

# 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 St. Timothy Lutheran Church

Mailing Address: PO Box 807

City Goose Creek State/Province SC Zip/Postal Code 29445

Telephone 843-553-4175 Fax \_\_\_\_\_

Email address info.sttimothygc@gmail.com

Congregation website sttimothygc.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 Carolinas Mission Region

## Congregational President or Vice President

Name Valerie Miller Title Council President

Mailing address 114 Applebee Court

City Goose Creek State/Province SC Zip/Postal Code 29445

Home phone N/A Cell phone 843-607-6437

Email address vsmiller60@gmail.com

## Call Committee Chair

Name Jan Polkow

Mailing address 297 Village Stone Circle

City Summerville State/Province SC Zip/Postal Code 29486

Home phone 843-832-2979 Cell phone 843-696-8057

Email address Jan Polkow@gmail.com

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### Congregational Demographics

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

Bookkeeper 1; Custodian 1; School Director & Teachers 9; Director of Music Ministries 1

Average worship attendance 65-80 Average Sunday school attendance 12

**Indicate the type of community in which your congregation is located (is its small town, small city, suburban, large city, farming, industrial, etc.).** Goose Creek is a city located just north of Charleston & is the 8th largest city in the state. Goose Creek is a hotbed of growth & opportunity with Volvo & Boeing plants within minutes of the city. The port of Charleston (one of the busiest on the east coast) is within 20 minutes of us. Our city is made up of a diverse population including young professionals, retirees including military retirees, and active-duty military. We are minutes from Joint Base Charleston which includes the Naval Weapons Station which is home to the nuclear power school, and Charleston Air Force Base. Our city is safe and has nationally recognized police and fire departments.

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

98% Caucasian and 2% Hispanic with ages ranging from birth to mid-80's.

**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.**

Yes, St. Timothy Lutheran Church is a community baptized in Jesus Christ, affirming the authority of the Scriptures, proclaiming the Gospel, calling all people to become disciples and sharing in a saving relationship with Jesus Christ.

**What are the primary goals of your congregation? Christ Centered** (acting and thinking like Jesus & interpreting our world from a biblical view); **Mission Driven** (we make decisions based on people's needs and are generous toward those in need & respond with compassion in a team like fashion); **Traditionally-grounded** (we are fully devoted followers of Jesus & encourage others to become fully devoted followers of Jesus); **Congregationally-Focused** (Jesus calls us to use our gifts in ministry, meeting the needs of others both inside and outside the church. We treat others with respect & follow biblical principles in all relationships.)

**Describe your congregation's worship practice (liturgy, hymns, vestments, music, hymnals, and frequency of Holy Communion).** Both services are liturgical. Our 8:30 service is a traditional service using 7 liturgical settings during the year, LBW 1, 2 and 3 and ELW 1, 2, 9, and 10. Hymns are chosen to best communicate the gospel and sovereignty of the Lord. We usually have flute(s), handbells, and/or trumpet accompaniment in addition to our digital organ. The choir sings during the school year. The 11:00 AM Contemporary service includes a Joyful Noise Worship Band and uses folk hymns, old hymns sang in new ways, praise & worship songs, gospel, jazz, Christian Rock and the latest songs on Christian radio. Six settings of Communion liturgy arranged in-house are used. Holy Communion is held at every 8:30 AM and 11:00 AM service.

**Describe your congregation's Christian education ministry.** We have **Adult** Bible Study every Sunday, Men's Second Saturday Breakfast, Sunday's Cool for ages 3 through 4th grade, Vacation Bible School, Youth Group, Confirmation, First Communion, St. Timothy Women's Group, and Pre-School for ages 2 through K5.

**Describe the congregation's current activities for mission and outreach.** Helping Hands of Goose Creek (food pantry), Patriot Villas (help for homeless veterans), Guatemala (Casa Bernabe Orphanage), NALC Warehouse, sponsor a College Kid (SACKS) for children that have aged out of foster Care, sponsorship of a child at Casa Bernabe, Water Missions, NALC Flood Buckets, Book Drive for St. Timothy Children's Center, Trunk or Treat for the community, Goose Creek Christmas Parade participation.

**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 congregation hopes for in its next Pastor**

1. Good preacher who teaches theology in a relatable form
2. Good leader of worship and people
3. Active in prayer life, in the Word of God daily while encouraging others to do the same
4. Recruiter and motivator of leaders
5. Good with all ages, especially youth and members needing home visits.

**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) Joining NALC in 2011; lost several members and have not built those numbers back
- 2) Beginning of Contemporary Service in 2001; gave attendees another form of worship & reached out to those wanting an alternative to a traditional worship
- 3) Startup of our preschool in approximately 1987; this is our largest mission and students who attend this school are well prepared for public or private school.

**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. It Improved the attendee's knowledge of the process of calling a Pastor.
2. The members felt they were a part of the process.
3. Members now understand that this is not a hiring process but a need to follow God's plan & timing.

**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?**

Approximately 3 years ago there was conflict between the Council/Pastor and the Director of St. Timothy Children's Center. The Council worked hard in resolving this conflict and with the resignation of the former Director, the pre-planned retirement of the Pastor and the hiring of a new Children's Center Director this conflict was resolved. All of this was conducted in a confidential manner by the parties involved and the congregation had little knowledge that these issues were being handled in a professional and compassionate manner.

**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?** We had a very positive relationship with our last Pastor. He was an excellent "people" person, interacted well with all ages, and was an excellent preacher able to teach theology in a relatable manner. He built relationships quickly with members, prospective members, parents of students of the preschool as well as all staff members.

**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



When the Congregational Vacancy List is updated, a short paragraph (3-4 sentences) is included announcing each congregation's ministry. This paragraph is the first contact with pastors being introduced to your congregation and community. Since you are most familiar with your congregation and your community, you will want to showcase or highlight the attractions of your congregation and community.

St. Timothy is a congregation of believers who work to proclaim the Gospel using God's gifts. We are a congregation of many folks who graciously give their time, talent and treasure to spreading the Word and are excellent at identifying needs in the community and providing generously for those needs. As stated earlier, we are located in an area that at one time was a pass-through community but has developed into a thriving community with large housing developments, industry, exceptional health centers and great recreational spots.

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](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.

[\(8\) Prospective Pastor Video - YouTube](#)

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

Completed by: Jan Polkow

Date: 10/21/2022

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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/](https://thenalc.org/mission-districts/).

Should you have questions, call Pastor Shelly Schultz, NALC Call Process Coordinator, at 888-551-7254.

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