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| CONGREGATIONAL PROFILE |  |

Enter information directly into this document.

**SAVE the document on your computer with your congregation’s name,   
city and date completed as part of the file name.**

**EMAIL COMPLETED PROFILE to** [**dwendel@thenalc.org**](mailto:dwendel@thenalc.org).

**Keep a copy for your records.**

**Congregation Name and Location**

Name St. James Lutheran Church

Mailing address 1741 S State Street

City Greenfield State/Province IN Zip/Postal Code 46140

Telephone 317.462.7340 Fax N/A

Email address officestjamesnalc@gmail.com

Congregation website stjamesnalc.org

Seeking  Full-time pastor  Part-time pastor  Either full-time or part-time  
Call will be for  Solo pastor  Senior pastor  Associate pastor

**Congregational President or Vice President**

Name Dawn Hahm Title Council President

Mailing address 7021 West Amelia Drive

City New Palestine State/Province Zip/Postal Code

Home phone 317-861-4329 Cell phone 317-902-5253

Email address djhahm@indy.net

**Call Committee Chair**

Name Tracy Guffey

Mailing address 10378 N State Road 9

City Fountaintown State/Province IN Zip/Postal Code 46130

Home phone 317.861.9173 Cell phone 317.371.7478

Email address tracyguffey@sbcglobal.net

**Congregational Demographics**

Number of **paid** staff (full- or part-time): Clergy 1 Lay professionals 1 Secretarial 1

Average worship attendance 46 Average Sunday school attendance 5 kids 10 Adults

**Indicate the type of community in which your congregation is located (is it small town, small city, suburban, large city, farming, industrial, etc.).**

Small suburban city. Mixture of farming and industrial.

**Describe the congregation’s ethnic composition and age distribution.**

Predominantly white congregation; average age 50

**Does the congregation have a clear vision for mission — a clear and shared understanding of where God is leading you? If so, state it as succinctly as possible.**

We do have our mission stated as:

**“To bring people to Christ, encouraging relationships with Him and others.”**

Believe we need a shepherd to help us discern where God is leading us.

**What are the primary goals of your congregation?**

The Congregation discussed this mission at the recent Call Workshop and validated that it is still current and states our goal at a high level.

Specifically, St. James would like to (in no particular order):

* **Grow** **in the Spirit and grow** **the congregation** – in numbers, children, and youth.
* **Build on** the existing **Missions, Benevolence and Outreach** base to be more deliberate in all these areas and expand our impact locally, nationally, and globally.
* **Continue and build on the St. James Care & Prayer ministry**.
* Continue to be a **Welcoming** church with openness and friendliness.
* **Develop Disciples** to create opportunities to share the Gospel and build strong relationships with newer Christians…” **meet people where they are**.”

**Describe your congregation’s worship practice (liturgy, hymns, vestments, music, hymnals, and frequency of Holy Communion).**

Communion every Sunday. Vestments worn at least for the pastor and lay assistant. Liturgy is used both services. Pre-COVID we had two services. The early service (8:30) music was traditional and we carried the cross as we processed to begin and end the service. Late service (10:30) music was contemporary. Everything was printed in the bulletin as we don’t use hymnals and the service is projected on the wall behind the altar. During COVID we have one service and a combination of traditional and contemporary hymns. No bulletins at this time and we are not processing in. We also stream our services. We have a worship leader that is very musically talented and creative as well as a small choir (that participated pre-COVID) and praise band.

**Describe your congregation’s Christian education ministry.**

St James has held an adult Sunday School class during the school year and

lately year around. There has currently been about 15-20 people in

attendance. St James has also been holding a children’s Sunday School class

with one class for all of elementary school age.

In addition we often will hold special classes in the evening for those that

want to attend. Usually 5-10 adults. Some examples include 40 Days of

Purpose or video events with Priscilla Evans Shirer as the host. The

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St James has held an adult Sunday School class during the school year and lately year around. There has currently been about 15-20 people in attendance. St James has also been holding a children’s Sunday School class with one class for all of elementary school age. We also offer Men’s and Women’s Bible study and Christ Care Groups, as well as, 1st Communion, Confirmation, Baptism and New Member classes. On a more sporadic bases we will hold special classes in the evenings for those unable to attend weekday sessions. Usually 5-10 adults. Some examples include 40 Days of Purpose or video events with Priscilla Evans Shirer as the host. The community is always welcome to come.

**Describe the congregation’s current activities for mission and outreach.**

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| **Prayer Team** |
| **Cru (formerly Campus Crusade for Christ) at Bradley University**  Cru is a Christian organization dedicated to spreading the gospel on campuses across the United States and the World. |
| **Wernle Youth & Family Treatment Center**  This residential & outpatient center provides growth and developmental opportunities for troubled youth, ages 10-21. https://www.wernle.org/ |
| **Love INC aka “Love In the Name of Christ.”**  The mission of Love INC is to mobilize local churches to transform lives and communities in the Name of Christ. Our organization bridges resources by working with local churches, agencies, and other community resources. http://loveinc-ghc.org/ |
| **H2O** is a Gap ministry of Love INC  St James offers this year around, in-house ministry that offers pharmacy type needs that are not available with food stamps. |
| **Blessing Box**  A small food pantry that is available 24 hours a day in the lobby of the Greenfield Police Station. The responsibility of filling is passed among a variety of local churches on a monthly basis |
| **The Landing Place**  The Landing is a safe place to give Hancock County youth of our community (ages 13 to 19) hope and real-life strategies and principles to break the cycles of dysfunction and destructive behaviors, while also learning healthy patterns of living. https://thelandingplacehc.com/ |
| **Life Choices**  Life Choices mission is to affirm life through a loving commitment to the spiritual, physical and emotional care of those facing uncertainty in family life or pregnancy. |
| **NALC** |
| **Local Conference** |
| **Local Family Assistance**  Monetary assistance given at the Pastor’s digression for local families needing assistance. |
| **Hope Center Indy**  The Hope Center provides services to women coming out of human trafficking, addictions and other life dominating issues. https://www.hopecenterindy.org/ |
| **GriefShare**  Grief Share is a friendly, caring group of people who will walk alongside you through one of life’s most difficult experiences. You don’t have to go through the grieving process alone. |
| **Christ Is Lord Ministries – Jamaica**  Christ is Lord Ministries has been doing mission work in Jamaica, in the West Indies. The ministry is a congregation of the NALC. |
| **Village of Hope in Haiti**  Village of Hope (VOH) is a Christian fund raising organization committed to supporting programs and ministries that promote excellence in education, spiritual growth and primary health care of Haitians in need in Ganthier community. |
| **Greenfield Women’s Connection Planning Team**  A local chapter of Stonecroft ministries which is an outreach group to unchurched woman. |
| **Ethiopia**  This is a NALC sponsored mission for support of Lutheran Churches in Ethiopia. |

**The NALC is committed to moving away from an institutional understanding of the Church, to the biblical commission to be a community of followers of Jesus who focus on being disciples and making disciples. Which best describes your congregation’s understanding of this movement? [Type an X by the appropriate response]**

Totally unaware

Have heard about it

Have been involved personally

X Some in the congregation are involved, some aren’t

Congregation understands, is on-board and involved

**List the *Top Five Things* your congregations hopes for in its next Pastor**

1. Emphasis on prayer and growth in the Spirit; bringing disciples to Christ and unifying us
2. They need to be a good administrator/leader
3. We need a teacher, leader staying steadfast and true to the Word, inspired by the Gospel. Someone to make the church grow in the Word.
4. Strong theological base
5. A pastor to walk in integrity

**What were the three most significant events in your congregation’s history? Provide the years in which these events happened and why they are important to your congregation.**

1. Changing church leadership four times: 1st pastor called 1967 and served until he retired in 1972, 2nd 1972-1973, 3rd 1974-1992 when retired, 4th 1993-2005, Interim 2006-2008, most recent 2008-2020. Each time there was a change in leadership there was a sense of loss to deal with followed by a time of getting used to someone new with new ideas and new ways to lead resulting in some members leaving.
2. Leaving the ELCA; there were a significant number of members that left and began to attend another nearby church, most of whom had been involved in leadership roles at St. James. It was a great loss.
3. Engaging The Church Doctor Ministry and Kent Hunter for more effective discipleship 2013-2017

**Has your congregation participated in the Congregational Workshop Preparatory to the Call Process? [Type an X by the appropriate response]**

**X Yes No**

**What were the three most significant results of the workshop?**

1. Examining ourselves as a congregation, our strengths and weaknesses. In doing this, being exposed to the views of others.
2. The importance of prayer and support by everyone.
3. Information on the process to be followed by the Call Committee, Council and congregation.

**Describe the nature and extent of any significant current or recent conflict in the congregation. Is this conflict resolved, or ongoing? If resolved, how was it resolved?**

The decision to leave the ELCA in 2012 was difficult and we lost a significant number of dear members of the congregation. This conflict is now resolved since those remaining have embraced exercising ministry within the mission of the NALC.

There were conflicts between a previous Pastor and his family with members of the congregation stemming from several different situations and circumstances. We lost dear members as the situations occurred. The conflict is now mostly resolved since the Pastor retired and is no longer serving at St. James. If any unforgiveness remains we pray it is left at the cross and we can begin anew.

**How does your congregation handle conflict/tension? Which of the following do you think best describes your congregation? [Type an X by the appropriate response]**

As a church, we respect and listen to each other and work things through without generating divisiveness.

X As a church, we try to respect and listen to each other, but it is not uncommon for differences of opinion to be a problem and for some people to choose sides. Some have left our church because of conflict.

Conflict hurts our sense of unity, but we tend not to talk about it.

Painful experience with conflict has been present, but it has been worked through, and we have learned from the experience.

X We have had some painful experiences with conflict, and they linger in the background.

Open conflict is present, and we need a minister who can help us deal with it.

X Other (describe)…... The congregation is evolving and more unified than has been for many years.

**What was the nature of the relationship between your last pastor and the congregation? Positive? Struggling? Cooperative? Tense?**

All the above at different times.

**How did your council/congregational leaders work together with your last pastor? [Type an X by the appropriate response]**

Leadership is shared, with shared decision-making

X Pastor makes important decisions

Council makes decisions with pastoral input

Council makes decisions without pastoral input

**Is your pastor a member of council with: [Type an X by the appropriate response(s)]**

Voice X Vote

**Congregational finances**

Total budget for last fiscal year: $219,994 Income

Benevolence to the North American Lutheran Church: $2200

Other benevolence: $7100

Total debt of the congregation: $25,000 (COVID Loan; may be forgiven) (Current debt after paying off mortgage)

Total savings, reserves, and endowments: $100,000

**Compensation of Last Pastor**

Salary: $ Parsonage/housing allowance: $

Social security offset: $ Pension: $

Health Insurance: $ Vacation:

Continuing education (time/funding):

Travel reimbursement:

Other: We will pay in alignment with NALC guidelines

**When the Congregational Vacancy List is updated, a short paragraph (3-4 sentences) is included announcing each congregation’s ministry. If you wish, your call committee may compose that summary, realizing it may be edited/formatted as needed.**

St. James is a warm, welcoming, familial congregation. We love to help and support each other and share in meaningful fellowship. We have a strong desire to reach and help those in need and make a difference in our community, witnessed by the number of outreach activities you see listed.

**Consider filming a video to be included with your Congregational Profile on the** [**NALC website Vacancy List**](http://thenalc.org/call-process)**. We invite your call committee to make a 3-5 minute video introducing prospective pastoral candidates to your context and congregation. The video can be informal, explaining what your congregation is seeking in a pastor and showing images of the members of your congregation and your worship environment. Here are some sample videos:** [**Example One**](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rcXBhDNftvg&feature=youtu.be)**,** [**Example Two**](https://vimeo.com/242282875)**. These samples were not produced by the NALC. They are both simply examples of the type of content you could include in a video.**

**Video Submission Instructions:**

Upload your video to YouTube or Vimeo. (Here are instructions on how to upload to YouTube: [wikihow.com/Upload-a-Video-to-YouTube](https://www.wikihow.com/Upload-a-Video-to-YouTube).) Include a link to the video below. Make sure the link allows for public access to the video.

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/17H729r6IHgE48Ef000vfQjf5MhLD-Zvj/view?usp=sharing>

Provide any other information about your congregation that may be helpful in the call process.

We are believing in God for a compassionate, passionate, Spirit filled leader that will inspire each of us to lean into the Lord through the Holy Spirit, that we may feel empowered to use our God given gifts to reach the lost and make disciples. This will not be an easy task however, we are confident that together by following Jesus’ lead and relying on the Holy Spirit we will fan the flame within St. James which will cause it to spread throughout the community.

Completed by: Tracy Guffey Date: 9/25/2020

**SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS:**

**save a copy of this profile to your computer. Use “Save As” and specify document file name as:**

**Congregation name, City, Date**

**\*\*Email a copy of the completed profile to the Assistant to the Bishop for Ministry,** [**dwendel@thenalc.org**](mailto:dwendel@thenalc.org?subject=Congregational%20profile)**.**

Alternative submission method ONLY if you do not have email: Print and mail the complete profile to:

North American Lutheran Church

Attn: Pr. David Wendel

2299 Palmer Dr., Suite 220

New Brighton, MN 55112-2202

In addition, mail or email a copy of the completed profile to your mission district dean (can be found at [thenalc.org/mission-districts/](http://thenalc.org/mission-districts).

Should you have questions, call Pr. David Wendel, assistant to the bishop for ministry, at 719-650-8171 (cell).

**Please keep a copy of this document for your records.**