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| **CONGREGATIONAL PROFILE** |  |

**Congregation Name and Location**

Name: Living Faith Lutheran Church

Mailing address: P.O. Box 512

City: Red Deer State/Prov: Alberta Zip/Postal Code: T4N 5G1

Telephone: 403 341 4042 Fax: Click here to enter text.

Congregation email: livingfaithrd @gmail.com

Congregation website: <https://livingfaithlcrd.wordpress.com/>

**Congregational President or Vice President**

Name: Gary Unterschultz Title: Chairperson

Mailing address: 234 Davison Drive

City: Red Deer State/Prov: Alberta Zip/Postal Code: T4R 2E6

Home phone: 403 341 4042 Cell phone: 403 598 1484

Email address: mugu@telus.net

**Call Committee Chair**

Name: Gary Unterschultz

Mailing address: 234 Davison Drive

City: Red Deer State/Prov: Alberta Zip/Postal Code: T4R 2E6

Home phone: 403 341 4042 Cell phone: 403 598 1484

Email address: mugu@telus.net

**Congregational Demographics**

Number of **paid** staff (full- or part-time)

Clergy: One Lay professionals: none Secretarial: volunteer

Average worship attendance: 15-20 Average Sunday school attendance: varies as we have a few children (grandchildren) who often worship with us and we have one boy being confirmed this year.

Indicate the type of community in which your congregation is located (check all that apply).

☐ Farming area

\*\*\* Metropolitan city - small city of about 100 000 ( with a drawing population over 200 000)

☐ Small town or rural

☐ Suburb of large city

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

*We are largely of Multi European heritage and about half of our members are of Lutheran background. The majority of the congregation is over 60 years of age while we also have a handful of grand children in attendance at times*

***Describe the congregation’s current activities for mission and ministry; and the primary goals for your congregation.***

*Our goal in mission is to grow God’s Kingdom. We believe it is essential to reach out locally, nationally and internationally and do so both financially and prayerfully. We trust the Holy Spirit to lead us and we need sometimes to be still (Psalm 46) and let God show us the way. We proclaim the gospel of Christ as revealed in the Bible, and as witnessed to by the historic confessions of faith in the Lutheran Reformation. We continue to support with prayer and finances: the NALC, World Mission Prayer League, Canadian Lutheran Bible Institute, Canadian Lutheran World Relief, Safe Harbor ( local drug rehabilitation program), Shalom Christian Counselling (Red Deer) and members or friends in crisis or need. Some other agencies as well.*

**List and Briefly Describe the Congregation’s Top Five Ministry Needs**

*1. Spiritual Leader, Scripture Based- trusts in and advocates for the authority of Scripture spiritually and in the activities of daily life*

*2. Warm Personality, Friendly, Caring-welcoming, enjoys people and is outgoing*

*3. Good Preacher and Communicator-brings the Scriptures to life, speaks clearly and is easily understood; also good in written communication including using technology to do so..*

*4. Experienced & Skilled in Reaching Out to the Community - is experienced in church planting and growing the congregation with ideas and strategies involving himself/herself and the congregation.*

*5. Provision of Pastoral Care and Support for church members and friends in the events of life, times of joy and sorrow;also finds joy in visiting*

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

*Each Sunday at 5:30 pm we worship at West Park Presbyterian Church ( a rented space that is our current church home shared with a most kind and welcoming Presbyterian community). Worship is casual and informal, easy to follow and facilitated on screen. We desire to provide a true balance in Christ shared in the Word and Sacraments in each service of the Lord’s Day, week by week. Living Faith is a friendly, helpful, open congregation welcoming Christians of all ages, races and backgrounds. We love and serve our Lord Jesus Christ and want to be good neighbors.*

*Worship involves readings from Scripture, the Gospel reading, hymns and other special music, the Message (sermon), the Creeds ,and Holy Communion. We share the Peace which is active and must be shared with everyone with handshakes and hugs (a practice temporarily on hold because of Covid-19), and we have prayers. Although we have hymnals, we use technology to project on a screen the order of worship, readings, hymns etc. We have other special events from time to time including pot luck meals, Bible Studies and other workshops*

*Some Good News: This summer we are welcoming four adults into membership as new voting members of Living Faith and we are also adding one new young confirmand to confirmed membership. We have some hope that we will be welcoming other new members soon.*

*Note: We have Christian Copyright Licensing International membership which allows us to access materials while providing for copyrights.*

***Describe the nature and extent of any significant current or recent conflict in the congregation:***

We recently had two differing views of our mission. One view was to meet at Bethany Care Facility and grow our faith and membership from people there. The other was to locate a home church place in the community and grow in that environment. A good number of members felt that the Holy Spirit was leading us to the community setting with West Park Presbyterian Church building as our home base. With the arrival of Covid\_19 we could no longer meet at Bethany. On April 18, 2020 Living Faith made West Park Presbyterian Church building its Home Base at our Annual General Meeting. We are meeting there for worship now.

This painful experience with conflict was present for a period of time, and we have learned from the experience. As a church moving forward, we are committed to be certain that we respect and listen to each other and we strive to work things through without generating divisiveness.

**Congregational finances**

Total budget for last fiscal year: ***$$62875***

Contribution to the North American Lutheran Church: $***$1500***

Benevolence : $***Approximately $1200***

Contributions to other Organizations $2500

Total congregational debt: ***NONE***

Total savings, reserves, and endowments: $***$100 000***

**Compensation of Last Pastor in a half-time position**

Salary: ***$28 000***  Parsonage/housing allowance***: $12 000***

Social security offset: $***???*** Pension: ***$N/A***

Health Insurance***: $N/A*** Vacation***: $N/A***

Continuing education (time/funding***): 250***

Travel reimbursement: ***51 cents/kilometre***

Other: ***NALC Convocation Expenses: To Be Determined***

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

We are again looking for a pastor to serve us starting in a ***half-time position*** with the possibility and hope for increase as we see growth in the congregation

***Our efforts and motivation are both in growing our congregation and also reaching out in Mission. We are looking for a pastor who shares this focus. We would like our new pastor to be able to both work well with leaders and members of the congregation, willing to draw from the knowledge and experience of others and also contribute in both support and leadership. We are not tied to one specific style of worship and are open to variety. We feel that a pastor with technical skills would be a definite asset in current times and also because we are not able to offer administrative and/or secretarial support and we commonly use a Power Point Presentation for worship.***

***Our Mission statement is ROOTED IN THE WORD OF GOD, GROWING IN THE LIKENESS OF CHRIST, REACHING OUT BY THE POWER OF THE HOLY SPIRIT****.*

***We believe that the mission of the Church is to preach the Gospel and to make disciples for Christ. We believe that making disciples — in our congregations, in our communities and nations, and around the world — must be a priority of the Church in the present age.***

Completed by: Gary Unterschultz, Call Committee Chair Date: July 10, 2020