

Profile of East Glenville Community Church

335 Saratoga Road

Glenville, NY 12302

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Church office hours 9am -2pm Monday through Friday

East Glenville Community Church (EGCC) is a member of the Conservative Congregational Christian Conference. Our web page, "What We Believe," [<https://www.egcchurch.org/what-we-believe/>] provides some basic information about EGCC. A copy of the church's *Constitution* and *Bylaws*, reviewed and edited in 2019 is also available.

Structure of the church:

EGCC is a congregational church that holds that Jesus Christ is the Head of the church. The Senior Pastor is the spiritual leader of the church. Together with the Elders, he oversees the pastoral and ministry staff and the church secretary. The officers of the church include the Church Moderator, Clerk, Financial Manager and Financial Secretary. Boards supervise ministries essential to the life of EGCC and include the Elder Board, Trustee Board, Diaconate Board, Christian Education Board and Missions Boards. The Servant Leadership Council meets three times yearly to coordinate functions of the Boards. The congregation elects individuals to Board positions. (More detail about these positions is available in Church Constitution and Bylaws).

EGCC employs a part-time Assistant Pastor who is responsible for visitation, community outreach, and preaches as needed (pg. 8 Bylaws). There are three staff positions responsible for Student, Children's and Worship Ministries each of whom reports to the Senior Pastor. EGCC also employs a part-time janitor, secretary, and accompanist.

- Director of Youth Ministries: The Director works with several volunteer members to reach out to middle and high school students. This individual provides activities and ministries to encourage students to develop their own personal relationship with Christ (page 9 Bylaws). The youth often do activities with nearby churches. There are many weekend events and at least one retreat each year.
- Director of Children's Ministries: The Director is responsible to provide and coordinate age appropriate programs for elementary age children and their families on weekends and evenings several times a year. This position oversees EGCC's Vacation Bible School which reaches over 150 children each year and is also a member of the EGCC Preschool Advisory Committee (page 9 Bylaws).
- Director of Worship Ministries: The Director oversees music and media programs at EGCC and leads the congregation in offering praise/worship. The Director works closely with many volunteers to offer choirs for adults and children, an orchestra, worship team, as well as a sound and technical team. The director oversees the Christmas drama/musical production that seeks to share the gospel with the community and supervises the accompanist (page 8 Bylaws).

EGCC is home to a well-respected Preschool. The preschool was started in 1963 and enrolls around 30 three-year olds and 40 four-year olds. The preschool is managed by the Director of the Preschool and maintains its own independent budget (page 9 Bylaws). The Preschool Advisory Committee functions to encourage and promote the preschool and consists of 4-5 people from the preschool staff and the Director of Children's Ministries.

Elder Board:

The Elder Board consists of men called by God to pray for, teach, and protect the congregation. The Elder Board manages the activities of the church pursuant to its Biblical principles, Constitution and Bylaws, approved objectives, stated purposes, budgetary and financial limitations, and approved policies, procedures and programs. The Elder Board shall care and pray for, admonish, discipline, and under shepherd the congregation (see page 12 Bylaws).

Christian Education Board:

These servant leaders organize a weekly school of Bible education and spiritual character development to children and

adults. This Board encourages, advises and promotes opportunities to learn God’s Word. Sunday Schools, nursery care, and junior church are some of the ministries organized by this board.

Diaconate Board:

This Board is composed of deacons and deaconess who promote the physical well being of the congregation, support its worship and minister to those outside the congregation as well. The Diaconate prepares and serves the Lord’s Supper. Diaconate includes a host of other ministries including Ushers, receptions for various occasions, etc.

The Missions Board: The missions program at EGCC is a central point of church life and has been so since the founding of the church. EGCC currently provides direct support to 24 active and retired missionaries and three agencies, as well as prayer support to others. Regular communication updates from the mission field are available to the congregation at a literature station in the church’s Hall of Missions. Missions programming includes an annual conference hosted by the church each fall and regular opportunities for short term missions trips, usually in the summer.

EGCC’s Dorcas Society is an outreach ministry that sews anything from bibles to quilts. These items are then donated to those in need both locally and throughout the country. The Flannelgraph Ministry paints sets of backgrounds and figures that tell bible stories and are sent for use by missionaries or other ministries where requested.

Trustee Board:

The Trustee Board is responsible for the care of the church properties, maintaining them as good stewards of God’s resources, and managing the corporate, fiscal commitments made by the congregation. The church custodian reports to the Chair of the Trustee Board.

EGCC has an active Men’s and Women’s Ministries. The Women’s Ministry team organizes several weekly Bible studies, “Ladies Night Out” several times a year, as well as a yearly retreat. The men have a Bible study that meets Wednesday nights. They plan fellowship events each year including breakfasts and a weekend retreat that both adult and teens are encouraged to attend.

Description of Church Property:

East Glenville Community Church is located on an 11.6 acre lot and contains approximately 27,000 square feet of space. The sanctuary was constructed in 1958 and was renovated in 2002. It seats approximately 400. The first structure, the chapel, now houses the church offices. There are six Christian Education classrooms with a capacity of approximately 30 in each and three can be subdivided. The overall condition of the buildings is very good. The church also owns a house known as Lita’s House, which provides housing for staff.

The church’s income and budget for the past five years has been:

	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Income</u>
2019	\$470,000	NA
2018	\$475,220	\$481,800
2017	\$463,307	\$474,600
2016	\$452,001	\$480,887
2015	\$429,406	\$444,763
2014	\$419,256	\$420,268

Community Demographics:

EGCC is located in a suburban community. The following information is based on data provided by the Town of Glenville (<http://www.townofglenville.org>). Population statistics state that as of 2017, the total number of people living in the Town of Glenville is 29,506. Demographics by age/gender: 48.4% male, 51.6% female with a median age of 44.

For population 25 years and over in Glenville:

High school or higher: 90.1%

Bachelor's degree or higher: 31.6%

Graduate or professional degree: 14.0%

Unemployed: 3.9%

Never married: 19.4%

Now married: 62.5%

Separated: 1.6%

Widowed: 9.1%

Divorced: 7.5%

Mean travel time to work (commute): 22.8 minutes

The number of two parent homes is 84.11% while the number of single parent households is 15.89%. Median household income is \$75,291 while average household income is \$90,284.

2010 Employment by Job Type for Civilian Population (Age 16+) Glenville, NY

White Collar	81.56%
Blue Collar	18.44%
Management, Business, and Financial Operations	16.98%
Professional and Related	28.43%
Sales and Office	27.34%
Service	10.80%
Farming, Fishing, and Forestry	0.00%
Construction, Extraction, and Maintenance	7.46%
Production, Transportation, and Material Moving	8.99%

2010 Employment by Type of Employer Total Civilian Population (Age 16+) Glenville, NY

Private for-Profit Wage and Salary Workers	63.51%
Private Not-for-Profit Wage and Salary Workers	11.68%
Local Government Workers	9.50%
State Government Workers	7.89%
Federal Government Workers	1.95%
Self-Employed Workers in Own Not Incorporated Business	5.36%
Unpaid Family Workers	0.11%

2010 Employment by Industry for Civilian Population (Age 16+) Glenville, NY

Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting, Mining	0.19%
Construction	6.14%
Manufacturing	8.27%
Wholesale Trade	2.00%
Retail Trade	10.20%
Transportation, Warehousing and Utilities	4.30%
Information	2.31%
Finance, Insurance, Real Estate, Administrative ,etc.	7.30%
Professional, Scientific, Management, Administrative, etc.	11.04%

Educational, Health, Social Services	29.51%
Arts, Entertainment, Accommodation, Food Services, etc.	5.65%
Other Services	4.66%
Public Administration	8.43%

Other churches in the nearby community include:

Glenville: Good Shepherd Lutheran; Immaculate Conception R.C.; Trinity Presbyterian; Believers Fellowship Center

Scotia: Scotia United Methodist; St. Andrew's Episcopal; St. Joseph's R.C.; Our Redeemer Lutheran; Trinity Presbyterian; First Baptist; First Reformed; City View Church

Burnt Hills: Burnt Hills United Methodist; Burnt Hills Baptist; Our Lady of Grace R.C.; Calvary Episcopal; Ballston Ctr. Presbyterian

Ballston Lake: Living Hope

Rexford area: Faith Baptist; Rexford United Methodist; Alplaus United Methodist; Latter Day Saints; Crossroads Christian Church

Charlton: Charlton Freehold Presbyterian; Victory Baptist; West Charlton United Presbyterian;

Synopsis of Church History: *(Adapted from His Children: A History Celebrating the Founding and Development of the East Glenville Community Church, Glenville, New York written by Phyllis Lucke, 1995)*

The Gathering Years 1945-1949

Pastoral Staff

- The church was first served by Assistant Pastors of First Presbyterian Church of Schenectady: Rev. Earnest McMillian (8/1945 - 3/1946); Rev. Lorentz Emery (4-9/1946); Rev. William McKeefrey (10-12/1946); Rev. Allan Collister 10/1947 - 2/1949); Mr. John Mount (2/1949 - 9/1952).

Missions

- Women's missionary society met in church member's home to sew and repair clothing for missionaries.

Organization

- First morning worship was held at Gleason Elementary School in 12/1947.
- 28 Charter members formalized support of the East Glenville Chapel as a branch of the 1st Presbyterian Church of Schenectady.
- East Glenville Church was incorporated as an independent church on 3/25/1949.
- First choir was organized.

Church Property and Attendance

- The land on Route 50 was purchased (where the church currently stands).

The Building Years 1950 - 1959

Pastoral Staff

- Served by Assistant Pastors of First Presbyterian Church of Schenectady: Rev. J. Christy Wilson, Jr. (10/1950 - 6/1951); Rev. John Mount (7/1951 - 9/1952); Mr. Ben Sheldon (12/1952); Mr. Robert Rovell.
- First full time pastor Rev. Raymond Ortlund (2/1953 - 6/1959).
- First Assistant Pastor John Chambers (6/1955 - 7/1958).
- First Youth Director Miss Norma Down.

Missions

- Financial and spiritual support for missions work began through the work of the Student Committee in 1953.
- First Missionary Conference 7/1953.
- First daily Vacation Bible School began in 1950 as a part of community outreach.

Organization

- First church constitution was written by Rev. Wilson.
- Women's Association began 9/1953 and included the Women's Missionary Society (now called the Dorcas Society).
- Small groups like "Homebuilders" (for couples), "Young Adult Conquerors" (young adults) and others begin meeting in the mid 1950's.

- Church library begins 1959.

Church Property and Attendance

- The church (now Buchanan Hall) is completed in 1953.
- Chapel completed in 1954.
- The present sanctuary was dedicated on 12/7/1958. Pews were installed in 1959.
- Church attendance grows from 70 in 1950 to 350 in 1959.

Change 1960-1969

Pastoral Staff

- Served by: Dr. Lloyd Dean (9/1959 - 8/1967); Rev. W. H. Gavin (2/1968 - 11/1981).

Missions

- EGCC holds annual missionary conferences.
- Continue international outreach weekends for foreign students.
- Radio broadcast of weekly worship begins 2/1962 and continues for about 10 years.

Organization

- A group of members leave the church and establish Faith Baptist Church and Clifton Park Community Church.
- Board of deaconesses established in 1963.
- Preschool established in 1963.
- EGCC begins its affiliation with the Conservative Congregational Christian Conference in 1963 and hosts the CCCC annual meeting.

Church Property and Attendance

- Steeple installed on main sanctuary.
- EGCC reaches high point in attendance: 412 members; Sunday School serves 592 children and adults; average Sunday attendance 540 in 1960 and 425 in 1969.

Holding a Steady Course 1970 - 1981

Pastoral Staff

- Served by: Pastor William Gavin (2/1968 - 7/1981).

Missions

- Annual missionary conferences continue.
- Short term mission trips begin.
- EGCC hosts three Tony Fontane evangelistic campaigns in 1972-1974 as an outreach to the community.

Church Property and Attendance

- New educational wing, connecting walkway and enlarged kitchen completed in 1976.
- Average Sunday attendance is 400 in 1970 and 380 in 1979.

Struggle 1982 - 1989

Pastoral Staff

- Served by: Interim Pastor Rev. Donald Mostrom (9/1981 - 2/1982); Pastor Daniel Wray (2/1982 - 12/1987); Interim Pastor Rev. James Hale (1/1988 - 6/1989).

Organization

- Women's association disbanded.
- Saturday morning men's breakfast disbanded.

Church Property and Attendance

- Average Sunday attendance is 275 in 1989.

Onward with Remembrance 1990 - 1994

Pastoral Staff

- Served by: Rev. Ronald Sylvester.

Missions

- Church planting in Malta – Saratoga Chapel.

Organization

- Mentoring of Christian workers.

- Church prays for a renewed commitment to love, trust and serve Him.

Church Property and Attendance

- Renovation to sanctuary in 1993.
- Average attendance in 1994 is 200.

Into the New Millennium 1994 - 2011

Pastoral Staff

- Served by: Rev. Ronald Sylvester (7/1989 - 11/2011).

Missions

- Website goes live in the early 1990's. Overhauled in 2012.
- First sermon podcast downloaded to sermon.net on 12/5/2010.
- VBS at EGCC is filled to capacity each summer. EGCC served 190 children in the summer of 2012 with over 80 adult/teen volunteers.

Organization

- Drama ministry expands. 350 - 400 are in attendance each performance of Christmas musical (considered a community outreach program as well).
- Worship: praise songs start our worship service in the early 2000's; praise band, media and sound team formed; media projector installed.
- Full time Youth Pastor and paid part time Director of Children's Ministries hired in late 1990's.

Church Property and Attendance

- Renovations to building. The congregation dedicated the newly renovated church in August of 2003.
- Pink and Blue Room (pre-school wing) renovation completed in July of 2004.
- Restoration/renovations to Buchanan Hall and Christian Education wing completed in March of 2005.
- Average attendance in 2004 is 293. Average attendance in 2010 is 233.

Transition 2011 - 2013

Pastoral Staff

- Served by: Interim Senior Pastor Cliff Christensen (3/2012 – 8/2013).

Organization

- A Transition Team was established and met over a six month period and was charged with five purposes:
 - understanding church history
 - examining leadership and organization of the church (constitution and by-laws)
 - strengthening outside relationships
 - examining our Identity
 - planning for our future
- At the conclusion of their work, the Transition Team provided 24 recommendations to the congregation in the fall 2012. They concluded with three questions we must ask with regard to everything we do: "Is this pleasing to God?"; "Will this draw us together?"; "Will this give a positive testimony to our community?"
- Search Committee members were recommended by the Elder Board, voted upon and approved by the congregation on September 23, 2012.

Realignment and Movement 2013 - 2016

Pastoral Staff

- Served by: Senior Pastor James Smith (9/2013 – 7/2016).

Organization

- Our vision as a church was reexamined and freshly expressed: Loving God, loving people, and helping them know and follow Jesus.
- Alignment of programs and ministries to the vision
- Movement in our lives as disciples of Christ
- The Lord accomplished much as we worked together and walked with Him:
 - The Bible honored and taught as God's own Word to us
 - People made decisions for Christ and were baptized
 - Men forged a deeper bond with Jesus Christ and a growing sense of being part of one another

- Broken relationships reconciled
- Emphasis on our ministry in the “112”, our time in the community outside the church
- Pastor Jim resigns to relocate near his family in Alaska – hard to see him leave, but we understand God’s call in his heart.
- Initiatives to realign church organization continue

Realignment and Movement 2016 - 2019

Pastoral Staff

- Served by: Interim Senior Pastor Henry “Brad” Bradford (9/2016 – Present).

Organization

- Focused on “Know - Share - Take” as a framework to build our church and equip the membership for service and outreach
- “It’s all about Him [God] but it’s all for us” as the key theme of God’s grace reaching to all of us for His glory
- 4 key community outreach events each year

Notable Characteristics of EGCC Culture

- Faithful
- Thankful
- Family
- Singing!
- Love for Jesus, love for each other
- Heart for missions
- Outreach to community and beyond - bringing others to Jesus
- Committed to spiritual growth
- Uses God’s Word to examine what it means to be Christ’s family
- Knowing God, knowing Jesus
- Prayer in good times and in adversity
- “Excitement about prayer”
- Centrality of scripture
- Commitment to youth (support, encouragement, leading, mentoring)
- Strong male leadership with dedicated, caring, involved women who are equally spiritual and strong
- Making disciples
- “Whole hearted living for Christ” - beyond Sundays, beyond these walls
- The Lord is faithful, the Lord is good
- We are His body