



Christ Presbyterian Church

New Braunfels, Texas

Our History

Christ Presbyterian Church began in January 1987 as a mid-week Bible study conducted by the pastor of the newly-formed Presbyterian Church in America congregation in San Antonio, Texas, Evangelical Presbyterian Church (later named Faith PCA). The studies, held in homes, were attended by 8-10 people.

In June 1987, the pastor was approached about the possibility of beginning a work in New Braunfels which would eventually lead to a PCA church. Pastor Dewitt Watson began by conducting Sunday evening services with the support of members of the San Antonio church. The core group contacted Mission to North America in April 1988, requesting a church planter.

In June 1988, Oscar Jefferson (Jeff) Carlton III was called from First Presbyterian Church of Dothan, Alabama as the church planter. He and his family came with financial support from that church and the Southeast Alabama Presbytery. He remained until June 1991.

The pastorate was assumed by one of the members who was serving as a very gifted Sunday School teacher, Richard L. (Dick) Jones. Jones was attending a Baptist seminary but had become Reformed in his doctrine. By April 3, 1992, the group had trained and elected four Ruling Elders and Christ Presbyterian Church was particularized. Pastor Jones was later ordained a Teaching Elder and remained as Senior Pastor until August 2020.

A five-acre parcel of land was purchased in March 1993, and by November 1995 the first building was completed and dedicated. Since then, more land and more buildings have been added in order to better serve the Lord and the congregation.



Who We Are

Our Vision

- Our **aim** is to be a Christ-centered, Gospel-driven, Confessionally Reformed and Presbyterian Church.
- Our **purpose** is to glorify God in all of life throughout New Braunfels and its surrounding communities.
- Our **means** to accomplish these goals are Christ-centered worship with expository preaching, covenantal community, discipleship, missions, and personal evangelism.
- Our **grounding** for faith and life is found in the inerrant and infallible Sacred Scriptures of the Old and New Testament which is called the Bible

Our Mission

We are committed to:

- worship that is centered on Christ through preaching and its application, the sacraments, prayer, biblical doctrine, and sacred music.
- the “ordinary means of grace” for Christian growth— the Word, the sacraments, and prayer.
- discipleship through Lord’s Day Worship, Sunday School, Bible Studies, and Small Groups.
- the guarding and strengthening of the biblical family, which is marriage between one man and one woman in a covenantal union.
- encouraging individuals to embrace CPC as their church family and to use their spiritual gifts for the building up of the Body of Christ.
- discipling our members to serve our community with a Christ-centered focus, for the sake of the Gospel.
- catechize and love our covenant children, raising them in the Christian Faith.
- evangelism as mandated in “The Great Commission” (Matthew 28:18-20).

We are traditional in our beliefs and worship, holding to the Westminster Standards, the ecumenical creeds, and the PCA Book of Church Order.

Staff and Leadership

Leadership

Christ Presbyterian Church is blessed to have two associate pastors who have shared the preaching and teaching ministry with diligence and care, to the glory of God, since we have been without a senior pastor.

Pastor Berdj Tchilinguirian is the Associate Pastor of Shepherding and Visitation. Berdj joined CPC in 2010. His MDiv is from Knox Theological Seminary, and he came to us from the staff of First Presbyterian Church in Margate/Coral Springs, FL. Berdj and his wife Jennie have four children.

Pastor John Bennett is the Associate Pastor of Youth and Families. John joined the staff of CPC in 2017, after having served as the RUF minister at Texas A&M University – Corpus Christi. John has an MDiv from Fuller Theological Seminary and is currently a remote student at Reformed Theological Seminary where he is pursuing a DMin. John and his wife Stefanie have two children.

Additionally we have six active ruling elders and nine deacons.

Staff

(Full time - paid)
Church Secretary

(Part time - paid)
Choir Director
Sexton
Nursery Supervisor
Women of Purpose Coordinator

(unpaid)
Children's Sunday School Superintendent
Webmaster

New Braunfels



The beautiful community of New Braunfels lies in the heart of the Texas Hill Country, marked by its old-world German and Hispanic heritage, unrivaled quality of life, and conservative values. Located ideally between San Antonio to the south (30 minutes) and Austin to the north (45 minutes), New Braunfels is a city of 90,403, visited by more than three million tourists each year, and growing at 6% per year and 102% since 2003. It sits in Comal County, the second-fastest growing county in the nation. The strong economic environment, excellent educational system and opportunities, and moderate cost of living make New Braunfels an ideal place to live, work, and raise a family.

New Braunfels is fairly diverse and family-oriented. Many visit each year to experience the beautiful Comal and Guadalupe rivers, German and Hispanic festivals, and live music.

With a moderate climate and 300+ days of sunshine, New Braunfels is also home to many winter residents from the colder climates. Money magazine in 2020 named New Braunfels as one of the 50 best places to live in the country, based on economic factors such as employment opportunities (expected 17% increase in employment by 2025), housing, cost of living, diversity, and health and safety.

Our Community



New Braunfels is home to three of the biggest attractions in central Texas: Wurstfest, Schlitterbahn, and Gruene Hall.

Schlitterbahn is one of the most popular waterparks in the world, with an eclectic resort and two distinct waterpark sections with 51 rides and attractions.



Wurstfest is an annual German heritage celebration featuring traditional Bavarian-style food, beer, music, and dancing, regularly attracting more than 200,000 visitors over 10 days in November.



Legendary Gruene Hall is the oldest dance hall in Texas, home to great country and Americana music.

New Braunfels also has a strong conservative Presbyterian church presence. Christ Presbyterian and Hope Presbyterian are the two PCA churches in the area, and Heritage Orthodox Presbyterian Church represents the OPC.

The overall cost of living in New Braunfels is at the US. average but is lower in many major individual categories. The cost of living in New Braunfels is lower in grocery, health care, utilities, and transportation relative to the US. average, and generally on par with the average cost in Texas.

The median home cost is higher than both the Texas and US. average, but significantly less than nearby Austin and outlying areas. Property tax rates are between \$2.16 and \$2.19 per \$100 of valuation, sales taxes are 8.25%, and there is no state income tax. Free market values are also evident in the pro-business economic, tax, and regulatory environment of the city.

Our Facilities

The church facility consists of three buildings, a small residential unit, and approximately eight undeveloped acres.

The three main buildings are a sanctuary, a one-story office/nursery building, and a two-story education building with eight classrooms, the sexton's work area, a library, a kitchen and storage area, and a large multipurpose room.

On the grounds are a memorial to victims of abortion and a small memory garden for members who have died.

The small residential unit is probably 60-70 years old. Once used for youth ministry, it is now the residence of our youth pastor.

The campus is located on one of the main east-west roads in New Braunfels, near major connecting roads and I-35.



Weekly Rhythm

Sunday

- Fellowship Breakfast begins at 8:30 Sunday morning.
- Men's Prayer Meeting convenes at 9:00, prior to Sunday school.
- Sunday School begins at 9:30. We have four adult combined classes taught by officers and one women's class studying various biblical topics, as well as five youth classes available for students from Pre-K to twelfth grade during the school year.
- Worship begins at 10:45. The Lord's Supper is celebrated on the first and third Sundays of the month.



Wednesday

- Mornings: We have two women's Bible (or book) studies that meet from 10-noon during the school year.
- Evenings: We meet for supper at 5:30, followed by Kids' Club for children under 12 and youth studies for Jr. High and High School, with various adult studies available. The choir practices from 6-8 p.m.



Various Days

- We have several small groups that meet on different days of the week. This ministry is focused on helping people in the church to know one another and connect in a more meaningful way through fellowship and study of the Word.

Finances

2022 Budget

Giving \$693,000

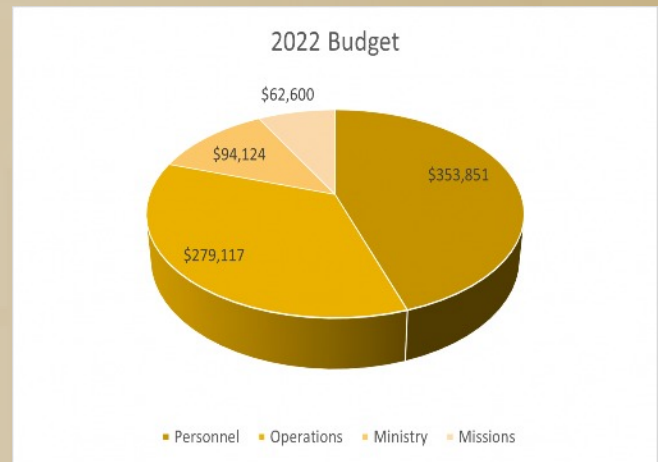
Expenses

Personnel \$353,851

Operations \$279,117

Ministry \$94,124

Missions \$62,600



The church has no debt. Thanks to several large one-time gifts and reduction of expenditures during COVID-19, the church is in a healthy cash position. We are using part of this to perform repairs and maintenance of the facility.

Demographics

Communicant Members 249

Non-communicant Members 68

Total Membership 317

Total Family Units 107

Average Attendance

Worship 175

Nursery 14

Average Sunday School

Adult 57

Middle/High School 11

Children 28

Average Small Group

Attendance 50



Women of Purpose

Under the leadership of the session, our women's ministry is actively involved in teaching, equipping, and serving the women of Christ Presbyterian Church. We do this through weekly bible studies, book studies, monthly Titus 2 small groups, leadership training, and fellowship. We take our call to minister from Ephesians 4:12-16 and Titus 2:3-5. These scriptures provide focus and a grid through which to examine which ministries fit under the umbrella of Women of Purpose.

- Weekly Bible studies: In the fall, Wednesday morning & evening



- Book studies: In the spring/summer months, meeting weekly and/or monthly
 - Titus 2 small groups: Meet monthly (Sept - May) on various days of the week
 - Fellowship gatherings: Held on a quarterly basis, alternating between evening and daytime
 - Ministry Team: Led by the women's ministry coordinator; meet monthly for equipping leadership, assessing, and planning women's ministries
- Since 2011 we have held an annual conference reaching out to women in the community and state. Our goal is to enrich our part of the world with strong biblically reformed teachers as well as making connections with sisters in Christ from other churches. We have been blessed to bring such speakers such as Nancy Guthrie, Melissa Kruger, and Susan Hunt, to name a few. The conference has grown mostly by word of mouth over the past ten years. In 2020 and 2021 we were not able to hold the conference due to the pandemic. In April of 2022, by God's good grace, we resumed the conference and sold out at 250+ women weeks before the conference was to be held. The conference is a self-sustaining ministry with all expenses covered by the conference fee.

Men in the Church

Our church and our families need strong, godly men who are able to live, lead, and serve to the glory of Christ. CPC's men's ministry seeks to disciple and train men to this end. After a several year hiatus the Men in the Church have relaunched with retreats, studies, periodic breakfasts with speakers, and church service projects.

Some of the recent events include:

- Study of *The Masculine Mandate* by Richard D. Phillips
- Study on the biblical doctrine of Adoption
- Men's breakfast with a variety of guest speakers
- Retreat to Camp Buckner
- Men's fellowship events
- Serving at the annual WOP conference
- Church picnics
- Family gatherings



Annual Events

- Reformation Festival
- Vacation Bible School
- Annual Church Picnic
- Thanksgiving Covered Dish Lunch
- WOP Conference

Pastor Search Commitee

Jeanette Baldwin (Committee Clerk, WOP Ministry Team)

Rob Block (Vice Chair)

Ryan Castle (Deacon, Children's Sunday School Teacher)

Dan deBoom (Ruling Elder)

Mike Gamble (Ruling Elder)

Jana Henry (Committee Chair, Women's Ministry Coordinator)

Ace Horan (Ruling Elder)

Barbaranne Kelly (WOP Ministry Team, Women's Bible Study Teacher)

Frank Posey (Trustee)

Dean Showalter (Deacon, Sunday School Superintendent)

Fred Willard (Ruling Elder, Emeritus)

Pastoral Qualifications and Job Description

Qualifications

- A graduate of an accredited theological seminary.
- An ordained teaching elder in the Presbyterian Church in America or a man who can be transferred from a sister Reformed denomination.
- Thoroughly committed to the historic Reformed Faith as set forth in the Westminster Standards.
- Desirous of serving with a staff and a Session who seek consciously to be winsomely Reformed and Presbyterian.
- At least three years of experience as a senior pastor or associate pastor preferred.

Duties and Responsibilities

- Preach the Word and regularly conduct the Lord's Day services of worship.
- Administer the sacraments, as assisted by Associate and/or Assistant Pastor
- Intercede in prayer for congregation.
- Work closely with the Session in all matters, including acting as Moderator for Session and congregational meetings, giving direction and support to the various committees of the Session, including Missions, Evangelism, Christian Education, Worship, Music, and serving as advisory member on all Session committees.
- Participate actively in the work of the Presbytery and of the General Assembly.
- Exercise general supervision of the total ministry to Christ Presbyterian Church.

Pastoral Character

The Pastoral Search Committee have identified the following as the top three characteristics we seek in our next Senior Pastor:

1. A shepherd's heart

The Senior Pastor feeds the sheep with the uncompromised Word of God, and leads the church in worship grounded in the historic Reformed tradition through expository preaching, prayer, proper administration of the sacraments, and church discipline. He loves the flock and interacts with members in group or individual settings with humility, grace, empathy, and sincerity.

2. Personal holiness

The Senior Pastor will live out a Godly example. His personal communion with God and meditation on the Word will receive his highest attention. He will lead and love his family as Christ leads and loves the Church with a vibrant and healthy marriage and family life.

3. Leadership

The Senior Pastor will be a well-organized and capable visionary who desires to be our servant leader in evaluating, prioritizing, and meeting the challenges faced by the church. Also he will have a community of peers and mentors who will help him navigate personal, professional, and community challenges. He will embrace friendships with other pastors and leaders outside our church.

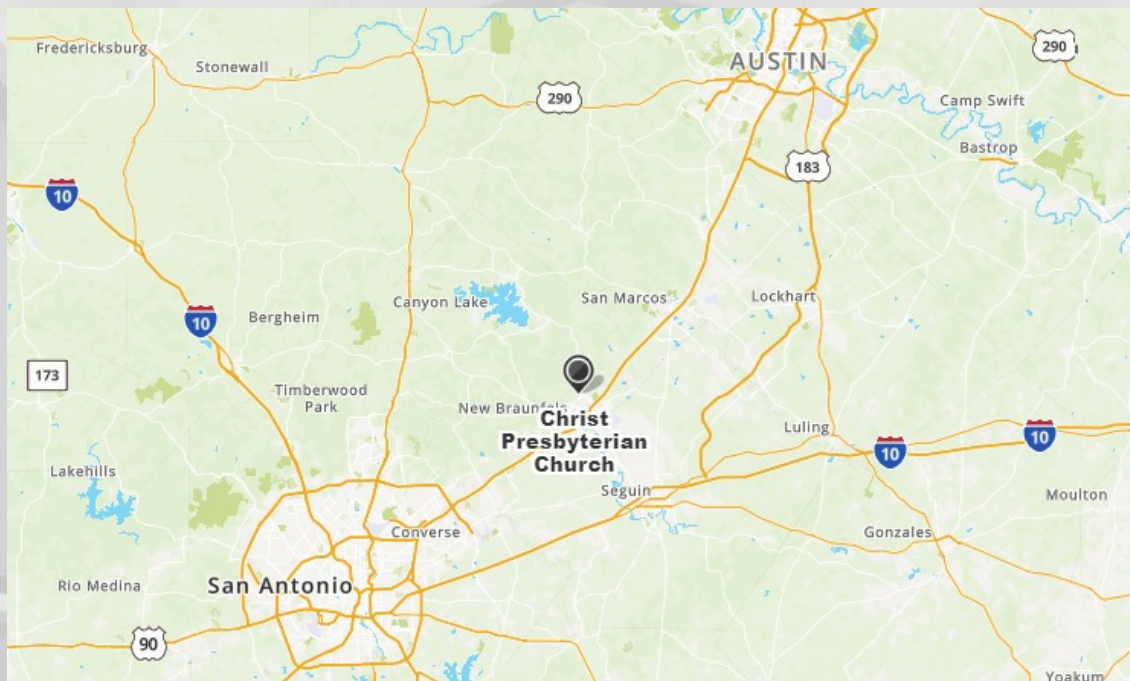
Moving Forward

You may apply here on our website.

<https://www.christpresnb.org/pastorsearch-2/>

*For further information, you may
contact Jana Henry, chair of the Pastor
Search Committee.*

janagwen58@gmail.com



www.christpresnb.org

