

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**



LOCAL CHURCH PROFILE

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Salem United Church of Christ
71693 617th Ave
Steinauer, NE 68441

St. Paul's United Church of Christ
72257 616th Ave
Tecumseh, NE 68450

Pastor—Various Supply

Nebraska Conference, Heartland Association

September 17, 2022

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.

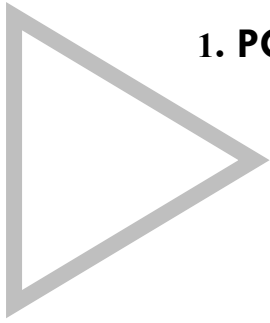
The interim season is not the only time in a church's life when it's valuable to give attention to explore a congregation's vocation. Three sections of the Local Church Profile – **WHO ARE WE NOW**, **WHO IS OUR NEIGHBOR**, and **WHO IS GOD CALLING US TO BECOME** – are meant to be updated every 3-5 years.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

Salem United Church of Christ
71693 617th Ave
Steinauer, NE 68441

St. Paul's United Church of Christ
72257 616th Ave
Tecumseh, NE 68450

Supplemental web links: None at this time.

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

Disciples of Christ

Conference: **Nebraska**

Association: **Heartland**

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

Rev. Sarah Rentzel Jones
Associate Conference Minister
808-631-2444 (c)
sarah@ucctcm.org

Summary Ministry Description:

(St. Paul's) We seek a minister with an open mind to accept and worship with us as God's children, no matter our talents, gifts or faults, and to continue with us in our 113+ years journey as a small rural church. Our purpose is, and will continue to be, to provide an open place to worship and celebrate God's love, feel the spiritual uplifting of a caring and family-oriented people and participate in the life of the local and world community while doing God's work.

(Salem) We are seeking an individual to lead us in worship and participate with us in planning our future goals and offer insight into new goals. We believe the individual that comes to serve our yoked congregations should be prepared to minister a complex group

of hardworking, helpful and loving Christian people and will be spiritually rewarded in that mission.

Photographs:

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

What we value about living in our area:

(St. Paul's) We value the closeness and family-oriented setting that our small rural church gives us while still being aware and able to help those outside our church in the local areas and the world abroad.

(Salem) It is a quiet, peaceful and close knit community with the willingness to always help and assist our neighbors anyway possible.

Current size of membership:

(St. Paul's) Approximately 60 members of which 50-60% participate in various activities, along with 8-10 non-members, on a regular basis.

(Salem) 94 members and we average about 50 any given Sunday.

Languages used in ministry): **English only**

Position Title: **Minister**

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? **Yes.**

1b. SCOPE OF WORK

Scope of work for Salem U.C.C. & St. Paul's U.C.C.:

(40-50 hours weekly / 10-12 units)

- preparation and leadership of Sunday worship including scripture study, crafting of liturgy and bulletin, sermon preparation, guiding and sometimes finding lay liturgists, planning/consulting 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
- holding confirmation classes with youth
- leadership development by working with people in the church to create ministry and programs
- pastoral care in collaboration with lay people
- community engagement and leading the way for the church to be an ambassador of God's love
- weddings and funerals for participants in the worshipping community
- strategic planning for current and new directions in ministry
- attend meetings and give leadership as needed to church programs, in collaboration with lay leadership
- participate in wider church activities such as conference and association meetings
- faithful financial development and stewardship along side the Church Council as its employee
- availability to wider community for funerals, weddings, special worship programs, and as a representative of the church to local organizations
- counseling, listening and referral
- study and prayer to increase faith and to improve skills so as to lead, teach, preach better
- energizing and deepening the spiritual connections and faith understandings of others in all they do

Core Competencies:

1. **An effective speaker who leads worship in a clear and thoughtful manner for all ages.**
2. **A compassionate person for visiting the shut-in, hospital/sick and nursing home members.**
3. **Practices their faith by the way they communicate, interact, and support church members and others throughout our rural/small town community.**

1c. COMPENSATION AND SUPPORT

Salary Basis (*from the Call Agreement Workbook, equal to Cash Salary plus Value of Parsonage/Housing Allowance*): \$

We intend to follow the guidelines of the suggested salary, housing allowance, parsonage, and benefits as established by the conference office.

Benefits:

Yes

What is the expected living situation for your next minister?

At the present time, St. Paul's UCC share expenses with Salem UCC in providing our minister with an older two story home. It is located just north across the shared driveway of Salem UCC and has three bedrooms with two bathrooms (one on each floor), an unfinished basement and a two-car attached garage. It is not handicapped accessible at this time.

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

While residing at the Salem U.C.C. parsonage, a vehicle in good working condition will be provided for travel required between Salem and St. Paul's churches and for other church related business as necessary.

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

Our goal is to find a full-time minister to meet the pastoral needs of both St. Paul's U.C.C. and Salem U.C.C. If any adjustments are needed for part time, we are willing to listen to the circumstances and discuss this with an open mind.

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.

Build an effective relationship with all members, active and in-active, which would develop and support our spiritual life for the benefit of ourselves and others.

We hope that a new pastor would participate with us in the planning of goals and to offer insight into new goals and continue making our congregations solid, faithful and committed to remaining vital.

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

We seek a minister who, in addition to leading us spiritually in our worship and church events, will also participate in other church community events/activities, praying, talking, and supporting those of other or no denomination.

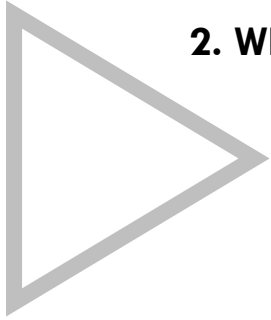
Outreach and encouragement to present and future member to become part of our church and community.

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

Our current membership language is English. There are other languages present in our local communities that include, Laotian, Vietnamese and Spanish.

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

1. **Exhibiting a spiritual foundation and ongoing spiritual practice.**
2. **Nurturing UCC identity.**
3. **Caring for all creation.**
4. **Strengthening inter- and intra- personal assets.**



2. WHO IS GOD CALLING US TO BECOME?

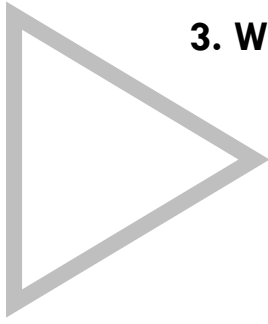
“You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.” (Matthew 22:37 NRSV)

Who is God calling you to become as a congregation?

We, as children of God, feel that he is working through us to be his disciples that live, teach, and spread his love and message to all creation, no matter who, where and what that may be. As a diverse group of individuals we want to continue our worship with God in our smaller rural churches, working with Him and our fellow man and to grow in Christ.

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

1. **A community opportunity that allows St. Paul’s to serve and provide fellowship is the local county fair food stand on two-year intervals. Net proceeds from this event are used to support local non-profits fire/ambulatory equipment, back pack program, Bibles/supplies for overseas college courses, and other community needs as they arise. Salem has a yearly Ice Cream Social to bring members and other community members together. This provides funds to send monetary donations to other churches or charitable organizations in need of helping individuals or communities.**
2. **We both hold other occasional fundraisers that provide small scholarships, medical expense benefits for lengthy illness(es), and support funds for mission trips by our members.**



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 churches are committed to a long-term relationship with God by faithful worship, helping our fellow man, and spreading the Word of God through our deeds and actions. We may be small in number, but we are dedicated to keeping our church doors open to all who welcome, or may be searching, to have God’s Word in their life. Small numbers are still mighty soldiers in God’s eye, and we have been blessed throughout our churches’ history to weather the storms and challenges God has put before us.

Describe several strengths or positive qualities of your congregation.

(St. Paul’s) Willing participation of members to attend, donate time, or help raise funds in support of disasters, local non-profit projects, aid for those with health/ life/school expenses and major church improvements.

(Salem) We have many different skill sets within our church membership that step up and help whenever and wherever needed.

Describe what worship is like when your congregation gathers.

St. Paul’s worship is at 8:45 a.m. and Salem worship at 10:10 a.m. on Sunday mornings with an approximate 45-50 minute service. Scripture is usually based on the lectionary reading. Communion is held the first Sunday of each month or on special occasions. Special music may be planned for certain services or it can happen spontaneously.

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

(St. Paul’s) Presently we are fortunate to have 6 +/- children from approximately 0 to age 10, along with 2-3 dedicated teachers who are preparing them for their future in God’s world. The oldest children light/extinguish the altar candles at the start/end of service.

A children's sermon is usually held prior to the sermon and the children are dismissed to Sunday School. Their frequent thought-provoking questions during the children's sermon often show us how God's word is effecting their daily lives in a positive manner. Our Sunday School supports the Dime's for Dinner project which helps women and children in Central America. Bible School is held during summer and their projects/program have shown us how they are aware of what they can do to help others in the world by their actions and deeds.

(Salem) At this time we do not have a Sunday School, due to the lack of young children.

Describe how your congregation is organized for ministry and mission.

We support our members through action and monetary ways when they bring a ministry or mission to us. When the need is make known, it is usually announced on Sunday mornings. Team/committee is normally formed on a volunteer basis.

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

The church councils meets 1-2 times per month and feel this is sufficient at this time to accomplish the business of the church. If more urgent business is needed, they will meet more often. Otherwise, major items are usually discussed at the annual (January) or semi-annual (July) meetings and most often are voted on in "general" and left to have the council follow through with the details. If a committee is needed, the council sets it up or asks for volunteers.

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

If the action requires food or service, the Women's Fellowship officers are notified and they in turn contact (by text or phone) the members (& non-members who want to help or donate) who are currently able to provide what's necessary. This notification method is also used when needed for other non-emergency church purposes. In our smaller communities/churches, it is not uncommon to hear from people who want to donate or volunteer before they are asked.

- 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

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

3c. CONGREGATIONAL DEMOGRAPHICS

Describe those who participate in your church.

	<u>SP</u>	<u>S</u>	<i>Is this number an estimate? (check if yes)</i>
Number of active members:	70	95	Yes
Number of active non-members:	8	20	Yes
Total of church participants (sum of the numbers above):	78	115	Yes

Percentage of total participants who have been in the church:

	<u>SP</u>	<u>S</u>	<i>Is this number an estimate? (check if yes)</i>
More than 10 years:	75	80	Yes
Less than 10, more than 5 years:	15	10	Yes
Less than 5 years:	10	10	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>								
8	3	0	2	2	0	5	6		4	15	16	35	17	35	14	35	Yes

Percentage of adults in various household types:

	<u>SP</u>	<u>S</u>	<i>Is this number an estimate? (check if yes)</i>
Single adults under 35:	4	4	Yes
Households with minors:	14	3	Yes

Single adults age 35-65:	12	10	Yes
Joint households with no minors:	45	50	Yes
Single adults over 65:	25	33	Yes

Education level of adult participants by percentage:

	<u>SP</u>	<u>S</u>	<i>Is this number an estimate? (check if yes)</i>
High school:	75	25	Yes
College:	20	55	Yes
Graduate School:	0	1	Yes
Specialty Training:	5	5	Yes
Other (please specify):		14	Yes

Percentage of adults in various employment types:

	<u>SP</u>	<u>S</u>	<i>Is this number an estimate? (check if yes)</i>
Adults who are employed:	52	40	Yes
Adults who are retired:	45	55	Yes
Adults who are not fully employed:	3	5	Yes

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

Farmers, teachers, self-employed business owners, medical, social, mechanical, government, utility, college students, laborers, and retired.

Describe the mix of ethnic heritages in your congregation.

Current membership is a majority of white Americans with a majority of German heritage.

Has your congregation had a conversation about welcoming diversity?

Our congregation has had internal conversations about welcoming diversity at annual and semi-annual meetings and when our delegates have returned from the annual conference.

These representatives have shared what they learned about diversity and both churches are receptive to diversity.

3d. 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 <u>SP</u> <u>S</u>		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			
Baptisms <i>(number last year)</i>	0	1	Minister, family, musician
Children’s Groups or Classes	10	0	Teachers, children
Christmas Eve and Easter Worship	40-100	40-100	Minister, musicians, children
Church-wide Meals	2+	24+	Council, Women’s Fellowship
Choirs and Music Groups	0	0	
Church-based Bible Study	4-6	8-10	Minister Layperson
Communion <i>(served how often?)</i>	30-35	35-40	Monthly
Community Meals on Wheels	SP--Jan. & July S-June/July		Deliver to houses
Confirmation <i>(number confirmed last year)</i>	0	0	Minister, family
Drama or Dance Program			
Funerals <i>(number last year)</i>	2	5	Minister, family, mortuary
Intergenerational Groups			
Outdoor Worship			
Prayer or Meditation Groups			

Public Advocacy Work		
Retreats		
Theology or Bible Programs in the Community		
Weddings (<i>number last year</i>)	1 0	Family
Worship (time slot: 8:45 a.m.)	St. Paul's	Minister, Musician, Council
Worship (time slot: 10:15 a.m.)	Salem	Minister, Musician, Council
Young Adult Groups or Classes		
Youth Groups or Classes		
Other—Women's Fellowship	Salem 12-15	Monthly

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)
None				

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: NA

List all current staff, including ministers. Exclude the position you are seeking to fill. Indicate which staffperson 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
None				

REFLECTION

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

Steady & maintaining our churches’ mission.

3e. CHURCH FINANCES

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

Source	SP	Amount	Salem
Annual Offerings and Pledged Giving	\$50000		\$75000
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	\$		
Gifts Designated for a Specific Purpose	\$		
Grants	\$		
Rentals of Church Building	\$		
Rentals of Church Parsonage	\$3600		
Support from Related Organizations (<i>e.g. Women’s Group</i>)	\$		

Transfers from Special Accounts	\$
Other (specify):	\$
Other (specify):	\$
TOTAL	\$

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. Will provide a scanned copy for final draft.

Will send a scanned copy when final profile is submitted

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

What is the church’s current indebtedness?

Total amount of loan debt: **\$0**

Which spaces are accessible to wheelchairs?

The churches are both accessible except for their altar areas where the pulpit/lectern & organ/piano are elevated. Salem has a basement accessible at ground level on the west side. St. Paul’s has a basement and attic which currently are used as storage and only accessible by steps.

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

Our congregations successfully meets the needs and challenges of our church by maintaining our finances and assets with a yearly adopted budget. It addresses any building updates that are necessary with a building fund that is used to complete project(s). Any major budget changes that resulted in the past, due to fire, water, or weather damage to the church, were timely met with sufficient funds from insurance &/or member contributions.

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.

1. **St. Paul’s church and parsonage were rebuilt after a tornado destroyed it in 1958, and the church was repaired after a severe fire damage in 1968. Celebrate 100th anniversary in 2009.**
2. **Salem church withstood an anti-German group in 1917. Previous major renovation & remodeling in 1950 and recent years. Celebrated 125th anniversary in 2004.**

Our most important event has been meeting the challenges of finding and keeping a full time minister in a small rural setting.

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.

Depending on the situation we discuss the issue, acknowledge the issue, and develop a plan to work toward a resolution.

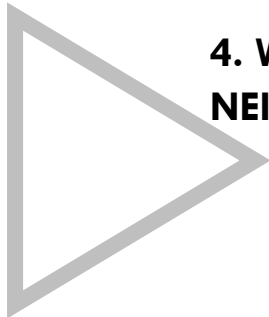
Ministerial History (*include all previous ministerial staff for the past 30 years*)

Staff member’s name	Years of service	UCC Standing (Y/N)
Eric Biehl	2014-2022	Yes
Kathy Rahorst	2009-2013	Yes
Jerry Hambleton	1997-2008	Yes
Bruce Shoup	1991-1995	Yes

Has any past leader left under pressure or by involuntary termination? **No.**

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? **No.**



4. WHO IS OUR NEIGHBOR?

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

- a. COMMUNITY VISION
- b. MISSION InSite

Both churches are part of their respective county’s Ministerial Association which reaches out or receives requests to help local and non-local people in need. Prior to COVID-19 we participated in community services when held, i.e. Lenten Luncheons, Thanksgiving Services.

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

We hosted Heartland Association meetings; sent delegates to conference.

4a. COMMUNITY VISION

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

Pawnee City/Tecumseh Ministerial Association – Lenten Luncheons, Thanksgiving Community Service/Dinner;
SENCA (Southeast Community Action Center) – Deliver Meals on Wheels in Tecumseh during January & July, donate food items to local “Food Pantry”, Backpack Program and Thanksgiving Dinner Food bags
Toys for Tots

4b. MISSION InSite

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

Both churches are small and rural in nature with a long history of successfully dealing with the challenges of the rural setting.

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?

We are very similar with the many local churches that are located around us in a small town or rural setting. Farming or farm related occupations are the way of life for our family and most nearby neighbors.

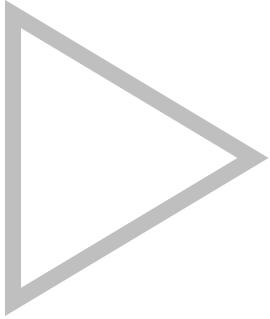
What do you hear when you talk to community leaders and ask them what your church is known for?

Hospitality, family and "Down home feeling" with St. Paul's homemade pie and Salem's homemade ice cream!

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

They liked the small atmosphere and rural setting that makes them feel at home.

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

Dr. Rev. Renae Koehler
25255 S 54th
Firth, NE 68358
(402) 867-4044 (c)
Baptized, confirmed, ordained at St. Paul’s UCC

REFERENCE 2

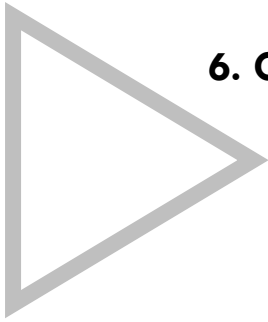
Rev. Ken Tubbesing
648 Circle Drive
Tecumseh, NE 68450
402-335-4143
katubbesing@gmail.com

REFERENCE 3

Joe Davis
Funeral Director/Owner, Wherry Mortuary
919 G Street
Pawnee City, NE 68420

(402) 335-2921

wherrypc@windstream.net



6. CLOSING THOUGHTS

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

6a. CLOSING PRAYER

The following verse is applicable to both churches.

MAPLE GROVE

Used with permission by Nicole Lade

You'll find a rugged old cross,
In the beautiful meadow
With a light breeze blowing.
Every blessed Sunday morning,
It's where my family is going.

Walking in the doors, you will be greeted
By people whose Christian roots go deep
In the Word of the Lord and His promises
In your heart they will quickly seep.

Out on that old country hill
Is where I learned to follow God's will
Forgiveness, mercy, love and grace
I learned them all in this sacred place.

Though your first sight may be tattered walls,
You HEAR hope, FEEL love,
And SEE the small congregation
Is in fact just a large family
That gathers each week to sing and praise
The sacred God they all love.

From a newborn infant to a life of 94
You will find them all in this hallowed place
Folding their tiny, soft fingers
Or hard worked, beautifully wrinkled skin
To pray and thank God who has loved them
Unconditionally through thick and thin.

Out on this old country hill
Is where I learned to follow God's will
Forgiveness, mercy, love and grace
I learned them all in THIS SACRED PLACE.

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.

Which individuals and groups in the church contributed to the contents of this Local Church Profile?

Search Committee members:

Sheila Dearden, Church Council Member

Suzanne Sommerhalder, Church Member

Renee Carter, Church Member

Gary Bredemeier, Church Member

Russell Eltiste, Sr., Church Council President

Shirley Lade, Sunday School Leader

Karen Koehler, Women's Fellowship Sec/Treas.

Signed:

Name / Title / Date:

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:

Email:

Phone:

Date:

**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