



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





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Part 1: Church Information

1. Church Name Silver Lake Christian Community Church

Address 3043 John C. McNamara Drive, Brackney, PA 18812

Telephone (570) 663-3164 Fax () _____

E-mail slccc.clerk@gmail.com Website silverlakeecc.org

2. Presbytery: Presbytery of the East

Presbytery Ministerial Committee Liaison to be determined; Chair is Jay Lee

3. Search Committee Chairman Shelley Hohn

Address 2234 State Line Road, Brackney, PA 18812

E-mail slccc.clerk@gmail.com

Telephone (607) 761-6724

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

Pastor is the only paid position; currently vacant

- | | |
|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Full time | <input type="checkbox"/> Part time |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Full time | <input type="checkbox"/> Part time |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Full time | <input type="checkbox"/> Part time |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Full time | <input type="checkbox"/> Part time |
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5. List all vacant positions

Position Available Pastor (full- or part-time) Date of Vacancy 09/09/2019

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>49</u>	<u>45</u>
B. Number of family units	<u>34</u>	<u>32</u>
C. Worship attendance	<u>41</u>	<u>31 (pandemic)</u>

7. Community Growth Increasing Static Declining

8. Profile of church members

A. Age:

0 % 0-11 0 % 12-18 2 % 19-24 4 % 25-34
4 % 35-49 45 % 50-64 45 % 65+

B. Occupation:

25 % Business 22 % Professional 8 % Trades
0 % Agriculture 1 % Stay-at-Home Parent 44 % Retired
0 % Other (Please Specify) _____

C. Educational level of adults

2 % some high school 40 % high school 52 % college 6 % graduate school

D. Percentage of members belonging to the congregation

Less than one year 4 %
5 years or less 16 %
6-10 years 13 %
10 years or more 67 %



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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)

_____ % African-American _____ % Asian _____ % Caucasian _____ % Hispanic
_____ % Other (Specify) not specifically known, primarily Caucasian

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 1,700 (township)

11. Church Programming—Worship

A. **Worship Time**

10:00

Average Worship Attendance

31 (note: pandemic)

B. Frequency of communion celebration: 12-13 per year

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

Lead worship when pastor away; plan / lead music; choir; A/V; greeters; serve communion



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

Our liturgy is traditional, and we follow the EPC Book of Worship as our guide.

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

Blend of traditional and contemporary, for both congregation and special music.

12. Church Programming—Sunday School

A. Average attendance in Church School (under 18 years) 2-3 (pre-COVID)

B. Average attendance in Adult Education (Sunday) N/A

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	Church government	7	Monthly	2
Board of Deacons	Shepherding & care	4	Quarterly	3
Session Committees	Plan/perform activities in:	4-8 ea.	Quarterly	3
	Christian Ed, Worship,			
	Property, Missions, etc.			
Women's Group	Fellowship, devotional	5-8	Bimonthly	3
Church Breakfast	Fellowship, devotional	on hold	Monthly	3
Bible Study	Bible Study	4-5	Weekly	3

*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

1. Current annual budget: \$ 91,745 Last year's annual budget: \$ 92,500 (spent 27k)
(Attach a copy of current budget)

2. Percentage of income received toward budget: 63 %

3. Amount contributed for year 2020 (most recent complete reporting year)

- A. EPC Per Member Asking \$ 1,035
- B. EPC World Outreach Global Workers \$ 400
- C. EPC Special Projects \$ 0
- D. Presbytery Per Member Asking \$ 585
- E. Other Missions/Missionaries \$ 4,990

4. Property owned by church

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

Our quaint church sits next to a small lake. Built in 1846, the building has been lovingly maintained and modern conveniences added. The sanctuary seats 100; there is a fellowship room, basement multi-purpose room, office and 2 bathrooms.

B. Are your buildings adequate for your present program? Yes No
If no, please explain:

When our basement flooded we lost our kitchen and Sunday School rooms. We now have a partial kitchen and open space, but capacity is about 50 people and only accessible by stairs. The main floor fellowship room accommodates 20-25 people, standing. This puts constraints on fellowship and outreach programs.

C. Is a building program projected? Yes No
If yes, describe what, when, and projected cost

We are evaluating the feasibility of constructing an 4,500 sq ft addition with a main hall, kitchen and meeting rooms. We envision this serving not only as an area for church activities but also for community events. A rough cost estimate is \$550,000.

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 \$ max pkg \$55,000 incl benefits

Position: _____ \$ _____

Position: _____ \$ _____

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

Position: Pastor \$ 2,480 or 10 %

Position: _____ \$ _____ or _____ %

Position: _____ \$ _____ or _____ %

Position: _____ \$ _____ or _____ %

C. Housing

Housing Allowance

Manse Only

Either of the Above

D. Benefits and expenses

10% of sal/hous Pension (minimum 10% gross effective salary)

Yes Medical insurance

_____ Life insurance

Yes Social Security

Reimb @ IRS rate Travel/mileage

Yes Book allowance

1 week Study leave allowance (minimum 2 weeks)

4 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)

Yes Other (Specify: Contin. educ, phone allow., sabbatical leave)



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 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 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
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 type="checkbox"/> 1	<input checked="" 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 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 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?

We enjoy an annual Thanksgiving worship service with the local Catholic parish, taking turns hosting. In the fall we hold a community Trunk or Treat and in the summer a community ice cream social and a family Vacation Bible School. Our other outreach activities, such as our weekly youth program, Bible study, women's group, and church breakfast, are open to all in the community. These events and activities bring in families and individuals of other faiths, as well as those who are not part of a church. We actively support the local Food Pantry, overseen by the Catholic parish, as well as many other local and worldwide Christian missions that are not denomination-specific.

16. Describe the strengths of your congregation.

We witnessed a tremendous spiritual growth during our transition from PC(USA) to EPC. Our faith is stronger than ever and we are truly spiritually unified in Christ! We emphasize strong Biblical teaching in both worship and in outreach. We are a warm, welcoming, supportive and non-judgmental body of believers with a strong sense of church FAMILY. Though our pastor retired in late 2019, our congregation has remained strong with an unwaivering faith in God's plan and perfect timing for our next leader. Elders take turns leading worship services; elders or guest speakers (vetted by Session) deliver the sermon. Throughout the pandemic, we have been creative - e.g. having outside services in the summer -- and have even welcomed new members.

17. List specific problems with which your congregation struggles.

We have an aging congregation with few young families. And while we have grown a great deal spiritually, our membership has not yet grown as we hope and believe it someday will. We are a small but very active church and, with no paid staff other than the pastor, many tasks must be performed by the same group of volunteers.

Like many congregations, we pray God will bring people back into corporate worship as pandemic-related restrictions and concerns ease. An important part of individual shepherding will be encouraging those who have become accustomed to worshipping at home, to realize the importance of being back among fellow believers.

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

Our major goals are to:

- Lead those who attend regularly to commit to active church membership.
- Encourage young families to join with us in worship and, increasingly, in overall church life.
- Expand our facilities in a responsible way, so that we can better support our church mission and vision through community outreach programs and fellowship.



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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.

About 30 years ago, the pastor of our church was asked to leave by the Session. However, there are no members of Session from that time who are still living, and we do not know all of the details.

About 20 years ago, a church elder who was also a scout leader had an extra-marital affair. Because the church sponsored the scout troop, Session would not continue to support this elder as the scout leader. As a result, the elder left 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 June 2, 2019 (included with position description posted on EPC.org)

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?

We seek a person who is spiritually strong and demonstrates the ability to teach from a Biblical foundation. Our pastor must be a strong believer in, and defender of, Reformed theology.

We pray that our pastor will be able to show grace with Biblical truth and accountability, and that he or she be able to relate strong Biblical teaching to today's world and the listeners' lives.

We pray for a pastor who is approachable, caring, compassionate and patient.



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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?

We have been incredibly blessed to experience one of the most important and joyful events in the life of our 205-year-old church -- finding our home in the Evangelical Presbyterian Church in 2014, where we have been embraced with love and where we rejoice in knowing that we are unified in our beliefs. When we set out on our journey to seek dismissal from the Presbyterian Church (USA), we put our faith in God's wisdom and timing. The Holy Spirit led us as individuals and as a congregation in ways that were incredibly powerful! Our congregation vote to request dismissal from PC(USA) was unanimous. The journey brought us closer as a church family and made us stronger. Praise God!

Another significant milestone was our prayerful decision about 15 years ago to commit 10% of our general, non-designated offering income to missions. God has consistently blessed us with the resources to continue this!

The third most important event was becoming a year-round church in the 1960's, Prior to that, services were held only during the summer months.

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

In 2013, God led us to start a mid-week program for youth in grades K - 12. We call it "The Blast" -- and it IS a blast! Until we had to pause the program due to the COVID pandemic, this was the most interesting, challenging, and rewarding part of our church life. The program consists of a Bible-based lesson, praise music, activities and a meal. The children come from different environments within our community. We have seen them mature physically, as well as in Christ! We have witnessed older children mentoring younger ones. They have learned that they can come and find friendship, love and security. Some challenges have been keeping the youth engaged at times, and getting their parents involved, such as joining us for family night. The children are not the only ones who have benefited from the program - it has helped those of us who are leaders to grow spiritually, too!

During the pandemic, we tried to find ways to remain in contact with these youth in our community by mailing personal notes of encouragement and packets with Bible-based lessons and crafts pertinent to the current environment. We hosted a drive-through Trunk-or-Treat and at Christmas time did a small car parade, stopping outside children's homes to hand out small gifts. Working with our local elementary school, we donated winter coats and boots for families in need. We pray that we can soon resume our program and help young people in our community to know Jesus Christ.



Part 6: Other Information

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

Name	Dates of Service	
<u>Richard Rosenkrans, CP</u>	<u>2008</u>	to <u>09/2019</u>
<u>Kenneth Garnsey, CP</u>	<u>2001</u>	to <u>2008</u>
<u>Rev. Dr. Paul Carlson</u>	<u>1996</u>	to <u>2001</u>

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

While we pray for our next pastor, in many ways God has blessed SLCCC more than ever during this time without one. Because of our strong sense of church family, when any among us has a need, others respond. And led by the Holy Spirit, many individuals are participating more in ministry. Some examples are: an elder who sends a daily devotional email, which has become a blessing to so many; the increased leadership of our music team "Joyful Noise", whether our service is inside or out on the lawn; a member who prepares the Sunday bulletin every week; and elders who not only lead every worship service but also administer the Sacrament of Holy Communion.

Though our church building is indeed quaint, with original oil lamps and a working antique pump organ, we also use a modern digital key board, flat screen monitors and a sound system.

We are located in a rural area on the PA / NY border that attracts many visitors for outdoor activities, such as boating and fishing in the many lakes and streams, hiking through forests or in nearby Salt Springs State Park, or enjoying one of many summer festivals. And though Brackney, PA is rural, we are just 20 minutes from Binghamton, NY which offers everything from theaters, concert venues, and a wide variety of restaurants, to minor league baseball, several carousels and a zoo. Many who live in this area consider it to be "the best of both worlds." This offers Silver Lake Christian Community Church some unique challenges -- and opportunities -- to reach people from all walks of life and to share the Good News of Christ's love and salvation!

Clerk of Session Shelley Hohn Date April 6, 2021

Search Committee Chair Shelley Hohn (Chair), Jim Barber (Vice-Chair) Date March 9, 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