

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 Messiah Lutheran Church
Mailing address 1800 Oak St
City Lebanon State/Province PA Zip/Postal Code 17042
Telephone 717-272-2922 Fax _____
Email address messiahluthleb@epix.net
Congregation website http://www.messiahluthleb.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:
2012 NALC LCMC Other
Current NALC Mission District Central

Congregational President or Vice President

Name Nicholas Adams Title President
Mailing address 28 Oxford Dr
City Lebanon State/Province PA Zip/Postal Code 17042
Home phone _____ Cell phone 717-926-8346
Email address nicka60@msn.com

Call Committee Chair

Name Charlotte Varone
Mailing address 607 Blueberry Ln
City Lebanon State/Province PA Zip/Postal Code 17046
Home phone 717-273-3673 (Primary) Cell phone 717-454-5587

Email address cavarone@verizon.net

Congregational Demographics

Number of paid staff (full- or part-time): Clergy 1 PT Lay professionals 2 PT Organists 2 PT Secretarial 1 PT

Average worship attendance 32 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.).

[enter text] Small City

Describe the congregation's ethnic composition and age distribution.

[enter text] Primarily Caucasian
Ages - 7mos. to 98

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]

We witness to Christ individually and as a congregation.
2Corinthians 1:20 For all the promises of God in Him are Yes, and in Him, Amen to the Glory of God. This is our mission and our guide for discipleship.

What are the primary goals of your congregation?

[enter text] Focus on teaching and learning. Spread the Word of God. Grow in faith. Greater visibility in the community. Christ centered in a traditional Lutheran mission.

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

[enter text]

The congregation follows the Liturgy set in the LBW (Lutheran Book of Worship) using hymns from the LBW and WOV (With One Voice). We have weekly communion as well as at special services. The church has a set of stoles and paraments for the Liturgical Year. We have assisting ministers, crucifers, and acolytes for each service. Organ and piano are used for special music and to accompany the congregation. We have two primary organists and one additional organist for summer.

Describe your congregation's Christian education ministry.

[enter text]

Adult Sunday Church School led by various members.
Working on children and youth programs

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

[enter text]

Local and worldwide missions, Independent Church in India, Agape Center, (women); Rescue Mission (men); NALC Disaster Relief, Food Bank; Voting Place; Share our building with Iglesia Hispanic Church; Spang Crest (Lutheran Assisted Living Facility); AAA meeting location.

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] Biblically focused and spiritually sound.
2. [enter text] Dedicated to teaching and sharing God's word and principle.
Clear and concise communication.
3. [enter text] Innovative; to be able to guide the church to grow in all age groups.
4. [enter text] Willing to be a presence in the community.
Visit and commune the shut-ins.
5. [enter text]

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] 1972- 7th Street Lutheran (city) moved to Oak St (suburban) and changed name to Messiah.
1989- Instituted weekly communion.
2021- November: The sudden death of Pastor Kendall.

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] Number of interested church members participating
2. [enter text] Unity and desire concerning the future of Messiah
3. [enter text] Consensus of what we are looking for in a new Pastor

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] N/A

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] Cooperative
Preparing and leading us in the path for the future of this congregation.

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: \$ 174,976 (2022)

Benevolence to the North American Lutheran Church: \$ 8,040

Other benevolence: \$ 4,020

Total debt of the congregation: \$ -0-

Total savings, reserves, and endowments: \$ 203,084 (12/2021)

Compensation of Last Pastor For a new Pastor -Parttime - 27hrs - (Range depending on experience)

Salary: \$ 41,440 - 44,210 Parsonage/housing allowance: \$ ---

Social security offset: \$ 3,170 - 3,382 Pension: \$ 5,353 - 5,711

Health Insurance: \$ 12,060 * Vacation: 4 Weeks

Continuing education (time/funding): \$402

Travel reimbursement: \$ 1,742

Other: _____

* Pastor pays a portion of health insurance

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.

Established congregation with strong Community outreach.

Core group of leaders for Adult Sunday School program, that is well attended.

[enter text] Dedicated servants fulfilling the needs of the congregation.

We are a community of faithful disciples that desire to move forward in our mission.
We are dedicated to welcoming a new Pastor to lead our congregation in faith, in renewal, and teaching God's Word.

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]

Charlotte Varone, Call Committee Chair, Karen Fox,
Completed by: Harry Hatt, Deborah Lutz, David Machamer, _____ Date: _____
Gene Martin, Sandra Smith

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 715-418-1761 (cell).

PLEASE KEEP A COPY OF THIS DOCUMENT FOR YOUR RECORDS.