

Church Profile

Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church

Name of Church: First Presbyterian Church of Tucker _____ Date: 8/29/2017 _____
Address 2200 Fellowship Rd. _____
City Tucker _____ State GA 30084 _____
Presbytery: 2 _____ Phone: **(678) 948-5737**
Church website: www.tuckerfirstpres.org email address: tuckerfirstpres@gmail.com _____
Church Contact Person: Dr. Robert Starr Email: bbstarr@gmail.com
Address 2387 Norwich Way, Tucker, GA 30084 _____
Position to be filled: Pastor _____

Part I: The Church

A. Basic information about the church

When was the church organized? 4/21/1894 _____
Active Membership 26 _____
Total Membership 26 _____ Church Membership 5 Years Ago 35 _____
Annual General Budget \$38,000 _____
Number of New Members Last Year by:
Profession 1 _____ Transfer 0 _____ Reaffirmation 0 _____
Number of members lost last year by:
Death 2 _____ Transfer 4 _____ Removal from Roll _____
Is your church part of a yoked parish? _____
Number of members who are Adult Women 11 Adult Men 12
Youth//Children 0 Ethnic (Specify) Caucasion _____
Former Pastors. Please list your last three pastors, their addresses (if known) and the years they were at your church.
1. Scott Downing 1983-1986 _____
2. John Little 1986-2009 _____
3. Tony Locke 2010-2017 _____

B. Narrative information about the church

On a separate sheet of paper, describe your congregation. Here are some suggestions to help you think about your congregational life.

1. Describe the physical building where your church is meeting.
2. Describe a typical Sabbath morning worship service.
3. How do members describe your church? How do visitors describe your church?
4. What is the social background of your church membership? What are their occupations?
5. What is the unique mission of your congregation within your community?
6. What are the ministry goals of your church?
7. What are the greatest challenges confronting your church in the coming year?
8. What special joys, opportunities, or challenges await a pastor in your congregation?

Part II: The Neighborhood

Check any terms which might apply to your neighborhood:

Inner City _____ Downtown _____ Urban Residential X Suburb _____ Rural _____ Small Town X College _____ Retirement _____ Resort _____ Agricultural _____

The total population of the town, community, or rural area within which the church is located is approximately 27,581

What would you say is the average distance your members drive to and from work each day? NA

Narrative about the Neighborhood (on a separate sheet)

1. Describe the community in which your church ministers (occupations, recreational pastimes, social and ethnic makeup, etc.).
2. What changes is your community undergoing, and how is it affecting your church?
3. What does your church do to serve the local community? What does your church do to reach out to your neighbors?

Part III: Activities

- A. Session.** How many members are on your Session 5? Are they rotating or permanent? P
- B. Diaconate.** How many members are on your diaconate? 0 Are they rotating or permanent? _____ Do you have women on the diaconate? No
- C. Youth.** How many youth do you have in your Junior High? 0 Senior High? 0 Combined? 0 College groups? 0

Do you have any special programs other than Sabbath School and youth groups for your youth? (For example, youth choir, drama group, sports programs, etc.)?

- D. Children.** How many elementary school children do you have? 0 PreSchool children? 0

Do you have a children's church? No What ages? _____

What other special youth events/activities do you have?

- E. Women's Societies.** Do you have an active ARPWM group? No How many regular participators? _____ How many circles do you have? _____ What special events does your ARPWM sponsor annually?
- F. Outreach Ministries.** List any special service or outreach ministries you have, describe them, and list how many people participate. Sunday morning service at Orchard Senior Living Center in Tucker (2 blocks from church), JOY Club - Wednesday morning (11-12) Hymn singing, Bible study, Prayer, social interaction activities for seniors
- G. Missions.** Describe how your church promotes World Missions and Local Missions.

We support our Music Director's Daughter and Son-in-Law who are missionaries in Romania

What local missions do you support? Brookside Senior Living (Stone Mt., GA – Hymn Singing/Bible Study

H. Social Events. What other on-going fellowship activities does your church have?

Fellowship meal at the church service on the last Sunday of each month, Tuesday Lunch Bunch (retirees meet weekly for lunch and fellowship at a local restaurant), Occasional movie night at the church.

What special events occur annually in the life of your church that brings all your people together Reformation Sunday celebration

I. Worship. When are your worship services? 11:00 Service, 10 Adult Sunday School

What special worship events happen annually throughout the year? Special Christmas and Easter Services

J. Stewardship. Describe how your church encourages stewardship every year.

Church restoration project encourages individuals to give money and time to assist with the work.

Does your church have a pledge system as part of your budget process? No If so, how does it work? _____

K. Staff. Please list the full or part-time staff of your church.

1. Part Time: Rev. Nathan Ferrell: Music Director, Preaches twice a month, visitation, JOY Club and Orchard Senior Center worship service leader
2. Part Time: Lib Adams - Pianist for worship service and Orchard ministry
3. Part Time: Abbe Howard - Church Treasurer _____

L. Christian Education. What is the average attendance in your Sabbath School? 6

What other educational/discipleship programs do you have?

Does your church have a regular new members' class? NO Officer training? NO

M. Music. What on-going music ministries do you have in your church?

Orchard Senior Center and Joy Club hymn singing, Solos, (Church too small for Choir)

Part IV: Expectations of a Pastor

Describe the characteristics and qualifications needed in a person who would fill this position.

People-oriented, dynamic personality, computer literate, empathetic, well-read, goal-oriented, strong reformed theological perspectives, a heart of the needs of senior citizens, committed to leading the church in increasing membership.

If this is an associate position, describe how this person would work with the rest of the staff.

What sort of ongoing evaluation will be offered by the church? Who will do the evaluation? Annual evaluation by Session with input from congregation and an improvement plan formulated by the session to be implemented shortly after the yearly evaluation.

What style of leadership will the church expect of its new pastor?

Relational leadership that extends beyond Sunday activities.

Preferred experience: Not necessary__ 1-2 years__ 2-5 years X 5-10 years __ 10 years or above __

What other expectations do you have for a pastor? (Such as doctrinal beliefs, values, lifestyle, etc.)?

Excellent teaching abilities, live in community close to the church.

B. Narrative information about the church



On April 21, 1894, Mr. David Chesnut, an Elder of the Doraville Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church, and others (mostly his children and grandchildren) met at the home of Mr. Charles J. Miller to consider the matter of organizing a Sabbath School in that community. On April 29th, it was organized with 40 members and began meeting in a vacant log house on the property of Mr. Miller. Officers of the school were: Mr. David Chestnut, Superintendent, Mr. R.A. Bankston, Secretary, and Mr. Newton Morris, Treasurer.

On Saturday, October 14, 1899, the people met with the Doraville Session and the 52 signing members asked to be transferred to the new church. At this same meeting, Rev. H. Rabb made a motion that the name of the church be called "Antioch." The motion was carried.

The present church building was begun in early 1930 and on the first Sunday of October, Dr. W.M. Boyce preached the first sermon in the new building. Dr. J.B. McFerrin was the first pastor in the Tucker church.

The church started building a manse in the Summer of 1939 and in November, although the work on it was not quite complete, the Rev. and Mrs. McFerrin moved into the new house.

The educational building was started in 1946 by members of the church working on it in their spare time, the church supplying the materials. It was completed in two years. When the Rev. William Mitchell left Tucker in the Spring of 1947, the church voted to discontinue requesting aid from the Board of Home Missions and to become self-supporting.

Mrs. Estelle Morris gave the church a free title to the land on which it is now located in May of 1955. An anonymous gift of the property directly behind the church building was made at approximately the same time. The church also purchased a small plot of ground on the south side from the Fellowship Baptist Church.

In 1955, the sanctuary was extensively remodeled and the church purchased a new manse. The old manse was remodeled and used for classes on Sunday morning. There were 63 families on the church roll in 1954. In 1957, the roll listed a total of 241 members in the Tucker Presbyterian Church.

At a Session meeting June 7, 1959, a motion was made by Mr. C.E. Morris that the name of the church be changed or revised to First Presbyterian Church of Tucker. The motion was seconded and carried by the whole Session. However, at the Session meeting July 12th, after some discussion, it was decided that action on the name change be deferred.

Fifty-five members withdrew their membership from the church in 1960 in order to found and establish St. Andrews Presbyterian Church of Tucker. Following this, the name of Tucker Church was officially changed to First Presbyterian Church Associate Reformed of Tucker, Georgia. This was done so as to always retain the title of First church.

In 1981, the Church called Rev. J. Edward Pitts as pastor. The church membership at that time was quite low. A new organ was purchased for the church in 1982.

The church called the Rev. Scott Downing to be pastor in 1983. During the years of 1984-86, a total of 60 new members were added.

Rev. John Allen Little was called to this ministry in December 1986. He served faithfully till his retirement in 2007, at which time he continued to serve till his death in 2009.

Rev. Anthony R. Locke, was installed as minister of First Presbyterian Church Associate Reformed on August 8, 2010 and left the church in March, 2017.

[Rev. Nathan Ferrell](#) is now serving as Music Director, preaching twice twice-a-month, visitation, Orchard Senior Center ministry lead, JOY Club lead, Brookside Senior Living ministry lead

Church Building: The church building was constructed in 1930 (Sanctuary) with an addition completed in 1946 (Fellowship Hall, kitchen, classrooms, offices). A two-year restoration project was begun in 2015 that included repairing and painting the Sanctuary and most of the other areas of the church. A new changeable letter sign was installed on July 4th of 2017. Ongoing maintenance is required to keep the church operational due to its age. In 2016 the roof was replaced. Donations, session-approved use of church funds, and countless hours of volunteer help went into the recent restoration.

Sunday Services: The Orchard Senior Center ministry team meets at the church at 8:00 AM to prepare for going to Orchard to conduct a worship service which goes from 9:00-9:45. The team has been providing hymn signing and Bible lessons since March of 2016. The ministry at Orchard began with 4 residents and now averages 30 each Sunday. Many of the participants consider this to be their church since they are not able to travel to other locations. Occasionally, some of the residents come to the 11:00 worship service at the church to participate in special music events. An adult Sunday School was recently begun which features video lessons by prominent reformed teachers with follow-up discussions. An online, Wednesday night follow up session provides additional discussion and prayer time for those who attend the Sunday School. Following the worship service several members routinely meet for lunch at a location restaurant for food and fellowship. A fellowship meal is offered to members and guest after the 4th worship service every month in the church Fellowship Hall.

Challenges:

First Presbyterian Church of Tucker is in a period of revitalization after having undergone some significant changes over the past

two years. In addition to the dismissal of our previous Pastor, several long-standing members of the church have passed away, moved too far away to attend, and transferred to other churches. The congregation presently number between 10-15 on any given Sunday. The most significant challenge for a new Pastor is to lead the church in increasing membership. The remaining members are mostly retired and in their senior years. While these challenges are noteworthy, a Pastor would find a core group of dedicated workers willing to donate their

time and money to meaningful activities that not only solidify their existing relationships but serve to bring new member into the church. Their dedication is evidenced by the recent restoration efforts to create a clean, well-kept and maintained worship space that presents a warm and inviting environment for anyone who visits the church.

B. Pastoral Activities

Listed below are 20 activities of a pastor in a church. Please determine a priority rating of these activities for the minister. Please limit your #1 categories to 6, and same for #2s.

Category	High			Low
1. Corporate worship and sacraments (Pastor works with congregation to develop a rich, meaningful worship experience)	1 x	2	3	4
2. Proclamation of the Word. (The Word of God is preached with urgency and conviction. High priority on sermon preparation)	1 x	2	3	4
3. Spiritual development of members (Pastor facilitates spiritual growth through individual training, counseling, and small groups)	1	2	3 x	4
4. Evangelism of the lost outside the church (Pastor facilitates programs that train laypersons in sharing Jesus Christ with others)	1	2	3 x	4
5. Church growth and church planting (Pastor places strong emphasis on increasing church size and/or starting a new church)	1 x	2	3	4
6. Support and encouragement of missions (Pastor facilitates support and awareness of home and foreign missions)	1	2	3 x	4
7. Home Visitation of the members (Pastor places high priority on visiting people in their homes regularly)	1	2 x	3	4
8. Hospital or emergency visitation (Pastor willing to take time anytime to visit during sickness or emergencies)	1	2 x	3	4
9. Support of Christian education program (Pastor encourages education for all ages consistent with mission of church)	1	2 x	3	4
10. Counseling and referral (Pastor places high priority on developing counseling and referral programs)	1	2	3 x	4
11. Congregational fellowship (Pastor places strong emphasis on developing congregational community of mutual love and support)	1	2 x	3	4
12. Administrative leadership in the church (Pastor is comfortable with accepting administrative responsibility, delegation, and training of leadership)	1 x	2	3	4
13. Stewardship and commitment programs (Pastor works with church to develop a stewardship program of time and talent.)	1	2	3 x	4
14. Encouraging the ministry of the laity (Pastor encourages spiritual gifts of members, sharing opportunities for planning and participation)	1	2	3 x	4
15. Responsibility for teaching within the church (Pastor places emphasis on his own personal role of teacher)	1 x	2	3	4
16. Denomination and Presbytery service (Pastor is involved in and encourages participation on Presbytery and Synod level)	1	2	3 x	4
17. Social and political witness within and without the church (Pastor emphasizes Biblical witness in politics and society)	1	2 x	3	4
18. Social service (Pastor places emphasis on the ministry of social assistance in the community)	1	2 x	3	4

19. Development of congregation prayer (Pastor places strong emphasis on the ministry of prayers, offers prayer opportunities)	1	2	3 x	4
20. The development of youth and/or children's ministries (Pastor encourages programs to reach youth and children)	1 x	2	3	4

Part V: Compensation

Please state the compensation your church provided for your last pastor:

Salary: Part-Time - \$32,000/yr (Included ARP Retirement, Insurance, Workman's Comp)

Manse Allowance (if any) _____

Other Allowances _____

What other forms of compensation does your church provide? _____

What is the annual vacation period? _____

4 - weeks

What time is allotted for study leave? _____

Did your church pay insurance? Yes No _____ Social Security?

Yes No _____

Does your church provide a manse? Yes _____ No If you do, please describe it.

Has your church provided utilities for the manse? Yes _____ No _____

If you have a manse, have you provided an equity allowance? Yes _____ No _____

Are you willing to make changes in the compensation package for the next pastor?

Yes No _____

Part VI: References

Please list at least three people outside the church including at least one former pastor, who the candidate could contact to find out more about your church.

- a. Peggy Little – Former Pastor's wife – Rev. John Little passed away in 2009 having served the church for 24 years
- b. Betty Wood – Long-time church member who moved out of the area in spring of 2016.
- c. Rev. Tanner Cline – acting Moderator of the Session – Pastor at Hopewell ARP in Conyers, GA area