

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

**United Congregational Church
United Church of Christ
Mobridge, SD**

Minister, 3/4 time

**Tri-state Conference
Oahe Association**

January 28, 2023

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.

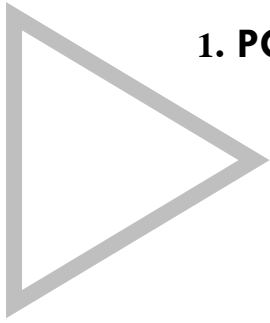
The interim season is not the only time in a church's life when it's valuable to give attention to explore a congregation's vocation. Three sections of the Local Church Profile – **WHO ARE WE NOW**, **WHO IS OUR NEIGHBOR**, and **WHO IS GOD CALLING US TO BECOME** – are meant to be updated every 3-5 years.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

Church name: **United Congregational Church, United Church of Christ**

Street address: **1001 6th Avenue West Mobridge, SD 57601**

Supplemental web links: mobridgeucc.com facebook: **MobridgeUCC**

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

None

Conference: **South Dakota Conference/Tri-state Conference**

Association: **Oahe Association**

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

Sarah Rentzel Jones

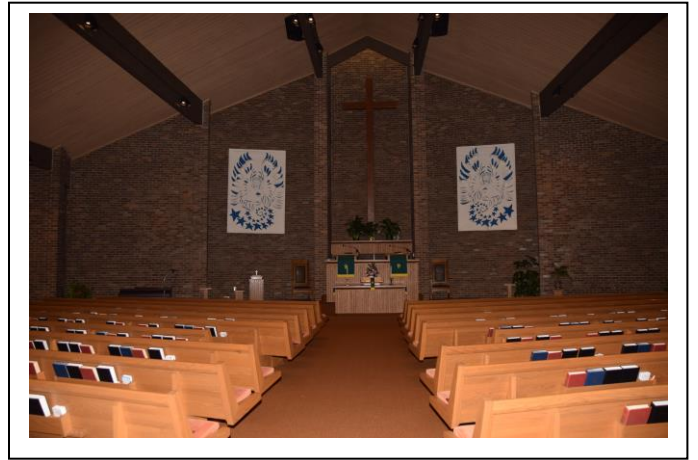
Associate Conference Minister

808-631-2444 (cell)

sarah@ucctcm.org

Summary Ministry Description:

The United Congregational, United Church of Christ is called by Jesus into Christian Fellowship to be sustained spiritually for service to God and humanity. The members of our congregation are in need of spiritual leadership, guidance, development and growth of Christian Faith. To be inspired and connect us to current events for valuable inspiring insight of the Living Word in our daily lives.



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

We enjoy a full-service community with a wide array of businesses that serve as a hub for neighboring communities, a regional healthcare system that serves 5 counties (including medical, mental health, dental, vision and chiropractic care), and easy access to outdoor recreation. Mobridge has new school facilities, a college, a new aqua center and library, a thriving main street and a museum. Recreational opportunities include outstanding fishing, hunting, camping and boating experiences, a 3-day annual PRCA rodeo event, golfing, and a multitude of youth sports.

Current size of membership: **215**

Position Title: **Ordained Minister**

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

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

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

¾ Time

Does the total support package meet conference compensation guidelines? **Yes**

1b. SCOPE OF WORK

(add here the Scope of Work developed by your church using the Call Agreement Workbook)

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 person.)

1c. COMPENSATION AND SUPPORT

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

Benefits *(choose one)*:

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)*?

Live nearby with housing allowance

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

The residential/commuting is open for discussion and negotiation.

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

A competitive compensation will depend upon practical experience, skill sets, and education level for the position.

Describe peer and professional supports available for ministers in your association/conference:
Conference and association meetings and retreats. The Mobridge Ministerial Association, includes most pastors, have a close network in the community.

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

Pastor will meet with the Council to discuss options and create a work schedule. We understand the need for give and take as we experience a part-time position in our church along with the need to balance another vocation. We understand schedules may need to evolve, as changes are needed, for the pastor and church.

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.

- 1. Inspiring spiritual growth in Christian faith.**
- 2. Reaching out to members of all ages with a focus on connection.**
- 3. Showing God's grace to others in our community.**

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

Our pastor would cast a vision, so that we can fulfill our mission statement.

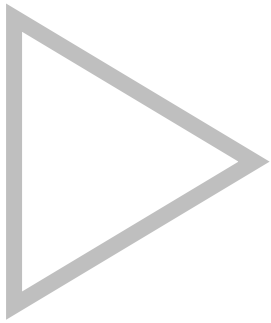
“The United Congregational Church, United Church of Christ is called by Jesus into Christian Fellowship to be sustained spiritually for service to God and humanity”.

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 Pastor should be proficient in English, and have strong verbal and written communication and presentation skills. It is helpful to have an understanding of Native American culture or be willing to learn about it as some members are from this culture and outreach efforts interact with it.

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. A spiritual foundation and ongoing spiritual practice**
- 2. Engaging sacred stories and traditions**
- 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 will strive to be united in spirit and inspired by God’s grace, via regular membership participation, support of Christian education, gaining new members and possibly combining efforts with another church in the future. We look forward to hearing our new pastor’s ideas and visions for the growth of our congregation.

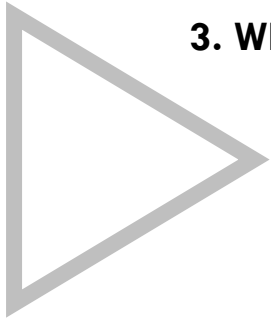
Describe how God is calling you to reach out to address the emerging challenges and opportunities of your community and congregation.

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?

Our congregation is still dealing with the after effects of the Covid-19 pandemic. We adjusted our worship at the start of the pandemic and evolved as time went on. During the colder months, we tried online worship and, in the summer, we tried outdoor worship in an effort to keep congregants involved and worshipping on a regular basis. As of Fall 2021, we offered in-person worship as well as online worship.

Challenges included those without computers or Wi-Fi, elderly members unable to deal with the technology, and families who stopped attending services and Sunday School. The church invested in technology to worship online and make recordings of services. Office staff delivered recordings of worship services to many people during this time. Their efforts were greatly appreciated, especially by the elderly. We welcomed worshippers back to in-person services as they felt comfortable.

Results of the pandemic efforts included an overall drop in worshipping congregants as time went on, and a rise in visitors from other congregations. During the first year, financial support stayed about the same, but as we continued into the second year of pandemic worship, less people joined in online and financial support for the church dropped. A core group of congregants continued to worship and support the church financially. Numbers grew for in-person worship as people became more comfortable with gathering during Covid. It was so good to worship again in person!



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.

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?

UCC is an independent in matters of social, culture, moral and political issues. We model our beliefs through our behavior.

- **Baptism**
- **Sunday School & Youth Groups**
- **Confirmation**
- **Membership**
- **Adult education**
- **Church bible studies, potlucks**
- **Weddings**
- **Funerals**

Describe several strengths or positive qualities of your congregation.

- **We are united by faith**
- **We are very welcoming and supportive of our members.**
- **Children are encouraged to be actively involved in the congregation.**
- **Our women’s group is active and has raised funds for several building & improvements.**
- **We minister to the community, via Thanksgiving & Easter baskets, the Longest Night service, and Relay for Life.**
- **We have an emergency fund for a family in need.**
- **We have several church musicians.**

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?

Our services are typically in the sanctuary, although we occasionally worship outside during the summer. We use the UCC lectionary.

Congregants greet each other as they arrive. We have a coffee hour prior, as well Sunday School and Adult Education.

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?

Children are welcome at Sunday School from age 4 through their senior year of high school. Our youth group is active and occasionally participates in worship. Confirmants meet with the Pastor to study. They become members upon their confirmation and are encouraged to be involved in worship and activities.

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?
- Think of a time when action had to be taken quickly, for example when a crisis or disaster occurred. How was that accomplished?
- 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/No] **YES**

Our previous pastor met with the Board of Deacons to discuss ideas, projects and timelines; 1-2 hours monthly.

In case of a short timeline, the office texted or called board members regarding events or projects. Discussions were held and decisions were reached by consensus. Volunteers worked on the various tasks that needed to be completed.

The next minister will be provided with a copy of organization structure, bylaws and annual reports of the church activity.

3b. CONGREGATIONAL DEMOGRAPHICS

Describe those who participate in your church.

		<i>Is this number an estimate? (check if yes)</i>
Number of active members:	72	X
Number of active non-members:	5	X
Total of church participants (sum of the numbers above):	77	X

Percentage of total participants who have been in the church:

		<i>Is this number an estimate? (check if yes)</i>
More than 10 years:	90%	X
Less than 10, more than 5 years:	5%	X
Less than 5 years:	5%	X

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>
17	11	7	15	20	9	15	14	43	X

Percentage of adults in various household types:

		<i>Is this number an estimate? (check if yes)</i>
Single adults under 35:	9	X
Households with minors:	22	X
Single adults age 35-65:	5	X
Joint households with no minors:	23	X
Single adults over 65:	20	X

Education level of adult participants by percentage:

		<i>Is this number an estimate? (check if yes)</i>
High school:	100%	X
College:	92%	X
Graduate School:	12%	X
Specialty Training:	80%	X

Percentage of adults in various employment types:

		<i>Is this number an estimate? (check if yes)</i>
Adults who are employed:	45%	X
Adults who are retired:	50%	X
Adults who are not fully employed:	5%	X

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

Our congregation has a wide range of vocations. There are several self-employed people, as well as business owners, managers and staff. Vocations range from medical (doctors, nurse practitioners, technologists) to education (teachers, paras), from financial (bankers, loan officers, insurance industry) to farmers, ranchers and heavy equipment operators.

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?

- **Caucasians of European descent**
- **Native Americans**

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:

Our congregation has made a point of welcoming diversity. We welcome all and frequently have both, Native American and Caucasian, members and visitors. We serve, when in need, including funerals and weddings of non-members. In recent years, the adolescents of a local alcohol-chemical dependency treatment facility have worshiped with us. Our church has hosted a Suicide Prevention group. We contribute to the ministry of the local thrift store. White gifts are donated at Christmas for distribution to children in need by the Department of Social Services. Our church members also donate to the Angel Tree project, and Christmas gifts for local nursing home residents and shut ins.

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	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	4	Christian Education Director
Baptisms (<i>number last year</i>)	2	Pastor
Children's Groups or Classes	12	Christian Education Director
Christmas Eve and Easter Worship	110	Pastor
Church-wide Meals	75	Christian Ed, Pastor, Deacon's
Choirs and Music Groups	12	Christian Education Director
Church-based Bible Study	12	Pastor
Communion (<i>served how often?</i>)	70	Pastor & Deacon's
Community Meals	35	Christmas/Spring-Women of the Church

Confirmation (<i>number confirmed last year</i>)	5	Pastor & Deacon's
Drama or Dance Program	NA	NA
Funerals (<i>number last year</i>)	5	Pastor
Intergenerational Groups	12	Pastor & Christian Education Director
Outdoor Worship	35-40/summer	Pastor & Deacon's
Prayer or Meditation Groups	12	Pastor
Public Advocacy Work	4	Pastor
Retreats	10	Pastor
Theology or Bible Programs in the Community	NA	NA
Weddings (<i>number last year</i>)	2	Pastor
Worship (time slot: 10:30 am)	54	Pastor
Youth Groups or Classes	10	Pastor & Christian Education Director

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)
Fay Jackman	NO	McLaughlin & McIntosh church	Licensed Pastor	N
Lucinda Haak	NO	Eureka church	Licensed Pastor	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
Office Admin	Cabinet	Part time	Cabinet	8 years
Christian Education Director	Cabinet	Temporary	Cabinet	2 years
Custodian	Trustee's	Part time	Trustee's	6 years

REFLECTION

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

- **Various generations work together to accomplish goals.**
- **2 of our members are licensed ministers.**
- **We have 4 church musicians that play for services.**
- **Our biggest attendance Sundays are Christmas Eve and Easter.**
- **Communion is served monthly.**
- **We have a dedicated and outstanding women's group.**
- **We have building improvement projects planned and/or underway.**
- **We have no debt.**

3e. CHURCH FINANCES

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

Source	Amount
Annual Offerings and Pledged Giving	\$132,726.00
Endowment Proceeds (<i>as permitted within spending policy, such as a cap of typically 4.5%-5% on total return</i>)	\$0.00
Endowment Draw (<i>beyond what is permitted by spending policy, "drawing down the principal"</i>)	\$3,006.00

Fundraising Events	\$13,000.00
Gifts Designated for a Specific Purpose	\$3,000.00
Grants	\$0.00
Rentals of Church Building	\$0.00
Rentals of Church Parsonage	\$0.00
Support from Related Organizations (e.g. Women's Group)	\$7,000.00
Transfers from Special Accounts	\$0.00
TOTAL	\$178,717.00

Current annual expenses (dollars budgeted for most recent fiscal year): \$141,400.39

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.

	<u>2021</u> <u>Budget</u>	<u>2021</u> <u>Expenditures</u>	<u>2022</u> <u>Proposed budget</u>
Christian Education			
Curriculum & expenses #101	1,800.00	580.98	800.00
Director's Salary #102	3,350.00	3,015.00	3,350.00
Youth Activities #103	250.00	0.00	250.00
	5,400.00	3,595.98	4,400.00
Maintenance			
Miscellaneous Maintenance #700	2,000.00	6,635.91	2,000.00
Miscellaneous Reimbursement #800	0.00	5,747.44	0.00
Roofing Reserve Fund #702	2,000.00	0.00	2,400.00
	4,000.00	12,383.35	4,400.00
Miscellaneous			
Oahe Association #602	800.00	606.00	800.00
Delegate Expense #603	1,200.00	0.00	1,200.00
General Expense #605	500.00	37.10	500.00
	2,500.00	643.10	2,500.00
Office Expenses			
Postage #501	400.00	495.00	400.00
Office Supplies #502	1,500.00	856.85	1,500.00
Copier Lease and Maintenance #504	2,000.00	1,740.94	2,000.00
Pastoral Supplies #503	550.00	264.10	550.00

	4,450.00	3,356.89	4,450.00
Minister			
Salary #301	40,000.00	40,000.08	41,400.00
Social Security Allowance #407	(Included with Employees SS)		
Annuity #302	7,448.00	6,976.71	8,250.00
Hosp/Med/Dental Insurance #303	14,000.00	11,259.50	14,700.00
Family Protection Plan #304	700.00	747.50	700.00
Housing Allowance	13,200.00	13,200.00	13,680.00
	75,348.00	72,605.12	78,730.00
Operating Expenses			
Parsonage Utilities #305	2,000.00	421.33	0.00
Sabbatical/Search Fund	1,000.00	0.00	1,000.00
Church Utilities #401	12,000.00	10,262.08	12,000.00
Custodial Supplies #402	300.00	0.00	300.00
Insurance-property, Work's Com #403	12,000.00	16,064.04	18,900.00
Custodian Salary #405	2,500.00	1,673.25	2,500.00
Secretary's Salary #404	15,080.00	12,862.73	16,000.00
Social Security Employees #406	4,750.00	5,412.45	5,885.00
Mileage Allowance (Minister) #408	500.00	639.62	1,000.00
Continuing Education #409	200.00	0.00	200.00
Street Assessment #410	450.00	418.50	450.00
Stewardship Expense #411	800.00	578.36	800.00
	51,580.00	47,911.03	59,035.00
Worship			
Worship Bulletins #200	100.00	63.80	100.00
Music (choir, organ, License) #201	125.00	210.00	125.00
Piano Tuning #202	150.00	150.00	150.00
Choir Director #203	200.00	0.00	0.00
Organists, Accompanists #205	150.00	0.00	160.00
Guest Ministers #206	500.00	90.00	500.00
Deacon's Supplies #207	300.00	391.12	300.00
	1,525.00	904.92	1,335.00
Total for All	144,803.00	141,400.39	154,850.00
NET INCREASE FOR 2022 Budget			
\$10,047.00			

Donations for projects (#800 Misc. Reimbursement)	-5,747.44
FIXED ASSET-CHURCH/PARSONAGE ROOF	33,456.00
SALE OF PARSONAGE	
Sale-159,292.00	
Taxes-48.00	
Down Payment-500.00	
Spouse Insurance	1,374.00
2021 Missions	
Basic	4,111.00
Neighbors in Need	150.00
One Great Hour of Sharing	321.00
Total 2021 Missions Sent	4,111.00
Total Expenditures	141,137.95
PAYROLL PROTECTION PLAN Income 2021	14,530.00 (forgiven)

Considering total budgeted expenses for the year, compare total ministerial support. What is the percentage? **55%**

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%*) **3%**

What is the church's current indebtedness?

Total amount of loan debt: **NONE**

Reason for debt: **NA**

Are capital and other payments current? **NO**

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.

- 1. **Storage Shed for lawn care, snow removal items**
- 2. **Remodeling pastor's office**
- 3. **Remodeling office administrator office**
- 4. **New flooring throughout church**

Does your church have an endowment? **YES**

What is the market value of the assets?

Certificates of Deposit:

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Wicks Memorial reinvested with Berthel Fisher & Company Financial 11/30/2018.....\$ 4,029.34

Ending amount as of 09/30/22 ...\$ 3,606.40  
 Interest received as of 12/31/22....\$ 382.00  
 Balance as of 12/31/22 ..... \$ **3,721.04**

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UCC Memorial Hall Endowment Fund /Youth Center **Cashed \$15,097.79**

Reinvested with Phillips Edison/ARC\$15,882.69

Ending amount as of 9/30/22.. **\$14,557.95**

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A C & Hilda Smith endowment fund **Cashed \$20,356.67**

Reinvested 6/30/17.....\$ 6,000.00  
 Reinvested Roof Fund 8/21/17..\$10,000.00  
 Reinvested Parsonage sale 2/22/22....\$20,000.00

Market Value as of 04/30/22.....**\$79,797.68**

**NEW:** 09-21-2010 This is from the Santo's Shares and the additional donation from The John Lowe Family.

|                 |                   |                   |                             |                    |
|-----------------|-------------------|-------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------|
| American Funds: | Direct Investment | \$4,629.70        |                             |                    |
|                 | Equity Income     | \$7,155.13        |                             |                    |
|                 | Growth & Income   | \$2,965.57        |                             |                    |
|                 | Growth Fund       | <u>\$2,877.85</u> |                             |                    |
|                 |                   | \$17,628.25       | <b>Value as of 12/31/22</b> | <b>\$17,628.25</b> |

Total All funds..... **\$115,704.92**

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

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

**SEE ABOVE ATTACHED**

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

**SEE ABOVE ATTACHED**

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

**SEE ABOVE ATTACHED**

Other Assets

Reserves (savings): **\$219,423.28**

Investments (other than endowment): **\$115,704.92**

Does your church have a parsonage? **NO**

Describe all buildings owned by the church:

**The Church building sits singly on a city block with parking lot, trees and lawn.**

Describe non-owned buildings or space used or rented by the church: **NA**

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

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?*

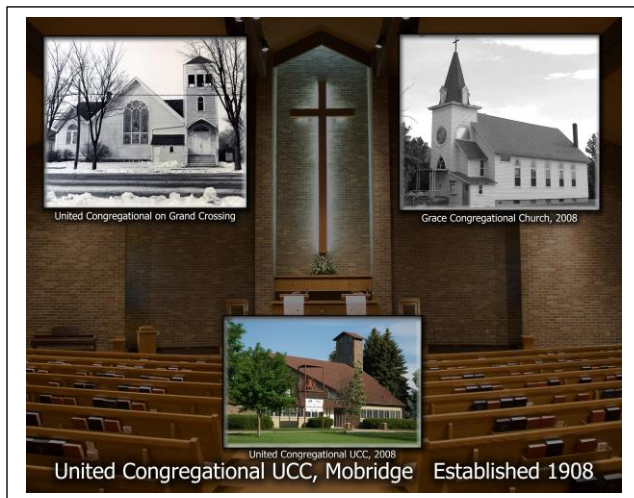
**Despite a pandemic, a core group of members has continued to be active in the church, donating their time and financial gifts. We have managed to remain debt free. We are making plans for continued growth of our church.**

### 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.

- 1. Country churches came together to unite and form this congregation.**
- 2. The building of this church.**



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

- 1. Covid-19 pandemic**

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?)*

**The Covid-19 pandemic has probably been our biggest challenge recently. We had to pivot and change how we worshiped, how we reached out to members, and how to keep our office staff and congregants safe in an ever-changing environment.**

**Monthly board meetings included reports from local healthcare providers on the Covid numbers along with suggestions for keeping people safe. We followed CDC guidelines as they evolved. We worshiped online, then outside, and finally inside in-person. We changed how we served communion. We contacted more members via email, and posted worship recordings on Facebook for those unable to attend in person. Our office delivered copies of the worship services to homes that did not have technology or Wi-Fi. After going back to in-person worship with online options, we also hosted a Family Fun Night to welcome everyone back to gathering together.**

**Our church tries to work as best as we can when conflicts arise. The Board of Trustee’s and Deacon’s both work with the Pastor in addressing issues. Consensus is sought. We have an annual meeting each year with the entire congregation and any issues can be discussed there. Members are also welcome to discuss issues with the pastor or board members at any time.**

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

| Staff member’s name           | Years of service | UCC Standing (Y/N) |
|-------------------------------|------------------|--------------------|
| Rev. Keith C Kraft            | 22 years         | Y                  |
| Rev. John Tschudy             | 3 years          | Y                  |
| Rev. Susan Taylor (Interim)   | 1 year           | Y                  |
| Rev. Raymond Schatz (retired) | 3 years          | Y                  |
| Rev. Milo Sheldon             | 15 years         | Y                  |

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

**Our pastor had an open-door policy and provided direction for our congregants as they dealt with faith issues, personal issues, illnesses, accidents, death. It is important to be able to discuss issues and seek a consensus. It is important to have goals for growth.**

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

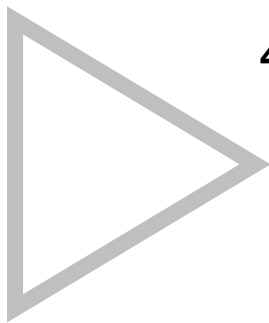
Y/N/Ask us **NO**

Has your church been involved in a Situational Support Consultation?

Y/N/Ask us **NO**

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

Y/N/Ask us    NO



#### 4. WHO IS OUR NEIGHBOR?

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

- a. COMMUNITY VISION
- b. MISSION InSite

##### 4a. COMMUNITY VISION

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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?*

- **Thanksgiving baskets**
- **Easter baskets**
- **White Gifts at Christmas**
- **Monthly donations to the food pantry**
- **Rummage Sales and donations to the Thrift Store**
- **Sunday School**
- **Vacation Bible School**
- **The Longest of the Night of the Year service**
- **Suicide-Mental Health Support Group**
- **Funerals and Weddings for all (members & non-members)**

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

**Pastor Kraft was a director of the Oahe Association for many years and involved with the conference on both local and National level. A few members of our church would attend association meetings.**

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.

- Accessible to All (A2A)
- Creation Justice
- Economic Justice

- Faithful and Welcoming
- God Is Still Speaking (GISS)
- Border and Immigrant Justice

- Inter-cultural/Multi-racial (I'M)
- Just Peace
- Global Mission Church
- Open and Affirming (ONA)

- WISE Congregation for Mental Health
- Other UCC designations:
- Designations from other denominations
- None

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

**Vacation Bible School with Trinity Lutheran & United Methodist Churches**  
**Youth Group with the United Methodist Church**  
**Ministerial Association's Thrift Store and food pantry.**  
**We participate in Relay for Life.**  
**Mental Illness & Suicide Support**  
**Our community does not have ecumenical services at this time.**

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.

**As we live out our call to mission and ministry, by engaging on with local projects, that may require a few hours to many hours. To time consuming and meticulous planning, of retreats and mission trips, requiring weeks of preparation and provision to carrying out the undertaking.**

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?

**Each and every pastor will have different visualization for inspiring God's message to the congregation and to wider ministry. It will be worked out between the pastors wishes and the needs for the ministries.**



## 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 UCC was founded in 1957, as the union of several different Christian traditions. Therefore, we have affirmed the idea, neighbors may have different ideas and agree to live together in communion. That is where our church motto "that they may all be one" is Jesus' prayer for unity of the church. Our doors are always open to everyone who chooses to enter in His Name.**

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?

**Unfortunately, there is a rise in suicide attempts and suicide, drug and alcohol abuse, physical and mental abuse and poverty. Our community or neighborhoods have many families who are in need, it can be complicated or a process. Our congregation believes "God" never lets you walk alone, "He" is always with you, if you ask Him to come into your heart.**

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

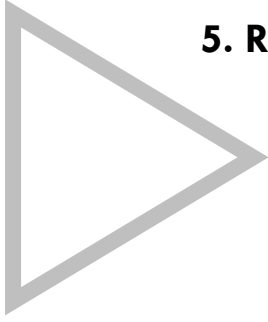
**While our community has a wide array of businesses (owners and employees), we also have a population of retired people and a group who have moved to town. There are all economic levels here, and we try to be cognizant of that. We try to be conscious of the variety of income levels of our members. Our congregation is generous when they hear of a need for our church or the community.**

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

**Our church is known as a welcoming place for all. It has been a part of the community since we gathered under one roof and built our current building.**

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

**Some new people came to worship because of our denomination. Others came because they knew someone else who attended here. We have a reputation for welcoming all people.**



## 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

Laurie Bauer /Trustee’s President/Cabinet Member  
(605) 848-1090 / [bauer@westriv.com](mailto:bauer@westriv.com) /Member

### REFERENCE 2

Dr. Travis Henderson Moderator/Head of the Cabinet  
(605) 848-1541 / [tmhender@westriv.com](mailto:tmhender@westriv.com) / Member

### REFERENCE 3

Marcy Reeves /Trustee’s board member/ Head of Search Committee  
(605) 848-7587 / [mreeves.1221@outlook.com](mailto:mreeves.1221@outlook.com) /Member

### REFERENCE 4

Nancy Haefner / Co-Head of Search Committee  
(605) 848-1023 / [tislo5@valleytel.net](mailto:tislo5@valleytel.net) /Member

## 6a. 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.*)

- \*Marcy Reeves Head of Search & Call Committee

- \*Nancy Haefner Co-head of Search & Call Committee

- \*Jordan Slater Search & Call Committee

- \*Chance Jones Search & Call Committee

- \*Matt Feiock Search & Call Committee

- \*Laurie Bauer Bauer Law office & Head of Trustee's

- \*Dr. Travis Henderson Moderator & Head of the Cabinet

- \*Ryan Kemnitz Assistant Moderator

Signed: Marcy Reeves

Marcy Reeves/ Head of Search & Call Committee / revised 01/28/2023

## 6b. VALIDATION BY CONFERENCE/ASSOCIATION

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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*