

## Evergreen Distinctives

Evergreen Community Church is a PCA church in Powhatan VA. Our web site - [eccpca.org](http://eccpca.org).

### PCA

As a PCA church we have certain doctrinal distinctives which characterize our beliefs and priorities. These distinctions shape our worship, relationships, church structure, and discipline. We are Reformed and Confessional and care deeply about sound doctrine. We are Elder ruled and have a strong commitment to building relationships. We are committed to do our part to reach others with the gospel.

### Young Church

As a young church we have some of the struggles of a start-up. We met for worship in a rented school until we were forced out due to Covid. We were able to meet outside at our property for several months in 2020. We now meet at the Powhatan War Memorial which is a community center in the village of Powhatan. Our small groups take turns with setup and take down as needed on Sunday.

We have acquired a property and have mostly completed the design stage of a building program.

### Powhatan

Powhatan County is rural/suburban with a number of transplanted professionals. The area is a mix of farms and housing developments. The county has a slow-growth philosophy, yet new people are coming all the time.

The church draws from a wide area with people from the four adjacent counties and is more ideologically than geographically defined. We have a majority of home school families.

### History

We are a plant chiefly from Sycamore Presbyterian Church in Midlothian. We had our first public service in January 2009 at Flat Rock Elementary School. Our first stated meeting of the Session was a joint meeting with the deacons in March 2011.

We purchased 10 acres for a church building in October 2016. The property has a building which is sufficient for office space, small groups, and events. We bought an additional 4 acres in 2020 adjacent to the original property which provides greater visibility and better access to the main highway.

Our 2020-2021 budget was a little over \$200K.

### Worship

The worship music is a blend of hymns and contemporary songs. We have a music director and several members who participate in leading the songs and providing music. There are a variety of musical instruments, depending upon the composition of the team on a given week.

We have a liturgical order of worship and weekly communion. We value expository preaching.

All children participate in the main worship service.

Our worship is followed by an extended time of fellowship (45 min – 1hr) with bagels and coffee.

## **Small Groups**

We have a number of small groups that meet weekly for Bible study, prayer and fellowship. There are three community groups that include families and individuals. We have other groups focused on youth, women & men. We are not program driven.

## **Missions Mercy Outreach**

We have an MMO team which coordinates outreach activities, short-term missions and allocates missions funds. We have been able to sustain a commitment to allocate 10% of our budget to these activities. We have participated in short term mission trips most years. We support three individuals/couples involved in international ministry and one evangelist from our presbytery who is involved with prison ministry.

## **Vision**

Our church is an outreach to Powhatan County. We want to be more than an ingathering of those with shared convictions. It is our desire to be more effective in reaching the unchurched of Powhatan. We are open to new ideas.

With the building and site design completed we are set to build when our finances allow. A building will give us a permanent and visible presence in the county and provide a platform for new ministry initiatives.