

# 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. John Lutheran Church  
Mailing address 5187 Old Marion Road  
City Metropolis State/Province IL Zip/Postal Code 62960  
Telephone 618-524-4796 Fax  
Email address [saintjohn1861@live.com](mailto:saintjohn1861@live.com)  
Congregation website  
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 Cody Brown Title President  
Mailing address 2542 Mount Pleasant Road  
City Brookport State/Province IL Zip/Postal Code 62910  
Home phone Cell phone 618-638-3820  
Email address [cardsfan-clb@hotmail.com](mailto:cardsfan-clb@hotmail.com)

## Call Committee Chair

Name T.J. Easley  
Mailing address 230 Concord Church Lane  
City Vienna State/Province IL Zip/Postal Code 62995  
Home phone Cell phone 618-771-2030  
Email address [tje1959@icloud.com](mailto:tje1959@icloud.com)

## Congregational Demographics

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

Average worship attendance 60    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.).**

St. John is located at the southern tip of Illinois, across the Ohio River from Paducah, Kentucky (population 35,000). Metropolis is a small southern town, but with a large farming community. People who live here enjoy hunting, boating, and hiking in the nearby Shawnee National Forest. We are centrally located between St. Louis, MO, and Nashville, TN.

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

Here at St. John you will find many folks with German ancestors. Our average age of attendance is ~50 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.**

St. John's mission is to serve and share the Gospel. We are Christ centered, mission driven, traditionally grounded, and congregationally focused.

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

St. John's primary goal is to serve and share the Gospel through mission activities within our community as well as with our youth. We desire to grow as a congregation and individually in our spiritual walk so that we can carry out our mission of sharing the gospel.

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

St. John's worship service consists of liturgy and music (traditional hymns and also contemporary). We take Holy Communion every week. We are a traditional Lutheran congregation but have been moving more toward contemporary. Before COVID, we had one contemporary service per month with a choir. During COVID and in the absence of a music director/organist, we have mixed classic hymns with more contemporary songs. We are open to new ideas and new directions for a new pastor to lead us. Members participate as lectors, leading children sermons, and performing music.

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

Although St. John has a small youth group, they meet once a month for an activity with devotion. Some other activities the youth participate in is VBS every summer, Quake, confirmation, Christmas program, and Sunday School. There is a weekly Sunday night adult bible study.

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

The following are St. John's current activities for mission and outreach:

1. Annual Ice Cream Social where we raise money for families in the community that are in need.
2. We donate pantry items to the local food bank called Cope.
3. We support Hope Unlimited in Metropolis with their annual baby bottle fundraiser.
4. We have volunteers that go to the local prison to support the taping of Inmates reading books for their children.
5. Weekend blessings packing backpack full of food for at risk children
6. At Risk Outreach is a summer program that provide lunch and devotion for at risk children
7. Quilting ministry making quilts as a relief item for areas affected by disasters
8. Inviting the community children to our VBS

**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

St. John is involved in many outreach programs however as most churches these activities are usually performed by the same group of individuals. St. John has become newly aware of the NALC commitment to moving away from an institutional understanding of the Church, however St. John honors the biblical commission to be a community of followers of Jesus who focus on being disciples and making disciples.

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

- Spiritual called to become a Pastor (It is not a job, but a calling)
- Worship sermons are biblically based, with emphasis on Scripture as true Word of

God

- Adherence to core values of NALC
- Active in the local community activities
- Good communicator

**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.**

Every year St. John puts an Ice Cream Social to raise money for families in the community that are in need. We believe this was started ~75 years ago.

St. John split with the ELCA and joined the NALC in 2014

Years prior (1996) to St. John leaving the ELCA, some congregation members called a vote to leave the ELCA. This vote did not pass and these members (families) left the church and began their own church. However since this split, the two churches work together to support our youth. Our annual VBS is combined with the other church.

**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?**

- Reinforcement of the NALC commitment 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.
- Understanding the NALC call process
- Better understanding of the NALC global mission and outreach

**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?**

We recently had a family leave our church due to a disagreement with our former Pastor. This family has stopped attending the church services. The conflict has not been resolved although an open line of communication has been maintained with the family. Through the struggles of COVID there were disagreements with how to handle the restrictions, but we have worked through it and are moving forward.

**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.

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).....We have had conflict, but for the most part we have healed.

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

St. John had a positive relationship with our last pastor. All members were unified behind our last pastor because they saw he was a caring individual who preached the Word of God. We, as well as our community, were sorry to see him go.

**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

X 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: \$ 110,194

Benevolence to the North American Lutheran Church: \$ 6,650

Other benevolence: \$ 3,900

Total debt of the congregation: \$ 0

Total savings, reserves, and endowments: \$ 9,350 (endowment) \$61,000 in current fund

**Compensation of Last Pastor**

Salary: \$ 34,810 Parsonage/housing allowance: The use of the parsonage including

utilities (allowance of \$6,900 for calculation of pension only)

Social security offset: employee portion 7.65% Pension: 12% of base + housing allowance

Health Insurance: \$ 13,000 Vacation: 4 weeks including 4 Sundays

Continuing education (time/funding): \$1,000

Travel reimbursement: Car allowance is based on Mileage as per the 2021 IRS Standard

Other:

**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 church with a big heart.

**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.

[video link]

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

[enter text]

Completed by: St. John Call Committee

Date: 6/30/21

## 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](mailto: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/](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.**