



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](mailto:info@epc.org)





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**Part 1: Church Information**

1. Church Name Murphy Presbyterian Church

Address 252 Valley River Ave

Murphy, NC 28906

Telephone ( 828 ) 837-6153 Fax ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail murphypresbyterianchurchepc@gmail.com Website murphypresbyterianchurch.org

2. Presbytery: EPC Southeast

Presbytery Ministerial Committee Liaison Andrew Keasling / MPC Charlie Nance

3. Search Committee Chairman Russell Adams

Address PO Box 183 or 2915 Airport Road

Marble, NC 28905

E-mail russellwadams@aol.com

Telephone ( 828 ) 837-4872

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

Pastor (Contracted)  Full time  Part time

Housecleaning (Contracted)  Full time  Part time

Pianist (Contracted)  Full time  Part time

\_\_\_\_\_  Full time  Part time

\_\_\_\_\_  Full time  Part time

\_\_\_\_\_  Full time  Part time

\_\_\_\_\_  Full time  Part time

\_\_\_\_\_  Full time  Part time

\_\_\_\_\_  Full time  Part time

\_\_\_\_\_  Full time  Part time



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5. List all vacant positions

Position Available Pastor Date of Vacancy 06/26/22

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>67</u>	<u>33</u>
B. Number of family units	<u>47</u>	<u>22</u>
C. Worship attendance	<u>45</u>	<u>25</u>

7. Community Growth  Increasing  Static  Declining

8. Profile of church members

A. Age:

\_\_\_\_\_ % 0-11    \_\_\_\_\_ % 12-18    3 % 19-24    \_\_\_\_\_ % 25-34  
 \_\_\_\_\_ % 35-49    21 % 50-64    76 % 65+

B. Occupation:

12 % Business    4 % Professional    4 % Trades  
 \_\_\_\_\_ % Agriculture    \_\_\_\_\_ % Stay-at-Home Parent    80 % Retired  
 \_\_\_\_\_ % Other (Please Specify) \_\_\_\_\_

C. Educational level of adults

5 % some high school 70 % high school 20 % college 5 % graduate school

D. Percentage of members belonging to the congregation

Less than one year 15 %  
 5 years or less 12 %  
 6-10 years 16 %  
 10 years or more 57 %



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9. Racial/Ethnic composition of:

A. **Congregation**

\_\_\_\_\_ % African-American \_\_\_\_\_ % Asian 100 % Caucasian \_\_\_\_\_ % Hispanic  
\_\_\_\_\_ % Other (Specify) \_\_\_\_\_

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

1.6 % African-American .7 % Asian 93.6 % Caucasian 3.3 % Hispanic  
3.3 % Other (Specify) Native Indian 1.6% 2 or more 2.5% Pacific Islander .1%

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 Town 1686 County 28774 (2020 Census)

11. Church Programming—Worship

A. **Worship Time**

11:00  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Average Worship Attendance**

25  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

B. Frequency of communion celebration: 14 per year

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

Session and Music Team



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

12. Church Programming—Sunday School

A. Average attendance in Church School (under 18 years) 0

B. Average attendance in Adult Education (Sunday) 12

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*
MPC Women of the Church	Community Outreach	15	1 monthly	3
Safety and Security Committee	Safety and Security	9	1 Monthly	3
Building and Grounds	Grounds Maintenance	5	as needed	3
Music Committee	Worship	4	as needed	2
Men of the Church	Community Outreach	8	weekly	2

\*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.



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**Part 2: Financial/Church Campus Information**

1. Current annual budget: \$ 89,319.00 Last year's annual budget: \$ 87250.00  
(Attach a copy of current budget)

2. Percentage of income received toward budget: 95 %

3. Amount contributed for year 2021 (most recent complete reporting year)

A. EPC Per Member Asking	\$ <u>\$0.00</u>	(2022) <u>\$460</u>
B. EPC World Outreach Global Workers	\$ <u>\$1,100</u>	(2022) <u>\$200</u>
C. EPC Special Projects	\$ <u>\$0</u>	
D. Presbytery Per Member Asking	\$ <u>\$0</u>	(2022) <u>\$400</u>
E. Other Missions/Missionaries	\$ <u>\$1,300</u>	(2022) <u>\$1,401</u>

4. Property owned by church

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

Church built in 1896, has a brick exterior with a steeple, bell tower and stained glass windows. Additional space includes sunday school rooms, offices, nursery, kitchen and fellowship hall on a city lot.

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: Pastor \$ \$30,240

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

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

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

Position: Pastor \$ \_\_\_\_\_ or 4 %

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

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

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

C. Housing

Housing Allowance

Manse Only

Either of the Above

D. Benefits and expenses

\$4320 Pension (minimum 10% gross effective salary)

9577.68 Medical insurance

\_\_\_\_\_ Life insurance

\_\_\_\_\_ Social Security

1200 Travel/mileage

\_\_\_\_\_ Book allowance

2 weeks Study leave allowance (minimum 2 weeks)

4 Weeks Annual vacation days (minimum 4 weeks)

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

16,200 Other (Specify: \$3600 Utilities 12,600 Housing allowance)



**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 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 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
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 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
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 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
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 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
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 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





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

We actively participate in local ministries such as The Sharing Center Food Bank, Meals on Wheels, The Friendship House for Homeless and The Oaks Academy (At Risk Youth).

16. Describe the strengths of your congregation.

We are a church family that stands on the power of prayer, which has sustained us through Covid 19 and the recent loss of our pastor.

With a resilient core, we were able to cope well in spite of the pandemic. We were able to maintain Sunday service through Zoom and maintained all administrative requirements to allow continuation of non group church activities. We are an enthusiastic group that places an emphasis on Biblical understanding.

We are a friendly and welcoming to all visitors.

We use elder shepherding to care for our congregation.

17. List specific problems with which your congregation struggles.

We have an aging congregation and a lack of steady growth with youth.

We loss our outreach ministries such as Kid's Bible Club and our local Nursing Home visitation due to Covid.

We need leadership that would promote evangelism.

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

To lead people to Christ and make disciples.

To build participation in community outreach.

Establish membership to remain viable in the long term.

To bring in young families and youth.



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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 2018

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?

1) Relatable Personality ( Enthusiastic, Friendly, Ethical, Trustworthy, Empathetic, Good Listener and Problem Solver)

2) Be able to communicate with the congregation by having his "finger on the pulse of the community" as well as being willing to get involved in community programs on a broad scale which includes being involved in the Cherokee County Ministerial Association.

3) Spiritual gifts such as a shepherding, teaching, leadership and a passion to share the gospel in a theologically sound way.

4) We desire someone who is willing to bring evangelism to the forefront of our ministry.

5) As the teaching elder and moderator of the session, they would need to be a strong and informed leader with good administrative skills. Excellent comprehension and use of Robert's Rules of order and the Book of Order.



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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?

1) The establishment of the original church in 1896 and its expansion including the all purpose room (which at one time was considered a chapel) and the Westminster building (which at one time was the manse).

2) The decision to leave PCUSA to join EPC.

3) COVID (See Part 5 Question 2)

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 restrictions caused by COVID created financial and emotional stress on the church as a whole. Our congregation remained steady and overcame what could have been insurmountable circumstances. God always sustains us.

We have seen steady growth with the addition of new members and increased church attendance.



**Part 6: Other Information**

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

Name	Dates of Service	
<u>Christopher Flick</u>	<u>2017</u>	to <u>2022</u>
<u>Alan Wildsmith</u>	<u>1983</u>	to <u>2017</u>
<u>Larry Wilson</u>	<u>1979</u>	to <u>1983</u>

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

We are a small church that has been here for more than 125 years and are comprised of a diverse group that have come from all walks of life and denominations in a rapidly changing community that is predominately retirement age.

Even though we appear to have a small membership, we have long term regular attendees that are very involved in the life and activites of our church.

Clerk of Session \_\_\_\_\_ Date 08/09/22

Search Committee Chair \_\_\_\_\_ Date 08/09/22

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