

Statement of Consent

"The United Church of Christ recognizes that God calls certain of its members to various forms of ministry in and on behalf of the church for which ecclesiastical authorization is required." United Church of Christ Constitution, Article VI, paragraph 21.

Use of the UCC Ministerial Profile signifies that an individual has an Association's ecclesiastical authorization to seek a call as a minister in and on behalf of the church; has completed background check screening and fitness verification; has attested to certain statements in a document of self-disclosure; and has gained three references which speak to her/his practice of ministry. The Profile is a tool of testament and transparency, meant to demonstrate covenants of supportive cooperation and appropriate sharing of information among national offices, Conference and/or Association personnel, calling bodies, and the minister, as expressed in paragraph 25 of Article VI of the United Church of Christ Constitution.

It is essential that information contained within this document be sensitively and responsibly reviewed and interpreted. All those seeing the document have the responsibility to maintain or dispose of its contents confidentially.

Any practice by calling bodies of routinely rejecting profiles on a perfunctory basis without a complete and individualized assessment, including a thoughtful review of commentary offered by the candidate, is strongly discouraged. In particular, criminal history information, including the conduct underlying that history, should be evaluated in terms of the nature and gravity of the offense or conduct, the time that has passed since the offense, conduct, and/or sentence, and the nature of the position sought by a candidate, so as to foster call and hiring decisions that are based on an individualized assessment that is job/ministry related and consistent with ministry/business necessity.

Relationships between calling bodies, authorized ministers, and those holding ministerial standing and fitness oversight rely upon practices of discernment and dialogue. Because such relationships require integrity and an honest exchange of relevant information, for the health and mission of the church, this minister pledges the following:

1. I attest that the information contained in the UCC Ministerial Profile is true and complete to the best of my knowledge. I understand that any misrepresentation or omission may be grounds for a calling body's declined consideration for, or termination of, a ministry position. I acknowledge that it is my duty in a timely manner to amend the responses and information I have provided if I come to know that a response or information was incorrect when given or if the response or information, though accurate when given is no longer accurate.

2. I understand that I may designate certain Conference and/or Association staff and other persons and entities, to receive and circulate my UCC Ministerial Profile. I authorize all such persons and entities, and/or their agents, to make inquiries regarding all statements contained in my UCC Ministerial Profile. I also authorize all persons, entities, former employers, committees on ministry and their agents, courts, law enforcement and other public agencies to respond to inquiries concerning me and to supply verification of the information provided in my UCC Ministerial Profile. I understand that such persons may comment on and state their opinions regarding my background and character to those who execute the search process, such as members of a calling body or judicatory staff persons. To encourage such persons to speak openly and responsibly, I hereby release them from all liability arising from their responses and comments made in good faith and without malice.

Signature

[On File](#)

Name

DONALD WAYNE MORGAN

Timestamp

Wednesday, August 27, 2014 4:35 PM

Contact Information

Email Address

pastordonmorgan@gmail.com

Full Name

Donald Wayne Morgan

Preferred Name

Don

I Prefer To Be Contacted By

Email Address

Addresses

107 Peacock Ave
Lexington, North Carolina 27292
United States

Type

Personal

Primary

Mailing

Phone Numbers

Number	Extension	Type	Primary
8604805674		Mobile Phone	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Ecclesiastical Authorization for Ministry

I am a member of First Congregational UCC Church in Red Oak , Iowa United States.

I am an Ordained Minister with full standing in the United Church of Christ. I was ordained on May 13, 1984 . My current standing is held in the Iowa Conference by the IA Southwestern Association.

Verification

The minister's standing is current and the candidate is deemed fit for ministry in and on behalf of the United Church of Christ.

A current criminal background check is attached at this time.

To the best of my knowledge, current employment information is accurate.

To the best of my knowledge, the background disclosure statement is accurate.



 My signature below attests to the above four items.

Signature

[On File](#)

Name

Jonna Jensen

Timestamp

Friday, February 8, 2019 4:47 PM

Title

Associate Conference Minister

Conference

Iowa

Association

IA Southwestern

Ministry Essays

Some essay questions reference [The Marks of Faithful and Effective Authorized Ministers at the United Church of Christ](#).



The United Church of Christ recognizes *The Marks of Faithful and Effective Authorized Ministers* in the formation of ministers, in the practice of active ministry, and throughout life. For the purposes of completing a denominational Profile, ministers are asked to spend some time with the *Marks*.

My sense of being called by God and the church to authorized ministry (from "Exhibiting a Spiritual Foundation and Ongoing Spiritual Practice" section).

I like many, was brought up in the church, in a small rural church with its roots in the Christian side of the Congregational/Christian church. In that tradition we practiced adult or of age baptism so at the age of 9 I was baptized and became a member of the church, however, it was not until the age of 15 that I had, what some would call, the Saul type conversion experience, at the same time I became affiliated with a nondenominational ministry whose founder and pastor was a woman name Cora Smith. I give credit to her and her ministry for my early spiritual development. At the age of 16 I felt the inner press to be more than what we are all called to be and that is witnesses to the gospel of Christ but to proclaim, to minister the gospel and I accepted that call. I became pastor of my first church at the age of 20, at the age of 30 I felt again a strong press to reconnect with the United Church of Christ so I entered seminary and was called to my first UCC congregation and have been a devoted, committed UCC pastor every since.

My concept of covenant and how it informs the nature, purpose, and polity of the United Church of Christ (from "Nurturing UCC Identity" section).

To me Covenant means that we are all in this thing together, as members of a local congregation, pastors,

associations, conferences and the national setting of the church. Covenant does not mean that we are cut with cookie cutters or that we rubber stamp anything in our covenanted relationship, but what it does mean is that while we celebrate our diversity and autonomy we agree to be the United and Uniting Church of Christ to work together for justice while spreading the gospel that is the good news of Christ's love.

I am passionate about ...

I am passionate about preaching and about being with and serving God's people.

Reflect on your personal and professional formation for ministry in light of any mark from another section.

A healthy sense of self as shaped by God, community, and personal experience. I am gay and I have been gay since before I knew what being gay was and being black and gay was a double whammy perhaps all over but particularly in the small town and community in the south where I grew up. Needless to say the community and the church fostered a very negative self-image within me and it caused me to struggle with my sexuality. I grew up hearing all of the condemning sermons and even after I was compelled into the ministry I struggled and did not understand how God could use me in ministry and condemn me at the same time. It was not until I was in my early twenties that I gained a positive sense of self. I will share with you how God brought that about: I was on my way home from a church service one Friday night very late, a service where I had heard yet another condemning sermon and it was all I could take and on the way home that night I had to cross a very well know bridge in NC and as I drove I was in tears and crying out to God and I said that if God did not do something before I got to that bridge I was going to drive my car over into the water beneath it. The bridge sat at to bottom of steep hill and when I crest the top of that hill to begin my decent a light surrounded my car and I heard God's voice say "you are my child and I love you" and it was that time that redefined who I was within but it did not change the church as I saw it. When I began to get more involved in the UCC and served on committees and boards on the association, conference and national level and particularly when I became a part of the staff of Back Bay Mission I was really opened up to not just the God who affirmed me but to know a church that affirmed me and finally developed a very healthy sense of self that I have maintained and for that I am thankful.

Educational Formation for Ministry



In the following section I include a record of my Formal Education, any Regional Education Training Programs, or other formative educational experiences I have completed, as well as Continuing Education.

Formal Education

Institution / Program

Shaw Divinity School

Start Date of Attendance

1980

City

Raleigh

End Date of Attendance

1984

Region

North Carolina

Degree / Certification Earned

Bth

Country

United States

.....
Institution / Program



Interdenominational Theological Center

Start Date of Attendance

1991

City

Atlanta

End Date of Attendance

1993

Region

Georgia

Degree / Certification Earned

Certificate Of Theology

Country

United States

Regional Theological Educational Programs and Formative Educational Experiences

Program / Experience

Pastor's School, Lancaster Theological Seminary

City

Lancaster

Start Date of Attendance

1985

Region

Pennsylvania

End Date of Attendance

1986

Country

United States

Professional Development

Continuing Education

Boundary Training

Community and Wider Church Involvement

Chair of Habitat For Humanity, New Iberia, La Conference Minister Search Committee's Southern Conference and South Central Conference Board of Directors former UCC BHM Search Committee for both UCC General Minister and Presidents Keynote speaker for MI conference annual meeting in 2008

Awards, Honors, and Publications

25 years of ordained ministry in the UCC

Vocational History



Below find a full history of my Vocational experiences, including Key Accomplishments for up to 3 selected experiences. All ecclesiastical service is listed.

Location / Setting

First Congregational UCC

Start Date of Service

2013

City

Red Oak

End Date of Service

CURRENT

Region
Iowa

Title / Position
Pastor

Country
United States

Job Type
Part-Time

Location / Setting
Warren Congregational UCC

Start Date of Service
2011

City
Warren

End Date of Service
2013

Region
Connecticut

Title / Position
Pastor

Country
United States

Job Type
Full-Time

Location / Setting
St. John UCC

Start Date of Service
2008

City
Elkhart

End Date of Service
2011

Region
Indiana

Title / Position
Pastor

Country
United States

Job Type
Full-Time

Location / Setting
Back Bay Mission

Start Date of Service
1996

City
Biloxi

End Date of Service
2008

Region
Mississippi

Title / Position
Director of Volunteer Services

Country
United States

Job Type
Full-Time

Location / Setting
Teche Area Ministries UCC

Start Date of Service
1990

City

End Date of Service

New Iberia

1996

Region

Louisiana

Title / Position

Senior Pastor

Country

United States

Job Type

Full-Time

Location / Setting

Pleasant Union UCC

Start Date of Service

1987

City

Raleigh

End Date of Service

1990

Region

North Carolina

Title / Position

Pastor

Country

United States

Job Type

Part-Time

Location / Setting

Shepard Electric Supply Co

Start Date of Service

1987

City

Raleigh

End Date of Service

1990

Region

North Carolina

Title / Position

Perching Agent

Country

United States

Job Type

Full-Time

Location / Setting

Franklington Center UCC at Bricks

Start Date of Service

1983

City

Enfield

End Date of Service

1987

Region

North Carolina

Title / Position

Site Manager

Country

United States

Job Type

Full-Time

Location / Setting

New Bethle UCC

Start Date of Service

1980

City
Raleigh

End Date of Service
1983

Region
North Carolina

Title / Position
Pastor

Country
United States

Job Type
Part-Time

Location / Setting
Electric Supply Co

Start Date of Service
1979

City
Raleigh

End Date of Service
1983

Region
North Carolina

Title / Position
Perching Agent

Country
United States

Job Type
Full-Time

Location / Setting
Wake Raleigh Headstart

Start Date of Service
1976

City
Raleigh

End Date of Service
1979

Region
North Carolina

Title / Position
Handicap Program Coordinator

Country
United States

Job Type
Full-Time

Location / Setting
Whitaker Textile Mill

Start Date of Service
1974

City
Raleigh

End Date of Service
1976

Region
North Carolina

Title / Position
Machine Operator/Quality Control Tech/Quality Control Supervisor

Country
United States

Job Type
Full-Time

Location / Setting

Start Date of Service

Naomi Textile Mill

1972

City
 Zebulon

End Date of Service
 1974

Region
 North Carolina

Title / Position
 Machine Operator

Country
 United States

Job Type
 Full-Time

Location / Setting
 Western House Electric

Start Date of Service
 1971

City
 Smithfield

End Date of Service
 1972

Region
 North Carolina

Title / Position
 Quality Control Inspector

Country
 United States

Job Type
 Full-Time

Key Accomplishments

Location / Setting
 CHURCH PASTOR

Description

Teche Area Ministries UCC: The Teche Area Ministries was four rural churches in Louisiana and I was Senior Pastor of the four churches, I preached at three of the four church each Sunday. Every Sunday and trained lay ministers to assist in that ministry.

Location / Setting
 BACK BAY MISSION

Description


Worked as volunteer coordinator with Back Bay Mission received an honor from the city of Biloxi for my work in and with the community rehabbing houses before Katrina and rebuilding after Katrina.

Location / Setting
 CHURCH PASTOR

Description

Help the St. John UCC Elkhart, IN through its closure

Specialized Skill Sets I Bring

 Anyone who has marked a Credential below should be able to provide corroborating information in the profile beyond just a basic unit of training.

Name	Passion	Demonstrated Experience	Credential
Committee on Ministry Experience	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>
National Boards and Committees	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>
Open and Affirming	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>
Pastoral Care / Counseling	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Public Speaking	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>
Pulpit Supply	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>
Rural Church Leadership	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>
Yoked or Multiple Parishes	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>

Additional Skill Sets Not Listed Above

References

Email Address

Pastormiller224@aol.com

Full Name

Rev. George Miller

Email Date

August 13, 2014

Address

.....

2029 Arbuckle Creek Rd #24
 Sebring, Florida 33870
 United States

Type
 Personal

Phone

.....

Number **Extension** **Type**
 8632144101 Mobile Phone

Short Answers.....

Role and Relationship to Minister

This minister's areas of strength in the practice of ministry as I experience them are

Preaching. Rev. Morgan exhibits the rare gift of being a preacher who is always true to who he is and yet he is always accessible to whoever the group is. Meaning that he can speak high to the rafters and fill forty-minutes minutes of time, or he can preach soft and melodic and say all there needs to be said in fifteen minutes. Rev. Morgan incorporates a deep understanding of Scripture with relatable stories and a rich baritone voice he often uses for song. He can make one think, laugh, cry and feel filled by the Holy Spirit, all while speaking the truth in love and giving a message that celebrates Jesus Christ.

Some areas for improvement in this minister's practice of ministry in my experience of them are

Understanding of office space and how one arranges or decorates their office does create an immediate impression. Rev. Morgan is not a man of expensive taste and flash, which is fine, but there can be an art form to simplicity and a stack of books that says "Welcome, sit." I chalk this up to Rev. Morgan being a man so focused on God and ministry that he does not always have the time or interest to arrange things. If it came to a stack of papers on his desk or helping someone put up a wall in their house, you can bet Rev. Morgan is going to be there with his hammer and nails.

Describe a significant experience you have had of this person in ministry

In 2013 I was invited to be part of a revival service at Rev. Morgan's church. While there, one of his elders was in hospice. I had the chance to go with Rev. Morgan and visit the man and his family. I was impressed with the gentle pastoral presence and authority Rev. Morgan exhibited when he entered the man's room. It was clear that just his presence made his parishioners feel calmer. Rev. Morgan spoke to the man and his wife with great love and compassion. He did not sugar-coat things, yet he offered words of encouragement and hope. Because everything Rev. Morgan does is Christ-based and not ego-driven, he invited me to lead the family in prayer and it was one of those scared moments one does not forget. At their time of sadness, Rev. Morgan was a calm rock and made all those in the room feel at peace.

Additional Comments

I've known Rev. Morgan since 2002 when I visited Back Bay Mission as an Eden student. I worked alongside Rev. Morgan as we delivered refrigerators and fixed people's homes. He was patient and kind to me, even though I was not adept at manual labor and slower than everyone else. Later that year, Rev. Morgan took his sabbatical at Eden, attending classes/worship services. He encouraged of my pastoral gifts. I returned to Back Bay 3 more times and Rev. Morgan always treated me with respect. We've become peers, encouraging and supporting one another. He preached at my 1st installation service and so impressed the congregation (mostly made up of elderly Dutch folk) that they invited him back 2x more to preach. Rev. Morgan was also invited by the MI conference to be our annual meeting's guest preacher. He is a man who can preach the Gospel and then roll up his sleeves to do gospel.

Submit Date

August 21, 2014

Email Address

JRSchwenke@aol.com

Full Name

James R. Schwenke, Ph.D.

Email Date

August 12, 2014

Address

119 Town Farm Road
New Milford, Connecticut 06776
United States

Type
Personal

Phone

Number	Extension	Type
8603546382		Personal

Short Answers

Role and Relationship to Minister

This minister's areas of strength in the practice of ministry as I experience them are

This is in strong support of Pastor Don W. Morgan who I knew during his time at the Warren Congregational Church in Warren, Connecticut. Pastor Morgan's ministry here was defined by an effort to bring new ideas to the church service and experience, as well as, an energetic delivery of the biblical message. Pastor Don conducts a service and offers a style of sermon that awakens the spiritual soul and charges the spiritual batteries. He provides a welcoming and affirming church environment for all to find God. Pastor Don held Bible studies, introduced a new level of musical worship, and offered spiritual revivals, both at the Warren Congregational Church and at other area churches. All of this was offered with an understanding of our traditional New England ways, yet, politely challenging regular routine.

Some areas for improvement in this minister's practice of ministry in my experience of them are

I would liked to have seen Pastor Don's revival meetings develop to embrace the New England spirit, region and community. Pastor Don's heritage, and it might be fair to say that the revival meeting heritage, comes from Southern regions. I very much liked the idea of a revival meeting and encouraged the effort. However, New England is a difficult venue which usually requires some adaptation. I cannot give a specific example as to how to make that transition, not being a native born New Englander, and still looking for acceptance after 15 years of living here.

Describe a significant experience you have had of this person in ministry

Pastor Don is truly blessed with the Holy Spirit as his helper and personal guide. This is clearly evident in how he lead our church in the worship service and in his interaction with the congregation. We had several personal visits together and in small group gatherings. As I tried to move from industry to consulting, eventually leading into retirement, there were meetings and phone calls to discuss opportunities and direction. Sunday brunch, dinners sitting at his picnic table with the BBQ and restaurant experiences. I have always found him comfortable to talk with about life's issues, problems and concerns. Discussing the Bible with Pastor Don is a comfortable and educational experience. I know Pastor Don to be a warm and empathetic person and, if given the opportunity to come into your life, can provide a positive influence on you.

Additional Comments

Besides the opportunity to worship together in a Christian fellowship, I attend church to sing traditional and new to me hymns and to enjoy a sermon that is biblically based, spiritually challenging and renewing. I expect a sermon to inspire me and to lead me to a better understanding of what the Bible is trying to teach me by using scripture and relevant examples, yet, allowing me the freedom to search my own thoughts. I best appreciate a sermon that puts the message in the context of the biblical setting, and then extends that understanding to our current times with our current and traditional assortment of challenging problems and concerns. Pastor Don's leadership in service and

sermons consistently exceeded my expectations.

Submit Date

August 19, 2014

Email Address

bobchambers@mediacombb.net

Full Name

Barbara Chambers

Email Date

August 12, 2014

Address

15 Kelly Circle
Shenandoah, Iowa 51601
United States

Type
Other

Phone

Number	Extension	Type
7122159012		Personal

Short Answers

Role and Relationship to Minister

This minister's areas of strength in the practice of ministry as I experience them are

*Pastor Don is deeply spiritual and religious. He shares his faith effectively. His sermons are scripture-based, inspired and inspiring, and relevant. Frequently his message touches upon something that has been a concern for me. *We liberally apply UCC's motto "no matter who you are or where you are ... you are welcome here". He adapted to the challenges of serving a congregation with broad interpretations of what it is to be a person of faith. He admits that some of his thinking has been challenged, but that his faith has also been broadened. Even so, Christ is obviously the prime influence of his faith journey *He rolls up his sleeves and works at dinners and other activities. *He is flexible and adaptable, assuming duties he was accustomed to having done by committees or clerical support. *He has actively promoted our church to increase awareness of who and where we are.

Some areas for improvement in this minister's practice of ministry in my experience of them are

I see an experienced, practiced minister in Pastor Don. He has been in the ministry for 30 years. Life is a process of changing and growing for all of us. We should always seek ways to improve ourselves. I believe he has grown through his experience with our church, and he will grow with each new experience. I can think of no particular areas of growth that he needs to work on.

Describe a significant experience you have had of this person in ministry

Pastor Don has a passion for Gospel music – something to which our congregation has not been exposed very much. He plays the piano and sings and has composed many Gospel songs. He started a Gospel choir soon after he came



to us. He does not require great singers; the only requirement is to love music and to sing out with joy. It took the choir members several sessions to "get into" the music, but it is joyous music to sing. It has been particularly rewarding to see the congregation smiling and swaying and clapping with the music. It added a new dimension to our worship experience.

Additional Comments

Our congregation hired Pastor Don in good faith in December 2013, knowing that we are a small church with financial issues, and believing that he could help us grow our membership and finances. Given the opportunity, I believe he could, for he has already brought some new faces to our church, and he has begun to implement some cost-saving measures as well as implementing an on-line donation capability. Unfortunately, we underestimated the extent of our situation. The cost of supporting a full-time pastor is too great for us to sustain. We love Pastor Don, and under normal circumstances we would choose to have him as our pastor for as long he chose to remain. But he and we must consider his well-being.

Submit Date

August 15, 2014

Self-Appraisal

Some Areas of Strength in My Practice of Ministry

I would count my preaching skills as a definite strength, I am able to adapt my preaching style to meet the needs of the congregation that I am ministering too. Another strength is my love for serving God's people. I am not afraid of new things nor am I afraid of change. My love for music can also be counted as a strength. I have good people skills and work well with others and I am very self-disciplined.....

Some Areas for Growth in My Practice of Ministry

All areas. I have been in the ministry for over 40 years but I am not perfect and never will be, so I will always be in need of growth in all my practice of ministry. I am not the most organized person there is and that is an area that I need to work on.

A Meaningful Experience I Have Had in Ministry

My time at Back Bay Mission was very meaningful. I had an opportunity to interact with a number of our congregations from many partss of the country. Also, I would say that my call to the First Congregational UCC of Red Oak, IA has been a meaningful experience. It is the first call that I have received as a totally openly Gay man, and it has been wonderful to be able to minister as who I am.

Additional Comments

I am in hopes of finding a church that is a good fit for me and I for them where I can spend the 5-10 years of my ministry giving them all I have to give loving and serving them and our God.

Self-Disclosure

 **Ministers completing a United Church of Christ Ministerial Profile must make a conscientious assertion about their ethical performance and are given space for relevant commentary.**

In your response to the "Vocational History" question in the profile, did you omit any ecclesiastical employment?

No

Have you ever been the subject of a fitness review in any entity affiliated with or setting of the United Church of Christ that resulted in:

Censure

No

Suspension

No

Termination of Ministerial Standing

No

Are you currently engaged in a program of growth as the result of a fitness review in the United Church of Christ?

No

Are there any fitness reviews pending against you at this time by any setting or entity of or affiliated with the United Church of Christ?

No

Have you ever been the subject of an official disciplinary proceeding by another denomination, professional association, credentialing body, guild or employer that resulted in disciplinary action?

No

Are there any official disciplinary proceedings pending against you at this time by another denomination, professional association, credentialing body, guild or employer?

No

Have you ever been the subject of a civil law suit alleging that you attempted or actually engaged in sexual discrimination, harassment, exploitation, or misconduct; physical abuse; child abuse; or financial misconduct; which has ever resulted in a judgment being entered against you, settled out of court, or dismissed because the statute of limitations had expired?

No

Have you had your driving license suspended or revoked within the last 5 years?

No

Have you ever been found guilty of, pled guilty to, or pled no contest to criminal charges? (Exclude convictions that have been sealed, expunged or legally eradicated; any misdemeanor conviction for which probation was successfully completed; offenses about which inquiry is not permissible in the state in which you are seeking a position; acts of civil disobedience. With respect to driving record, only include matters of reckless driving, driving while intoxicated and/or driving under the influence of a controlled substance.)

No

Has your employment, a volunteer position, or professional credentials, ever been terminated or revoked, or have you been asked not to return to employment or a volunteer position in the future because you attempted or actually engaged in:

Sexual discrimination, harassment, exploitation or misconduct

No

Physical abuse

No

Child abuse

No

Financial misconduct

No

Have you ever terminated your employment, a volunteer position, or professional credentials in order to avoid facing or to avoid being terminated because of charges of actual or attempted:

Sexual discrimination, harassment, exploitation or misconduct

No

Physical abuse

No

Child abuse

No

Financial misconduct

No

Are there any facts or circumstances involving you or your background that should be disclosed and/or further reviewed before you are entrusted with the responsibilities of ministry on behalf of a calling body of the United Church of Christ?

No

If you answered yes to any of the above questions, please provide detailed explanation for all such affirmative answers. In addition to providing other relevant material, be sure to include dates and information for related official decisions, actions, reviews, etc. (by you and/or other parties) that affected your employment and/or ministerial standing and/or professional credentials.

Criminal Background Check

Attached

Report Date

March 9, 2018

Expiration Date

September 9, 2019

Supplemental Material



You are invited to include below what is relevant to interpreting your history, whether Criminal Background Check information or Vocational History. You are also invited to include for the Calling Body's awareness, any special factors not mentioned elsewhere.

Interpreting The History

I was on the staff of Back By Mission in Biloxi, MS for 13 years and then I made the decision to go back into the parish ministry in 2008. I am on my 3 call since 2008, the first was St John's UCC, Elkhart, In. St John was a

wonderful congregation, however they were having serious financial problems that were massed by a sizable endowment when they call me and after three years of living of the endowment the church closed. Then I was called to the Warren Congregational UCC, Warren, Ct., The Warren church was also a wonderful congregation but one that was not sure of its identity. They said when they called me that they were "An Open and Welcoming" congregation, that they welcomed anyone regardless of race, gender or sexual orientation into full membership of the church but that they would not allow same sex weddings (which were legal in CT) in the church or on church property, and that I could accept. I did not feel compelled to disclose that I was gay to the search committee. After about 1 year I made that disclosure to the Governing Board and was affirmed by each of them and about 1.5 years into my call a gay couple came to worship with us and the net week came to my office and asked if I felt that they would be welcomed as members of the church and I told them the church policy and they accepted it and joined the church but were not well received by some in the church even some in leadership positions and about 6 months as members this couple decided to celebrate 25


Additional Comments

years together by getting married and asked me to officiate the wedding in their home and I consented to do so. Many in leadership in the church then turn on me and said that by officiating the wedding I affirmed the gay lifestyle and that the church had made it clear that it was not Open And Affirming and then they revisited the disclosure issue and said that I lied to the search committee and that was the beginning of the end of my ministry at Warren we just could not get pass all of that.

Optional Web Presence

URL	Type	Primary
https://www.facebook.com/photo.php?v=4591471565406&set=vb.1850658313&type=2&theater	Personal	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
https://www.facebook.com/photo.php?v=1763993640225&set=vb.1850658313&type=2&theater	Blog	<input type="checkbox"/>

Closing Thoughts

 You are invited to share a prayer or dream for the community which you imagine serving ... a poem, a Scripture passage, or a piece of music that is meaningful to you.

Closing Thoughts

I am searching again after 4 years at First Congregational of Red Oak. The church has reach a point that it will no longer be able to support a full time pastor or even continue to worship in its present location. This is very unfortunate because it is such a wonderful church. The problem is that the church is an ONA very liberal congregation with gay, former Buddhist, former Pagans and former fundamentalist as members but it is in a very Conservative town and part of the country and there is not a base to draw from for church growth and the finances are just not there to support it.

Attachments



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www.oxforddoc.com

FINAL REPORT CRIMINAL RECORDS CHECK

March 9, 2018

UCC Ministerial Excellence Support & Authorization - (#784)

ATTN: The Rev. Holly MillerShank

700 Prospect Avenue

Cleveland, OH 44115

RE: Donald Wayne Morgan

Location: Clergy

Dear Ms. MillerShank:

We have completed the background investigation on the above-named person in accordance with your request. We are reporting results for the following research services performed:

Criminal - County	Montgomery	IA	Clear
Criminal - County	Litchfield CT	Searched 11/14	Clear
Criminal - County	Elkhart IN	Searched 05/13	Clear
Criminal - Federal	IA	Southern District	Clear
Criminal - Federal	CT Federal District	Searched 11/14	Clear
Criminal - Federal	IN Northern District	Searched 05/13	Clear
Criminal - State	IA	Statewide	Clear
Criminal - State	CT Statewide	Searched 11/14	Clear
Criminal - State	IN Statewide	Searched 05/13	Clear
National Background	Criminal Directory		Clear
Sexual Predator			Clear
SSN Trace			Clear

This report is submitted with the understanding that it is to be held in strict confidence. Except as may be required by law, no information in this report may be revealed directly or indirectly to any third parties not involved in the current decision-making process.

Oxford Document Management has used good faith in attempting to obtain the information in this report from sources deemed reliable. Because this information is secured from and managed by fallible sources (human and otherwise), Oxford Document Management cannot be either an insurer or a guarantor of the accuracy of the information reported. The employees of Oxford Document Management are not allowed to render opinions regarding information contained in this report.

If you have further questions about this file, please feel free to call.

Respectfully yours,

Robert G. Leverentz

Vice President