

## Church Profile

### Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church

Name of Church: Huntersville ARP Church Date: 5/28/25  
Address 14830 N. Old Statesville Rd  
City Huntersville State NC Zip 28078  
Presbytery: First Presbytery Phone: (704) 875-1704  
Church Contact Person: Trent Gazzaway (committee chair) Email: apsearch@harp.church  
Address PO Box 316, Huntersville, NC 28070  
Position to be filled Associate Pastor

### Part I: The Church

#### A. Basic information about the church

When was the church organized? March, 1875  
Active Membership 177  
Total Membership 198 Church Membership 5 Years Ago 224 (the decline is due to a concerted effort to clean up our rolls from past members who had moved and not joined another church, or who had not attended in years and did not respond to outreach.)  
Annual General Budget \$595,700  
Number of New Members Last Year by:  
Profession 4 Transfer 1 Reaffirmation 5  
Number of members lost last year by:  
Death 2 Transfer 13 Removal from Roll 21  
Is your church part of a yoked parish? No  
Number of members who are Adult Women 93 Adult Men 77  
Youth//Children 28 Ethnic (Specify) Predominantly white, but a good mix of black and Asian heritage

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

1. Lee Shelnett 16136 NC-138, Norwood, NC 28128; April 2011 – June 2022
2. David Winburne 1701 N. 3rd, Monroe, LA 71201; August 2001 – April 2011
3. Bob Hovey 5556 Grove Ave., Jacksonville, FL 32211; June 1995 - 2000

#### 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?

Established in 1875, Huntersville A.R.P. is a traditional church both in worship and in our facility. While we enjoy the blessings of tradition, we have avoided creating golden calves and “my granddaddy did it this way” mentalities. Essentially, we have the blessings of heritage and tradition without the downsides that often go along with it.

We worship together each Sunday at 10:00 AM. Many choose to attend Sunday School prior to worship from approximately 8:45 to 9:30 AM. We have a wonderful meal together on Wednesday nights with worship to follow (and youth group and programming for children). We have an active young adult group, women’s fellowship, men’s fellowship, and senior adult group. There is something several times a week, most weeks, happening that allow our saints to interact and grow in grace. From Tuesday morning Bible study for the ladies to young adult Bible study on Monday evenings, wherever you are in life, there is ministry.

Huntersville A.R.P. currently has 177 communicant members with around 107 in attendance on Sunday morning. Those who visit the church often say they feel like part of a family. While they enjoy sound biblical preaching and engaging worship, they connect with our warm body of believers in small group settings and become part of the family. We have a diverse congregation in many regards. We have members of our congregation who have been exceedingly blessed financially and those with little means. We have several members from other countries and many who speak foreign languages.

We have seen growth in our young adult sector and families with many young children, which is rare, particularly in the A.R.P. While Huntersville is not a large church, we are engaged in the community and in one another’s lives. We are blessed to have a senior pastor who pours into our congregation, and a congregation that pours into one another. God has richly blessed us in so many ways. We have, in recent years, sent out missionaries, seen men ordained and sent to other works, and sent interns on to their callings. We are blessed to be a thriving church focused on ways in which we can engage our growing community and share the good news of Jesus Christ.

## Part II: The Neighborhood

Check any terms which might apply to your neighborhood:

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

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

What would you say is the average distance your members drive to and from work each day? 25-30 min

### 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?

The Huntersville/Lake Norman area is a vibrant community just north of Charlotte that includes a metro area of over two million people. The combined population of the Huntersville, Cornelius, and Davidson area is approximately 186,000. The population of Huntersville alone is approximately 61,000. The area has grown rapidly over the past 30 years and is expected to

continue to grow at a rapid rate. While there is an aging population, most of the community is made up of young and working families. Huntersville tends to be an affluent area with an average household income nearly twice the average for the state of NC. Being a lake town, Huntersville has become a popular place to live, work, and play. While many that live in Huntersville work in Charlotte, many work in the Lake Norman area as well. Huntersville offers a wide array of activities, civic clubs, outdoor, and recreational activities.

Huntersville A.R.P. has enjoyed the growth of Huntersville as many in our congregation have moved to the Lake Norman area in recent years and found their church home with us. There is extensive development going on around us, including a revitalized town center that will surround our physical location. We look forward to ways in which our location will be an asset to our community.

Huntersville A.R.P. Church has a great heart for our local community. Approximately 15% percent of our 2025 budget is dedicated to outreach, missions and stewardship. Many in the church volunteer with such projects as the World Hunger Sale, a joint project with First Baptist Church. We have members who volunteer with the local crisis pregnancy center and other organizations in our community. We seek to share the love of Jesus with our neighbors.

### Part III: Activities

**A. Session.** How many members are on your Session? 6 Are they rotating or permanent? 4-year rotation

**B. Diaconate.** How many members are on your diaconate? 8 Are they rotating or permanent? 3-year rotation Do you have women on the diaconate? Yes

**C. Youth.** How many youth do you have in your Junior High? 2 Senior High? 2 Combined? 4 (the youth numbers will increase as many of our elementary children will soon be youth age.) College groups? No, but we do support several RUF groups.

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.)? Not at the moment. We hope to re-start a youth choir once our new music minister starts.

**D. Children.** How many elementary school children do you have? 10 PreSchool children? 14

Do you have a children's church? Yes What ages? 4 through end of 1<sup>st</sup> grade

What other special youth events/activities do you have?

**E Women's Societies.** Do you have an active ARPWM group? Yes How many regular participators? 12-20 How many circles do you have? one What special events does your ARPWM sponsor annually?

The ARPWM sponsors a Women's Beach Retreat each November for adult ladies. The women's circle meets monthly. There is also a women's bible study, led by an elder's wife, that meets every Tuesday.

**F. Outreach Ministries.** List any special service or outreach ministries you have, describe them, and list how many people participate.

Outreach Committee Purpose: The purpose of the outreach committee is to connect individuals near Huntersville with the gospel and see them brought under the ordinary means of Grace, ideally within HARP's care, though the primary focus is ensuring they encounter the gospel, regardless of their association with us.

We want to reach out with that end in mind - not only to see people brought into HARP, but to see them, first and foremost, brought into contact with the person and work of Jesus - no matter where they may go after our encounter with them. Of course we desire that they would come to know Jesus and join with us under the means of grace if they are local, but our first order of business is to bring them into contact with the gospel.

**G. Missions.** Describe how your church promotes World Missions and Local Missions.

What local missions do you support?

Missions Committee Purpose: Our missions committee seeks to serve the Church and share the Gospel with the lost in other lands. In addition to supporting our saints going on various mission trips abroad, we also support a dozen different missionaries and mission organizations through our annual budget.

**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?

We have a weekly Wednesday night supper with teaching afterwards during the school year and quarterly potluck luncheons after church. A group of men also meet weekly for breakfast and bible study. Our JOY (Just Older Youth) Club meets regularly to provide fellowship and social activities for our more "senior" adults.

**I. Worship.** When are your worship services? 8:45 AM Sunday School and 10:00 AM worship

What special worship events happen annually throughout the year?

Maundy Thursday Service, Easter Sunrise Service, Christmas Cantata, and a Christmas Eve Service

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

We encourage stewardship through the preaching of the Word. We also have our annual budget process in which the elders involve the congregation for feedback and awareness. We believe that stewardship extends beyond the individual Church members. As such, we dedicate approximately 15% of our budget for outreach, missions, and stewardship purposes.

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.

Pastor Nick Napier (full time)

Heidi Reckard - secretary and bookkeeper (part time)

New Music director starting in June (part time)

Barbara Palmer - pianist (part time)

**L. Christian Education.** What is the average attendance in your Sabbath School? ~50-60

What other educational/discipleship programs do you have?

We have quarterly special gatherings during the Sunday School hour for missionary or other special presentations. We have a Wednesday Night Bible Study for adults, a Wednesday Night Children's Study for 2nd through 6th grade, Youth Group, women's bible studies, men's fellowship bible study, and a young adults bible study.

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

**M. Music.** What on-going music ministries do you have in your church? Our music director passed away last June. We have hired a new director who starts in June. We have an adult choir and handbells. Our musical style is largely traditional.

#### **Part IV: Expectations of a Pastor**

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

We are looking for a faith-filled associate pastor with a heart for sharing the Gospel. He should be comfortable interacting with all demographics in our congregation and community, including being able to teach different groups. We want a man who is organized and active – one who is not shy and is willing to jump into our current activities and to start new ones.

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

The position will report directly to Nick Napier, our senior pastor. He will have regular interaction with our part-time secretary and bookkeeper, our children's ministry director, and with our director of music.

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

Regular feedback from the session and an annual review.

What style of leadership will the church expect of its new pastor? Our worship style is traditional in nature, and our preferred preaching style is expository. Everything should relate directly to Scripture.

Preferred experience: Not necessary \_\_\_ 1-2 years \_\_\_ 2-5 years \_\_\_ 5-10 years \_\_\_ 10 years or above \_\_\_ We do not want to artificially limit our potential candidates to a set experience range. Rather, we would prefer to remain open to God's leading.

What other expectations do you have for a pastor? (Such as doctrinal beliefs, values, lifestyle, etc.)? We expect our associate pastor to subscribe to the Westminster Confession of Faith with minimal, if any, exceptions with or scruples to it. He should prioritize the sharing of the Gospel and faithful Christian living, including regular prayer and worship.

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

## Part V: Compensation

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

Salary \_\_\_\_\_

Manse Allowance (if any) \_\_\_\_\_

Other Allowances \_\_\_\_\_

We don't currently have an  
associate pastor. Compensation will  
be in line with Synod norms and the  
local market economy.

What other forms of compensation does your church provide? Travel & cell phone

What is the annual vacation period? 30 days, 4 of which can be Sundays

What time is allotted for study leave? 14 days, 1 of which can be a Sunday

Did your church pay insurance? Yes X No \_\_\_\_\_ Social Security? Yes X (if elected  
by the pastor) No \_\_\_\_\_

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

Has your church provided utilities for the manse? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_ N/A

If you have a manse, have you provided an equity allowance? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_ N/A

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

Yes X 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.

1. Lee Shelnutt 704-796-7315
2. Jim Curtis 704-575-9237
3. Morrie Lawing 704-763-8060