

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 Grace Lutheran Church
Mailing address 511 South Pine Street
City Menno State/Province SD Zip/Postal Code 57045
Telephone 605-387-5241 Fax _____
Email address gracelcnalc@goldenwest.net
Congregation website gracelutheran.menno.weebly

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 Jon Schempp Title Council President
Mailing address 42835 US Highway 18
City Menno State/Province SD Zip/Postal Code 57045
Home phone _____ Cell phone 605-464-0917
Email address jon.schempp@icloud.com

Call Committee Chair

Name Karen Huber
Mailing address 43574 287th Street
City Menno State/Province SD Zip/Postal Code 57045
Home phone 605-387-5446 Cell phone 605-660-3553
Email address jkhuber@goldenwest.net

Congregational Demographics

Number of **paid** staff (full- or part-time): Clergy one Lay professionals none Secretarial 1

Average worship attendance 62 Average Sunday school attendance 14

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

We are located in a town of about 650. It is a farming community. We are blessed to have two hospitals 16 miles from us, a town of 15,000 about 32 miles from us and Sioux Falls is about 60 miles from Menno. Both Yankton and Sioux Falls have larger hospitals and both offer employment. Menno offers pre-school through 12th grade. It is a school with advanced technology; new additions were added to the school in 2000 and 2019. Menno has a ministerial association, and has a chapter in Fellowship of Christian athletes. There are seven churches within 10 miles of each other. The Menno area has many recreational opportunities including hunting, fishing, camping, etc.

Describe the congregation's ethnic composition and age distribution.

We are a mix of all ages.

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 statement is Abiding--in Christ as the vine to the branches; Caring-for all people as Christ has first loved us; Sharing the Good News of Salvation through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord.P

We do have a vision for mission, both in our own community as well as worldwide. Our youth does a lot of mission work as well. Some of our Mission Festival speakers have been chosen from local mission work that they do. Our church presently helps finance four missions. They include Channel to Brazil, Union Gospel Mission, Institute of Lutheran Theology, and Kingdom Boundaries/after prison. We also help support our local Care Center.

What are the primary goals of your congregation?

To be active in our community and our world by sharing the gospel and doing good works.

Describe your congregation's worship practice (liturgy, hymns, vestments, music, hymnals, and frequency of Holy Communion)We have communion once a month, being the last Sunday of the month. We use liturgy, and two hymnals; With One Voice and The Reclaimed Hymnal.

Describe your congregation's Christian education ministry.

Our ministry besides Sunday worship includes Youth Group, Sunday School and Women of Grace.

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

We have a mission speaker In the fall, our youth do special projects In the community in the fall. The ladies of the church offer programs and visits to our local Care Center as well as reaching out to the elderly from our congregation that live in their own homes or in other Care Centers.

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. Preaches from the Bible
2. Passionate love for Jesus and devotion to teach others about him.
3. Sermons that keep the congregation engaged
4. Connect with all members of the church including our youth and our shut Ins.
5. Willingness to serve/community outreach.

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.

Leaving the ELCA in 2010
Celebrating 125 years as a congregation(2016)
Celebrating 50 years of our church(2016)

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. [enter text]
2. [enter text]
3. [enter text]

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 have not had significant conflict. When we left the ELCA we did have some members that chose to stay ELCA and left our church.

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?

Absolutely wonderful!

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: \$120,596.21 Total expense: 115,682.02

Benevolence to the North American Lutheran Church: \$ 3,000.00

Other benevolence: \$ 4,083.10

Total debt of the congregation: \$ none

Total savings, reserves, and endowments: \$ 173,984.82

Compensation of Last Pastor

Salary: \$ 39,420.00 Parsonage/housing allowance: \$ 2,496.00

Social security offset: \$ 3,164.00 Pension: \$ 3,504.00

Health Insurance: \$ 8,483.16 Vacation: 4 weeks

Continuing education (time/funding): 2,000.00

Travel reimbursement: \$2,658.32

Other: Payroll taxes, \$3,200.59; Dental, \$1,810.80; Accident coverage, \$580.80; Disability, \$1,169.52; Life

insurance, \$148.00; Mileage, \$2,658.32

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 dual parish. Our Saviors Is located six miles south of Menno. We believe that the Bible is the word of God and want that preached in our pulpit.

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://youtu.be/i6FdcarpuLU>

<https://youtu.be/5maSNsAIN4I>

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

[enter text]

Completed by: Karen Huber

Date: 2-3-22

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.