

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 Saint Luke's Lutheran Church

Mailing address 5265 N Union Blvd

City Colorado Springs State/Province CO Zip/Postal Code 80918

Telephone 719 598-4397 Fax _____

Email address _____

Congregation website www.saintlukes-cs.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: Rocky Mountain

Congregational President or Vice President

Name Nick Miller

Mailing address 5725 Del Rey Drive

City Colorado Springs State/Province CO Zip/Postal Code 80918

Home phone _____ Cell phone 719-440-7311

Email address nmiller11@hotmail.com

Call Committee Co-Chair

Name Teresa Watt. Co-chair
Mailing address 8415 Sutterfield Dr
City Colorado Springs State/Province CO Zip/Postal Code 80920
Home phone _____ Cell phone 719-338-5111
Email address tdwatt@msn.com

Name Michael Brownworth. Co-chair
Mailing address 439 Ponderosa View
City Manitou Springs State/Province CO Zip/Postal Code 80829
Home phone _____ Cell phone 719-651-2532
Email address mikbworth@yahoo.com

Congregational Demographics (and Children’s Center)

Number of **paid** staff (full- or part-time):
Clergy 1 (Vacant)*
Lay professionals 3
Lay Minister – Worship & Education Coordinator and Administrative Support;
Business Manager;
Music Director (organ, choir, handbells)

*Our former pastor resigned due to health issues; since July 2022 we’ve been without a pastor. We have two retired pastors, a retired deaconess, and a lay minister who are sharing preaching duties and other pastoral duties.

Our Children’s Center (preschool and daycare), a vital part of our ministry, employs 23 employees.

Average worship attendance

Average Sunday in-person worship attendance is 100 post-Covid, 130 pre-Covid. Children’s Church is conducted during the Sunday worship; attendance is 5-8 children. Sunday services are live streamed, recorded, posted to and viewed on our web site.

Adult Bible class is held on Wednesday mornings and is followed by a spoken service with Holy Communion; attendance is 12-15.

Wednesday evening family worship, our newest worship service, is open to church and Children's Center families. This is a 20-minute service that uses child-friendly language, songs and puppets. Dinner follows, offering families an opportunity for fellowship; attendance is 15-20.

Sunday Youth Confirmation/Youth Group: Our youth meet on alternating Sundays for confirmation instruction and youth group activities; attendance is 10.

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

Colorado Springs, a city of 484,000, is an incredible place to live! Garden of the Gods – a national landmark – brings visitors from around the world, and was voted second most popular attraction in the United States (following the Empire State Building), and ninth in the world for 2022.

Pikes Peak, which inspired the song "America the Beautiful," is the backdrop for Colorado Springs. It's a city that blends nature, rugged history, and the benefits of metropolitan life.

With 300 days of sunshine a year, ample opportunities for outdoor recreation, and a local culture that encourages an active lifestyle, Colorado is regularly ranked as one of the healthiest states in the nation with three of our cities – including Colorado Springs – in the top 20 overall.

Those of us who live here love many things about our community, including:

- Being one of the two Olympic & Paralympic training campuses for athletes - the official Olympic City USA.
- Amazing art galleries and performing arts venues throughout the city. The downtown area is especially loaded with friendly and welcoming galleries.
- How obtainable it is to live a healthy lifestyle, and how our environment lends itself to that end. With its mild seasons, year-round outdoor recreation is a reality.
- Always having a variety of activities in the region to engage in: trains, museums, parks, a zoo, and being able to easily get to one of the 350 miles of trails around town.

The top industries in Colorado Springs include military, aerospace, tourism, and technology. The Springs is home to five military installations, four of which are Air Force bases – including the United States Air Force Academy – and one Army post.

Additionally, Colorado Springs is home to 56 Christian ministries, including Focus on the Family, Young Life, Navigators, Community Bible Study, and Compassion International. Ministries bring in over \$2.5 billion, ranking Colorado fourth in the country for Christian ministry revenue.

There are plenty of choices for children's education in Colorado Springs. An added benefit in Colorado Springs is the Choice Program, where your students are able to attend a school in a different district from their own.

Describe the congregation's demographics and age distribution.

The median age of Saint Luke's congregants is 55-65. Approximately half of the congregation members have served or worked for the military.

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.

We are strongly united in our belief that God is leading Saint Luke's into our 51st year. Our Mission Statement, created more than ten years ago, continues to influence our congregational decision-making:

Saint Luke's Lutheran Church is called to WELCOME people to faith in Jesus Christ, EQUIP us for a faith that works in real life, and SEND us into the world to make a difference with the heart and mind of Jesus.

Congregants of Saint Luke's have many gifts! We share the clear vision that we are called to serve Him. We can do this only with God's unfailing love for us, Christ's sacrificial death on the cross for us, and the Holy Spirit's guidance and direction in our lives.

What are the primary goals of your congregation?

Our primary goals at Saint Luke's are directly related to the actions emphasized in our Mission Statement. We want Saint Luke's to:

- be a **welcoming** haven to all people who believe in Jesus as our Lord and Savior.
- **equip** us in our faith with worship services that are filled with traditional, historic, orthodox, and confessionally Lutheran liturgy. We want our Christian education for all ages to be Christ-centered and based on true theology.
- enable us to be **sent** out with the God-given confidence and boldness to make a difference not only here in Colorado Springs but around the world as we serve Him with the heart and mind of Jesus.

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

Our Sunday service is a traditional, liturgical service with Holy Communion each week. Pastors and servers wear vestments. We sing both traditional and more recently written hymns during the service, which are accompanied by organ or piano. We use liturgies from the Lutheran Book of Worship, as well as those by composers such as Marty Haugen and David Haas. Our complete service is printed in bulletins each week in order to make our service fully accessible for those not familiar with Lutheran worship. Children are welcome to attend Children's Church during the service. Our adult choir, newly formed children's choir, and handbell choir provide special music. Festival days are specially recognized with a procession and guest musicians.

Describe your congregation's Christian education ministry.

Saint Luke's provides Wednesday morning adult Bible study. Confirmation classes and Bible book club are offered twice monthly. Virtual classes addressing various subjects are available periodically. During worship service each week, Children's Church is offered during the lessons and sermon, where children leave the sanctuary and are instructed in an age-appropriate lesson that parallels the sermon. Family worship takes place on Wednesday evenings. This ministry was created to engage families from the Children's Center who may not have a church home and give them the opportunity to connect with families from the congregation. A week-long Vacation Bible School is taught each summer. Prior to Covid, adult Sunday school was offered between services. Saint Luke's plans to expand its educational ministries.

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

The Children's Center at Saint Luke's is a vital part of our ministry. The Center is open year-round from 7 am to 6 pm, providing day care and preschool for 88 children. Classes range from six-week-old infants to children up to six years. Weekly chapel is offered, and for many of the children it is their only faith-based education. During the summer, themed camps are available for children ages twelve and under. Saint Luke's also supports Lutheran Family Services Rocky Mountains. World Refugee Day and a holiday party are hosted each year, with approximately 100 people in attendance at each. The congregation also supports Pike's Peak Academy, The Place (a local youth homeless shelter), TLC (The Lord Cares) Pharmacy, and Mission Medical. At Christmas, gifts are purchased for the residents of Mosaic. Support is also provided to Mercy's Gate, SET (Service Empowerment Transformation) Clinic, Marian House Soup Kitchen, The Salvation Army Homeless Shelter, and the NALC Seminary. Internationally, Saint Luke's supports Lunches for Learning, Lutheran World Relief, India Transformed, World Mission Prayer League, Water Mission International and our missionaries in Asia.

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

Our congregation strives to WELCOME people to faith in Jesus Christ, EQUIP us for a faith that works in real life, and SEND us into the world to make a difference with the heart and mind of Jesus.

List the *Top Five Things* your congregation hopes for in its next Pastor

We are looking for a pastor:

- whose teachings are Christ-centered and can communicate to congregants how to integrate the gospel into their daily lives.
- who is theologically sound and has a heart for Christian education for all ages.
- who appreciates the value and beauty of a liturgical service and would carry on with that tradition.
- who invites the congregation to use their talents and gifts.
- who emphasizes Spirit-led outreach.

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.

The vision for Saint Luke's Lutheran Church started in 1971 with the LCA Division for Missions. By July 1972 ground was broken. The next two additions were completed in 1998 and 2008.

Saint Luke's Children's Center was established in 1995. The center has grown throughout the years and provides childcare/preschool services for families all across Colorado Springs.

In 2010, Saint Luke's Lutheran Church joined the North American Lutheran Church. Since that time the congregation has developed a strong emphasis on social ministries. We support a wide variety of ministries locally, nationally, and internationally with an emphasis on local and global hunger.

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. Saint Luke's is a church family with a strong sense of unity.
2. We learned much about the call process. In particular, prayer is the most essential piece. God will provide a pastor for us only in His perfect timing.
3. The congregation is open to new forms of connection and outreach.

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 strive to resolve conflicts through prayer and leadership from the church council.

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?

Our pastor had a positive, cohesive interaction with the congregation. There was a reciprocal relationship of support, encouragement, and caring between the pastor and the 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: \$509,933 _____

Benevolence to the North American Lutheran Church: \$10,624.80 _____

Other benevolence: \$24,791.20 _____

Total debt of the congregation: \$ 1,718,000* (mortgage) _____

Total savings and reserves: \$ 506,000 _____

*The children's center budget is separate from the church budget; they contribute half of the mortgage amount and a substantial amount of the building expenses.

Compensation of Last Pastor / Compensation for the Pastor

Salary: \$62,251 Total (\$96,638) _____ Parsonage/housing allowance: \$ 0 _____

Social security offset: \$4,762 _____ Pension: \$6,225 _____

Health Insurance: \$21,000 _____ Vacation: 4 Sundays _____

Continuing education (time/funding): TBD _____

Travel reimbursement: Auto Allowance \$2,400 _____

Other: Sabbaticals are honored _____

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.

Saint Luke's Lutheran Church, a vibrant mid-sized congregation with a thriving daycare/preschool ministry, is nestled at the base of Pikes Peak in Colorado Springs, Colorado. Because of what God has done for each of us by sending His Son, Jesus Christ, into our fallen world, we want to respond by serving Him joyfully in many different ways. We are committed to meaningful worship services that are gospel-centered and liturgically relevant. We strive to welcome all by sharing God's grace not only within our Saint Luke's family, but also throughout our city, our nation, and the world. We want to be in close relationship with Christ so that God's love will shine through us to touch all those around us.

As disciples of Jesus Christ, we believe that we are called to glorify God by: praying daily, worshiping weekly, reading and studying the Bible, serving at and beyond Saint Luke's, being in relationship with God so that we can encourage spiritual growth in others, and by giving our time, talents, and resources to serve Him. Saint Luke's is committed to making a difference in the darkness of this world with the heart and mind of Jesus.

Our ministry at Saint Luke's is Christ-centered; we seek a pastoral shepherd who will feed and care for us (John 21:15-16) so that we can continue to boldly reach out to others with love and compassion.

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]

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

Completed by: Teresa Watt

Date: 12/05/2022

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.

PLEASE KEEP A COPY OF THIS DOCUMENT FOR YOUR RECORDS.