

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

LOCAL CHURCH PROFILE

Peace United Church of Christ
Schofield, Wisconsin

Settled Pastor

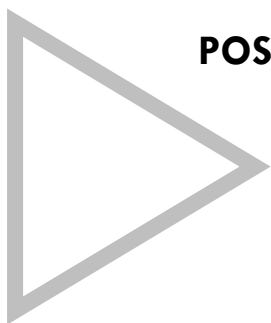
Northwest Wisconsin Association of the Wisconsin Conference UCC

[December 17, 2024]

LOCAL CHURCH PROFILE CONTENTS

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*“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)*



POSITION POSTING

LISTING INFORMATION

SCOPE OF WORK

COMPENSATION & SUPPORT

WHO IS GOD CALLING TO MINISTER WITH US?

LISTING INFORMATION

Church name: Peace United Church of Christ

Street address: 1530 Grand Ave., Schofield, WI 54476

Supplemental web links: www.peachchurchucc.com

Conference: Wisconsin Conference

Association: Northwest Association

UCC Conference or Association Staff Contact Person

Rev. Michael D. Jones

Associate Conference Minister

United Church of Christ

mjones@wcucc.org

[608-419-7509](tel:608-419-7509)

Summary Ministry Description:

Peace Church is awakening to possibilities in the future. Before the pandemic the process to becoming an open and affirming church was completed. Recently we have attracted new members due to our ONA status and our mission and outreach. As church life slumbered through isolation, media technology was developed to keep the membership on their faith journey and connected. Recently mission outreach has become a driving force in our community.

We are searching for a leader who will facilitate movement toward these areas of congregational interest and will lead us in our hopes and dreams for the future.



What we value about living in our area:

The Wausau/Schofield metropolitan area is a vibrant locale offering many attractions. There is a strong emphasis on performing and visual arts with several museums and theaters. Recreation opportunities are biking/hiking trails, skiing as well as kayak competitions, curling, golf, a soccer complex and many more. Education opportunities range from college (technical and bachelor's degrees) to public and private school districts. The tourist bureau hosts several events throughout the year.

Current size of membership as reported in Annual report: 150 people (estimate), 81 Pledging units, 81 non-contributing

Languages used in ministry: English

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

Part Time

Does the total support package meet conference compensation guidelines? Yes

SCOPE OF WORK

Core Competencies:

The perfect pastor for Peace will be a caring person who can relate to the aging population of the church as well as attracting children and youth to participate in church life. Blend this trait with an administrator who is in partnership with staff and the congregation will benefit.

COMPENSATION AND SUPPORT

Salary Basis Conference guidelines

Benefits: Pastor may choose to use part of the Salary Basis towards benefits; negotiable

Expected living situation: living nearby with a housing allowance.

WHO IS GOD CALLING TO MINISTER WITH US?

Ministry Goals

We are looking for a pastor who is engaging and has a strong commitment to the church ministries, educational programs for children, youth, and adults. One who will further develop the ministries for growth and a deeper relationship with Christ. It is essential for pastor to cultivate relationships with all ages by being engaged with all through fellowship and ministry. Building leadership skills for the lay leaders of the church is an important skill needed.

Our congregation currently has a part-time interim pastor that is supporting us in the transition.

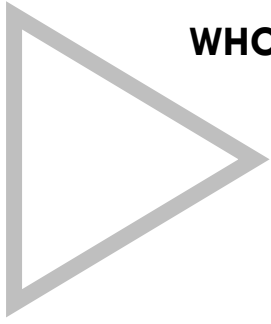
Minister assistance in making an impact beyond the walls

We wish to continue to build our outreach missions into the larger community and be engaged with our local clergy and churches. Challenge our members to look outside our walls to help all God's people.

Language requirements or culturally-specific capacities

N/A

The next minister should be going out to work with other churches and with the community at large to represent our church in the way our church should be. Our church has been working out in the community with programs such as the Catholic warming shelter/ Open Door (supports inmates upon release) and the Women's Community. We should have a pastor that is willing to reach out to get our church involved in some new programs like the Pride Parade Festivities in the area and show how we can get involved to help better the community where we live.



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 us to become as a congregation:

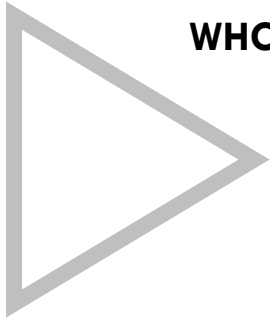
Our pastor should:

- Inspire and work cooperatively with our congregation on new ministry opportunities and leadership development
- Lead worship with thought provoking messages that are relatable to our daily lives and spirit filled services
- Facilitate with the lay leaders a multi-year strategic or vision plan for our church
- Lead adult Bible or book studies

How God is calling us to reach out to address the emerging challenges and opportunities of our community and congregation:

God is calling Peace UCC to continue to:

- Expand our mission ministry into our community
- Lead us to serve beyond our walls
- Help the unhoused and others with food insecurity
- Look for opportunities for our church to be more present in the community and with other churches



WHO ARE WE NOW?

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

CONGREGATIONAL REFLECTIONS

11-YEAR REPORT

CONGREGATIONAL DEMOGRAPHICS

PARTICIPATION AND STAFFING

CHURCH FINANCES

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

CONGREGATIONAL REFLECTIONS

Describe our congregation's life of faith.

We believe in one God and that all persons are equal in the eyes of God. When our previous pastor talked about a subject, she always tried to connect it with the subject of the sermon and how God would see this.

Several strengths or positive qualities of our congregation.

The people of Peace are volunteers who always step up. The funeral lunch crew has gotten a reputation for the wonderful celebration meal they provide. When there is a need in the community the outreach team works to find a solution. The staff works to provide meaningful worship services.

Describe what worship is like when our congregation gathers.

We gather for worship with the chancel of the church decorated with banners appropriate for the season and Sunday and lovely flowers on special Sundays. The lectionary is used as a guide to determine the overall theme and suggests the content of the service.

Prayers, responsive readings, the Doxology, and the Gloria are largely done using gender- inclusive language, while hymns are a mixture of those from The New Century Hymnal and those with older language from the alternative hymnal. More contemporary songs occasionally replacing hymns are a mixed lot with respect to language. The congregation is mostly used to inclusive language in the sermons.

The Scripture readings, most of the responsive readings, and some of the prayers are led by the liturgist of the week who is usually a lay person. The congregation has an exceptional group of excellent readers to perform this task.

An occasional chancel drama by groups of lay people and brief dramatic enactments when included in the sermon add vitality and variety to the expression of the word. These are well received by most of the congregation.

A nascent chime choir and handbell group have recently added much appreciated musical variety to the services with a more established praise band providing musical leadership on some Sundays. Our music director, a professional-level flutist, an experienced hammered dulcimer player, and occasional vocal soloists all participate in services to provide a great variety of music.

The services are now live-streamed and recorded for later broadcast on the internet. This has facilitated the development of high-quality video slide presentations which have all the service content, announcements, well-chosen graphic arts, and some music video content. While paper bulletins available most of the congregation present for worship as well as those viewing online follow the service from this projected content.

What we would like Worship to be when our congregation gathers in the future.

We would like scripture and preaching to be relevant to today's life. The message should be something we can take with us through the week. Occasionally we should be made to feel uncomfortable about current issues. We want to be fed spiritually.

Educational program/faith formation vision of our church.

Confirmands are called to read scripture in service and assist ushers. There will be a new UCC curriculum for confirmation. Leadership during service is shared with adults serving as liturgists and ushers, There is an interest in learning about WISE, and other topics relevant to faith and justice.

Describe how our congregation is organized for ministry and mission.

Hours are spent in meetings per month?

Council 2 hours monthly

Worship & Music 1.5 – 2 hours each month

Endowment 1–2 hours 4 X a year

Finance 1 hour per month

Mission 1 hour per month

Fellowship and Bazaar teams meet 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?

Recently there was a severe leak in the administrative area after a snowfall was followed by rain. A member of the property committee was called and quickly came to church. He contacted the contractor, a restoration service and the insurance company. All was dealt with efficiently as the previous property committee had left detailed notes of contact numbers and people.

Very shortly after the pastor returned from sabbatical the secretary suddenly passed away. Volunteers handled the office duties until a replacement was found a couple months later.

The Annual report will be attached to provide the next minister a further description of the patterns of the church's activity and governance.

Committees are appointed and approved by council

11-YEAR REPORT

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

CONGREGATIONAL DEMOGRAPHICS (gathered from a survey)

Describe those who participate in your church.

		<i>Is this number an estimate? (check if yes)</i>
Number of active members:	98	Y
Number of active non-members:	8	Y
Total of church participants (sum of the numbers above):	106	Y

Percentage of total participants who have been in the church:

		<i>Is this number an estimate? (check if yes)</i>
More than 10 years:	85	Y
Less than 10, more than 5 years:	10	Y
Less than 5 years:	5	Y

Number of total participants by age:

0-5	6-18	19-34	35-49	50-64	65-74	75+	<i>Are these numbers an estimate? (check if yes)</i>
7	14	7	5	19	13	33	Yes, survey results

Percentage of adults in various household types:

		<i>Is this number an estimate? (check if yes)</i>
Single adults under 35:	3	Y
Joint household with minors:	9	Y
Single adults age 35-65:	5	Y
Joint household with no minors:	22	Y
Single adults over 65:	9	Y

Education level of adult participants by percentage:

		<i>Is this number an estimate? (check if yes)</i>
High school:	16	Y
College:	34	Y
Graduate School:	9	Y
Specialty Training:	N/A	
Other (please specify):		

Percentage of adults in various employment types:

		<i>Is this number an estimate? (check if yes)</i>
Adults who are employed:	21	Y
Adults who are retired:	36	Y
Adults who are not fully employed:	2	Y

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

Factory, office, management

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?

We in this church come from mainly a German heritage and raised in believing in God’s word and we are also now open and affirming as we accept all persons now including openly gay couples.

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)?

We had this about two years ago and we then became as an ONA congregation. Our church has a history of being welcoming to all.

PARTICIPATION AND STAFFING

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	7	Pastor, council
Baptisms <i>(number last year)</i>	1	Pastor
Children's Groups or Classes	12	Board of Cristian Ed
Christmas Eve and Easter Worship	120	Pastor, Music and Worship
Church-wide Meals	50	Fellowship team
Choirs and Music Groups	2	Pastor, Music Director, Chime Choir, Praise Team, Worship & Music Team
Church-based Bible Study	5	
Communion <i>(served how often?)</i>	Monthly	Pastor
Community Meals	1	Bazaar
Confirmation <i>(number confirmed last year)</i>	4	Pastor, Confirmation coordinator, Board of Christian Ed
Drama Program	8	Christian Ed
Funerals <i>(number last year)</i>	4	Pastor, musicians, funeral luncheon team
Intergenerational Groups		
Outdoor Worship	40	Pastor, musicians
Prayer or Meditation Groups		
Public Advocacy Work	15	New developed community outreach/mission team, financially support local organization who help community, Peace Church's little food pantry
Retreats	7	Women's Wild Winter Weekend
Theology or Bible Programs in the Community		
Weddings <i>(number last year)</i>		
Worship (time slot: ____9:00____)		
Young Adult Groups or Classes		
Youth Groups or Classes		
Homebound, Hospitalized/Rehab Support	5	Peace Care Team

Additional comments: Peace Readers Book Club, Quilters group

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)
Rev. David Barber	3	Peace UCC	Interim Caring ministry	Y
Rev. Vicki Wunsch	4	Aspirus Hospital	Hospital Chaplin	N
Michael Loomis	No	Peace UCC	Caring ministry Supply Ministry	N
Kris Vraney	No	Peace UCC	Caring ministry Supply Ministry	N

1 retired minister is a member

Current staff

Staff Position	Head of Staff?	Compensation (full time, part time, volunteer)	Supervised by	Length of Tenure for current person in this position
Music director		Part-time	Pastor	1 year
Secretary		Part-time	Pastor	New
Financial admin.		Part-time	Pastor	8.6 years

REFLECTION

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

Much of the ministry is aimed at the older members of the church. There is still an active program provided for the children and youth that rely on our church for religious education.

For the church to survive and grow, the middle demographic group must be encouraged to be an active part of the congregation.

CHURCH FINANCES

Source	Amount
Annual Offerings and Pledged Giving	\$ 192,654.36
Endowment Proceeds (<i>as permitted within spending policy, such as a cap of typically 4.5%-5% on total return</i>)	\$ 811.03
Endowment Draw (<i>beyond what is permitted by spending policy, “drawing down the principal”</i>)	\$ 0.00
Fundraising Events	\$ 8480.00
Gifts Designated for a Specific Purpose	\$ 40,511.09
Grants	\$ 0.00
Rentals of Church Building	\$ 0.00
Rentals of Church Parsonage	\$ 0.00
Support from Related Organizations (<i>e.g. Women’s Group</i>)	\$ 0.00
Transfers from Special Accounts	\$ 0.00
Other (specify):	\$
Other (specify):	\$
TOTAL	\$ 242,456.48

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

Attach most recent church budget, spending plan, operating statement, or annual treasurer’s report as shared publicly with the congregation, or – if your church does not pass an annual budget – list current budgeted expenses here.

Considering total budgeted expenses for the year, compare total ministerial support. What is the percentage? 37.25%

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

We are a 5-for-5 church_

X_ Our Church's Wider Mission (OCWM – Basic Support)

X_ One Great Hour of Sharing

X_ Strengthen the Church

X_ Neighbors in Need

X_ Christmas Fund

OCWM (Basic Support) is gathered in Open offering \$4351.00

Current indebtedness? \$00.00

Total amount of loan debt: \$00.00

Are capital and other payments current? Yes

Endowment

Market value of the assets? \$61,593.58

Interest is taken once a year for projects.

No draw on endowment was taken to meet operating budget expenses.

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

Other Assets

Reserves (savings): \$ 43,614.40

Investments (other than endowment): \$ 45,492.13

Does your church have a parsonage? No

Describe all buildings owned by the church: Church building

Describe non-owned buildings or space used or rented by the church: None

Which spaces are accessible to wheelchairs? Worship space, fellowship space, classrooms

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

The budget process at Peace Church begins with our Financial Administrator for the preliminary review then it is passed to the Church Council for review, additions and adjustments.

The Church Council are instrumental in overseeing our church finances and completing the yearly budget.

While our Food Pantry is not currently financed through our yearly budget, however the members of Peace Church primarily finance it.

We as a congregation value giving to the wider church, supporting many ministries, and supporting our pastors.

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.

- Building sanctuary
- Becoming an ONA church

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

Peace Power Night evolved over the course of a few years to become the well-attended success that it is today. It was becoming increasingly difficult for families and teachers to attend every Sunday morning due to sports, dance, work schedules, and other commitments. Families were polled as to an interest in Wednesday evenings instead of Sunday mornings in an effort to meet their needs and availability.

We sometimes hear from Sunday morning churchgoers that they wish the children would attend Sunday morning services. For many young families, that just can't or won't happen due to many factors. The evolution of Peace Power Nights to Wednesday evenings allows for regular and consistent attendance for families that fits their hectic schedules,

Peace Power Nights begin with a family-style meal each Wednesday, serving between 25-30 people on a typical evening. This is followed by 10 minutes of singing led by our church music director, and Chapel Time in our cozy side chapel, which is a Bible lesson led by our pastor or one of several church lay leaders and volunteers. The last portion of Peace Power Night is a craft or activity to solidify the lesson or scripture. This year, the focus has been on learning Bible lessons through mission work, and learning the Lord's Prayer.

The children have tied blankets for the local humane society, raked the church yard, assembled health kits and hot cocoa cups for our church's Little Food Pantry, collected and wrapped gifts for a solo-parent family for Christmas, sent hand-made cards and decorated cookies to our church's home-bound members, baked Communion bread, practiced self-care through yoga, and created beautiful art projects that demonstrated their learning and added a cheery, youthful presence to our narthex, sanctuary, and fellowship hall. Additionally, the children's Christmas pageant is always a beloved and well-attended service.

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.

During the church's last pastoral search differences arose between some members and the interim. With guidance from the NW Association the church conducted Conflict Resolution Training with the congregation.

Ministerial History

Staff member's name	Years of service	UCC Standing (Y/N)
Pastor Gloria Van Houten	8	Y
Pastor Larry Treece	8	Deceased
Pastor James Laak	21	Deceased

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

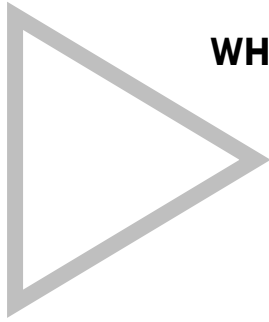
We have had good relationships with our most recent pastors. We've learned that our congregation needs a pastor who can appreciate various viewpoints and helps us to all work together.

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

Yes, feel free to ask us. This was many years ago.

Has your church been involved in a Situational Support Consultation? Yes

Has a past pastor been the subject of a Fitness Review while at your church? No



WHO IS OUR NEIGHBOR?

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

COMMUNITY VISION

MISSION InSite

COMMUNITY VISION

How do the relationships and activities of your congregation extend outward in service and advocacy?

As noted elsewhere, Peace is a ‘Five-for Five’ congregation providing monetary contributions to the justice and witness ministries of the wider UCC.

During the past year the congregation has established a small outdoor food pantry on the church property providing basic food and other daily living items for those who walk or drive by. We supply nonperishable foods and hygiene products, as well as gloves, hats and scarves during the colder months. With the help of Peace Power Night Youth, using what they learn about being good stewards and giving back to those in need, we were able to assemble hot cocoa kits and hygiene kits that can be used by the Community Outreach Team to stock our little food pantry. This initiative was in response to the City of Schofield eliminating its food bank. Ours has already become heavily used.

A local nonprofit was started to help at risk youth in the Marathon County Area. We partnered with KATS (Keep Area Teens Safe) at first by being a shopper for the home’s grocery needs, allowing staff more time to spend with the youth. As the relationship grew, we began donating more supplies and monetary donations were collected. In 2023 we donated over \$835. As we were gearing up to become more involved in the programs offered (mentoring, tutoring, etc.) the group home was forced to close due to lack of funding. We pray that someday this wonderful organization will be able to start again and we will be there to assist where we are able.

We have partnered with the Women’s Community (Non-profit domestic abuse shelter in Wausau) for many years offering monetary and supply donations. In 2023 we donated over \$1471. At Christmas time the confirmation youth along with the congregation decided to provide presents and gift cards for a family at the shelter. Peace Power Night kids made angels with suggestions for the family on them. The members picked them off the Christmas tree and shopped for the items. The confirmands wrapped the presents and delivered them to the shelter.

We also provide support to other local community groups through our monthly ‘extend the table’ program. Each month the pastor and outreach leaders select a community group that we provide monetary gifts and donated items they request.

Recently our growing music ministry provided Christmas caroling to some shut-in members and held a folk music sing-along at a local retirement facility.

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

Peace women have participated in the Moon Beach retreat Wild Winter Women’s Weekend for many years. One member was the founding organizer of the weekend. The Brubaker family attends Family Camp. This year 4 members attended the Association Meeting. Members have shown interest in the Damascus project. Another member participated in a UCC sponsored online discussion about environmental issues. Peace Church had a book study for Braiding Sweet Grass and some members participated in the Zoom book review through the conference.

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 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 |

We are Open and Affirming and share that in our Sunday bulletin, on our web page and indirectly with a large rainbow banner on the front of the church building.

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?

We have done some study of mental health issues in the congregation and there is some interest in our becoming a WISE congregation with a focus on mental health.

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

We participated in a community-wide joint Thanksgiving Eve worship service with several other Schofield congregations.

We are a congregation that strives to live out our mission and vision statements in all we do.

Mission Statement:

Through Christ, we serve, support and uplift everyone in love.

Vision Statement:

***On earth as it is in heaven...
our hope and our vision.***

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 would encourage involvement in participation in ministry on behalf of the wider church as the current minister has been in participation in Northwest Church and Ministry.

The ARDA (Association of Religion Data Archives)

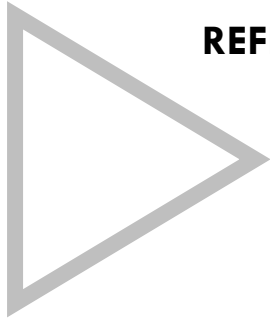
How do your congregation's internal demographics compare or contrast to a) the neighborhoods adjacent to your church, and b) other neighborhoods with which your church connects?

Our congregation's internal demographics have some similarities to the neighborhoods around us but is an older population. One of our Hispanic families lives adjacent to the parking lot and has children.

As more people move into the area with children, we hope that they will visit us and feel our warm welcome.

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

Our most recent new members were attracted to the church when they realized we are an ONA congregation and involved with the Open Door mission. One previous new member was encouraged to participate in the Lay Academy. A member was attracted to Peace because she had met wonderful women at the Moon Beach women's retreat Wild Women.



REFERENCES

REFERENCE 1

Todd Hagedorn, CPA

Partner

715 843 7492 Office / 715 218 8672 Mobile

Wipfli LLP / 500 N First Street, Suite 7000 Wausau, WI 54403

wipfli.com

Todd is married to a church member and assists with the annual audit.

REFERENCE 2

Joseph Raflik

1767 Tonawanda Rd, Kronenwetter, WI 54455-8169

(920) 452-6014

Joseph's wife is a member of the church. He attends often and participates in the chime choir.

REFERENCE 3

Brenda L Wasleske, (715) 359-5123

2044 Kimberly Rd, Mosinee, WI

Brenda is married to a church member , works at St. Pauls UCC, attends often and assists in the kitchen for events.

PROMPTS FOR REFERENCES

This was sent to the three references

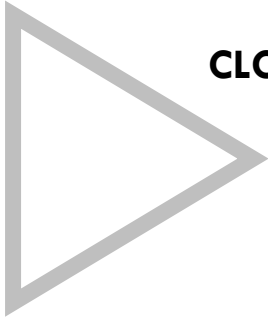
Describe some areas of strength in this church's ministry.

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.

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CLOSING THOUGHTS

CLOSING PRAYER

STATEMENT OF CONSENT

CONFERENCE/ASSOCIATION VALIDATION

CLOSING PRAYER

God of all times and places, of all peoples and persons inspire, embolden, and enliven your people of Peace United Church of Christ as we walk into the future. Give us new companions with whom to share the road: new members of our community of faith and a new pastor to lead our worship, guide our mission, enlarge our faith, and share our lives. Guide the mind and heart of the right person whose gifts match our needs and those of our wider community to hear a call to be the pastor of Peace United Church of Christ. Grant us the grace to overhear that call, to accept the challenge that you and our new pastor offer to us, and to pledge our love and care to that person as we live into the future you have planned for us.

STATEMENT OF CONSENT

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

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

Which individuals and groups in the church contributed to the contents of this Local Church Profile? Search Committee, Council, Financial Officer, Out Reach Group, Leader of Christian Education

Signed: Michael D. Jones

Name / Title / Date:

Rev. Michael D. Jones / Associate Conference Minister / December 17, 2024

VALIDATION BY CONFERENCE/ASSOCIATION

- ✓ The congregation is currently in good standing with the association / conference named.
Staff Comment:

- ✓ To the best of my knowledge, ministerial history information is complete.
Staff Comment:

- ✓ To the best of my knowledge, available church financial information is presented thoroughly.
Staff Comment:

My signature below attests to the above three items.

Signature: Michael D. Jones
Name / Title: Rev. Michael D. Jones
Email: mjones@wcucc.org
Phone: 608-419-7509
Date: 12/17/24

**UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST**



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"Jesus answered them, 'Have faith in God!'" – Mark 11:22

To: **Peace search Committee**
Peace Church UCC

I find this church to be very welcoming.
I was asked to be involved even as a non-member.
and appreciate my involvement

The ministry doesn't seem to be very involved
in the social activities of the church.
But the Pastor was very concerned when I
was sick and in the hospital.

This church needs a more involved, strong leader.

Fm:

Joe R

To prospective Peace U.C.C. candidates,

My name is Brenda, and I was asked if I would be willing to give a quick reference for Peace Church.

Just a little background on myself. I am not a member of Peace, however my husband Bruce is and my children were raised at Peace. As a family we were blessed to be embraced by Peace Church. Bruce and I as newly weds, and a mixed marriage (myself being Catholic) we both felt so welcomed by the congregation and Pastor. We were and still are included and asked to participate in many and all activities at the church.

The congregation members showed interest in us and our interests, they cared! Not only was this shown in seeing that we were included but their concern if we were not there. Once we had children they were fortunate to feel that extended congregational family love. Friends were made, and friends included from the outside church community. Living up to the United Church mantra "All are Welcome"!

Please feel free to contact me anytime if I could be of help in making your decision to come to

Peace U.C.C.

Sincerely,

Brenda Wasleske
715-359-7713

Jo

Thank you for reaching out and I apologize for the delay in getting back to you.

My understanding is that you would like a better idea of how the church is doing financially.

To that end, I can tell you that for the past 8 years I have led a team of church members that reviews various items from the prior year. Here is an example of what I produce for the Church Council:

*Peace United Church of Christ
2023 Financial Review
January 11, 2024*

Review Team: Todd Hagedorn and Becky Miller

1. *Reviewed the checking account, Script account, money market account and the financial reports for April and September 2023.*
 - a. *Reviewed each month's bank reconciliations.*
 - b. *Reviewed disbursements and transfers between accounts.*
 - c. *Agreed bank account reconciliations to monthly financial statements.*
2. *Obtained the 2023 checking account detail and reviewed for unusual and large items.*
3. *In conjunction with 2 above, reviewed payroll and payroll tax disbursements.*
4. *Reviewed voided checks.*
5. *Reviewed credit card activity*
6. *It should be noted that the December financial statements were in draft form as we were informed some adjusting entries may be necessary. The bank statements for December were reconciled and appeared to be in good form.*

The review team and Peace UCC financial administrator Chris Okwany performed the review on January 11, 2024, and found no unusual or unexplained items and noted that all the bank accounts were reconciled monthly.

Each year we pick different months to perform our review of – and don't make that decision until we arrive for the review.

I participate in this process as a favor to the Church as I am not a member (my wife and children are and my wife was on Church Council when I first started participating) and need to let you know that we do not "audit" the activity that we review.

Peace UCC appears to have adequate controls for an organization its size and takes seriously its duty to protect contributions received.

Should you have any questions please don't hesitate to contact me.

Todd

Todd Hagedorn, CPA

Partner

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