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| CONGREGATIONAL PROFILE |  |

Living Faith Lutheran Church

Wabash Indiana

**Congregation Name and Location**

Name Living Faith Lutheran Church

Mailing address 242 S Huntington Street

City Wabash State/Province IN Zip/Postal Code 46992

Telephone 260-563-4051 Fax 260-563-4051

Email address livingfaithwabash@gmail.com

Congregation website www.LivingFaithWabash.org

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

**Congregational President or Vice President**

Name Bill Neale Title President

Mailing address 2626 N 100 E

City Wabash State/Province IN Zip/Postal Code 46992

Home phone 260-774-3111 Cell phone 260-591-0046

Email address bneale11@yahoo.com

**Call Committee Chair**

Name Linda Karlin

Mailing address 343 E 50 N

City Wabash State/Province IN Zip/Postal Code 46992

Home phone Cell phone 260-438-0459

Email address rkarlin@earthlink.net

**Congregational Demographics**

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

Average worship attendance 24 Average Sunday school attendance 12

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

Small town with many cultural and outdoor recreational activities.

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

Primarily Caucasian with age range from infant to senior citizens.

**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.**

The congregation resolved at our formation to strive to use 25% of all income in outreach and mission activities. Our church family is aware of this goal and we have been blessed to continue working to *Share God’s Love with the World* thru connecting people to Jesus and one another. In purchasing a downtown building for our church home, we committed to a ministry to the area including a senior facility and homeless ministry.

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

1. Strengthen and nurture the faith of our congregation.
2. That all would know Jesus personally and share their faith to make disciples.
3. That all will know we are a loving church family celebrating the presence of the Holy Spirit in our worship and the love of Christ.
4. Be good stewards with our resources to share with those in need.

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

Contemporary worship with some liturgy and a mix of contemporary and traditional hymns. We celebrate Holy Communion weekly. We use power point overheads instead of hymnals to make our services more user-friendly and meaningful for both our congregation and visitors, in-person and virtually.

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

We have a strong adult weekly Bible fellowship. Materials and a teacher are available for children’s church and Christian education but youth attendance is spotty.

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

Locally, we support several youth and family ministries including the Life Center, Blessings in a Backpack, Access for Youth, Wabash Ministerial Association, food pantries and the Common Ground prayer house.

In our downtown location, we have an opportunity to minister to homeless in the area and the senior facility next door. We have assisted with Summer food programs in our area to build relationships with kids and their families.

Nationally, we actively support a military assistance ministry, Kairos and work throughout each year to collect and assemble 50 shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child.

Internationally, we help support an infant rescue center in Kenya with our finances and prayers.

**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 congregation hopes for in its next Pastor**

1. Biblically faithful, Spiritual leader excited about Christ and growing the Kingdom
2. Shepherd for God’s people helping them to grow in their relationship with Christ no matter where they are in their faith walk.
3. Bible based sermons that disciple us to disciple others.
4. Positive face in our community
5. Humble, servant’s heart, passionate in prayer

**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.**

2010 – establishment of Living Faith. New exciting time for all anticipating what God could do with us

as a new NALC mission church.

2017 – purchase of our first church building. A permanent building brought members together in

 remodeling and ministry with the freedom to have our own activities.

2020 – expansion of our worship services and other activities thru live-streaming to those at home and

 around the world. This advancement helps our own members and advances the Gospel

 especially during the pandemic.

**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. We are abundantly blessed with strong leaders using their gifts for Christ.
2. We are all called to go outside the building and make disciples.
3. God’s timing is always perfect – we must be patient and in constant prayer.

**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?**

Like all families, we have experienced times of conflict in our congregation and have tried to address them in a Biblical fashion. We pray for those who have left under difficult circumstances and continue to pray that they may return to our Living Faith fellowship.

**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.

 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.

 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 - Painful experience with conflict has been present. We have tried to work thru in a loving manner and have learned from the experience.

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

Fairly positive relationship because we knew his preaching was Biblically sound and he was a humble, servant of Christ.

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

 \_\_X\_ Leadership is shared, with shared decision-making

 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)]**

 X Voice Vote

**Congregational finances**

Total budget for last fiscal year: $ 83,663.70

Benevolence to the North American Lutheran Church: $ 3,000.00

Other benevolence: $ 22,956.53

Total debt of the congregation: $ 4,309.17

Total savings, reserves, and endowments: $ 4291.07

**Compensation of Last Pastor**

**We will compensate according to NALC guidelines**

Salary: $ Parsonage/housing allowance: $

Social security offset: $ Pension: $

Health Insurance: $ Vacation: 2 weeks

Continuing education (time/funding): $500 as used

Travel reimbursement: mileage submitted at IRS rate

Other: office: and Conferences expenses

**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.**

With the help of God our Father and the work of the Holy Spirit, we are seeking a part-time pastor for our strong, energetic congregation in north central Indiana. We look forward to sharing together the Gospel work we’ve been called to do. Living Faith – Small Town – Small Church – Big Faith.

**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://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PcUmNrwHKPo>

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

Completed by: Linda Karlin Date: February 6, 2021

**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****.**

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.**