



Brief Church Profile

First Congregational United Church of Christ
211 Buffalo St.
Conneaut, OH 44030

1. WHO ARE WE TODAY – *description of who you are as a church, and your vision and mission statement*

We are a small town, traditional church.

Vision Statement – We seek unity in Christ’s body through loving, worshipping, growing and serving together.

Mission Statement – We are committed to being a warm and inviting church with prayer and scripture as our foundation. We will provide many opportunities to grow deeper in relationship with God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, and with each other, through worship fellowship, education and service of God and our community.

We will respect each other’s faith journey and see beyond the differences to the Christ who lives in each of us.

2. WE LIVE OUT OUR VISION AND MISSION THROUGH THE FOLLOWING – *worship, faith formation, care and fellowship, mission and outreach opportunities:*

- Worship Service on Sunday morning
- Youth Group program two times per month
- Support our local Boy Scout Troop with meeting rooms, gymnasium and an annual Scouts Sunday service
- Prayer and Blessing Box – located at side of building to discreetly help any that may need food or other blessings
- Rope of Hope - we hang hats and gloves outside the church for anyone to take to keep warm
- Noisy Change Offering – monthly collection used to support children’s needs at our local schools
- Visitation of our church family that are elderly or shut-ins
- VBS Vacation Bible School – We invite community children for Summer Bible School

3. STATISTICAL DATA

- Active Membership: 57
- Total Reported Membership: 285
- Sunday Worship average attendance: 35
- Average Church School Attendance 7
- Members serving on Boards and Committees (DO NOT include small groups): 27
- Membership on the rolls: 285
- Our church’s annual plan for resourcing the ministry (budget): Annual entire expense budget of approximately \$110,000
- Number of staff persons serving the church: 2 paid staff members, plus 7 unpaid officers

4. WHAT HAVE BEEN SOME TRENDS IN THE CHURCH FOR THE LAST 5 YEARS?

Prior to 2020 and particularly with the onset of the pandemic, we have experienced a reduction in membership and attendance. While some folks have returned, others have not (this is an opportunity to try to bring those back.)

We have placed an increased focus on our Youth and Youth Programs

We have taken on additional community missions (Noisy Change, Prayer and Blessing Box, Rope of Hope) and would consider more opportunities to support those in our community.

5. WHAT HAVE BEEN SOME TRENDS in the larger community/town in which the church is located?

Church attendance across the entire community has been on the decline with church consolidations and closures.

Our community has experienced economic decline, which has been ongoing for many years.

The community leaders are focusing economic development efforts on tourism and developing the Lake Front.

6. THE SPECIFIC MINISTRIES/ISSUES YOU EXPECT OUR NEXT PASTOR to address during their tenure -including the gifts, talents, and skills and leadership style you are looking for in your next pastor

Skills / Gifts / Talents

- First and foremost – Compassionate!
- Comfortable with visitation to the elderly, sick, homebound and those in need
- Leadership skills that are direct but subtle and focused on team building
- Energetic and engaged with both Youth and Adults
- Exhibit transparency with goals and work accomplished
- Community minded
- Strong communication skills

Ministries / Activities:

- Visitation to the elderly, sick, homebound and those in need
- Take a leadership role with appropriate committees to work on growing membership and the presence of the church in the community
- Involvement in the Youth Programs so that our youth develop a relationship with the minister
- Involvement in church activities so that members, visitors and committees feel the active presence of the minister

7. PROVIDE AN ESTIMATED COMPENSATION RANGE you are offering in dollar amounts. If less than full-time, specify the hours to be worked.

Halftime Pastor / or Shared Pastor – we are offering total compensation of \$25,000 with growth opportunity. Compensation can be split between salary, housing allowance and health insurance allowance.

Chris Brecht

Council/Search Committee Chairperson

November 4, 2024

Date

8. COMMENTS FROM THE ASSOCIATION

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Brian D. Bule". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Signature of Association Staff

October 23, 2024

Date