



UNITED CHURCH
of Marco Island

CHURCH PROFILE FOR SETTLED SENIOR MINISTER

United Church of Marco Island was founded on the concept that more unites us together in Christ than does divide. Still today, we are united in spirit, service, and fellowship together.

“

Our mission is to celebrate God's presence and serve all people!

”



SEARCH COMMITTEE CHAIR:

John Campbell, Moderator

CONFERENCE STAFF LIAISON:

Rev. S. LaTrell Harrison
Associate Conference Minister, Florida Conference, UCC
9300 University Blvd., Orlando, FL 32817
(404) 734-4986 | LHarrison@uccfla.org



Table of Contents

Position Responsibilities and Expectations	03
Church Membership & Attendance	05
Church Staff	06
Financial Health	07
Who Are We?	08
Who Is Our Neighbor?	09
Who Is God Calling Us To Be?	09
Congregational Life	10
Music Ministry and Worship Technology	11
"About the Organ"	12
Ministries and Fellowship	13
The Bargain Basket Thrift Shop	15
Youth Ministry	15
Missions and Giving	16
Church Facilities	17
The New Disseler Hall	18
Community Characteristics	19



SENIOR MINISTER

POSITION RESPONSIBILITIES AND EXPECTATIONS

Position Summary:

The Senior Minister of United Church of Marco Island is a called, full-time clergy position responsible to the congregation through the Executive Committee. The Senior Minister serves as both the spiritual and operational leader of the Church. The Senior Minister preaches the Gospel, administers the sacraments, and leads the worship services of the church. Additionally, the Senior Minister provides for the spiritual and financial welfare of the Church and its entities as well as oversees the various aspects of Church life. The Senior Minister is empowered to employ such staff as needed for the efficient operation of the Church. This leader provides both the direction and inspiration in guiding staff, leadership, and members of the congregation.

United Church boasts of a dynamic, experienced, and talented professional staff. A centered and secularly apolitical church, we are a congregation of different political affiliations, backgrounds, and faith stories. We hope to call a settled minister who can help us continue to build on our significant momentum at this time in the life of our church's journey in ministry.

Personal Characteristics:

The ideal candidate for this position will be a person of strong personal faith; will be a person with daily energy for ministry in a church that is very active; will be a person with a history of successful experience in a programmatic church; and will be a person who preaches and teaches in insightful, thoughtful, and inspiring ways. Marco Island, Florida, is consistently considered to be one of the most beautiful places to live anywhere, but the most beautiful experience that awaits this candidate is the faithfulness of the congregation that is this church.



SENIOR MINISTER

POSITION RESPONSIBILITIES AND EXPECTATIONS

Key Responsibilities:

- Worship service planning and leadership
- Develop and deliver inspirational and relatable sermons
- Operational oversight and staff management at the Church and Bargain Basket
- Coordination of and officiating at weddings, baptisms, funerals, and memorial services
- Teach, particularly multiple weekly Bible studies, book group and talks/seminars
- Build on the significant momentum that has been gained in church ministries
- Attract new attendees, members and faithful stewards

Qualifications:

- Ordained Minister with previous pastoral experience
- Outstanding preaching and worship leadership skills
- Ability to relate to a diverse cross section of congregants, theologies, and backgrounds
- Administrative competence
- Competence in information technology
- Significant knowledge and experience in staff supervision and staff development
- Knowledge and experience in church financial management
- Excellent oral, written and interpersonal communication skills

Compensation:

- Total compensation range \$95,000 - \$125,000
- Benefit package
- Parsonage or housing allowance



CHURCH MEMBERSHIP AND ATTENDANCE



	Membership	Weekly Worship Attendance
2019 (Pre-Covid)	375	211
March 2023	502	642 In-Person and Online

Like many churches, United Church of Marco Island adopted a hybrid worship model during the pandemic, allowing our congregants to safely worship online. Since 2020, we have upgraded and improved our worship technology to make the online experience comparable to enjoying worship in-person. We never once let the pandemic slow down our ministries. In fact, finding new and exciting ways to engage the congregation in a safe way allowed our membership to grow significantly.

Marco Island has a highly seasonal population, with in-person worship attendance growing steadily beginning in the fall. January-April are the busiest months, whereas typical in-person summer worship attendance is around 200. An additional 8:15am Sunday worship beginning in October and running through Easter allows all the opportunity to worship in a comfortable setting.



STAFF

Senior Minister

Director of Operations

Music Director

Worship Accompanist *

Congregational Caregiver

Administrative Assistant

Finance Assistant *

IT and Marketing Coordinator *

Children's Ministry Coordinator *

Facilities Manager *

Bargain Basket Staff:

Operations Manager

Floor Manager

Processing Associate (2) *

Shift Leaders (2) *

...And 195 Volunteers

*Indicates Part-Time Staff



FINANCIAL HEALTH

2022 Church Income	\$837,310
Bargain Basket Income	\$1,399,059
Church Expenses	\$1,142,565
Bargain Basket Expenses	\$481,224

Since 1968, generosity has been a core value at United Church of Marco Island. The congregation's passion and enthusiasm for United Church and its divine mission to partner with God to bring more heaven to earth.

The United Church of Marco Island is blessed with an Endowment Fund that is our primary legacy giving opportunity. In addition, five other key funds are an inspirational gift to United Church today, and will be in the future.



WHO ARE WE?

- We are a church founded on the core idea that more “unites” us together in Christ than divides us. We are a congregation of many diverse faith backgrounds, stories, and perspectives.
- We are a secularly apolitical church that believes in the “higher” politics of our faith that is very much unlike the politics of our world.
- We are a church that is growing in our spiritual lives through Bible Studies and Christian education programs. We are also a church that is growing in participation. Over the past 9 years, we have received over 35 new member each year.
- We are a church that values traditional worship with a liturgy that is neither too high, nor too low. Our worships services are very sacred yet also very relational in nature.
- We are a church that is friendly, welcoming, inclusive, and open to all people.
- We are a church that cares for one another, and we enjoy being together in life’s fun moments, as well as in life’s hard moments.
- We are a church that seeks to partner with God to bring heaven to earth in the lives of those in need in our community. Service and stewardship are important to us. Last year, we gave away over \$500,000 to people and organizations in need.



WHO IS OUR NEIGHBOR?

Generally speaking, Marco Island is a beautiful retirement community that attracts very successful and gifted people. Many on Marco Island are “seasonal” in that they live in Florida for 3–8 months out of the calendar year. We sometimes refer to them as snowbirds. In nearby South Naples, the area along Highway 951 is booming in growth, and many of our new members are joining our church from this growing area. In addition to retirees, there are some families on Marco Island and some working in careers. Issues of hunger and affordable housing are challenges that many just outside our area must deal with every day. Our church is engaged in these concerns and looks for ways to give and serve so that neighbors can be loved.

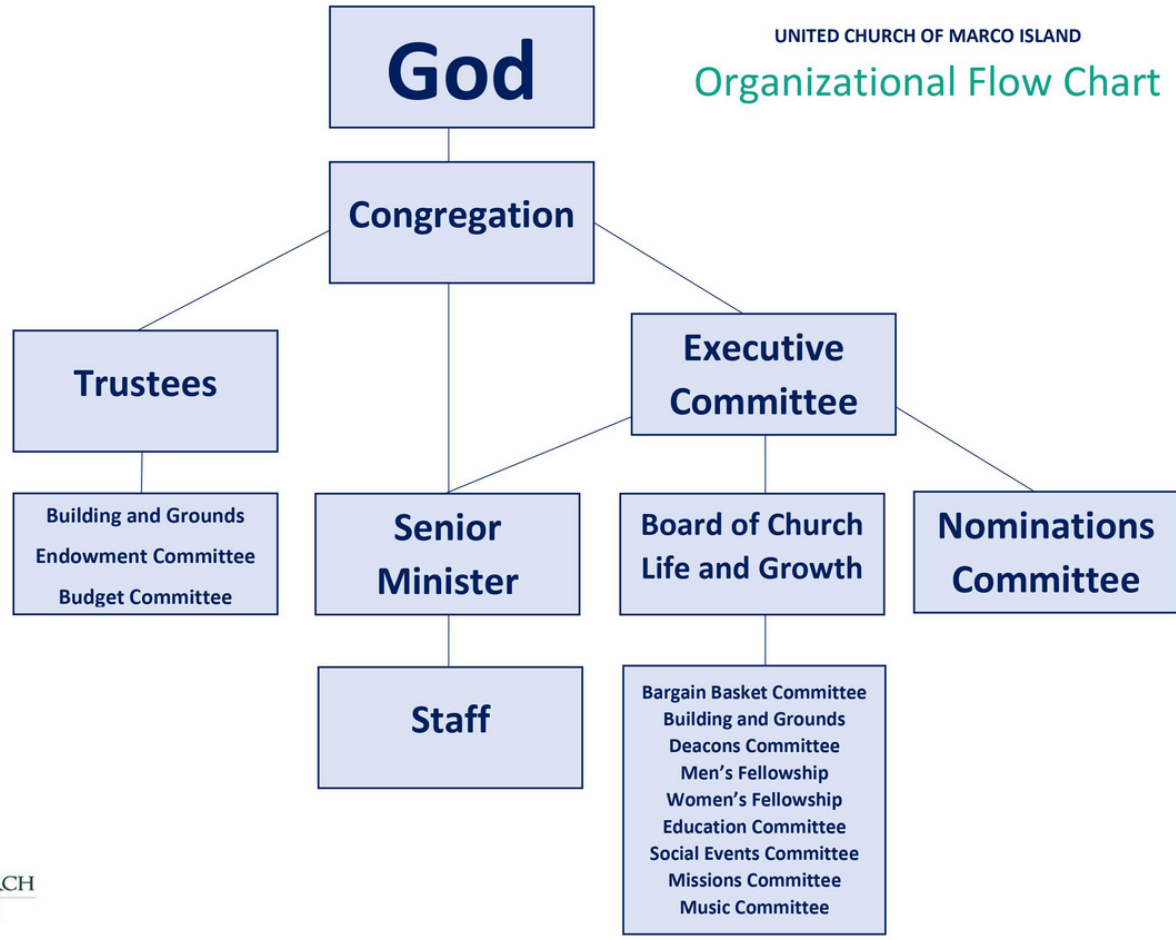
WHO IS GOD CALLING US TO BE?

- God is calling us to deepen our faith and learn more about our discipleship journey.
- God is calling us to continue our history of mission and service at our Bargain Basket Thrift Store and in our local community.
- God is calling us to include all people in our fellowship.
- God is calling us to continue to grow our church’s witness so that more can be part of our mission.
- God is calling us to improve and enhance our children’s programming.
- God is calling us to support an inspirational music ministry.
- God is calling us to be present for others and to care for others in their hardships.
- God is calling us to build on our technology, streaming, zooming, and communication initiatives.



CONGREGATIONAL LIFE

UNITED CHURCH OF MARCO ISLAND
Organizational Flow Chart



Most committees meet at least once a month, including the Board of Trustees and the Executive Committee. The majority of positions on these Boards and Committees comprise of a three-year term with the possibility of an additional one-year term. Church officers serve a two-year term and Members of the Board of Trustees, a three-year term, and are elected by the congregation at its annual meeting. Over 70 members volunteer for these leadership positions.



MUSIC MINISTRY AND WORSHIP TECHNOLOGY



The mission of our music ministry is to proclaim the word of God through music. The music ministry is not an object to be admired so much as an instrument to teach, comfort, inspire, motivate and lift up the spoken word of God.



A chancel choir, handbell choir and chimes choir along with solo musicians and guest musicians provide exceptional music at worship services throughout the year. Our annual concert series features talented performers and artists from around the world. We proudly host the Naples Philharmonic on two occasions throughout the season.

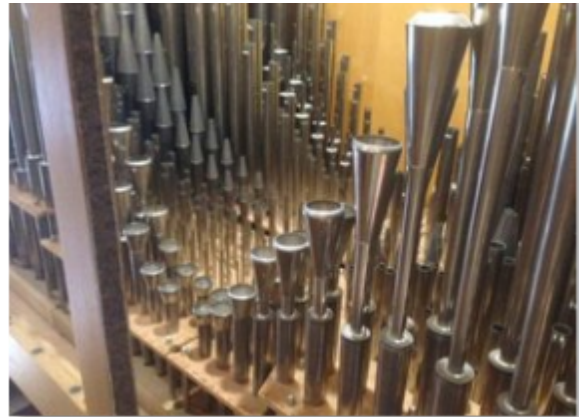


Worship services are carefully planned so that music, worship and livestream production are interwoven in a creative spirit. United Church of Marco Island has a state-of-the art audio/visual system, multi-camera recording, and comprehensive web publishing of sermons in video and audio formats. In November of 2020, UCMI began livestreaming services on Youtube and Facebook Live. We later upgraded our technological infrastructure with increased audio/visual capabilities.



MUSIC MINISTRY

ABOUT THE ORGAN



Born in Zurich, Switzerland, Hellmuth Wolff (1937–2013) worked for Charles Fisk of Gloucester, Massachusetts, before emigrating to Canada in 1963 and establishing his own firm in 1968 in Laval, Quebec. Between 1968 and 2008, Wolff designed, built, and installed fifty instruments in churches, universities, concert halls, and homes across North America.

The organ at UCMI is the only pipe organ on Marco Island and was solely designed, built, and installed by Hellmuth Wolff in 1997. Of the 50 instruments he built, ours was Opus 41 (#41). It is a two manual tracker style organ, which represents a direct action between depressing the key and the release of air through the corresponding pipe. Our organ has 22 stops and 26 ranks.

Currently, the organ is tuned and maintained twice a year by Friedemann Buschbeck of Tampa, Florida (originally from Dresden, Germany) who specializes in tracker organs. He recently tuned our instrument and commented that we have a very fine instrument, well designed for our space.

Our organist Chris Moore says, “I find it a wonderful organ with a great sound. It has been a real joy for me to play.”

Several people who were originally involved with the project are still attending UCMI and frequently comment on how proud they are to have made such a wonderful investment for the church. It is universally enjoyed by the entire congregation and frequently used in cooperation with the Naples Philharmonic for their outreach concerts that are part of our Concert Series.



MINISTRIES AND FELLOWSHIP

Bible Study

Bible Study programming provides thoughtful reflection, healthy dialogue, and lively discussion. Multiple sessions, including a Zoom session, allows all to participate.

Card Caring Ministry

Consists of a group of congregants passionate about caring for others. This group meets monthly but works continuously to make phone calls and send cards to those in need of prayer and encouragement.

Crafting Group

The crafting group meets weekly during the season to engage in fellowship, while making beautiful creations. The group holds an annual Bazaar featuring their homemade items. The proceeds from this event benefit local missions.

Men's Fellowship

The UCMi Men's Ministry exists to bring men together in fellowship with one another for the purpose of growing stronger in friendship and faith. The men's group gathers each month for breakfast and plans engaging programming that welcomes all in the congregation and community.



MINISTRIES AND FELLOWSHIP

"Mending Hearts" Grief Support

Mending Hearts Together is an informal, weekly support group for anyone who has experienced loss in their life. This series of meetings focuses on some self-care tools and practices that can assist in processing our grief.

Social Events

Many festivities are planned throughout the year by our Social Events Committee. From holiday gatherings, to celebrations, to fellowship following services, the Committee is dedicated to making everyone who walks through our doors feel welcome and part of our warm and caring worship community.

Women's Fellowship

The Women's Ministry at UCMI exists to bring together women who share laughter, fun and faith with one another. Women's Fellowship lunches and programming provide an opportunity to get to know others at UCMI and within the community while growing in Christian love together.

Worship Assistants

The UCMI Deacons are responsible for assisting the Senior Minister and others to help facilitate weekly worship services, funerals, and weddings. In addition to serving as a deacon, volunteers can sign up to bless our Sunday worship as a greeter or a scripture reader.

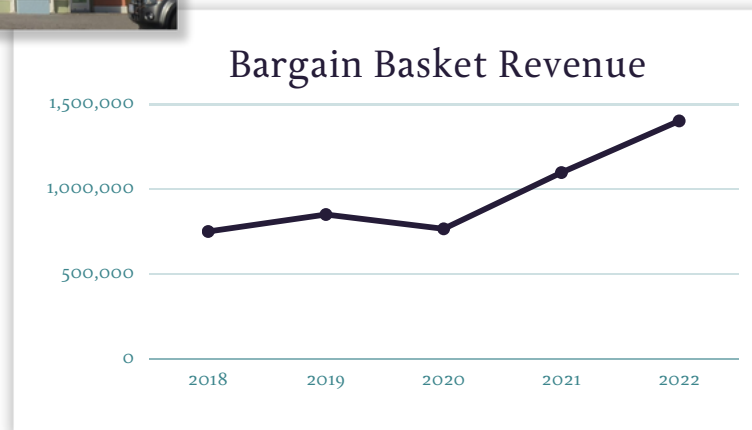


MINISTRIES

Bargain Basket Thrift Shop



The Bargain Basket Thrift Shop is a ministry arm of the United Church of Marco Island and is the long standing thrift store on Marco Island. The proceeds from the Bargain Basket are used to further advance the ministry of UCMI and to support our ministry partners both locally and nationally. Since 1975, The Bargain Basket Thrift Shop has operated successfully because of its volunteers and donors. Today, nearly 200 volunteers help make the store operate. Through the generous donations from our community, we are able to maintain our reputation as Marco Island's premier thrift shop.



Youth Ministry



Prior to COVID-19, the Youth Ministry at UCMI was active and growing. Programs included Sunday School, a Children's Choir and a popular Vacation Bible School. The youth took part in community services such as a beach clean up, Christmas caroling for congregation shut-ins and craft projects to raise funds for children in need, to name just a few. We were proud to have a group of youth undergo a period of study and personal reflection during a series of Confirmation classes that resulted in them becoming more active participants in our congregation. A continued goal is to increase participation in our youth ministry.



MINISTRIES

Missions Committee



The Missions Committee is responsible for highlighting the missions of the Church to the congregation, the community, and the world. After thorough review, the Missions Committee selects organizations that will be supported by the Missions budget and special offerings throughout the year as well as the amount of support to be given. Church members also provide “hands on” mission by volunteering at many of our local mission partners, demonstrating our faith in action.

RECENT UNITED CHURCH AND BARGAIN BASKET MISSION GIVING

Hurricane Ian Relief	\$164K
Habitat for Humanity of Collier County	\$119K
Our Daily Bread Food Pantry	\$50K
Ukrainian Children’s Poland Orphanage	\$40K
Bargain Basket “In-Kind” Giving	\$42K
Marco Island Dementia Respite Support Program	\$22K
Marco Island Police Foundation	\$18K
Baby Basics of Collier County	\$19K
United Church of Marco Island Student Ministry Internship	\$14K
United Church’s Endowment, Children’s Ministry Mission	\$11K
Naples Neighborhood Health Clinic	\$10K
Joy of Giving	\$10K
Marco Island Center for the Arts, Children’s Scholarships	\$6K
United Church of Christ Wider Missions	\$4K
NACCC Wider Missions	\$4K
Camp Able	\$3K
Shelley’s Simply Sharing	\$3K
UCMI Craft Bazaar Mission Giving	\$3K
Tommie Barfield Elementary School Emergency Fund	\$2K



CHURCH FACILITIES



United Church of Marco Island is nestled in the heart of Marco Island. On one of the many clear sky days, you can spot one of the building steeples from the Jolley Bridge. The steeple, mounted onto the roof of our fellowship hall, has become a landmark for the local community.

Our campus on N. Barfield Drive includes a number of buildings:

- The Sanctuary, graced with a Wolfe Tracker pipe organ and seating for over 400 people, includes an expansive music suite and large Narthex
- Disseler Hall -- the heart of social activity and the Children's Education Wing -- is currently undergoing a total renovation and is expected to re-open in early 2024
- The Memorial Garden sits adjacent to Disseler Hall
- The Administration Building houses church offices and conference rooms
- The Parsonage, a three-bedroom, single-family home
- The Bargain Basket Thrift Shop, situated in a prime location on Bald Eagle Drive



THE NEW DISSELER HALL



KEY PLAN
Mayflower Room



FLA



VICTOR J. LATAVISH, AIA
ARCHITECT

In 2022, the congregation exceeded a fundraising goal of \$1 million toward the renovation of our fellowship hall. The building, "Disseler Hall," is affectionately named after Rev. Dick Disseler, who served the United Church of Marco Island from 1975-1996. During that time, the hall housed everything except the church office. More recently, Disseler Hall has hosted faith programming, social events, and youth education.

Renovations to the area began in April of 2023 and will include major upgrades to the fellowship hall, kitchen, and education classrooms. In addition, the project will feature a new South entrance to the building, better access to the Memorial Garden, and improvements to the breezeway connecting the sanctuary, administration building, and fellowship space. The project is being managed by architect Victor Latavish who has been working with the Disseler Hall Steering Committee for the last two years. Surety Construction is the general contractor for the project.



COMMUNITY CHARACTERISTICS



A part of Florida's Paradise Coast, United Church of Marco Island is situated on a barrier island in the Gulf of Mexico, one of the most beautiful places anywhere. The white sandy beaches and crystal clear water set the stage for a community rich in art and cultural events, where wildlife abounds, sunsets awe, and experiences are magical.

The permanent population of Marco Island is about 16,500, soaring to a peak of 40,000 during the winter season. Congregants of United Church also come from off-island, with many members traveling from Isles of Capri, Fiddler's Creek, Lely, and from other communities around Naples.

They are all a part of what is most uplifting about Marco Island-- a loving, caring, faithful, accepting and enthusiastic congregation that journeys with Christ on a daily basis.



UNITED CHURCH
of Marco Island

Celebrating God's Presence, Serving All People

(239) 394-6572 | 320 N. Barfield Dr. Marco Island, FL 34145 | ucmarco.org