

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 Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church
Mailing address 13511 Roland Lake Road
City Skanee State/Province MI Zip/Postal Code 49962
Telephone 906-524-6524 Fax _____
Email address zionlutheranskaneegmail.com
Congregation website www.zionlutheranskaneegmail.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 Robert Suomela Title Council President
Mailing address 19618 Bowers Road
City L'Anse State/Province MI Zip/Postal Code 49946
Home phone 906-524-6254 Cell phone 906-201-2072
Email address jprpsuomela@gmail.com

Call Committee Chair

Name Burt Mason Title: Call Committee Chair
Mailing address 19617 Ravenswood Court
City L'Anse State/Province MI Zip/Postal Code 49946
Home phone 906-524-7485 Cell phone 517-294-7485
Email address burtmason7345@yahoo.com

Congregational Demographics

Number of paid staff part time: Clergy 1 Lay professionals _____ Secretarial 1

Average worship attendance 30 (2017-2021) Average Sunday school attendance 3

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

Congregation is located in a very sparsely populated rural community, half way between the two larger cities of Houghton and Marquette, on the shores of Lake Superior. Major employment is logging, mining, prison workers and hospital workers. Major sources for entertainment are outdoor activities such as hunting, fishing, hiking, off roading and snowmobiling. This is a very close-knit community where everyone reaches out to help everyone else in the community.

Describe the congregation's ethnic composition and age distribution.

We have a diverse congregation consisting of Scandinavian, European and Native American. The congregation is comprised of all ages but the majority are retired.

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.

Our mission is to proclaim and teach the true Word of God; to nurture members in Faith; to reach out in witness and service, ministering to the community; and to participate in God's mission throughout the world.

What are the primary goals of your congregation?

We are seeking an energetic pastor who preaches based on the teachings of the Bible and is able to entice youth, young adults, singles and young families into the congregation. We need a pastor who can perform baptism's, weekly communions, funerals, hospital visits and comfort those in need.

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

Traditional – We use the Evangelical Lutheran Worship hymnal – Various service settings – Holy Communion every Sunday, Hymns by the congregation and the choir.

Describe your congregation's Christian education ministry.

Sunday School, Confirmation Classes, Adult Bible Study, ILT online courses

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

Endowment Fund interest is used for missions; Fat Tuesday & community dinners with freewill offerings to local charities; annual St. John's Day Community Pot Luck Picnic & Worship at the lake; annual Pie & Ice Cream Social; Church Picnic; Advent & Lent soup suppers and worship services; worship services conducted monthly at assisted living facility and nursing home; April - December once per month services conducted at Aura Lutheran 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 congregations hopes for in its next Pastor

1. *Preaching the word through the teachings of the Bible*
2. *Personality that works well with all ages*
3. *Area Outreach*
4. *Encourages new members of all ages and viewpoints*
5. *Evangelism*

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. *Church was founded in 1892 and has had continuous services ever since*
2. *2001 church addition - Sunday School Rooms, Office, Elevator - paid for thru a foundation donation*
3. *100% of the congregation voted to leave the ELCA*

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. 2. 3.

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?

Over the last couple of years tension increased between the pastor and several members of the congregation. During this time meetings were held between the pastor and the council in a good faith effort to resolve the conflict. In the end the pastor resigned, so, we can say it is resolved even though it was far from an ideal resolution. We are working on processes to prevent any potential future tensions from spiraling out of control.

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?

1. A tense relationship developed with our last pastor resulting in his resignation
2. The relationship with the three previous pastors was very good throughout their service until each 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: \$ 66,000 _____

Benevolence to the North American Lutheran Church: \$ 200 _____

Other benevolence: \$ 5,500 _____

Total debt of the congregation \$0.00 _____

Total savings, reserves, and endowments: \$ 158,053 includes \$28,150 Endowment Fund

Compensation of Last Pastor

Salary: \$ 24,000 _____ Parsonage/housing allowance: \$ _____

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

Health Insurance: \$ _____ Vacation: _____

Continuing education (time/funding): \$400 _____

Travel reimbursement: _____

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.

The 130year old Zion Lutheran Church located just off the shores of Lake Superior has a proud and faithful congregation in a very sparsely populated rural community, half way between the two larger cities of Houghton and Marquette. Major employment is logging, mining, prison workers and hospital workers. Major sources for entertainment are outdoor activities such as hunting, fishing, hiking, off roading and snowmobiling. This very close-knit community where everyone reaches out to help everyone else in the community is looking for a Pastor to lead us and to help grow our congregation.

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: Burton W. Mason

Date: 10/25/2021

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).

PLEASE KEEP A COPY OF THIS DOCUMENT FOR YOUR RECORDS.