

CHURCH PROFILE FORM

Church Information:

Name: Ellsworth Christian Reformed Church

Location of church [City, State/Province]: 9323 Main Street, Ellsworth, MI 49729

Classical Church Counselor: Rev. Steve Datema

Search Committee Contact:

Name: Lee Veldboom

Address: 2205 M-66 S East Jordan MI 49727

Home: _____ Cell: (734) 355-4923 Work: _____

Email address: secretary@ellsworthcrc.org; EllsworthCRCclerk@gmail.com

Community Setting:

Location

- Rural
- Small Town
- Metropolitan
- Suburban
- Inner City
- Small City

Function

- Industrial
- College/University
- Agricultural
- Recreational
- Military
- Bedroom Community

Growth

- Growing
- Static
- Declining

Approximate population of community: Ellsworth village: 355 (Twp. seat); Banks Twp: 1,496

Church Profile:

We are open to:

- Male and Female pastors Female pastors only Male pastors only

List all staff positions: Pastor – full time
Custodian - half time
Secretary - half time

Position Available: **Pastor**

Date of vacancy: 07/01/2022

General position description:

The Pastor serves as preacher, worship and spiritual leader, and provides pastoral care for the church, engaging our community. The Pastor, as a member of Council, is accountable to Council in doctrine, life, and responsibilities. Supervision by Council will include encouragement, love, guidance, and assistance. The Pastor serves on Council in a non-voting role.

- Full-time Part-time

Bi-vocational position?

- Yes No

Number of years preferred of ministry experience of potential candidate: No Restrictions

Required languages: English

Church Demographics:

Average Sunday attendance: 60; summer 80

Active adult professing members: 68

Profile of church members:

Age:

3 % 0-11 4 % 12-18 13 % 19-24 6 % 25-34
3 % 35-49 40 % 50-64 31 % 65+

Occupation:

5 % Business 35 % Professional 5 % Trades 5 % Stay-at-home parent
5 % Agriculture 31 % Retired 10 % Student 4 % Other

Percentage of members belonging to the congregation:

Less than 5 years 15 %
5-10 years 35 %
10 or more years 50 %

Racial/Ethnic composition of congregation and surrounding community:

Caucasian

Composition of congregation:

Mono-Cultural

Multi-Cultural

Specific Ethnicity (specify:

)

List the last three persons in this position:

1. Rev. James Zwier 2019 - 2022
2. Rev. Alex Snider 6 yrs
3. Rev. Carl Afman 8-9 yrs

Worship:

How are members involved in planning and participation in the liturgy/worship?

Our Worship Team (3) helps plan and implement weekly worship. We have a Praise Team (7) that helps lead the service every other week.

Describe the worship services in your church:

The worship services in our church are blended style services. The song selections include both traditional and new songs that relate to the theme of the message being delivered and engage the congregation in worshipping the Lord. Typical worship services include the use of organ and piano; with the Praise Team: singers, piano/keyboard and guitar and other instruments as available. We utilize projection for song lyrics, Scripture, message notes and other worship elements.

Describe the discipleship practices in your church for all ages of members and attenders:

- List discipleship activities:
- Sunday Talks with God Prayer Sunday pre-service
- Prayer ministry team
- Wednesday AM and PM Bible Study
- Small groups
- Community children's after-school ministry

Building/Financial:

Present annual budget: \$126,184

Last year's annual budget: \$114,938

Percentage of financial obligations met (last complete year reported):

Budget	94%
Denominational Ministry Shares	100%
Classical Ministry Shares	100%

Amount contributed above budget and ministry shares: \$6100

Specify (optional): Local ministries & global mi

Facilities:

Describe facilities: Our church building is located in the center of the Village of Ellsworth. The building has two levels. The upper level has a sanctuary with seating capacity of 200, with pastor office, and

Are your buildings adequate for your ministries? Yes No

If no, please explain:

Is a building program projected? Yes No

If yes, describe what and when:

Does the church own a parsonage? Yes No

Location of office or study: In the Church

Compensation:

The salary range we are prepared to offer our new pastor is based on the CRC Minister

Compensation Survey for our area:

If other, please specify:

The average annual increase for this position over the past three years is:

\$

or

4-6

%

Housing:

- Housing allowance
- Parsonage only
- Either of the above

Benefits and expenses:

- Pension
- Medical insurance
- Life insurance
- Social Security or Canada Pension
- Travel/mileage
- Continuing Education funds
- Continuing Education time allotted
- Sabbatical policy in place
- 4 Annual vacation (# weeks)
- Other (please specify)

Church Characteristics:

[Check which one(s) are closest to your church's characteristics]

Presently, the FOCUS OF OUR CHURCH'S MINISTRY is

	Community exclusively	Community primarily	Community & current members/ participants equally	Current members/ participants primarily	Current members/ participants exclusively	
External	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Internal

In our church, the WORSHIP SERVICE IS DESIGNED FOR

	Designed for unchurched	Emphasis on unchurched	Unchurched and believers	Emphasis on believers	Designed for believers	
Unchurched	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Churched

In our church, the STYLE OF MUSIC used in the worship service is

	Contemporary	Mostly contemporary	Blended	Mostly traditional	Traditional	
Contemporary	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Traditional

In our church, LEADERSHIP is generally provided by the

	Predominantly lay leaders	Frequently lay leaders	Lay leaders & pastoral staff share leadership	Lay leaders function under pastoral staff	Predominantly pastoral staff	
Congregational members	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Pastoral staff

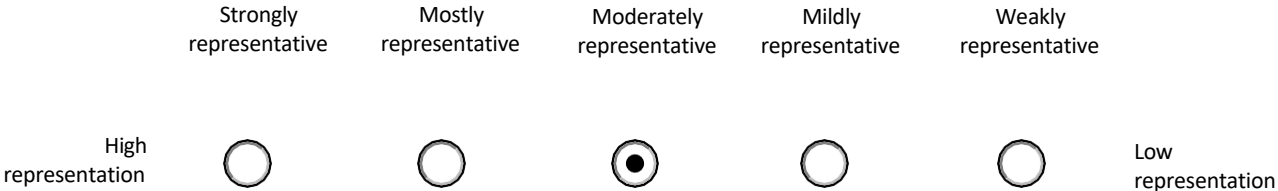
Our church seeks to ENCOURAGE SPIRITUAL GROWTH through

	No specific ministries	Ministries for a few groups	Ministries for selected groups	Ministries for most groups	Ministries for all groups	
Informal	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Formal

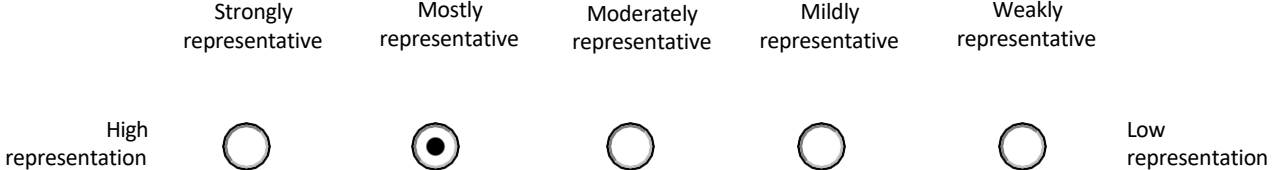
In our church, EVANGELISM STRATEGIES AND METHODS are

	Predominantly unplanned	Generally unplanned	Equal emphasis	Generally planned	Predominantly planned	
Unplanned	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Planned

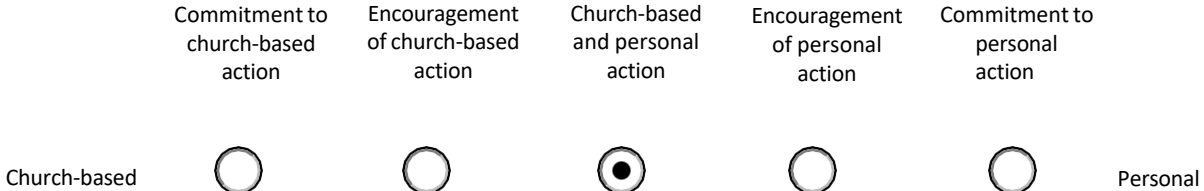
Our church is representative of the ECONOMIC DIVERSITY of our community



Our church is representative of the ETHNIC DIVERSITY of our community



Our church's RESPONSE TO COMPASSION, MERCY, AND JUSTICE NEEDS is



Our church's MISSIONAL FOCUS is



Narrative:

In what ways does your church participate in ecumenical activities?

We join neighboring Reformed, Wesleyan, and Baptist and Community churches for a Christmas concert, Good Friday and Easter Sunrise services, as well as Ellsworth Pig Roast and (two) summer outreach concerts.

Pastors of the above-mentioned churches meet regularly for prayer and once a month for breakfast.

Area churches conduct a joint Vacation Bible School program.

Members participate in Emmaus, Keryx Prison ministry, etc.

Provide leadership with area churches for local Good Samaritan ministries that serves our region

(Food pantry - Thrift shop - Furniture store - Moms & Tots)

Provide leadership & support for Ebenezer Christian School

Reflect on your strengths/gifts as a church:

1. We're friendly – welcoming.
2. Wide age range
3. Willing & ready to help others in need.
4. Strong Biblical foundation with a Reformed perspective.
5. Recognized spiritual leaders in the community.
6. Intimate size allows everyone to know most members
7. Everyone has opportunity to participate with their gifts.
8. Centrally located in the village & easily accessible to the surrounding area.
9. Re-visioning complete with updated mission & vision.
10. Faithful stewards with God's gifts for church and kingdom ministry

Reflect on your passions as a church:

1. Renewed vigor for ministry
2. Strong Biblical teaching
3. Hospitality
4. Serving people in need in our community

List specific problems with which your congregation struggles:

1. Engaging non-believers in our community, especially young people & families

Do you have a recently articulated mission/vision for ministry?

Yes

No

What has been the most interesting and challenging event in the life of your church in the last three years?

COVID and attracting new members.

During the covid shut down, we were able to continue worshipping together first via YouTube and then via Zoom. Summer months we held our worship service outside on our lawn. This was very effective as we welcomed many members and non-members into fellowship together.

COVID re-set commitments and practices.

We re-organized and re-tooled with a fresh vision of our mission, including renewed participation in all our ministry teams to move forward in vital ministry.

List major goals that this congregation has set for itself or opportunities the congregation anticipates:

We have 5 ministry teams [Worship - Discipleship - Outreach - Hospitality - Facilities] who are each working on 2 goals to advance our discipling mission with our fresh vision: Joyfully walking together with Jesus - learning - loving - sharing - serving, all for the glory of God.

1. Worship: Renewed participation in Christ-centered engaging worship.
2. Discipleship: Multiple opportunities for all to engage a deeper walk with Jesus together.
3. Outreach: Annual training times for witnessing and implemented through personal witness and several events connecting our church family in serving our community.
4. Hospitality: Multiple fellowship events deepening church family relationships and several events that engage us in our community to expand our relationships.

Describe what being Christians of Reformed accent means to you:

Our Sovereign Triune God reveals himself through His infallible Word and speaks to us by his Spirit how we may live by grace in a loving relationship with him.

We use our Reformed Creeds and Confessions as a focused framework to train and shape our worship and equip our members for service. We align with other believers in the world.

Describe your understanding of the relationship between the local church and the Christian Reformed denomination:

We actively support the ministries of the denomination through giving and participating in our Classis and Synod when leaders are called to do so.

Identify some of the cultural challenges facing Christians and Christian churches today:

1. The danger of acceptance of changing cultural norms contrary to God's Word.
2. Pressures of life that affect our spiritual priorities for keeping church & family in balance.
3. The sanctity of Sunday in prioritizing communal worship.
4. Value of relationship with God and serving him.

What have been the three most important events in the history of your church?

1. Birth of our church by faithful leaders and families (1901 - current) under the continued blessing of God.
2. Established sustainable community outreach organizations: Ebenezer Christian School; Good Samaritan Ministry; Moms and Tots; Wayside Chapel; Front Porch Community Cafe(non-profit)
3. Growth of congregation and facilities in late 1990s.

Leadership:

How many council members does your church have? 6 (3) Elders and (3) Deacon

What is the length of term for council members? 3 Years

How often does the full council meet? Monthly

What subgroups of council exist, how do they function and how often do they meet?

Worship Team - Plan and participate in worship, 5-7 members meet monthly

Outreach Team - Plan and implement outreach events in community; 6 members meet bi-monthly

Hospitality Team - Building relationships in the Church and community, 7 members bi-monthly

Discipleship Team - Oversee and promote discipleship opportunities, 6 members meet quarterly

Facilities Team- Maintenance and repairs of buildings and property, 9 members meet as needed