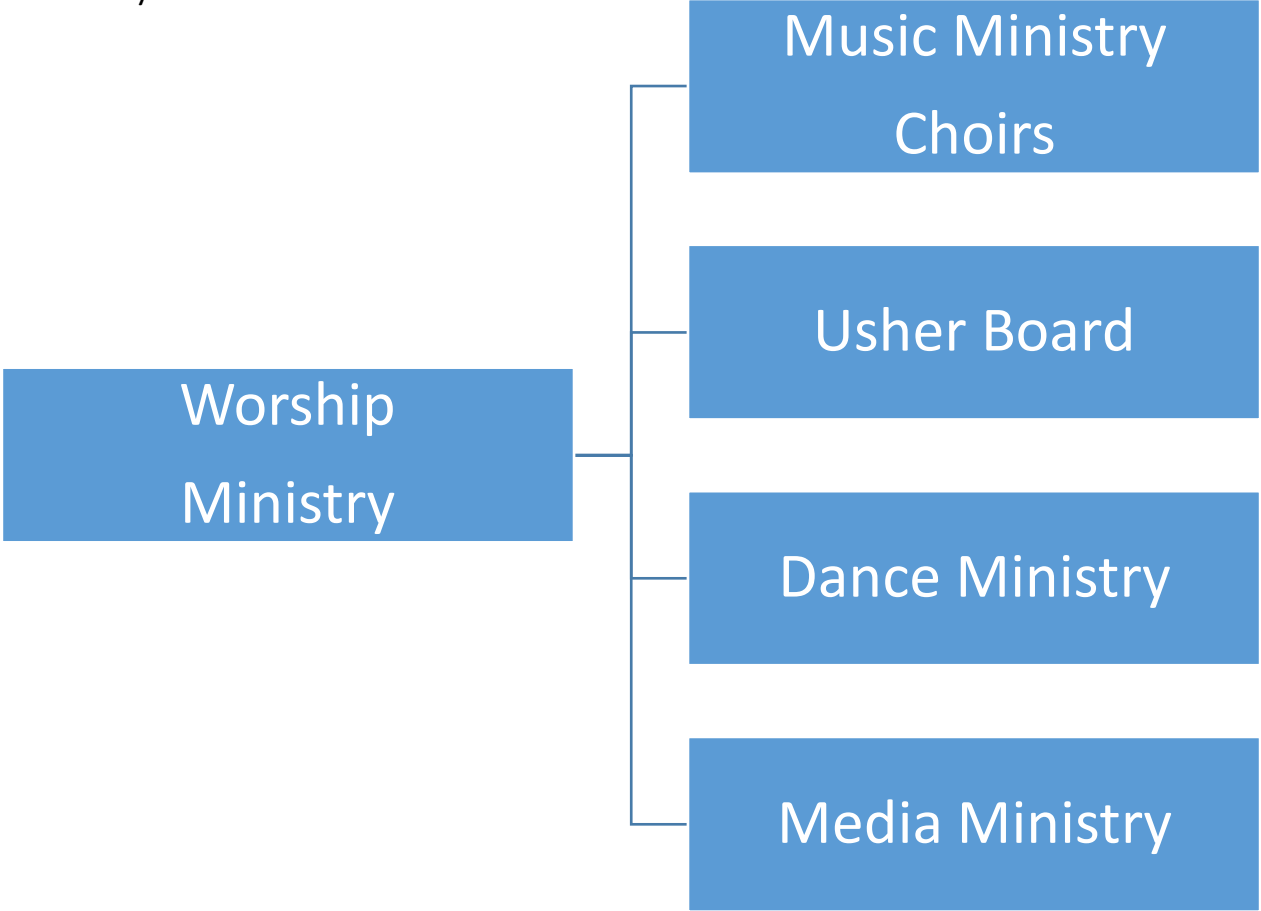


Each Ministry Acts as an Umbrella: Worship

and is connected to all the other Ministries of the church. Yet the Session is the authority of them all.



Membership & Finance



- In 2017 Grace Church Family had 122 members compared to the average PC(USA) congregation's 153 members.
- Our congregation has 98 members 2022 , we gained 4 members and lost 4.

Total Contributions

- Overall contributions to Grace in 2017 was \$186,420.80, were less than the 2017 average of \$299,169.90 for all PC(USA) congregations.
- Overall expenses for Grace in 2017 was \$198,523.70, were less than the 2017 average of \$294,094.14 for all PC(USA) congregations.
- Overall contributions to Grace in 2018 was \$197,978.41 and total expenses were \$214,945.77. The congregation spent more than it received by \$16,967.36.
- 2021 total contribution \$154,173.08 – expense \$156,891.61
- 2022 total contribution \$159,238.81 – expense \$158,179.22

Congregational Meetings

- a. electing ruling elders, deacons, and trustees;
- b. calling a pastor, co-pastor, or associate pastor;
- c. changing existing pastoral relationships, by such means as reviewing the adequacy of and approving changes to the terms of call of the pastor(s), or requesting, consenting to, or declining to consent to dissolution;
- d. buying, mortgaging, or selling real property;
- e. requesting the presbytery to grant an exemption as permitted in this Constitution (G-2.0404).
- f. approving a plan for the creation of a joint congregational witness, or amending or dissolving the joint congregational witness (G-5.05).



Governing and Organizational Structure



Governing Bodies of the PCUSA

Congregation: Session/Council

Presbytery: Baltimore

Synod: Mid Atlantic

GA: General Assembly





PC(U.S.A.) Governance

In 2016, administratively, the national Presbyterian Church U.S.A. is organized into 172 presbyteries which are grouped into 16 synods. The Presbytery of Baltimore is part of the Synod of the Mid-Atlantic located in Richmond, VA. In turn, every church in every presbytery is governed by its own “session” which is a group of “elders” who, with their pastor, serve as leaders of the congregation. Elders are elected by the congregation for three-year terms. To learn more about how Presbyterians govern themselves, go to <http://www.pcusa.org/navigation/whoweare.htm>

- That report was made in 2016 today in 2023 the report indicates that we now have 166 Presbyteries within the 16 synods. Presbyteries were dissolved or combined. What does this tell us about our Spiritual status?

Presbytery of Baltimore Demographics



Geographically, the boundaries of the Presbytery of Baltimore stretch from the mountains of western Maryland to the Chesapeake Bay and, in addition to Baltimore City, include nine counties: Allegany, Anne Arundel, Baltimore, Carroll, Frederick, Harford, Howard, Washington. Within these bounds are 68 Presbyterian congregations with a combined membership of 16,000.



Presbytery of Baltimore

Mission Statement

- Called to community by God, disciplined by Jesus Christ, enlivened by the Holy Spirit, Baltimore Presbytery encourages, challenges and equips our congregations to thrive spiritually and be apostles for reconciliation.





Vision Statement

- Grace Presbyterian Church, in obedience to God seeks to be a family church which grows through inspiring and challenging worship, welcoming and caring fellowship, active evangelism and deliberate Discipleship, competent and sensitive leadership and relevant ministry.





Evangelism Ministry

- Theme: Make Christ Known
- Scripture: The Great Commission
- Church Growth vs Soul Saving
- Money vs Ministry

Exercise: Choose one. In small groups of three to five people design one ministry that can help implement your vision or approach to ministry. Feel free to be creative. How long would it take to implement the plan and why? What are your expected outcomes? Who will benefit? Who is your target?

Vision Statement

- In obedience to God seeks to be a family church which grows through inspiring and challenging worship, welcoming and caring fellowship, active evangelism and deliberate Discipleship, competent and sensitive leadership and relevant ministry.

Chat
groups



Evangelism

- Make Christ Known
- 16 Then the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had told them to go. 17 When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted. 18 Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. 19 Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age." Matthew 28:16-20

Presbyteros Elders Called to Govern

Presbyteros literally means “an older person”, wise person, or a leader.



In Acts 14:23, I Timothy 3:1-7, and Titus 1:5 we learn that when the apostles planted churches they appointed elders to govern the congregation in their absence.

In the PCUSA persons are chosen by the congregation and with ministers exercise leadership, government, serve at the higher governing bodies with the same authority as Teaching Elders (TE) and can hold any office including moderator of the Presbytery, Synod and General Assembly (GA). (G-6.0300)



Diakonos

Deacons are Called to Serve

Acts 6:1-4 Ask about the Hellenists...



Definition

Walvoord, J. F., Zuck, R. B., & Dallas Theological Seminary. (1985). *The Bible Knowledge Commentary: An Exposition of the Scriptures (1 Ti 3:8)*. Wheaton, IL: Victor Books.

- The word translated “deacon” (*diakonos*) means literally a “humble servant.” The role of the deacons is to carry out, under the elders’ oversight, some of the more menial tasks of the church so that the elders can give their attention to more important things.



Gifts & Qualifications


a. To those called to exercise special functions in the church - deacons, ruling elders, and teaching elders --

God gives suitable gifts for their various duties. In addition to possessing the necessary gifts and abilities, those who undertake particular ministries should be persons of strong faith, dedicated discipleship, and love of Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord. Their manner of life should be a demonstration of the Christian gospel in the church and in the world. They must have the approval of God's people and the concurring judgment of a council of the church.



b. Standards for ordained service reflect the church's desire to submit joyfully to the Lordship of Jesus Christ in all aspects of life (F-1.02). The council responsible for ordination and/or installation (G-2.0402; G-2.0607; G-3.0306) shall examine each candidate's calling, gifts, preparation, and suitability for the responsibilities of ordered ministry. The examination shall include, but not be limited to, a determination of the candidate's ability and commitment to fulfill all requirements as expressed in the constitutional questions for ordination and installation (W-4.4003). Councils shall be guided by Scripture and the confessions in applying standards to individual candidates.





Ordination Questions

- Review the ordination questions (gracepresbymd.weebly.com)
- Any questions or reservations