

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.
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 56 in person; 23 virtual Average Sunday school attendance 10 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.”

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. We currently have one service and a combination of traditional and contemporary hymns. We also stream our services. We have a worship leader that is very musically talented and creative as well as a small choir 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 has children's Sunday School and is planning on 3 classes in the fall, broken out by 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.

Prayer Team
<p>Cru (formerly Campus Crusade for Christ) at Bradley University</p> <p>Cru is a Christian organization dedicated to spreading the gospel on campuses across the United States and the World.</p>
<p>Wernle Youth & Family Treatment Center</p> <p>This residential & outpatient center provides growth and developmental opportunities for troubled youth, ages 10-21. https://www.wernle.org/</p>
<p>Love INC aka "Love In the Name of Christ."</p> <p>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/</p>
<p>H2O is a Gap ministry of Love INC</p> <p>St James offers this year around, in-house ministry that offers pharmacy type needs that are not available with food stamps.</p>
<p>Blessing Box</p> <p>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</p>
<p>The Landing Place</p> <p>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/</p>
<p>Life Choices</p> <p>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.</p>
NALC
Local Conference
Local Family Assistance
<p>Hope Center Indy</p> <p>The Hope Center provides services to women coming out of human trafficking, addictions and other life dominating issues. https://www.hopecenterindy.org/</p>

<p>GriefShare</p> <p>GriefShare 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.</p>
<p>Christ Is Lord Ministries – Jamaica</p> <p>Christ is Lord Ministries has been doing mission work in Jamaica, in the West Indies. The ministry is a congregation of the NALC.</p>
<p>Village of Hope in Haiti</p> <p>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 the Ganthier community.</p>
<p>Greenfield Women's Connection Planning Team</p> <p>A local chapter of Stonecroft Ministries, which is an outreach group to unchurched women.</p>
<p>Ethiopia</p> <p>This is a NALC sponsored mission for support of Lutheran Churches in Ethiopia.</p>

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
- 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.
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. Over the past 55 years we have been served by only 5 pastors. We have most recently begun working with an Interim pastor that has compassionately nurtured us to a new level of excitement and commitment to serving our Lord and Savior.
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]

Yes No

What were the three most significant results of the workshop?

1. Recognized and accepted an honest view of our strengths and weaknesses. This has allowed us to be vulnerable and appreciative of the views of each other.
2. Left with a renewed focus on prayer and support for one another.
3. Installed the Call Committee and empowered them to lead this process.

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 resolved.

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.
- 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?

Positive and cooperative.

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
- 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 Vote

Congregational finances

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

Benevolence to the North American Lutheran Church: \$5400 _____

Other benevolence: \$14000 _____

Total debt of the congregation: _____

Total savings, reserves, and endowments: \$153,000 _____

Compensation of Last Pastor

Salary: \$ _____ Parsonage/housing allowance: \$ _____

Social security offset: \$ _____ Pension: \$ _____

Health Insurance: \$ _____ Vacation: _____

Continuing education (time/funding): _____

Travel reimbursement: _____

Other: A lot has changed since our last pastor therefore, need to 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 locally, nationally and globally, witnessed by the number of outreach activities you see listed. In the waiting we are focused on growing spiritually and are looking for a Shepherd to come along side and help advance the Kingdom in our corner of the world!

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 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](http://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/17H729r6lHgE48Ef000vfQjf5MhLD-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. Empowering and encouraging us to use our God given gifts to reach the lost and make disciples. 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 6/10/21

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/).

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.