

## 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

Burr Ridge Community Church  
Burr Ridge, Illinois

Pastor

Illinois Conference, Fox Valley Association

[July 30, 2024]

### LOCAL CHURCH PROFILE CONTENTS

- Position Posting
- Who Is God Calling Us To Become?
- Who Are We Now?
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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 – in order to draw forward the gifts and imaginative possibilities of a congregation. The church's engagement with the “Discovery Document” might not have the same sequence as the completed Local Church Profile that is read by candidates.

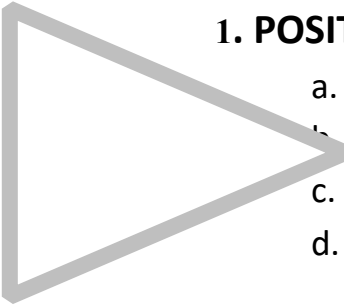
Some questions are easy to answer. Some are not so easy. Prompts are provided to stimulate narrative response if needed; these italicized prompts are merely examples from which to choose or to inspire your own. Efforts to answer the questions will prompt conversations and explorations and story-tellings and many prayers. As the Spirit moves throughout the process, congregations will shape a collective articulation of Christ's leading (**WHO IS GOD CALLING US TO BECOME**). This last question to be answered becomes the first section to be read by searching ministers in the Local Church Profile, and it is boldest and most actionable piece for faithful leadership into the future.

Your conference can provide materials referenced in the Local Church Profile, such as the 11-Year Report containing data as reported by your congregation annually to the UCC Data Hub, and MissionInsite reports containing demographic information on your community. More information on types of pastorate in the United Church of Christ can be found in the Call Agreement Workbook. Be sure to use the Call Agreement Workbook's Scope of Work to describe in this Local Church Profile the position being sought.

When it is time for ministerial search, the conference can counsel you on posting the Local Church Profile together with your public listing at UCC Ministry Opportunities (<http://oppsearch.ucc.org>).

The last page of the Local Church Profile contains a statement that parallels the consent statement signed by ministers in the UCC Ministerial Profile. In keeping with the covenantal relationship between a church and those it seeks to call, this statement encourages an open, honest exchange of information. On behalf of the United Church of Christ, and on the basis of the best knowledge available to them, your conference staff will validate your completed Local Church Profile when it is ready to be shared in relationship with prospective new leaders.

## 1. POSITION POSTING

- 
- a. LISTING INFORMATION
  - b. SCOPE OF WORK
  - c. COMPENSATION & SUPPORT
  - d. WHO IS GOD CALLING TO MINISTER WITH US?

### 1a. LISTING INFORMATION

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Church name: Burr Ridge Community Church  
 Street address: 15W100 Plainfield Road, Burr Ridge, Illinois 60527  
 Supplemental web links: [www.brucc.org](http://www.brucc.org)  
[www.facebook.com/BurrRidgeCommunityChurch](https://www.facebook.com/BurrRidgeCommunityChurch)  
[www.instagram.com/br\\_ucc](https://www.instagram.com/br_ucc)  
[www.youtube.com/channel/UCh6zdAWvjJTkmlgqwO7hhHA](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCh6zdAWvjJTkmlgqwO7hhHA)  
<https://open.spotify.com/user/sgct6v91jipubmsfuj6twjqds>

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

Conference: Illinois Conference  
 Association: Fox Valley Association  
 UCC Conference or Association Staff Contact Person (Name, Title, Phone, Email):  
 Reverend Shernell Edney Stilley  
 Associate Conference Minister  
 Phone (708) 701-4933  
[shernelledneystilley@ilucc.org](mailto:shernelledneystilley@ilucc.org)

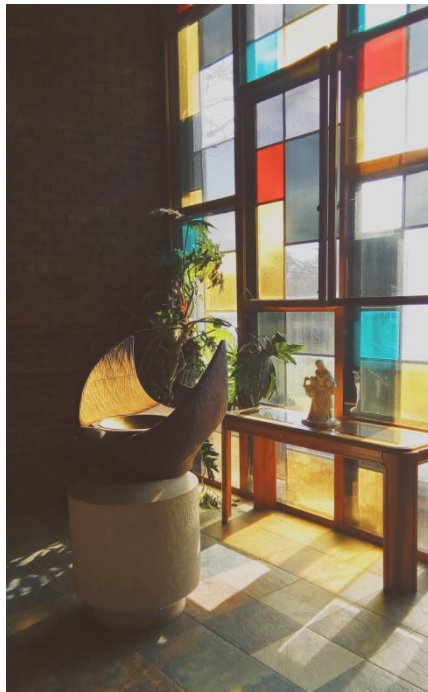
Summary Ministry Description:

*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?*

- As expressed in our Mission Statement, our goal at BRCC is “bringing God and community together at the crossroads of Plainfield and County Line Roads”. We seek an energetic, community active Pastor to join and lead us in this journey.

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 are blessed to be located within a beautiful portion of the Chicago metropolitan area at the eastern border of DuPage County and the western border of Cook County. The location presents a diverse culture and offers quality educational opportunities for its residents. While the immediate location is considered affluent, economically diverse areas are in close proximity.

Current size of membership:

- 45-60 active, attending members, closer to 75 on the membership roll

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

Position Title: Pastor

Position Duration:

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

Compensation Level:

- ¾ Time - 30 to 35 hours weekly

Does the total support package meet conference compensation guidelines?

- We are offering a competitive package including medical and retirement benefits.

## 1b. SCOPE OF WORK

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

- **Worship Ministry:**
  - Lead Sunday worship services as well as special holidays, including the development of the liturgy and selection of prayers. BRCC seeks a pastor that will seek to balance bible-based sermons with lessons that can relate to everyday life; sharing uplifting and recharging messages.
  - Plan worship with support of the Music Director and Board of Elders.
  - Administer church's sacraments of baptism and communion as well as weddings, funerals and confirmation/new member classes for participants in the worshipping community.
  - Work with the Board of Christian Education to support faith formation, and children's/youth programs. Teach Confirmation alongside CE lead.
  - Demonstrate depth of Biblical knowledge. Lead and participate in Bible study, book studies, theological based educational series, and offer lay people resources, as needed.
- **Pastoral Care:**
  - Be responsive to the needs of congregation members during times of trouble and life challenges. Visit members in need.
- **Administrative:**
  - With the assistance of the church secretary, prepare the bulletin and monthly newsletter in collaboration with the church council and various committees.

- Attend meetings and provide leadership development in working with the congregation's governing body and its program committees.
- **Community Outreach:**
  - Lead quarterly Recovery Services for Recovery groups that meet at BRCC
  - Attend Community Events such as chamber meetings, village sponsored events, etc. as scheduling allows.
  - Meet with community leaders to create meaningful partnerships for the congregation.
  - Be an ambassador of the church's values in the community. Participate in wider church UCC activities such as conferences. Maintain a collegial relationship with area clergy association.

### 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.)*

### Core Competencies:

- Worship
- Congregational Development
- Pastoral Care
- Community Engagement
- Christian Education/Youth Development

## 1c. COMPENSATION AND SUPPORT

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

- A competitive package including medical and retirement benefits.

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)?*

- Housing Allowance

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

- To participate in evening and weekend meetings and social activities, to visit members in their homes and hospitals, to engage with community groups, other local clergy, and regional church bodies, it will be necessary to reside within a reasonable 1 to 45 minute commuting distance within the Church.

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

- None anticipated, but willing to discuss with Pastor

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

- Peer support through relationships with nearby Churches
- Illinois UCC Conference

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

- Church Council will be open to speaking with Pastor regarding this issue

## 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.

- To provide leadership in and out of the pulpit. We desire a pastor that will guide us to a better understanding of our relationship with God. We encourage thoughtful and provoking sermons that teach and explain real life issues within a spiritual context. The church is energized to find a pathway to the future. The pastor will be responsible for hospital visits, home visits to shut-ins, and being active in the community. We would like to build our youth Sunday School, Adult Christian Education, and mission and social programs. New member outreach is also a goal.

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

- A minister who will partner with the congregation, lead them, and participate in actively engaging the community. Visibility.

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



- While we do not have the need for a pastor with additional language capabilities, we seek one who is experienced in culturally diverse settings and populations. As our motto is “All are Welcome”, we seek one that will be respectful in the issues of race, gender, religious beliefs, and sexual orientations.

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.

- Engaging Sacred Stories and Traditions
- Strengthening Inter-and-Intra- Personal Assets
- Caring for all Creation
- Working Together for Justice and Mercy

## 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?

In the last five years, our congregation has been intentional about our programming and who we have been called to be. We are now a community-based congregation, recently changing our name to Burr Ridge Community Church, and expanding our outreach as each year passes.

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?*

- Past and current community outreach initiatives;
  - Host many recovery groups (AA, Al-Anon, OA, FA) on a daily basis.
  - Partnered with the Illinois Food Bank to offer their Mobile Pantry at the Church on August 17, 2020.
  - Host a free community Easter Egg Hunt for families in the area – 2024 saw the greatest number of kids participating!
  - Holiday Jazz Concert
  - Holiday Cookie Sale
  - Quarterly Recovery Services for recovery groups
  - Longest Night Service during the Holiday Season
  - Partnership with the Hinsdale Humane Society for a Supply Drive for Summer Camp and BRCC Annual Pet Blessing
  - Outdoor Movie Nights
  - Chamber Trunk-or-Treat
  - Burr Ridge Village Events: Armed Forces Day and Deck the Green
  - Feed My Starving Children packing events
  - On-going food collection for West Suburban Community Pantry
  - Operation Support Our Troops

- Toys for Tots

### 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?*

- From the BRCC Constitution . . . “the faith which unites us and which we bear witness is that faith in God which the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments set forth, which the ancient Church expressed in the ecumenical creeds, and to which our spiritual forbearers gave utterance in the confessions of the Protestant Reformation. In all matters of faith there shall be freedom of conscience.”

Describe several strengths or positive qualities of your congregation.

- An unbelievably loving, caring, and passionate group of families and members. A stable foundation to grow our Congregation and community outreach.

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?*

- We hold traditional church services in the sanctuary following the Liturgical calendar of the United Church of Christ. We seek a pastor who has the ability to preach away from the pulpit unencumbered by a script. Sermons should be original and derive from biblical passages and be further explained in application to the present-day world.

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?*

- Historically the Christian Education program in our Church reached many levels. We very much look forward to partnering with our new Pastor to continue to grow our Christian Education programs, including our adult Christian Education programs such as bible study.

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?*

- BRCC is led by a Council of elected members by the members of the congregation. The council is comprised of the following roles: President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary, Board of Christian Education, Board of Elders, Board of Stewards, Board of Trustees, Member-at-Large. Many of these chairs have small boards when able.

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

- Councils and boards meet on a monthly basis (Third Tuesday of the month - time dependent on issues)
- Weekly check-ins involving pastor and council president (½ hour – time determined once schedules are set)
- Pastor will be asked to participate in monthly Board of Elders meetings (about one hour a month)

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

- The council recognized the need to provide communion to members. Communion kits were assembled and distributed to members' homes during the COVID-19 pandemic.

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

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

### 3c. CONGREGATIONAL DEMOGRAPHICS

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Describe those who participate in your church.

		<i>Is this number an estimate? (check if yes)</i>
Number of active members:	45-60	✓
Number of active non-members:	10 - 15	✓
Total of church participants (sum of the numbers above):	75 - 90	✓

Percentage of total participants who have been in the church:

		<i>Is this number an estimate? (check if yes)</i>
More than 10 years:	50%	✓
Less than 10, more than 5 years:	20%	✓
Less than 5 years:	30%	✓

## Number of total participants by age:

0-11	12-17	18-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-74	75+	<i>Are these numbers an estimate? (check if yes)</i>
6	5	1	10	15	15	15	15	15	✓

## Percentage of adults in various household types:

		<i>Is this number an estimate? (check if yes)</i>
Single adults under 35:	5%	✓
Households with minors:	15%	✓
Single adults age 35-65:	5%	✓
Joint households with no minors:	60%	✓
Single adults over 65:	10%	✓

## Education level of adult participants by percentage:

		<i>Is this number an estimate? (check if yes)</i>
High school:	100%	✓
College:	50%+	✓
Graduate School:	20%	✓
Specialty Training:	25%	✓
Other (please specify):		

Percentage of adults in various employment types:

		<i>Is this number an estimate? (check if yes)</i>
Adults who are employed:	50%+	✓
Adults who are retired:	35%	✓
Adults who are not fully employed:	15%	✓

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

- White collar, blue collar, essential workers, first responders, teachers, professionals

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?

- Diverse backgrounds (Filipino, Hispanic, Chinese), primarily white

Has your congregation recently had a conversation about welcoming diversity, or do you plan to hold one in the near future (perhaps using, for example, the Welcoming Diversity Inventory)?

Please note the date. Comment after the exercise:

- At BRCC, we believe all are welcome.

### 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	40	Lay Leaders

Baptisms ( <i>number last year - 1</i> )	4	Pastor
Children's Groups or Classes	10	Lay Leader- Board of Christian Education
Christmas Eve and Easter Worship	75	Pastor/Musician
Church-wide Meals	40	Lay Leaders
Choirs and Music Groups		
Church-based Bible Study		
Communion ( <i>served how often?</i> )	35	1st Sunday of Month, Pastor and Lay leaders
Community Meals	30	Lay Leaders
Confirmation ( <i>number confirmed last year</i> )	2	Pastor and Board of Christian Education
Drama or Dance Program		
Funerals ( <i>number last year</i> )	1	Pastor
Intergenerational Groups		
Outdoor Worship	50	Pastor, Music Director and Lay Leaders (Annual Pet Blessing)
Prayer or Meditation Groups	30	Pastor/Board of Elders (Longest Night Service and Lenten Soup & Soul Care)
Public Advocacy Work	15	Lay Leaders
Retreats		
Theology or Bible Programs in the Community		
Weddings ( <i>number last year</i> )	2	Pastor, Music Director, Lay Leaders
Worship (time slot: 10:00)	35	Pastor, Music Director
Worship (time slot: _____)		
Young Adult Groups or Classes		



Youth Groups or Classes	10	Lay Leaders
Other		

Additional comments:

List all members or regular participants in your congregation who are ordained, licensed, or commissioned ministers. Indicate those with current United Church of Christ Three-Way Covenants (i.e. serving in a congregation) or Four-Way Covenants (i.e. serving in a ministry beyond a congregation).

Name	Three- or Four-Way Covenant? <i>(3 or 4 or No)</i>	Ministry Setting	Type of Ministry Role	Retired? <i>(Y or N)</i>
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:

- None

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
Pastor		¾ Time	Council President	3 years
Janitor		Part Time	Pastor	2 years
Secretary		Part Time	Pastor	2 years
Organist/Music Director		Per Diem	Pastor	15 years

## REFLECTION

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

- We value our relationships with one another and are looking to further engage in faith, fellowship, food, and fun. We do hope to bring back and/or expand our programs to offer more opportunities such as bible studies.

## 3e. CHURCH FINANCES

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Current annual income (dollars used during most recent fiscal year, 2023 Actual)

Source	Amount
Annual Offerings and Pledged Giving	\$ 109,639
Endowment Proceeds ( <i>as permitted within spending policy, such as a cap of typically 4.5%-5% on total return</i> )	\$ 0
Endowment Draw ( <i>beyond what is permitted by spending policy, "drawing down the principal"</i> )	\$ 0
Fundraising Events	\$ 19,742
Gifts Designated for a Specific Purpose	\$ 62,861

Grants	\$ 0
Rentals of Church Building	\$ 14,853
Rentals of Church Parsonage	\$ 0
Support from Related Organizations (e.g. Women's Group)	\$ (in fundraising)
Transfers from Special Accounts	\$ 0
Other (specify): OCWM	\$ 379
Other (specify): Memorials	\$ 20,400
TOTAL	\$ 227,874

Current annual expenses (dollars budgeted for most recent fiscal year, 2024): \$ 155,257  
*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.*

Considering total budgeted expenses for the year, compare total ministerial support. What is the percentage? 44.1%

Has the church ever failed to pay its financial obligations to a minister of the church? Never

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%*)

- Free will offering

What is the church's current indebtedness? None

Total amount of loan debt: None

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.

None.

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

Year(s)	Purpose	Goal	Result	Impact
2023	Replacement of Electrical Panel	\$60,000	\$62,861	We were able to replace the electrical panel that received extensive damage due to an arch-fire without having to dip into our reserves.
June 2022	Replacement of Air Conditioning Unit	\$11,463	\$11,463	We were able to replace the air conditioner that cools the offices and two meeting spaces without having to dip into our reserves.
October 2020	Replacement of Parking Lot	\$58,232	\$58,232	We were able to make a much needed repair and replace the entire parking lot without an impact to the budget.

If a capital campaign is underway or anticipated, describe:

Year(s)	Purpose	Goal	Result	Impact
Future	Boiler	\$ TBD	\$	
Future	Sign	\$ TBD	\$	

Describe the prominent mission component(s) involved in the most recent (or current) capital campaign.

- None

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:

Other Assets (as of 5/1/2024)

Reserves (savings): \$ 59,596

Investments (other than endowment): \$18,500 Restricted Memorial  
\$4,000 Restricted Mission

Does your church have a parsonage? No

Describe all buildings owned by the church:

- Church building, storage shed

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

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

- First level including worship space and narthex

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?*

- Church members contribute as able to meet the needs of the church while supporting the community and United Church of Christ ministries.

### 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.

- July 27, 1965- ground breaking for current Church building
- November 14, 1965- Cornerstone built
- 1967- First service held for Emmanuel Church
- March 26, 1972- Merging of Emmanuel Church and St. John Community Church to form Burr Ridge United Church of Christ
- October 26, 1986- Mortgage Burning, 2 services held that day
- October 7-9, 2005- 40-year anniversary celebration of groundbreaking

Add the most important event in the life of your church in the past 10 years.

- May 2018- Retirement of Pastor Gary Faliede after 27 years of service
- 2020- COVID-19 Pandemic
- 2021 – Changed name from Burr Ridge United Church of Christ to Burr Ridge Community Church

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

- Virtual Worship
- Social Media Presence
- Brand creation (i.e. logo)

- Name change – Burr Ridge United Church of Christ to Burr Ridge Community Church
- Made updates to interior and exterior of church building and meeting spaces.

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?)*

- Protocol- Member-at-large brings conflict to the attention of the Church Council. The Council then creates a plan as to how to proceed. Escalating and engaging the Illinois Conference when necessary.

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

Staff member’s name	Years of service	UCC Standing (Y/N)
Reverend Gary M. Faliede	27	Yes
Pastor Timothy C. Rhodes	20 months	Yes
Pastor Alicia Reese	3	No

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

- The congregation must set the standards for how the church will function.

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)

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?*

- Recovery Groups: AA, Al Anon, Families Anonymous and OA groups
- Village of Burr Ridge Events: Armed Forces Day and Deck the Green
- Toys for Tots Toy Collection
- Hinsdale Humane Society: Summer Camp Supply Drive and Pet Blessing
- Mobile food pantry and book distribution in partnership with West Suburban Community Food Pantry and Bernie's Book Bank
- Donation drives for various organizations (i.e. Hinsdale Humane Society, The Leader Shop, DuPage PADS)
- Operation Support Our Troops

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

- Historically internally focused
- Recent member participation in Fox Valley Association and Conference Council
- Guest speaker from the Illinois Conference about Disaster ministries
- Assembled disaster relief buckets

Many local churches love to tell the story of what they are doing in the community to transform lives. Some have identified certain aspects of their witness into the wider community using language shared with other UCC congregations. (Find more information as desired at [ucc.org](http://ucc.org).) Check any statements below that apply to your UCC faith community.

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

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?

- Partner with our new pastor to develop an understanding of the statements of witness to integrate into service.

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

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.

- Mission Statement: "Bringing God and community together at the crossroads of Plainfield and County Line Road."

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?

- Be an ambassador of the church's values in the community. Participate in wider church UCC activities such as conferences. Maintain a collegial relationship with area clergy association.

## 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?

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?

- The culture and demographics of the church represents the community
- The socioeconomic status of the church and community are different

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

- We identified that there are needs for various community programs. We are working to create support programs.

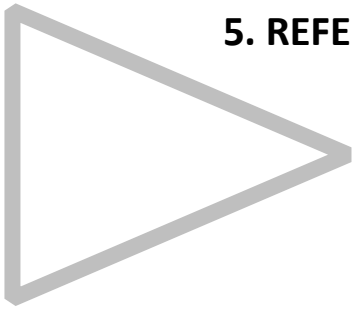
What do you hear when you talk to community leaders and ask them what your church is known for?

- Burr Ridge Community Church is the first church community leaders and partners think of or reach out to when they want to partner on a project or have a need we can help meet. We are the first church the community thinks of when there is a need.

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

- New members feel a sincere and genuine friendliness and warmth from members of the congregation. No one is pushed to get involved right away, but rather brought along as they feel comfortable and ready.

## 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

Frank Trilla / Mayor / Village of Willowbrook  
(630) 920-2234 / [ftrilla@willowbrook.il.us](mailto:ftrilla@willowbrook.il.us) / Community Partner

### REFERENCE 2

Cindi Orrico / Hinsdale Humane Society  
[humane.ed@hinsdalehumanesociety.org](mailto:humane.ed@hinsdalehumanesociety.org) / Community Partner

### REFERENCE 3

George Gruberman / Group Leader / AA  
[geo10986@gmail.com](mailto:geo10986@gmail.com) / Community Partner

### 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.



## 6. CLOSING THOUGHTS

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

### 6a. CLOSING PRAYER

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*Include here any prayer or dream for the minister you imagine journeying toward you... a poem, for example, or a Scripture passage or a piece of music that is meaningful to your Search Committee:*

“The Lord bless you and keep you;  
The Lord make his face to shine upon you,  
and be gracious to you;  
the Lord lift up His countenance,  
and give you peace.”      Numbers 6: 24-26

## 6b. STATEMENT OF CONSENT

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The covenantal relationship between a church and those called by that church to serve as pastors and teachers and in other ministerial positions is strengthened when vital information is openly shared by covenantal partners. To that end, we attest that, to the best of our abilities, we have provided information in this profile that accurately represents our church. We have not knowingly withheld any information that would be helpful to candidates.

As the committee charged with the responsibility for identifying and recommending suitable new minister for our church, we have been authorized to share the information herein with potential candidates. We understand that a candidate may wish to secure further knowledge, information, and opinions about our church. We encourage a candidate to do so, recognizing that an open exchange of relevant information builds the foundation for continuing and healthy relationships between calling bodies and persons seeking a ministry position.

1. Which individuals and groups in the church contributed to the contents of this Local Church Profile? (*for example, church council or consistory, transition team, etc.*)
  - Pastoral Search Committee (members listed):
    - William Sanford (Council Treasurer), Thomas Fong, Kelsey Sundwall, Tina Wolf, Janet Suva, Hannah Sundwall (Council President)
2. Additional comments for interpreting the profile:

Signed:

Name / Title / Date: William Sanford, Pastoral Search Committee Chair, Council Treasurer

## 6c. VALIDATION BY CONFERENCE/ASSOCIATION

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

Staff Comment: YES

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

Staff Comment: YES

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

Staff Comment: YES

My signature below attests to the above three items.

Signature: *Rev. Shernell Edney Stilley*

Name / Title: Rev. Shernell Edney Stilley, ACM for Pastoral Transitions

Email: [shernelledneystilley@ilucc.org](mailto:shernelledneystilley@ilucc.org)

Phone: 708-701-4933

Date: July 30, 2024

**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*