



SENIOR PASTOR SEARCH

STATEMENT FROM PASTORAL SEARCH COMMITTEE

In the heart of Flowood, a vibrant and active church community thrives, radiating warmth and a deep sense of connection. Each passing day's growth is palpable as new members join the fold, diverse talents and perspectives enrich our gatherings, and a spirit of shared purpose propels us forward. This community is a beacon of faith, where Christ-honoring worship, dynamic fellowship, and a commitment to service create an atmosphere that nurtures individuals and fosters a collective energy that resonates with positivity and growth.

Rest assured, the following pages are only snapshots of all we do and who we are. We hope to intrigue you and pique your interest with this synopsis of Lakeland Presbyterian.

As we consider the next chapter for our church community, we want to hear about your leadership and unwavering commitment to fostering spiritual growth. We want to hear about your unique gifts and vision and their alignment with the values and aspirations of our congregation. We invite you to consider joining us on this exciting journey, where your leadership can contribute to the flourishing of our church community. Your wisdom, compassion, and dedication are qualities we seek to know more of to enrich our congregation and contribute significantly to the broader impact our church can have on the lives of those we serve.

We look forward to the possibility of welcoming you into our church family and exploring the incredible potential for growth and inspiration that lies ahead.

SENIOR PASTORAL SEARCH

LAKELAND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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DASHBOARD

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LOCATION

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STAFF

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CURRENT MINISTRIES

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LAKELAND THROUGH TIME

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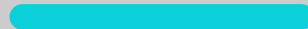


WHO, WHAT, AND WHEN

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260


Average Sunday Morning Attendance



512

Total Membership

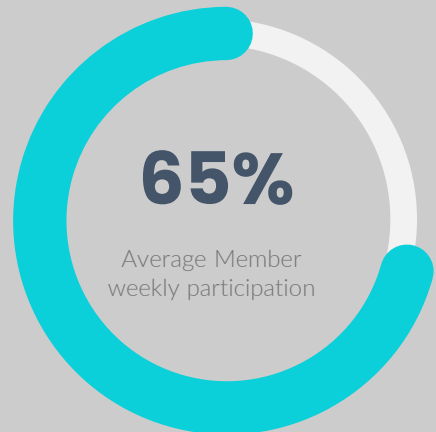
MORE ▾



65%

Average Member weekly participation

MORE ▾



\$1,108,123

Current Budget

SUNDAY
9:30 am – Sunday School
10:45 am – Morning Worship Service
10:45 am – Children’s Church for children ages 3K-1st grade
The nursery will be available at all services.

WEDNESDAY
Fellowship Meals and Services for all age groups.

lakelandpres.org
Address: 5212 Lakeland Drive, Flowood, MS 39232
Phone: (601) 992-2448

ANNUAL BUDGET

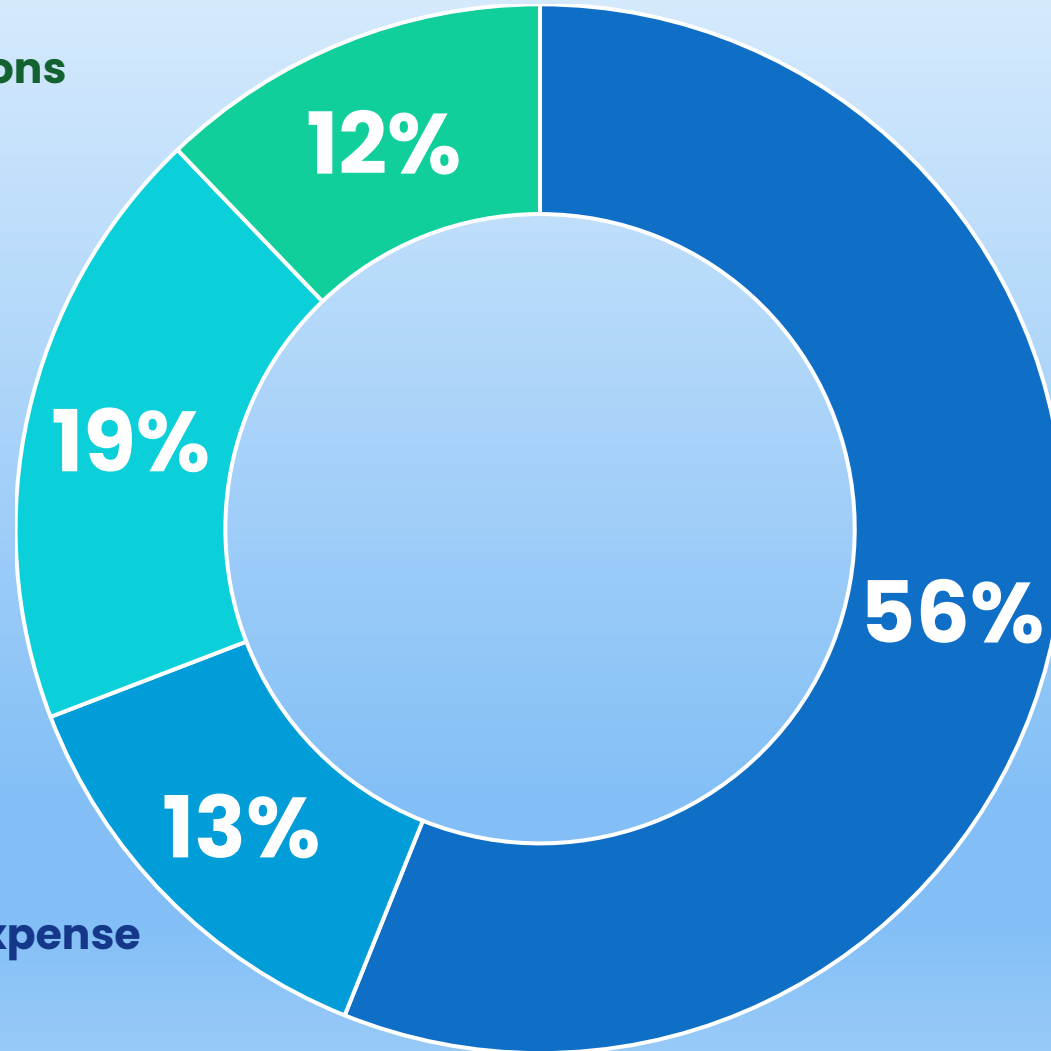
Lakeland Presbyterian Church

Ministry and Missions

Operations

Capital Expense

Personnel/Housing



Rankin County


Rankin County is one of the fastest-growing counties in Mississippi. Located east of Jackson and Hinds County, the half-rural/half-urban county has seven incorporated cities. Surrounded by national forests, a 33,000-acre man-made reservoir, and the 2nd largest river in the state (the Pearl River), Rankin County offers a multitude of outdoor and recreational activities.

+11% Rankin County's population (approximately 158,979) growth percentage of 11% is outpacing the national average by 4%.


In 2021, the white (non-Hispanic) group made up 72.2% of the population. Black (non-Hispanic) was 22.4%, and Hispanic was 2.7%. All others made up the remaining 2.7%



Education
90% High School and 35% Bachelor's or higher.



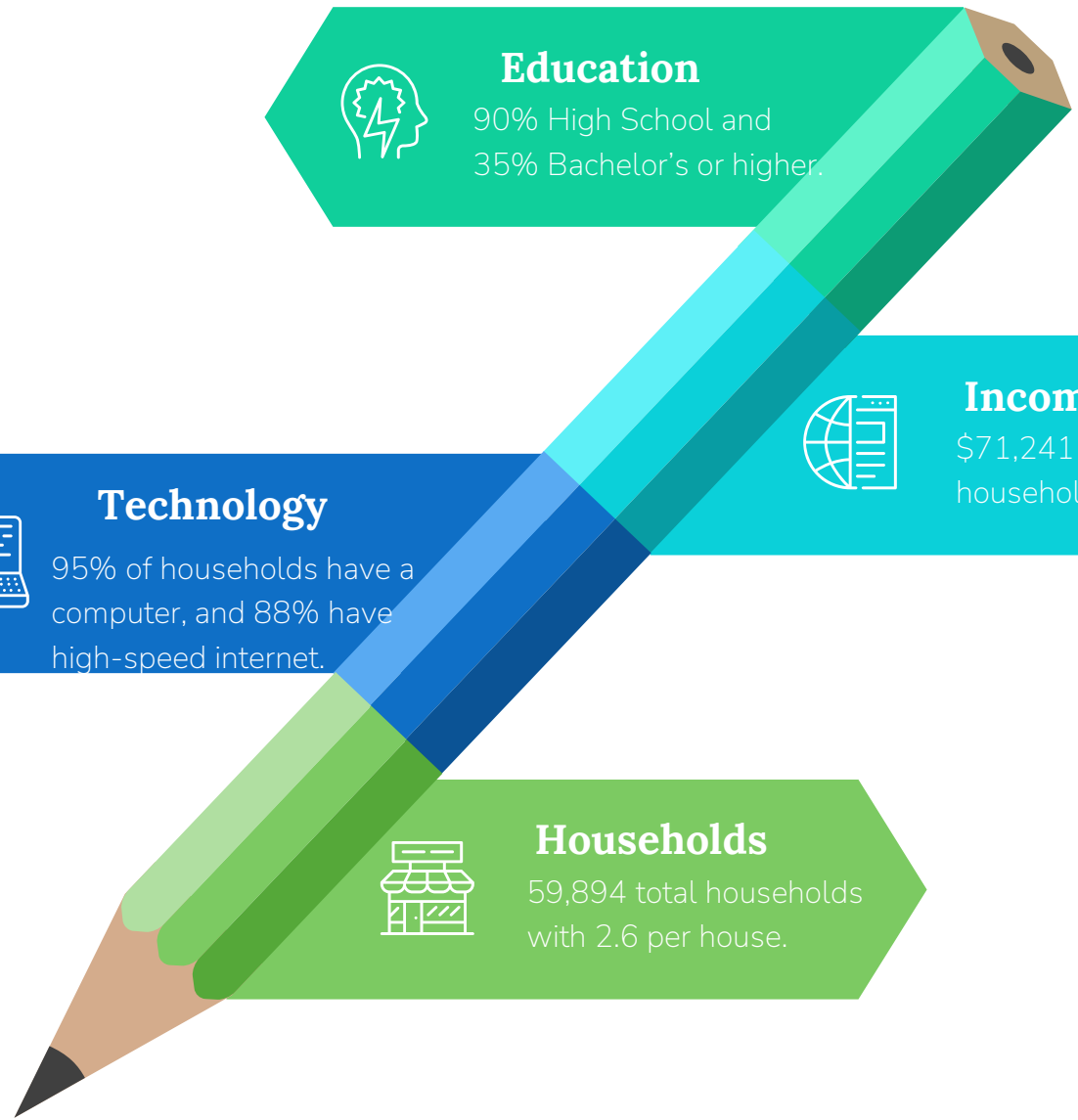
Technology
95% of households have a computer, and 88% have high-speed internet.



Income
\$71,241 median household income.



Households
59,894 total households with 2.6 per house.




Flowood, Mississippi


Flowood is located east of Jackson and is easily accessible by I-55 and I-20. "Lakeland Drive" is the main east-west corridor of the City and is one of the fastest-growing commercial areas in the State. Diversified in industrial, medical, retail, office, and residential areas, Flowood is ideal for both businesses and families. **Over 31,000 cars pass by Lakeland PCA every day.**

+35% Flowood's population (approximately 10,665) growth percentage since 2010 of 35% is one of the fastest in the country.


In 2021, the white (non-Hispanic) group made up 61% of the population. Black (non-Hispanic) was 29%, and Asian was 6%. All others made up the remaining 4%.



Education
Northwest Rankin, Jackson Prep, and Hartfield Academy serve Flowood.



Technology
99% of households have a computer, and 94% have high-speed internet.



Income
\$96,074 median household income.



Households
4,178 total households with 2.4 per house.

Lakeland Staff

Operations



Senior Pastor

Sr. Assistant

Assistant

Children

Choral Dir.

Dr. Steve Jussely

Steve has served as Senior Pastor since 1996 and has been in ministry since 1984.

Rev. John Duke

Rev. Duke has served as the Administrative Pastor since 2005 and is heavily involved with LPC music offerings.

Rev. John Revell

Rev. Revell, ordained in 2019, leads our Youth and their families.

Tammy Davis

Tammy, a former educator, has been the Children's Ministry Director since 2003.

Megan Rowan

Megan is a collaborative pianist and has been the Choral Director since June 2023.

Lakeland Staff

Operations



Ed. Assist

Youth Assist

Administrator

Bookkeeping

Custodian

Ashley Jordan

A 2019 Biblical Studies graduate from Belhaven, Ashley is the Education Ministry Assistant.

Ellen Ellis

A lifelong LPC member, Ellen assists with our Youth. She is an Education Behavior Specialist by trade.

Rebecca Reynolds

Rebecca has served as the Church Administrator since 2019.

Deidra Tate

Deidra has served as the Bookkeeper since 2012.

Levon Kersh

Levon has served as the Custodian since 2020.

WE DO...CURRENT MINISTRIES

Opportunities

1

WORSHIP

Our worship teams (in addition to our pastoral staff) include a Praise Team, multiple musicians, an Adult Choir, and Children's Choir. Additionally, we have an audio and video crew that supports both the in-person and streaming service

2

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

We offer a Children's Morning Worship Service. Children ages 3 years thru 1st grade are invited. Sunday School at 9:30 a.m. for all ages. We also have, amongst many other things, Children's Catechism, Seasonal Choir, Vacation Bible School, Camps, PNOs and a Reformation Celebration.

3

YOUTH (7TH-12TH)

The Youth at Lakeland Presbyterian is a growing, loving community, averaging about 15 youth per night. We have the feel of a small group but the opportunities of a large group! There are students from a wide range of schools in our area!

WE DO...CURRENT MINISTRIES

Opportunities

4

WOMEN'S MINISTRY

This vibrant ministry takes women's gifts, energy, and abilities and incorporates them into the vision and mission of the church. We offer Weekly and Monthly targeted Bible Studies, and a Women's Sunday School class @ 9:30 am every Sunday morning.

5

MEN'S MINISTRY

LPC has the following regularly scheduled events for men:
Men's Gathering is our monthly meeting with fellowship supper and a guest speaker. Men's Prayer Breakfast is a great time to gather, eat and pray with other men for the church and for each other. Every week on Saturdays, 7:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary Kitchen.

6

MISSIONS

Lakeland currently supports 21 mission teams across the world. Additionally, we support several mission projects for groups like MTW, MNA Disaster Response, and We Will Go.

HISTORICAL TIMELINE

Lakeland Presbyterian Church (PCA)

Lakeland Presbyterian Church (LPC) was established as a particular PCA church in March of 1990. Rev. Bill Whitwer was the church planter and organizing pastor. The church was a plant out of First Presbyterian, Jackson, MS, and began as a Bible study in 1988 in the homes of some First Presbyterian members living out in Rankin County. The initial worship services of the mission church were in the home of Royal and Jeannie White. Soon thereafter, the church began meeting in the activity room of the Mustard Seed Ministries, a local residence ministry for clients with intellectual deficiencies.

Timeline Start

1988

Small Groups

Small groups start meeting in a home to serve as the basis for the plant. Rev. Bill Whitwer acts as organizing Pastor

1990

Church Plant

In March 1990, the church plant became a particularized congregation of the PCA with Rev. Bill Whitwer as organizing pastor

HISTORICAL TIMELINE

Move into Chapel

Obtained in 1989, an unused chapel from a dying Mississippi Delta town was given to the church and was moved onto the property. The chapel was originally built in 1881. The chapel was built in classic Carpenter Gothic style, and architects still stop by from time to time to have a closer look. This facility could seat about 70 people and became the landmark by which the church is still most often identified.

Move into Sanctuary

In 1991, the church constructed a 6000-square-foot facility, including worship, education, administrative, nursery, and kitchen space. The new building imitated the style of the little chapel and sat side by side with it.

New Senior Pastor

Dr. Steve Jussely is called to be the new Senior Pastor along with his wife, Carol Jussely, who, amongst many other things, assisted with the youth for over 25 years. They brought their family of Aaron, Ellen, and Mary Claire (all currently active members). Upon his installation as pastor, Dr. Jussely, with the concurrence and assistance of the Session, swiftly implemented a "Growth Plan for Lakeland PCA."

1990-1991

Move into Buildings

Historical Landmark Building occupied for services in 1990 and the new Sanctuary in 1991.

1995

Interim Pastor

Dr. Robert Duhs serves as the interim pastor after Rev. Whitwer resigned to plant another church.

1996

New Senior Pastor

Dr. Steve Jussely is called as the new Senior Pastor.

HISTORICAL TIMELINE

Built Family Life Center

In 1999, the congregation voted to construct a Family Life Center. It included two nursery rooms, four classrooms, restrooms, a commercial kitchen, and a full gym. It was completed in 2000. LPC has used this facility for many purposes (dining hall, large gathering place for events, children's play area, Mother's Morning Out), but only occasionally as a gym.

First Assistant Pastor

In 2002, the Session hired a recent seminary graduate as an Assistant Pastor. Rev. Hunter Brewer served at LPC until February 2005. In February of 2005, Rev. John Duke was hired as Assistant Pastor and is presently in his 18th year serving in that position. His wife, Lydia, teaches Sunday School, and both his children hold leadership positions.

Built Christian Education Center

A 12,000-square-foot Christian Education building was constructed, and the auditorium was renovated again, taking in the classroom space for seating space, increasing capacity to 350. The center houses an office suite of five offices with a reception area and a work room. There are three large classrooms, a conference room downstairs, and ten classrooms upstairs.

1999

Family Life Center

Family Life Center constructed and occupied.

2002

Assistant Pastor on Board

LPC brought on its first Assistant Pastor. The current AP has been with LPC for 18 years.

2010

Built Education Center

Christian Education Building added to physical plant along with other renovations.

HISTORICAL TIMELINE

The last few years

The last major addition at LPC was the drop-off covering and expanded parking in 2018. But that wasn't the greatest addition. At the onset of the COVID-19 restrictions, the Session, along with the pastoral staff, made the decision that LPC would not totally shut down. A team of dedicated members immediately undertook live-streaming our services. LPC never missed a Sunday worship service during the pandemic, and we continue to live-stream our services every Sunday and Wednesday.

As we now begin a new chapter in our existence, we are excited about what the future holds. LPC has grown yet is positioned to continue our upward trajectory. We all believe our best days lie ahead.

2019

Additional Assistant Pastor

John Revell came to our staff as a Pastoral Intern. In 2019, he was ordained to be the Assistant Pastor for Youth and Families.

2023

New Beginnings

Lakeland begins the search for a new Senior Pastor for the first time in 27 years.

New Sr. Pastor June 2024

A new Senior Pastor is scheduled to begin a new chapter for LPC.

HOW WE SEE OURSELVES.

WE ARE . . .

- A church that strives, by God's grace, to glorify God through worship, fellowship, discipleship, service, and outreach.
- A church with a specific mission.
- A church whose members are sinners saved by grace.
- A church with people who still struggle against sin and endure severe trials.
- A church that seeks to worship God carefully and thoughtfully.
- A church that craves biblical preaching and teaching that both informs the mind and moves the heart.

WHAT WE ARE LOOKING FOR IN OUR NEXT SENIOR PASTOR:

- **Expository preaching** – Scriptural exultation communicated faithfully and clearly, showing Christ as the final fulfillment of God’s narrative through the Bible.
- **Commitment to the Reformed Faith** – holds fast to the doctrines set forth in the Westminster standards. Unfailingly, yet graciously affirms the five Solas with all their implications.
- **Pastoral Heart** – Exudes qualities of empathy, understanding, and genuine concern for the well-being of others, especially in times of emotional, spiritual, or physical need, all while being prepared to correct, rebuke, and encourage with patience and instruction.
- **Christian Character** – Maintaining an intentional life that reflects the characteristics set forth in I Timothy 3:1–7 and Titus 1:5–9.
- **Ministry by God-honoring worship** – leading a reverent and vibrant worship service through prayer and supplication.
- **Ministry every member** – sees all our members as worthy of actively participating in fellowship by acknowledgment and encouragement.
- **Faithful membership from the whole household** – a commitment by the Senior Pastor’s household to integrate and be active members of Lakeland.
- **Growth toward spiritual maturity** – encouraging the growth of spiritual maturity for all generations. Leading Lakeland as a foundationally solid and energetic congregation.

DESIRED PROFILE:

1. Advanced theological degree, i.e., MDiv, DMin, ThM, etc.
2. Ordained (or eligible to be) as a Teaching Elder in the Presbyterian Church of America (PCA).
3. Mature Christian with ten years of ministry experience preferred.
4. Mastery of communication through Preaching.
5. Strong Leader of Staff and Officers, effective at delegating responsibility.
6. Doctrinally sound in accord with Westminster Confession of Faith.
7. Ability to communicate with all age groups and demographics.
8. A devoted and caring Shepherd of the Church Family.
9. A minimum of five years on or leading a multi-pastor staff.
10. Adherence to the Presbyterian Church of America Book of Church Order.
11. Successful completion of background security check.

What we need first

- Letter of Consideration
- Personal Bio with contact information

MORE ▾

- Ministerial Data Form and Reference Contacts
 - Release Form

MORE ▾

Questions:

Should you have any questions related to the process or decision timelines for our committee, please feel free to reach out to Kelly Hardwick at Kelly@hardwickfirm.com.

Where to apply and send the required information:

personnel@lakelandpres.org

The Pulpit Committee has over 150 years of combined, active participation at Lakeland:

Andrew Strehlow-Pulpit Committee Chair, Tina Hester, J. Wadsworth, Clerk of the Session-Hugh McCallum, Paula Carruth, Bill Lehr, Jason Witcher, Kristen Lee, and Kelly Hardwick