

## 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](http://www.epconnect.org/mso). For more information or to send your posting, email [info@epc.org](mailto:info@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](mailto:marti.ratcliff@epc.org) or 407-930-4263.

### Contents

Part 1: Church Information	Part 4: Leadership Expectations
Part 2: Financial/Church Campus Information	Part 5: Church History
Part 3: Church Characteristics	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](mailto:info@epc.org)



**Part 1: Church Information**

1. Church Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_ Fax ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_ Website \_\_\_\_\_

2. Presbytery \_\_\_\_\_

Presbytery Ministerial Committee Liaison \_\_\_\_\_

3. Search Committee Chairman \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_

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

- |       |                                    |                                    |
|-------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| _____ | <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 |
| _____ | <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 |
| _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> Full time | <input type="checkbox"/> Part time |
| _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> Full time | <input type="checkbox"/> Part time |

5. List all key volunteer positions

6. List all vacant positions

Position Available \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Vacancy \_\_\_\_\_

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	_____	_____
B. Number of family units	_____	_____
C. Worship attendance	_____	_____

8. Community Growth     Increasing     Static     Declining

9. Profile of church members

A. Age:

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

B. Occupation:

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

C. Educational level of adults

\_\_\_\_\_ % some high school      \_\_\_\_\_ % high school      \_\_\_\_\_ % college      \_\_\_\_\_ % graduate school

D. Percentage of members belonging to the congregation

Less than one year \_\_\_\_\_ %  
 5 years or less \_\_\_\_\_ %  
 6-10 years \_\_\_\_\_ %  
 10 years or more \_\_\_\_\_ %

10. Racial/Ethnic composition of:

A. **Congregation**

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

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

\_\_\_\_\_ % African-American      \_\_\_\_\_ % Asian      \_\_\_\_\_ % Caucasian      \_\_\_\_\_ % 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. Worship

A. Worship Time	Average Worship Attendance	Worship Style
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

B. Frequency of communion celebration: \_\_\_\_\_ per year

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

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

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

13. Ministry Programs

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

B. Average attendance in Adult Education (Sunday): \_\_\_\_\_

C. Average involvement in Small Groups: \_\_\_\_\_



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 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

4. Property owned by church

- A. Describe buildings and property (other than manse), including condition.

- 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 \_\_\_\_\_

5. Compensation:

A. The salary range we are prepared to offer:

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

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

Position: \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_ %  
 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  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Social Security  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Travel/mileage  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Book allowance  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Study leave allowance (minimum 2 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)  
 \_\_\_\_\_ 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

### 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	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4
2. Demonstrates love for the pastor and his/her family	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4
3. Readily shares their gifts with the rest of the congregation	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4
4. Places a high priority on sound biblical preaching	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4
5. Effectively integrates newcomers	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4
6. Is engaged in evangelism	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4
7. Is often found living their faith in their communities	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4
8. Has a spirit of unity	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4
9. Cares about each other	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4
10. Is supportive of the Session and pastoral leadership	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4
11. Ministers well to members that are hurting	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4
12. Uses members' gifts in worship	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4
13. Contains people willing and able to lead the congregation	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4
14. Is capable of change when and where appropriate	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4
15. Is connected to and prayerful about what God is doing in the global church	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4
16. How are elders and deacons initially trained and equipped for ministry?				

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

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

19. Describe the strengths of your congregation.

20. List specific problems with which your congregation struggles.

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

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

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 \_\_\_\_\_

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



## **Part 5: Church History**

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

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

**Part 6: Other Information**

1. List the last three individuals who held this position

Name	Dates of Service
_____	_____ to _____
_____	_____ to _____
_____	_____ to _____

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

### 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](http://www.epconnect.org/benefits), email [benefits@epc.org](mailto:benefits@epc.org), or call 407-930-4267.*

Clerk of Session \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Search Committee Chair \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_