

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
Keep a copy for your records.**

Congregation Name and Location

Name St Mark's Evangelical Lutheran Church

Mailing address 324 S Sanborn Ave

City Jefferson State/Province WI Zip/Postal Code 53549

Telephone 920 674 2370 Fax _____

Email address st.marks.jefferson@sbcglobal.net

Congregation website stmarksjefferson.360unite.com

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 Wisconsin and Upper Michigan

Congregational President or Vice President

Name Patty Heckart Title Vice President

Mailing address 324 S Sanborn Ave

City Jefferson State/Province WI Zip/Postal Code 53549

Home phone _____ Cell phone 712 490 7394

Email address Pheckart94@gmail.com

Call Committee Contact

Name Dale Gaugert

Mailing address 324 S Sanborn Ave

City Jefferson State/Province WI Zip/Postal Code 53549

Home phone 920 674 4422 Cell phone 608 212 3253

Email address dgaugert@charter.net

Congregational Demographics

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

1 Music Director 1 Christian Education Director 1 Janitor

Average worship attendance 80 per weekend Average Sunday school attendance 11

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

St. Mark's is located in a small, friendly city that has rural roots with 8,000 residents. It is also the county seat. We are also within easy driving distance of both Madison (state capitol) and Milwaukee with many cultural, sports, and event opportunities. There are many options for personal and professional growth. The Jefferson school district is excellent and has very high rankings. For example, the district has had a 36% increase in open enrollment/growth. AP scores are in the top 3% of North America.

Describe the congregation's ethnic composition and age distribution.

Our congregation encompasses all age groups with an active senior population. We are looking to increase the youth and young families involvement with services and activities. Our community's ethnic diversity is growing. Within our church the current ethnic composition is predominately Caucasian. Our community has a strong German heritage.

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 vision is to be a vibrant church family of Christians, committed to growing the love of Christ by welcoming and inspiring ALL people, through worship, fellowship, service and outreach.

What are the primary goals of your congregation?

- Preach the inspired Word of God and administer sacraments.
- Grow the youth programs, activities, and involvement
- Serving those in need within our congregation and community
- Inspire unity
- Grow outreach

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

- We currently have two services per week: Saturday 5:00 pm & Sunday 9:00 am
- Liturgy is a flexible combination of traditional and contemporary components
- Holy Communion is offered at all services
- Music includes: adult choir, special small groups, instrumental and vocal solos, favorite hymn sing services, Praise band, kids sing, music videos
- Vestments: We utilize traditional vestments and banners

- We have both the Ev. Lutheran Worship 2006 (red hymnal) and The Hymnal for Worship & Celebration available. We also have the service printed in the bulletin and available on three large television screens.

Describe your congregation’s Christian education ministry.

We currently have a Bible Study for adults one time per week and a weekly Men's Bible Study breakfast that meets at a local restaurant. We have Sunday School that is offered September through May. We have a week-long Vacation Bible School for students who are three years old through fifth grade with many youth helpers to work with the adults leading. We have confirmation classes for sixth, seventh and eighth grade students. Special First Communion classes are given for students in fifth grade.

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

We have a number of mission and outreach activities. Each event or activity is led by a person or team of people from the congregation. Our mission and outreach activities include: Manna Monday (community meal), preschool and 4K school program, Boy and Girl Scouts, Food Pantry collections, a number of dinners and luncheons for fellowship or fundraising, women’s circle, quilt making, dart ball, grief share program, and Care Team ministry to reach shut-ins or those in need. We also participate in the annual Gemuetlichkeit parade giving away mini pumpkins labeled with the church information.

COVID had a major impact on attendance and participation. We resumed in-person worship service soon after the Lockdown, but not all members have returned

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. Bible based teaching/sermons with a lasting message.
2. The ability to work with all generations.
3. Inspiring shepherd who is a dynamic teacher, communicator, counselor, and leader.
4. Live in and be involved in the local community and activities.
5. A confident goodwill ambassador of St Mark’s.

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 2011

- After a history of long-term pastoral care, we have had 2 pastors leave within the past 5 years due to health reasons.
- 100 years as a congregation in 2023

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. Guided by scripture readings.
2. Discussions about frustrations
3. United and hopeful in prayer

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?

Like any church, we have had conflicts that have divided our church. The outgoing pastor made great strides in handling strong personalities who wanted full control over decisions affecting church operations, which has resulted in the change of council leadership

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?

The pastor was able to renew an overall positive atmosphere in the congregation. He brought meaningful sermons and bible studies and consistently inspired ways for St Marks to connect to each other and the community.

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.

We search for an inspirational shepherd to lead our congregation, providing ways to nurture and grow our congregation with all generations, with a strong emphasis on youth. We are searching for a personable, approachable, compassionate, engaging, empathetic and supportive minister to grow our church in the love of Christ

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.) Include a link to the video below. Make sure the link allows for public access to the video.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sF853hIcCj8>

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

We are a caring, hard-working congregation that has a strong desire to grow. The ministry of St. Mark's is to care for our congregation, care for our community and beyond. We currently have several programs in place that reflect this mission, including a community meal program, and a group of dedicated individuals who make hundreds of quilts and then give them to benefit the needy individuals in our local communities. We are committed to fostering our youth and young adults. Our church is comprised of many individuals giving generously of their time and talents. We incorporate traditional and contemporary approaches to worship

Completed by: Call Committee Members

Date: 10/15/2022

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**

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/).

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

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