

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

Congregational Church of Jefferson Park
Chicago, IL

Name of Position Opening: Settled Pastor

Illinois Conference of the UCC

February 28, 2023

LOCAL CHURCH PROFILE CONTENTS

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- Who Is God Calling Us to Become?
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- 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 – 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.

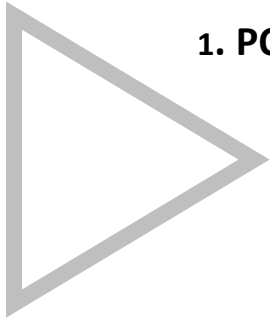
Some questions are easy to answer. Some are not so easy. Prompts are provided to stimulate narrative response if needed; these italicized prompts are merely examples from which to choose or to inspire your own. Efforts to answer the questions will prompt conversations and explorations and storytelling 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 pastorates 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 based on 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: Congregational Church of Jefferson Park

Street address: 5320 W. Giddings, Chicago, IL 60630

Supplemental web links: [CCJP \(ccjpucc.org\)](http://ccjpucc.org)

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

Conference: Illinois

Association:/Chicago Metropolitan Association

UCC Conference or Association Staff Contact Person:

Rev. Stephanie Perdew, Ph.D./Cherokee Nation (She/Her)

Transitional Associate Conference Minister

708-701-4933

StephaniePerdew@illucc.org

Summary Ministry Description:

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?

Our church is looking for some growth in membership along with greater community integration. We need youthful participation and some help in re-adjusting to changing times (normal Sunday worship services are not going to attract new members). We need a youthful minister with new ideas and a willingness to reach out to the community.

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 (2 – 3 sentences):



We value the walk-to neighborhood even though most of our members drive to the church.

Current size of membership: 99

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

Position Title: Settled Pastor

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*):

½ Time - Survey says 60% with 20 responses

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

1b. SCOPE OF WORK

Half time Pastoral Position (20-25 hours weekly / 5-6 units)

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

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.)

- 1) Ministerial seems to be the most requested competency mentioned in our survey: church service, baptisms, funerals, weddings).
- 2) Sociable and capable of reaching out to community and prospective members was also mentioned often - attending other church activities.

The above two seemed most important. Others mentioned were compassionate, good listener, counselor, pastoral visits.

1c. COMPENSATION AND SUPPORT

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

SALARY: Beginning on the start date, our church will provide a ministerial package of \$30K on an annual basis to be distributed between cash salary, pension, insurance, and expense account.

Benefits:

Vacation, parental leave, personal and sick leave, disability and death, copyright agreement, and professional ministry expenses

What is the expected living situation for your next minister?

We can provide a parsonage including utilities.

Comment on the residential/commuting expectations for your next minister: **Negotiable**

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

Increasing membership would allow the church to afford greater compensation.

Describe peer and professional support available for ministers in your association/conference:
We share some activities and services with nearby Eden and Calvary churches.

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

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.

- **Building up the congregation, attendance/new membership, and revenue**

- **Inclusiveness**
- **New members and outreach to groups that already meet in our church (Scouts, Girl Scouts, etc.**

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

- **Participate in activities with local Churches.**
- **Joint Services, Community Initiatives**
- **Exchange Ideas, help broaden church's perspectives.**
- **Working with other UCC churches close by to determine viability of a) a merger with 1 or more churches and b) determine which building(s) is best suited for the new church in both functions and least maintenance requirements. What other organization(s) can function in the space to help defer costs for all**
- **Coordinate activities with Eden and Calvary and some community groups (Jefferson Park Neighborhood Association for example)**

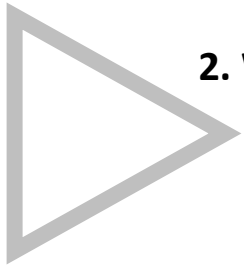
Specify language requirements or culturally specific capacities preferred in a next ministerial leader, and why those matter to the congregation's sense of calling.

- **Negotiable**

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.

[Link](#) to *The Marks of Faithful & Effective Authorized Ministry*

- 1) **Building Transformational Leadership Skills**
- 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)

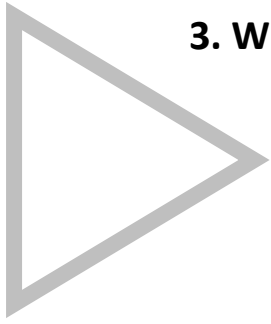
Who is God calling you to become as a congregation?

A community organization with Christian values - studying and valuing the teachings of Jesus. We're seeking a pastor that can assist us in defining or clarifying this goal.

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 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?

- 1) The greatest experiment is the ability to broadcast on Facebook Live and Zoom our church services. It has drawn several members who live out of state to feel much closer to our church community. Funding the technology and equipment to do that has widened our sense of community.**
- 2) The other experiment has been to share church services several times with Eden and Calvary churches. This also has widened our church community.**



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?

Our church has become more eclectic in its description of God and the Holy Spirit. We have tried to open discussion so that all feel welcome in their faith journey and beliefs.

Also, several years ago we included an Open and Affirming Statement.

Describe several strengths or positive qualities of your congregation.

- **Strong Scout Groups, Music History, Family/Church History**
- **We are like family, Good People, Good Neighborhood**
- **Determination of existing members to make the church succeed.**
- **Pulls together to engage in special events (Dinners, missions)**
- **Our church is an accepting and compassionate force in the Jefferson Park community.**

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?

Worship takes place in our large sanctuary but with Zoom and Facebook Live it takes place on a wider scale than just that. We haven’t had any baptisms recently. Good preaching leads to discussion and self-examination.

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?

Currently there are no religious education programs.

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?
 - **The primary decision-making meeting is the Cabinet meeting once per month which includes nearly everyone active in the church. However, additional mini meetings occur as needed.**
- Think of a time when action had to be taken quickly, for example when a crisis or disaster occurred. How was that accomplished?
 - **When action must be taken quickly, we have an ad hoc meeting as soon as we can get a quorum gathered.**
 - **When our boiler failed about 6 years ago, the church immediately organized and ran a fundraising drive that raised \$58,000 to fund a new heating plant.**
 - **When action must be taken quickly, we have an ad-hoc meeting as soon as we can get a quorum gathered.**
- 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**

3b. 11-YEAR REPORT

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

See next page

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



Church#: 160910

Assoc: 204 Schedule: 0 Congregational Church of Jefferson Park UCC Chicago IL 60630

YEAR	MEMBERS	AVG WEEKLY ATTENDANCE	CHR ED/ FAITH FORM	CONFIRMATION	CONFESSION	TRANSFER OR REAFFIRM	DEATHS OR TRANS OUT	OTHER LOSSES	NET MEMBS ADDS-REMOVED
2011	116	54	17	0	0	1	2	0	-1
2012	116	54	17	0	0	0	0	0	0
2013	116	54	17	0	0	0	0	0	0
2014	116	39	10	0	0	0	0	0	0
2015	103	46	15	0	0	0	3	0	-3
2016	102	42	14	3	0	0	2	3	-2
2017	99	35	11	0	0	1	4	0	-3
2018	99	35	11	0	0	0	0	0	0
2019	99	35	11	0	0	0	0	0	0
2020	99	35	11	0	0	0	0	0	0
2021	99	35	11	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
2011	\$134,989	\$0	\$3,000	\$1,586	\$4,586	\$2,237	\$6,823	2.22	\$141,812	\$63,414
2012	\$134,989	\$0	\$1,000	\$558	\$1,558	\$0	\$1,558	0.74	\$136,547	\$0
2013	\$134,989	\$0	\$3,000	\$1,887	\$4,887	\$0	\$4,887	2.22	\$139,876	\$0
2014	\$166,984	\$0	\$2,000	\$930	\$2,930	\$3,472	\$6,402	1.20	\$173,386	\$47,212
2015	\$106,366	\$0	\$1,280	\$2,934	\$4,214	\$1,936	\$6,150	1.20	\$112,516	\$71,406
2016	\$174,168	\$0	\$1,000	\$3,070	\$4,070	\$2,133	\$6,203	0.57	\$180,371	\$64,147
2017	\$154,758	\$0	\$1,000	\$2,388	\$3,388	\$2,238	\$5,626	0.65	\$160,384	\$155,444
2018	\$154,758	\$0	\$2,000	\$533	\$2,533	\$0	\$2,533	1.29	\$157,291	\$0
2019	\$154,758	\$0	\$1,000	\$376	\$1,376	\$0	\$1,376	0.65	\$156,134	\$0
2020	\$154,758	\$0	\$0	\$150	\$150	\$0	\$150	0.00	\$154,908	\$0
2021	\$154,758	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.00	\$154,758	\$0

% CHANGE	MEMBERS	AVG WEEKLY ATTENDANCE	CHR ED/ FAITH FORM	TOTAL ADDITIONS	TOTAL REMOVALS	CURR LOCAL EXPENSES	TOTAL OCWM	TOTAL EXPENDITURE
2016-2021	-2.94	-16.67	-21.43	-100.00	-100.00	-11.14	-100.00	-14.20
2011-2021	-14.66	-35.19	-35.29	-100.00	-100.00	14.64	-100.00	9.13

3c. CONGREGATIONAL DEMOGRAPHICS

Describe those who participate in your church.

		<i>Is this number an estimate? (Check if yes)</i>
Number of active members:	30	Yes
Number of active non-members:	69	
Total of church participants (sum of the numbers above):	99	

Percentage of total participants who have been in the church:

		<i>Is this number an estimate? (Check if yes)</i>
More than 10 years:	88	Yes
Less than 10, more than 5 years:	12	Yes
Less than 5 years:		

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>
	1	4	1	1	3	10	16	2	Yes

Percentage of adults in various household types:

		<i>Is this number an estimate? (Check if yes)</i>
Single adults under 35:	9	
Households with minors:	4	yes
Single adults aged 35-65:	12	
Joint households with no minors:	44	yes (had children but respondent over 65)
Single adults over 65:	31	

Education level of adult participants by percentage:

		<i>Is this number an estimate? (Check if yes)</i>
High school:	28	Yes
College:	41	Yes
Graduate School:	30	Yes
Specialty Training:		
Other (please specify):		

Percentage of adults in various employment types:

		<i>Is this number an estimate? (Check if yes)</i>
Adults who are employed:	34	
Adults who are retired:	65	
Adults who are not fully employed:		

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

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?

CCJP does not have a diverse congregation as it relates to a strong mix of ethnic heritages.

Has your congregation recently had a conversation about welcoming diversity, or do you plan to hold one soon (perhaps using, for example, the Welcoming Diversity Inventory)? Please note the date. Comment after the exercise: **N/A**

We have not held a meeting about welcoming diversity. However, we are open to guidance and would welcome diversity into our congregation.

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	0	
Baptisms <i>(number last year)</i>	0	
Children’s Groups or Classes	0	

Christmas Eve and Easter Worship	30	
Church-wide Meals	0	Covid
Choirs and Music Groups	1	
Church-based Bible Study		
Communion (<i>served how often?</i>)	15-20 (monthly)	
Community Meals		
Confirmation (<i>number confirmed last year</i>)		
Drama or Dance Program		
Funerals (<i>number last year</i>)		
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>)		
Worship (time slot: 10AM)	22 AVG	
Worship (time slot: _____)		
Young Adult Groups or Classes		
Youth Groups or Classes		
Other		

Additional comments: **N/A**

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? <i>(3 or 4 or no)</i>	Ministry Setting	Type of Ministry Role	Retired? <i>(Y or N)</i>
Rev. Virginia Ericson	No	N/A	None	Y

If one or more previous pastors or retired ministers currently hold membership in the church, describe their role(s) in the life of the congregation:

- **Church Member (No active roles)**

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
Secretary (2)		part time		15 + years
Pianist		part time		5 years

REFLECTION

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

We are a loyal but aging congregation that seeks to maintain our ministerial position in the community by continuing to serve with weekly worship, monthly activities, and community outreach. We are continuing to develop our technical abilities to serve these goals and increase our outreach via social media platforms and our church website.

3e. CHURCH FINANCES

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

Source	Amount
Annual Offerings and Pledged Giving	\$47856.39
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	\$1973.58
Gifts Designated for a Specific Purpose	\$
Property and Maintenance Fund	\$24,510.00
Missions Fund	\$6,499.54
Diaconate	\$380.00
Memorials	\$2,955.00
Grants	\$
Rentals of Church Building	\$5,600.00
Rentals of Church Parsonage	\$1,500.00
Support from Related Organizations - The Guild, (e.g., Women's Group)	\$2,000.00
Transfers from Special Accounts	\$
Other (specify): Scouts	\$ 1000.00
Other (specify):	\$
TOTAL	\$

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

Attach the 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.

See attachment.

Considering total budgeted expenses for the year, compare total ministerial support. What is the percentage? **Approx. 30%**

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? **0%**

What is the church's current indebtedness? **N/A**

Total amount of loan debt: **N/A**

Reason for debt: **N/A**

Are capital and other payments current? **N/A**

If a building program is projected or underway, describe it, including the projected start/end date of the building project and the total project budget.

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

Year(s)	Purpose	Goal	Result	Impact
2018-2019	Boiler Replacement	\$47,000	\$ 47,000	Boiler was replaced

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. **N/A**

Does your church have an endowment? **No**

What is the market value of the assets? **N/A**

Are funds drawn as needed, regularly, or under certain circumstances? **N/A**

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

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: **N/A**

Other Assets

Reserves (savings): **\$ 75,000**

Investments (other than endowment): **\$**

Does your church have a parsonage? **Yes**

Fair market rental value of the parsonage: \$2500/Mo
How is the parsonage used? **Occupied by a Volunteer Caretaker**
Street / City / State / Zip: **5318 W Giddings Street, Chicago, IL 60630**
Finished square footage: **2000 SQFT (estimate)**
Number of Bedrooms, Number of Bathrooms: **4/1**
Assessed real estate value: **N/A**
Available for minister residence: **Y**
Expected minister residence: **Y**
Condition of structure, systems, and appliances: **Good**
Entity in the church responsible for review and needed repairs: **Trustees**

Describe all buildings owned by the church: Church, Parsonage w/ garage

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

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

None but we have a chair lift from basement to sanctuary.

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?

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.

- **Block Parties**
- **Implemented Tech to reach out and allow members across the country to participate weekly in services.**
- **Jeff Fest (Community Outreach)**
- **Ecumenical Services**
- **Boiler Failure: Church rallied together to fund raise and replace the boiler.**

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

- **Covid; Determined different ways to fellowship. Examples, Coffee Hour in the Park**

Every church has conflicts, 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.

- **Use of Cabinet Meetings and Pastoral Relations Committee to unpack personal opinions related to church activities, policies, etc.**

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

Staff member’s name	Years of service	UCC Standing (Y/N)
Gayle Tucker	11	Y
Ralph Cook	5	y
Diane Ryder (Gallo-Shoemaker)	5	y
Mark West	7	y

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

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

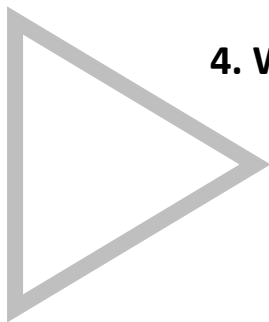
No

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

4a. COMMUNITY VISION

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?

- **Night Ministry: Monthly Sandwiches (sack lunches), Winter Clothing**
- **Lydia Home (School Supply Donation)**
- **New Hope Food Pantry**

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

- **Pastoral participation in association and conference 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.) Check any statements below that apply to your UCC faith community.

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

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

Currently, we are focusing on our local community (Jefferson Park and Chicago)

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

- **Ecumenical Services with:**
 - 1) Eden UCC**
 - 2) Trinity Slovak Lutheran Church**
 - 3) The Redeemer of Calvary United Methodist Church**
- **Weekly faith breakfasts with members of the above churches**

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.

The following is our mission statement. Our church endeavors to live up to this mission in everything we do.

“The Congregational Church of Jefferson Park is a center for Christian faith and practice in the Jefferson Park neighborhood. Our congregation is a multigenerational community of faithful Christians working to be an authentic presence, illuminating this community with the bright light of Jesus Christ.”

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?

We expect our minister to collaborate with the church leadership and membership in their involvement with the community and the wider church.

4b. MISSION InSite

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

The surrounding areas or populations of CCJP are made up White (approx. 51%) and Hispanic or Latino (34%) American with a smaller population Asian (9%), Black (3%) and 2.5% Pacific Islander/American Indian or Other. Within the next 5 years, these demographics are expected to remain the same.

Educational Attainment in 2022 shows approx. 9% with Some High School or Less than a 9th Grade education while High School Diplomas show 22.6%. There is 6.6% showing of Associate Degrees and 25% Bachelor's Degrees. Graduate or professional schools are at 15.6%. In the next 5 years, it is expected to have little change.

The average household income in 2022 is \$104,585 with an expected increase of 16% over the next 5 years while the median is \$78, 396 with an expect increase of 17.8% increase over the next 5 years.

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 a Protestant church in a community that has become increasingly Catholic.

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

- Demographics are not used now to help shape our ministry.

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

- **Friendliness and welcoming of friends and strangers alike.**
- **Community events and community involvement**
- **Church events that are welcoming and enjoyed by members, friends, and community.**
- **A pastor in this community enjoys our diversity and original approach to worship.**

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

- **Returning to the church was a sense of coming back home to be with family.**

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 people who know your church well enough to be helpful to candidates seeking more information. Request a letter from each reference in answer to the four prompts below. Attach the letters (up to three) as desired.

REFERENCE 1

Rev. Roger Dart, Coordinator of Illinois Conference Disaster Task Force
Phone: 847-945-6015; 847-274-2626 (cell)
Email: [dart.rc@gmail.com/](mailto:dart.rc@gmail.com)
CCJP Pulpit Supply

REFERENCE 2

Rev David McCurdy, Healthcare Ethics Consultant w/ UCC-affiliated Advocate Health Care and serve as pulpit for supply for the Church of the New Covenant (Elmhurst, IL)
Phone: 630-833-3424
Email: dbm1946d@aol.com
CCJP Pulpit Supply

REFERENCE 3

Francis O'Byrne, Attorney/Workmen's Comp
Phone: 312-543-0723
Email(s): fob@roddylaw.com or fobyne@evans-dixon.com
Scout Master for Troop 979 (at CCJP)

PROMPTS FOR REFERENCES

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

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

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

Anything else you wish to share.

Reference #1

Rev. Roger Dart
1057 Camille Avenue
Deerfield, Illinois 60015

December 15.2022

To Whom it May Concern

My letter is to affirm the Congregational Church of Jefferson Park United Church of Christ as a viable, active ministry of Jesus Christ.

Over the past several years, I have had the privilege of serving Jefferson Park as pulpit supply, and the experience has been a rewarding one.

Located in a residential neighborhood on the northwest side of Chicago, this congregation has., over the course of many years, changed from being a neighborhood church to being a 'destination' to which many of the current members travel some distance in order to maintain their familiar and favorite worship experience.

I am encouraged by the ways in which this congregation, despite being limited in numbers, has done to continue to have an impact on its' local community, by making its' building available as a gathering place for the current population. Additionally, the Congregational Church of Jefferson Park United Church of Christ has maintained its' participation in, and support of the Chicago Metropolitan Association and the Illinois Conference through the dedicated efforts of the laity and lay leadership.

The ministries of this congregation are far from complete and will benefit from having clear, strong leadership from a settled pastor.

Finally, I would be happy to have further conversation by phone or email.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Roger C. Dart". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Roger C. Dart, M. Div

Reference #2

February 18, 2023

Dear Colleague interested in the Congregational Church of Jefferson Park (CCJP),

I have been one of the pulpit supply "regulars," filling in once or twice a month since June 2021. I have experienced CCJP as having a solid core group of committed members, many or most of whom have a long history with the church, even spanning generations. There is a spirit of commitment to the church's future and to doing what needs to be done to continue not just its existence/survival but its vitality into an uncertain future.

The congregation is, and has long been, community minded. It continues a long tradition of sponsoring/supporting a strong scouting program, led by a member; provides meeting space for/participates in community organizations (including AA); and more. The church reaches out to its neighborhood and invites neighbors to events, including occasional picnics in the church's backyard. The prime meeting space is a large parish hall/gym.

Since I have been involved, the church has joined another area UCC congregation in worship on special occasions. It has also been part of ecumenical worship with one or two non-UCC congregations. From what I see, the church remains involved with several social concerns/projects to which it had contributed during the former pastor's tenure.

One challenge the church has is the physical plant that has also been one of its strengths. The impressive building requires maintenance and dedicated, capable folks have seen to what needs doing up to now (including mitigating a Sunday AM flood last year). I don't know the church's financial situation but the sustainability of the building relative to its use, "wear and tear," and church numbers is surely a challenge to be faced.

The church is always looking to increase its numbers and has also done a fine job--as well as any church I know--in making remote worship "work," with excellent tech support for Zoom and Facebook. Raw numbers in the sanctuary remain low. At the same time, the coffee hour remains a vital time in which those present really do strike me as "members one of another," committed to each other and to the church.

My significant personal experience of the church's ministry was in the area of its social concern. It occurred during the Illinois Conference's 2021 campaign to raise funds that would be used to abolish--"forgive"--longstanding medical debt of many people (who would always be anonymous to us). I happened to be on the planning group for that effort and described it to CCJP from the pulpit. The church's social concerns committee leader expressed an interest in the cause, and the committee quickly committed to make a contribution to the debt forgiveness effort.

I would be glad to talk with anyone interested in the church's open pastoral position.

Peace,

David McCurdy
(630) 880-1601

Reference #3

To whom it may concern,

The Congregational Church of Jefferson Park (CCJP) sponsors BSA troop 979 that I joined when I was 11 years old. I was a boy scout for 7 years, earning the rank of Eagle Scout, assistant scoutmaster for 35 years, and now I've been the BSA scoutmaster for 7 years. The church continues to support our BSA scout troop 979 and recently the troop celebrated 4 Eagle scouts with an Eagle Court of Honor during the church service on Scout Sunday. Our BSA troop 979 currently has 197 Eagle Scouts, and I am proud and honored to say that all 197 scouts reached the rank of Eagle Scout at CCJP. CCJP considers the BSA scout troop part of its community, and the troop supports the church with a big turnout. There are many BSA scout alumni that show up for this CCJP service. Troop 979 has had scout meetings every Thursday night and scout basketball every Saturday morning (Nov – March) at the church for 69 years. Sometimes I feel like I grew up in the Congregational Church though my religious background is Catholic. I would estimate that I have attended over 50 CCJP services and have felt welcome at every service.

A significant event serving both the church and the scout troop is our annual BSA 979 auction held in the main meeting room of the church on a Sunday immediately after a service. Again, instead of church members suggesting any inconvenience, they participate enthusiastically and contribute to the event. The present scout troop and the troop's alumni and the church congregation come together for one big community reunion; in a way, they feel like it's home.

I had the honor of earning the rank of Eagle Scout at CCJP as well as my 2 sons, Francis, Charles, as well as my two older brothers, Patrick and Thomas O'Byrne.

Francis O'Byrne

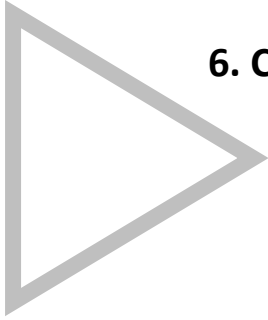
Member - Workers' Compensation

303 W. Madison Street, Suite 1900 | Chicago, IL 60606

Direct (312) 924-7264 | Cell (312) 543-0723 | Fax (314) 797-6864



Missouri | Illinois | Kansas | Nebraska | Iowa



6. CLOSING THOUGHTS

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

6a. CLOSING PRAYER

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:

I would dream that our minister, though from a Christian background, would feel comfortable with members and visitors that are of all faiths: Catholic Christian, Jewish, Islamic, Buddhist, Hindu, atheist, etc. and that our minister would feel a certain unity in all our human beliefs and concerns.

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 ministers 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.)*

CCJP Pastoral Search Committee:

Christopher Copeland (Co-Chair)

Steven Mendro (Co-Chair)

Kenneth Doody

Donald Mendro

Richard Hill

Douglas Roberts

Janet Owens

Jim Broccolino

Laura Bendorf

2. Additional comments for interpreting the profile: N/A

Signed:

Christopher A. Copeland / Pastoral Search Committee Co-Chair / Feb 28, 2023

Signed:

Steven J. Mendro / Pastoral Search Committee Co-Chair / Feb 28, 2023

6c. VALIDATION BY CONFERENCE/ASSOCIATION

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

Staff Comment:

True and correct

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

Staff Comment:

True and correct

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

Staff Comment:

True and correct

My signature below attests to the above three items.



Signature:

Name / Title: Rev. Stephanie Perdew, PhD

Associate Conference Minister

Email: stephanieperdew@ilucc.org

Phone: 708-701-4933

Date: February 28, 2023

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