

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

Woodcock Valley Charge
James Creek, PA

Three Quarter Time Minister (*Negotiable*)

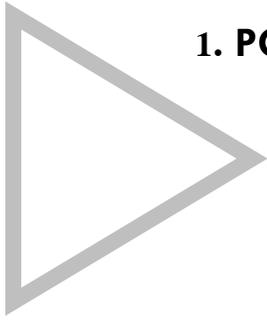
Juniata Association of the Penn West Conference

August 30, 2021

LOCAL CHURCH PROFILE CONTENTS

- Position Posting
- Who Is God Calling Us To Become?
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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)*



1. POSITION POSTING

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

1a. LISTING INFORMATION

Church name: Woodcock Valley Charge United Church of Christ- consisting of St. Matthew's Church (Entriiken); St. Paul's Church (Russellville); Zion's Church (Markelsburg)

Street Address: 2250 Entriiken Road Entriiken, PA 16638

Supplemental web links: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/167730013578988>

Conference: Penn West Conference

Association: Juniata Association

UCC Conference or Association Staff Contact Person:

David Ackerman

Conference Minister at Penn West Conference, United Church of Christ

312 S Maple Avenue

Greensburg, Pennsylvania 15601

Phone: (724) 834-0344

Email: office@pennwest.org

Summary Ministry Description:

Our charge is looking to continue to reach out to the community to offer spiritual leadership. Our goal is to keep the continuity of our current church family and grow our congregation through networking and community outreach. We would like a three-quarter time vibrant minister who is going to lead, support, and become part of our church family.

Photographs:



What we value about living in our area:

Our rural area is very peaceful with a generous community. We have caring families that help those in need. We have the perfect setting here, nestled in the hills of Central Pennsylvania, to reach out, not only to our local communities, but to the thousands of people who pour into The Lake Raystown Recreation Area, which borders our church communities.

Current size of membership: **We have 156 members in our charge.**

Languages used in ministry (*other than English*):

None

Position Title- **Three Quarter Time Minister (Negotiable)**

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:

Based on Conference Guidelines

Does the total support package meet conference compensation guidelines?

Yes

1b. SCOPE OF WORK

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

We are seeking a pastoral care minister who is caring, sensitive, sociable, and very organized.

1c. COMPENSATION AND SUPPORT

Salary Basis (*from the Call Agreement Workbook, equal to Cash Salary plus Value of Parsonage/Housing Allowance*): Salary: \$ 28,714.50 (**dependent on experience**)

Housing Allowance: \$9,475.79 (**yearly**)

Benefits:

Salary includes Optional Benefits

What is the expected living situation for your next minister?

Our charge will provide a housing allowance following the conference guidelines.

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

Residential preferred but negotiable.

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

We currently do not have incentives in place.

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

We have support from both the Juniata Association and the Penn West Conference.

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

We currently support bi-vocational employment by providing flexibility in the weekly schedule.

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.

Our charge would like to see the youth more involved by creating a youth group. We would like to see leadership development in our charge to increase youth participation.

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

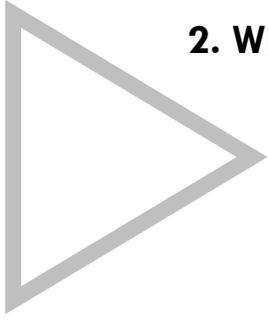
Our charge would like the minister to be involved in community outreach. We would like the minister to promote unity among the local Christian churches by participating in the local ministerium.

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

English

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.

- **Exhibiting a Spiritual Foundation and Ongoing Spiritual Practice**
- **Strengthening inter- and intra- personal assets.**
- **Empowering the Church to be faithful to God's call and reflective of Christ's mission.**
- **Engaging sacred stories and traditions.**



2. WHO IS GOD CALLING US TO BECOME?

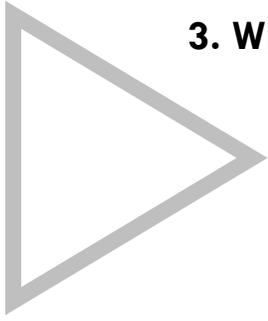
“You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.” (Matthew 22:37 NRSV)

Who is God calling you to become as a congregation?

We want to support and work with a leader so he/she can help us as a joint charge to grow spiritually and in unity as we work together to accomplish the mission of the church. We want to grow in active membership, with a special emphasis on programs for our youth and young married people. We want to reach out to new members of our community to encourage them to become part of our church family.

Describe how God is calling you to reach out to address the emerging challenges and opportunities of your community and congregation.

We will continue serving the disciples in our church while encouraging growth. God is calling us to meet the needs of people both spiritually and physically.



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.

In our traditional church services, we closely follow the United Church of Christ traditions. We welcome people of faith, reach out to others in our community by sharing, and educating our disciples with the minister’s message.

Describe several strengths or positive qualities of your congregation.

Friendly, Supportive of each other, Exceptional cooking skills, Committed.

Describe what worship is like when your congregation gathers.

Our worship services are held in the 3 sanctuaries with Sunday services at 9am, 10am, and 11am and are based around scripture, hymns, offering, joys and concerns, and prayer.

Good preaching is thought provoking and relatable to everyday life.

Describe the educational program/faith formation vision of your church.

Our Charge has Bible Study, Vacation Bible School, and Sunday School. Vacation Bible School gets our youth active and sparks their interests.

Describe how your congregation is organized for ministry and mission.

For example, how are decisions communicated in your church? How are teams or committees organized? Where does your church struggle for vision?

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

We have bimonthly consistory meetings. We have additional meetings 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?

The President of the Joint Consistory usually handles any and all crisis with the support of the Consistory Council.

- 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, we have bylaws and financial reports.**

3b. 11-YEAR REPORT

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

3c. CONGREGATIONAL DEMOGRAPHICS

Describe those who participate in your church.

		<i>Is this number an estimate? (check if yes)</i>
Number of active members:	114	Yes
Number of active non-members:	20	Yes
Total of church participants (sum of the numbers above):	134	Yes

Percentage of total participants who have been in the church:

		<i>Is this number an estimate? (check if yes)</i>
More than 10 years:	135	Yes
Less than 10, more than 5 years:	6	Yes
Less than 5 years:	15	Yes

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>
21	12	8	18	17	19	26	17	36	Yes

Percentage of adults in various household types:

		<i>Is this number an estimate? (check if yes)</i>
Single adults under 35:	14	Yes
Households with minors:	19	Yes
Single adults age 35-65:	5	Yes
Joint households with no minors:	37	Yes
Single adults over 65:	9	Yes

Education level of adult participants by percentage:

		<i>Is this number an estimate? (check if yes)</i>
High school:	80	Yes
College:	10	Yes
Graduate School:	3	Yes
Specialty Training:	7	Yes
Other (please specify):		

Percentage of adults in various employment types:

		<i>Is this number an estimate? (check if yes)</i>
--	--	---

Adults who are employed:	40%	Yes
Adults who are retired:	50%	Yes
Adults who are not fully employed:	10%	Yes

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

Describe the mix of ethnic heritages in your congregation, and the overall racial make-up. Most UCC congregations tend to describe themselves as “diverse.” Yet, the vast majority of UCC congregations are mono-cultural. What does diversity mean in your context?

We are American and primarily Caucasian.

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)? Please note the date. Comment after the exercise:

The congregation has not had a conversation about welcoming diversity, but will welcome and work towards a plan with the help of a new pastor.

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	35	The Entire Congregation
Baptisms (<i>number last year</i>) 0		
Children’s Groups or Classes	20	Sunday School Teachers
Christmas Eve and Easter Worship	180	The Entire Congregation
Church-wide Meals	160	The Meal Committee

Choirs and Music Groups	5	The Music Director
Church-based Bible Study	30	Minister
Communion (<i>served how often?</i>)		Quarterly-Committee
Community Meals	120	Committee
Confirmation (<i>number confirmed last year</i>) 0		
Drama or Dance Program		
Funerals (<i>number last year</i>)		Minister/Family
Intergenerational Groups		
Outdoor Worship	100	The Committee
Prayer or Meditation Groups		Facebook Page/One Call
Public Advocacy Work		Facebook Page/One Call
Retreats		
Theology or Bible Programs in the Community		
Weddings (<i>number last year</i>)		
Worship (time slot: 9, 10, 11 am)	???	
Worship (time slot: _____)		
Young Adult Groups or Classes		
Youth Groups or Classes	20	Teachers
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? (3 or 4 or No)	Ministry Setting	Type of Ministry Role	Retired? (Y or N)

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:

List all current staff, including ministers. Exclude the position you are seeking to fill. Indicate which staffperson 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

REFLECTION

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

Our congregation is very active in both the church community and families. We hold corn boils, Harvest Home, basket raffles, covered dish dinners, joint picnics, community Lenten dinners, Bible School, and collect donations for Samaritan’s Purse.

3e. CHURCH FINANCES

SEE FINANCIAL INFO AT BOTTOM OF THIS DOCUMENT

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

Source	Amount
Annual Offerings and Pledged Giving	\$105,011.75
Endowment Proceeds (<i>as permitted within spending policy, such as a cap of typically 4.5%-5% on total return</i>)	\$
Endowment Draw (<i>beyond what is permitted by spending policy, "drawing down the principal"</i>)	\$
Fundraising Events	\$7,331.33
Gifts Designated for a Specific Purpose	\$
Grants	\$
Rentals of Church Building	\$
Rentals of Church Parsonage	\$
Support from Related Organizations (<i>e.g. Women's Group</i>)	\$
Transfers from Special Accounts	\$
Other (specify):	
Other (specify):	
TOTAL	\$91,200.00

Current annual expenses (dollars budgeted for most recent fiscal year): \$ 139,747.40

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? **87%**

Has the church ever failed to pay its financial obligations to a minister of the church?

No.

Is your church 5-for-5, i.e. does it include each of the following contributions during the church year? (*indicate those included during the most recent fiscal year*) **No**

- 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%*) **10%**

What is the church’s current indebtedness?

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

Reason for debt:

Are capital and other payments current?

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. **N/A**

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

Year(s)	Purpose	Goal	Result	Impact
		\$	\$	
		\$	\$	

If a capital campaign is underway or anticipated, describe:

Year(s)	Purpose	Goal	Result	Impact
		\$	\$	
		\$	\$	

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

Does your church have an endowment? **N/A**

What is the market value of the assets?

Are funds drawn as needed, regularly, or under certain circumstances?

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

Describe draw on endowment, if any, to meet operating budget expenses for the most recent year and the past five years:

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

Please comment on the above calculations or estimates:

Other Assets

Reserves (savings): \$98,782.65

Investments (other than endowment): \$75,000.00

Does your church have a parsonage?

Fair market rental value of the parsonage: **N/A (NO PARSONAGE)**

How is the parsonage used?

Street / City / State / Zip:

Finished square footage:

Number of Bedrooms, Number of Bathrooms:

Assessed real estate value:

Available for minister residence: Y/N

Expected minister residence: Y/N

Condition of structure, systems and appliances

Entity in the church responsible for review and needed repairs

Describe all buildings owned by the church:

E: St. Matthew's Church at Entriiken is a brick encased frame building located in the village of Entriiken along old Route #994 with a seating capacity of 100 in the sanctuary and a movable partition separating a Sunday school area. It has a finished basement under half of the building with a storage area and kitchen making up the rest of the basement area. There are 4 Sunday school class levels. There is air conditioning.

M: Zion's Church, near Marklesburg is a solid brick building, seating capacity of 120, with a full finished basement used for Sunday School classes, a social room, a kitchen, restrooms, and a furnace area. The structure has a large sanctuary, which is beautifully preserved. There is a newer metal roof.

R: St. Paul's Church at Russellville is a frame building with a brick encased annex. The sanctuary will seat 120, is beautifully furnished and decorated with stained glass windows. The facilities are complete with Sunday school rooms, restrooms, kitchen facilities, social room on the lower level, and a pavilion. A large paved parking lot is between the church building and a renovated dwelling used for Sunday school classes and other activities. All are maintained in good repair. There is air conditioning.

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

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

All three churches.

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?

Our church's finances reflect our traditions and community's dedication to heritage.

3f. HISTORICAL INFORMATION

Name one to three significant happenings in the history of your church that have shaped the identity of your congregation. Add the most important event in the life of your church in the past 10 years.

Entriiken celebrated their 100th Anniversary in 2013.

St. Matthew's welcomed 15 new members on one Sunday in April 2017.

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

Our church was able to fully function and remain open during Covid. We now weekly record worship services and post online to reach our shut ins and those unable to attend in person.

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.

Being a three church charge, we have learned to work together, listen to each other, and collaborate to solve any challenges that may arise.

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

Staff member's name	Years of service	UCC Standing (Y/N)
Doug Satterlee	8	Yes
Rev. James Patterson	5	No
William Sowers	4	Yes
Francis Sapp	1	Yes
David Meyer	2	Yes
Llloy Blattenberger	3	No
Harvey Bartlett	5	Yes

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

Our charge has worked hard to make any new pastors feel welcome here. We try to give generously of time and effort, and whatever financial contributions are necessary to get our leaders moved and comfortable with our community.

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

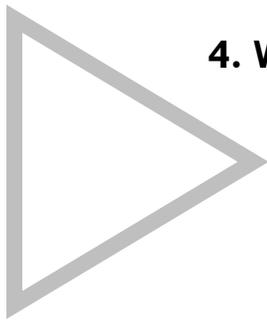
No. Our previous pastor chose to leave our charge voluntarily.

Has your church been involved in a Situational Support Consultation?

No

Has a past pastor been the subject of a Fitness Review while at your church?

No



4. WHO IS OUR NEIGHBOR?

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

- a. COMMUNITY VISION
- b. MISSION InSite

4a. COMMUNITY VISION

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

Shoe Boxes for Christmas (Samaritan's Purse)

Harvest Home (Food Donation)

Local Food Banks (Food Donations)

Ice Cream Social

Community Dinners

Salvation Army Kettle Drive

Basket Raffles

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

Consistory members attend some of the conference meetings.

Many local churches love to tell the story of what they are doing in the community to transform lives. Some have identified certain aspects of their witness into the wider community using language shared with other UCC congregations. (Find more information as desired at ucc.org.)

Check any statements below that apply to your UCC faith community.

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Accessible to All (A2A) | <input type="checkbox"/> Just Peace |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Creation Justice | <input type="checkbox"/> Global Mission Church |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Economic Justice | <input type="checkbox"/> Open and Affirming (ONA) |
| <input checked="" 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 |

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?

Our charge is opening and inviting to everyone that graces our doors. We support missionaries and local ministers.

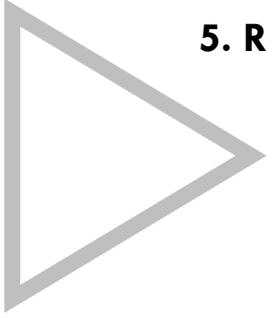
Describe your congregation's participation in ecumenical and interfaith activities (with other denominations and religious groups, local and regional).

We participate in community wide ecumenical services with area churches. Many churches join us in our yearly Vacation Bible School. Many of our members join the prayer walk with area churches as well as Community Lenten Services. We also give financial support to the Gideons.

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.

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?

The minister gives bimonthly reports outlining church related activities.



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.”

REFERENCE 1 (On Next Page)

Jill Clawson / Pastor / Trinity United Church of Christ (Saxton, PA)
814-793-4991 / mrsclaws2@yahoo.com/ Neighboring Church



TRINITY United Church of Christ

PASTOR JILL M. CLAWSON

1001 Church Street
Saxton, Pennsylvania 16678
Telephone (814) 635-2245

August 10, 2021

To Whom It May Concern:

Grace and Peace,

It is an honor to write this letter of reference for the Woodcock Valley Charge of the United Church of Christ, a body of Christ that has been special to me throughout my life. Having fulfilled pulpit supply a few times at each of the three churches in the charge, I find the churches have unique personalities, strengths and ministries; yet I find all three to be warm, welcoming congregations in the rural setting. During nine of the past ten years, I have worked with the combined churches which welcomed my church to join them in Vacation Bible School programming. I have also interacted with and discussed the ministry of the charge with the past three pastors of the charge over a course of twenty years. Although I am most familiar with St. Paul's, I do have an understanding of the dynamics of the three individual churches.

While handling three churches may seem like a daunting task for a pastor, there are some pastoral benefits to this structure. I have been impressed by the ways this multiple church structure has brought about wonderfully strong leadership and service from the members of the separate congregations. For example, the Bible School program is completely organized, directed and lead very capably by the laity. There is great interest and participation from the varied congregations. On occasions when I have done pulpit supply, I have found that the three churches have worship leaders who assist in opening and closing services (if needed) to accommodate the pastor's travel time between services. At times, the individual churches have combined for special services at the direction of the individual consistories. Likewise, the laity has developed a unique mission of a diaper outreach program at St. Paul's which is, again, completely orchestrated by the laity. Each church seems to welcome pastor participation in programming, but they do not rely on the pastor for planning or participation. I would comment that the structure has encouraged the people to see themselves as the ministers of Christ we are all called to be rather than to completely rely on the pastor for all ministerial ideas and functions.

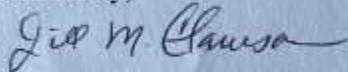
Sibling rivalry is a real phenomena, and so it comes as no surprise to me that both pastors and congregants have commented to me occasionally that there is some element of conflict between the three "sister" churches. What has fascinated me has been the ability to watch this charge under the leadership of three different pastors and to witness that just as parental handling influences the interaction of children within the home, so does pastoral handling influence the interaction of churches within a charge. If there are ripples in relationship between the churches that are regarded as a weakness, I would ardently suggest that Christ-like leadership can turn this into a strength.

A decade of working with Bible school with the people in the Woodcock Valley Charge has provided me with some of my warmest, most meaningful moments in pastoral ministry. The

people are “salt of the earth,” “down home folks” who reach out lovingly to all. Everybody has a place at the table with many of their teens becoming group leaders as they age out of the program. Consequently, the span of ages of children reached is doubled. I have witnessed the leadership exude a genuine desire to share the love of Christ with children, seen an acceptance of all who have participated, and most importantly, experienced the authentic joy working together with true disciples to share the love of God.

At this time, a pastoral search is a challenging endeavor. I join the members of the Woodcock Valley Charge in frequent prayer that they will have a productive search which leads them to one called to pastor them. Until that time, I trust they will be true to their natures and be positive and steadfast in their faith as they continue their worship and ministry.

Sincerely,



Jill M. Clawson
Pastor, Trinity UCC, Saxton, PA
Juniata Association

REFERENCE 2

Troy Morningstar / Lay Minister
814-386-5277 / Community Member

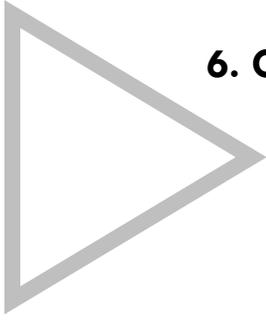
REFERENCE 3

Harvey Wason/ Minister / Church of the Brethern
814-658-3536 / Community Minister

To Whom It May Concern:

My name is Pastor Harvey Wason of the James Creek Church of the Brethren in Marklesburg, PA. I have preached in, shared community services with or held special services in all three churches in the Woodcock Valley. As we are located in a rural, agricultural area, our churches have a long and rich history in the area. The families that attend these churches often have ancestors who helped found and attended these churches. For that reason, the congregations share a close heritage and therefore loyalty to their churches. By most standards, they are relatively small congregations, but very active in their worship and devoted to one another. The people are welcoming and warm and develop relationships with their pastor and visiting pastors, like myself, quickly. The congregations have been very responsive to the services that I have conducted in their churches and I have developed friendships with many of their members. It would be my sincere hope that, any pastor considering placement in this Charge, would observe the distinct advantages it offers and would prayerfully consider accepting God's leading into this position.

Blessings,
Pastor Harvey Wason



6. CLOSING THOUGHTS

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

6a. CLOSING PRAYER

Dear heavenly father.... We come to you with love and prayers for our church congregation as we go into a new season. As we say goodbye to one, we pray that you will give us guidance and grace as we navigate the next months ahead. Bless our churches with strong leadership, in the pulpit and out. Bless our church families. Continue to love and direct us, to do what is right for our congregation and for our community. Thank you God for all of our many blessings and help us to go out to do your will for your people! In Jesus's name we pray, Amen.

6b. STATEMENT OF CONSENT

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

As the committee charged with the responsibility for identifying and recommending suitable new 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?

Search Committee

2. Additional comments for interpreting the profile:

Signed:

Bradley Morse
Vice President, Woodcock Valley Charge
August 23, 2021

6c. VALIDATION BY CONFERENCE/ASSOCIATION

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

Staff Comment: **Yes**

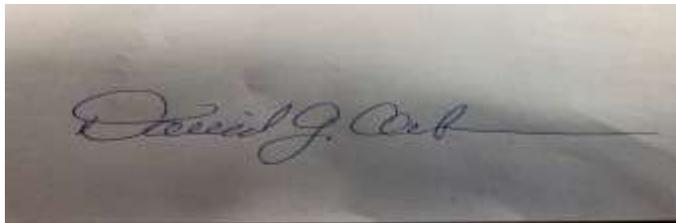
To the best of my knowledge, ministerial history information is complete.

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:

Name / Title: **David J. Ackerman / Conference Minister**

Email: **david@pennwest.org**

Phone: **724-834-0344**

Date: **August 30, 2021**

**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