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| CONGREGATIONAL PROFILE |  |

Enter information directly into this document.

**SAVE the document on your computer with your congregation’s name,   
city and date completed as part of the file name.**

**EMAIL COMPLETED PROFILE to** [**dwendel@thenalc.org**](mailto:dwendel@thenalc.org).

**Keep a copy for your records.**

**Congregation Name and Location**

Name New Hope Lutheran Church

Mailing address PO Box 1038

City Foresthill State/Province CA Zip/Postal Code 95631

Telephone 530-367-3650 Fax

Email address newhope@sebastiancorp.net

Congregation website www.foresthilllutheran.org

Seeking  Full-time pastor **X** Part-time pastor  Either full-time or part-time  
Call will be for **X** Solo pastor  Senior pastor  Associate pastor

**Congregational President or Vice President**

Name Jeff Kuells Title Vice-President

Mailing address 5266 Cold Springs Dr

City Foresthill State/Province CA Zip/Postal Code 95631

Home phone Cell phone

Email address jeffkuells@gmail.com

**Call Committee Chair**

Name

Mailing address

City State/Province Zip/Postal Code

Home phone Cell phone

Email address

**Congregational Demographics**

Number of **paid** staff (full- or part-time): Clergy 0 Lay professionals 0 Secretarial 0

Average worship attendance 14 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.).**

Small town with demographics of 77% white and 23% hispanic

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

Ages 8-90; 95% Caucasian

**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.**

God has led us out of the ELCA and into the NALC where it is our mission to share the hope of Jesus Christ and to help those in need.

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

Community outreach, to share the hope of Jesus Christ and to increase our membership

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

We follow the standard order of Lutheran worship with a call to worship, mostly traditional hymns, prayer of confession, assurance of forgiveness, readings, sermon, Apostle’s Creed, sharing the peace and communion every Sunday that we have an ordained pastor.

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

During this transitional period with no pastor we don’t have a Christian education ministry. In the past we have had weekly Bible studies and would like to have that again as well as a vacation Bible school.

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

We have hosted a free community dinner, set up a 4th of July balloon booth with 100% of proceeds donated to a local food bank or other community group in need, banners at the entrance to our church announcing events and inviting people, monthly inspirational newspaper articles in local paper and a table set up during the town’s Halloween event giving out candy, distributing Our Daily Bread and information on our church.

**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

X 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. Community involvement and appreciation of the beautiful place we live
2. Effective preaching and good leadership
3. Good work ethic and a desire to increase membership
4. Vision of the endless possibilities God has in store for us
5. Love of congregation

**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.**

**1982** – a small group of people had a vision to start a Lutheran congregation in Foresthill. Over 38 years the congregation has been able to serve the community and bring the hope of Jesus Christ to many people.

**2002-03** – With a membership of approximately 75 people, the congregation took a giant leap to support a full-time called pastor and applied for a grant from the ELCA to help pay the salary of the pastor. After 2 years the congregation wasn’t able to continue paying the salary. The congregation had a huge conflict among members over many things and in the end, the pastor left as well as many members, reducing the size of the congregation drastically. All but 1 council member resigned and left the church. The church has yet to recover its former size.

**2019** – Facing an uncertain future without any support from the ELCA, the ELCA’s political rather than scriptural vision and the need to go a different direction to survive and fulfill our mission, the congregation voted unanimously to leave the ELCA. We felt our beliefs more closely aligned with the NALC and the congregation voted to join the NALC. The process is not complete yet but we feel that God has led us here and will bless us.

**Has your congregation participated in the Congregational Workshop Preparatory to the Call Process? [Type an X by the appropriate response]**

**Yes X No**

**What were the three most significant results of the workshop?**

1. [enter text]
2. [enter text]
3. [enter text]

**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 are a small group united in our goal and mission and have no ongoing conflict. None of the current members were part of the conflict that tore the church apart in 2003.

**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]**

X 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 last pastor was an interim pastor. He was with us for 2 years. We had a cooperative relationship with him.

**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

X 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 X Vote

**Congregational finances**

Total budget for last fiscal year: $ 38,000

Benevolence to the North American Lutheran Church: $270 (only in the NALC for 2 mo. of 2019)

Other benevolence: $1,257 to ELCA before we left and $343 other benevolence

Total debt of the congregation: $ 0

Total savings, reserves, and endowments: $ 21,157 memorial funds; $34,868 savings

**Compensation of Last Pastor**

Salary: $ 1,961/month Parsonage/housing allowance: $1500

Social security offset: $ 0 Pension: $ 0

Health Insurance: $ 0 Vacation:

Continuing education (time/funding):

Travel reimbursement: as needed

Other:

**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.**

Nestled in the pines and cedars of the Sierra Nevada Mountains of California is a beautiful church that is seeking a part-time called pastor. The church sits on 5 acres of land and the building has 3 classrooms in addition to the sanctuary and an outdoor patio area. The congregation is a small but faithful and hard-working group of believers who wants this church to thrive and with a pastor and God’s guidance it will.

**Consider filming a video to be included with your Congregational Profile on the** [**NALC website Vacancy List**](http://thenalc.org/call-process)**. 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**](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rcXBhDNftvg&feature=youtu.be)**,** [**Example Two**](https://vimeo.com/242282875)**. 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](https://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: Cheryl Nilsson Date: 02/08/2020

**SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS:**

**save a copy of this profile to your computer. Use “Save As” and specify document file name as:**

**Congregation name, City, Date**

**\*\*Email a copy of the completed profile to the Assistant to the Bishop for Ministry,** [**dwendel@thenalc.org**](mailto:dwendel@thenalc.org?subject=Congregational%20profile)**.**

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

North American Lutheran Church

Attn: Pr. David Wendel

2299 Palmer Dr., Suite 220

New Brighton, MN 55112-2202

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 Pr. David Wendel, assistant to the bishop for ministry, at 719-650-8171 (cell).

**Please keep a copy of this document for your records.**