

CHURCH INFORMATION FORM

WALDENSIAN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

(ECO-A Covenant Order of Evangelical Presbyterians)

2250 Farm Road 1080

Monett, MO 65708



Our mission

To be a vital congregation that reaches out to our community with the good news of salvation through Jesus Christ.

Our motto

Above the front door of the church is a stained glass window with the Biblical Waldensian motto: *Lux Lucet in Tenebris*, or *Light Shining in Darkness*. We aspire to be a light shining in an increasingly darkening world, serving others by sharing and living the word of God. The reference is to John 1:5 "The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it."



Our history

Our church was established in 1875 by a group of French and Italian immigrants, who came to the USA as part of the Waldensian Church (a pre-reformation group) which still exists in present day northwest Italy. We joined the Presbyterian denomination soon after coming to this present location. We joined the ECO denomination in late 2016. The Monett congregation was among the first Waldensian congregations to be established in the United States by some 40 settlers, including a few who had formed the first Waldensian settlement in South America in Uruguay in the 1850s. Our history began before the city of Monett was established. Our mission is continually being refined by the call of Jesus to be His light in the world today.

Our community

Our church is located in Monett, Missouri near the cities of Springfield and Joplin. We are a rural town with a population of nearly 9,000, but because of local industry increase to 14,000 during the day. Our public schools provide education for pre-K through twelve. We also have a vocational school to which fourteen schools send students, and four private Christian schools in the area. Cox Monett Hospital along with Mercy Health Systems provides a full range of healthcare. We have a YMCA and well used park system. In the past few years, there has been much effort to revitalize our downtown with focus on a local culture, including a historical museum, farmer's market, and downtown shopping. In terms of demographics we are largely Caucasian with a



sizeable minority of Hispanic or Latino. More information can be found at:

<http://www.monett-mo.com/>,

<http://monett.schoolfusion.us/>,

<http://cityofmonett.com>,

<http://orymca.org/monett-area-ymca> .

Our church / ministries

We currently have 43 members on our roster with 25-35 attending on Sunday. Half of our membership is under 60 years old. We are predominantly Caucasian. We meet weekly on Sunday for worship and have several fellowship meals throughout the year after the service to commemorate Thanksgiving, graduations, and “just because we want to.” For the past several years we have celebrated the Lord’s Supper 6-8 times annually. There have two adult Sunday School classes and one



teenage class, with the opportunity of weekly youth group with our sister church, First Presbyterian. We have a congregational prayer meeting on Wednesday nights. As we are a small congregation, our outreach to the community is often in conjunction with other area churches and ministries.

We support annual activities including Samaritan's Purse shoe box ministry, collecting warm winter items in November to be sent to Pine Ridge Indian Reservation in South Dakota, collecting food items for Crosslines (Poverty ministry), and collecting for the Salvation Army. We give to our local Habitat for Humanity, Loaves and Fishes, Theology Matters, Cru, and several individual missionaries. Along with three other churches in our community, we put on a week-long vacation bible school in the summer, and assist with a Lenten luncheon in the spring. Our two adult Sunday School classes meet monthly for a time of fellowship and socializing and they work together to put on a yearly ice cream social open to the community. Our desire is to be more involved in evangelism by being "a light in darkness" for our community and by supporting global missions. Waldensian Presbyterian Church is a reformed congregation that desires to glorify God by worshiping Him in spirit and truth. We strive to fulfill the Great Commission of our Lord Jesus Christ and to be faithful, obedient disciples of God. We aim to glorify Him by living our lives for Him and serving Him through our ministries.



Our pastor

We are searching for a pastor to shepherd our congregation by leading us with biblical teaching and preaching. It is important that the pastor believes the Scripture to be the inspired Word of God on which our church is built. We are seeking a servant of God who will engage the congregation, provide leadership to the elders and deacons, and encourage the spiritual growth of all who worship with us.

The pastor will perform the expected duties of moderating session meetings, administering the sacraments, officiating at weddings and funerals, and being available to counsel individuals as needed. Involvement with visits to those who are sick, shut-in,

and otherwise in need of pastoral care is a priority. We encourage involvement with the Monett Ministerial Association and its activities, including the yearly Lenten services held weekly during the Lenten season. Civic and community involvement is necessary to engage our congregation and spread the gospel. The pastor must be ordained by a reformed denomination and eligible for ECO ordination

We are open to several options as to employment, from full time to part time to bi-vocational, subject to pastor availability and interested applicants. Presently it is most conceivable for us financially that we seek a pastor interested in a part time or bi-vocational position. We feel that we do, however, have the potential for growth and pray that we might find a pastor who can lead us to grow spiritually and to be disciples of Jesus Christ in our community and beyond. We recognize that we have imperfections and pray that our new pastor will fulfill the need to help us achieve new growth.

Compensation and Housing

There is room for flexibility in terms of call based on the aforementioned (previous paragraph) considerations and experience. A manse is available, but is not mandatory. Tentatively, based on 20-30 hours a week, part-time, salary would average \$2000 monthly, plus a percentage of social security and Medicare totaling approximately \$25,400 annually.

If this looks like a position that God may be calling you to, please contact us. We will ask that you send a current resume, a statement of faith, and a sample of a sermon that you have presented.

Our contacts

Todd McCrackin (PNC Chairperson)
mccrackint@centurytel.net
417-847-7697

Terri Casper (Vice Chairperson)
mcasper68@gmail.com
417-489-1584 (cell)
417-235-5341 (home)

Steve Wise (Secretary)
steve-wise@hotmail.com
417-235-9114

Mail to:

ATTN: PNC

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2250 Farm Road 1080

Monett, MO 65708

417-235-3337