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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**.

**Keep a copy for your records.**

**Congregation Name and Location**

Name Saint John Lutheran Church-NALC

Mailing address: PO BOX 139

City: Phillips State/Province: WI Zip/Postal Code: 54555

Telephone: 715-339-2711 Fax

Email address: stjohndl@pctcnet.net

Congregation website: none

Seeking ☒ Full-time pastor ☐ Part-time pastor ☐ Either full-time or part-time

**Congregational President or Vice President**

Name Shayne Roberts Title Council President

Mailing address W7119 Long Lake Rd

City Phillips State/Province: WI Zip/Postal Code 54555

Home phone 715-339-3960 Cell phone 715-820-3074

Email address 5roberts@pctcnet.net

**Call Committee Chair**

Name Kevin Johnson

Mailing address W5528 S Worcester Rd

City Phillips State/Province: WI Zip/Postal Code 54555

Home phone 715-339-2501 Cell phone 715-820-0447

Email address kcjohn@pctcnet.net

**Congregational Demographics**

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

Average worship attendance 90 Average Sunday school attendance 10

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

The City of Phillips has a population of 1427, with a metropolitan area population of approximately 5,000. Most people prefer country living vs. city.

Phillips hosts a substantial manufacturing, recreation economic base. Farming, logging, tourism and construction contribute to the area’s economic base. A variety of small businesses are found in the downtown district, with restaurants, motels, nightclubs, lakeside resorts and some larger business enterprises in outlying areas.

Phillips School District offers educational opportunities from Pre-kindergarten through Grade 12.

There are three schools in the district for elementary, middle school and high school-aged students. The Community Pool at the high school is open all year to the public.

North Central Technical College has a presence in the area and offers a variety of classes.

We’re blessed to be located in an area with 18,000 acres of water in 174 Price County lakes, many trout streams, three major rivers, and scenic woods with walking and hiking trails. Many seasonal recreational opportunities are available and attract tourists year round. Phillips Chain of Lakes offers trophy fishing with walleye, musky, northern pike, perch, black crappie, large and small mouth bass, trout and pan fish roaming our waters. In September, sturgeon fishing may be enjoyed by some anglers. Multiple state and federal forests are within miles of Phillips.

Phillips Area Chamber of Commerce sponsors a Winter Festival. Snowmobiling, cross-country skiing, snowshoeing and ice fishing are in the forefront of recreational activities. Over 550 miles of snowmobile trails are known as the most scenic and best groomed in Wisconsin.

Spring finds golfers anxious to begin play at Westwood Golf Course, and water sports fans look forward to kayaking, canoeing, paddle boarding, and opening day of fishing season. A campground near the city park is equipped for camper use with hook-ups and an accessible beach. Mountain bike trails and ATV trails are also available close by.

In the summertime, designated areas in the city park provide for disc golf, volleyball, and basketball. Playground equipment is available for younger children. A splash pad, paved walking trail, public boat landing and soon-to-be constructed band shell enhance this beautiful lakeside park. A pavilion may be rented for special occasions and mid-week music in the park has been enjoyed for several years.

An annual Czech/Slovak Festival takes place the third full weekend of June. Activities include a WWII memorial service, an ethnic pageant, dinner and bakery, vendors, music and entertainment and children’s events. The festival draws people from all around the USA.

Independence Day celebration begins in Phillips with the Sprit of America walk/run, afternoon patriotic parade and evening fireworks.

Phillips Chain of Lakes holds an annual triathlon including running, biking, swimming.

August brings the multi-faceted Price County Fair that includes 4-H activities. Members show their project-raised animals. The animals are then placed up for auction and the money is used for project costs and future higher education. Entertainment, food vendors and carnival companies vary each year.

Northwoods Players, local community theater troupe, present spring, fall and Christmas productions. School-aged students and community residents are invited to take part.

Veterans and auxiliary groups are active throughout the year.

Area historical societies, genealogy and quilting groups, pool, bowling, dart, volleyball, and trapshooting leagues keep residents and tourists busy.

We are truly blessed to live in what we call “God’s country”.

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

Saint John’s membership is predominantly Caucasian with Slavic, German, Scandinavian heritage, some Native Americans. Many families have children, but age distribution is weighted toward older, retired members.

**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.**

As disciples of Christ Jesus, growing the Kingdom of God, one individual at a time with guidance and leadership of our Pastor.

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

* Provide spiritual worship services with an inspirational message members tend to carry with them throughout the week.
* Strive to encourage young families to join our church and encourage outreach to all community youth.
* Encourage members to become more active in worship services and church-related activities.
* Promote and engage in worthy mission outreach projects.
* Be supportive of the community and other local churches any way possible.
* Work with our pastor as a team to continue thriving as a respected church in the community.

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

St. John Lutheran Church offers two worship services. A Saturday evening service held at 6:30 p.m. has been a traditional and spoken service. The Sunday morning service held at 9:00 a.m. has been a traditional or contemporary service.  The church choir typically sings during this service. Communion is offered at each service but can depend on the church season. Seasonal mid-week services occur during Lent and Advent.

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

Saint John provides Sunday School for pre-K through 8th grade students. Annual summer Vacation Bible School is held in conjunction with other Phillips churches in July. Confirmation classes are held for students in grades 7 and 8. Adult Bible study is held periodically.

Family activities include movie nights, campfires with spiritual focus.

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

* Lutheran World Relief personal care kits and school bags sewn by Church Women’s group are filled by congregation members.
* Women of Saint John organization provides congregation related and community outreach services; send annual contribution to Women of North American Lutheran Church for their national mission designation.
* Operation Shoebox Christmas, a Franklin Graham charity
* Coats for Kids donations in support of United Methodist Church
* May, October are Missions Months with donations sent to missions chosen by Mission and Memorial Committee.
* Chartered Phillips’ Boy Scout Troop 540 effective September 1, 1966 which meets regularly in the church basement.
* Donations are sent monthly for NALC Benevolence fund.

**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 congregation hopes for in its next Pastor**

**1.** The four core values of the NALC, which are Christ centered, mission driven, traditionally grounded and congregational focused, should be reflected in the Pastor’s ministry to individual members of the church, during weekly and other church services, and for outreach to the community. This includes participation in the Phillips Area Clergy Association.

2. Healthy leadership, works well with church, organizations, and staff. Willingness to try new ideas to promote unity within the congregation.

3. Regular visits to shut-ins, members hospitalized, residents of nursing homes. Provides guidance for all seasons of life, including challenging times during life, and time of death.

4. Facilitate positive congregational growth, bringing people to the Lord and into the church through Evangelism. Relate and teach biblical principles with overall love for congregation and community.

5. Look after the best interest of our congregation by reporting to church council with changes and/ or improvements that can strengthen the church and allow Saint John to accomplish its mission. Maintain an honest, healthy and open line of communication with entire 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.**

1. Church construction and expansion

July 14, 1907 cornerstone was laid for a new Lutheran Congregation; Evangelical Geminde Zu Phillips later renamed Saint John Lutheran Church

* Fall, 1907 moved into new church.
* May 19, 1968 new education wing dedicated
* August 2, 1992 church sanctuary expansion dedicated
* June, 2016 completed remodeling project including residing of church, window maintenance and replacement, installation of new sidewalks.
1. June and October 2006 Centennial celebration events, meeting the needs of a growing, changing

congregation, pausing in celebration to honor history of Saint John Lutheran Church

 3. March 14, 2011 joined the North American Lutheran Church.

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

 **X Yes No**

Saint John’s congregation participated in a church needs idea session whereby attendees brainstormed ideas from members’ different perspectives to reach consensus on congregational goals. A congregational survey was also provided to all members to voice their opinion.

**What were the three most significant results of the church needs idea session and survey?**

1. The main reasons people attend Saint John are for a meaningful worship service, fellowship and to be part of larger church community.
2. Our congregation believes pastoral care for elderly and hospitalized members of the church is a high priority. At the same time, it’s important to reach out to and connect with youth and young families of the congregation and community.
3. Congregation members believe their pastor should be forthright and trustworthy. Pastor should be an inspiring leader, challenging preacher and passionate teacher.

**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?**

Recent conflict was caused by recommendation to terminate Saturday evening service. As disciples of Christ, we reflected, listened to views and suggestions of everyone. After many prayerful discussions, we decided our Saturday service will continue.

**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.

 X Conflict has been present, but 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?**

Relationship was generally amicable. There were significant and ongoing weekly changes to worship services that detracted from the service for some church members. Members of Saint John were happy to help when called upon to assist with various church activities. Pastor was successful in implementing updates to the church’s use of current digital and social media services, and basic facility improvements were completed.

**How did your council/congregational leaders work together with your last pastor? [Type an X by the appropriate response]**

 X 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: $146,552

Benevolence to the North American Lutheran Church: $6,000

Other benevolence: $600

Total debt of the congregation: $0

Total savings, reserves, and endowments: $149,754

**Compensation of Last Pastor**

Salary: $36,000.00 Parsonage/housing allowance: $12,000.00

Social security offset: $4,704.00 Pension: $4,800.00

Health Insurance: $26,800.00 Vacation: 4 weeks included in salary

Continuing education (time/funding): $100.00

Travel reimbursement: $1,500.00

Other: Professional Expenses $500.00, Convocation Expenses $3,000.00

**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.**

We are committed to serving the Lord and as a congregation we are seeking an energetic, loving Pastor. We pray for a leader to help us grow spiritually and increase our membership. Ministry should include visiting those who are unable to attend services, willfully become a part of our community and provide guidance for ideas for changes in worship and activities to attract young families and youth in our community.

We as a congregation are eager to move forward into the next chapter of our financially sound and inviting small town community church.

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

We’re blessed to have bi-weekly supply Pastors to provide worship services including communion. Members have stepped forward to provide congregational leadership.

Completed by: St John Call Committee Date: 1/17/2020

**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****.**

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.**