

CONGREGATIONAL PROFILE



**EMAIL COMPLETED PROFILE TO dwendel@thenalc.org.
Keep a copy for your records.**

Congregation Name and Location

Name Emmanuel Lutheran Church
Mailing address 308 4th Ave
City Grafton State/Province IA Zip/Postal Code 50440
Telephone 641-748-2736 Fax _____
Email address emanluthch@wctatel.net
Congregation website http://www.emmanuelgrifton.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 Mark Frederickson Title President
Mailing address 2350 390th St
City Grafton State/Province Ia Zip/Postal Code 50440
Home phone 641-748-2303 Cell phone 641-420-2674
Email address markf@wctatel.net

Call Committee Chair

Name Darren Marsh
Mailing address 2153 B 390th St
City Grafton State/Province Ia Zip/Postal Code 50472
Home phone 641-748-2301 Cell phone 641-420-1287
Email address d.marsh.painting@gmail.com

Congregational Demographics

Number of paid staff (full- or part-time): Clergy 1 Lay professionals 0 Secretarial 1

Average worship attendance 82 Average Sunday school attendance 10

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

Our community is a small town farming community.

Describe the congregation's ethnic composition and age distribution.

Our congregation is predominately Caucasian. We have members in all age ranges, with the average number of members being about 40-60 years old.

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 seek to be faith grounded in Lutheran traditional values and beliefs.

What are the primary goals of your congregation?

We desire to reach out to all people in the wider Grafton community and to live lives as faithful disciples, inviting others into the community that bears the name of Christ.

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

We mostly follow traditional Lutheran liturgy and hymns, but hold contemporary services throughout the year with a live worship band. During traditional services the pastor wears traditional vestments, but during the contemporary worship services the pastor has worn just a clergy shirt and collar. We do communion either once or twice a month. We allow anyone we welcome all who are baptized and who believe in the Real Presence of Christ in, with and under the bread and wine, to participate in the celebration of Holy Communion.

Describe your congregation's Christian education ministry.

We have a variety of Christian education opportunities in our church. We have Sunday School our youngest members every Sunday. We have a Logos Legos (youth group) program for our 7-12th graders every other Sunday. We have confirmation classes on Wednesdays for our 7th and 8th graders. We have multiple adult bible studies going on throughout the year. And last year we started a small connection group informal bible study centering on the TV series the Chosen that will open to the whole congregation this fall.

Describe the congregation's current activities for mission and outreach.

We have a variety of different groups within the larger congregation that have mission and outreach activities. The stewardship committee hosts mission fest, distributes benevolence funds to various entities (local, nation wide, globally), and donate to Manna of Worth County and Mitchell Co Food Bank. We have various members how represent Emmanuel on different boards such as the Manna Board, Lutheran Retirement Home, and Share Shoppe. Our Sunday School sponsors a child through compassion international and outreach to the community through our VBS. We host a community choir. Our women's groups work with Lutheran World Relief to distribute school kits, and quilts. The Youth Group leads the congregation in sending Christmas gifts through Operation Christmas Child.

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?

- Totally unaware
- Have heard about it
- Have been involved personally
- Some in the congregation are involved, some aren't
- Congregation understands, is on-board and involved

List the *Top Five Things* your congregation's hopes for in its next Pastor

1. Bible Centered
2. Have the ability to work with all ages
3. Creates a meaningful worship service
4. Personable
5. Loving Leader comfortable with providing Pastoral Counseling

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. Joining the NALC in 2010 because it marked a return to values that aligned more with our congregational community.
2. Building our current church building in 1936 because it showed our congregation's determination and commitment to the church during the Great Depression.
3. When we became a member of the American Lutheran church in the early 1960s because it was a major change in the trajectory of our church.

Has your congregation participated in the Congregational Workshop Preparatory to the Call Process?

- Yes No

What were the three most significant results of the workshop?

1. It allowed to see the weakness that we need to address as a congregation moving forward.
2. It gave us a deeper understanding of the call process and biblical basis of it.
3. It gave call committee a chance to receive input from the 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?

There was a significant conflict before our most recent pastor that was partly due to conflicting values with the ELCA, as well as the actions of a former pastoral team. The conflict was around a decade ago, and since has been resolved. It was resolved by the congregation leaving the ELCA for the NALC, and the guidance of a new pastor.

How does your congregation handle conflict/tension? Which of the following do you think best describes your congregation?

- 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.
- Other (describe).....

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

We have a very positive relationship with our last pastor. She helped guide us through a time of conflict and has lead us to a cooperative and successful place.

How did your council/congregational leaders work together with your last pastor?

- 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:

Voice Vote

Congregational finances

Total budget for last fiscal year: \$ 147,758.59

Benevolence to the North American Lutheran Church: \$ 2,500

Other benevolence: \$ 6,395

Total debt of the congregation: \$ 0

Total savings, reserves, and endowments: \$ 514,667.00

Compensation of Last Pastor

Salary: \$ 53,833.32 Parsonage/housing allowance: \$ Parsonage provided with utilities paid
Social security offset: \$ 0 Pension: \$ 6,800.00
Health Insurance: \$ 6,789.26 Vacation: 4 weeks plus 4 Sundays
Continuing education (time/funding): None.
Travel reimbursement: \$.56 per mile
Other: Paid for pastor's phone and cell phone.

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.

We are a small rural farming community with a long history and a proud German heritage. We have a strong financial position, and beautiful facilities that leave us room to grow within our community and beyond.

Consider filming a video to be included with your Congregational Profile on the [NALC website Vacancy List](#). 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](#), [Example Two](#). 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 Submissions:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6TrSDUWDMf0>

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

Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/ELCGraftonIA/>

Completed by: Brittany Bartz

Date: July 20, 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
2655 Innsbruck Drive, Suite A
New Brighton, MN 55112-9304

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

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

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