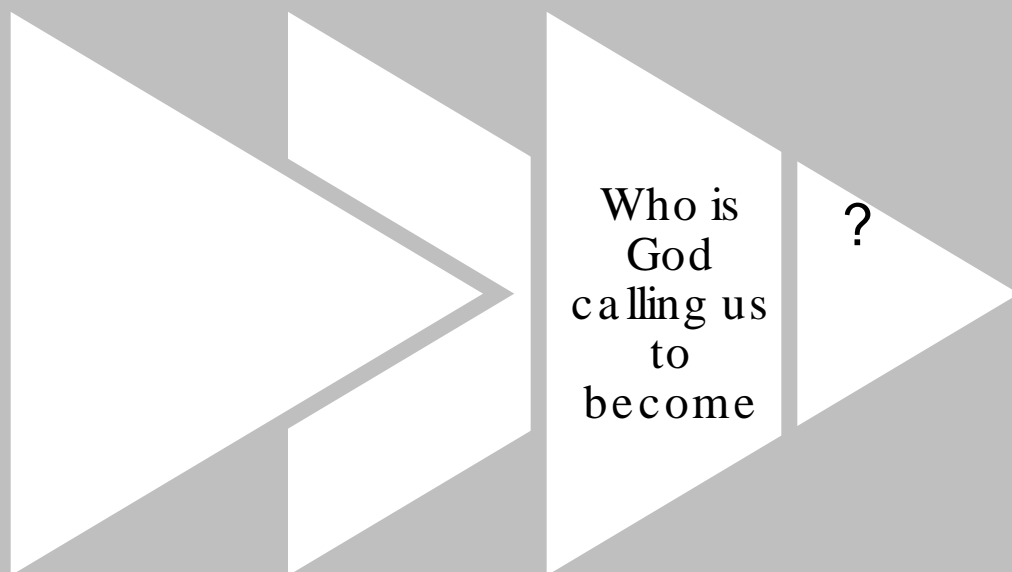


INTRODUCING THE NEW LOCAL CHURCH



The new Local Church Profile is not just for congregations in search of a pastor. *All* congregations are encouraged to engage in its process of discovery every 3-5 years. The 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!

Rachel Hackenberg

**UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST**



UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

LOCAL CHURCH PROFILE

Prescott United Church of Christ
Prescott, WI

Pastor

Wisconsin Conference of the United Church of Christ
Northwest Association of the Wisconsin Conference of the UCC

[September 28, 2018]

LOCAL CHURCH PROFILE CONTENTS

- Position Posting
- Who Is God Calling Us To Become?
- Who Are We Now?
- Who Is Our Neighbor?
- References
- Consent and Validation

*“God is able to provide you with every blessing, so that
having all sufficiency in all things at all times,
you may abound in every good work.”
(2 Corinthians 9:8)*

INSTRUCTIONS

The new Local Church Profile supports the calling and discernment of United Church of Christ congregations with their current or future pastoral leadership.

For many congregations, the interim time between ministers is an intentional season that is guided in part by the preparation of a Local Church Profile. Using the Profile, the church can discover its data and express its story for the reliable discernment of a search committee and the beginning of a new pastorate. Searching ministers will want to see this document in its entirety.

The interim season is not the only time in a church's life when it's valuable to give attention to explore a congregation's vocation. Three sections of the Local Church Profile – **WHO ARE WE NOW**, **WHO IS OUR NEIGHBOR**, and **WHO IS GOD CALLING US TO BECOME** – are meant to be updated every 3-5 years. Known together as the "Discovery Document," these three sections can be completed by a visioning group, a governing body, a transition team, or other group – not just the search committee – in order to draw forward the gifts and imaginative possibilities of a congregation. The church's engagement with the "Discovery Document" might not have the same sequence as the completed Local Church Profile that is read by candidates.

Some questions are easy to answer. Some are not so easy. Prompts are provided to stimulate narrative response if needed; these italicized prompts are merely examples from which to choose or to inspire your own. Efforts to answer the questions will prompt conversations and explorations and story-tellings and many prayers. As the Spirit moves throughout the process, congregations will shape a collective articulation of Christ's leading (**WHO IS GOD CALLING US TO BECOME**). This last question to be answered becomes the first section to be read by searching ministers in the Local Church Profile, and it is boldest and most actionable piece for faithful leadership into the future.

Your conference can provide materials referenced in the Local Church Profile, such as the 11-Year Report containing data as reported by your congregation annually to the UCC Data Hub, and MissionInsite reports containing demographic information on your community. More information on types of pastorate in the United Church of Christ can be found in the Call Agreement Workbook. Be sure to use the Call Agreement Workbook's Scope of Work to describe in this Local Church Profile the position being sought.

When it is time for ministerial search, the conference can counsel you on posting the Local Church Profile together with your public listing at UCC Ministry Opportunities (<http://oppsearch.ucc.org>).

The last page of the Local Church Profile contains a statement that parallels the consent statement signed by ministers in the UCC Ministerial Profile. In keeping with the covenantal relationship between a church and those it seeks to call, this statement encourages an open, honest exchange of information. On behalf of the United Church of Christ, and on the basis of the best knowledge available to them, your conference staff will validate your completed Local Church Profile when it is ready to be shared in relationship with prospective new leaders.

1. POSITION POSTING

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

1 a. LISTING INFORMATION

Church name: Prescott United Church of Christ

Street address: 206 Locust Street North, Prescott, WI 54021

Supplemental web links: uccprescott.com

Additional ecumenical affiliations (*e.g. denominations, communions, fellowships*):

Active Member of Prescott Area Church Association (PACA), which includes St. John's UCC (Oak Grove township, rural), Joy Lutheran Church (ELCA, Prescott), St. Joseph's Roman Catholic (Prescott), St. Mary's Roman Catholic ("Big River" Oak Grove township, rural), Torrent Church (non-denominational, Prescott), and St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran (WELS, Prescott) as an associate member.

Conference: Wisconsin Conference of the United Church of Christ

Association: Northwest Association of the Wisconsin Conference of the UCC

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

Rev. Dr. Rob MacDougall
Associate Conference Minister
4459 Gray Road
De Forest, WI 53532
cell phone 715-308-6120
Email: rmacdougall@wcucc.org

Summary Ministry Description:

Welcome to Prescott United Church of Christ! We are passionate about bringing alive the redeeming, widely-inclusive love of God in Jesus Christ in this community, in this time. Yes, we are the longest-serving protestant congregation in Prescott, founded as in 1852. And yes, we are grateful for our faith-ancestry here. But God is always doing a new thing, and that's what drives our life together.

In the United Church of Christ, we affirm the Bible as the authoritative witness to the Word of God, the ecumenical creeds, and the confessions of the Reformation. We also affirm that the Spirit is always opening up new understanding, so we listen for God speaking grace and truth grace in new ways...

Our roots run deep in the covenantal tradition brought to these shores by our Pilgrim ancestors. So here, there is no hierarchy or central authority to enforce a doctrine or form of worship on any local church. Our life unfolds together under the cross, with Christ as the head of the Church. We celebrate the creative tension between apostolic faith and personal conscience. There are no carbon-copy Christians! Authentic faith gives unique shape to the life of every human being. God calls each person to accept both the cost AND the joy of discipleship.

We are a people on the way, seeking to be faithful followers of Jesus Christ.

No single one of us has it all together.

Each of us is broken.

Each of us is different.

On this path there is no judgment - just Jesus.

Whoever you are, wherever life has brought you, you are welcome here!

Photographs:



What we value about living in our area (2 – 3 sentences):

The location of Prescott provides many benefits. It has the advantages of a small town, with a close-knit community and good school system, while providing easy access to

everything the Twin Cities has to offer. The confluence of the Mississippi and St. Croix rivers creates a scenic backdrop for recreation and tourism.

Current size of membership: 85 Active Members

Languages used in ministry (*other than English*): none

Position Title: Pastor and Teacher

Position Duration:

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

Compensation Level: ½ Time

Does the total support package meet conference compensation guidelines? Yes

1b. SCOPE OF WORK

- Preparation and leadership of Sunday worship including scripture study, crafting of liturgy and bulletin, sermon preparation, guiding and sometimes finding lay liturgists, planning of music in coordination with musical staff or volunteers, preaching, offering of prayers, etc.
- Faith formation and vitality through prayer, Bible study, service, identifying helpful resources and opportunities and helping lay persons take advantage of them
- Pastoral care in collaboration with lay people (at least to those who are sick, elderly, or grieving)
- Participate in wider church activities such as conference, association, and community meetings as time permits
- Study and prayer to increase faith and to improve skills so as to lead, teach, preach better
- Energizing and deepening spiritual connections and faith understandings of others in all they do.
- Work with the church's governing body and its program committees

Core Competencies:

Engaging, caring, effective/efficient

1c. COMPENSATION AND SUPPORT

Salary Basis (*from the Call Agreement Workbook, equal to Cash Salary plus Value of Parsonage/Housing Allowance*): \$43,227 plus medical and dental insurance options

Benefits: Salary includes Optional Benefits

What is the expected living situation for your next minister?

The congregation would prefer that the pastor live in the parsonage or in the community of Prescott.

State any incentives: Option for 3 month sabbatical after 5 years of service

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

- Communities of Practice meetings available monthly
- Association and conference ministers are available for support

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

We are willing to be as flexible as possible and to work with a called pastor to develop a schedule that works for all parties.

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

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

We want to be a thriving congregation where people feel welcomed. We want to work with our next pastor to reach out to the wider community. Working together to make our local and global community a better place.

We recognize that among our first tasks will be growing into the realities of having a half-time pastor rather than a full time pastor, which will require a multitude of adjustments. If our church is to be a thriving and growing community, we need to embrace the diversity in our wider community.

In an ever-changing world, we need a pastor who can help us recognize and embrace the ways we need to adapt in order to grow in faithfulness and effectiveness.

Describe how your vision of the minister you are now seeking will assist the congregation in making an impact beyond its walls.

We envision our next minister helping us to reach out to the community, look for opportunities to encourage involvement from lay people and help them discover how to use their gifts in the church.

Specify language requirements or culturally-specific capacities preferred in a next ministerial leader, and why those matter to the congregation's sense of calling.

English

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.

BUILDING TRANSFORMATIONAL LEADERSHIP SKILLS

- o Empowering the Church to be faithful to God's call, reflective of Christ's mission, and open to the surprises of the Holy Spirit.
- o Strategically creating the future of God's Church.
- o Witnessing in the public square to God's redeeming power.
- o Performing necessary and appropriate administrative tasks.
- o Working collaboratively with intercultural awareness and sensitivity.
- o Encouraging leadership development of self and others through continuing education and lifelong learning.

CARING FOR ALL CREATION

- o Nurturing care and compassion for God's creation.
- o Maintaining a basic understanding of mental health and wellness.
- o Practicing self-care and life balance.
- o Providing hope and healing to a hurting world.
- o Attending to one's own spiritual and pastoral care, including engagement in supervision as appropriate.
- o Stewarding the resources of the Church.

STRENGTHENING INTER- AND INTRA- PERSONAL ASSETS

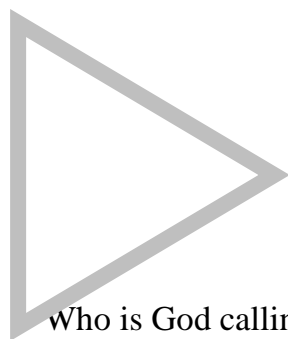
- o Developing and maintaining a healthy sense of self as shaped by God, community, and life experiences.
- o Living in relationships of covenantal accountability with God and the Church.
- o Exhibiting strong moral character and personal integrity.
- o Respecting the dignity of all God's people.
- o Understanding and ministering to stages of human development across the lifespan.
- o Demonstrating excellent communication skills.

WORKING TOGETHER FOR JUSTICE AND MERCY

- o Drawing on the ministry of Jesus Christ to confront injustice and oppression.
- o Practicing the radical hospitality of God.
- o Identifying and working to overcome explicit and implicit bias in the life of the Church.
- o Understanding community context and navigating change with a community.
- o Engaging in mission and outreach.
- o Building relationships of mutual trust and interdependence.

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?

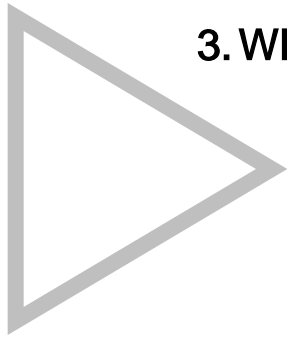
God is calling us to be a congregation:

- where everyone will be welcomed
- which understands and reaches out to the needs of our community
- which provides comfort and support to those in need
- which engages others in the ministry of the church

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

In 2014 we began a 3 year capital campaign, to address needed maintenance issues and to fund a full time pastor. The goal of increasing to a full time pastor was to have a more visible presence in the community and grow membership in the church. While the campaign was successful in raising funds to complete many of the desired projects, we did not see an increase in membership during that time.

At the conclusion of the capital campaign in 2017 we faced the reality of needing to go back to a half time pastor. Over the past year with a half time interim pastor, members have stepped up to take on responsibilities for many tasks as necessary. Members want to see our congregation grow and thrive, and we hope that with the help and guidance of a settled pastor we can sustain our enthusiasm.



3. WHO ARE WE NOW?

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

- a. CONGREGATIONAL REFLECTIONS
- b. 11-YEAR REPORT
- c. CONGREGATIONAL DEMOGRAPHICS
- d. PARTICIPATION AND STAFFING
- e. CHURCH FINANCES
- f. HISTORICAL INFORMATION

3a. CONGREGATIONAL REFLECTIONS

Describe your congregation's life of faith.

Our mission as a church is to create a Christian community where all people are encouraged to make the journey of faith in the fellowship and friendship of Jesus Christ.

We are a people on the way, seeking to be faithful followers of Jesus Christ.

No single one of us has it all together.

Each of us is broken.

Each of us is different.

On this path there is no judgment - just Jesus.

Whoever you are, wherever life has brought you, you are welcome here!

Describe several strengths or positive qualities of your congregation.

Our members genuinely care about one another and support each other, and we welcome visitors to join us in worship. We value our history and take great pride in maintaining our beautiful building. We celebrate that we have a core of members who are dedicated to continuing our traditions and helping our church grow into the future.

Describe what worship is like when your congregation gathers.

Worship is at the center of our life together. We gather for worship each Sunday morning at 10:00am. We celebrate Holy Communion on the first Sunday of each month, and on major festivals such as Christmas and Easter. Services are also offered on special days of the church year, including Ash Wednesday, Holy Week, and Christmas Eve.

Our services blend traditional and contemporary elements to create a spirited worship experience for a diverse gathering of people. Week by week, a variety of musicians bring their gifts and skills to bear. There is usually a *Time for Children* in the service, which happens just before Sunday School people leave for their classes.

Our worship service usually starts with announcements, which not only helps communicate information about upcoming events, but also lets our members share joys and concerns in their lives. This time helps us to know one another better and share in each others lives. After announcements, the bells ring and we turn our focus to worship.

Baptisms are celebrated with enthusiasm. The entire congregation promises to support the child and family and a basket of gifts is given to the family.

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

We offer weekly Sunday School for children during the worship service for children preschool through 6th grade. Confirmation is typically offered for middle school youth and meets on Wednesday evenings during the school year.

There is a weekly, adult Bible study group that meets year round to study the lectionary texts. Periodic educational opportunities for adults in the church are offered in response to events in the world, concerns of the larger church, or needs of the community.

Describe how your congregation is organized for ministry and mission.

- When it comes to decision-making, how many hours are spent in meetings per month? Church Council meets monthly, an average of 2.5 hours per month, other committees meet or communicate 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?

When an emergency or crisis situation occurs, the appropriate committee members have taken action to remedy the situation as quickly as possible. Committees and members are able to step in and take care of situations as they arise.

- 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]

3b. 11-YEAR REPORT

(See Attached)

3c. CONGREGATIONAL DEMOGRAPHICS

Describe those who participate in your church.

		<i>Is this number an estimate? (check if yes)</i>
Number of active members:	85	
Number of active non-members:	7	x
Total of church participants (sum of the numbers above):	92	

Percentage of total participants who have been in the church:

		<i>Is this number an estimate? (check if yes)</i>
More than 10 years:	82 %	
Less than 10, more than 5 years:	10 %	
Less than 5 years:	8 %	

Number of total participants by age:

0-11	12-17	18-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-74	75+	<i>Are these numbers an estimate? (check if yes)</i>
4	5	5	3	7	6	14	14	36	

Percentage of adults in various household types:

		<i>Is this number an estimate? (check if yes)</i>
Single adults under 35:	12 %	
Households with minors:	7 %	
Single adults age 35-65:	12 %	
Joint households with no minors:	33 %	

Single adults over 65:	36 %	
------------------------	------	--

Education level of adult participants by percentage:

		<i>Is this number an estimate? (check if yes)</i>
High school:	58%	x
College:	27 %	x
Graduate School:	12 %	x
Specialty Training:	3 %	x
Other (please specify):		

Percentage of adults in various employment types:

		<i>Is this number an estimate? (check if yes)</i>
Adults who are employed:	46 %	x
Adults who are retired:	48 %	x
Adults who are not fully employed:	6 %	x

Describe the range of occupations of working adults in the congregation:

Occupations among our congregation are representative of the wider community. We have farmers, trades people, educators, healthcare workers, financial services, to name a few.

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, at present, a caucasian congregation, with a few members having some native American heritage. The predominant ethnic origin is German, with some mixture of Norwegian, Swedish, French and English scattered about. Our wider community includes a small percentage of African American, Asian, and Hispanic people which comprise less than 4% of the total population.

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:

On January 25, 2009, the congregation adopted a Constitution which identifies us as an “Open and Affirming” community: Article V. Membership, Section 1, reads:

“Membership in this church shall be open to any person who has been baptized, or has been confirmed, or has made public confession, of faith in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior. In accordance with the gospel covenant which binds into unity ‘faithful people of all ages, tongues and races,’ *membership is open to all without regard to race, ethnic origin, gender, sexual orientation, age, disability, or any other basis by which our oneness in Christ is denied.*”

In early 2017 some exploration of what it would mean to be a “Dementia Friendly Congregation,” was begun with assistance from the Pierce County Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADRC). That effort has been put on a back-burner in the interim period, but may well be an issue to explore further. .

PARTICIPATION AND STAFFING

Complete the following chart. Please leave blank any fields that are not applicable to your congregation.

Ways of Gathering	Estimated number of people involved in attendance	Who plans each of the listed gatherings? (<i>list any and all worship planners, such as various lay leaders, pastors, musicians, other staff</i>)
Adult Groups or Classes	2-8	sporadic special interest groups (Becoming a Dementia Friendly

	4-10	Church) Painters' Group - meets weekly at church organized by a non-member, has one member as part of group
	25-35	A.A. Groups - one Thursday p.m., a second on Saturday a.m.
	8	"Krafty Ladies" - meets twice a month and works on craft projects to be sold for fundraising
	4-6	Naomi Circle meets monthly for lunch
Baptisms (<i>number last year</i>)	0	2017 (1 in 2018)
Children's Groups or Classes	1-3	Church School/ Youth Group in 2017, Ecumenical Vacation Bible School
Christmas Eve and Easter Worship	12/24/17 AM 45 PM 42 4/1/18 47	
Church-wide Meals	40-60 (2/year)	Stewardship/ Social (Valentines)
Choirs and Music Groups	none	
Church-based Bible Study	six + pastor	led by a group member, weekly
Communion (<i>served how often?</i>)	monthly	Diaconate in consultation with Pastor
Community Meals	90	Salad Luncheon a member is primary organizer with assistance of others.
Confirmation (<i>number confirmed last year</i>)	4	2018
Drama or Dance Program	0	
Funerals (<i>number last year</i>)	9	2017, Pastor, funeral luncheons

		organized and served by laypeople.
Intergenerational Groups	0	
Outdoor Worship	75	Ecumenical Easter Sunrise Service
Prayer or Meditation Groups	6 + pastor	meets weekly
Public Advocacy Work	6-8/event	Feed My Starving Children (twice a year), Urban Immersion, Food Pantry, Parents Night Out
Retreats		
Theology or Bible Programs in the Community	50-60	Ecumenical World Day of Prayer
Weddings (<i>number last year</i>)	0	2017
Worship (time slot: 10:00 a.m.)	30-40	
Worship (time slot: _____)		
Young Adult Groups or Classes		
Youth Groups or Classes	4-6/event	Lock-in, Sledding Party, Haunted Corn Maze, High Ropes Course
Other: Community Events		Kickoff to Summer, Birthday Parties at Care Center, Prescott Daze Parade, Mardi Gras Carnival

Additional comments:

List all members or regular participants in your congregation who are ordained, licensed, or commissioned ministers. Indicate those with current United Church of Christ Three-Way Covenants (i.e. serving in a congregation) or Four-Way Covenants (i.e. serving in a ministry beyond a congregation).

Name	Three- or Four-Way Covenant? (3 or 4 or No)	Ministry Setting	Type of Ministry Role	Retired? (Y or N)
Charles Wolfe	No	primarily urban	Local Church Pastor	Y

If one or more previous pastors or retired ministers currently hold membership in the church, describe their role(s) in the life of the congregation: Serves as Church Clerk, on Search Committee (chaplain), available to lead worship occasionally.

List all current staff, including ministers. Exclude the position you are seeking to fill. Indicate which staff person serves as head of staff.

Staff Position	Head of Staff?	Compensation (full time, part time, volunteer)	Supervised by	Length of Tenure for current person in this position
Office Asst.		8-10 hrs./week	Pastor	one year
Custodian		part-time	Council	4 months
Organist		casual	Pastor Diaconate	various musicians provide services

REFLECTION

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

We are a congregation with much experience in various endeavors and less energy which limits our capacity.

CHURCH FINANCES

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

Source	Amount
Annual Offerings and Pledged Giving	\$ 86,778
Endowment Proceeds (<i>as permitted within spending policy, such as a cap of typically 4.5%-5% on total return</i>)	\$
Endowment Draw (<i>beyond what is permitted by spending policy, "drawing down the principal"</i>)	\$

Fundraising Events	\$ 3,755
Gifts Designated for a Specific Purpose	\$ 4,381
Grants	\$
Rentals of Church Building	\$
Rentals of Church Parsonage	\$ 9,600
Support from Related Organizations (e.g. Women's Group)	\$ 558
Transfers from Special Accounts	\$
Other (specify): Refugee	\$2,914
Other (specify):	\$
TOTAL	\$ 107,986

Current annual expenses (dollars budgeted for most recent fiscal year): \$ 109,109

Considering total budgeted expenses for the year, compare total ministerial support. What is the percentage? 39.62%

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%*)- Designated contribution

What is the church's current indebtedness?

Total amount of loan debt: none

Reason for debt:

Are capital and other payments current?

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.

If the church has had capital campaigns in the last ten years, describe:

Year(s)	Purpose	Goal	Result	Impact
2014-2017	Fund full-time pastor and long-term building maintenance	\$400,000	\$	Funded four years of a full-time pastor, completed tuckpointing, renovation of parsonage, carpeting on exterior steps, painting of sanctuary, and various building improvements
		\$	\$	

If a capital campaign is underway or anticipated, describe:

Year(s)	Purpose	Goal	Result	Impact
		\$	\$	
		\$	\$	

Describe the prominent mission component(s) involved in the most recent (or current) capital campaign.

Does your church have an endowment? No

What is the market value of the assets?

Are funds drawn as needed, regularly, or under certain circumstances?

What is the percentage rate of draw (last year, compared to 5 years ago)?

Describe draw on endowment, if any, to meet operating budget expenses for the most recent year and the past five years:

At the current rate of draw, how long might the endowment last?

Please comment on the above calculations or estimates:

Other Assets

Reserves (savings): \$4,700 at 12.31.17

Capital Campaign \$25,598

Various reserve funds \$41,308

Investments (other than endowment): none

Does your church have a parsonage? Yes

Fair market rental value of the parsonage: \$1000/month

How is the parsonage used? Currently used as rental property

Street / City / State / Zip: 222 Locust St. N.

Finished square footage:

Number of Bedrooms, Number of Bathrooms: 3 bedrooms, 1 ¾ bathrooms

Assessed real estate value: \$144,200

Available for minister residence: Yes

Expected minister residence: Hopefully, but not required

Condition of structure, systems and appliances: All in good working condition, updates to interior and exterior made recently

Entity in the church responsible for review and needed repairs: Building and Assets Committee

Describe all buildings owned by the church:

The church owns two buildings: the church and the parsonage. The church building was constructed in 1915 with a education wing added in 1962.

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.*)

The Sanctuary, offices, church school classrooms and fellowship hall and kitchen are all wheelchair accessible with two wheel chair lifts at the back, ground-floor entrance designed for accessibility. The unisex restroom off Fellowship Hall is the most easily accessible lavatory in the building, The pulpit is not presently wheelchair accessible, and

would require a ramp to become so. The Church balcony is also inaccessible by wheelchair.

The parsonage is not presently wheelchair accessible. The basement level has a garage entrance which would enable wheelchair access. The ground floor would require a ramp to become accessible. The second floor would require a stair-glide or wheelchair lift to be installed to be accessible. There are two main level bedrooms, and a full bath on the main level of the parsonage which are accessible (although interior doorways in the parsonage are all less than 36" width).

Reflection: After reviewing the church's finances and assets described above, what does this information reflect about your congregation's mission and ministry?

It is concerning budgeted expenses exceed budgeted income. The parsonage rental income may offset the budgeted short fall. Budgets are set each year by each committee. They are typically the same each year. The only significant budget change was pastor expenses decreasing from full time to part time.

3f. HISTORICAL INFORMATION

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.

150 year anniversary in 2002

1915 decision to rebuild after building condemnation

1852 founding of the church in Prescott instead of Point Douglas

Capital campaign in last 10 years

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

Capital campaign to commit to building improvements and full time pastor

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.

The is no specific policies or procedures to resolve conflict. Some conflicts in the past have resulted in members leaving the church.

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

Staff member’s name	Years of service	UCC Standing (Y/N)
Pastor Kathy Gibson-Christensen (interim)	1	Y
Pastor Matt Schneider-Adams	5	Y
Pastor Beth Benson	5	Y
Pastor Glen Holland (interim)	1	Y
Pastor Nancy Swanson	1	Y
Pastor Kathy Gibson-Christensen (interim)	1.5	Y
Pastor Dave Roberts	17	Y

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

Past conflict in the church has taught us that we need to respect others opinions and ideas.

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

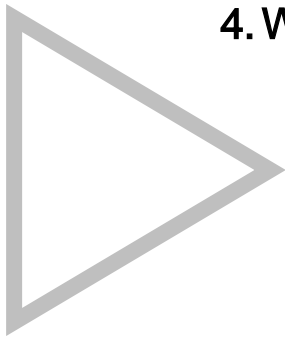
Ask us

Has your church been involved in a Situational Support Consultation?

Yes

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

No



4. WHO IS OUR NEIGHBOR?

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

a. COMMUNITY VISION

b. MISSION InSite

4a. COMMUNITY VISION

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

We serve at Feed My Starving Children
Contribute to a Refugee Fund through Mercy Corps
Contribute to the local food pantry annually and a church member was instrumental in founding the local food pantry
Fundraised for Turningpoint for Victims of Domestic and Sexual Violence
Sponsoring organization of the Boy Scout Troop #9133

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

Currently, one of our members serves on the Wisconsin Conference Immigration Task Force. Members have been on the Conference Board of Directors, served on Church and Ministry Division, and Association Christian Education Division in the past.

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. (Find more information as desired at ucc.org.)

Check any statements below that apply to your UCC faith community.

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accessible to All (A2A) | <input type="checkbox"/> Just Peace |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Creation Justice | <input type="checkbox"/> Global Mission Church |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Economic Justice | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Open and Affirming (ONA) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Faithful and Welcoming | <input type="checkbox"/> WISE Congregation for Mental Health |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> God Is Still Speaking (GISS) | <input type="checkbox"/> Other UCC designations: |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Border and Immigrant Justice | <input type="checkbox"/> Designations from other denominations |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Inter-cultural/Multi-racial (I'M) | <input type="checkbox"/> None |

Reflect on what the above statement(s) mean(s) to your community. Is your congregation interested in working toward any of the above statements of witness in the near future?

As a congregation, we welcome all people to join us on our journey of faith. We recognize that we may be in different places in our journey, but we will all walk together. We are working toward becoming more accessible to all and have been exploring ways to accommodate people with dementia.

Describe your congregation's participation in ecumenical and interfaith activities (with other denominations and religious groups, local and regional).

We are members of PACA (Prescott Area Church Association), which sponsors ecumenical services, helps bring speakers into the local schools, assists with Memorial Day services, and other various community events. We also participate in organizing the local World Day of Prayer and volunteer at Feed My Starving Children. Our confirmation classes have traditionally taken trips to a Beth El Synagogue and the Islamic Center.

If your congregation has a mission statement, how does that mission statement compare to the actual time spent engaging in different activities? Think of the range of activities from time spent gathering, to governance, to time spent going out.

Our mission statement emphasizes the importance of community, fellowship, and friendship. The focus is on building relationships within whatever tasks or activities are taking place.

Reflect on the scope of work assigned to your pastor(s). How is their community ministry and their ministry in and on behalf of the wider church accounted for in the congregation's expectations on their time?

Community outreach is important to the goals of our church. However, we recognize that with a half-time pastor, it will be important for lay people to share significantly in those responsibilities. It will be important for the pastor and the congregation to work together to coordinate those tasks.

4b. MISSION InSite

Comment on your congregation's MissionInsite report with data for your neighborhood(s) or area. What trends and opportunities are shown?

How do your congregation's internal demographics compare or contrast to a) the neighborhoods adjacent to your church, and b) other neighborhoods with which your church connects?

The racial and ethnic makeup of our congregation is reflective of that of the local community, but the average age of our congregation is older than that of the community.

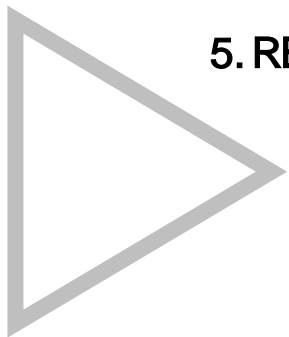
How are the demographics of the community currently shaping ministry, or not?

What do you hear when you talk to community leaders and ask them what your church is known for?

Helpful and supportive of the community
Accepting

What do new people in the church say when asked what got them involved?

Most members have a family connection with the church. They become more involved over time as needed.



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 they 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: Rev. Steve Meyer

Position /Setting: Pastor, Joy Lutheran Church (ELCA)

Telephone: 715-262-5800

Email: pastor@joy-church.org

Relationship to the Congregation: Participant in Prescott Area Church Association, most closely related non-UCC pastor involved with Prescott UCC.

REFERENCE 2: Ms. Laura Bond

Position / Setting: She is one of several part-time keyboard musicians at Prescott UCC, and a member Rush River Lutheran Church (Missouri Synod),

Telephone: 715-425-8474

Email: peeanogirl007@gmail.com

Relationship to the Congregation: Laura is the liveliest of the musicians who serve us, is much appreciated by a number of our members, and she has a deep appreciation of the attitudes and activities in which our congregation engages.

REFERENCE 3: Ms. Diane Webster

Position / Setting: She is owner and operator of the “Borner Farm Project,” an organic farming operation within the city of Prescott.

Telephone: 715-262-2125

Email: diweb@comcast.net

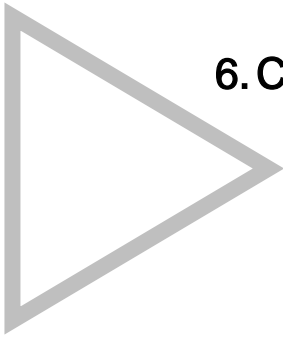
Relationship to the Congregation: Diane has felt supported in her efforts by members of the church. Before installing a commercial kitchen on her property, she was allowed to use the church kitchen for making bread and pies for sale to help support the Borner Farm Project. Diane has warm feelings for Prescott UCC, whose values seem compatible and supportive of her own efforts to value the land, and enhance the community.

PROMPTS FOR REFERENCES

Describe some areas of strength in this church’s ministry.

Describe some areas for improvement in this church’s ministry.

Describe a significant experience you have had of this church’s ministry.



6. CLOSING THOUGHTS

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

6a. CLOSING PRAYER

Gracious God of the Church, we pray that our Committee may experience your presence undergirding, indwelling, leading, guiding, pushing, pulling us to perceive together one to whom you are calling to service in our church. Grant us wisdom to discern; patience in our process; joy in our journey, and grace, hope and love in all things. Let it be, O God, that in our discerning your will may be accomplished; the witness of our congregation may ever grow in faithfulness; and the truth of your realm may draw ever nearer to our lives and our life together. In the name of the Church's head, Christ Jesus, we ask all this. Amen.

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.*)

Search Committee: Kjurstin Langer, Charles Wolfe, Margaret Flower, Suzanne Hildebrandt, Neal Jensen

Prescott UCC Members completed surveys and participated in Holy Conversations to provide input.

2. Additional comments for interpreting the profile:

Signed: 

Kjurstin Langer
Search Committee Chair
Prescott UCC Member
September 19, 2018

6c. VALIDATION BY CONFERENCE/ASSOCIATION

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

Staff Comment:

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

Staff Comment:

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

Staff Comment:

My signature below attests to the above three items.

Signature:



Name / Title: Rev. Rob MacDougall/Associate Conference Minister

Email: rmacdougall@wcucc.org

Phone: 715-308-6120

Date: September 28, 2018

This document is created through support to Our Church's Wider Mission (OCWM) and is only possible through the covenantal relationships of all settings of the United Church of Christ.

"Jesus answered them, 'Have faith in God!'" – Mark 11:22



UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

ELEVEN YEAR CHURCH PROFILE BASED ON DATA REPORTED IN UCC YEARBOOKS



Church#: 862380

Assoc: 828

Schedule: 0

United Church of Christ

Prescott

WI

54021

YEAR	MEMBERS	AVG WEEKLY ATTENDANCE	CHR ED/ FAITH FORM	CONFIRMATION	CONFESSION	TRANSFER OR REAFFIRM	DEATHS OR TRANS OUT	OTHER LOSSES	NET MEMBS ADDS-REMOVED
2007	109	74	25	5	0	1	2	0	4
2008	109	74	25	0	0	0	0	0	0
2009	109	74	25	0	0	0	0	0	0
2010	109	74	25	0	0	0	0	0	0
2011	109	74	25	0	0	0	0	0	0
2012	109	74	25	0	0	0	0	0	0
2013	106	58	20	0	1	1	5	0	-3
2014	220	64	27	8	0	6	5	0	9
2015	214	62	23	0	0	1	7	0	-6
2016	214	62	23	0	0	0	0	0	0
2017	82	62	23	0	0	0	10	122	-132

YEAR	CURRENT EXPENSES	CAPITAL PAYMENTS	BASIC SUPPORT	TOT OTHER UCC GIVING	TOTAL OCWM	OTHER GIFTS	WIDER MISSION	BASIC SUPPLY% CURR LOCAL	TOTAL EXPEND	PLEDGES AND OFFERINGS
2007	\$146,786	\$38,122	\$6,691	\$2,900	\$9,591	\$0	\$9,591	4.56	\$194,499	\$83,371
2008	\$146,786	\$0	\$5,000	\$1,882	\$6,882	\$0	\$6,882	3.41	\$153,668	\$0
2009	\$146,786	\$0	\$4,170	\$1,736	\$5,906	\$0	\$5,906	2.84	\$152,692	\$0
2010	\$146,786	\$0	\$3,477	\$2,355	\$5,832	\$0	\$5,832	2.37	\$152,618	\$0
2011	\$146,786	\$0	\$3,096	\$1,900	\$4,996	\$0	\$4,996	2.11	\$151,782	\$0
2012	\$146,786	\$0	\$3,570	\$1,641	\$5,211	\$0	\$5,211	2.43	\$151,997	\$0
2013	\$159,963	\$0	\$4,458	\$2,414	\$6,872	\$1,568	\$8,440	2.79	\$188,403	\$90,377
2014	\$193,103	\$0	\$3,999	\$1,706	\$5,705	\$2,388	\$8,093	2.07	\$201,196	\$94,589
2015	\$99,658	\$43,036	\$4,500	\$6,961	\$11,461	\$3,587	\$15,048	4.52	\$157,742	\$84,036
2016	\$99,658	\$0	\$2,925	\$1,577	\$4,502	\$0	\$4,502	2.94	\$104,160	\$0
2017	\$99,658	\$0	\$2,928	\$1,069	\$3,997	\$0	\$3,997	2.94	\$103,655	\$0

% CHANGE	MEMBERS	AVG WEEKLY ATTENDANCE	CHR ED/ FAITH FORM	TOTAL ADDITIONS	TOTAL REMOVALS	CURR LOCAL EXPENSES	TOTAL OCWM	TOTAL EXPENDITURE
2012-2017	-24.77	-16.22	-8.00	0.00	0.00	-32.11	-23.30	-31.80
2007-2017	-24.77	-16.22	-8.00	-100.00	6500.00	-32.11	-58.33	-46.71

Please note: Zero values ("0") or ("0") may reflect missing information in some years. Christian Education/Faith Formation refers to Church School Enrollment for all figures before 2007.

Reference for Prescott United Church of Christ

Rev. Steve Meyer
Pastor of Joy Lutheran Church

Joy is one of the 5 churches in Prescott, WI

715-262-5800
pastor@joy-church.org



1435 St. Croix Street
Prescott, WI 54021
(715) 262-5800
www.joy-church.org

I have been a pastor in Prescott for almost 3 years now. Being a relatively small community that has an active church association, I have had the privilege of working with Prescott United Church of Christ. I am not as familiar with the day to day operations of the congregation, but the congregation has a long history in the community and a strong presence in the community, hosting a number of community groups.

Like many congregations in our area, Prescott United Church of Christ faces the challenges of a greying population and attracting young families.

Prescott United Church of Christ has provided strong leadership in the Prescott Area Churches Association which coordinates emergency funds for families in need, helps to coordinate educational events and ecumenical worship experiences (Community Thanksgiving and Easter Sunrise). They are also involved with the World Day of Prayer and the local Food Pantry.

I would be glad to visit with anyone who has further questions. Please contact by the phone or email listed above.

Sincerely,

Pastor Steve Meyer



Laura Bond
Pianist

104 Liberty Road
River Falls, WI 54022

peeanogirl007@gmail.com
715/425-8474

September 3, 2018

Re: Reference for Prescott United Church of Christ

By way of introduction, I am an occasional pianist for Prescott UCC Sunday morning worship services. I have also played for several funerals, wedding services and a couple of their other community functions. I have been involved in this way since about 2006. Broadly speaking, I sense that there have been big shifts here, as there have been changes in pastoral care too.

Strengths in this community:

- People: It seems likely that those that have stayed with the changes are the core strength of the church and will be going forward.
- Direction: worship and events feel planned and deliberate. It seems that lines of communication are open. The Sunday bulletins and newsletters are thoughtfully organized and well designed.
- Focus on future: Major projects to enhance, restore and maintain the church building and grounds have been completed.
- Generous: Participating in wider community events, Mission support, FMSC etc. As a musician, I feel valued and respected.
- Authentic: There is real caring and time is taken to allow for prayers and concerns during worship. It feels genuine. It feels comfortable.
- Flexibility: The congregation seems to roll with the flow - with Pastors, with me, with each other...they try things, they move on...keep what works and let go of what doesn't.

Areas of improvement:

This is a difficult bit to expound on. I can only imagine that there have been brainstorming sessions, committees, sub-committees trying to figure out how to grow the church. This isn't a rock star, bouncy ball on the big screen congregation...in any case:

- Growth: Are there ways that middle aged and younger people might become interested in being involved with Prescott UCC? Is there a ministry group/book study group/supper club group etc. that would provide a means for nurturing community for people that are working during the day ie younger folks?

*Live music for Events and Occasions
Specializing in Jazz, Classical and Gospel Standards*

- Open up: As a musician, I wonder if using the beautiful sanctuary space for concerts etc. for the congregation and friends in the community. There are already groups using the building regularly – good to see!

I realize that original ideas are hard to come by!

Significant experiences:

I have always enjoyed worship at UCC Prescott. It seems like there is always a takeaway from the service, be it the sermon, a voice reading to us, a hymn...a shared concern or joy.

I have a fond memory of one of the Sweetheart dinners, which were always fun nights, where we were playing some kind of word game. My husband and I were seated with a couple of sisters – I think both in their nineties – we were all laughing and carrying on, exchanging pieces of our life histories. Those ladies were far and away the best at word games, puzzles and I think our table won the great prize of getting to the buffet first!

Another memory that tickled me is when I was asked to bring my accordion for a sing-along with some children for a “fun night”. I can’t remember details of how anyone talked me into that or how it came about. I do remember that Pastor asked any of these little mites if they had a favorite song they wanted to sing. Without a beat missed, the first request I got was “Ring of Fire”, an old Johnny Cash tune. Nope, you can’t make it up!

I hope that this letter has served its purpose as I welcomed the opportunity for a chance to assist in this small way. I am open to further communication in this regard, however please note that I will be out of the country for much of October. My mobile # is 715-222-1472.

Most sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Laura', written in dark ink.

Laura Bond

gathering opportunities for all), Little Colony Artist's Collective (meeting weekly at the church for quiet conversation and painting). The church provides space for the weekly meetings of our local Kiwanis chapter, a group who enthusiastically supports opportunities for the youth of Prescott.

My farm project is now in its 10th year of service to the community and I am so grateful for the trust and big-hearted generosity of the UCC in helping us get started. Dialogue and the sharing of resources between groups and organizations make our community greater... in turn making individuals and families stronger. I have been inspired by the people of Prescott's United Church of Christ and having received their gifts will work to pass these gifts on to others with dreams and desires of their own, further strengthening and raising the spirit of our community.

Because of my own experiences detailed above, I treasure the Prescott UCC as part of our community. I sincerely hope that it will continue to act as the valuable community asset that it is into the future. The Prescott UCC has my best wishes in their search for a new pastor who will be able to continue the UCC's legacy of kindness, generosity, and community support.

Thank you and best wishes for all,

Diane Webster