

# CONGREGATIONAL PROFILE



Enter information directly into this document.  
**SAVE the document on your computer with your congregation's name,  
city, state and date completed as part of the file name.**

**EMAIL COMPLETED PROFILE TO [callprocess@thenalc.org](mailto:callprocess@thenalc.org)  
Keep a copy for your records.**

## Congregation Name and Location

Name First United Evangelical Lutheran Church  
Mailing address 6705 Hohman Ave  
City Hammond State/Province In. Zip/Postal Code 46324-1407  
Telephone 219 932 9070 Fax 219 932 3866  
Email address office@firstunitedlutheran.org  
Congregation website www.firstunitedlutheran.org  
Seeking  Full-time pastor  Part-time pastor  Either full-time or part-time  
Call will be for  Solo pastor  Senior pastor  Associate pastor  
Current denominational affiliation:  
 NALC  LCMC  Other \_\_\_\_\_  
Current NALC Mission District Heartland Mission District

## Congregational President or Vice President

Name Bruce Leep Title President  
Mailing address 3106 Condit St.  
City Highland State/Province In. Zip/Postal Code 46322  
Home phone 219 838 3646 Cell phone 219 718 7170  
Email address bruceleep200@gmail.com

## Call Committee Chair

Name Joe Brett  
Mailing address 8716 Carolina St.  
City Highland State/Province In. Zip/Postal Code 46322  
Home phone 219 923 0902 Cell phone 219 308 5075

Email address brettjm@juno.com

Bob, sexton  
Danny, organist  
Jane, music director

**Congregational Demographics**

Number of paid staff (full- or part-time): Clergy 1 Lay professionals 3 Secretarial 1, Patti

Average worship attendance 25-35 Average Sunday school attendance 0

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

[enter text] small city, part of the Chicago metropolitan area

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

[enter text] mostly Caucasian, mostly senior citizens, some younger people, few children

**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.**

[enter text] to continue the mission of Christ on earth, through worship, witness, example

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

[enter text] to witness the good news, to grow in faith and holiness

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

[enter text] Holy Communion, every worship day, sung or spoken liturgy, hymns, yes  
music, yes, vestments, yes, hymnals, yes

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

[enter text] Bible study on a weekly basis

**Describe the congregation's current activities for mission and outreach.** We send a monthly benevolence offering

[enter text] to the NALC. We are active in the local Love INC. ( In the Name of Christ ) social service agency. We prepare and serve a meal, monthly, at the local City Rescue Mission.

We have a hat and scarf ministry, supplying winter clothing to elementary schools.

**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. [enter text] preach and teach the word of God
2. [enter text] visit shut ins
3. [enter text] mission minded
4. [enter text] compassion and appreciation for senior citizens
5. [enter text] congregationally minded

**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.**

[enter text] 1939, start of church, 1948, first church building, 1959, main building addition

**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] make us aware of spreading the Gospel
2. [enter text] qualities we would like to see in the pastor
3. [enter text] visiting shut ins and inactive 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?**

[enter text] any conflicts that have occurred between individuals have been resolved, in some cases by people leaving the church, and in some instances returning to the ELCA. The conflicts did not involve Christian doctrine.

**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?**

[enter text] all of the above Usually communication was present to work out differences in the day to day operation of our church. However, the Gospel was preached and the Sacraments administered



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. First United Evangelical Lutheran Church is located in Hammond, Indiana, which is part of the Chicago metropolitan area. Our worship attendance is about 25-35. The service includes [enter text] liturgy, hymns, prayer, creeds, Eucharist each Sunday. A time of fellowship follows worship. We have Bible study during the week. Our social ministry includes preparing and serving a meal once a month at a local rescue mission for those in need. We support the local Love INC. affiliate. All to God's glory

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: Church Call Committee

Date: June 15, 2022

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## SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS:

**SAVE A COPY OF THIS PROFILE TO YOUR COMPUTER. Use "Save As" and specify document file name as:**

**State, City, Congregation name, Date**

**\*\*Email a copy of the completed profile to the NALC Call Process Coordinator, [callprocess@thenalc.org](mailto:callprocess@thenalc.org)**

Alternative submission method ONLY if you do not have email: Print and mail the complete profile to:

North American Lutheran Church  
Attn: Pastor Shelly Schultz  
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 Pastor Shelly Schultz, NALC Call Process Coordinator, at 715-418-1761 (cell).

**PLEASE KEEP A COPY OF THIS DOCUMENT FOR YOUR RECORDS.**