitution. His famous theological and classical “Log College” educated young men throughout the colonial South, six of whom became governors, and many who became ministers, physicians, and educators.

Inspired by Dr. Caldwell's commitment to education, we have recently founded Buffalo Academy, a classical, Christian school to open in the fall of 2022.

While our founding and 265-year history are unique distinctives—of which we are rightly proud—these days we are focused on discerning God's plan for our future and where He is leading Buffalo Presbyterian Church.

What We Believe

Buffalo Presbyterian Church has a strong and long tradition of being a biblically-based church that loves and desires to serve our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. For that reason, and because they represent what we believe, we have chosen to align ourselves with the family of churches known as the Evangelical Presbyterian Church. We are Reformed in our theology; Presbyterian in our polity; and Missional (mission-minded) in our ministry, locally and beyond.

BIBLE – We believe the Bible is God’s Truth and the supreme and final authority on all matters to which it speaks. We believe that it is the complete story of who God is, what He has done, what He is doing, and what He will do in our world. We believe that the Bible is uniquely inspired by God and given to us by the Holy Spirit through human writers.

GOD – We believe in one God, the sovereign Creator and Sustainer of all things. He is infinitely perfect and externally existing in three persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

JESUS – Jesus Christ, God’s only son, was born to the Virgin Mary, fully human and fully God. He died on the cross as a substitute for what we deserve because of our sins. He was bodily resurrected from the dead and ascended into heaven where now He is our intercessor and advocate.

HOLY SPIRIT – The Holy Spirit brings glory to Christ and applies the saving work of Christ to our hearts. He convicts us of sin, draws us to the Savior, and instructs and guides us into all truth. He gives new life to us and empowers and imparts gifts to us for service.

REAL LIFE – Everyone is estranged from God and rightly condemned by their sinfulness. Our only hope of eternal life with God is to be wholly dependent upon His free grace offered in Jesus Christ. Only those who put their faith in Christ alone for their salvation become children of God and heirs of eternal life.

CHURCH – If we have a saving relationship with Christ, then we are a part of the true church or the body of Christ. The church finds her visible yet imperfect expression in local congregations. For her perfecting, she awaits the return of her Lord.

RETURN OF CHRIST – Jesus Christ will come again to the earth personally, visibly, and bodily to judge the living and those who have died, and to consummate history and the eternal plan of God.

OUR CALL – The Lord Jesus commands all believers to proclaim the gospel throughout the world and to make disciples of all nations. Near and far He calls us to a life of self-denying love and service.

(For more about what we believe and the position statements of the EPC, please refer to www.EPC.org)



Our Discipleship

Opportunities for learning, worship, and service are offered throughout the year. They include:

Sundays

9:45 am Sunday School Classes

11:00 am Worship Service

Wednesdays

Family Night Dinner and Bible study

Chancel Choir Practice

Monthly Events

The Women of the Church meet monthly to enjoy each other's company, hear a devotion, discuss committee work for the church, plan for future events, and pray.

The Buffalo Men's Breakfast meets monthly to fellowship, hear a devotion, pray, discuss upcoming events, and work on projects.

Other Seasonal Church Events

- Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper
- Community Easter Egg Hunt
- Maundy Thursday Service
- Easter Sunrise Service in the historic cemetery
- Ladies' Tea in the Spring
- Community Smoked Chicken Dinner, hosted by the Buffalo Men
- Community Trunk-or-Treat event, organized by the Buffalo Women
- Community Pinto Bean Lunch, hosted by the Buffalo Women
- Thanksgiving Family Night Dinner
- Candlelight Christmas Eve Service

Our Outreach

Buffalo Presbyterian Church has a long history of influence in the community for God's kingdom on earth. We support a variety of Christian missions both inside and outside of the church. Here are some examples:

Our newest outreach, Buffalo Academy, will provide a classical, Christian model of education. We offer gathering space to a weekly Young Life meeting for area high school students. We support a growing new church in Greensboro's Congolese community which meets Sundays at Buffalo to worship in their native Swahili language. Community outreach through our Pinto Bean Lunch, Smoked Chicken Dinner, Trunk-or-Treat event, and Easter Egg Hunt are just a few of the ways we minister to our immediate neighborhood. We are committed to active and intentional outreach within the community.

In addition, members contribute time and treasure to:

- nine groups of missionaries around the world, three of which are EPC
- Samaritan's Purse Shoebox Ministry, where we contribute and pack items for over 300 shoeboxes
- Freedom House Women's Ministry, by providing an office and storage space for their organization
- Our college students and members of the military through prayer and correspondence

Our Worship

Weekly worship is focused on our Lord Jesus Christ. We worship Him through beautiful music on the pipe organ and piano, the singing of traditional hymns, responsive readings of Scripture, corporate prayer, Bible-based sermons, and fellowship. Communion is served the first Sunday of every month, and members gather weekly to pray for the needs of the church and church members.

Fellowship follows immediately after the service on the front steps of the church. Many new members have credited our traditional, Scripture-based service, as well as our genuine warmth and friendliness, as reasons they chose to join our church.