



*Seeking to glorify God  
by extending the kingdom of Jesus Christ  
through meaningful worship,  
theological depth, true  
fellowship, evangelism  
and in deeds of compassion.*



## Faith Reformed Church

2953 Saltsman Rd, Erie, PA 16510

# Solo Pastor Search

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## Church Information Packet

FAITH REFORMED CHURCH Erie, Pennsylvania

# Welcome!

We welcome you as you learn a bit about us, a small part of the Body of Christ across the world! As you begin, we pray for you as you conduct a search for the right church to shepherd - that God would give you clarity of mind and peace of heart, and that a clear call would be evident to you when He determines the time is right. Please feel free to reach out at any time with questions as you explore the following narrative about FRC. We look forward to hearing from you.

One in Christ,

Ray, Michelle, Raleigh, Dave, Cindy, Leeann, Rachele, and Wendy

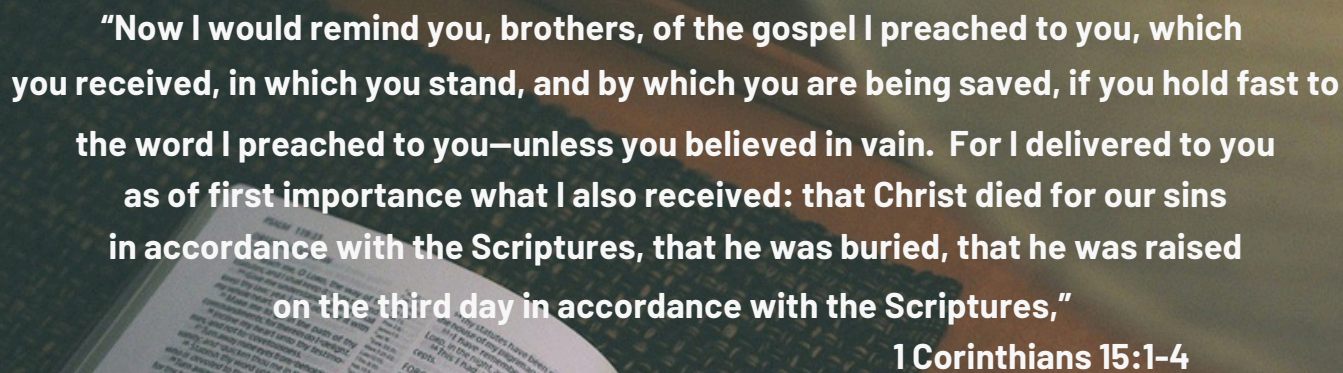
**“And I will give you shepherds after my own heart, who will feed you with knowledge and understanding.”**

**Jeremiah 3:15**

# Our Beliefs

Faith Reformed Church of Erie, PA is a community of Christians who have been brought together through the saving work of Jesus Christ in our lives. Our desire is to know God better and to bring glory to Him in our teaching, our worship, and our lives. We are a part of the Presbyterian Church in America. We believe in the authority of the Scriptures and are committed to the fulfillment of the Great Commission.

We are a Confessional and Reformed church. We believe the historic truths expressed in the Apostles' and Nicene creeds and in the Westminster Standards. We believe that salvation is by grace alone, through faith alone, in Christ alone, according to the Bible alone, for the glory of God alone.

An open Bible is shown, with its pages slightly aged and the text in a traditional serif font. The Bible is open to a page that appears to be from the New Testament, specifically the book of 1 Corinthians. The text overlay is a quote from 1 Corinthians 15:1-4, which is highlighted in a semi-transparent white box. The background of the image is a soft, warm-toned photograph of the Bible's pages, with the text of the Bible visible through the overlay.

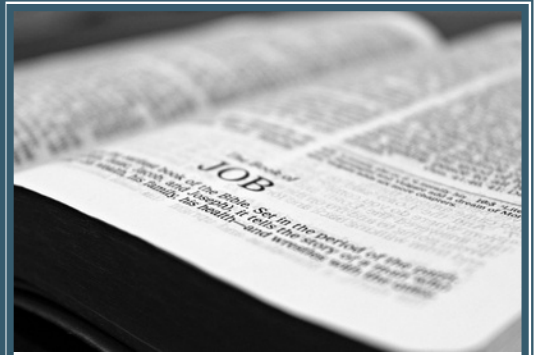
**"Now I would remind you, brothers, of the gospel I preached to you, which you received, in which you stand, and by which you are being saved, if you hold fast to the word I preached to you—unless you believed in vain. For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures,"**

**1 Corinthians 15:1-4**

# FRC

FRC's ministries have historically been focused on the communal and individual development of our church's people and community, so that we are equipped to influence the world in God's ways. Our everyday lives within our everyday communities is the platform of our calling.

Our neighbors need Christ, and we are here to show Him to them. That can only be well done by donning the armor of Christ and flourishing in the truth of His Word, both as individuals and as the Body of Christ. But we now need to be stretched so that we may reach beyond our four walls to the world outside and influence lost souls for the Kingdom of God.



## FRC Ministries & Programs

Adult Bible Studies

College Campus Bible Study

Men's Breakfast

WIC

Youth Group

Missions

Sunday School

Ephesians 4:12,13

"to equip the saints for the work of ministry,  
for building up the body of Christ, until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of  
the knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the measure of the  
stature of the fullness of Christ,"



# Our History

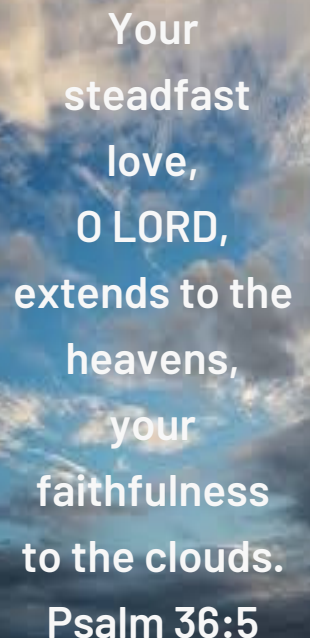
Faith Reformed Church began as a Bible Study in 1976, meeting in a Howard Johnson's motel on Peach Street. Most of the members had been members of the United Presbyterian Church in the USA (now the PCUSA), but they desired to be in a Bible-believing Presbyterian church.

The church was organized in 1980, with Paul Doriani as the organizing pastor. We purchased our building in 1981 from a Lutheran congregation. Pastor Doriani left in December 1984.

Pastor H. Leon Ben-Ezra was installed in October 1985.

The church grew slowly in the 1980's and early 1990's. In 1994, a small group from Faith Reformed Church, led by Pastor Jerry Knight, began a Bible Study in downtown Erie. This group eventually formed West Erie Bible Presbyterian Church (now West Erie Presbyterian Church), which became a particular church in 1999. Jerry Knight eventually accepted a call as a professor at African Bible University in Uganda, and we supported him as a missionary for many years, until his retirement.

After 33 years of service, Pastor Ben-Ezra retired in August of 2019. In early 2020, we extended a call to David Hills, a recent seminary graduate preparing for ordination after a military and consulting career. Before he could be examined by Presbytery and ordained, the COVID-19 pandemic broke out, and we were without a pastor going into this period. We used Zoom for worship services from March to May of 2020, but we secured regular in-person pulpit supply and we resumed in-person worship in June of 2020. Pastor Hills was able to join us, first as Student Supply in August of 2020. He was ordained in early 2021. He has announced his retirement in 2026. We now seek a new pastor to lead us going forward.



Your  
steadfast  
love,  
O LORD,  
extends to the  
heavens,  
your  
faithfulness  
to the clouds.  
Psalm 36:5

# Our Church

*by 2024 numbers*

43

## ATTENDANCE

Average worship attendance



~ \$101 K

## GIVING

Savings ~ \$120 K



17

## FAMILIES

Number of Family Units



4

## BIBLE STUDIES

Weekly & Bi-weekly



2/2

## ELDERS

Active/Inactive

And when they had appointed and ordained elders for them in each church with prayer and fasting, they committed them to the Lord in Whom they had come to believe. Acts 14:23

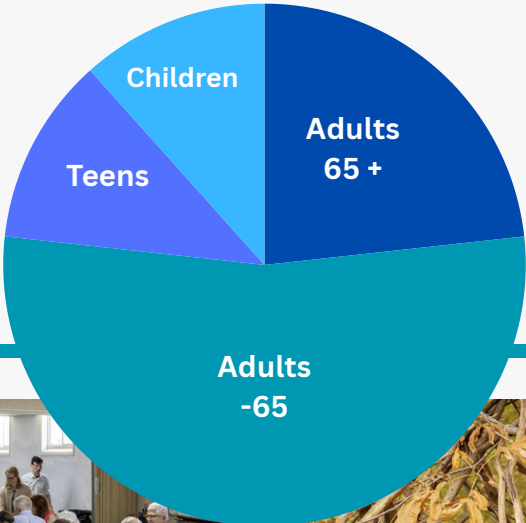
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## DEACONS

Therefore, brothers, pick out from among you seven men of good reputation, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we will appoint to this duty. Acts 6:3



# Age Demographics







# About Erie, PA

Faith Reformed Church is located in Harborcreek township, a suburb of Erie, PA, minutes away from the heart of the city. Erie is a mid-sized city on Lake Erie's Presque Isle Bay and is a two-hour drive from Cleveland, Pittsburgh, and Buffalo. The economic base includes industrial plants, with a specialization in plastics, and a service sector which includes medical, insurance, and tourism. Erie is home to one Fortune 500 company, Erie Insurance Group, which employs more than 3,400 workers in the local area.

The region experiences all four seasons distinctly and offers many opportunities for seasonal outdoor recreation at places like nearby Presque Isle State Park with its enticing seven miles of beaches and recreation, and the Peek 'n Peak Ski Resort which offers year-round activities. There are a number of cultural, historical, and sports resources, as well, including the Warner Theatre as Erie's own Cultural Center with the Erie Philharmonic, Lake Erie Ballet, and the Erie Broadway series.

Erie has a modest cost of living, affordable housing, an international airport, and is home to two nationally ranked hospitals which are also affiliated with larger health system networks. The county is home to six colleges/universities, one of which is within a few minutes of FRC, and another is the Lake Erie College of Osteopathic Medicine (LECOM), the largest medical school in the country. You can learn more about Erie, PA at [visiterie.com](http://visiterie.com).

# Desired Profile

## of a Solo Pastor

Our congregation values sound, Biblical doctrine, vibrant fellowship, and thoughtful, liturgical worship, reflected, in part, by our practice of weekly communion and use of creeds. The congregants believe that first and foremost, the pastor should faithfully and with authority proclaim the Word of God in the power of the Holy Spirit. We fully support our pastor placing sermon preparation at the top of his priorities.

Secondly, FRC needs a teacher, shepherd, and leader. We envision that alongside preaching, he would partner with the ruling elders to disciple the flock through small group Bible studies, offer Biblical guidance and counseling, and develop and raise up leaders from within the congregation. Also, we value a pastor who leads by example—who models humility and a willingness to serve wherever there is a need.

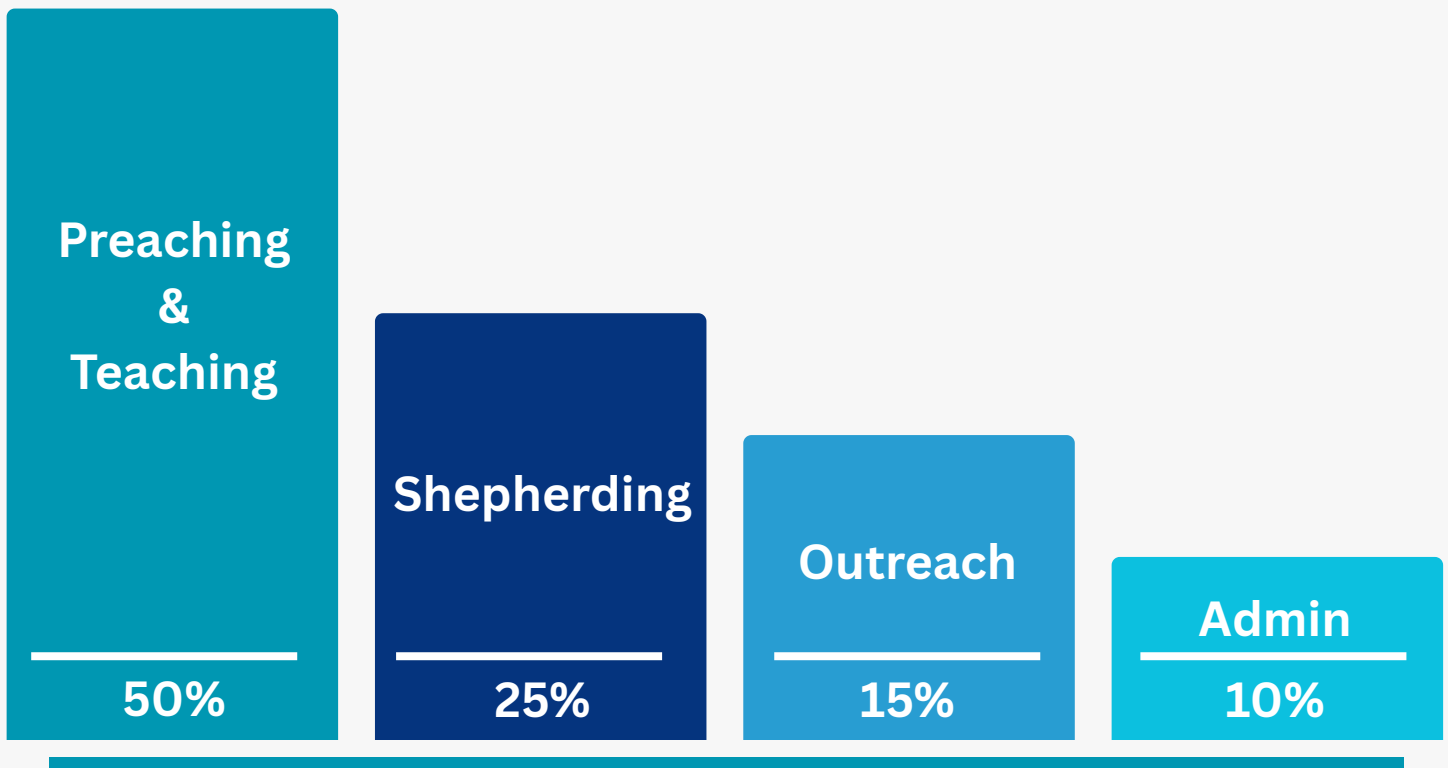
Thirdly, FRC believes that fellowship is an important aspect of church life. To support this, we have monthly luncheons after worship and various biweekly, small group Bible studies in our homes and at the nearby college. Our congregation holds hospitality in high regard and feels the pastor should himself enjoy fellowship with the brothers and sisters at FRC. We hope he would welcome congregants into his home and/or would feel comfortable visiting the homes of congregants. If saints are struggling and unable to fellowship at the church, we desire that our shepherd would reach out to those individuals through home and/or hospital visitation.

Lastly, our congregation has a growing heart for missions, evangelism, and outreach, both locally and abroad. We are a small church with widely scattered members, and although we come from different communities, we all want to improve our witness to our respective communities by meeting their spiritual and physical needs. We need a pastor who will guide us through this process, nurture, and encourage us in these things, as we would like to grow in this.

We are looking for a true example of Ephesians 4:12 – a pastor “to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ.”

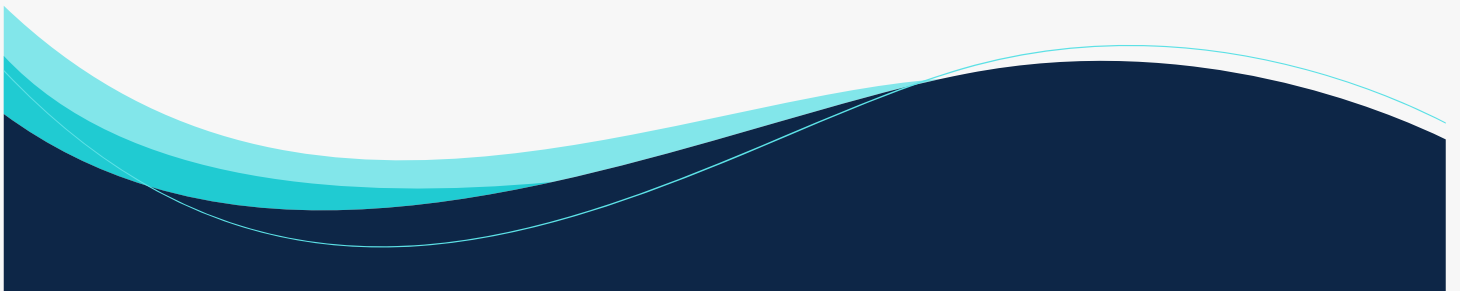


# Preferred Ministerial Priorities



## Compensation

FRC will offer a total package (i.e. salary, housing allowance, retirement, and benefits) of \$75,000 - \$85,000 to our new pastor. In addition, a one-time relocation reimbursement up to a maximum of \$10,000 will be provided upon substantiation of expenses. The Terms of Call will also include four weeks of paid annual vacation and two weeks of study leave.



# How to Apply

Email the following to Michelle Previte at [faithreformedpastoralsearch@gmail.com](mailto:faithreformedpastoralsearch@gmail.com)

- Résumé
- Cover Letter
- [Ministerial Data Form](#)
- Links to some of your sermons

Blessings as you continue with God on your search! If you'd like to explore more:

Website: <https://frцерie.info>

Email: [faithreformedpastoralsearch@gmail.com](mailto:faithreformedpastoralsearch@gmail.com)

Phone: (814) 881-9177

# Candidate Referral Form

The following form can be filled out when a prospective candidate for pastorship is identified. After it is completed, it should be sent to the Pulpit Search Committee ([faithreformedpastoralsearch@gmail.com](mailto:faithreformedpastoralsearch@gmail.com)), who will review the referral and may pursue further consideration of the candidate using the contact information provided here. Please use discretion and maintain a confidential approach when recommending a candidate.

Thank you for taking a part in the search for a pastor with us!

Your Name:\_\_\_\_\_

Your Email & Phone:\_\_\_\_\_

Candidate’s Name:\_\_\_\_\_

Candidate’s Email & Phone:\_\_\_\_\_

Candidate’s Current Church, Location, & Position:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Please provide a summary description of the candidate’s history and qualifications.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

How did/do you know the candidate and for how long?

\_\_\_\_\_  
Have you discussed with him the prospect of his candidacy for FRC’s pastoral opening?  
\_\_\_\_\_

Additional comments:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_