

Ragersville Zion United Church Of Christ



8831 Crooked Run Road
Sugar Creek, Ohio 44681

Find us on Facebook: [facebook.com/RagersvilleZionUCC](https://www.facebook.com/RagersvilleZionUCC)

Our Profile

This church profile of the Ragersville Zion United Church of Christ was developed from input given by our congregation and resources throughout Tuscarawas County.

We are embarking on this search after the recent passing of our current Minister.

We understand that a candidate may wish to secure further information about our church. We encourage a candidate to do so, recognizing that an open exchange of relevant information builds the foundation for healthy relationships between persons seeking a ministry position.

Please submit an application or reach out for additional information using the contact information below:

Kellie Ramirez:

Search & Call

Living Water Association

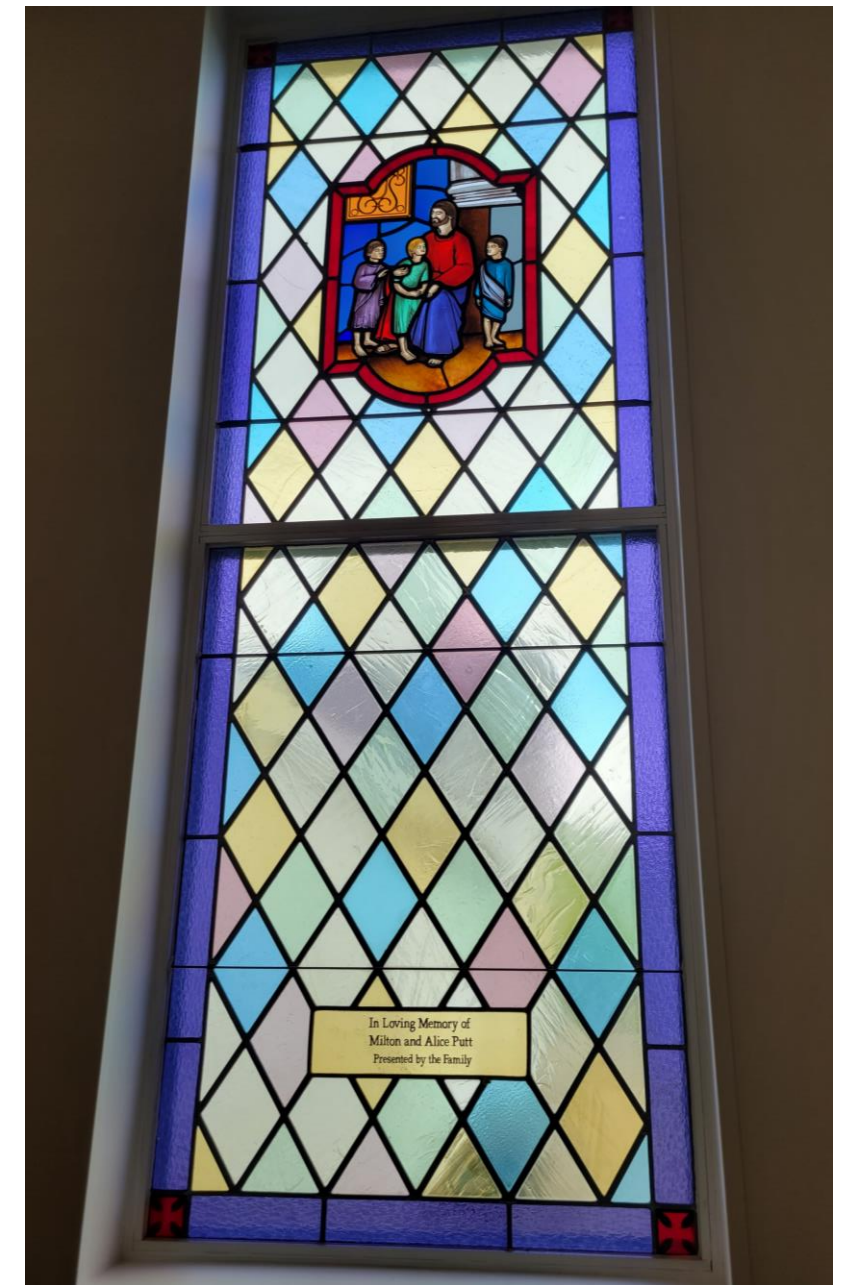
Telephone: 330-940-2220 x100

Email: searchandcall@livingwaterone.org



Our Church History

The first German Reformed Church of Ragersville was organized under a charter issued by the state of Ohio on February 7, 1837. A log structure was erected in 1837 on land donated by Daniel Zimmerman. Mister Peter Shaffer was the first burial in the new cemetery in 1837. In 1885, the log structure was raised to make room for the present building. The work was performed under the leadership of Rev. J. G. Zahner. Rev. Zahner also organized the first Sunday school in 1852 with Christian Zimmerman as superintendent. In the early 1870s the congregation chose the name, "Zion Reformed." By 1892 membership had risen to it's highest point in history with 462 members. A merger in 1934 between the Reformed Church of the United States and the Evangelical Synod of North America resulted in the name, "Zion's Evangelical and Reformed Church of Ragersville." With the union in 1957 of the Evangelical and Reformed Churches and the Congregational Christian Churches, the current name, "Ragersville Zion United Church of Christ" was adopted. The church was founded by predominately Swiss and German immigrants, living in the Ragersville area, preaching and record keeping were in German until a gradual transition to English was begun in 1911 and completed in 1921. In 1888, Mrs. Gottlieb (Magdalena Zimmerman) Ladrach organized the first "sewing society" known as the "Women's Missionary Society," and later known as "The Ladies Aid Society." In 1942, the "Women's Guild" was formed and recently with the inclusion of men from the congregation is now simply known as "The Guild." The "Young People's Society" was organized in 1911 and evolved into the present "Ragersville Zion UCC Youth Fellowship." We look forward to celebrating our 200th anniversary in 15 years.



Church Building and Grounds

- The church is a 5,772 square foot building located on approximately 1.138 acres. It seats approximately 210 people (160 on main floor + 50 in balcony).
- Our lower level houses Offices/Restrooms/Sunday School Classrooms.
- A 7,410 square foot Great Hall was added in 1995:
 - Fellowship hall with seating for 150 people; large custom industrial kitchen; 4 restrooms; 6 classrooms; nursery.
- Audio/Video systems have been installed in the Sanctuary with A/V feeds to the Great Hall and the nursery.
- A carillon sounds twice a day filling the valley with the sounds of beautiful bells.
- Large Cemented lot with additional gravel parking accommodations. Handicapped entrances and parking are available.



Our Membership

Our membership includes a diverse mix of families with children, couples, and singles.

In 2019 we had a pre-pandemic average Sunday sermon attendance of a 70 members, and Sunday School average attendance of 26.

Our members worship with continued love and devotion to the Church.



Worship

The weekly worship service is planned and organized by the Pastor.

Our current service typically includes music consisting of a prelude, hymn, call to prayer, offertory response, concluding hymn, and postlude. The hymnal presently used by the church is The Worshiping Church (Hope Publishing Company, 1990 edition). The centerpiece of our music program is a custom Allen pipe organ and grand piano. Other sources of music are welcomed.

Sermons are prepared and presented by the Pastor. These are biblically related, pertaining to today's living, and presented in a positive manner.

Children's chats are presented by church members or the Pastor. Adults meet for Sunday School for most of the year, and during the summer share breakfast before the service.



Children and Youth

Sunday School for children through elementary school is provided by members every Sunday. (Except during summers.)

Confirmation classes culminate with a confirmation ceremony into the church.

Our children and youth work alongside our adults and help with all the church's activities.

Some of the recent activities the youth have enjoyed together are sled riding, tubing, bowling, and Halloween Trunk-or-Treat.

We partner with other community churches for a summer Bible School program.



Congregational Life

Our small traditional church is overflowing with love. Our members have a genuine, deep love and concern for one another. We are truly a church family. We have an active Guild and Helping Hands group which organizes activities and events.

We celebrate God's love by:

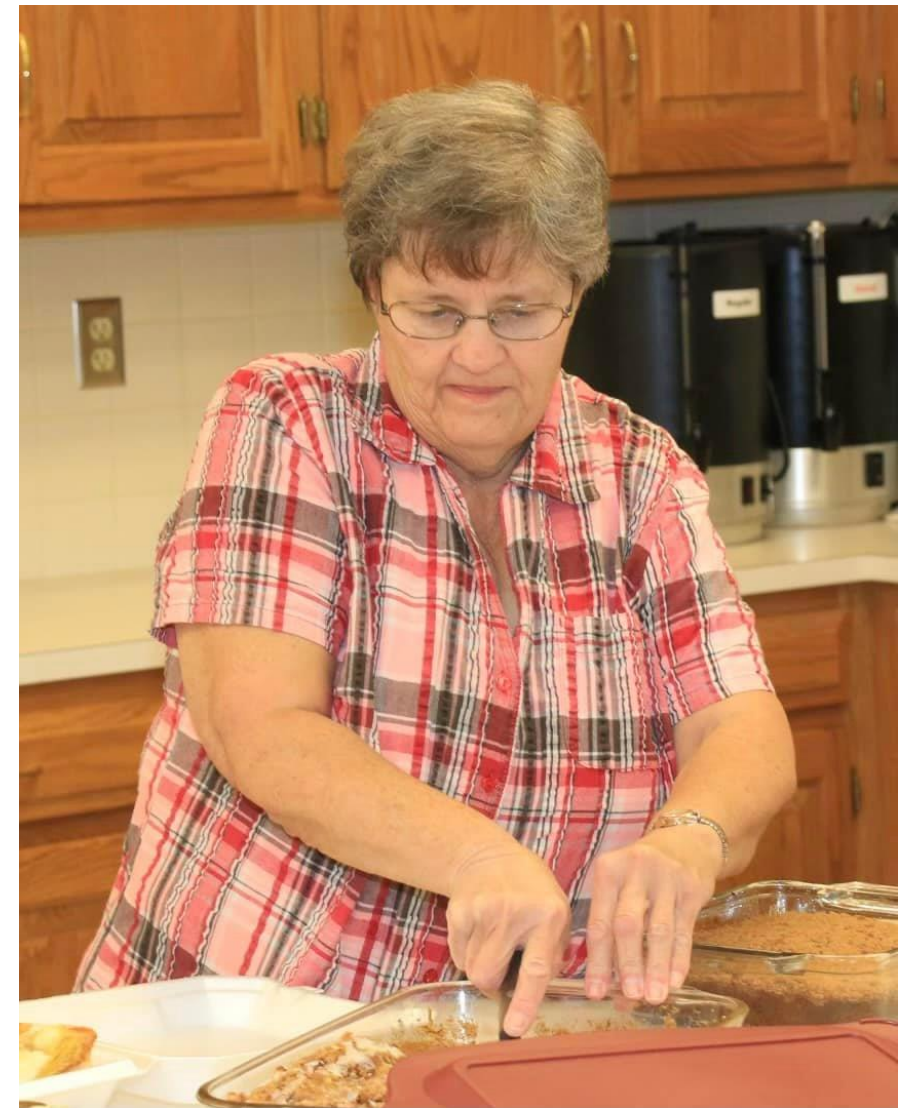
- Enjoying Easter brunch together
- A fall hayride and bonfire
- Providing funeral meals
- Awarding scholarships to our children who extend their education
- Providing prayer, meals, and financial assistance to members suffering a tragedy
- Serving a community fall and spring dinner as a fundraiser



Congregational Life continued

Our congregation loves our community and supports local families and organizations. This includes:


- Providing supplies for our local school's breakfast program
- Providing support to our local school's religious education program
- Providing meals for the local homeless shelter
- Adopting several local families at Christmas
- Hosting local banquets
- Organizing and serving fundraising dinners
- Participating in Baccalaureate graduation ceremony



Missions

The love of our congregation reaches beyond our local community. We love all of God's world and support the following missions:

- Providing supplies and food boxes to the outreach program at Washington UCC in Cincinnati, Ohio
- Providing supplies to Operation Christmas Child/Samaritan's Purse
- Supporting two missionary families
 - Dan Kaiser: Italy
 - Colin Rogers: Philippines
- Organizing and executing fundraising dinners
 - Most recently organized a fundraiser for field hospitals in Ukraine

Spread the Word
change a heart 



Check this out!

We're located in the beautiful hills of Tuscarawas County. This area has so much to offer:

- Conveniently located just under two hours from Cleveland, OH, Columbus, OH, and Pittsburg, PA.
- 20 minutes from major interstates
- Several great school systems
- Nationally recognized historic sites
- Many wineries, breweries, and local restaurants
- A performing arts center with world-class Broadway shows
- Located within the Muskingum Watershed District providing outdoor recreational opportunities:
 - Several lakes for boating, fishing, and other watersports
 - Many places to hike, bike, kayak, camp, and golf

This is a great place to live, work, and play!



Ministerial Job Description/Salary

We are currently seeking a part-time position. This position requires a maximum of 18 to 25 hours a week, with a total compensation package of \$20,000 to \$30,000 based on hours worked. Based on our congregational survey, sent to all members, these are the top 6 characteristics we identified:

- Is an effective teacher/speaker
- Inspires faith with positive messages
- Is a caring person who is sensitive to others' needs
- Encourages people to relate their faith to their daily lives
- Makes pastoral calls on sick members
- Is effective in working with children/youth



Our Staff Consists of:

Primary Pastor
Consistory
Elders
Guild
Helping Hands
Secretary (part-time)
Treasurer (part-time)
Janitor (part-time)

Our Simple Statement

We are seeking a pastoral leader who can help us carry ourselves through life like Jesus would --- leading with love first in all things.

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



Church#: 524570

Assoc: 566 Schedule: 0 Ragersville Zion United Church of Christ Sugarcreek OH 44681

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	207	79	65	0	0	0	0	0	0
2012	205	82	30	0	0	3	5	0	-2
2013	205	82	30	0	0	0	0	0	0
2014	205	82	30	0	0	0	0	0	0
2015	205	82	30	0	0	0	0	0	0
2016	205	82	30	0	0	0	0	0	0
2017	205	82	30	0	0	0	0	0	0
2018	205	82	30	0	0	0	0	0	0
2019	205	82	30	0	0	0	0	0	0
2020	205	82	30	0	0	0	0	0	0
2021	205	82	30	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	\$147,374	\$0	\$410	\$1,300	\$1,710	\$0	\$1,710	0.28	\$149,084	\$0
2012	\$122,928	\$0	\$230	\$4,071	\$4,301	\$40,000	\$44,301	0.19	\$167,229	\$142,644
2013	\$122,928	\$0	\$230	\$946	\$1,176	\$0	\$1,176	0.19	\$124,104	\$0
2014	\$122,928	\$0	\$115	\$0	\$115	\$0	\$115	0.09	\$123,043	\$0
2015	\$122,928	\$0	\$200	\$0	\$200	\$0	\$200	0.16	\$123,128	\$0
2016	\$122,928	\$0	\$253	\$0	\$253	\$0	\$253	0.21	\$123,181	\$0
2017	\$122,928	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.00	\$122,928	\$0
2018	\$122,928	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.00	\$122,928	\$0
2019	\$122,928	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.00	\$122,928	\$0
2020	\$122,928	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.00	\$122,928	\$0
2021	\$122,928	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.00	\$122,928	\$0

% CHANGE	MEMBERS	AVG WEEKLY ATTENDANCE	CHR ED/ FAITH FORM	TOTAL ADDITIONS	TOTAL REMOVALS	CURR LOCAL EXPENSES	TOTAL OCWM	TOTAL EXPENDITURE
2016-2021	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	-100.00	-0.21
2011-2021	-0.97	3.80	-53.85	0.00	0.00	-16.59	-100.00	-17.54

Please note: Zero values ("0" or "\$0") may reflect missing information in some years. Christian Education/Faith Formation refers to Church School Enrollment for all figures before 2007.

VALIDATION BY CONFERENCE/ASSOCIATION

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

Staff Comment: Nestled in the hills and valleys of "little Switzerland" of Ohio, Zion UCC boasts a church building with a view, and a congregation who deeply cares for its surrounding community and beyond. Zion UCC is a multigenerational congregation with a heart for ministry within and outside of the church building. Its members and friends seek spiritual nourishment and faith formation as well as service and mission. Zion is a church in good standing in the Living Water Association and has been an inseparable part of the life of the community surrounding it.

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: 

Name / Title: Rev. Nayiri Karjian, Association General Minister

Email: nayiri.agm@livingwaterone.org

Phone: Office: 330.940.2220 x 102 | Mobile: 203.722.9174

Date: July 12, 2022