## **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!





## UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST LOCAL CHURCH PROFILE

Trinity United Church of Christ 1001 Church Street Saxton, PA 16678

**Settled Pastor** 

Penn West Conference Juniata Association

June 3, 2022

## 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)

## **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

Church name: Trinity United Church of Christ

Street address: 1001 Church Street Saxton, PA 16678 Supplemental web links: facebook.com/trinityuccofsaxton

trinityuccofsaxton@gmail.com

Additional ecumenical affiliations (e.g. denominations, communions, fellowships): Broad Top Area Ministerium

Conference: Penn West

Association: Juniata

UCC Conference or Association Staff Contact Person (Name, Title, Phone, Email): Rev. David Ackerman, Conference Minister, 724-834-0344 david@pennwesrt.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?

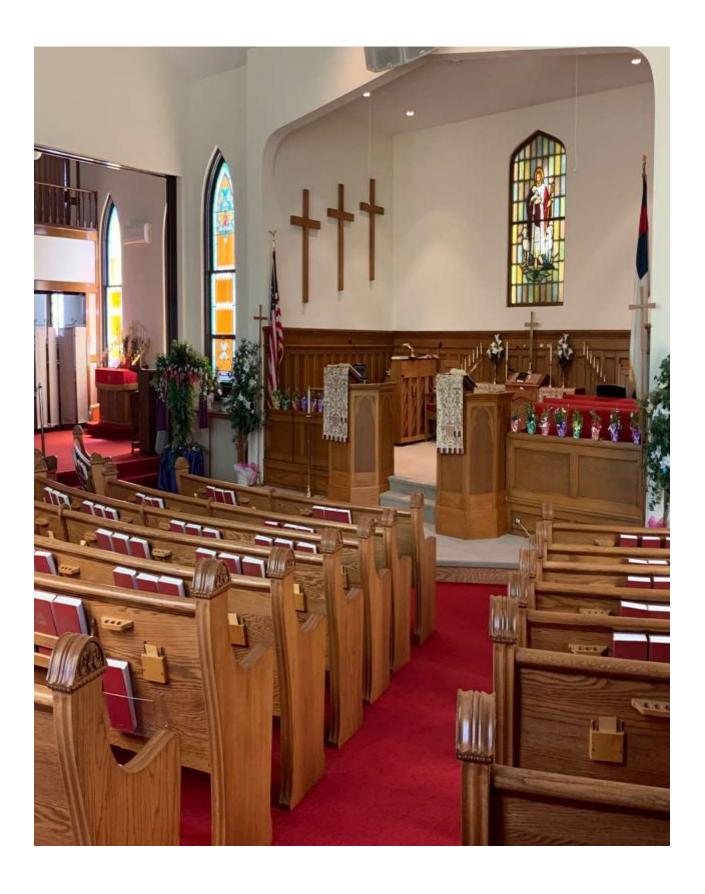
The Trinity United Church of Christ and it's Congregation are faithful to the worship of God and passionate about God's work. We welcome everyone who is seeking a relationship with Christ to join us in our beautiful Church Building/Sanctuary in Saxton, PA to worship. It is our priority as a congregation to continue to grow our Church family as well as to continue to reach out to our community and beyond to spread the love of Christ.

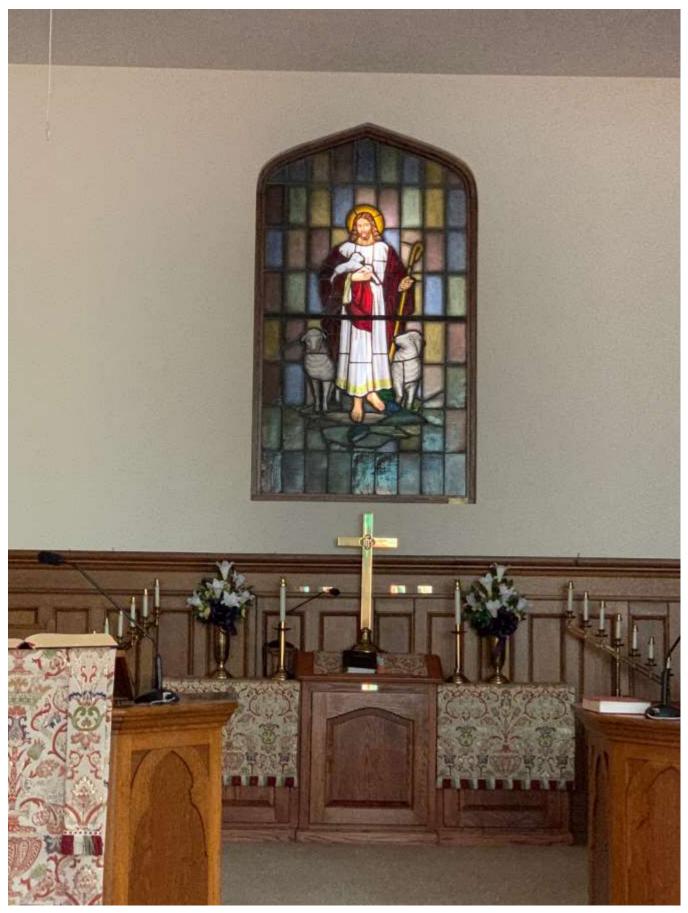
We are located in a community that provides many outdoor opportunities such as state parks, cycling trails, boating, etc. We are very proud of the educational opportunities in our area that consist from local school districts to post-secondary colleges and universities. Although we are a rural community we are within a 2 to 2.5 hour drive to several urban areas that provide many additional cultural opportunities. We are also fortunate to have a strong music ministry and are blessed with talented individuals who assist us in praising God through musical presentations.

We are in search of a pastor who is enthusiastic and motivated to work with people of all ages and is willing to utilize both traditional and alternate methods of worship and outreach. We want our minister to be willing to work with our congregation in developing strategies to move forward in an ever changing world. Our next pastor will be our congregation's spiritual guide and will assist all people to grow in the faith of Christ.

## 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):

Members of Trinity UCC value living in a small rural community. We are a family oriented and faith-based church and community.

Current size of membership: 40-80 members with approximately 50 people attending weekly church services.

Languages used in ministry (other than English): N/A

Position Title: Minister (choose one, delete the other options listed):

<u>Settled</u> – 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 (choose one, delete the other options listed): 1/2 Time

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):

Trinity UCC's Scope of Work will follow the scope of work recommended by Penn West Conference as it pertains to a half time pastor. A total of 5 -6 units would be created (20-25 hours per week) as determine by the minister and the Consistory. The major activities will include:

- 1. Preparation and leadership of Sunday worship including scripture study, crafting of liturgy and bulletins, sermon presentation, guiding and sometimes finding lay liturgists, planning of music in coordination with the Choir Director, preaching, offering of prayers, etc.
- 2. Faith formation and vitality through prayer, Bible study and service. Also to help identify helpful resources and opportunities and to help lay persons access them.

- 3. Pastoral care in collaboration with lay people (at least to those who are sick, elderly or grieving).
- 4. Participate as needed or desired in wider activities within the community, conference or association as time permits.
- 5. Study and prayer to increase faith and to improve skills so as to lead, teach and preach better.
- 6. To energize and deepen the spiritual connections and faith understandings of others in all they do.

A job description will be provided to the minister and will be reviewed with the Consistory.

## 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 <u>caring</u>, <u>sensitive</u> and <u>sociable</u>, while a church seeking an executive minister might want an <u>organized</u>, <u>detail-oriented</u> and <u>time-conscious</u> person.)

- 1. Our pastor will possess the organizational, personal and communication skills necessary to be effective and compassionate leader of Trinity UCC. Our pastor will lead us into a stronger faith in Jesus Christ to further enrich our lives and the lives of others. Our pastor will guide us into a richer knowledge of the Bible and where God would direct us to be.
- 2. We are seeking a minister who will pastor to our congregation and community through ongoing efforts such as in person, nursing home and hospital visits and participation in local community and ministerium events. Our pastor will provide quality pastoral care in a caring and sensitive manner.
- 3. We are seeking a pastor who possesses the characteristics necessary to grow our congregation through increasing membership and participation. Our pastor would implement outreach programs and develop innovative methods to spread God's message to the community

## 1c. COMPENSATION AND SUPPORT

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

Salary will be negotiable and based upon the Pastoral Compensation Guidelines provided by the Penn West Conference. The pastor will be provided with the use of a Parsonage.

Benefits:

Salary includes Optional 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)? A parsonage will be provided. However, the pastor's living situation can be negotiated with the Church Consistory.

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

Residency in the parsonage is preferred but is negotiable.

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

N/A

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

The following pastoral support will be available:

Penn West Conference, Juniata Association, Broad Top Area Ministerium

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

Trinity UCC will provide the flexibility necessary to support any bi-vocational employment situation.

## 1d. WHO IS GOD CALLING TO MINISTER WITH US?

Describe the ministry goals you envision your next minister cocollaborating with the congregation to achieve:

Trinity UCC envisions our next minister will work directly with the congregation to grow in the word of God, to increase faith and love in Jesus Christ, and to share this faith with others.

Our minister will provide pastoral care and will guide the congregation to help those in need whether it is spiritual, physical, mental or emotional.

Our minister will help spread the word of Jesus Christ to others, to participate with the local ministerium to support community programs, to increase church membership and to share his/her love in our community.

Our minister will actively pursue programs and activities that promote youth participation.

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

Trinity UCC is a very community minded and community active organization. We hope to find a minister who will work with us to enrich our community by actively assisting our members with volunteer work and reaching out to those in need regardless of what the need may be.

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

Trinity UCC is a conservative, English speaking congregation in a rural community. Many members have deep roots within the area and a keen interest in local history. It is our desire to have a minister who may be able to reflect and promote those qualities.

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.

The four areas of excellence (from Marks of a Faithful & Effective Authorized Ministry) that Trinity UCC would like its new minister to display would be:

- 1. Exhibiting a spiritual foundation and ongoing spiritual practice: Our new minister will be our spiritual advisor and will be committed to assisting the congregation to a richer and fuller understanding of God.
- 2. Caring for all creation: A leader who cares about God's creation and will assist in maintaining the health and wellness of the church and will provide hope and healing.
- 3. Strengthening inter and intra personal assets: Our minister who loves God and will respect his ways. He will set an example for others and will show a strong morale character and personal integrity.
- 4. Building transformational leadership skills: Our new minister we will be leading both the congregation and the church in general into the future. Our leader will empower, witness and encourage others to lead as well.

## 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?

Trinity UCC believes God is calling us to be followers of Jesus Christ and to share the love of God with all people. Our congregation is eager to work with our new minister whose guidance and leadership will help strengthen our knowledge and core beliefs while also reaching out to new members.

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?

Trinity UCC has reached out in the following ways to address challenges and opportunities for our congregation and community:

Jesus and Me (JAM) bags. During the Covid-19 pandemic shutdown Church members reached out to the children of our church by sending monthly bags (JAM bags) to their homes that included activities, crafts, Bible stories, songs, etc. These were sent via text messaging to parents. The materials were personally delivered to the children's homes. The intent of this project was to share the word of God with the children. Bibles were also bought for them to use with the activities. The vision of this program is to spread the word of God to the children in another format beside the traditional Sunday School. It is the hope that this program will be expanded to teens so they too could be provided the word of God in another format rather than the traditional methods. Trinity UCC has started programs to reach out to those who are unable to attend church services (especially during the Covid-19 pandemic, these programs

included: a weekly sermon/lesson by the minister that can be viewed on the the church's Facebook page. This can be viewed at any time. Church members provided cards and/or gifts to those who are "shut in" during holidays and once during the summer months. These cards and gifts are meant to serve as a reminder that they are not forgotten and are still a part of our church community. Church members developed a phone chain during the pandemic to contact individuals to check on their welfare and to see if they had any needs. Along the same lines specific church committees also assist with ongoing needs of individuals who are experiencing a difficult time. Projects such as the ones mentioned have made our church more aware of the needs of those who are unable to physically attend church services and to find creative ways to fill or expand those needs.



"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?

Trinity UCC has a commitment to grow our church family and to reach out to the community and beyond to spread the love of Christ. We describe the Holy Spirit as the three in one, the triune God, both loving and caring.

Describe several strengths or positive qualities of your congregation.

Trinity UCC's strengths and positive qualities include:

A strong commitment to faith, friendliness, helpfulness, outreach programming, community awareness, generosity, a strong music program, popular children's programs, children's church.

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?

Worship at Trinity UCC takes place in our sanctuary. It is typically based on the lectionary readings. Baptisms are always special to us with the pastor actively participating with the child by walking them through the congregation. The messages provided by our pastor can be described as interesting, informative

and thought provoking. Trinity also has begun to utilize social media to share our message of faith each week.

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?

Trinity UCC provides leadership opportunities for all of its members if desired. These include consistory, committees, children's programs, choir, etc. We provide Bible Study opportunities on the various books of the Bible, Sunday School, Bible School, etc. We also share our messages online. It is our hope that programs like these and others will strengthen the attendee's faith over a lifetime.

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?

Trinity UCC has monthly Consistory Meetings that last for about 1-2 hours. There are also periodic Congregational meetings as needed that are roughly 20-30 minutes in length.

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

Trinity has various committees that are organized through the consistory and also individual church members. If a need or an emergency arises typically one of the committees with the approval of the consistory president will take a necessary action.

• 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 (Church Constitution and Bylaws)

3b. 11-YEAR REPORT (add here the 11-Year Report developed with t he help of your conference staff, UCC Data Hub, and MissionInsite)

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



Church#:	621930										
Assoc:	648	Schedule: 0	Trinity UCC				Saxton		PA	16678	
YEAR	MEMBERS	AVG WEEKLY ATTENDANCE	CHR ED/ FAITH FORM	CONFIRMATION	N CO	NFESSION	TRANSFER OR REAFFIRM	DEATHS O		OTHER LOSSES	NET MEMBS ADDS-REMOVED
2010	174	70	28	2	2	0	0		5	0	-3
2011	174	70	28	(	0	0	0		0	0	0
2012	174	70	28	(	0	0	0		0	0	0
2013	174	70	28	(	0	0	0		0	0	0
2014	73	60	33	(	0	0	0		1	0	-1
2015	73	60	33	(	0	0	0		0	0	0
2016	73	60	33	(	0	0	0		0	0	0
2017	73	60	33	(	0	0	0		0	0	0
2018	73	60	33	(	0	0	0		0	0	0
2019	73	60	33	(	0	0	0		0	0	0
2020	73	60	33	(	0	0	0		0	0	0
YEAR	CURRENT EXPENSES	CAPITAL PAYMENTS			TOTAL OCWM	OTHEI GIFT:		BASIC SUP		TOTAL EXPEND	PLEDGES AND OFFERINGS
2010	\$49,127	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$	\$0		0.00	\$49,127	\$0
2011	\$49,127	\$0	\$200	\$0	\$200	S	\$200		0.41	\$49,327	\$0
2012	\$49,127	\$0	\$0	\$715	\$715	S	\$715		0.00	\$49,842	\$0
2013	\$49,127	\$0	\$200	\$660	\$860	\$	\$860		0.41	\$49,987	\$0
2014	\$78,797	\$0	\$400	\$0	\$400	\$6,30	\$6,700		0.51	\$85,497	\$103,325
2015	\$78,797	\$0	\$400	\$0	\$400	S	\$400		0.51	\$79,197	\$0
2016	\$78,797	\$0	\$400	\$0	\$400	\$	\$400		0.51	\$79,197	\$0
2017	\$78,797	\$0	\$500	\$0	\$500	S	\$500		0.63	\$79,297	\$0
2018	\$78,797	\$0	\$500	\$0	\$500	\$	\$500		0.63	\$79,297	\$0
2019	\$78,797	\$0	\$500	\$0	\$500	\$	\$500		0.63	\$79,297	\$0
2020	\$78,797	\$0	\$500	\$0	\$500	S	\$500		0.63	\$79,297	\$0
% CHANGE	MEMBERS	AVG WEEKLY ATTENDANCE	CHR ED			OVALS	CURR LOCAL EXPENSES	TOTAL OCWM	EXPE	TOTAL NDITURE	
2015-2020	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00	0.00	25.00		0.13	
2010-2020	-58.05	-14.29	17.86	-100.00		-100.00	60.39	0.00		61.41	

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

## 3c. CONGREGATIONAL DEMOGRAPHICS

Describe those who participate in your church.

		Is this number an estimate? (check if yes)
Number of active members:	50	X
Number of active non-members:	25	X

Total of church participants (sum of the numbers above):	75	X
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## Percentage of total participants who have been in the church:

		Is this number an estimate? (check if yes)
More than 10 years:	70	X
Less than 10, more than 5 years:	20	X
Less than 5 years:	10	X

## Number of total participants by age:

0-11	12-17	18-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-74	75+	Are these numbers an estimate? (check if yes)
12	1	0	1	5	6	20	20	10	X

## Percentage of adults in various household types:

		Is this number an estimate? (check if yes)
Single adults under 35:	6	
Households with minors:	11	X
Single adults age 35-65:	11	X
Joint households with no minors:	40	X
Single adults over 65:	13	X

## Education level of adult participants by percentage:

		Is this number an estimate? (check if yes)
--	--	--

High school:	45	X
College:	40	X
Graduate School:	10	X
Specialty Training:	5	X
Other (please specify):		

## Percentage of adults in various employment types:

		Is this number an estimate? (check if yes)
Adults who are employed:	46	X
Adults who are retired:	63	X
Adults who are not fully employed:	10	X

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

Range of occupations for the congregation include: manufacturing, education, medical, administration, business owner

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?

The vast majority of the congregation is white. All types of diversity (racial, gender, socioeconomic status) is welcome at Trinity UCC.

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 of Trinity UCC has not participated in any type of diversity training. However, we would be open to participating in such a training.

## 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? (list any and all worship planners, such as various lay leaders, pastors, musicians, other staff)
Adult Groups or Classes	10	Group members
Baptisms (number last year)	4	Pastor
Children's Groups or Classes	6	Children's Church Coordinator
Christmas Eve and Easter Worship	80	Pastor, Worship Committee
Church-wide Meals	40	Social Committee
Choirs and Music Groups	10	Choir Director
Church-based Bible Study	8	Pastor
Communion (served how often?)	5	Pastor
Community Meals	6	This has been paused due to Covid 19
Confirmation (number confirmed last year)	1	Pastor
Drama or Dance Program	20	Children's Church Coordinator Worship Committee, Volunteers
Funerals (number last year)	8	Pastor
Intergenerational Groups	0	
Outdoor Worship	50	Pastor and Social Committee
Prayer or Meditation Groups	10	Pastor
Public Advocacy Work	0	

Retreats	0	
Theology or Bible Programs in the Community	4	Pastor and local community ministerium
Weddings (number last year)	1	Pastor
Worship (time slot: 10:00-11:00)	50	Pastor and Worship Committee
Worship (time slot:)		
Young Adult Groups or Classes	0	
Youth Groups or Classes	0	
Other	0	

#### 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)
John G. Russell	3	UCC McConnellstown Church	Pastor	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:

John G. Russell. Jack is currently a member with no formal role within Trinity UCC.

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
Secretary	N/A	Part time	Consistory	8 years
Financial Secretary	N/A	Part time	Consistory	28 years
Treasurer	N/A	Volunteer	Consistory	15 years
Inside Custodian	N/A	Part time	Consistory	4 years
Outside Custodian	N/A	Part time	Consistory	4 years
Choir Director	N/A	Part time	Consistory	24 years
Organist	N/A	Part time	Consistory	12 years

#### REFLECTION

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

Trinity UCC is fortunate to have members who are willing to share their time and talents for the benefit of its members and the community in general. Trinity is also a congregation who will welcome all who want to worship God.

## 3e. CHURCH FINANCES

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

Source	Amount
Annual Offerings and Pledged Giving	\$ 73822
Endowment Proceeds (as permitted within spending policy, such as a cap of typically 4.5%-5% on total return)	\$ N/A
Endowment Draw (beyond what is permitted by spending policy, "drawing down the principal")	\$N/A
Fundraising Events	\$ 1040
Gifts Designated for a Specific Purpose	\$2483
Grants	\$0
Rentals of Church Building	\$0
Rentals of Church Parsonage	\$5775
Support from Related Organizations (e.g. Women's Group)	\$35
Transfers from Special Accounts	\$0
Other (specify): Investments	\$20000
Other (specify):	\$N/A
TOTAL	\$103135

Current annual expenses (dollars budgeted for most recent fiscal year): \$110855 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.

See attached 2022 Church Budget:

OSED BUDGET FOR MISSION COMMITTEE ONS PRANKS PRANKS TINS LES TINS LES TINS LES TINS CORRES TOR MORSHIP COMMITTEE LES TORS AUDION ELEMENTS SAL (CORAL AND ORGAN) LLANEOUS EVENTS & SEEN AND GIFTS CORED BUDGET FOR CHRISTIAN EDUCATION OSED BUDGET FOR CHRISTIAN EDUCATION OSED BUDGET FOR CHRISTIAN EDUCATION OSED BUDGET FOR BUILDING COMMITTEE CHANCE OSED BUDGET FOR BUILDING COMMITTEE STANKATION SCHOOL SCHOOL SCHOOL ATON AND SCHOOL MATERIALS STANKATION SCHOOL SC				S 14,200.00		FOIAL
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Considering total budgeted expenses for the year, compare total ministerial support. What is the percentage? 93%

Has the church ever failed to pay its financial obligations to a minister of the church?  $N_{\mathrm{O}}$ 

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):

X	Our	Church's	Wider	Mission	(OCWM -	Basic	Support)
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- \_\_ 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?  $(recommended \ 10\%)$ 

1%

What is the church's current indebtedness?

Total amount of loan debt: 0

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.

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

Year(s)	Purpose	Goal	Result	Impact
	N/A	\$	\$	
		\$	\$	

If a capital campaign is underway or anticipated, describe:

Year(s)	Purpose	Goal	Result	Impact
	N/A	\$	\$	
		\$	\$	

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

N/A

Does your church have an endowment? Yes

What is the market value of the assets? \$373,102 (as of 12/31/2021)

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

As needed under certain circumstances

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

Less than 5%

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

There was no draw on endowment to meet operating budget expenses. Draws on the endowment are for specific projects.

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

20-30 years (approximate)

Please comment on the above calculations or estimates:

Trinity UCC has been blessed with an endowment which can be relied upon to address the needs of the church as they arise. We consider ourselves good stewards of our congregations' resources.

#### Other Assets:

Reserves (savings): \$25000 (approximate)

Investments (other than endowment): \$0

Does your church have a parsonage? Yes

Fair market rental value of the parsonage: \$675 per month approximate

How is the parsonage used? It currently is being rented.

Street / City / State / Zip: 1003 Church Street Saxton, PA 16678

Finished square footage: approximately 3200 sq. ft.

Number of Bedrooms, Number of Bathrooms: 4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms

Assessed real estate value: \$175000 (approximate)

Available for minister residence: Yes

Expected minister residence: Yes, but can be negotiated

Condition of structure, systems and appliances Good condition

Entity in the church responsible for review and needed repairs: Building

Committee

Describe all buildings owned by the church: Church Building, Parsonage, Garage

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.)

Church Sanctuary, Social Room/Kitchen

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?

Trinity UCC has been able to maintain a well-kept building and parsonage as well as part time staff through the generosity of our past and present congregation. We are most proud of the fact that we have an active Mission Committee that monitors the needs of the community and can provide assistance (financial and otherwise) to those in need.

## 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.

- 1. We have been fortunate to have minimal pastoral turnover. Trinity UCC has only had 4 pastors since the late 1960s. This consistency has made our congregation and mission strong for over 5 decades.
- 2. The impact of the Covid 19 pandemic has been significant to Trinity as it pertains to membership, finances and participation.
- 3. Trinity UCC was instrumental in the creation and support of the Agape Singers and Players. This group consisted of several teenagers and young adults who toured the central Pennsylvania region to bring the message of God through music, acting and testimony. The group was quite popular and active from the early 1970's through the mid 1980's.

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

The continuing struggle to accommodate to the changes brought upon by the Covid 19 pandemic.

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?)

As with most organizations there has been differences of opinion in various areas such as building issues, social issues, etc. However we as a congregation strive to collaborate, listen to all options and work together to solve problems as they arise.

A recent example was the ongoing pandemic and what needed to be done to keep the work of the church moving forward as well as to keep our members and guests safe. Many meetings and discussions were held and opinions varied from continuing ad normal to closing the church indefinitely. Also masking and social distancing was discussed. After all opinions were heard a plan was developed as to move forward during the pandemic. By working together we have made it through the crisis and with the grace of God returning to our normal worship routine.

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

Staff member's name	Years of service	UCC Standing (Y/N)
Jill M. Clawson	11	Yes
Charles R. Davis	15	Yes
J. William Dean	14	Yes

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

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)

- a. COMMUNITY VISION
- b. MISSION InSite

## 4a. COMMUNITY VISION

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?

The relationships and activities of the Congregation at Trinity UCC extend outward in service in many ways. These include: Contributing to many local and national disaster relief organizations (Red Cross, Harvest home, local fuel needs, local school needs, etc.), Actively participating and contributing to the local food bank and community litter pickups, contributions on a monthly basis by our Mission Committee to local needs, serving at community functions, providing cards and other messages of encouragement to shut ins and armed services personnel. Trinity UCC is also handicapped accessible in order to accommodate all of our members and guests.

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

Our current pastor and members of the Consistory periodically attend conference and association meetings and events. From time to time a national conference is attended.

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.

Accessible to All (A2A)
Creation Justice
Economic Justice
X Faithful and Welcoming
God Is Still Speaking (GISS)
Border and Immigrant Justice
Inter-cultural/Multi-racial (I'M)
Just Peace
Global Mission Church
Open and Affirming (ONA)
WISE Congregation for Mental H
Other UCC designations:
Designations other denominations
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?

Trinity UCC would be welcome to participating in activity that would improve the lives of others and would bring the message of Christ.

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

Trinity UCC participates in many ecumenical and interfaith activities and services with others. These include:

Community Thanksgiving Service Community Good Friday Service Community Christmas Service Annual Community Prayer Walk Vacation Bible School

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 of Trinity UCC: As the people of Trinity United Church of Christ, we seek within the Church Universal to participate in God's mission by praising him and proclaiming the Gospel. We are stable in our faith love all of God's children. We love and care for all of God's creation. It is our commitment to preach and teach the power of the living word and to strive for justice, healing and wholeness of life. Empowered by the Holy Spirit, we celebrate the present and coming reign of God.

Trinity UCC strives to implement its work by following the commitments mentioned in the Mission Statement. These are praising God, loving all of God's creation, preach and teach the living word and strive for wholeness of life. Many of our activities reflect these goals.

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?

Trinity UCC would encourage and support our pastor to minister to the community and the wider church. The pastor would share these activities in the monthly report provided to the Consistory. Our pastor may also continue to serve and assist with the spiritual needs of the Saxton Volunteer Fire Company.

## 4b. MISSION InSite

Comment on your congregation's Mission Insite report with data for your neighborhood(s) or area. What trends and opportunities are shown?

A general review of the data provided in the Trinity UCC's Mission Insite Report reflects the following trends in our congregation:

- 1. Our congregation is primarily an older population.
- 2. Our congregation is rural and in the lower to middle income range (compared to PA state data).
- 3. Our congregation is overwhelmingly white and English speaking.

A review of the major characteristics of our congregation indicates that we enjoy the rural lifestyle, outdoor activities and possess conservative ideologies.

Opportunities may exist to use this data to initiate or enhance programs that would be appealing to members of the congregation and the community at large.

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?

Trinity UCC's internal demographics appear to be very similar to those of surrounding communities and churches with which we connect.

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

The demographics of our community has shaped some of Trinity UCC's programs. Many of Trinity's programs are focused on those who less fortunate and the older members of our community.

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

Trinity UCC would be well known for providing support to agencies and causes that further benefit the community. These agencies/causes include: Saxton Volunteer Fire Company, Changes in the Parkway (CHIP), assisting the Broad Top Ministerium with activities, providing monthly financial contributions to community programs/causes through the Mission Committee, Assisting the Saxton/Hopewell Foodbank, reaching out to the community through social media

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

New members to our Congregation would probably tell others they got involved through special activities or services, viewing our "Ministry Moments" on Facebook, the warmth, friendliness and outreach of the members of our Congregation.

## 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

Samuel Hinish, CEO/President (retired) First National Bank of Saxton

Phone: 814 635-3618 Member of the Saxton, Pa Community

#### REFERENCE 2

Mark Taylor, Fire Chief, Saxton Volunteer Fire Company

Phone: 814-312-6732 mark.taylor35@comcast.net Member of the Saxton, PA Community

#### **REFERENCE 3**

Rodney Figard, Member Saxton First Church of God

Phone: 814-635-5050 rofigard@comcast.net Member of the Saxton, PA Community

#### Reference 4

Beverly Brumbaugh, Retired Educator- Member St. Paul's United Church of Christ Phone: 814-934-6498 bevbrum@comcast.net Member of the Saxton, PA Community

#### PROMPTS FOR REFERENCES

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

Describe some areas for improvement in this church's ministry.

Samuel I. Hinish 808 Mifflin Street Saxton, PA, 16678

May 3, 2022

RE: Trinity United Church Of Christ 1001 Church Street Saxton, PA. 16678

#### To Whom It May Concern;

As the retired CEO and President of the First National Bank Of Saxton I have had many dealings with this church and its membership. All dealings with the church and membership have been extremely satisfactory. The present duy church was constructed in Saxton in 1887. They have been in Saxton for 135 years which speaks volumes about its excellent leadership and membership.

This church has a very good reputation in our community and is well attended. The Trinity United Church Of Christ is also very active in community affairs. This church has the four characteristics of a healthy church (1) Commitment to Content (2) Commitment to Carring (3) Commitment to Communication.

All the ministers in this church that I have known were very capable and were well liked by the congregation and community. As far as improvements to the ministry I can not see any one particular area that needs improved.

Sincerely

Samuel L Hinish



## Saxton Volunteer Fire Company

504 8th Street, Saxton PA 16678

To: Trinity United Church of Christ Candidacy Board

From: Mark Taylor, Fire Chief, Saxton Volunteer Fire Company

Re: Minister Candidate Information

It gives me great pleasure to provide this information for those candidates giving consideration to assuming the ministerial duties at the Trinity United Church of Christ of Saxton.

I have been Fire Chief of the Saxton Volunteer Fire Company for the past 37 years. During that time I've had the privilege of observing and working with the pastors and parishioners of Trinity, They are a dedicated church family that are truly committed to serving God and supporting one another in making continuous improvements to strengthen their ministry. They are the benchmark among all the other churches in the area. While other churches have seen a decline in membership Trinity has remained steady and even grown. This is due to their strong fellowship practices, hible studies and youth programs. Their progressive leadership has

seen a decline in membership Trinity has remained steady and even grown. This is due to their strong fellowship practices, hible studies and youth programs. Their progressive leadership has adapted to changing times and implemented best practices to remain current. An example of this would be their Pacebook page where they share church happenings to keep their parishioners up to date with everything that's going on in the church and their community. Another great example of this would be the Media Moments segment they implemented during COVID that allowed God's message to be heard through the pastor on their Pacebook page when church services were not able to be held. This not only benefited their members but many others throughout the community. They have continued this practice and the program has many followers every Sunday spreading God's word to some that would not otherwise receive it. This degree of forward thinking to better serve others through their ministry is a constant at Trinity

The church is well maintained and ongoing improvements are made to keep the church functional, comfortable and safe. Recent upgrades to the fire and security alarms are evidence of these practices. Several of their parishleners have participated in active shooter awareness training to enhance their level of preparedness towards these kind of events that are becoming more common in places of worship.

Beyond all these noted quality initiatives, what I have experienced the most is the role Trinity plays in supporting their community. In my capacity as fire chief I have personally witnessed the value that Trinity has brought to our volunteer fire company. Pastor Jill has served in the role as our Chaplain. She has participated in Critical Incident Stress Debriefing sessions following tragic incidents. I have directed our members to her for spiritual guidance in their time of need and she always brings them comfort. Pastor Jill also performs Holy Communion for our members every month ahead of our public dinner. During this time our members present are able to raise those up in need of prayer as well as express other concerns that Pastor incorporates into a prayer session. These along with monetary donations are just some of the benefits our fire company has received.

It is important to note that Trinity is also actively involved in supporting many other organizations with our community. You will always find their church members in a leadership role to help achieve success in most of our homelown projects.

This Church is truly doing God's work at a high level!

I hope you find this information helpful and welcome you to reach out if I can be of further assistance in your decision making.

Sincerely,

Chief Mark Taylor

E-mail mark.taylor35@comeast.ner

Phone 814-312-6732

To whom it may concern,

As a contractor thave worked several times over the past 30 plus years with the Saxton Trinity UCC congregation in one form or another.

One of the strongest characteristics of this church, is their abundance of outreach programs. They are very community oriented. If there is ever a need for a meeting place for a local organization and any of their members are a part of that organization, they are quick to offer their fellowship room for a meeting place. I feel this is really sharing God's love and His Word.

The members of this church are involved with many different programs, on any Saturday you might see many members volunteering picking up trash along our roadways.

If there is anything going on in our local parkway, at any time you will see many members volunteering.

This church is quick to take care of their building when a problem might occur. They are especially proactive in looking to prevent problems.

Another strong characteristic is their in house youth program. They have several ladies who step up and oversee their youth during church services. To me this is one of the most important parts of Church these days. Teaching them about Jesus when they are young children. Youth are like a giant sponge at these ages and if given the right church upbringing, when they get older, they will be more likely to stay involved.

As for a need of improvement, it would be getting more people out to church. This is a problem with all our local churches, not just this one. But someone needs to come up with a way to have more people involved overall, not just in this one church.

The congregation of this church all work together in anything they do. From regular church services, they make you feel welcome, or when they are supplying a meal for one reason or another, they make you feel like you fit in.

Our community is in need of more people to step up and lead. Sometimes we feel that our pastors should be taking part in that also. A pastor needs to be community oriented, but at the same time, know when they are getting too involved.

Thank you for the opportunity to help.

Rodney Figard

Saxton First Church of God

814-386-5050

rgfigard@comcast.net

## To Whom It May Concern:

My name is Beverly Brumbaugh, and I am a member of St. Paul's United Church of Christ of the Woodcock Valley Charge. My email is <a href="mailto:bevbrum@corncast.net">bevbrum@corncast.net</a> and my phone number is 814-934-6498.

Even though I do not attend the Sunday services at Trinity United Church of Christ in Saxton, Pennsylvania, I am aware of many of their activities through friends who are members. This church also has developed a ministry through social media which reaches many others.

Trinity UCC is very involved in the community. Many of the members help to plan activities that improve the community and provide enjoyment to local residents. The church has a strong music ministry. It is a pleasure to listen to their choir perform on the church webpage. The congregation is fortunate to have many talented musicians who use their talents to glorify God. Another area that impresses me is the support that is given to their shut-ins and nursing home residents. They stay in touch through cards, phone calls, and small gifts.

Trinity has joined the Woodcock Valley Charge for several years in providing a week of Vacation Bible School for the children of several communities. Through the efforts of these churches, the children experience a week of Bible study and socialization with other children. One of the events to which our church members have been invited is the Good Friday breakfast. It is a morning to ponder on the events of Jesus' crucifixion and to enjoy a time of fellowship.

Since I am not a member of this church, I am not aware of the weaknesses of the church. I see the positive influence it has on the community and the members of its congregation. But, like many area denominational churches, it struggles to maintain and increase attendance.

Many area churches are searching for a minister but my prayers are with Trinity as they begin their search for a pastor. Any pastor who chooses to serve this church would be welcomed with friendliness and helpfulness.

#### Beverly Brumbaugh

### 6. CLOSING THOUGHTS

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

## 6a. CLOSING PRAYER

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 congregation of Trinity United Church of Christ will always continue to receive the word of God and make it a priority to spread Gods word to others. This can be best described in the song "Pass It On":

- "It only takes a spark to get a fire going"
- "And soon all those around can warm up in its glowing"
- "That's how it is with God's love"
- "Once you've experienced it"
- "You spread his love to everyone"
- "You want to pass it on"

## Our Most Gracious Heavenly Father:

Thank you so much for the wonderful gifts we continue to receive from you. As we go through the search process for our new Church Leader please provide us the guidance, wisdom and discernment needed to navigate this journey. Please direct us to a decision that will be in the best interest of our Congregation and the Community. Thank you so much for blessing us as a Church Family. In Jesus 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? (for example, church council or consistory, transition team, etc.)

Pastoral Search Committee Trinity UCC Consistory Trinity UCC Treasurer

2. Additional comments for interpreting the profile:

Please feel free to contact us if you need further clarification or have any questions.

Cindy Baker, Consistory Co-Chairperson Trinity United Church of Christ

Date:

## 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: <u>david@pennwest.org</u>

Phone: 724-834-0344 Date: June 3, 2022



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