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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 St. John’s Evangelical Lutheran Church of Lake Township

Mailing address 7914 W. Cook Road

City Fort Wayne State/Province IN Zip/Postal Code 46818

Telephone 260-489-5031 Fax

Email address office@stjohnslaketownship.org

Congregation website stjohnslaketownship.org

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

**Congregational President or Vice President**

Name Steve Baker Title Council President

Mailing address 823 Henlock Court

City Fort Wayne State/Province IN Zip/Postal Code 46818

Home phone 260-435-1738 Cell phone 260-437-0565

Email address sdb5008@aol.com

**Call Committee Chair**

Name Rob Niman

Mailing address 7819 Greenwell Road

City Churubusco State/Province IN Zip/Postal Code 46723

Home phone 260-443-6759 Cell phone 260-443-6759

Email address rpniman@yahoo.com

**Congregational Demographics**

Number of **paid** staff (full- or part-time): Clergy 1 Lay professionals 4 Secretarial 2

Average worship attendance 181 (2019) Average Sunday school attendance 55 (2019)

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

The church is surrounded by farm fields, but we are located 10 minutes from the northwest side of Fort Wayne which is the 2nd largest city in Indiana.

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

St. John’s congregation is made up primarily of rural and suburban families of various European decent. Several families have 3 generations attending regularly.

**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 congregational survey revealed that 50% feel we do have a clear and shared understanding, and 50% feel we don’t.

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

To provide a welcoming place of worship that reaches out into the community to spread the gospel, adding more believers to our congregation (evangelism), and facilitate the spiritual growth of those members (discipleship).

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

We currently have a traditional service (7:45AM) consisting of classic Lutheran hymns, liturgy, and Holy Communion every other week. We also have a contemporary service (10:15am) consisting of modern worship music (band made up of congregants), and minimal liturgy. We have Holy Communion alternating every other week in each service.

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

We have various small group Bible studies, weekly youth/children’s ministries with lessons, confirmation classes, and Sunday School classes for all age groups during the school year.

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

WNALC, Woodburn Children’s Ministry, Precious Blood Child School Spnsr., Wernle Youth & Family Trtmnt. Ctr., Inasmuch Ministry/Broadway Chrstn., Water Mission International, Heifer Project, Kathleen Lutz-Bible Fnds/World Msn, Indiana-Lutheran Social Services, LOMIK, Various other activities throughout the year organized by our Children’s Ministry, Youth/Young Adult Ministry, and Outreach Committee.

**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

X 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. Strong leadership abilities
2. Holds to sound Biblical doctrine and able to teach it effectively
3. Loving and compassionate
4. Involved in all aspects of the church
5. Comfortable in both traditional and contemporary worship services

**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. The renovations and additions to the church facility in 2011
2. The two mission trips to Africa
3. Adding the contemporary Newsong worship service

3.1 Leaving the ELCA

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

**Yes X No**

**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?**

A new pastor was called in September, 2014. After much effort by the church leadership, and in consultation with Pastor Wendel of the NALC, significant ongoing conflicts were unable to be resolved, and the pastor was asked to resign. In the aftermath of his departure, there were many congregants unhappy with what appeared to be a lack of transparency and felt there should have been more congregational involvement before asking a Pastor to resign. We have discussed this in various meetings, workshops, etc. and have made a focused effort to be more transparent in major decision making.

**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.

X 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?**

Mostly positive, but there were issues that created tension with some congregants.

**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)]**

X Voice X Vote

**Congregational finances**

Total budget for last fiscal year: $ 339,970.00

Benevolence to the North American Lutheran Church: $ 9,500.00 + 4,000.00 Theological Fund

Other benevolence: $ 16,500.00

Total debt of the congregation: $ 0.00

Total savings, reserves, and endowments: $ 561,191.00

**Compensation of Last Pastor**

Salary: $ 27,276.00 Parsonage/housing allowance: $ 41,172.00

Social security offset: $ 5,236.00 Pension: $ 8,848.20

Health Insurance: $ 22,596.00 Vacation: 4 weeks including 4 Sundays

Continuing education (time/funding): $500.00

Travel reimbursement: Car Allowance $6,250.00

Other: Cell Phone Allowance $450.00

**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.**

St. John’s Mission Statement:

We, God’s people of St. John’s Evangelical Lutheran Church of Lake Township, proclaim and profess that our mission and purpose is to spread the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ.  We will do this mission by word, example, and service as we strive to be Christ-like in the community and throughout the world.

Completed by: Date:

**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.**