



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.

High Bridge Reformed Church
PO Box 225
High Bridge, New Jersey 08829-0225

ONLINE FORM

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

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.)* 27

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.* 42

3. Inactive Members: *Indicate the total number of members who have been removed by the Board of Elders from the active confessing membership roll.* 6

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). 48

6. Adherents: *Indicate the number of individuals who participate in the life, work, and worship of the church but are not members.* 15

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.)* 20

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.* _____

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

10. Transferred _____

11. Deceased _____

12. All Other Removals from Roll _____

BAPTISMS: *Indicate the number of individuals baptized.*

13. Infants _____

14. Adults _____

Part 1b

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

Fiscal year-end: 2021-12-31 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>20052</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>13637</u>
24. All other income (including, but not limited to: tuition revenue, rental income, grants from any agency)	<u>8768</u>
25. Total income (sum of lines 21-24)	<u>42457</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>3827</u>
27. All other church expenses	<u>155032</u>
28. Total expenses (sum of lines 26-27)	<u>158859</u>
29. Net income (line 25 minus line 28)	<u>-116402</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 consistory 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?

- Hired interim pastor
- Holding indoor, outdoor and online services
- Participated in Holy Trail again 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.)

- a. Transitional Pastor and transitioned back into indoor services online services
- b. New life on Consistory, having members volunteer to read and act as liturgists for online services during Advent.
- c. Participating in Holy Trail with 5 other churches to celebrate the story of Jesus's birth.

*With our church in such a big moment of transition Consistory found it difficult to answer these questions in depth. With our generally church population generally in the elderly category we have been very slow to open and active. We have had a strong online presence.

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?

Taking time to reflect on our building and figure out how we can be more inclusive. Consistory has spent time working on a plan to fix our non-ADA compliant areas, specifically the bathroom.

Fixing the bathroom will not only allow us to be more accessible for more people during worship, but it will also allow us to be an emergency center to provide warmth and safety during emergencies, such as natural disasters.

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

Challenges- Pandemic kept our building closed for half the year. Keeping our congregation engaged and safe.

membership, cost of buildings, lack of income, aging congregation- need to make it inviting for younger people.

Concerns- small membership

Celebration-New people on Consistory. Searching for new pastor

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?

Racial Demographic has not changed.

Pandemic kept our building closed for half the year. We email church bulletins to congregation to participate at home.

These bulletins are mailed to members without internet capabilities. Virtual services are provided on

Sunday available to anyone who wants to participate. Link to Virtual Service video is emailed to

congregation members who want to view it but do not have Facebook.

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?

None

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.

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
Tammy Banks	908-310-1234	tammy.banks81@gmail.	Deacon	Female	35 Mark Drive High Bridge New Jersey 08829
Julie Mills	908-328-2120	avonhausfrau@gmail.cc	Elder	Female	2 New St High Bridge New Jersey 08829

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: