

# 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 New Beginnings Lutheran Church

Mailing address PO Box 498

City Mahomet State/Province IL Zip/Postal Code 61853

Telephone (217) 590-0306 Fax N/A

Email address nblc@newbeginningslutheranchurch.com

Congregation website www.NewBeginningsLutheranChurch.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 Bill Lane Title President

Mailing address 1938 Country Road 150 E

City Seymour State/Province IL Zip/Postal Code 61875

Home phone N/A Cell phone (217) 369-2600

Email address wlane42@gmail.com

## Call Committee Chair

Name Abby Schwarzentraub

Mailing address 2404 Heathrow Dr., #3

City Champaign State/Province IL Zip/Postal Code 61820

Home phone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell phone (217) 493-7289

Email address anschwarz@yahoo.com

## Congregational Demographics

Number of paid staff (full- or part-time): Clergy 1 Lay professionals \_\_\_\_\_ Secretarial 1/2

Average worship attendance 80 pre COVID, Current 50 Average Sunday school attendance <5

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

Mahomet, Illinois is a unique small town. Located within 15 miles of the University of Illinois, a Big Ten University, our town is rapidly growing. Mahomet is a blend of your quintessential farming, bedroom small town community while also sustaining micro-urban areas where small businesses are booming.

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

Our congregation is mostly Caucasian with the median age being 50-60 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 believe that the mission of the Church is to preach the Gospel and to make disciples for Christ. We believe that making disciples—in our congregations, in our communities and nations, and around the world—must be a priority of the Church in the present age.

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

The congregation of New Beginnings Lutheran Church is seeking a pastor that will help us usher in a new chapter. We would like to see our church grow while maintaining our stability and the foundational Christian teachings in this ever-changing modern society. It is important that our church family is supported by an active pastor within our church and community.

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

Currently, we have one formal service on Sunday mornings where we use the Lutheran Book of Worship as our guide. We have the privilege to partake in Holy Communion weekly at our service. A myriad of volunteers from the congregation assist in our service in a variety of capacities such as altar guilds, scripture readers, communion assistants, etc.

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

Continually and ongoing, adult Bible studies are offered through the week for our congregation members and community members to attend. Each summer, we host a weeklong Vacation Bible School for all children within our community. We also offer confirmation classes for the youth of our congregation. We are currently in a rebuilding phase with our children's ministry. We have limited Sunday School depending on children attending church service.

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

Outreach is a strength and passion for our church. We currently have a program called Better off Believing (B.O.B) for all the community's children to attend. Children and youth engage in Bible studies, social activities, and volunteering through this program.

Our church is part of the Great River Mission District of the NALC. We also routinely and actively participate in global disaster response and Walk for Water. Locally, we offer our services to Helping Hands, community summer lunch programs and community prayer groups. We have a weekly sewing group, Wrapped in Prayer, that makes quilts for local and national charities such as Project Linus, disaster relief, and Restoration Urban Ministries.

**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 hope for in its next Pastor**

1. An individual who has a calling to lead a congregation of varying ages within the traditional Lutheran teachings from the Bible, which we recognize as the true word of God, and from Martin Luther's Catechism
2. Provides an understanding of historical background and context of scripture for a relatable experience to today's world
3. Support existing programs while also assisting in the creation of new programs that are targeted to reaching families and the youth
4. Lives a life of service and is actively involved in the community
5. Has the ability and willingness to grow within their professional and personal life while being supported by the congregation

**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.**

May 27, 2012- A group of Mahomet Lutherans gathered together at the Sportsmen's club of Urbana to worship our Lord, Jesus Christ. After our first worship, the Holy Spirit moved us to start a new church that became New Beginnings Lutheran Church.

September 14, 2012- A 125 year old church building (established in 1896) was acquired and the members of the congregation started the renovation process.

December 20, 2016- All financial obligations were fulfilled, creating a debt-free environment for our congregation to move forward with worship and outreach.

**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. How to collect and organize congregational responses to assist in creating goals for our future pastor and church
2. A more thorough understanding of the entirety of the call process
3. The importance of communication through out the call process and with our future pastor

**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?**

No significant or recent conflicts/ If conflict arises, the Leadership team and pastor would assist in the mediation process

**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?**

Very positive/ our last pastor retired

**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: \$ 200,128.22

Benevolence to the North American Lutheran Church: \$ 16,200.00

Other benevolence: \$ 7,000.00

Total debt of the congregation: \$ -0-

Total savings, reserves, and endowments: \$ 87,000.00

**Compensation of Last Pastor**

Salary: \$ 70,000.00 Parsonage/housing allowance: \$ 15,000.00

Social security offset: \$ 6,510.00 Pension: \$ 8,510.00

Health Insurance: \$ 15,000.00 (inclusive of spouse) Vacation: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Travel reimbursement: 1,600.00

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.

New Beginnings Lutheran Church is looking for someone who will lead our congregation and become involved within our community. We are looking for an individual to help us usher in the next chapter in the young history of our church while building on the programs and activities we have today. Most importantly we would like someone who shares our Christian faith and is excited to spread the Word with others. We hope that you will thoughtfully and pray fully consider joining New Beginnings Lutheran Church!

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.

YouTube link: <https://youtu.be/S7QDPxeCxCE>

Completed by: Abby Schwarzentraub

Date: November 28, 2021

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## 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).

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