

What people are saying about the ARP...

“Why become ARP?

- Because I appreciate a church that historically wanted to be faithful without being schismatic.
- Because deep roots in the Reformed tradition are important to me.
- Because church is family, and here we are neither lost in the cogs of denominational politics nor retreating into practical independency.
- Because the ARP provides a place to stand (on Christ, in Scripture, in loyalty to the Westminster Standards), room to breathe (comparative freedom from kingdom-building mentalities), and an opportunity to grow (as the church looks to be faithful to the Lord into the future.)”

—**Sinclair Ferguson**

“As a founding member of an ARP church plant, and as an elder, nothing has provoked me to grow more spiritually than to be associated with such a solid, Biblically-grounded denomination. The approachability of the leadership of the ARP has been remarkable. We are thrilled to tell others of the hope that is within us and within the ARP!”

—**Bill Wolfe**

Astronaut Instructor
40-year veteran at
Johnson Space Center

People are saying...

“During the seventeen years that I have been a member of the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church I have been privileged to watch an old church become a new one. Indeed, to me, that’s the genius of the ARP today. This very old church, whose origin dates to the 1700s, is a very new church as well. How is that? At its inception, its goal was to provide a place for true Presbyterians who were unwilling to bow to erroneous teaching about the Gospel, to worship, fellowship, and reach out to the lost. Then, in time, it drifted. Now, in our generation there has been not only a revival of its original mission, but an even greater desire for local and world outreach. Today, many are looking for a Reformed denomination that adheres to the old faith in a loving and contemporary manner. I found this in the ARP, and I believe you will too.”

—**Jay Adams**

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Charting a new course?



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CONVINCING
REASONS TO
CHOOSE THE
ARP CHURCH

*Why
should
YOU
consider
joining the
Associate
Reformed
Presbyterian
Church?*

1 ROOTS

The Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church was organized in 1782. Many advantages come with the maturity of more than 200 years.

- **Identity** We know what we believe and what we stand for.
- **Stability** We are blessed with a stability and maturity developed over many generations of working through all sorts of theological and social issues.
- **History** We appreciate our rich heritage, which reaches back to 18th century Scotland.
- **Family** We have earned a reputation of being a close-knit, loving denomination.

Our church government has stood the test of time. The ARP Church is governed:

- by the regional presbyteries and by the General Synod.
- by teaching elders (pastors) and ruling elders in the local churches.

Each church sends representatives to presbytery and synod meetings.



2 FAITHFULNESS

Our commitment to the Reformed faith remains strong.

- **We stand firm** on the sovereignty of God.
- **We believe** that the Bible is the “Word of God written, without error in all that it teaches.”
- **We are not afraid** to challenge our culture,
 - ♦ **proclaiming** God as Father, Son and Holy Spirit,
 - ♦ **remaining** faithful to our doctrinal standards,
 - ♦ **refusing** to ordain practicing homosexuals, yet respecting them as people made in the image of God, who need to hear the Gospel,
 - ♦ **affirming** the virgin birth of Christ,
 - ♦ **believing** the authenticity of the first 11 chapters of Genesis,
 - ♦ **warning** about the damage produced by sin and the reality of hell,
 - ♦ **encouraging and supporting** the ministry of women in the church to the greatest extent possible, yet recognizing that the Bible reserves the roles of elders and pastors for men.

Doctrinal debates over the years have strengthened the unity and stability fostered by the Reformed faith. We remain committed to biblical teachings in all things.

3 OUTLOOK

While we are proud of our roots that go back to the “Great Awakening” in Scotland, we are also encouraged as we look toward the future.

- **The ARP Church is growing.** We have
 - ♦ 265 congregations in 10 presbyteries in the United States and Canada, and
 - ♦ 30 new churches being planted in the U.S. and Canada
- **The ARP Church is obeying Christ’s Great Commission to make disciples.** Our foreign mission fields include
 - ♦ Pakistan, Mexico, Russia, Germany, Turkey, Wales, and Persian-speaking people.
 - ♦ ARPs also work on other mission fields through cooperative agreements.
- **The ARP Church is renewing.** We have offered a revitalization program for 10 years. Currently we are providing a variety of tools to help in the renewal of existing churches.

We are encouraged that the ARP denomination is alive and continues to grow by God’s grace—numerically, geographically, and most important, spiritually.

But first and foremost, we are encouraged about the years ahead because we know the sovereign God who holds the future.

4 ATTITUDE

A sense of unity is evident in the ARP Church. We are walking together in a common direction.

- We have learned how to **disagree without divisiveness**.
- **Respect and civility** are part of the ARP tradition; attitudes that are becoming all too uncommon in our society, and even in church courts.
- Guests have described our annual Synod meetings as having the atmosphere of a **family** reunion. We like to be together and that honors our heavenly Father.
- Our Synod agencies practice **teamwork**, and seek to provide tools to help local congregations.

We strive—to the greatest degree possible—to demonstrate the attitude of Christ.

We have given only four of the many reasons why a church, a group, or an individual might choose the ARP.

As a fellowship of believers we open our doors, praying that those who come in will find comfort, encouragement, and spiritual growth. We welcome people from varied racial and cultural backgrounds—all who seek to worship our sovereign God.

We invite your inquiry.