

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 Redeemer Lutheran Church
Mailing address 2510 N M-52
City Owosso State/Province Michigan Zip/Postal Code 48867
Telephone 989-725-5442 Fax 989-725-0022
Email address office@redeemerowosso.com
Congregation website www.redeemerowosso.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 Matt Stark Title Council President
Mailing address 7686 E M-71
City Durand State/Province MI Zip/Postal Code 48429
Home phone _____ Cell phone 810-259-8240
Email address grekkothys@gmail.com

Call Committee Chair

Name Roger Weyersberg
Mailing address 4700 N Friegel Rd
City Owosso State/Province MI Zip/Postal Code 48867
Home phone _____ Cell phone 989-277-4997
Email address santa1010@mac.com

Congregational Demographics

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

Average worship attendance 43 Average Sunday school attendance Pre-Covid Adult Bible Study: 20 Current Adult Bible Study: 5 Current Children Sunday School: 4

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

Owosso is a small city with a large town feel, featuring ample shopping, two excellent public school systems as well as several parochial school choices, a well developed light industrial complex, a Top Ten State of the Art Hospital Complex and has a number of community parks. In addition heading North, South, East, or West there is plenty of opportunity to enjoy the open country side close by.

Describe the congregation's ethnic composition and age distribution.

98% Caucasian, 2% minority. The congregation is primarily a mature congregation with some youth.

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 clarity of mission is under scrutiny and refinement at this time. We began with a Fresh Eyes for Mission experience under the auspices of Pastor David Wendel in October of 2021, and we have kept this to the forefront of all Council Discussion and Congregational meetings. It is important to all the leadership and we are working conscientiously to keep this to the forefront and central to all of our actions and activities going forward.

What are the primary goals of your congregation?

1. **To continue to be Christ centered in all of our actions and interactions**
2. **Growth through mission, to reach the un-churched**
3. **Grow in God's Word**

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

We work to incorporate all of the above.: We have been a congregation that has Communion weekly. We use hymnals; we use contemporary digital music as well. We have had a bell choir as well as vocal choir. The congregation also has enjoyed special music in the past; Brass Quintets, brass and woodwind soloists, vocal solos, etc. There was a time in our history when we had a contemporary praise ensemble to lead our second service (Contemporary service). We currently are without an organist/keyboardist. At this time, we have one blended service to meet the needs of our congregation post-Covid.

Describe your congregation's Christian education ministry.

It ebbs and flows at this time. We are dealing with the different perspectives surrounding Covid, working to accommodate different requests for different times to meet. We have had mid-week bible studies, between service studies (now facilitated post service). Sunday school for children is resuming in January of 2022 in addition to our adult study programs. Pre-Covid in church and in home small group study was regular and embraced enthusiastically by portions of our membership and members of our general community.

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

The construction of a NALC Regional Disaster Warehouse was just completed on property and will be operational soon. We have an Elephant Ears trailer that we share mission vision along with delightful delectables at a local community festival, annual Rummage Sale as well as a Craft Sale to raise funds for donations and outreach, Walk for Warmth, Angel Tree Christmas giving for children of incarcerated adults, Shoe Box Christmas donations for children overseas, in the past the free Medical Clinic originated within our facilities. Walls of Warmth was a ministry that we shared in serving the community's homeless. Individual members support World Vision, Children International, Compassion International. The church as a whole has multiple monthly donations that support local charities and community mission that align with our beliefs and serve those in need.

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. Good sense of humor; accessible, approachable, open to suggestions and willing to listen.
2. Able to be diplomatic and comfortable in varied situations; while spreading the Word of God
3. Good sermons, down to earth delivery and content, Christ centered and scripturally based.
4. Visits hospital, elderly, sick and shut ins, enjoys being with the elderly
5. Embraces and is involved in the community.

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.

Building project that doubled our physical foot print; 1982: it reflected our need for growth.
Leaving the ELCA and joining the NALC in 2010: Demonstrated the desire of the congregation to be true to the Word.
Our 50th Anniversary (2012): It demonstrated our longevity in the community and that we were an established House of God.

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. To trust God; trust Jesus
2. We received great participation and input from a vast proportion of our congregation with positive input and results
3. Our discovery that aspects of our mission and outreach aren't as weak as we individually we may be perceiving; a strengthening of optimism and perspective

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 had an issue between the "us" and "them"; those who attended first service which was traditional and second service which was contemporary in style and music. COVID forced us to merge into one service each Sunday. So far, this has been a reasonably acceptable solution though it has been observed that there has been a drop off of attendance of members who normally attended the later in the morning contemporary service. A few who have been absent have been attending online. For various reasons still associated with Covid, some of these members are yet to attend in person services. Currently our worship committee has worked diligently to select a blend of traditional as well as contemporary musical selections to meet the worship needs and desires of all who are in attendance.

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).....

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.

Redeemer Lutheran Church is located in the historic small city of Owosso, Michigan. We are a Christ-centered congregation with hearts to serve our congregation, our community, and the world beyond. We are seeking a pastor who together with the Holy Spirit, will love and lead us in worship, in prayer, in service, and in growth now and into the future. We want to become your extended family; to love and care for you.

[enter text]

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: 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] https://youtu.be/8tw_-ZcpGkY

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

[enter text]

Completed by: Roger Weyersberg

Date: March 7, 2022

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).

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