

Church Information Form
Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church

Name of Church: Hephzibah ARP Date: 01/19/2014
Address 1911 Hephzibah Church Road
City Bessemer City State NC
Presbytery: First Phone: 704 445-6423
Church Contact Person: Rick Albertson
Address _____
Position to be filled Preacher

Part I: The Church

A. Basic information about the church

When was the church organized? Founded 1828 as Hephzibah Presbyterian Church Became Hephzibah ARP Church on June 6, 2007

Active Membership 22

Total Membership 26 Church Membership 5 Years Ago 42

Annual General Budget \$40,795

Number of New Members Last Year by:

Profession 0 Transfer _____ Reaffirmation _____

Number of members lost last year by:

Death 2 Transfer _____ Removal from Roll _____

Is your church part of a yoked parish? N

Number of members who are Adult Women 13 Adult Men 9

Youth//Children 2 Ethnic (Specify) _____

Former Pastors. Please list your last three pastors, their addresses (if known) and the years they were at your church.

1. Terry Schultz 1 1/2 years 2010-2011 _____
2. _____
3. _____

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 you 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 _____ Suburb _____ Rural X
Small Town X College _____ Retirement _____ Resort _____ Agricultural X

The total population of the town, community, or rural area within which the church is located is approximately 5,000

What would you say is the average distance your members drive to and from work each day? For those not retired, 25 miles

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 3? Are they rotating or permanent? P
- B. Diaconate.** How many members are on your diaconate? 4 Are they rotating or permanent? P Do you have women on the diaconate? Y
- 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 Pre-School children? 2

Do you have a children's church? N What ages? _____

What other special youth events/activities do you have?

- E. Women's Societies.** Do you have an active WOC group? N How many regular participators? _____ How many circles do you have? _____ What special events does your WOC sponsor annually?
- F. Outreach Ministries.** List any special service or outreach ministries you have, describe them, and list how many people participate. 2 cents a meal , Holy Angels
- G. Missions.** Describe how your church promotes World Missions and Local Missions.

What local missions do you support? None

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

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

Homecoming, Van trips

I. Worship. When are your worship services? 11:00 AM Sunday

What special worship events happen annually throughout the year? None

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

Does your church have a pledge system as part of your budget process? N If so, how does it work? _____

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

Secretary, Treasurer, Custodian, Choir Director/Organist

L. Christian Education. What is the average attendance in your Sabbath School? 12

What other educational/discipleship programs do you have?

Does your church have a regular new members' class? N Officer training? N

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

Part IV: Expectations of a Pastor

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

Need Bivocational Pastor that would provide leadership and a foundation to begin the rebuilding process for the church.

If this is an associate position, describe how this person would work with the rest of the staff. Not associate

What sort of ongoing evaluation will be offered by the church? 6 month evaluation Who will do the evaluation? Session

What style of leadership will the church expect of its new pastor? Leads by example. Motivator

Preferred experience: Not necessary X 1-2 years ___ 2-5 years ___ 5-10 years ___ 10 years or above ___

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

Respected individual in their community. Practice what you preach.

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

Part V: Compensation

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

Salary \$28,800

Manse Allowance (if any) provided a residence

Other Allowances None

What other forms of compensation does your church provide? None

What is the annual vacation period? No annual vacation period

What time is allotted for study leave? 2 weeks

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

We are looking for a Bivocational Pastor. Compensation which will be considerably less than for our last pastor since this is not a full time job. Compensation will be negotiated based on qualifications and what the pastor provides to the church.

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.

Eric Myers - Frederick Presbyterian Church (301) 663-5338 Pastor

The church is debt free. All properties are paid in full.

1. Describe the physical building where your church is meeting.

7400 square foot red brick white shingled roof church with steeple. Built in 1969 on 4.65 acres. Church consists of two floors. Top floor has Choir Room and Sanctuary that is 3700 sq feet. Lower floor consists of Sunday school rooms, nursery, office area and utility room that is 3700 sq feet. Attached to the church is a 2900 sq. foot fellowship hall consisting of a kitchen, large open area and bathrooms. The building is paid for.

2. Describe a typical Sabbath morning worship service.

Worship starts at 11:00 am. The service consists of prayer, music, readings, message, collection of tithes, and normally runs an hour.

3. How do members describe your church? faithful, dedicated,

How do visitors describe your church? Friendly

4. What is the social background of your church membership? Active church membership is approximately 16 to 18. Half of those are retired and the other half are at the point planning for retirement. There is no youth. Those still working are employed in the utility industry, health care, broadcasting and marketing business.

5. What is the unique mission of your congregation within your community?

There is no overcrowding concerns during our worship service. Our unique opportunity for a minister is to be able to start the church from the ground floor with a small dedicated group of church members to assist. You can focus more outside of the church than within.

6. What are the ministry goals of your church.

Continue to provide a weekly worship service for the elderly members of the church.

7. What are the greatest challenges confronting your church in the coming year.

Maintain attendance and keep a presence in the neighborhood. Without a preacher this is a challenge. The church needs a vision and pastor to reach out to the neighbors and provide them a consistent place of worship.

8. What are the special joys, opportunities or challenges await a pastor in your congregation.

Working with dedicated faithful church members. Ground floor opportunity to start a youth/children's ministry.

Narrative about the neighborhood

1. Describe the community in which your church ministers. Rural community. high school educated. 50-50 mix of trailers and houses.
- 2.

2. What changes is your community undergoing and how is it affecting your church.

The community is not undergoing any changes.

3. What does your church do to serve the local community?

Provide a place of worship. Support Holy Angels and Cherryville Area Ministries.