

From: [Laura Smith](#)
To: [Rachael Stevie \(CD\)](#)
Subject: CU-22-00001
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For consideration of CU-22-00001

June 12, 2022

CU – 22 - 00001

My name is Laura Anne Smith Unland and I live at 150 Rein Road. I want to take this time to share what it is like to live next to Mr. and Mrs. Walter and Lynn Davenport, their hay ranch, The Apostolic Faith Church, and Davenport Carpentry Construction Roofing.

I moved into my home on Rein Road in February 2018 when I married my husband, Chad Unland. By all accounts I was excited there was a church next door as I looked forward to such a pleasant neighbor. However, within days of moving into my Rein Road home, I was surprised at the number of cars that moved in and out of the church at all hours of the day and night. I was aware that Mr. and Mrs. Davenport lived in the house as the parsonage, and it was apparent he was operating his construction company out of the church/parsonage, but I became concerned when there were disheveled teenage girls wandering out of the “church” and into the neighborhood at all hours of the day and night after Mr. and Mrs. Davenport moved out of the church in 2019.

Mrs. and Mrs. Davenport lived at the church with her non ambulatory father until March 2019. Then the Davenports moved into the new, very large home with shop they built nearby on McCullough Road, actually within eye sight of the church. It was apparent that the initial move did not include Mrs. Davenport’s non ambulatory father, as his nurses and other professionals were stopping by our house seeking directions and did not understand that the church was actually an address with a patient they with assigned care. There are no house numbers for emergency services or other signage on Rein Road that emergency responders or others can use to identify the church/business/home/farm location. The Apostolic Faith Church signage is very small and located on the west side of the building, facing #6 Road. The move also did not include or effect Mr. Davenports construction operations or hours of operation.

I became so concerned that I started keeping a journal for the teenage girl sightings. One day I was speaking with a neighbor that lives near the Kittitas Highway, he commented without my prompt that he has seen young girls walking down #6 Road, just as I had witnessed myself, and he was

wondering from where they came. I continued to watch for teenagers and became extremely concerned when I tried to talk to one of the girls on the road as she was walking and she appeared drugged, and dirty. It was at that point I reached out to the various state and federal agencies that we are to report "human trafficking". After recording and reporting dozens of disoriented teen girls over 2019 and 2020 to these agencies, it wasn't until COVID lockdown in the summer of 2020 that I reached out to Kittitas County Sheriff's Office for relief for these disoriented and disheveled girls. After speaking with a local sheriff, the girls no longer appeared on the road.

From May 2019 until September 2020, teenage girls were appearing in the church lot and along the side of Rein Road and #6 Road. We would witness cars come and go without staying more than 20 minutes at a time all night long. Single men would walk in the unlocked back door, (visible from my windows) and stay for a while and then leave. Then the next vehicle would pull up and go through the unlocked back door and stay for 20 minutes. It happened multiple times a night and into the sunrise of the morning hours. Then the next day a disheveled teenage girl would stagger out of the church between 2 PM and 3 PM and either cross the road to Mr. Davenport's son Sammy's house or walk down to #6 Road and walk out of my line of vision. This went on for at least two years before I was able to draw it adequate attention.

The traffic patterns haven't changed, and people still come and go through an unlocked door 24/7. It wasn't until late this March 2022 when Davenport cleaned up the lot and moved all the debris, construction materials, camp trailers, lawn mowers, etc. that he uses to hide the activity of that unlocked door and for staging his construction company. He literally changed everything at 141 Rein Road building when he applied for the Conditional Use Permit. History tells us that he will return to his old patterns because he hasn't moved his construction crew off the site and as I was writing this letter, he has again parked a camp trailer parallel to the building to hide parked cars and the unlocked side door.

With all that aside, on any given regular day, being Mr. Davenport/Apostolic Church/Hay Farm/Davenport Constructions neighbor proves Mr. Davenport is not a good neighbor. While Kittitas County Code Enforcement, Community Development Agency and the Assessor Office have continued to turn a blind eye (impunity) to the empire that Mr. Davenport has built himself at 141 Rein Road and allow him to operate without paying property taxes, or complying with local ordinances and permitting processes. Mr. Davenport has probably also been exempt from income tax through IRS codes that allow for non taxable income for pastor's living allowances.

When I search Davenport Construction in SOS there is no mention of all the Davenport Roofing and Construction activity, vehicles, staging, delivery, etc. that happens at 141 Rein Road. Regularly semi truck and trailers will unload roofing materials such as trusses and pallets of roofing materials from the center of Rein Road using forklifts. These forklifts tear up the side of the road breaking down the asphalt and actually denting our culvert. This is a live construction location and Mr. Davenport instructs his workers to use the railroad container for all sorts of prefabbing, fabricating, and staging for the job sites and crew. We hear power saws at 5am in all sorts of wind, weather, rain and snow as they work out of doors on a saw horse. There is a power pole that appears to have a meter on it that separate from the main church. Why isn't this parcel included on the CU sign? Is Davenport Carpentry/Roofing compliant with Labor & Industries for all the fabricating they do at 141 Rein

Road?

Mr. Davenport cut down a beautiful corkscrew willow tree during the spring of 2020 and it is still laying in a pile while they mow the grass around it. There is constantly vehicles such as a white mini van and other flat bed pickups parked near the container. With all the construction materials comes garbage flying into our fences, pasture and water ways on any given day. Headlights in our bedroom windows all night long. Diesel motors idling into the cold dark air, creating asthma attacks for myself.

The parking lot for the church is arranged so that you cannot see from our home if there is anyone parked at the main entrance until they stream out one after another. Events at the church over flow into the parking lot Mr. Davenport uses to stage his construction company which is under our living room and bedroom windows. Multiple campers and assorted trailers have been parked in this lot for weeks and years on end. The first time Mr. Davenport has cleaned up this property in the four and a half years I have lived here was on the days leading up to posting the Conditional Use Application sign.

BUSINESS INFORMATION Business Name: DAVENPORT CARPENTRY, LLC UBI Number:601 954 685
Business Type: WA LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY Business Status: ACTIVE
Principal Office Street Address:700 CHARLTON RD, ELLENSBURG, WA, 98926-7383, UNITED STATES
Principal Office Mailing Address: PO BOX 596, ELLENSBURG, WA, 98926-1917, UNITED STATES
Expiration Date:05/31/2023 Jurisdiction: UNITED STATES, WASHINGTON
Formation/ Registration Date:05/12/1999 Period of Duration: PERPETUAL Inactive Date:
Nature of Business: CONSTRUCTION REGISTERED AGENT INFORMATION
Registered Agent Name: WALTER DAVENPORT
Street Address:610 MCCULLOUGH RD, ELLENSBURG, WA, 98926-9657, UNITED STATES
Mailing Address: PO BOX 596, ELLENSBURG, WA, 98926-1917, UNITED STATES

While performing a cursory search of the Secretary of State's website I do not find anything listed for Apostolic Faith Church. This means there are no by-laws or articles of incorporation on file with the state for public review and they are operating under the radar. They are however, alive and well on Google maps and I can attest to the hours they hold services.

Google Maps locates: Apostolic Faith Church
4.7 stars
3 Google reviews from: Julio Parra, Billy Smith, Amber Frailey.
Church in Kittitas County, Washington
Address: 141 Rein Rd, Ellensburg, WA 98926
You visited 4 years ago
Hours:
Closed · Opens 7PM Wed
Phone: (509) 925-6272

In addition to Mr. Davenport's position as Registered Agent of Davenport Carpentry, he is the pastor of the Apostolic Faith Church. Google Search reveals: Apostolic Faith Church - Washington District

UPCI <https://waupc.com> › Churches Apostolic Faith Church. Ellensburg. Apostolic Faith Church. Pastor Walter Davenport. Contact Information. 509-925-6272. Church Address. 141 Rein Road

As pastor of a church, the IRS allows a pastor housing allowance.

A minister's housing allowance (sometimes called a parsonage allowance or a rental allowance) is excludable from gross income for income tax purposes but not for self-employment tax purposes.

If you receive as part of your salary (for services as a minister) an amount officially designated (in advance of payment) as a housing allowance, and the amount isn't more than reasonable pay for your services, you can exclude from gross income the lesser of the following amounts:

*the amount officially designated (in advance of payment) as a housing allowance;
the amount actually used to provide or rent a home; or
the fair market rental value of the home (including furnishings, utilities, garage, etc.).
The payments officially designated as a housing allowance must be used in the year received.*

Include any amount of the allowance that you can't exclude as wages on line 1 of Form 1040, U.S. Individual Income Tax Return or Form 1040-SR, U.S. Tax Return for Seniors. Enter "Excess allowance" and the amount on the dotted line next to line 1.

If your congregation furnishes housing in kind as pay for your services as a minister instead of a housing allowance, you may exclude the fair market rental value of the housing from income, but you must include the fair market rental value of the housing in net earnings from self-employment for self-employment tax purposes.

For more information on a minister's housing allowance, refer to Publication 517, Social Security and Other Information for Members of the Clergy and Religious Workers.

For information on earnings for clergy and reporting of self-employment tax, refer to Tax Topic 417, Earnings for Clergy. <https://www.irs.gov/faqs/interest-dividends-other-types-of-income/ministers-compensation-housing-allowance/ministers-compensation-housing-allowance>

All things considered; the agricultural use of Davenport's property seems to be the least of our issues. Although Mr. Davenport doesn't seem to have an active market for his hay, and perhaps it isn't even under contract this year. Last fall he moved grazing cattle onto the agricultural portion of the property, and it looked like the cattle were eventually impounded because they were never given proper feed, shelter, or water once it was over grazed. The cows were in distress and finally the Sheriff showed up and then a sales yard or cattle agency showed up with saddled horses, dogs, and a cattle hauler.

I do not object to having a church as my neighbor. Perhaps we could consider a driveway from #6

Road with a living privacy screen on Rein Road. Mr. Davenport needs to provide a reasonable ingress/egress to this property for a church. This property also needs to be occupied by a church that is actually registered with the Secretary of State. We will need to know if they are properly insured for the kind of events they will stage. We will need to know all future plans such as day cares, or other non ambulatory care services, bakery, lawn mowing company, etc. We also need to know if the church will be used as a parsonage. If they expect the pastor/minister to be bi-vocational. And if bi-vocational minister will include more traffic through any sort of business venture. We should consider if another business would even be allowed by a minister that was accepting a non taxable housing allowance as allowed by law.

I do object to whatever plans Mr. Davenport cannot share with us. He has proven to be deceptive and has not been held accountable at a minimum for all the chaos and safety issues he has created in our neighborhood. Or at a higher level, for willfully disregarding the law and usual and customary community development and permitting practices, which include completing all the applications that include his plans for the parcel under the Conditional Use Permit and SEPA.

Shame on the county for not holding Mr. Davenport to the same standards they would hold another church or contractor or business or farm. What kind of bias does this demonstrate? Mr. Davenport has been a licensed contractor in this valley for more than 50 years, he is very familiar with development and permitting processes and it is easily accessed on line. It is up to the tax payer funded agencies to hold Mr. Davenport accountable, not the private citizenry that has to endure his antics, then spend several hours preparing for an unsubstantiated comment period, as appears the case as Davenport's Conditional Use Permit and SEPA applications which do not include the required answers.

Is the comment period even legal when there are so many unanswered legally required questions open on the CUP and SEPA applications?

With all that, "Would YOU be my neighbor?"

Respectfully submitted,

Laura Smith Unland