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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 pastor and the congregation, this is an opportunity for self-study and evaluation of current ministry and goals. This calls for honesty, effort, and open communication.

This Church Information Form (CIF) presents the local congregation's history, challenges, and goals. It is our hope that this will help facilitate the search process by assisting both the church in focusing on future directions and applicants in gaining some sense of the nature and uniqueness of this congregation.

We encourage churches to list their vacancies on the Ministry Staff Opportunities webpage at *www.epconnect.org/mso*. For more information or to send your posting, email *mso@epc.org*.

Guidance for church-based human resources questions such as background checks, personnel policy manuals, and more is available at the Office of the General Assembly by contacting Marti Ratcliff at *marti.ratcliff@epc.org* or 407-930-4263.

Contents

Part 1: Church Information

Part 2: Financial/Church Campus Information

Part 3: Church Characteristics

Part 4: Leadership Expectations

Part 5: Church History

Part 6: Other Information

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 First Presbyterian Church of Stanton

   Address 420 North Main Street
   Stanton, KY 40380

   Telephone (859) 221-1992 Fax (____) _____

   E-mail stantonfpc@gmail.com Website Facebook - First Presbyterian Church of Stanton

2. Presbytery Southeast

   Presbytery Ministerial Committee Liaison _____

3. Search Committee Chairman Ray Kearns

   Address 3230 Furnace Rd
   Stanton, KY 40380

   E-mail arkraider505@hotmail.com

   Telephone (859) 221-1992

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

None	☐ 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
	☐ Full time	☐ Part time
	☐ Full time	☐ Part time

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5. List all key volunteer positions

Groundskeeper
janitor
Social media manager

6. List all vacant positions

Position Available Teaching Elder Date of Vacancy Now

Position Available _____ Date of Vacancy _____

Position Available _____ Date of Vacancy _____

7. Membership (state approximate numbers and percentages)

	Five years ago	Currently
A. Number of church members	86	37
B. Number of family units	45	21
C. Worship attendance	70	25

8. Community Growth ☑ Increasing ☐ Static ☐ Declining

9. Profile of church members

A. Age:

3 % 0-11 5 % 12-18 5 % 19-24 0 % 25-34

16 % 35-49 16 % 50-64 55 % 65+

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B. Occupation:

15 % Business 15 % Professional 15 % Trades

_____% Agriculture ____ % Stay-at-Home Parent 55 % Retired

_____% Other (Please Specify) _____

C. Educational level of adults

____% some high school 40 % high school 50 % college 10 % graduate school

D. Percentage of members belonging to the congregation

Less than one year _____%

5 years or less 10 %

6-10 years 15 %

10 years or more 75 %

10. Racial/Ethnic composition of:

A. **Congregation**

_____% African-American _____% Asian 100 % Caucasian _____% Hispanic

_____% Other (Specify) _____

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

5 % African-American _____% Asian 80 % Caucasian 15 % Hispanic

_____% Other (Specify) _____

11. 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: 12,812

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12. Worship

A. Worship Time / Average Worship Attendance / Worship Style

Worship Time	Average Worship Attendance	Worship Style
10:45	30	traditional

B. Frequency of communion celebration: 12 per year

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

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

13. Ministry Programs

A. Average attendance in Church School (under 18 years): 2

B. Average attendance in Adult Education (Sunday): 12

C. Average involvement in Small Groups: 0

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14. Organizational Structure

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*
Elders	Spiritual leaders	3	Monthly	2
Deacons	pastoral care	4	quarterly	2
Trustees	Maintain grounds	4	quarterly	2
Womens Missionary	nurture	15	Monthly	3
Youth group	biblically Strengthen youth	4-8	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.
4. A staff person takes primary initiative and responsibility.

Part 2: Financial/Church Campus Information

1. Current annual budget: $ 149,030 Last year's annual budget: $ 155,853
   (Attach a copy of current budget)
2. Percentage of income received toward budget: 56% %

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3. Amount contributed for year (most recent complete reporting year)
   A. EPC Percentage of Income $ _____
   B. EPC World Outreach Global Workers $ _____
   C. EPC Special Projects $ _____
   D. Presbytery Per Member Asking/Percentage of Income $ _____
   E. Other Missions/Missionaries $ 4000

4. Property owned by church
   A. Describe buildings and property (other than manse), including condition.
   The Kirk - Fair/Good - needs roof replaced
   Mt. Canaan building - in need of repair

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

   C. Is a building program or capital project 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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5. Compensation:

A. The salary range we are prepared to offer:

Position: Teaching Elder $ competitive for our area

Position: _____ $ _____

Position: _____ $ _____

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

Position: TeachingElder $ _____ or 2 %

Position: _____ $ _____ or _____ %

Position: _____ $ _____ or _____ %

Position: _____ $ _____ or _____ %

C. Housing

☑ Housing Allowance

☐ Manse Only

☐ Either of the Above

D. Benefits and expenses

✓ Retirement Plan (minimum 10% gross effective salary)

✓ Medical insurance (EPC medical coverage required for full-time TEs)

✓ Life insurance

As required Social Security

State rate Travel/mileage

500 Book allowance

✓ Study leave allowance (minimum 2 weeks)

✓ Annual vacation days (minimum 4 weeks)

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

_____ Sabbatical frequency and length _____

_____ Other (Specify: _____)

E. The church participates in the EPC's medical benefits plan ☑ Yes ☐ No

F. The church participates in the EPC's retirement plan ☑ Yes ☐ No

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Part 3: Church Characteristics

Check the box that most closely describes the current characteristics of the congregation.

Our congregation...	Agree		Disagree	
1. Is spiritually vibrant	☑ 1	☐ 2	☐ 3	☐ 4
2. Demonstrates love for the pastor and his/her family	☑ 1	☐ 2	☐ 3	☐ 4
3. Readily shares their gifts with the rest of the congregation	☑ 1	☐ 2	☐ 3	☐ 4
4. Places a high priority on sound biblical preaching	☑ 1	☐ 2	☐ 3	☐ 4
5. Effectively integrates newcomers	☑ 1	☐ 2	☐ 3	☐ 4
6. Is engaged in evangelism	☐ 1	☐ 2	☑ 3	☐ 4
7. Is often found living their faith in their communities	☑ 1	☐ 2	☐ 3	☐ 4
8. Has a spirit of unity	☑ 1	☐ 2	☐ 3	☐ 4
9. Cares about each other	☑ 1	☐ 2	☐ 3	☐ 4
10. Is supportive of the Session and pastoral leadership	☑ 1	☐ 2	☐ 3	☐ 4
11. Ministers well to members that are hurting	☑ 1	☐ 2	☐ 3	☐ 4
12. Uses members' gifts in worship	☑ 1	☐ 2	☐ 3	☐ 4
13. Contains people willing and able to lead the congregation	☑ 1	☐ 2	☐ 3	☐ 4
14. Is capable of change when and where appropriate	☑ 1	☐ 2	☐ 3	☐ 4
15. Is connected to and prayerful about what God is doing in the global church	☐ 1	☑ 2	☐ 3	☐ 4

16. How are elders and deacons initially trained and equipped for ministry?

Trained by Pastor

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17. What is the Session's current practice regarding the ongoing discipleship of elders and deacons?

Elder retreats 2x/year

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

- Annual Bible reading at courthouse at first of each year
- Various prayer vigils throughout year
- Annual summer camp at a local Christian camp facility one week a year open to all kids ages 9-15. Usually have 80-100 in attendance
- Lead Bible study at local boy's home

19. Describe the strengths of your congregation.

- Solid leadership that work well together
- Our body is united, encouraging, and there is strong sense of family
- Genuine fellowship, strong sense of commitment, and willingness to help
- Great location
- Consistent, loving, encouraging and community minded
- Strong prayer commitment
- Visitors are generously welcomed
- our core group are mature and demonstrate a wealth of spiritual wisdom

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20. List specific problems with which your congregation struggles.

- Aging Congregation
- Losing many of our young people after they graduate
- Need to improve outreach to sick + shut-ins
- poor participation in Sunday School, Sunday evening worship and Wednesday night prayer meeting
- Increasing youth programs

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

- Reach more youth and young adults in our county and retain more of our young adults after they graduate
- Excited about hiring a new pastor and training new leadership
- Improve music ministry
- Improve youth program

22. Has there ever been disciplinary action taken against a pastor of your congregation?

☐ Yes ☑ No

23. Has there ever been any disciplinary action against an elder or deacon of your congregation?

☐ Yes ☑ No

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If you answered "Yes" to either 22 or 23, please explain.

24. 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, enter each statement or strategic plan (or attach copies if space below is limited).

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.

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Part 4: Leadership Expectations

1. What are some key character strengths a person should bring to this position?

- Open/honest
- Shepherd
- Forgiving
- Humble
Empathetic

2. What are five key gifts/skills/abilities a person should bring to this position?

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

3. What are the primary pastoral duties for the position? (Attach a position description)

- Plan and lead worship services
- Preach and teach the Bible from a Reformed theological framework
- Administer sacraments of Baptism and Communion
- Officiate special services (weddings/funerals)
- Visit the sick, hospitalized, + shut-ins
- Offer spiritual counseling

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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 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 1952-1996.
3. Participation in Church Camps

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

1) Revival of Camp Burnamwood
2) Youth program has dwindled
3) Loss of multiple members and amount of homebound members

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Part 6: Other Information

1. List the last three individuals who held this position

Name	Dates of Service		
Lucas Waters	2019	to	2026
Phillip Pogue	2006	to	2016
Ernie Walls	1998	to	2004

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

- Wonderful location
- 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, canoeing, and rock climbing
- 20 minutes from Natural Bridge State Park

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Statement of Acknowledgment

The EPC believes that honesty and a commitment to open communication are critical to building the body of Christ. In that spirit, please confirm your agreement to the following statements by your signatures below.

1. We attest that the information contained in this Church Information Form is true and complete to the best of our knowledge.
2. We authorize applicants for the position(s) listed herein to make inquiries regarding all statements contained in this Church Information Form.
3. We authorize the Office of the Stated Clerk to circulate, distribute, and otherwise share this Church Information Form with potential candidates for the position(s) listed herein.
4. We acknowledge the Medical Plan and Retirement Plan services offered by the EPC's Benefit Resources, Inc., exist to serve EPC churches and their staff members. We also acknowledge the EPC's Book of Order requirement that EPC churches provide medical insurance to ordained staff members through BRI as mandated by the following Acts of the General Assembly:

   81-04 Terms of call for any minister of member churches shall provide for participation in the denominational hospitalization and disabilities programs. *(Minutes of the 1st General Assembly, 1-32)*

   81-06 The denominational group insurance plan providing health, disability, and life coverage shall be mandatory for all ministers within member churches. *(Minutes of the 1st General Assembly, 1-36)*

   88-08 Assembly amends participatory requirements for group health insurance plan by requiring participation of all ministers on the rolls of presbyteries with the exception of:

   1. Missionaries laboring in cooperative agreements with mission agencies;
   2. Ministers laboring in institutional agencies providing their own group insurance plan;
   3. Ministers afforded group insurance coverage as part of retirement benefits from a previous employer;
   4. Ministers without call, and ministers laboring less than 20 hours in a place of ministry. *(Minutes of the 8th General Assembly, 8-24)*

   For information about EPC benefits through BRI, see www.epconnect.org/benefits, email benefits@epc.org, or call 407-930-4267.

Clerk of Session _____ Date 8/4/26

Search Committee Chair Aris Roy Kearns Date 8/4/2026