

Rocky Mountain Conference

United Church of Christ

Abbreviated Local Church Profile for Pastor

United Church of Broomfield

Broomfield, Colorado

Associate Pastor

April 24, 2019

*“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 Abbreviated Local Church Profile supports the calling and discernment of United Church of Christ congregations who are searching for part-time pastoral leadership. Through the Abbreviated Profile, the congregation will focus on three main questions: Who are we now? Who is our Neighbor? Who is God Calling us To Become? From those three questions the congregation will then determine the kind of pastoral leadership that is needed in this particular time in the life of the congregation and the wider community.  This profile will serve as the basis of discernment for the search committee, as well as be a reliable expression of the church for pastors discerning own call.

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, explorations, storytelling and many prayers, and as the Spirit moves throughout the process, congregations will shape a collective articulation of Christ’s leading (WHO IS GOD CALLING US TO BECOME).

Your conference will provide referenced material such as the 11-year Report 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 Abbreviated Local Church Profile the position being sought.

When it is time for ministerial search, the conference can counsel you on posting the Abbreviated 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 Abbreviated Local Church Profile when it is ready to be shared in relationship with prospective new leaders.

INFORMATION FOR NATIONAL DATABASE OF OPEN POSITIONS

Church name: The United Church of Broomfield

Street address: 825 Kohl St., Broomfield, CO 80020

Supplemental web links: www.broomfielducc.org

Additional ecumenical affiliations:  n/a

(e.g. denominations, communions, fellowships)

Rocky Mountain Conference Staff Contact Person

Name: Erin Gilmore

Title: Associate Conference Minister

Phone: 303-984-9118

Email: erin@rmcucc.org

Summary Ministry Description:

In the next few years we hope to continue growing our membership, especially our youth and family programs.  We are looking to become more tech savvy in order to be more attractive and relevant. We anticipate that many qualities of our church will continue to remain strong, like our volunteerism, the care and concern that members show for one another and our inclusive and welcoming atmosphere.  We are seeking to call a minister who will focus on the emerging needs of youth, young adults and families, promote growth in our congregation and engage with the greater Broomfield community as a part of our dynamic ministry team.

Current size of membership: 115

What we value about living in our area (2 – 3 sentences):  Broomfield prides itself on being family-friendly and community-centered; being big, yet still maintaining a small-town feeling.  We are close to downtown, arts, culture and the vast beauty and recreational benefits that Colorado has to offer.

Position Title: Associate Pastor

Compensation Level:  \_\_\_¾ Time \_\_X\_½ Time          \_\_\_¼ Time

Does the total support package meet conference compensation guidelines? YES

Salary Basis (from the Call Agreement Workbook, equal to Cash Salary plus Value of Parsonage/Housing Allowance): Range of $19,050-$22,225, depending upon experience and qualifications.

Benefits: No Benefits

WHO WE ARE NOW?

1.     One to two paragraph description of who you are as a church*. (Some prompts: What do you most value as a congregation? What are some strengths of your congregation? What do you enjoy doing together? What is your worship like? What do you care about as a congregation?*

We are an open and affirming congregation that values family, community and an open-minded theology that demonstrates our inclusivity and welcoming attitude. If we had to put a label on our theology, it would probably be “moderate to moderately-liberal.” Church members enjoy a variety of social activities like our annual all-church progressive dinner, small group gatherings, jazz nights, hikes, pancake breakfasts and suppers, and many, many more.

We also enjoy working together on fundraisers and community service; our annual lawnmower clinic, collecting items for Broomfield Fish and volunteering for A Precious Child, to name a few.

We gather outside of worship for activities that promote spiritual education and growth like our bible study classes, book studies, youth outings and joy groups.

2.     Describe the mission and or purpose of your church *(2-3 sentences):*

Our Church is dedicated to the love of God as demonstrated by Jesus Christ and inspired by the Holy Spirit. We demonstrate our love of God through everyday living. Everyone is welcome to join us as we grow in our faith and in our relationship with God and each other through worship, teaching, caring, and fellowship.

3.     One to two paragraph summary of the church’s history*. (When was it founded? By who? What are some of the most significant events in the history of the church that have shaped your identity as a congregation? What has been the most important event in the life of the church in the past 10 years?)*

In many ways, our history parallels the history of Broomfield.  In late 1957, shortly after the city itself was founded, Rev. Harold Rarick started a worship group. In March of 1958, the group held its first official service in Rev. Rarick’s home on Midway Blvd. just west of Main Street, with 40 people attending.   Two months later, the group officially formed the United Church of Broomfield. Church members continued meeting in homes until April 2, 1961, when we opened our church building at our current location at 825 Kohl Street.

We have always treated our building not just as a place for our own use, but as an opportunity to serve the community. We are the proud sponsors of Boy Scout Troop 511, which has met in our building since 1988.  Seeing a need for quality before and after school care for the children who attend Kohl Elementary, just across the street from us, we opened the Kohl Street Kids before and after school program in 1985. We added a preschool program in 1990. Today, both programs are still going strong. Over the years, we have also provided meeting places for a number of community groups, notable Alcoholics Anonymous, and other kinds of support groups. Most recently we provided space for the annual Broomfield Piano Festival.

Our church proudly became an ONA congregation on January 25, 2004.

The most significant event in the last ten years is the hiring of Pastor Michael Blackwood, and two years later, the retirement of longtime pastor Greg Garland. This unique transition says a lot about our church: Greg stayed on for two years to mentor and assist Michael as he undertook his first church pastorate. The transition has been smoother than it might normally have been as a result.

4.     Statistical Summary:

*a.*    Active Membership:  60-80

*b.*    Total Reported Membership:  115

*c.*    Sunday Morning average attendance:   75

*d.*    Number of children and youth:  12-15

*e.*    Average Attendance by children and youth:  5-8

*f.*     Members serving on Boards and Committees (not including ad hoc committees or small groups):  50-60

*g.*    Missions Giving, average over 5 years:  4-5% of budget

*h.*    Results of most recent stewardship campaign compared with previous year: The stewardship campaign occurred in Oct-Nov 2018 and pledging remained steady.

*i.*     (any other interesting statistics)

5.     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?

Diversity occurs in our congregation through:

·      Age (2 years to 92 years)

·      Multi-generational families (4 generation family in attendance)

·      Sexual orientation and gender

·      Relationship Status: Single, married, divorced, partnered, widowed and “complicated”

·      Economic

·      Theological

·      Political

6.     Describe the structure of your church. How are decisions made? What committees do you have? What volunteer ministries do you have? (choir, service opportunities, youth group, Sunday school, bible studies, fellowship groups, etc.)

As part of the UCC we appreciate and honor our autonomy. Governing happens through the church council whose members are all volunteers from the congregation, made up of the officers and six committee liaisons. Committees are missions, spiritual care, worship, Christian education, trustees and fellowship. In addition to committee work, our volunteer ministries include choir, youth group, Knitting for Peace, 2 adult and 1 youth Sunday school class, seasonal bible studies, men’s fellowship, women’s fellowship, Morningstar Fellowship, multiple small JOY (Jesus, Others & You) groups and community organizations supported through the committees.

7.     What are the staff positions currently held at the churc*h (including the position you are seeking):*

Senior Pastor

Associate Pastor (seeking)

Administrative Assistance

Kohl Street Kids Director (preschool and BASE program)

Choir Director

Musician

Custodian

WHO IS OUR NEIGHBOR?

1.    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?

The United Church of Broomfield is relatively small, but our members are active and engaged both in our church and in the community.  Our preschool and before and after school child care programs are an important outreach to our community, as is the scout troop we have sponsored for many years. Throughout the week we provide space for A.A., other addiction recovery groups and mental health support groups.  We provide rehearsal space for a local choral group and have also provided space for the Broomfield piano festival and piano recitals. During the 2018 holiday season we partnered with a local chaplain to host a workshop on the holiday blues. Our mission committee has adopted a shelf at the local food pantry which members donate to on a monthly basis.  Individual members volunteer both at the Food Pantry, and at other non-profits which serve those in need or provide support the arts in the community. Other mission activities are described below. We may not be as big as some, but we are fortunate to have a congregation that lives out the call to discipleship in the community.

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

Our senior pastor attends and participates in the MDA and Rocky Mountain Conference annual meetings, along with members of our congregation.  In 2018, our church hosted the association’s annual gathering and received high praise for our facilities, as well as our ability to provide a valued spiritual and educational experience. The pastor also attends the bi-annual national Synod.

We have a member of our congregation who chairs the MDA’s committee on ministry and one of our members is currently vice-moderator of the Rocky Mountain Conference (and slated to be moderator in 2020).

3.    Check all of the following “statements of witness” that apply to your UCC faith community. (Find more information on these statements at ucc.org.)

a.    \_\_ Accessible to All (A2A)

b.    \_\_ Creation Justice

c.    \_\_ Economic Justice

d.    \_\_ Faithful and Welcoming

e.    \_X\_ God Is Still Speaking (GISS)

f.     \_\_ Immigrant Welcoming

g.    \_\_ Inter-cultural/Multi-racial (I’M)

h.    \_\_ Just Peace

i.     \_\_ Global Mission Church

j.     \_X\_ Open and Affirming (ONA)

k.    \_\_ WISE Congregation for Mental Health

l.     \_X\_ Other UCC designations: Five for Five

m.  \_\_ Other similar designations in affiliated denominations

n.    \_\_ 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?

We look forward to exploring (if, which, when) adopting statements once we on-board our new associate pastor.

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

Our church participates in a community wide Thanksgiving Service each year.  Our pastor meets regularly with other pastors as part of Faith Communities Together in Service in an effort to meet the needs of our community.  We also participate with the Local Presbyterian Church to sponsor blood drives twice a year, and with the local Episcopal church to provide shelter for homeless families at that church several times each year through the Growing Home organization. Our Thanksgiving food drive supports the food bank run by the Henderson United Church of Christ.  We have often participated with local churches in cook offs among local pastors which is a fundraiser for the local Habitat for Humanity. Over the years members of our congregation have served on the Board of Archways Housing and Services which is an affiliate of the Rocky Mountain Conference of the UCC. This past summer we joined with other UCC congregations for a joint worship service featuring United Church of Christ General Minister and President John Dorhauer. Our pastor has also served as Chaplain for the State Senate.

5.    MissionInSite: Demographic Information attached at end of profile.

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

When many community leaders talk about our church, they call our church “home.”  Church members are or have been elected to serve on local school boards and city council. They serve on local nonprofit boards support the arts, and work for (and, many years ago, founded!) the local food bank. At least one community leader who is familiar with a variety of local churches has said we are exceptionally welcoming and inclusive.

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

New people to the church comment that they stayed and became involved because of the welcoming atmosphere. They’ve said that our church and our people have made them feel “at home” and they naturally wanted to be here. People also say they like the various types of outreach opportunities we have, as well as the attitude of, “what else could we do?”

WHO IS GOD IS CALLING US TO BECOME?

1.    Who is God calling you to become as a congregation? What is God seeking to do through in your particular context to add to share in the healing of the world?  (see profile page 13 (i))

Like most churches, we want to grow but we don’t want to grow simply in numbers, we want to grow spiritually, theologically and as a community.  We want to “keep becoming” that which God and Jesus have taught through the ages: compassionate, welcoming and ready-to-serve. We recognize that how we serve today, may be very different tomorrow. The world is ever-changing and we want to be in-tune with those changes so that we can best serve in whatever way that may be.

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

With our new pastor now established as a part of our church and the community, we look to the new associate pastor to enter into partnership with him and the congregation to continue to move us forward. Strong interpersonal skills and flexibility will be important. Ministry goals include new and creative programming for children, youth, as well as adults. Education is important in all aspects and we want to continue our growth in that respect, as well as help children, youth and the community to that as well.  Also, there are emerging opportunities with the issues in our community (ex: housing, etc.) - we want the new associate pastor to bring his/her ideas, creativity and visioning to help discover how we can better serve and find new opportunities to care for others.

3.    Describe the challenges you are facing as a church and how you hope your pastor will work with you to meet those challenges.

The challenge we’ve been working on and hope our new associate pastor can help with, is to broaden our outreach and connections with child, youth and families in the community. We are fortunate that we are a strong church family with wonderful kids and families, but we think that while WE know this, the greater community may not. We believe that to address this challenge, it involves more than simply marketing that we’re a “family-oriented” church, but rather we need to “live out loud” who we are so that others will see. The results, we hope, will be an increase in children and families attending our church, but also more involvement with the children/youth/family aspects of our community.

WHO IS GOD CALLING TO MINISTER WITH US?

1.    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 the gifts, talents, skills and leadership style you are looking for in your next pastor. (You can also choose four areas of excellence from The Marks of Faithful & Effective Authorized Ministry to help guide the answer to this question.)

Using the “Marks of Faithful & Effective Authorized Ministry,” we note the following:

* Strengthening inter- and intra- personal assets
  + Relationship and covenant are very important to us and should be with our new associate pastor. Strong communication skills are vital and a desire to reach out, connect and engage with church members, especially children youth and families is important.
* Building Transformational Leadership Skills
  + In working with youth and families, our new associate pastor will being caring and sensitive to the needs and challenges facing youth in today’s world. S/he will extend friendship, mentorship, leadership and guidance as they journey together through their spiritual and religious lives. S/he will help them learn and develop skills necessary to handle issues, self-reflect and contribute to the greater community as they discern how to make their way in the world.
* Working Together for Justice and Mercy
  + Justice and mercy were exemplified by Jesus and we’d like our new associate pastor to do the same, helping our youth and families to identify injustice around them and incorporate merciful compassion whenever they can. S/he will exemplify and educate others on how to be radically hospitable through their relationships with the congregation and outreach to the community.
* Engaging Sacred Stories and Traditions
  + Our new associate pastor will exhibit successful relationships with congregants by learning and celebrating their sacred stories and traditions, while witnessing (and helping them to witness) to the life of the scriptures.

2.    Core Competencies:  (List three core competencies that you imagine could be foundational in your next minister’s relationship with the church. For example, a church seeking a pastoral care minister might hope to call someone who is caring, sensitive and sociable, while a church seeking an executive minister might want an organized, detail-oriented and time-conscious).

1. Pastoral Care - in working with youth and families, s/he will need to be able to ingratiate others and develop valued relationships, demonstrating compassion and love.
2. Time Management - because youth and families in today’s social-media and extra-curricular-heavy world are being spread thin to pack so much activities into so little time, the new associate pastor will need to be organized with his/her time, flexible, sensitive to other’s ever-changing needs and reliable. S/he will demonstrate and exemplify these characteristics.
3. Technological Savvy - our children, youth and young families are already heavily connected to technology and social media. Our older folks are learning and catching up as well. The new associate pastor will have a great working knowledge of the internet, websites, social media platforms and also an awareness of what’s on the horizon, so that s/he can be well-connected to congregants and the community.

3.    Describe how your church will adopt part-time adjustments in the pastoral schedule to support a minister’s bi-vocational employment.

Bringing on a half-time, associate minister, will be a new venture for our congregation with our senior pastor. As such, this will be a journey is learning and growth for all, as we discern exactly how the new associate pastor will become a part of the congregation, ‘time-wise.’ It is important that s/he spend all of their time with youth, families and the community, whether that is in the church during worship, at youth/family events or in the community.  We expect we will be flexible as we work through this but do want the pastor spending the majority of her/his work time in our church or community, rather, than say, working from home.

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.)*

Michael Blackwood - Senior Pastor, member of search committee

Jennie Belval - Moderator, member of search committee

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: Erin Gilmore/Associate Conference Minister

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Phone: 801-694-6300

Date: May 6, 2019

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*