New Harmony Presbyterian Church, located in the rural community of Alcolu, South Carolina, enjoys a rich history, having been founded in 1879 through the vision of twenty godly men and women. Despite the availability of other services in the surrounding areas, these charter members “felt the necessities of time demanded a new church.” It was their driven desire to build a place of worship, not only for themselves, but for generations to follow.

Over the next century, by the grace of our Lord and through the sacrifice, commitment and faith of these charter members and congregants to follow, New Harmony experienced moderate growth, reaching approximately 75 members.

In 1975, the congregation of New Harmony was faced with the crucial decision of whether to remain in the fellowship of the Presbyterian Church, U.S.A. or to leave and join the Presbyterian Church in America (P.C.A.). Following much prayer, meditation and discussion, a unanimous decision was reached to join the P.C.A.

Between 1975 and 1989, New Harmony maintained a range of 88 to 100 members. The 1989 year will forever be remembered as the year of Hurricane Hugo. Although New Harmony suffered substantial building damage, the results of the hurricane offered opportunity. With overcrowdedness in the classrooms, the congregation voted to not only repair the damage, but to expand its classroom facilities.

Dr. Gordon Reed was called as pastor to New Harmony and its sister church, Sardina Presbyterian Church, beginning in 1992. Through the leadership of Dr. Reed, New Harmony continued to grow, reaching 116 members in 1998. At that time, again after much prayer and consideration, a decision was made to construct a new sanctuary upon donated land located directly across from existing facilities. In 2000, the completion of that project resulted in the commissioning of a new sanctuary with the capacity to seat 280 congregants, together with 20 or more choir members.

In 2004, following the resignation of Dr. Gordon Reed, New Harmony and Sardina Presbyterian Church amicably ended their partnership, as the Lord called new pastors to each congregation.

The current congregation of New Harmony consists of 153 members, including non-communicant members, with an average of 70 to 80 attendants each week.

In the Lord’s providence, upon a vacancy in the pulpit in 2016, Dr. Gordon Reed accepted a call to return as senior pastor of New Harmony. The church has been blessed by his leadership and shepherding since that time.

As mentioned, New Harmony is located in the rural community of Alcolu, a short distance from Interstate 95 and approximately 8 miles from the City of Manning, the county seat of Clarendon County. New Harmony is also within a convenient distance of 20 miles to the larger City of Sumter, which offers additional amenities.
MISSION

The mission of New Harmony Presbyterian Church is to glorify God by winning the lost to faith in the Lord Jesus Christ and to build up and equip believers to live holy lives in worship and service to our Lord.

VALUES

Preaching: Understanding the word of God to be alive and active, we value expository preaching which is faithful to the scriptures.

Worship: Because God is almighty, most holy, awesome, sovereign, just and glorious, we desire to worship Him with appropriate awe and reverence (Heb. 12:28-29). Because God is also good, gracious, patient, kind, compassionate, and merciful, we desire to worship Him with joy and gladness (Ps. 100:2).

Prayer: We desire to be a community committed to looking to God in prayer to accomplish His work. In prayer, we are reminded of our dependence upon the mercy, grace, and power of God to establish His Kingdom in our lives and in the world. As a community, we believe that we are called to share one another’s burdens in love, by persistent prayer for our brethren.

Discipleship: We desire to be a community committed, through the working of the Holy Spirit, to the making of mature and equipped disciples of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Missions: We desire to be obedient to the Great Commission, sharing the love and grace of God in Christ to our community and beyond.
We are evangelical Christians in the Reformed, Presbyterian tradition.

BELIEFS

• We believe the Bible is the written word of God, inspired by the Holy Spirit and without error in the original manuscripts. The Bible is the revelation of God’s truth and is infallible and authoritative in all matters of faith and practice.

• We believe in the Holy Trinity. There is one God, who exists eternally in three persons: the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.

• We believe that all are sinners and totally unable to save themselves from God’s displeasure, except by His mercy.

• We believe that salvation is by God alone as He sovereignly chooses those He will save. We believe His choice is based on His grace, not on any human individual merit or foreseen faith.

• We believe that Jesus Christ is the eternal Son of God, who through His perfect life and sacrificial death atoned for the sins of all who will trust in Him alone for salvation.

• We believe that God is gracious and faithful to His people not simply as individuals but as families in successive generations according to His Covenant promises.

• We believe that the Holy Spirit indwells God’s people and gives them the strength and wisdom to trust Christ and follow Him.

• We believe that Jesus will return, bodily and visibly, to judge all mankind and to receive His people to Himself.

• We believe that all aspects of our lives are to be lived to the glory of God under the Lordship of Jesus Christ.
MINISTRIES OF NEW HARMONY

- Worship
- Sunday School
- Wednesday Night Bible Study
- **Youth** – a combined youth program with neighboring PCA churches meets weekly at NHPC. A Presbyterian Youth Fellowship (PYF) program is offered for grades 6-12, while a Pioneer Club program is offered for 5k through 5th grade.
- Men of the Covenant
- Women of the Church
- Men’s Prayer Breakfast
- **Women’s Prayer Hour**
- Adult Choir
- Children’s Choir
- Missions Conference
- Revival Services
- **Vacation Bible School** – NHPC combines annually with our sister church, Sardinia Presbyterian Church, to offer vacation bible school for children 3 y/o through rising 5th graders.
- **New Year’s Day Lunch** – A recently formed event in which NHPC members have enthusiastically gathered to provide meals and fellowship with the local community.
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PASTORAL PROFILE

PERSONAL SKILLS AND SPIRITUAL TRAITS

- An effective shepherd of God’s people who fosters spiritual growth of the congregation through teaching and biblical study, with opportunity provided for individual and group reflection and participation.

- A clear communicator on both a teaching and interpersonal level.

- A servant leader who leads by example in prayer, study of scripture, worship, community outreach and missions; who facilitates and motivates the congregation toward meaningful participation; and is motivated by a vision for spiritual growth within the local community and abroad, all for the glory of the Lord.

- A relatable personality who is loving, warm and joyful and fosters a welcoming atmosphere while connecting to a variety of peoples within the local community.

RESPONSIBILITIES

- **Teaching responsibility:** The Word of God is preached with urgency and conviction, bringing it to bear on the changing needs of individuals, the community, and the world. The pastor accepts an active teaching role, interpreting and teaching the scriptures and theological concepts, providing instructions for church leadership and educational leaders, and confirming new members.

- **Worship Leadership:** Able to implement corporate worship that glorifies God, builds up His people and facilitates meaningful participation by the congregation.

- **Evangelism:** Pastor and congregation share faith in Christ as personal savior in total lifestyle; seek to lead others within and outside the Church to accept Jesus Christ; congregation is informed and trained in establishing effective evangelism programs; awareness of the Church’s local and worldwide mission and opportunities for involvement.
PASTORAL PROFILE

• **Leadership:** Moderates the session with two-way communication encouraged, information gathered and shared that will assist problem solving and decision making; varying opinions elicited and all encouraged to listen to opposing points of view. Champions discipleship, evangelism, missions and outreach efforts.

• **Visitation:** Shepherd and provide pastoral care for the congregation.

QUALIFICATIONS

• Sufficient ministry / pastoral experience in preparation for service in the pastorate; including experience as a gospel-centered preacher and teacher, in worship leadership, discipleship, counseling and visitation.

• Ordained or eligible for ordination in the PCA
CANDIDATE REFERRAL FORM

This form has been included to allow individuals to suggest prospective candidates for the open Senior Pastor role, along with information required to pursue such candidates.

For the protection of NHPC and the candidates being suggested, please keep recommendations confidential so that candidates are not placed in an awkward position and divisions are not caused within the church. Please provide as much of the following information as you are able and return a copy to the Pastor Search Committee by emailing it to: stanleyhodge@yahoo.com

Thank you for taking the time to pray for and participate in this process with us!

Your Name ________________________________________________________________

Phone ______________________ Email ______________________________________

Prospect’s Name ____________________________________________________________

Prospect’s Church and Position _________________________________________________

Prospect’s Phone __________________ Email ___________________________________

How long have you known the prospective candidate? ______________________________

What is/was your relationship with him and have you spoken with him about this opportunity?

Briefly describe his ministry experience or history

Add any other relevant comments that the Pastor Search Committee should take into account