

## Search and Call Tools for Congregations

Advancing the Spirit's guidance into God's future

# INTRODUCING THE NEW LOCAL CHURCH PROFILE

Who  
are  
we

Who  
is our  
neighbor

Who is  
God  
calling us  
to become

?

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!

MINISTERIAL EXCELLENCE,  
SUPPORT & AUTHORIZATION

**UNITED CHURCH  
OF CHRIST**



# UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

## LOCAL CHURCH PROFILE

Beresford-Centerville  
Joint Parish of the United Church of Christ  
Beresford, SD 57004  
Centerville, SD 57014

Full-Time Pastor

Tri-Conference Ministry: South Dakota, Nebraska, Iowa

July 22, 2021

### 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.

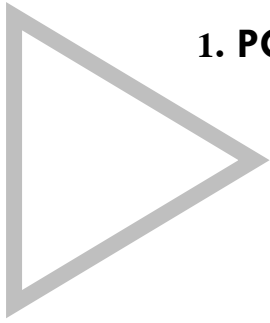
The interim season is not the only time in a church's life when it's valuable to give attention to explore a congregation's vocation. Three sections of the Local Church Profile – **WHO ARE WE NOW**, **WHO IS OUR NEIGHBOR**, and **WHO IS GOD CALLING US TO BECOME** – are meant to be updated every 3-5 years. 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?

### 1a. LISTING INFORMATION

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Church name: United Church of Christ, Beresford-Centerville

Street address: 109 North Fifth Street, Beresford, SD 57004

700 Main Street, Centerville, SD 57014

Supplemental web links:

FaceBook Page: United Church of Christ: Beresford/Centerville

City of Centerville: [www.centervillesd.com](http://www.centervillesd.com); [www.centerville.k12.sd.us](http://www.centerville.k12.sd.us)

City of Beresford: [www.beresfordsd.com](http://www.beresfordsd.com); [www.beresford.k12.sd.us](http://www.beresford.k12.sd.us)

Joint Parish Email: [bcucc66@gmail.com](mailto:bcucc66@gmail.com)

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

Beresford Area Ministerial Association

Centerville Area Ministerial Association

Children's Evangelical Fellowship – Centerville

Vacation Bible School Cooperative – Beresford/Rural churches

Conference: SD Conference of UCC

Association: Two Rivers

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

Samantha Houser

Associate Conference Minister

402-350-1714

[Samantha@ucctcm.org](mailto:Samantha@ucctcm.org)

Summary Ministry Description:

Our joint parishes have a vision to improve the efforts of outreach to younger families and youth, increase efforts with elderly and shut ins, and reinforce spiritual faith among members and people that visit UCC. We are need of a pastor that has the skills to support and motivate current active members to enhance the mission of the church. Our churches are small, but have

deep roots. Our new leader must be able to navigate and honor the history of the church while offering a vision and hope for the future.

*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?*

Photographs:

*Insert 1 – 3 images of your church, its people, its parsonage or building or gathering space, etc.*

Beresford Church



Centerville Church



Parsonage (Located next to Beresford Church)



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

Beresford and Centerville living areas, although small have a strong sense of community, neighbor helping neighbor, and strong faith-based residents. We value the integrity and authenticity in work, business and life. Both communities have seen improvements and areas of life and believe in partnering to give back to the less privileged.

Current size of membership:

Beresford – 45

Centerville – 57

Languages used in ministry (*other than English*):

N/A (Only English)

Position Title: Pastor

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:

Full Time

Does the total support package meet conference compensation guidelines?

Based on SD UCC Conference Guidelines

## **1b. SCOPE OF WORK**

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Pastor will be full-time employee of the Beresford-Centerville UCC Parishes.

- ⊕ Both congregations are looking for someone who will spiritually motivate them.
- ⊕ His or Her preaching style should be Biblical and insightful.
- ⊕ The Pastor should have a Shepherd's Heart – be someone who is interested in all the members of both churches by
  - visiting those who are in the hospital, recovering at home, or live in a health care facility
  - listening to us whether during a regular visitation or during a time of joy, trial, pain, or sorrow
  - having a good sense of humor regarding everyday life, church life, people, and himself/herself
  - visiting those who are currently not attending church
  - being visible in the community

- being an effective outreach to the people of the community and involving members of the two churches in that process
- being open-minded and friendly

Core Competencies:

- ⊕ Spiritually motivated and motivating
- ⊕ Insightful
- ⊕ Open-minded

## 1c. COMPENSATION AND SUPPORT

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Salary Basis (*from the Call Agreement Workbook, equal to Cash Salary plus Value of Parsonage/Housing Allowance*): Per Conference Guidelines/Negotiable

Benefits:

Salary plus Benefits

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

Comment on the residential/commuting expectations for your next minister.

Eleven miles separate the physical location of each church with SD Highways 46 and 19A connecting the two communities. Travel reimbursement available.

State any incentives (*e.g. school debt reduction or retention bonus after a certain number of years in position*):

NA

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

Conference staff that are shared with NE and IA

Community of Practices that are a peer support group

Two Rivers Association meets regularly

Beresford Area Ministerial Association

Centerville Area Ministerial Association



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

NA

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

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

- Have an honest and spirited approach with the youth striving to help them grow in their faith in God and be leaders in the church.
- Co-collaborate to help the community's older population age gracefully while living active, fulfilling lives.
- Enhance community engagement to allow churches to be an ambassador of God's Love

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

- ⊕ He or She understands and demonstrates that the mission of the church extends outside the four walls of the church building.
- ⊕ He or She should be willing to seek opportunities for fellowship and ministry in the greater Christian community.
- ⊕ He or She should be willing to grow and learn along with us!

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

No preferences have been identified. Being culturally competent or willingness to learn if the need arises is preferred.

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.

- ⊕ Exhibit a spiritual foundation and ongoing spiritual practice through his or her commitment to lifelong development and faithful personal stewardship.
- ⊕ Engaging Sacred stories and traditions through sermons that relate to everyday experiences that can be presented with a simple, down-to-earth message that a listener can incorporate into their daily lives.

- ⊕ Nurture UCC identity by possessing interpersonal skills that make him or her approachable and attentive to all people by communicating with passion for the oneness of the Body of Christ.
- ⊕ Strengthen inter- and intra- personal assets with the use of his or her excellent communication skills and understanding the importance of ministry across the life span.



## 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?

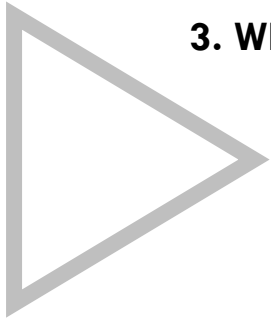
Spiritual, caring and giving.

The pandemic enabled us to be appreciative of what we have/had and become closer as a congregation and community.

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?*

The current pandemic enabled to us to realize the importance of our church families. The fellowship during coffee hour is an important part of the church community and it was greatly missed during the pandemic. In order to continue offer services, it was determined the best way was to create a Facebook page and offer Facebook Live services. After starting this, we quickly realized that offering this didn't only meet the needs of our members, but also reached others in our community and became one method of outreach.



### 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

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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?*

Our churches follow the hymnal and UCC Book of Worship for the commitments and promises made by members.

Describe several strengths or positive qualities of your congregation.

Open communication and strong faith

Friendliness

Welcoming

Open to new suggestions

Hard-working

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?*

Both churches follow the same weekly bulletin. We look forward to a spiritual and unified message that connects the bible message to current events.

Relaxed and friendly welcome as you enter the church from our monthly ushers.

Parishioners gather and get updated on the week’s events prior to service starting in the back of the sanctuary. We have music and announcements at the beginning of the church followed about announcements. There is fellowship before and after church to catch up on current events.

During the year special services are held jointly. Examples are Christmas Eve, Maundy Thursday and Christmas in July.

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?*

There is a desire among members to increase/offer Sunday school participation and resume Adult Bible Study. In order to offer Sunday school, families with school age children will have to come through the door.

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?*

- When it comes to decision-making, how many hours are spent in meetings per month?
  - a. 2-4 hours
- Think of a time when action had to be taken quickly, for example when a crisis or disaster occurred. How was that accomplished?
  - a. When COVID pandemic hit, it was brought to Joint Parish to assist in decision making. There is a calling tree that can help disseminate immediate church needs.
- 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, by request

### **3b. 11-YEAR REPORT**

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*(add here the 11-Year Report developed with the help of your conference staff, UCC Data Hub, and MissionInsite)*

The 11-Year reports for both churches may be found at the end of the Profile.

### 3c. CONGREGATIONAL DEMOGRAPHICS

Describe those who participate in your church.

		<i>Is this number an estimate? (check if yes)</i>
Number of active members:	Beresford – 45 Centerville – 57	X
Number of active non-members:	Beresford – 60 Centerville - 47	X
Total of church participants (sum of the numbers above):	Joint Active – 102 Joint Inactive – 107	X

Percentage of total participants who have been in the church:

Average Attendance	Beresford 27 Centerville 33	<i>Is this numbere an estimate? (check if yes)</i>
More than 10 years:	90%	Yes
Less than 10, more than 5 years:	7%	Yes
Less than 5 years:	3%	Yes

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>
6	11	4	3	5	8	8	11	10	yes

Percentage of adults in various household types:

		<i>Is this number an estimate? (check if yes)</i>
Adults under 18-35:	12%	
Households with minors:	10%	Families with children
Single adults age 35-65:	5%	
Joint households with no minors:	20%	
Single adults over 65:	20%	

Education level of adult participants by percentage:

		<i>Is this number an estimate? (check if yes)</i>
High school:	B = 95% C = 55%	Yes
College:	B = 60% C = 33%	Yes
Graduate School:	B = 8% C = 3%	Yes
Specialty Training:	B = 10% C = 8%	Yes
Other (please specify):		

Percentage of adults in various employment types:

		<i>Is this number an estimate? (check if yes)</i>
Adults who are employed:	B = 20 C = 12	Yes
Adults who are retired:	B = 10 C = 30	Yes
Adults who are not fully employed:	B = 15 C = 9	Yes

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

- Healthcare, lawyers, teachers, homemakers, farmers, retirees, florists, food service, construction, manufacturing

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 have a primarily Caucasian congregation.

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

### **3d. PARTICIPATION AND STAFFING**

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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	6-10	Women's Fellowship
Baptisms ( <i>number last year</i> )	2	
Children's Groups or Classes	1	Supporters of Community Coop Program
Christmas Eve and Easter Worship	50	Pastor
Church-wide Meals	40-60	Joint Parish Potluck
Choirs and Music Groups		
Church-based Bible Study		At discretion of Pastor
Communion ( <i>served how often?</i> )		Offered Monthly on first Sunday
Community Meals	60-70	Potato Fest; Brown Bag Lunch; Good Friday Annual Silent Luncheon; Homecoming Lunch
Confirmation ( <i>number confirmed last year</i> )	1 3 needed in next year	Usually every other year as needed
Drama or Dance Program		
Funerals ( <i>number last year</i> )	5	As needed
Intergenerational Groups		
Outdoor Worship	40-60	Christmas in July
Prayer or Meditation Groups		
Public Advocacy Work		
Retreats		



Theology or Bible Programs in the Community		
Weddings ( <i>number last year</i> )	0	
Worship (time slot: __0930__)	25	Times alternate between parishes and change annually on Labor Day Sunday
Worship (time slot: __1100__)	30	
Young Adult Groups or Classes		
Youth Groups or Classes		
Other		

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)
Elaine Miller	Yes	x	Interim	N
Janel Bak	Yes	x	Interim	N

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:

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
Nancy Ryger	Beresford/Centerville Staff/Secretary	\$3617	Joint Parish	July 2015 started
Organists	Staff	Varies	Joint Parish	

## REFLECTION

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

Seeks to connect with members and community members without church for meet the known and unknown needs of people within our community. It is important to remain flexible and respond to needs that arise within our members and community members.

## 3e. CHURCH FINANCES

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

Source	Amount
Annual Offerings and Pledged Giving	B \$ 47,842 C \$ 46,657
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> )	\$ as needed
Fundraising Events	\$ COVID
Gifts Designated for a Specific Purpose	\$
Grants	\$
Rentals of Church Building	B \$ 50
Rentals of Church Parsonage	\$ 0
Support from Related Organizations ( <i>e.g. Women's Group</i> ) <i>Women's Group, Memorial Fund</i>	\$
Transfers from Special Accounts	\$
Other (specify):	\$
Other (specify):	\$
TOTAL	\$ 94,549

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

*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.*

**Beresford/Centerville Joint Parish Financials**

**2020 Beginning Balance \$23,581.82**

**Minister Expenses**

Cash Salary	\$35,370
Health Ins	\$10,287
Dental Ins	\$738
Pension	\$5,014
FICA Offset (0.0765)	\$2705
Expense Acct	\$431
Mileage	\$779
<b>Utilities</b>	
<i>BMTC</i>	\$1668
<i>City of Beresford</i>	\$2,230
<i>Cell Phone</i>	\$330
<i>Mid-American</i>	\$383
<b>Pulpit Supply</b>	\$3,308

**Church Expenses**

<b>Office/Church Supplies</b>	\$4015
<i>Copier</i>	\$2147.61
<i>Bulletins</i>	\$403.54
<i>Stamps</i>	\$552.25
<i>Misc</i>	\$912.00

<b>Secretary</b>	\$3617.18
<b>FICA for Secretary</b>	\$678.65
<b>Internet Service reimbursement</b>	\$936

**Total Expenses** **\$72,492.61**

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

60-65%

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%*)

This is gathered by placing envelopes in weekly bulletins and collecting special offerings specific to the OCWM quarterly throughout the year.

What is the church's current indebtedness?

None

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

If the church has had capital campaigns in the last ten years, describe: None

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

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? Yes

What is the market value of the assets?

\$31,000

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

As needed

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

None

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

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

N/A

Please comment on the above calculations or estimates:

#### Other Assets

Reserves (savings): \$ 40,000

Cornerstone Funds

Does your church have a parsonage? Yes

Fair market rental value of the parsonage: \$1200/mo.

How is the parsonage used? Currently vacant

Street / City / State / Zip: 107 N 5<sup>th</sup> Street, Beresford, SD 57004

Finished square footage: 2960 sq ft

Number of Bedrooms, Number of Bathrooms: 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms  
(2 additional nonlegal bedrooms in the basement)

Assessed real estate value: \$215,000

Available for minister residence: Yes

Expected minister residence: Preferred

Condition of structure, systems and appliances: Move-in ready

Entity in the church responsible for review and needed repairs: Trustees

Describe all buildings owned by the church:

- Centerville Church – The sanctuary and overflow room seat 100. The Sanctuary, but not the chancel, is handicapped accessible.
  - Fellowship (Welcome) hall seats 125
- Beresford Church – The sanctuary seats 125. The Sanctuary, but not the chancel is handicapped accessible.
  - Fellowship Hall seats 104+.

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.*)

- Centerville has two handicapped accessible entry ways that allow entrance into fellowship and worship space.
- Beresford has zero-entry door off the North side of the church that has direct access to the fellowship hall. There is an elevator that provides wheelchair or handicap to access worship space.
- Neither church has wheelchair access to pulpit, however they have portable pulpits if need requested that they are on same level.

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

*For example, when was a time the church made a major budget change? How is the budgeting process done? What new ministry initiative has your church financed?*

As small of a congregation that we have, we have been able to maintain our churches core functions throughout the pandemic. Members are willing to contribute when needs arise.

### **3f. HISTORICAL INFORMATION**

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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.

Approximately 10 years old there was a Panel discussion of Faith Community in the communities and celebration with meal following.

Building of fellowship halls in both churches.

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

Because of the pandemic it required us to look outside the box to location of Christmas in July. This led to members offering their place to host the outdoor service for special social distancing and safe gathering.

In response to the pandemic has challenged us to consider our “Returning to Normal” may look different in the future.

Offering collection

Communion

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?)*

Both congregations deal with conflicts similarly through conversations and agree to the consensus of the members. This is handled mostly at annual meeting.

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

Staff member’s name	Years of service	UCC Standing (Y/N)
Mark Gustafson	1991-1996	
Patricia Helmer	1997-2003	
Jay Mitchell	2003-2012	
David Jennys	2013-2016	
Joe Schulte	2018-2020	

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

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

Yes, ask us

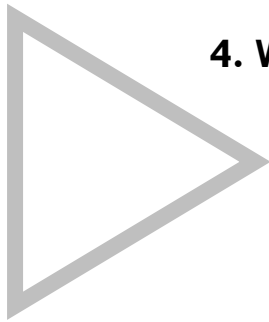
Has your church been involved in a Situational Support Consultation?

No

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

Yes, ask us





## 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

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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?*

- Recently did a jig saw puzzle drive to donate to Veteran's Hospitals to assist soldiers healing from Traumatic Brain Injuries and PTSD.
- Continual donations come in for the local food pantries based on supply needs.
- Participate in annual Angel Tree during Christmas season to help support under-served families during the holiday season.

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

All members of offered to attend. Pastor attends and 1-2 members of the congregation attend as well.

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](http://ucc.org).)

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

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Accessible to All (A2A)                 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Just Peace                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Creation Justice                        | <input type="checkbox"/> Global Mission Church                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Economic Justice                        | <input 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?

Yes

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

- Women's Fellowship that organizes community connections
- Brown bag luncheon's
- Annual serve at Sioux Falls Banquet
- Serve elderly through the commitment to deliver Meals on Wheels twice year
- Sponsor youth to attend Placerville camps
- Collaborate with other denominations to host community vacation bible school
- Salvation Army Collection
- Bible Study Groups
- Donate to local food pantries
- Donate School supplies

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.

N/A – Mission Statement Pending.

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?

Shepherd to our church and guide in study of God's work.

#### **4b. MISSION InSite**

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

The report indicates that there has been growth in the 18–40-year-old age groups, however the church membership has not grown in that age group. Current active church members are aging along with the community and providing a faith community that supports the lifespan could help build the church community.

Major trends in each community during the next 5-10 years include:

- Beresford – More industry, Revitalize Downtown, Shortage of workers, more housing
- Centerville – School funding/numbers continues to grow, tough choices, more housing stability.

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?

There is opportunity to grow and strengthen the connection to the 18–40-year-old population that has shown growth in both communities, but has not been captured in the churches.

Both congregations continue to struggle for relevancy in the community and to bring more families into the church and current members active.

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

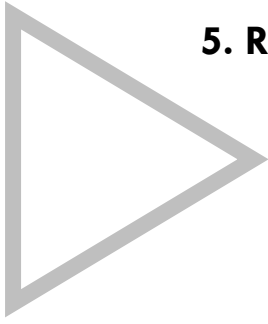
Both communities are small and safe. We are close to the largest city in our state, and we are considered “bedroom” communities. Our communities are attractive to families with children that work in the city, but do not want to raise a family there. This is allowing us to grow in small ways keep our communities viable. While neither church is currently growing, we do have opportunity for growth due to the number of families that are unchurched.

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

We feel that it is fair to say that both churches are always there to help their communities with whatever is needed or called upon us to do. Both churches have worked together for over 50 years and is a testament to our strength and leadership in the communities.

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

- The welcoming environment
- Friendly people that are supportive of each other
- Nice facility
- Hardworking members to strive for togetherness
- Smaller church is attractive
- Relaxed and inviting



## 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

Dawn Coggins

300 W North Maple Street

Beresford, SD 57004

Telephone: 605-929-2780 / Email: [dcoggins@ogknights.org](mailto:dcoggins@ogknights.org)

Relationship to the Congregation: Substitute accompanist

July 12, 2021

Subject: Reference Letter for Beresford & Centerville UCC

I am writing this Reference Letter from a request by the Call Committee of the Beresford and Centerville UCC congregations. My name is Dawn Coggins and I will share a little background about myself. I grew up in Centerville and graduated from high school in 1981. After graduating from college and working in the Twin Cities for a couple of years, I returned to live in Centerville for 7 years with my family. After that we moved to Beresford and have been there since. I have been a substitute accompanist for both the Beresford & Centerville congregations since the early 90s.

I thoroughly enjoy whenever I get the chance to help out these congregations because of the people in both congregations. They have always been very warm, welcoming and caring

whenever I step in to help sub. I feel like I pick up wherever I left off when I am there. I absolutely love the fellowship that you experience when you enter either of the churches, they make you feel like family.

I have had the opportunity to experience playing in larger congregations but the thing that I love about the smaller congregations like the Beresford & Centerville UCC's is the intimacy with the sharing of joys and concerns. It makes one feel very connected to the individuals in the congregation. I have also witnessed how both congregations have such an awesome mission to serve in their communities. They participate in a variety of service projects such as Meals on Wheels, caring for college students, assisting veterans, supplying food for their local food pantry, etc.

If there is any additional information I can provide, please do not hesitate to contact me.  
(cell: 605-929-2780)

Blessings,

Dawn Coggins  
300 W North Maple Street  
Beresford, SD 57004

## REFERENCE 2

Deb Diercks  
Box 323  
Centerville, SD 57014  
Telephone: 605-563-2780 / Email: [d\\_diercks@yahoo.com](mailto:d_diercks@yahoo.com)  
Relationship to the Congregation: Substitute pianist

July 2, 2021

I am writing this letter in response from a request from the call committee for the Beresford & Centerville UCC .

I have lived in Centerville since 1983. Throughout the years I have become acquainted with several members from both churches and I have had the opportunity to worship with these folks. Although I am a member of Scandia Lutheran, I have been substitute pianist for both congregations.

Both congregations are very welcoming. They are also very appreciative and patient with subs who may not be totally familiar with their services. I always felt uplifted by the casual nature of their worship and how they willingly share joys and concerns of people in congregation, community and the world. I'm most familiar with the Centerville congregation. I know they reach out to needy in the community and have assisted families and individuals in the past. They use their great facility for a rummage sale which benefits a lot of people. They also served the homecoming lunch providing a place for people to eat and visit. They are Christ's hands in the world.

I'm not aware of any concerns that need to be addressed within their congregations. They are small in size, so I imagine like most churches these days they struggle for membership and financial support. The people I know are very committed to keeping their doors open for worship and mission.

I hope these opinions help in some way. I am available for questions.

Respectfully submitted,

Deb Diercks  
605-563-2780

### REFERENCE 3

John Wagh, Funeral Director

Telephone: 605-763-2232 / Email: [staff@wassfuneralhome.com](mailto:staff@wassfuneralhome.com)

Relationship to the Congregation: Local Funeral Home

July 15, 2021

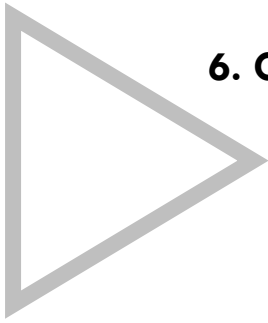
Hello,

My name is John Wagh, I am the managing funeral director at Wass Funeral Home in Beresford. For 18 years I have had the honor of helping families when a death has affected the community. A large part of my success is attributed to assistance I receive at churches on the day of the funeral/memorial service. The members of the Beresford/Centerville United Church of Christ have always made themselves available to provide comfort to their church family at such a time. Whether it is providing ushers before and after the service, controlling the sound system during a funeral, or having the ladies group prepare, serve and clean up a luncheon, members work together toward the common goal of being good servants to whoever needs help.

Sincerely,

John Wegh, Funeral Director  
Wass Funeral Home  
Phone 605-763-2232

-



## 6. CLOSING THOUGHTS

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

### 6a. CLOSING PRAYER

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*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:*

Dear Lord,

Thank you for sending our pastor to the shepherd the church. We are grateful for the love you put in the pastor's heart for You and Your people. We appreciate the unique set of gifts and talents that enrich the pastor's ministry and bless our church. Would You, in turn bless the past today. Please help the pastor to sense Your presence. Fill the pastor up Lord and help him to lead us in Your presence. In Your name we pray. Amen



## 6b. STATEMENT OF CONSENT

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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.*)

Pastoral Search Committee

Centerville Representatives: Mark Greguson, Sue Olsen, Larry Olsen

Beresford Representatives: Mike Tjaden, Duane Clay, Carly Cordell

2. Additional comments for interpreting the profile:

Signed:

Name / Title / Date:

## 6c. VALIDATION BY CONFERENCE/ASSOCIATION

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

Staff Comment: Y

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


Staff Comment: Y

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

Staff Comment: Y

My signature below attests to the above three items.

Signature:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rev. Samantha Houser", is displayed within a light gray rectangular box.

Name / Title: Rev. Samantha Houser

Email: samantha@ucctcm.org

Phone: 402-350-1714

Date: July 22, 2021

**UNITED CHURCH  
OF CHRIST**



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#:** 720130

**Assoc:** 741      **Schedule:** 0      United Church of Christ of Beresford      Beresford      SD      57004

YEAR	MEMBERS	AVG WEEKLY ATTENDANCE	CHR ED/ FAITH FORM	CONFIRMATION	CONFESSION	TRANSFER OR REAFFIRM	DEATHS OR TRANS OUT	OTHER LOSSES	NET MEMBS ADDS-REMOVED
2010	80	26	7	2	0	0	3	0	-1
2011	78	25	7	0	0	1	3	0	-2
2012	82	25	7	3	0	1	0	0	4
2013	77	23	0	0	0	0	5	0	-5
2014	77	22	0	2	0	0	2	0	0
2015	56	17	0	0	0	0	4	17	-21
2016	50	20	0	0	0	0	6	0	-6
2017	50	19	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2018	50	21	0	0	0	2	2	0	0
2019	58	27	0	5	4	0	1	0	8
2020	57	10	0	1	0	0	2	0	-1

YEAR	CURRENT EXPENSES	CAPITAL PAYMENTS	BASIC SUPPORT	TOT OTHER UCC GIVING	TOTAL OCWM	OTHER GIFTS	WIDER MISSION	BASIC SUPP% CURR LOCAL	TOTAL EXPEND	PLEDGES AND OFFERINGS
2010	\$86,873	\$0	\$9,400	\$15,330	\$24,730	\$0	\$24,730	10.82	\$111,603	\$60,686
2011	\$81,650	\$0	\$9,400	\$12,418	\$21,818	\$0	\$21,818	11.51	\$103,468	\$58,355
2012	\$14,253	\$0	\$2,306	\$1,481	\$3,787	\$0	\$3,787	16.18	\$18,040	\$67,097
2013	\$36,357	\$0	\$1,400	\$1,541	\$2,941	\$1,466	\$4,407	3.85	\$40,764	\$0
2014	\$86,490	\$0	\$3,966	\$3,835	\$7,801	\$0	\$7,801	4.59	\$94,291	\$0
2015	\$68,050	\$0	\$2,912	\$2,540	\$5,452	\$0	\$5,452	4.28	\$73,502	\$58,180
2016	\$70,539	\$0	\$3,460	\$1,802	\$5,262	\$0	\$5,262	4.91	\$75,801	\$53,577
2017	\$97,000	\$0	\$2,826	\$10,750	\$13,576	\$0	\$13,576	2.91	\$110,576	\$0
2018	\$72,327	\$0	\$2,737	\$432	\$3,169	\$150	\$3,319	3.78	\$75,646	\$45,318
2019	\$66,600	\$0	\$2,675	\$2,125	\$4,800	\$0	\$4,800	4.02	\$71,400	\$54,643
2020	\$62,002	\$0	\$2,838	\$1,582	\$4,420	\$1,850	\$6,270	4.58	\$68,272	\$47,842

% CHANGE	MEMBERS	AVG WEEKLY ATTENDANCE	CHR ED/ FAITH FORM	TOTAL ADDITIONS	TOTAL REMOVALS	CURR LOCAL EXPENSES	TOTAL OCWM	TOTAL EXPENDITURE
2015-2020	1.79	-41.18	0.00	0.00	-90.48	-8.89	-18.93	-7.12
2010-2020	-28.75	-61.54	-100.00	-50.00	-33.33	-28.63	-82.13	-38.83

**UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
ELEVEN YEAR CHURCH PROFILE BASED ON DATA REPORTED IN UCC YEARBOOKS



Church#: 720230

Assoc: 741      Schedule: 0      United Church of Christ      Centerville      SD      57014

YEAR	MEMBERS	AVG WEEKLY ATTENDANCE	CHR ED/ FAITH FORM	CONFIRMATION	CONFESSION	TRANSFER OR REAFFIRM	DEATHS OR TRANS OUT	OTHER LOSSES	NET MEMBS ADDS-REMOVED
2010	99	37	0	0	0	0	3	0	-3
2011	93	28	4	0	0	0	6	0	-6
2012	98	35	6	2	4	0	1	0	5
2013	89	28	6	0	0	0	3	6	-9
2014	92	33	10	0	3	2	1	1	3
2015	90	35	9	1	0	2	3	2	-2
2016	89	33	10	0	0	5	0	6	-1
2017	87	33	15	0	0	0	2	0	-2
2018	87	33	15	0	0	0	0	0	0
2019	87	33	15	0	0	0	0	0	0
2020	87	33	15	0	0	0	0	0	0

YEAR	CURRENT EXPENSES	CAPITAL PAYMENTS	BASIC SUPPORT	TOT OTHER UCC GIVING	TOTAL OCWM	OTHER GIFTS	WIDER MISSION	BASIC SUPP% CURR LOCAL	TOTAL EXPEND	PLEDGES AND OFFERINGS
2010	\$59,744	\$17,000	\$1,048	\$2,005	\$3,053	\$576	\$3,629	1.75	\$80,373	\$49,625
2011	\$60,221	\$19,200	\$897	\$3,149	\$4,046	\$329	\$4,375	1.49	\$83,796	\$48,857
2012	\$57,850	\$18,430	\$891	\$925	\$1,816	\$785	\$2,601	1.54	\$78,881	\$52,142
2013	\$76,825	\$0	\$2,167	\$742	\$2,909	\$588	\$3,497	2.82	\$80,322	\$51,813
2014	\$70,463	\$0	\$599	\$772	\$1,371	\$708	\$2,079	0.85	\$72,542	\$53,604
2015	\$63,500	\$0	\$949	\$515	\$1,464	\$1,322	\$2,786	1.49	\$66,286	\$54,076
2016	\$61,993	\$0	\$1,015	\$532	\$1,547	\$1,252	\$2,799	1.64	\$64,792	\$57,481
2017	\$62,683	\$0	\$796	\$5,155	\$5,951	\$650	\$6,601	1.27	\$69,284	\$54,591
2018	\$62,683	\$0	\$758	\$424	\$1,182	\$0	\$1,182	1.21	\$63,865	\$0
2019	\$62,683	\$0	\$832	\$525	\$1,357	\$0	\$1,357	1.33	\$64,040	\$0
2020	\$62,683	\$0	\$196	\$350	\$546	\$0	\$546	0.31	\$63,229	\$0

% CHANGE	MEMBERS	AVG WEEKLY ATTENDANCE	CHR ED/ FAITH FORM	TOTAL ADDITIONS	TOTAL REMOVALS	CURR LOCAL EXPENSES	TOTAL OCWM	TOTAL EXPENDITURE
2015-2020	-3.33	-5.71	66.67	-100.00	-100.00	-1.29	-62.70	-4.61
2010-2020	-12.12	-10.81	0.00	0.00	-100.00	4.92	-82.12	-21.33