

# **Christ Presbyterian Church**

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## **Pastoral Application Portfolio**

# Christ Presbyterian Church Profile

Spring 2019

Christ Presbyterian Church (PCA) exists to glorify God through the preaching and teaching of the Word of God which leads to godliness and eternal life. We are a community of Reformed Christian believers who seek to nurture faith in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior, to live in obedience to his commands out of gratitude, and serve the Kingdom of God in our homes, our community, and in our world. We observe the Sacraments instituted by our Lord Jesus Christ: (1) Baptism into God's covenant family, and (2) the Lord's Supper by which we who are many are One Body because we all share one Bread and one Cup. We seek biblical, joyful worship of the living God through Jesus Christ, to direct and motivate all of the church's life and holistic outreach to people in the immediate area and throughout the world. CPC seeks to identify the gifts and talents of every member, and encourage each one to be involved in the ministry of the church.

Christ Presbyterian Church is a small PCA church in western Pa, consisting of 92 communicant and 34 non-communicant members, twenty children aged 0-11, and twelve teens aged 12-17. We have both elderly and young members throughout our congregation. CPC has been faithfully shepherded for the last 35 years by Rev. Dr. Larry Elembaum. Our grounds are spacious with room for a picnic pavilion, half court basketball, swings and a set of monkey bars, as well as plenty of space in the event of a building expansion.

CPC is located in South Beaver Township, on the corner of Blackhawk and Georgetown roads, approximately forty miles from downtown Pittsburgh. The church is in South Beaver Twp. adjacent to Darlington Twp. and Chippewa. It is one of five churches in Beaver County (population 165,000) affiliated with the Presbyterian Church in America and there are also four other NAPARC congregations in the county. We are located within a mile of Blackhawk High School, which has approx. 800 students. CPC also has ties to both Geneva College - 1400 students, and Beaver County Christian School (BCCS)- 300 students; having received a number of college students into our fold during their time of study. While these schools are very close to our church building, it should be noted that about eighty percent of CPC's children are homeschooled.

The church building is on two levels...basement and one floor with a new portico/entrance on one end. The "sanctuary" is traditional, including a lectern on one side and a pulpit opposite for preaching. We have a "frontal" in the center for the communion service which allows for an overhead retractable screen for announcements and song lyrics. We sing lustily from the Trinity hymnal with some "praise songs" in the a.m. service and from the Trinity and the R.P. Psalter in the evening service. CPC liturgy combines a mix of historic and modern elements. CPC values family and children interactions and our children are encouraged to participate in services. Many of our families have been blessed to foster or adopt children. In this way the congregation seeks to build up healthy, Godly family units, and are willing to pour into one another. As a result of CPC's commitment to family growth, we have a number of programs to reach out to new families within the community, and the congregation.

There is a nursery, which is staffed during a portion of the service. CPC has Sunday School every Sunday morning during the school year, and takes a summer sabbatical. We regroup in August with a "move-up" Sunday, where we recognize children who have graduated from one class and are moving into another. Adult Sunday school is led by a member of the congregation, or session, and studies various topics and/or books for the Bible. High school graduates are welcome to attend the adult Sunday school. There is also a college and careers class meeting regularly during the school year, and have had a number of Geneva students attend.

Each member seeks to encourage others to be involved in the various ministries of the church . Although CPC is small, our offices and committees are filled yearly by members of the congregation. Some of which are: The Elders, both Teaching elder [the pastor] & Ruling elders [the session], and the Deacons. Our session consists of three or four elders who serve on a rotating basis, up to two, three year terms followed by a sabbatical year. CPC Deacons care for the building and grounds by organizing work days and also assisting those in hardship. They also organize work days within the congregation to help members who can use the manpower.

Members who seek to serve in more specific ways may be elected to any of the following committees .

1. **Hospitality:** the hospitality committee is responsible for numerous events including the monthly potluck dinner, Fall Festival, Corn Roast, Easter Brunch, weddings, showers, baby showers, and funeral dinners.
2. **Missions:** the Missions committee is in charge of keeping track of the missionaries we support, and praying for them. They manage the missions bulletin board in the sanctuary and organize the annual Round Robin Missions conference .The missions treasurer handles designated giving and the financial support of our missionaries.
3. **Music Committee:** is in charge of special music throughout the year at services. They also sponsor occasional special music concerts at the church, bringing in various local christian musicians.
4. **Christian Ed:** oversees sunday school, youth group, nursery, and the library. They also run VBS once a year. Some years they do a "Tiger Pause" [a Beaver Falls youth work]volunteer day. They also run a Christmas program every other year, alternating with the Music Committee.
5. **Audit Committee:** does an annual audit of all church finances.
6. **Nominating Committee:** Made up of one member from each of the committees which meets to nominate members before the congregational meeting each year.

Each committee is in charge of various church functions, some of which have been listed as follows:

1. **Youth Group:** volunteer led group for high school age children meeting twice a month.
2. **VBS:** week long Bible school program that attracts many kids in the community as well as children from our church.
3. **Round Robin Missions Conference:** in which visiting missionaries speak to several churches in the area followed by a time of food and fellowship each night.
4. **WVA Mission Trip:** a yearly one week trip to Mill Creek, WVA to do mercy ministry in cooperation with Tyrand Ministries to help the poor and elderly.
5. **Teen Time:** weekly social with praise and worship time for youth in the summer, run in cooperation with other local PCA churches.

### **CPC's Expectations of Pastor's Role:**

It is our hope and expectation that the new pastor will fulfill the qualities of the overseer found in 1 Peter 5:2-3, 1 Timothy 3:1-7, and Titus 1:5-9; lead worship services Lord's day morning and evening, and preach God's Word at the various services and special events of the church. He is to administer the sacraments of baptism and the Lord's Supper (which happens monthly). And officiate weddings and funerals on an as needs basis.

We hope that he will nurture and instruct the congregation in the truths of the Holy Scriptures as well as in the Reformed Faith through: prayer groups, bible studies, and other church events as he sees fit. It is important to the congregation that he be willing and able to provide premarital and other pastoral counseling; as his qualifications level provides, while deferring to professionals (or others qualified) as needed. The Pastor also teaches a communicant class for new members as needed.

Our bylaws state that the pastor will serve on (but not be limited to) the Christian Ed. Committee and the Missions Committee. In the past, the pastor has been responsible for performing basic administrative duties, maintaining office supplies, and the content of the bulletin each week. He is encouraged to attend, when able, the various events happening within the church or church outreach gatherings. Some of which include: Men's bible study, hospitality committee events, Round Robin Missions Conference, and VBS.

The pastor is encouraged to make visits to our shut-ins, the hospitalized, and home visits to the families of the church. We hope that he will heartily open his home to host dinner guests, and be approachable by the members of the congregation. While CPC does not have office space at the church building, it is important that the pastor have posted "office" hours and be available to speak with, and visit with, members in his home.

CPC is seeking a pastor who is humbly willing to serve our broken but loving congregation and use the gifts he has been given to lead its members back to the cross daily through sound biblical preaching, prayer, and Christ centered worship.

A completed application may be submitted to **Hillary Stoepker** via Email: [Hillary.stoepker@gmail.com](mailto:Hillary.stoepker@gmail.com) or by mail:

**Attn: Hillary Stoepker Search Committee**

**828 Blackhawk Rd.**

**Beaver Falls, PA 15010**

**Please Include the following items along with your application.**

In 500 words or less, attach your philosophy of ministry: include your convictions regarding (a) the role of church leaders, (b) discipleship, (c) evangelism, (d) church government, and any other issues you believe are important.

Please attach your photograph (include family if applicable).

Please include any *TWO* of the following:

1. Written sermon
2. audio sermon
3. video sermon

Please send three references (excluding family members)

1. Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

2. Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

3. Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Christ Presbyterian Church**  
**828 Blackhawk Rd. Beaver Falls PA 16115**

**Pastoral Application Form**

Please fill out the following information to the best of your knowledge.

Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_ First Name:

\_\_\_\_\_ Middle Initial: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Present Church: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_

Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Present Position: \_\_\_\_\_ How

Long: \_\_\_\_\_

Age Of Church \_\_\_\_\_ Number

Attending \_\_\_\_\_

**EDUCATION**

School Name:

\_\_\_\_\_

Year(S): \_\_\_\_\_ Graduated:

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Degree: \_\_\_\_\_

**EXPERIENCE**

Church \_\_\_\_\_ Position Held:

From/To: \_\_\_\_\_

Attendance: \_\_\_\_\_

Comments:

## PERSONAL INFORMATION

1. Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Marital Status: \_\_\_\_\_ If Married, number of years: \_\_\_\_\_

2. If married, spouse's full (maiden) name:

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3. Have you ever been divorced? \_\_\_\_\_ Has your spouse ever been divorced? \_\_\_\_\_

4. Names and ages of children, if applicable:

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5. List your hobbies or special interests:

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6. Tell us about your spouse and her spiritual gifts:

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## PERSONAL EVALUATION

1. What do you perceive your primary task as a pastor to be?

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2. My greatest strengths and gifts are:

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3. My greatest weaknesses are:

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## DOCTRINAL INFORMATION

Please give a brief summary of your answers as to how you would deal with each of the following questions.

1. Are there areas of the Confession of Faith or PCA denomination that you struggle with, or take exception to?

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8. What is your view of Christian Education:

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