

Search and Call Tools for Congregations

Advancing the Spirit's guidance into God's future

SMALL CHURCH LOCAL CHURCH

Who
are
we

Who
is our
neighbor

Who is
God
calling us
to become

?

The Small Church (churches seeking a settled pastor for ½ time or less or with less than 50 average worship attendance or looking for a Pastor to fill a short-term vacancy). The Local Church Profile is not just for congregations in search of a pastor. *All Small Church* congregations are encouraged to engage in its process of discovery every 3-5 years. The Small Church UCC Local Church Profile reflects valuable data, assesses ministry, clarifies change, and helps advance the calling of the congregation. Not just to be completed by a search committee – the more participation, the better!

MINISTERIAL EXCELLENCE,
SUPPORT & AUTHORIZATION

**UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST**



**UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
LOCAL CHURCH PROFILE
FOR SMALL IDENTIFIED CHURCHES**

(CHURCHES SEEKING A PASTOR FOR ½ TIME OR LESS, OR WITH LESS THAN AN AVERAGE OF 50
IN WORSHIP ATTENDANCE, OR TO FILL A SHORT-TERM VACANCY)

Baker Community Church/ UCC
Baker, Montana

Pastor

Montana-Northern Wyoming

December 2021

LOCAL CHURCH PROFILE CONTENTS

- Position Posting
- Who Is God Calling Us To Become?
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- Who Is Our Neighbor? What is Our Community's Vision?
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*"I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go;
I will counsel you with my loving eye on you." (Psalm 32:8, NIV)*





1. POSITION POSTING

- a. LISTING INFORMATION
- b. SCOPE OF WORK
- c. COMPENSATION & SUPPORT
- d. WHO IS GOD CALLING TO MINISTER WITH US?

1a. LISTING INFORMATION

Church name: **Baker Community Church**

Street address: **248 S 1st St. West**

Supplemental web links: **Facebook for Baker Community Church**

Church Mission Statement (if developed): **Living God's Word, Sharing God's Love**

Additional ecumenical affiliations (*e.g. denominations, communions, fellowships*): **None**

Conference: **Montana-N.Wyoming Conference and Association UCC**

UCC Conference or Association Staff Contact Person (Name, Title, Phone, Email):

Marc Stewart, Conference Pastor

2016 Alderson Ave.

Billings, MT 59102

406-656-8688

ucc@mnwcucc.org

Summary Ministry Description:

In a short paragraph, reflect on where your church is going and what it might look like when you get there. What do you need to get there? Who are you seeking to join you on this part of your church's faith journey?

We want to be a lively body of faith in our community. We are searching for a pastor who will help us to deepen our faith journey both within our church congregation and our surrounding community.

Current size of membership: (*Total number of members and average attendance*)

35 members/ average attendance 15

Languages used/spoken during worship or in ministry (other than English): **Only English**

Position Title: **Settled or Supply Pastor**

Position Duration (*choose one, delete the other options listed*):

Settled – a called position intended for longer-term ministry in which the minister moves church membership to the congregation and moves standing to related association/conference

Supply – a temporary position in which the pastor does not move membership to the congregation served or move standing to related association/conference

Compensation Level (*choose one, delete the other options listed*):

½ Time

Does the total support package meet conference compensation guidelines? (*yes/no*)

Yes

1b. PASTORAL EXPECTATIONS AND GOALS

(Select some of the expectations of the church's next pastor using the list below and following the Call Agreement Workbook. Some additional goals for the pastor may also be included here. Expectations should be reasonable based upon the compensation level selected above.)

EXPECTATIONS:

☒ **Worship Leadership, Preaching,**
Service Preparation

☐ **Church Administration, Newsletter,**
Communications, Staff Supervision

☒ **Leadership with Church governing**
body and committees.

☒ **Pastoral care, visitation of hospitalized,**
homebound, and members in care
facilities.

☒ **Special services (weddings, funerals,**
liturgical year services)

☒ **Teaching – Bible Studies, adult**
education, confirmation, other (please
provide a list of any other teaching
items).

☒ **Maintain denominational relationships.**
☐ **Mission and service involvements**

☐ **Other expectations: please provide a list**

☒ **Participate in community ecumenical**
events

PASTORAL GOALS:

We wish for the pastor to be, not only part of the church family, but to know our individual families. Members need to be sensitive to the pastor's needs and goals. Sometimes we expect too much of a pastor without giving back to him/her. We desire the pastor to understand and appreciate a small rural community whose livelihoods are farmers/ranchers, oilfield workers, business owners, retirement, etc. We live in a community that is safe for raising families.

1c. COMPENSATION AND SUPPORT

Salary and Benefits Offered: Salary Basis <i>(from the Call Agreement Workbook, equal to Cash Salary plus Value of Parsonage/Housing Allowance, please make sure to complete section 3d below as well. The Conference can assist in determining these amounts or provide a worksheet to be used to calculate these values.):</i> Item Offered	Check if Yes	Amount or percentage (if determined)	Is this negotiable? (Check if yes)	Pastoral Candidate Determines (Check if yes)
Salary (Cash basis determined from Conference/ Association Guidelines)	X	18,000\$	X	
Any Experiential Difference (Related to years of experience)			X	
Benefits:				
Pension	X		X	
Social Security Offset	X		X	
Medical/Dental Insurance	X		X	
Life Insurance				
Disability Insurance				
Worker's Compensation	X			

What is the expected living situation for your next minister (*e.g. parsonage, living nearby with a housing allowance, living elsewhere to commute as needed*)?

Parsonage

If applicable, describe how your church will adopt part-time adjustments in the pastoral schedule to support a minister's bi-vocational employment:

We would work with the pastor as to the best schedule. We realize that schedules will change as needs arise.

Please mark any additional reimbursements the next Pastor can expect to receive as part of their employment:

☒ Mileage reimbursement for use of personal vehicle.

X Internet at the church

☒ Conference and/or Association meeting registrations

X Other meeting registrations (or educational requirement registrations).

___ Criminal background checks (conference)

___X___ Other (please specify below):

paid vacation including two Sundays off
annually (negotiable)

Describe peer and professional supports available for ministers in your association/conference:

Even though we live in a rather isolated area, the UCC pastors are always available to confer with each other. There used to be a group that met a couple times a year (Eastern Association in past terms) and I know they gained a lot from sharing with the other rural pastors (sometimes other denominations would attend). Our conference office is good about alerting pastors to learning and required opportunities.

1d. WHO IS GOD CALLING TO MINISTER WITH US?

Describe the church's ministry goals you envision your next minister co-collaborating with the congregation to achieve.

We envision weekly church services, a confirmation class for teens, and adult Bible study.

Our church shares Sunday afternoon worship in rotation with 6 other area churches in the nursing home and assisted living. Our church has also led hymn and folk singing at the nursing home and assisted living facility twice each month for both. We are joined by members of other churches for this.

We would like to increase membership and include some more modern worship methods while respecting our traditions.

Based on what you have learned about who your church is, who your church's neighbor is, and who God is calling the church to become, describe four areas of excellence from *The Marks of Faithful & Effective Authorized Ministry* that your next minister will display to further equip the congregation's ministry in these areas.

1. Establishing a spiritual foundation and ongoing spiritual practices. The pastor helps this congregation adjust to "Covid" ministries by keeping us strong in our spirituality. We need a pastor to help us understand the holy spirit, the power of prayer, and the needs of those around us.

2. Building leadership skills. Members would like to become leaders for our church, both in church services and in our community.

3. Engaging sacred stories and tradition. We would like to continue hearing Bible stories and how they relate to our lives today. Traditions are some of the most important things we can pass down to our future generations. They need to know why these traditions exist and how they relate to the Bible.

4. Strengthening inter-and intra-personal assets. As a society we need to strengthen our personal relationships, not reduce them as the trend seems to be going. We have aspects of our times of isolations from others whether it be for work, school, etc. It is too easy to stay home from church, watch on a tv and not in community with others.



2. WHO IS GOD CALLING US TO BECOME?

“You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.” (Matthew 22:37 NRSV)

Who is God calling you to become as a congregation?

God is calling us to be loving and **caring for others, serving in our community, and welcoming all to our church by living His word.**

Describe how God is calling you to reach out to address the emerging challenges and opportunities of your community and congregation.

For example, describe two experiments your congregation has initiated or engaged in the past year, what were the results and where do you see your next steps? Has your church had a multi-year strategic plan or vision statement; if so, where do you see that plan/vision taking you?

1. We had an evangelical pastor for 7 months. He drew in people who were not here before, but he did not believe in UCC doctrine and wanted us to close our affiliation with UCC. We said we would not do that and he left, taking the new people with him.

2. We provide Sunday school for young children during the last half of the service. This has worked well. The young mothers take turns leading the class and the middle-schoolers go and help with it also. We have a few young people –yeah!

We do not have a future strategic plan at this time. A settled or supply pastor would help a lot with this and give us guidance.



3. WHO ARE WE NOW?

“You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” (Matthew 22:39 NRSV)

- a. CONGREGATIONAL REFLECTIONS
- b. CONGREGATIONAL DEMOGRAPHICS
- c. STAFFING
- d. CHURCH FINANCES
- e. HISTORICAL INFORMATION

3a. CONGREGATIONAL REFLECTIONS

Describe your congregation’s life of faith.

For example, what beliefs and commitments are stated in your congregation’s purpose statement or membership vows? How is God most often described in worship liturgy? In what ways would you describe the Holy Spirit in your midst?

“The church recognizes the Bible as the sufficient rule of faith and practice, and holds that living in accordance with the teaching of Jesus Christ is the true test of fellowship. The object of this church shall be to bind together as followers of Jesus Christ for the purpose of sharing in the worship of God and in making God’s will dominant in the lives of all people, individually and collectively, especially as that will is set forth in the life, teachings, death and living presence of Jesus Christ.”

According to Genesis, people are made in his image male and female but we refer to God as “he” because Jesus calls him Father.

The Holy Spirit is the part of God and Jesus that we have in our lives daily as an advocate from God and Jesus.

Describe several strengths or positive qualities of your congregation.

Our Community Church has a 112 year history in Baker. We have three generations of families in attendance regularly. We work hard at projects in the church. Our desire is to be more visible in the wider community.

Describe what worship is like when your congregation gathers.

For example, where does worship take place, and what is it based around? What was a recent baptism like? What are some words used to describe good preaching?

Worship is in the sanctuary on Sunday mornings. We use hymnals but are open to newer music also and we have an organist. Baby baptisms have been with sprinkling and involving congregational commitment. Good preaching uses real life experiences and is contemplative and uplifting; using lots of Bible references; 12- 20 minute sermons.

Describe the educational program/faith formation vision of your church.

For example, how are young people in leadership? How do people continue to form their faith over a lifetime? Name a topic studied or curriculum used recently; what was the impact of this study on those who attended?

Our young people have read scriptures, served as ushers, lighted candles and now some help with the young children's Sunday School during part of the service. We have three teenagers that are needing a confirmation class – we are waiting for a pastor to lead this. There has not been a curriculum used for several years. Some that have been used were The Whole People of God or David C Cook. The young mothers that meet for a Bible study vary their course a lot and sometimes it is based on a thought inspiring book (courses are 4-8 weeks in length,)

Describe how your congregation is organized for ministry and mission.

For example, how are decisions communicated in your church? How are teams or committees organized? Where does your church struggle for vision?

Our church is led by a council of 4, a treasurer, a clerk, and a moderator. Decisions are made and reported through updates in the bulletin, a newsletter is sent out and reports are in the annual meeting report. If it is a major decision, it is taken to a church meeting of all members. We did have (and would like to have again) a pastoral relations committee. That is a great venue for working out issues on both sides.

Our church struggles for vision because we have been so long without a settled pastor. We would appreciate a visionary pastor. Currently we are in a survivor mode and we need consistency.

When it comes to decision-making, how many hours are spent in meetings per month?

We usually meet monthly for about 3 hours or as needed with additional meetings as needed.

Think of a time when action had to be taken quickly, for example when a crisis or disaster occurred. How was that accomplished?

We use phone calls, texting, and. prayer chain

Can you provide the next minister with a copy of an organization structure, bylaws and/or annual report to further explain the patterns of the church’s activity and governance? **YES**

Describe the mix of ethnic heritages in your congregation, and the overall racial make-up. Most UCC congregations tend to describe themselves as “diverse.” Yet, the vast majority of UCC congregations are mono-cultural. What does diversity mean in your context?

We are a 100% Caucasian membership, but have occasional visitors of other nationalities. All are made to feel welcome. We did have a Samoan pastor for three years and she was very well accepted by our congregation and the community.

Has your congregation recently had a conversation about welcoming diversity, or do you plan to hold one on the near future (perhaps using, for example, the Welcoming Diversity Inventory)? Please note the date. Comment after the exercise:

No, we have not had that conversation. Our community is not diverse, except maybe some oilfield workers and we welcome them.

3b. CONGREGATIONAL DEMOGRAPHICS

Describe the total participation of the church:

	Number	<i>Is this number an estimate? (yes/no)</i>
Membership 5 Years Ago:	36	no
Membership 10 Years Ago:	66	no
Weekly adult education attendance: (if any)	7	no
Youth ministry attendance: (if any)	11	no

3c. STAFF & VOLUNTEER LEADERSHIP

Complete the following chart. Please leave blank any fields that are not applicable to your congregation. List all current staff, including ministers. Exclude the position you are seeking to fill. Indicate which staff person serves as head of staff.

Staff or Volunteer Position	Who guides the work of this position?	Compensation (full time, part time, volunteer)	Length of Tenure for current person in this position
Moderator	Council	volunteer	1 ½ years
Clerk and treasurer	council	volunteer	9 yrs, 7 yrs resp.
Janitor	council	\$150/mo	3 yrs
Organist		volunteer	38 yrs

REFLECTION

Reflection: After reviewing the congregational demographics and activities above, what does this information reflect about your congregation's overall ministry?

We are multi-generational and still using many facets of "old-style" worship. We used to have enough members to support three sub-committees so that the council did not have to do everything. We need to change to grow; however, we need to do so without leaving the traditional older generation feeling excluded. We need to have worship and activities that attract people to our church and a congregation and pastor that keeps them coming back.

3d. CHURCH FINANCES

Current annual income (dollars used during most recent fiscal year)

Source	Amount
Annual Offerings and Pledged Giving	\$44,000
Endowment Proceeds (<i>as permitted within spending policy, such as a cap of typically 4.5%-5% on total return</i>)	\$1,400
Endowment Draw (<i>beyond what is permitted by spending policy, "drawing down the principal"</i>)	\$0
Fundraising Events	\$3,000
Other (specify):memorials, use of fellowship hall, etc	\$1,500
TOTAL	\$49,900

Current annual expenses (dollars budgeted for most recent fiscal year): **\$ 44,400**

Attach most recent church budget, spending plan, operating statement, or annual treasurer's report as shared publicly with the congregation, or – if your church does not pass an annual budget – list current budgeted expenses here.

Considering total budgeted expenses for the year, compare total ministerial support. What is the percentage? **40 %**

Has the church ever failed to pay its financial obligations to a minister of the church? **NO**

Is your church 5-for-5, i.e. does it include each of the following contributions during the church year? (*indicate those included during the most recent fiscal year*)

☒ Our Church's Wider Mission (OCWM – Basic Support)

☒ One Great Hour of Sharing

☒ Strengthen the Church

☒ Neighbors in Need

☒ Christmas Fund

In what way is OCWM (Basic Support) gathered? If calculated as a percentage of operating budget, what is that percentage? (*Recommended 10%*)

Traditionally we have supported all of these special offerings. However we have not been receiving the envelopes and informational materials and then we forget about them at the correct time. We will try to be more diligent.

OCWM is usually a designated amount voted on by the church council, not a certain percent.

What is the church's current indebtedness?

Total amount of loan debt: **0**

Reason for loan debt:

Are capital and other payments current? **yes**

Does the church currently have any endowments? If so, what are the value of those endowments?

Endowment: \$ 100,000_____ \$

Endowment: _____ \$

Endowment: _____ \$

If a building program is projected or underway, describe it, including the projected start/end date of the building project and the total project budget.

None underway at current time.

Describe all buildings owned by the church: *and include picture*

We own our church and the parsonage with a two-car garage.

If your church has/offers a parsonage to your next pastor:

Street / City / State / Zip: **233 S 1st St. W Baker, MT 59344**

Finished square footage: **1250 ft²**

Number of Bedrooms, Number of Bathrooms: **3/2**

Assessed real estate value: **\$100,000**

Available for minister residence: **Y**

Expected minister residence: **Y**

Condition of structure, systems and appliances : **good, some new flooring and plumbing with plans for more flooring being replaced.**

Entity in the church responsible for review and needed repairs: **Council**

Include pictures of the parsonage

Describe non-owned buildings or space used or rented by the church: **None**

Which spaces are accessible to wheelchairs? (*worship space, pulpit, fellowship space, facilities, etc.*)

There is an elevator to three levels : worship area, entry door with no steps, and lower level fellowship hall.

The upper pulpit is not wheelchair accessible, but there is a pulpit on the pew floor level. There is a railing for the three steps to the upper pulpit. The one outer door is ground level, so there are no steps or ramps in the winter weather.

3e. HISTORICAL INFORMATION

If it is available to you, please attach a copy of the church's 11-year report and Mission InSite reports as an addendum to this profile.

Name one to three significant happenings in the history of your church that have shaped the identity of your congregation. Add the most important event in the life of your church in the past 10 years.

Three significant happenings would include being the first church in Baker, begun in 1908. We joined UCC in 1960. We made a major funding campaign and added on to the church including the handicap accessibility to the three levels and bathrooms. Later we were able to air condition the church and paved the parking lot. Once we started the building, the community businesses and people helped us with generous donations.

The most important event in the last 10 years (and a little before that) was the pastor who began weekly community dinners. We would prepare a home-cooked meal for up to 50 people who gave a free-will donation. We did this for almost 8 years and then Covid hit. We made small weekly profits which we gave back to causes in our community. We became known as the church “who did the community dinners”. The local radio station announced it all the time for no charge. There was good community support for this.

Describe a specific change your church has managed in the recent past.

We have not had a settled pastor for 8 years. Two retired Presbyterian pastors each filled in for two years. They came from out of town (80-120 miles) and did a great job, but were only there for Sundays. Then we had a year and a half with three different local pastor-types, but they did not agree with UCC policies and each lasted only 6-7 months. Presently we are filling pulpit week by week with trained lay Lutheran pastors, a Presbyterian lay pastor and an ordained pastor. We really need someone to call us “home”.

Every church has conflict, some minor, some larger. “Where two or three are gathered, there will be disagreement....” Describe your congregation’s values and practices when it comes to conflict.

For example, what is an example of a recent conflict and something your congregation learned from it? Describe an occasion when your church experienced conflict without being able to resolve it well. Does your church have policies, protocols or structures for dealing with conflict?)

We recently had a nondenominational pastor for 7 months. He did not agree with the liberalness of the UCC. We polled our congregation to see if they would like to keep Joe as our pastor. The poll came back equal to keep or not keep and a few undecideds. Those who were opposed to Joe staying wrote several comments while those in favor did not. Joe could see the congregation, as a whole, would not vote to leave UCC at this time, so he left. He said he would come back if we left UCC.

We do not have formal protocol for dealing with conflict. We have always established a pastoral relations committee, which can work very well. However, we had one pastor who would not attend those meetings as he felt he was being picked on. The committee then became essentially ineffective. We would expect to form a pastoral relations committee with our next pastor. It is a time to share joys as well as concerns of the church on a more personal basis.

Ministerial History (include all previous ministerial staff for the past 30 years)

Ministerial Staff member’s name	Years of service	UCC Standing (Y/N)
---------------------------------	------------------	--------------------

Jim Biswell	Nov. 19 – 3/20	N
Tom Saur	5/20 – 12\20	N
Joe Nagell	12\20 – 8\21	N
<i>Plus the others from previous report</i>		

Comment on what your church has learned about itself and its relationship with persons who provided ministerial leadership:

We cope well with different formats for worship, but we are not appreciative of those who wish to change our UCC affiliation. It is hard to effect change.

Has any past leader left under pressure or by involuntary termination? **Y**

Has your church been involved in a Situational Support Consultation? **N**

Has a past pastor been the subject of a Fitness Review while at your church? **N**

Has any previous pastors been a contributor to conflict? **Y**

4. WHO IS OUR NEIGHBOR? WHAT IS YOUR COMMUNITY'S VISION?

“You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” (Matthew 22:39 NRSV)

COMMUNITY VISION

How do the relationships and activities of your congregation extend outward in service and advocacy?

For example, which service activities has your church participated in this past year? Where has the church participated in global connections of care and justice? What is currently transformational in your church's engagement with neighbors near or far?

Because of our association with the oilfield community here in our town of Baker, we wanted to give those workers a chance for a home-cooked meal, We hoped this would draw some of them to our Sunday worship services (the pastor whose idea this was even said “no preaching, just eating” for the suppers). For 8 years we

cooked a weekly community supper for anyone who wanted to come (free will offering). As many as 50 or as few as 15 came and enjoyed not eating alone, plus the home cooking. Even though we did not draw many oilfield workers, we did have a steady participation by senior citizens and some families. Then Covid came and we have not gone back to the meals. To this day we have senior citizens ask if we are going to start up the suppers again as they miss the fellowship.

We sing in the nursing home and assisted living facility twice /month each and are joined by a Baptist and some Lutherans. We also rotate in delivering church services to these two entities on Sunday afternoons with 6 other churches. Historically we have participated in World Day of Prayer and Cowboy Church at the fair.

Our only global connection is donating to Doctors Without Borders, Heifer International, and Church World Service. this is along with the 5X5 offerings of the UCC.

What Ecumenical Relationships exist with other community churches/organizations?

We contribute funds and kids to Vacation Bible School with American Lutheran Church. We also donate to the Assembly of God's Youth Center in Baker.Pastor And as described above.

Describe your congregation's participation in meetings, relationships and activities connecting the wider United Church of Christ (association / conference / national setting).

A member of our church sits on the Commission on Ministry for the conference. Our UCC pastors have often been members of a conference committee.

Many local churches love to tell the story of what they are doing in the community to transform lives. Some have identified certain aspects of their witness into the wider community using language shared with other UCC congregations. (To find more information or definitions of these activities/designations please go to www.ucc.org.) Check any statements below that apply to your UCC faith community (these are certificated programs).

☐ Accessible to All (A2A)

☐ Just Peace

☐ Creation Justice

☐ Global Mission Church

☐ Economic Justice

☐ Open and Affirming (ONA)

☐ Faithful and Welcoming

☐ WISE Congregation for Mental Health

☐ God Is Still Speaking (GISS)

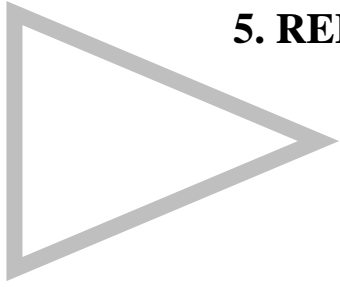
☐ Other UCC designations:

☐ Border and Immigrant Justice

☐ Designations from other denominations

☐ Inter-cultural/Multi-racial (I'M)

☒ None



5. REFERENCES

Name up to three people who have agreed to serve as phone and written references. Advise the three references: “The contact information you provide may be shared publicly. Please use contact information that you feel comfortable giving to candidates so they can reach you with their questions.” Make sure the references noted below are not members of your church but are persons who know your church well enough to be helpful to candidates seeking more information. Request a letter from each reference in answer to the four prompts below. Attach the letters (up to three) as desired.

REFERENCE 1

The Reverend Neva Rathbun (HR)

Retired Presbyterian pastor who filled our pulpit for two years

406-853-0157

msrev@midrivers.com

REFERENCE 2

Jean Rost

Has attended worship services regularly for several years after bringing an elderly member that she cared for (who has since passed away).

406-778-2719 caseyrost@yahoo.com

REFERENCE 3

Terry Bondy

Has been attending our church on a regular basis for the last 18 months. Her children and grandchildren are members,



6. CLOSING THOUGHTS

- a. CLOSING PRAYER
- b. STATEMENT OF CONSENT
- c. CONFERENCE/ASSOCIATION VALIDATION

6a. CLOSING PRAYER

Include here any prayer or dream for the minister you imagine journeying toward you... a poem, for example, or a Scripture passage or a piece of music that is meaningful to your Search Committee:

We are a small rural conservative church within a denomination of more liberal intent. We are probably the most liberal church in our community of 11 churches. While our church is open to all and we welcome all, God is still “he” to us. All lives matter, not just certain colors. God loves and forgives everyone, but we need to study his word and carry out actions that are Christian. “Go wisely – you may be the only example of a Christian some people may see today”.

“Here I Am Lord” author? Song

**I, the Lord of sea and sky
I have heard my people cry.
All who dwell in dark and sin
My hand will save.
I, who made the stars of night,
I will make their darkness bright
Who will bear My light to them? Whom shall I send/
Here I am , Lord.
Is it I, Lord?
I have heard you calling in the night.
I will go, Lord
If you lead me
I will hold your people in my heart.**

6b. STATEMENT OF CONSENT

The covenantal relationship between a church and those called by that church to serve as pastors and teachers and in other ministerial positions is strengthened when vital information is openly shared by covenantal partners. To that end, we attest that, to the best of our abilities, we have provided information in this profile that accurately represents our church. We have not knowingly withheld any information that would be helpful to candidates.

As the committee charged with the responsibility for identifying and recommending suitable new minister for our church, we have been authorized to share the information herein with potential candidates. We understand that a candidate may wish to secure further knowledge, information, and opinions about our church. We encourage a candidate to do so, recognizing that an open exchange of relevant information builds the foundation for continuing and healthy relationships between calling bodies and persons seeking a ministry position.

1. Which individuals and groups in the church contributed to the contents of this Local Church Profile? (*for example, church council or consistory, transition team, etc.*)

Church council and moderator, treasurer, and clerk

2. Additional comments for interpreting the profile:

Baker Community Church is strong in many ways, but we can no longer afford a full-time pastor (a situation which we hope can change in the future.) Consequently, we need a pastor who a) doesn't need a full-time salary or b) is willing to find other part-time work or c) has a spouse who can find work in our community. There are several major employers in our county -- the hospital, schools, and the county itself. There are many small and medium businesses also. We live in a safe community and people are friendly. It is an 80-mile drive to the nearest Walmart, but Baker has a grocery store, drug store with pharmacy, hardware, farm store, clothing store, medical clinic and more. Recreation opportunities include the indoor swimming and rec center, hunting, fishing, bowling, golfing, summer ball for children, band and choirs for adults, and more. Please consider our church for maybe a little slower pace, but also for people who really want a pastor who can lead us to new commitment to following our Lord!

Signed: Carol A Sparks

Moderator at Baker Community Church

December 16, 2021

Who will be receiving pastoral profiles at the church?

Name: Carol Sparks

Title: Moderator

Email/Phone Number: sparks@midrivers.com

406-778-2320

6c. VALIDATION BY CONFERENCE/ASSOCIATION

The congregation is currently in good standing with the association / conference named.

Staff Comment: Yes

To the best of my knowledge, ministerial history information is complete.

Staff Comment: Yes

To the best of my knowledge, available church financial information is presented thoroughly.

Staff Comment: Yes

My signature below attests to the above three items.

Signature: Marc Stewart

Name / Title: Conference Minister

Email: marc@mnwcucc.org

Phone: 406.647.2040

Date: 1-10-2022

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“Jesus answered them, ‘Have faith in God!’” – Mark 11:22

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