

# 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. Matthew's Evangelical Lutheran  
Mailing address 5047 NW Gateway Ave  
City Riverside State/Province MO Zip/Postal Code 64150  
Telephone 816-741-9210 Fax \_\_\_\_\_  
Email address \_\_\_\_\_

Congregation website www.facebook.com/StMatthewsRiverside https://stmatthewsriverside.blogspot.com

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 Andy Williams Title Vice President  
Mailing address 5410 NW Parkdale Rd  
City Kansas City State/Province MO Zip/Postal Code 64151  
Home phone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell phone 816-372-5086  
Email address awilliams13@kc.rr.com

## Call Committee Chair

Name Jeff Coquyt  
Mailing address 17655 Lober Road  
City Weston State/Province MO Zip/Postal Code 64098  
Home phone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell phone 816-210-0186  
Email address coquyt@sbcglobal.net

## Congregational Demographics

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

Average worship attendance 30 Average Sunday school attendance 15

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

Riverside, MO is a city in Platte County, Missouri and is part of the Kansas City metropolitan area. The estimated population in 2019 was 3,505. Based on the 2010 census, the ethnic composition of the community was 78% White, 11% African American, 9% Hispanic, 2% other. The median age was 39.1 years. In 2000, the median household income was \$34,679. Park Hill School District operates Park Hill South High School at Riverside. Riverside has a public library, a branch of the Mid-Continent Public Library.

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

The adult ethnic composition of St. Matthew's is predominantly White with the youth of the congregation being predominantly Pacific Islanders, specifically Micronesian. The approximate distribution of age for worship attendees is:

30% - Under 18  
10% - 18 < 45  
25% - 45 < 65  
35% - 65+

**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.**

No

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

Be Bible-based, remain true to the inerrancy of God's Word, believe it and live according to it  
Be youth-oriented  
Be growth-oriented

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

St. Matthew's engages in a blended worship service which includes a spoken liturgy as outlined in the church bulletin, hymns from multiple sources (*Family of God, Lutheran Worship, With One Voice*) led and piano-accompanied by our music director, and use of vestments. Holy Communion is celebrated every Sunday. We follow the 3 year liturgical calendar, series B. Service is pastor led.

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

St. Matthew's has one adult Sunday School leader. Study guides written by Max Lucado have served as the primary basis for adult education.  
St. Matthew's has one long-standing, youth Sunday School leader who also serves as the Director of Music. In addition to Sunday School lessons which are sourced from Sola Publishing, youth are catechized during the Sunday School hour. Additional assistance is needed for youth education.

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

Two members faithfully serve as lay youth ministers by providing transportation to our younger members and frequently engaging them in activities outside the church.  
St. Matthew's holds a Vacation Bible School annually, generally in June or July.  
St. Matthew's youth annually attends Riverside Bible Camp in Story City, Iowa.  
St. Matthew's is in fellowship with the Missouri Micronesian Church (NALC) which uses the facility for worship and congregational gatherings.  
St. Matthew's holds an annual fund-raising turkey dinner and craft fair in early/mid-November which attracts members of the Riverside community to the church.

**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 congregation hopes for in its next Pastor**

1. Preaching Content (Biblically-based)
2. Youth Ministry
3. Outreach/Growth Focused
4. Preaching Delivery
5. Leadership

**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.**

In 1844, the church was founded as The German Evangelical Church.  
In 1865, the name was changed to St. Matthew's Church when they joined the Evangelical Synod of North America.  
In the early 1960's the church became St. Matthew's United Church of Christ when the Evangelical and Reformed Church and the Congregational Church merged to form the UCC.  
In 2011, St. Matthew's became a congregation of the North American Lutheran Church.

**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. Understanding the need to be faithful to God's mission for the church.
2. Understanding the need to engage and train youth to sustain the church.

3. Understanding the additional administrative (communication, newsletter, name tags), educational (children's sermons, women's Bible study, Lutheran theology and doctrine) and community service (food pantry, prayer group) needs/opportunities that are desired by congregational members.

**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?**

A recent conflict focused on the roles/responsibilities of the pastor. In an effort to quickly address a potential issue with the church furnace, our pastor arranged for a replacement prior to the council being able to fully understand the nature of the problem. The conflict presented an opportunity for the pastor and council to more clearly define roles/responsibilities and achieve resolution.

**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).....

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

Our last pastor faithfully served St. Matthew's for 18 years. He provided much needed leadership and guided us to the NALC. He was energetic and passionate about St Matthew's. He cared for church members especially in times of need while growing the membership. In addition to pastoral responsibilities, he often assumed a management role for the congregation. While helpful, council members recognized the need to be more involved in the day-to-day decision-making and upkeep of the church.

**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: \$54,504 (2020) \_\_\_\_\_

Benevolence to the North American Lutheran Church: \$0 (2020); \$600 budgeted \_\_\_\_\_

Other benevolence: \$0 (2020); \$1,200 budgeted to the Good Samaritan Fund \_\_\_\_\_

Total debt of the congregation: \$0 \_\_\_\_\_

Total savings, reserves, and endowments: \$33,000 (Sep2021) \_\_\_\_\_

## Compensation of Last Pastor

Salary: \$0 (paid via allowances, as requested) \_\_\_\_\_ Parsonage/housing allowance: \$13,076 (2020) \_\_\_\_\_

Social security offset: \$0 \_\_\_\_\_ Pension: \$0 \_\_\_\_\_

Health Insurance: \$0 \_\_\_\_\_ Vacation: As requested \_\_\_\_\_

Continuing education (time/funding): \_\_\_\_\_

Travel reimbursement: \$10,480 (2020) \_\_\_\_\_

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.**

MISSOURI, Riverside, St. Matthew's Ev.: av. att. 30; av. SS 6 adults, 9 children. St. Matthew's was founded in 1844 in the small town community of Riverside located just 10 miles north of downtown Kansas City. We offer a blended liturgical service and Holy Communion each Sunday. We are seeking a pastor who will preach, teach and remain steadfast in the true Word of God, develop youth interest in our church, and be growth oriented through community outreach. We are open to a pastor serving St. Matthew's in a part-time capacity.

St Matthew's is a welcoming congregation comprised of gifted and faithful people. Members feel as if they are a part of our church family. Even though we're located in close proximity to Kansas City, this long-standing church offers a warm, small town feel.

**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.

Given the size of the congregation and related budget, St. Matthew's understands that a candidate for the pastoral vacancy may need to be bi-vocational or semi-retired.

Completed by: St. Matthew's Evangelical Lutheran Consistory

Date: October 24, 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](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.**