

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 Our Savior's Evangelical Lutheran Church

Mailing address 945 Highway K-148

City Scandia State/Province Kansas Zip/Postal Code 66966

Telephone 785-335-2628 Fax _____

Email address oursaviors@nckdirect.com

Congregation website Facebook page

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

Congregational President or Vice President

Name Doug Stensaas Title Congregational President

Mailing address 185 110 Road

City Concordia State/Province Kansas Zip/Postal Code 66901

Home phone _____ Cell phone 785-335-2371

Email address dwstensaas@yahoo.com

Call Committee Chair

Name Beth Stensaas

Mailing address _____

City _____ State/Province _____ Zip/Postal Code _____

Home phone _____ Cell phone (785) 955-2160

Email address stensaasm@gmail.com

Congregational Demographics

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

Average worship attendance 30 - 35 Average Sunday school attendance 15

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

Our Savior's Evangelical Lutheran Church is located Norway, Kansas. It is a rural community in the beautiful Republican River valley which includes highly productive farms and cutting edge agricultural practices. It is a community with a strong Scandinavian heritage. Our local school district is ranked twenty-third in Kansas based on student performance (math and reading test scores), dropout rates, school funding, and area poverty rates. The county has many businesses centered around our agricultural environment.

Norway is located 16 miles northwest of Concordia Kansas which is home to Cloud County Community College, a 4-plex movie theater, restaurants, industry, shopping and a local hospital.

It is also 16 miles southwest of Belleville, Kansas which is home to our local county hospital, theater, industry, shopping and restaurants.

In addition, Salina Regional Health Center, a tertiary care hospital is located just 60 miles south.

Describe the congregation's ethnic composition and age distribution.

Age:	0 – 19 yrs.	20%
	20 – 34 yrs.	7%
	35 – 49 yrs.	8%
	50 – 64 yrs.	20%
	Over 65	45%

Approximately 25-30 young adults and children that are currently inactive members and unaffiliated community residents.

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.

The congregation of Our Savior's Evangelical Lutheran Church led by the Holy Spirit are called to share the good news of God's holy word with each other and the world, loving and serving in Jesus name.

What are the primary goals of your congregation?

The primary goals of our congregation are to witness to Gods unconditional love in word and deed. To serve each other, the community, and the whole body of Christ through our ministry. Members strive to be actively involved in the life of the church by sharing their time, talents and treasures. We continue to grow in faith, sharing the Word, sacraments and confessions.

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

Liturgy – With One Voice hymnal

Hymns – Evangelical Lutheran Worship hymnal (organ or piano accompaniment)

Communion – 1st & 3rd Sundays, Church Holy Days

Vestments – In the past we have not provided vestments

Describe your congregation's Christian education ministry.

Current education ministry:

Youth and Adult Sunday School

Confirmation

Vacation Bible School

Family Bible Study

Our congregation sees education ministry as an area for potential growth.

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

Monetary support to local community members in crisis

Synodical budget paid to ELCA

Oaks Indian Mission

Quilting for infants and youth

Men's Annual Pancake Supper

Women's Annual Bazaar

Provide and Serve Local Fund-Raising Benefits

Food Bank

Family and Children programs:

Lutheran Family & Children

Camp Tomah Shinga

Morrison House

Meadowlark Hospice

Scholarship

NCK CASA

Faith Works

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

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

1. An ordained minister that feels a strong call from the Lord to serve as a minister and role model reaching out to all to proclaim the Gospel.
2. A strong leader with a sound biblical foundation who will effectively communicate the Scriptures through their leadership, preaching and teaching.
3. An enthusiastic leader for our youth, young and senior adults to grow in their personal faith as well as sharing their enthusiasm for proclaiming and serving Our Lord and Savior with all.
4. A minister with strong communication skills in all settings and roles, providing pastoral care and visitation for all ages.
5. A leader who is organized and motivated to serve.

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.

- Our Savior’s Evangelical Lutheran Church was founded in 1872.
- Construction of the existing brick church with stain glass windows in 1934 during the depression was a testament of the congregations’ faith and commitment.
- In 2017 Our Savior’s Evangelical Lutheran Church voted to leave the ELCA.

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. [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?

Our Savior’s Evangelical Lutheran Church was a member of the ELCA for 30 years. In 2017, the congregation voted to leave the ELCA. We are continuing to work through the process of our recent changes to meet the needs of our congregation as well as our individual members.

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).....
We need pastoral leadership to help us learn to resolve conflicts when differences arise.

What was the nature of the relationship between your last pastor and the congregation? Positive? Struggling? Cooperative? Tense?

In the past Our Savior’s Evangelical Lutheran was a part of a four-point parish. In this parish, we shared ONE (1) minister with the other churches. As a result, there were times when the minister’s availability to participate in our church council meetings and other activities was not possible.

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: \$ 60,325

Benevolence to the North American Lutheran Church: \$ NA (not a member in 2017)

Other benevolence: \$ 5,435 given from the Church & \$2,000 given from the Women’s group

Total debt of the congregation: \$ 0

Total savings, reserves, and endowments: \$ 101,764

Compensation of Last Pastor (Our Saviors’ Evangelical Lutheran church was a member of a four-point parish in 2017. The salary listed below represents only our share of the salary which included all other items listed separately.)

Salary: \$ 31,745 Parsonage/housing allowance: \$ Inc.

Social security offset: \$ Inc. Pension: \$ Inc.

Health Insurance: \$ Inc. _____ Vacation: Inc. _____

Continuing education (time/funding): Inc. _____

Travel reimbursement: Inc. _____

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.

We are a rural church being led by our faith in our Lord and Savior. We are searching for a pastor to join us and lead us on this path of declaring the Lord's word for all to hear and share.

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

[enter text]

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.**

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

North American Lutheran Church
Assistant to the Bishop for Ministry
3500 Mill Run Drive
Hilliard, OH 43026-777

In addition, mail or email a copy of the completed profile to your mission district dean (can be found at <http://thenalc.org/mission-districts/>).

Should you have questions, call Pr. David Wendel, Assistant to the Bishop for Ministry, at 614-

777-5709 (Office), or 719-650-8171 (Cell).

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