

Church Profile Form



Introduction

The Reformed Church in America's Office of Ministry Services provides information and services to ordained ministers who are seeking a call and churches who are seeking ordained ministers. It does not recommend any particular candidate or church but instead serves as a resource to both.

Though not all fields are required, please provide as much information as possible in order to give candidates an accurate understanding of the life of your church.

For further information, or if you have questions or problems while completing this form, please contact Ministry Services at ministryservices@rca.org or 616-541-0895.

Helpful Hints for this Form:

- ❖ To move to the next field, hit TAB.
- ❖ To move the cursor to a desired field, left click on it with the mouse.
- ❖ To mark (x) in a box, left click with mouse.
- ❖ Hitting ENTER will move the cursor to the next line but keep you in the same field (essay questions).
- ❖ Spell check is not available in this format.
- ❖ The form will "paginate" itself as you complete it.
- ❖ If at any time you cannot include information important to you because of the "form field," please continue to complete the question in the comment box on the last page. Make sure to reference the question number.
- ❖ Please sign and return the **Release Statement** at the end of this form. You may scan it and email it as an attachment to ministryservices@rca.org.

Section A. Background Information

Today's Date: / /

Position to be filled:

1. **Name of church:**

2. **Web address:**

3. **Address:**

Street

City / State / Zip Code

Telephone: () -

E-Mail address:

4. **Classis:**

5. **Classis Supervisor:**

Address:

Street

City / State / Zip Code

Telephone: () -

E-Mail address:

6. **Chair of search committee:**

Address:

Street

City / State / Zip Code

Telephone: () -

E-Mail address:

7. **Membership:**

Time of worship	Five years ago	Today
Active Confessing Members		
Inactive Confessing Members		

Comment on significant changes:

Age of all active members (baptized and confessing)

%	0-20 years old
%	20-34 years old
%	35-49 years old
%	50-64 years old
%	65 years and older

8. Racial/Ethnic composition of congregation:

%	African American
%	Asian
%	Caucasian
%	Hispanic
%	Other: (please specify)

9. Worship schedule:

Average Attendance (includes adults and children)

Time of worship	Average attendance Five years ago	Average attendance Today
am <input type="checkbox"/> pm <input type="checkbox"/>		
am <input type="checkbox"/> pm <input type="checkbox"/>		

Comment on significant changes:

10. Describe a typical worship service (order of worship, music, etc.) What is your congregation's preferred style or styles of worship? Attach a bulletin, if available.

11. Financial Information: Attach a copy most recent Consistorial Report and Annual Budget if available.

	Five Years Ago	Today
Total RCA related contributions	\$	\$
Total other contributions	\$	\$

Percentage of total budget contributed by living donors:

100-90 %	<input type="checkbox"/>
75-89 %	<input type="checkbox"/>
60-74 %	<input type="checkbox"/>
45-59 %	<input type="checkbox"/>
44 % or less	<input type="checkbox"/>

(Please include a copy of your annual budget)

12. **Congregational Giving:**
Number of those whose annual contribution is:

Less than \$500	
\$501- \$1,500	
\$1,501- \$2,500	
\$2,501-\$3,500	
Greater than \$3,500	

13. **Financial assistance: Do you receive financial assistance beyond the congregation? (rents, etc.)** Yes ☐ No ☐

If yes, amount received last year: \$

List other fundraising programs that support the church:

**14. Church/Sunday School:
Average Attendance**

Average attendance Five years ago	Average attendance Today

Comment on significant changes:

15. Describe briefly all educational programs (including children, young adult, adult).

- 16. Church groups/organizations: Briefly describe ministry purpose of each group. (use separate sheet if necessary)**

Name of group	Frequency of Meeting (i.e. weekly, bi-monthly, etc)	Attendance

- 17. Comment on one event or experience over the last year that has significantly contributed to the spiritual life of the congregation.**

- 18. Buildings: Please describe church-owned or rented buildings and purpose.**

19. Do you plan any capital expenditure during the next five years? Yes ☐ No ☐
If yes, please explain briefly:

20. Is there a mortgage indebtedness? Yes ☐ No ☐

Amount: \$

Of how long standing?

Annual rate of repayment

21. Pastor's study:
In church ☐ in parsonage ☐ Other ☐ Not Provided ☐

22. List all paid staff in addition to the pastor:

Position	
	Full time <input type="checkbox"/> Part time <input type="checkbox"/>
	Full time <input type="checkbox"/> Part time <input type="checkbox"/>
	Full time <input type="checkbox"/> Part time <input type="checkbox"/>
	Full time <input type="checkbox"/> Part time <input type="checkbox"/>
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	Full time <input type="checkbox"/> Part time <input type="checkbox"/>
	Full time <input type="checkbox"/> Part time <input type="checkbox"/>
	Full time <input type="checkbox"/> Part time <input type="checkbox"/>

23. Consistory Membership: What method is used in selecting members?

Please list present Consistory members (Put a check in the box where appropriate)

Elder	Deacon	Male	Female	Occupation
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
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<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

24. What leadership roles do women currently fill in your church?

25. In our congregation...(please check appropriate box)

	Few have...	Many have...	Most have...
Had up to twelve years of formal education	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Had some education beyond high school	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
A college degree	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
A graduate degree	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

26. In our congregation...(please check a box)

	Few are...	Many are...	Most are...
Scientists & Engineers	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Farmers	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Business People	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Students & Teachers	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Industrial Workers	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Office Workers	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

27. Special training/experience desired: (describe briefly).

28. Languages:

Should your pastor be fluent in any language other than English?

Yes ☐ No ☐ If yes, please explain.

29. The salary we are prepared to offer our new pastor is \$
The average annual increase to our pastor over the past three years was \$
30. Is a parsonage provided? Yes ☐ No ☐
If so, is it on site with the church? Yes ☐ No ☐
If the parsonage is not on site with the church, how far from the church is it located?
31. Is a Minister's housing allowance in lieu of a parsonage a negotiable option?
Yes ☐ No ☐
32. The benefits/business expenses we will provide our pastor are:
(Please check those provided or give amount as requested.)

Base Salary	\$
Housing Allowance	\$
Parsonage provided? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	
Travel Reimbursement	\$
Social Security (Amount)	\$
Book Allowance (Amount)	\$
Continuing Education Allowance (Amount)	\$
Provision for Sabbatical	\$
Other (Specify Below)	\$
TOTAL	\$

Yes ☐ No ☐ Retirement
 Yes ☐ No ☐ Major Medical Insurance
 Yes ☐ No ☐ Health/Hospital Insurance
 Yes ☐ No ☐ Life Insurance
 Yes ☐ No ☐ Dental Insurance
 Yes ☐ No ☐ Unemployment Insurance
 Yes ☐ No ☐ Disability Insurance

Annual Vacation (Number of Weeks)

Necessary Comments regarding above:

33. Community served: (please check one)

Rural: Under 2,500	<input type="checkbox"/>
Town: 2,500-9,999	<input type="checkbox"/>
Small City: 10,000-49,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
Metropolitan-Suburban: 50,000+	<input type="checkbox"/>
Metropolitan-Urban: 50,000+	<input type="checkbox"/>
Metropolitan-Inner City: 50,000+	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other:	<input type="checkbox"/>

34. Cooperative ministry: In what ways have you cooperated with other churches in your community during the past year?

35. Community involvement: In what community programs or projects have you participated during the past year? (As an organization, not as individuals.)

36. What denominations or religions are present within three miles (in rural areas, consider the county) where your church is located?

37. Outreach: What is your strategy to reach un-churched people in your community?

38. The income level of the people in our congregation tends to be: (please check one)

<input type="checkbox"/>	About average for our community
<input type="checkbox"/>	Somewhat below the rest of the community
<input type="checkbox"/>	Somewhat higher than the rest of the community

39. Describe the community and school system: (Provide website links were appropriate.)

40. Record of last three pastors:

Name	Dates
	to
	to
	to

41. Please complete your profile with the following contacts:

Name	
	Vice President, Consistory
	Classis Supervisor

Section B. Reflections

Please answer the following questions, adding your own experiences where appropriate.

- 1) What is the stated mission, vision or purpose of your congregation?**
- 2) What goals have been developed from your mission and vision over the next 5 years? (Example new programs or outreach ministries.) Include long range or strategic plan.**

3) Describe the strengths of your church, the best of what you are as a community, and what you can offer a new pastor.

4) Explain the strategies or ideas that most excite your church in becoming or remaining missional.

5) Name three of your church's most passionate hopes and why they are significant.

6) How do you hope someone who visits your church would describe what s/he considers to be most important?

7) Name at least one challenge facing your new pastor.

8) Describe your vision and hopes for your church and your pastor over the next 5 years.

- 9) Explain whatever else you would like your potential pastor to know about your church.**

Release Statement

(Full Church Name)

We, _____, acknowledge that the information in this Church Profile is accurate and complete. We authorize the Office of Ministry Services (OMS) to release this profile to designated recipient(s) seeking positions as ordained Ministers of Word and Sacrament, including posting of this profile on the RCA website.

Signature of Search Team Chairperson or Designated

Date



Annual Consistorial Report

for the year ending December 31, 2021

The Book of Church Order requires that each consistory shall make an annual report of statistical information and on the spiritual state of their congregation. Information reported by consistories helps RCA assemblies to “equip congregations to follow Christ in mission” and also gives the local church an opportunity to examine and reflect on its mission and ministry.

Parts 1a and 1b ask for quantitative information that is for the benefit of the General Synod, regional synod, and classis.

Parts 2a and 2b are for the benefit of the classis and include open-ended questions to assist the consistory in reflection on the ministry of the church.

Fort Miller Reformed Church
PO Box 324
Fort Edward, New York 12828-0324

ONLINE FORM

Please fill out this form electronically.
Visit crf.rca.org
and follow the instructions found on that screen.

Annual Consistorial Report for 2021

Fort Miller Reformed Church

church name

Fort Edward, New York

city, state/province

Part 1a

MEMBERSHIP STATISTICS: *Revision of membership rolls is to be made at the end of each calendar year. The figures are to be the totals in each category. Report only the RCA portion of your statistics. (For example, if you are a union congregation with one other denomination, the numbers you report should be 50 percent of your totals.)*

1. Church Households: *Indicate the number of households living as one family at one address, in which there is at least one confessing member. (Include single military personnel and students with their family at the home address.)*

17

2. Confessing Members: *Indicate the number of members who have received Christian baptism and have been received by the Board of Elders through profession of faith, reaffirmation of faith, or presentation of a satisfactory certificate of transfer of membership from another Christian church, and who make faithful use of the means of grace, especially the hearing of the Word and the use of the Lord's Supper.*

22

3. Inactive Members: *Indicate the total number of members who have been removed by the Board of Elders from the active confessing membership roll.*

100

4. Baptized Members: *Indicate the number of members who have received Christian baptism, who may or may not participate at the Lord's Table, and who have not been received by the Board of Elders as confessing members. (This figure must be annually adjusted for baptized children who have been transferred with their parents into or out of the congregation.)*

5. Total Membership will be auto calculated (the sum of 2 through 4).

122

6. Adherents: *Indicate the number of individuals who participate in the life, work, and worship of the church but are not members.*

4

7. Average Worship Attendance: *Indicate the average of the actual count of all persons present for weekly worship service/s. (Give the average for the entire year.)*

15

GAINS:

8. Received on Confession: *Indicate the number of individuals who have been received by the elders upon confession or reaffirmation of faith.*

9. Received on Certificate: *Indicate the number of individuals who have presented a satisfactory certificate of transfer from another church.*

1

LOSSES: *Indicate the number of confessing And inactive members whose names have been removed from the membership roll.*

10. Transferred

11. Deceased

2

12. All Other Removals from Roll

BAPTISMS: *Indicate the number of individuals baptized.*

13. Infants

14. Adults

Annual Consistorial Report for 2021

Fort Miller Reformed Church

church name

Fort Edward, New York

city, state/province

Part 1b

FINANCIAL REPORT: Please complete the following section with financial results from your church's most recent fiscal year-end.

Fiscal year-end: 2021-03-31 00:00:00

The dollar amounts listed below are in U.S. Dollars

Union and federated churches should report only the RCA portion of their financial statistics, in the same proportion as they report membership statistics in Part 1a. A church that does not keep separate membership rolls should divide its full financial numbers by the number of denominations in the union or federation (for example, a church that is a union church of the RCA and one other denomination should report half of its full financial numbers). A church that keeps separate membership rolls should multiply its full financial numbers by the percentage of its membership that is RCA (for example, a federated church whose membership is 64 percent RCA should multiply its full financial numbers by 0.64).

Income:

21. Contributions received*	<u>50432</u>
22. Endowment gifts (gifts that are permanently restricted by the donor, from which only the earnings may be used)	<u></u>
23. Investment income and endowment appropriations	<u>2426</u>
24. All other income (including, but not limited to: tuition revenue, rental income, grants from any agency)	<u>10805</u>
25. Total income (sum of lines 21-24)	<u>63663</u>

*Any gift received by the church, except for new endowed gifts. This includes, but is not limited to, contributions for the general operations, missions, benevolence, special designated funds, estate gifts, and capital campaign gifts.

Expenses:

26. Assessments paid to RCA classis, regional synod, and denomination	<u>3789</u>
27. All other church expenses	<u>53129</u>
28. Total expenses (sum of lines 26-27)	<u>56918</u>
29. Net income (line 25 minus line 28)	<u>6745</u>

Note: as of 2018, lines 18 through 18e, 19 through 19c, and 20 have been replaced with lines 21-29.

Part 2a

THE LIFE AND SPIRITUAL HEALTH OF THE CONGREGATION:

These questions encourage reflection as a consistency and are intended for the use of the classis. If necessary, please attach your responses on separate pages.

1. What signs of transformation have been visible in the life and ministry of your congregation this year?
2. How is your congregation actively ...
 - a. developing passionate and reproducible disciples who live and love like Jesus?
 - b. mobilizing emerging leaders for service in the church and in the world?
 - c. embracing your mission to the world and sharing the good news of the gospel with everyone?(Please share specific stories, experiences, and examples.)
3. In what ways can your congregation more intentionally live out the call to cultivate transformation in Christ, equip emerging leaders of today and tomorrow, and engage in Christ's kingdom mission in the coming year?
4. What challenges, concerns, or celebrations does your congregation have right now?

2. How is your congregation actively ...
- a. developing passionate and reproducible disciples who live and love like Jesus?
 - b. mobilizing emerging leaders for service in the church and in the world?
 - c. embracing your mission to the world and sharing the good news of the gospel with everyone?
- (Please share specific stories, experiences, and examples.)

- developing passionate and reproducible disciples who live and love like Jesus?
 - mobilizing emerging leaders for service in the church and in the world?
 - embracing your mission to the world and sharing the good news of the gospel with everyone?
- (Please share specific stories, experiences, and examples.)

- b. mobilizing emerging leaders for service in the church and in the world?

- c. embracing your mission to the world and sharing the good news of the gospel with everyone?

(Please share specific stories, experiences, and examples.)

3. In what ways can your congregation more intentionally live out the call to cultivate transformation in Christ, equip emerging leaders of today and tomorrow, and engage in Christ's kingdom mission in the coming year?

4. What challenges, concerns, or celebrations does your congregation have right now?

Information regarding the spiritual health of the congregation and congregational indebtedness is collected to assist the classis in its supervision of the churches within its bounds.

Question 5 was added by the General Synod in 2017. Responses to this question only are collected for the benefit of the General Synod and will be shared with the Commission on Race and Ethnicity.

5. How does your congregation reflect the racial and cultural context in which you conduct your ministry? What are you doing to build bridges that develop and deepen mutual ministry that is multiracial and multicultural?

Question 6 was added by the General Synod in 2018. Responses to this question only are collected for the benefit of the General Synod and will be shared with the Commission on Christian Discipleship and Education.

6. How have those who serve in the spiritual formation or teaching arena of your congregation received ongoing or continuing education this year?

Part 2b

INDEBTEDNESS:

The following information is collected for the use of your classis in order to fulfill the directive from the Book of Church Order regarding indebtedness, which states, "the consistory shall not incur a total indebtedness which exceeds two-thirds of the prior year's expenditures for congregational purposes, as reported to the General Synod, without the approval of classis" (BCO, Chapter 1, Part I, Article 2, Section 13; 2019 edition, p. 17).

1. Does your church have any indebtedness?

☐ yes ☒ no

2. If yes, what is the total indebtedness?

\$ _____

3. Is your church delinquent in any of its debt payments?

☐ yes ☒ no

4. If yes, what is the amount of the delinquency?

\$ _____

Information regarding the spiritual health of the congregation and congregational indebtedness is collected to assist the classis in its supervision of the churches within its bounds.

Annual Consistorial Report for 2021

Fort Miller Reformed Church

church name

Fort Edward, New York

city, state/province

The information below will not be shared with any entity outside the RCA. It will be used by the Office of Ministry Services to send information to elders and deacons. Because the General Synod requires that gender statistics of ordained officeholders be reported (*MGS 2002*, R-32, p.54), please use the check box to convey that information.

List only those elders and deacons elected in 2021.

Name	Phone	Email	Office	Gender	Address
Allan Rice	518-747-9137	aanddrice@roadrunner.	Elder	Male	162 Ferry Blvd. South Glens Falls New York 12033
Janice Peterson	518-695-3054	kjpthree@gmail.com	Elder	Female	1243 Fort Miller Road Fort Edward New York 12828
Laurelyn Flanders	518-695-3358	ldflef@aol.com	Deacon	Female	238 River Road Greenwich New York 12834

The information below will not be shared with any entity outside the RCA.

It will be used to provide support for youth and discipleship ministry in RCA congregations, in keeping with the call articulated in Transformed & Transforming.

Primary youth ministry contact

Please provide information for the person who is the primary contact for youth ministry in your congregation. This person could be a paid staff member such as a youth minister or director of youth ministry, or he or she could be a volunteer if your congregation does not have youth ministry staff. If your congregation has more than one person in this role, please designate one as the primary contact.

☒ We have no youth ministry contact.

Name:

Title:

Address:

Email:

Phone:

Phone Type:

Primary Christian education/discipleship contact

Please provide information for the person who is the primary contact for discipleship and/or education in your congregation. This person could be a paid staff member such as a Christian education director or pastor of discipleship, or he or she could be a volunteer if your congregation does not have Christian education or discipleship staff. If your congregation has more than one person in this role, please designate one as the primary contact.

☒ We have no Christian education/discipleship contact.

Name:

Title:

Address:

Email:

Phone:

Phone Type:

May 1, 2022

FORT MILLER REFORMED CHURCH

ANNUAL REPORT

April 1, 2021 thru March 31, 2022

Balance on hand GF Nat'l Now Acct. 04-01-2021

\$ 6,744.44

RECEIPTS

Envelope Offering	\$ 4,090.00
Loose Offering	18,170.61
Benevolences	560.00
Initial Offering	5.00
Easter Offering	50.00
Christmas Eve Offering	50.00
Christmas Offering	80.00
Mission of the Month	200.00
Afghanistan Refugees	70.00
Building Usage (Parsonage)	9,900.00
Building Usage (Tenant House)	450.00
National Grid Reimb (Amanda)	3,108.66
National grid Reimb. (Doug)	1,083.14
Donations	1,305.00
Donations In Mem Of	450.00
Donation (Chapel By the River)	25.00
Anonymous Donation (Bell Tower)	500.00

ANNUAL REPORT CONTINUED

\$ 6,744.44

Neil Sanders Scholarship Fund	750.00	
Vereengheit Circle	1,361.93	
Sale of Railings	200.00	
DeGroot-Charitable Giving Fund	1,000.00	
Returned checks Dick Behrens	1,200.00	
Returned money Debbie Anderson	2, 250.00	
TIAA CREF Dividends	7,065.81	
General American Investors (Div)	30.07	
Transfer from Organ Fund	287.00	
Transfer from Building Fund	39,829.06	
TOTAL RECEIPTS	94,071.28	100,815.72

EXPENSES

Pulpit Supply	4,650.00	
Pulpit Supply Mileage	554.82	
Wendy Bittel	2,400.00	
McDonald Oil Church	4,978.64	
McDonald Oil Parsonage and	150.00	
Tenant house – bleed the lines and restart furnace		
McDonald Oil -Rep to TH Furnace	345.00	
McDonald Oil- Replace Thermostat	299.00	Parsonage

ANNUAL REPORT CONTINUED

\$ 100,815.72

McDonald Oil Church- bleed line	\$ 195.00
And replace nozzle	
National Grid – Parsonage	3,275.43
National Grid- Tenant House	1,292.31
National Grid- Church	584.29
Staples	193.73
Mission of the Month	908.30
Afghanistan Refugees	70.00
Classis of Schenectady- Classis Dues	3,038.00
Church Mutual -Insurance	3,011.50
Darryl Rasanen- plowing	315.00
Josh Bennett – Salt, shoveling	963.00
And salting	
Josh Bennett – Lawn Mowing (1)	100.00
Checks	117.55
Advantage Press	170.00
Verizon	668.40
Mahoney Notify-Plus	687.64
US Postal Service (PO BOX)	254.00
Tina DeJong – Paper Products	67.03
Spectrum/Time Warner Cable	1,739.64
Sound Solutions	520.00

ANNUAL RFEPORT CONTINUED

\$ 100,815.72

Mac Sanders – Table between stoves	426.00
The American Church – Off Env.	149.09
Nolee O Web Design	254.00
Organ Supply	1,530.00
Lemieux & Associates -Organ Repair	375.00
Wel-Dun- Repairs to water system	1,079.85
And testing of water	
Washington Cty Home for Aged	2,525.00
Women	
Suburban Propane	62.70
Camp Fowler	150.00
Allan Rice – Dick’s Gift Certificate	100.00
Ft Miller Emergency Fund	110.10
Jan Peterson- Covid Supplies	420.26
Jan Peterson-Ink Cartridge	98.11
Jan Peterson – Communion cups and	54.47
Garbage stickers	
Dolores Rice – honorarium	1,400.00
Jan Peterson – honorarium	1,400.00
McDonald Oil – replace oil tanks	2,324.00
Keith Wagar Painting	9,500.00
James Smith	8,905.00

ANNUAL REPORT CONTINUED

\$ 100,815.72

Scott Thetford Old School Designs	8,875.00
Curtis Lumber Company	6,482.04
Scott Thetford- Sight Inspection	247.50
Transf to DeGroot/Orr Fund m	7,095.88
Transf to Bldg Fund – Vereengheit Circle	1,361.93
Transf to Bldg Fund- In Mem Of	450.00
Transf to Bldg. Fund- Bell Tower Repairs	500.00
Transf to Scholarship Fund	750.00
Transf to DeGroot Charitable Giving Fund	1,000.00

BENEVOLENCES

Synod of Albany- Camp Fowler	745.00
Ft. Miller Cemetery	260.00
Greenwich Food Pantry	248.33
Argyle Food Pantry	248.33
Corner Stone Soup Kitchen	248.33
Young Life Ministry	195.00

TOTAL EXPENSES	91,119.20	91,119.20
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BALANCE ON HAND GF NAT'L NOW ACCT. 3-31-2022	9,696.52
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SAVINGS

Neil Sanders Scholarship Fund	18,736.60
Fort Miller Cemetery Fund	5,159.00

ANNUAL REPORT CONTINUED

Building Fund 16,944.97 (37.86) Interest income not allocated below)

1. DeGroot & Orr Fund 10,669.62
2. Furnace Fund 1,632.29
3. Bell Tower repairs only 500.00
4. Security Deposit (Parsonage) 825.00
5. Security Deposit (Ten House) 550.00
6. Hand Railings donation 234.31
7. DeGroot Charitable Giving 1,039.86
8. Erie Canalway Heritage Fund 110.00
9. Vereengheit Circle 935.93
10. Emergency Fund 110.10
11. In Mem of: 300.00

Sunday School/Youth Group C/D \$ 6,432.85 – matures 7-17-2022

Sunday School \$ 4,622.66 / Youth Group \$ 1,797.35

Respectfully Submitted,

Dolores M. Rice, Treasurer

“Moving Our Church Forward”

Fort Miller Reformed Church Consistory

Our Committee Members

Consistory:

Jan Peterson, elder

Laurie Flanders, deacon

Allan Rice, elder

Priscilla Sandersprey, deacon

Randi Sheffer, deacon

Congregation:

Tina deJong

Jim Rowland

Madison Squires

Committee Secretary:

Mac Sanders

February, 2022

March, 2022 rev

April, 2022 rev

***“Faith is confidence in what we hope for and
assurance about what we do not see.”***

Hebrews 11.1 (NIV)

Where have we been?

The FMRC has been in decline since 2014, the year our long-time pastor Reverend and Mrs. Charles Bailey retired. While we have maintained a faithful Sunday worship service, other important parts of our church life have either declined or gone away. Average Sunday worship attendance has shrunk by 2/3 and offerings by 1/3. We no longer have a Sunday School or youth group. Our women's group, the Vereengheit Circle, has, at least temporarily, suspended its regular meetings and holding our long-standing, community-wide suppers. Our church consistories since 2014 have focused on maintaining regular Sunday worship services with guest ministers and speakers (very important), but they have not taken on the crucial task of thinking about what actions are necessary to try to insure the long-term survival of our church. As a result, we have no vision for our future and, most importantly, no action plan to try to insure it. Since we do not have an installed minister, we have been under the supervision of the Schenectady Classis, the local governing arm of the Reformed Church in America. Our supervisors monitor the actions that we take and the decisions we make to be certain that they comply with the RCA's Book of Church Order, doing things "decently and good order." But there has not been any emphasis from our classis supervisors to focus on our future; that's the consistory's (our) responsibility, we need to take the initiative. We are still dealing with issues that continue to divide us, taking the focus away from thinking about and dealing with our future. Lastly, we are still feeling the effects of the Covid pandemic meaning some people not returning to in-person worship.

This past fall we formed a committee of consistory and congregation members and tasked it to set a vision for the future of our church and, most importantly, develop an action plan to put us on the path to start to attain this vision and long-term viability. That brings us where we are currently.

Where are we now?

We have become too internally-focused, seemingly satisfied having guest speakers and watching as our church declines and our programs close or wither. We have not tried to systematically connect with the new people in the community around our church and give them a reason or an incentive to join us. This insular mindset has to change or else we will close at some point. We need to get better, become more relevant.

As a way to start us down this path, we have chosen to use the Fresh Expressions program as the model to start to provide this external focus. The Church of England started this program about 20 years ago. This program brings the CoE to where people gather, such as their work place, much as the early church did, and hold some form of a church service there. This program has now been brought to the US. The RCA and the Christian Reformed Churches are supporting and using it. From the RCA Website:

“Church Multiplication Teams from the Christian Reformed Church in North America and the Reformed Church in America have signed a contract with an international ministry called Fresh Expressions to help them move forward in a newly-imagined North America church-planting initiative.

In this effort, existing churches will be encouraged to open themselves to help foster, support and expand ministries that can take various forms in the communities and neighborhoods in which they are located.”

Now, we certainly are not intending to plant new churches. We are trying to connect with new people and have them join us. The Fresh Expressions program has a Website listing programs and ideas to help established churches connect with new people. That’s what we’re using, those ideas for new ways to connect with people and then modify and apply these ideas to our specific situation around Fort Miller.

Before we implement any new program, we ask ourselves 3 questions:

- (1) Is the program externally focused enough and does it have a reasonable expectation of connecting with the people around us?**
- (2) Do we believe that some people participating in these programs will eventually “associate” with our church and hopefully become members?**
- (3) Is the program doable with existing resources, money and people or do we need more of either one or more of both? (The key issue is – Are our members willing to commit the time and effort to do these programs? The issue is people, not necessarily money as we have over \$200,000 in dedicated building fund and savings to do these programs.)**

Here’s how we assess where we are now.

Our strengths:

- We are committed to begin to act now to insure our future.**
- We have a core group of church members to act with us.**
- Our Sunday offerings cover our operating expenses. No debt.**
- We, as a consistory, will hold over until 3/31/2023. Continuity.**

Our weaknesses:

- We are divided and continually bring back past differences/issues.**
- We have no vision, no focus and no plan to move forward.**
- We are a greying congregation, no generational continuity.**
- We do not have an installed minister to lead us, moral authority.**

Our opportunities

- We have new people around us in our community and with our Fresh Expression-based programs have a way to begin to interact with them.
- We'll ask our classis, synod and the RCA for assistance in developing programs and, perhaps, a coordinated program with the Turning Point Churches in the Schuylerville area.

Our Threat:

With no actions to try to insure our future, we remain on the path to close our church. The question is the timing. (We are committed to never getting to the point to face this eventuality. We'll do everything possible to maintain our covenant with the preceding 7 generations to keep our church open, viable and witnessing.)

What's our plan of action for 2022?

1. Continue to be a witnessing, all-welcoming church.
2. Implement our version of the Fresh Expressions program.
3. Continue participation in the Albany Synod Mediation Program to get rid of this lingering division.
4. Start our pastor search by the mid 2nd quarter.

Here are our 2022 projects and a preliminary budget to begin to connect with the people around us.

Project	Estimated Cost
Chapel on the riverbank (site preparation, pulpit platform, electrical, PA system, maybe)	\$ 2,500.
Communications with community (“Red Flag” marketing program materials, eg church brochure)	1,000.
Summer community event (eg, strawberry social)	500.
200 th Birthday Celebration (programs, momentos)	1,500.

The future of our Moving Our Church Forward committee

We will continue to meet through out 2022 and beyond to evaluate how our programs are working and make any changes necessary. We will likely be adding programs as we gain experience and see our results and have a pastor. The limiting factor, at least in the near term, is people. Do we have a sufficient number of people who will commit to making these programs work? That’s the question. If not, we’ll prioritize and continue to move forward. Continued complacency is not an option. We are all trying to make our church better and more relevant as we move into our 3rd century.

The Committee

FORT MILLER REFORMED CHURCH

PROPOSED OPERATING BUDGET

4-1-2022 – 3-31-2023

OPERATING REVENUE

A. Recurring

1. Sunday Offerings (\$ 420.39 avg. weekly x 52) =	\$ 21,860.28
2. Donations	
a. DeGroot/Orr Fund Dividends	4,500.00
b. Other (Not Dedicated)	1,000.00

Total	27,360.28
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B. Building Usage

1. Parsonage (\$ 825 monthly x 12)	9,900.00
2. Tenant House (300 monthly x12)	3,600.00

Total Operating Revenue	40,860.28
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Operating Expenses (See attached Proposed budget)

FORT MILLER REFORMED CHURCH

PROPOSED BUDGET

	BUDGETED 4-01-21-3-31-22	SPENT 01-01-21-12-31-21	PROPOSED 04-01-22-3-31-23
SALARIES, GIFTS, FEES			
Minister's Salary	.00	.00	.00
Minister's Car Allowance	.00	.00	.00
Minister's Social Security	.00	.00	.00
Synod of Albany-ASFP	.00	.00	.00
Organist	1,400.00	1,400.00	.00
Church Secretary	1,400.00	1,400.00	1,400.00
Treasurer	1,400.00	1,400.00	1,400.00
Church Newsletter	225.00	.00	225.00
Custodial Services	2,400.00	1,900.00	2,400.00
Summer Campers	.00	.00	.00
Sunday School	.00	.00	.00
VBS	.00	.00	.00
Organ Supply	725.00	255.00	2,200.00
Pulpit Supply	3,600.00	4,200.00	7,800.00
Mileage	1,200.00	449.88	1,200.00
Youth Group	.00	.00	.00
Choir Music	.00	.00	.00
Sub Total	\$ 12,350.00	\$ 11,004.88	\$ 16,625.00
PROPERTY & MAINTENANCE (All Church Properties)			
Utilities:			
Fuel Oil-Church	5,000.00	3,136.64	5,000.00
National Grid- Church	600.00	573.50	600.00
Verizon Church	650.00	670.87	700.00
Mahoney Notify Plus	550.00	687.64	550.00
Spectrum	1,500.00	1,699.64	1,750.00
Repair & Maintenance			
Repairs & Improvements	4,500.00	2,053.70	4,500.00
Custodial Supplies	150.00	.00	150.00
Church Supplies	1,500.00	861.31	1,000.00
Snow Removal	1,500.00	1,329.00	1,500.00

FORT MILLERFOREMD CHRUCH

BUDGET CONTINUED

	BUDGETED 04-01-21-3-31-22	SPENT 01-01-21-12-31-21	PROPOSED 4-01-22-3-31-23
Insurance			
Property & Liability Insurance	2,800.00	2,945.00	3,192.00
Sub Total Prop & Main.	18,750.00	13,957.30	18,942.00
LARGER CHURCH MINISTRY			
Classis Dues	3,045.29	3,045.28	3,016.16
Benevolences:			
1. Synod of Albany Camp Fowler	745.00	745.00	745.00
2. Intervarsity Christian Fellowship	.00	.00	.00
3. Scripture Union	.00	.00	.00
4. Ft Miller Cemetery	260.00	260.00	260.00
5. Youth for Christ (Lenehan)	.00	.00	.00
6. Local Food Pantries	745.00	744.99	745.00
7. Scholarship Funds	.00	.00	.00
8. Gideons	.00	.00	.00
9. Duane Frasier-Missions	.00	.00	.00
10. Cindy Blanchard- Missions	.00	.00	.00

BUDGET CONTINUED

	BUDGETED	SPENT	PROPOSED
	04-01-21-3-31-22	01-01-21-12-31-21	04-01-22-03-31-23
11. Upstate Prison Ministries	.00	.00	.00
12. Young Life Ministry	195.00	195.00	195.00
13. Camp Peniel	.00	.00	.00
Sub-Total Benevolences	1,945.00	1,944.99	1,945.00
Total	\$ 36,090.29	29,952.45	40,528.16

Under the Repair and Maintenance portion of this budget, we are only budgeting for routine maintenance.

The capital Improvements (long term repairs and improvements) will be calculated as we go and the money will come out of the building Fund.

FORT MILLER REFORMED CHURCH

Rev. James Farinacci

March 27, 2022

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP – (responsively)

Come, let us celebrate the forgiving, reconciling love of God.

For once we were lost and felt so far away; now we have been found and welcomed home.

Know that God's love is lavished upon you forever.

We rejoice at the news of forgiveness and hope!

Come, let us celebrate and praise the God of Love.

AMEN

***HYMN**

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (in unison) –Almighty and most merciful Father, we have erred and strayed from Your ways like lost sheep. We have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts. We have offended against Your holy laws. We have left undone those things which we ought to have done; and we have done those things which we ought not to have done; and there is nothing good in us. O Lord, have mercy upon us, miserable offenders. Spare those, O God, who confess their faults. Restore those who are penitent; according to Your promises declared unto men in Christ Jesus or Lord. Grant that we may hereafter live a godly,

righteous, and sober life; to the glory of his name.

AMEN

ASSURANCE OF PARDON: 1 JOHN 1: 8-9

(8) If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

(9) If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

PASSING OF THE PEACE –

Leader: “The Peace of the Lord Be With You.”

People: “And also with you.”

[look around and greet one another from your seat]

SCRIPTURE READING –

Psalm 32

MESSAGE: “Blessed is the One Who....”

THE WORD OF OUR LORD! THANKS BE TO GOD!

-Our Response to God-

EXHORTATION TO STEWARDSHIP – [Please leave your offerings in the plate on your way out exiting through the front door or the side door. Thank you!]

CHORAL ANTHEM

**DEDICATION AND PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING
PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION AND THE LORD'S
PRAYER**

***HYMN**
BENEDICTION
POSTLUDE

***Please stand**
WELCOME TO EVERYONE!!!!
TO REMEMBER IN PRAYER –
THE TORMENTED PEOPLE OF UKRAINE

DOUG VINCENT AND FAMILY IN THE LOSS OF
THEIR MOTHER, BARBARA VINCENT.

KEN CROSBY'S MOTHER – as she heals from a fall
and transitions into Glendale

ROBERT PRATT suffering with tongue cancer

LEYDES HERNANDEZ'S MOTHER MARYANN– not
doing well in Honduras

JAIME LOVELAND recovering from a serious
operation

HELEN LOVELAND as she recovers from COVID
SHERRY as she takes care of her Mother

Our neighbor, BEVERLY KING, who fell and broke her
hip
PEOPLE WANDERING in this world – no place to go

CAROL CALL as she heals from hip surgery and takes
care of her husband, JOHN, as he struggles with health
issues
RON BIVENS, FRIEND OF THE ROWLANDS, as he is
in and out of the hospital

THE DIVISION of the country.
THE VICTIMS of natural causes – they suffer at such a
high cost to them.
OUR CHURCH
The CHILDREN who are victims of difficult
circumstances around the world.
The VETERANS who have given dearly for this country
ABBY deJONG and DEE MORRISON

CALENDAR
TODAY – COFFEE HOUR after Church

4/6 – CONSISTORY ZOOM MEETING – 5:30 p.m.

We need to get our orders to Tina for the Easter Plants
by 4-3-2022. Lillies are \$ 13.00 , Tulips and hyacinths
are \$ 12.00.

PREACHERS: 3/27 Rev. Farinacci; 4/3 Doug; 4/10
Dick; 4/17 Rev. Dungan; 4/24 TPC; 5/1 Doug; 5/8 Rev.
Dungan; 5/15 Dick; 5/22 TBA; 5/29 Rev. Farinacci;
6/5 Doug; 6/12 Rev. Farinaci; 6/19 Rev. Dungan;