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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 Valhalla Evangelical Lutheran Church

Mailing address

City Valhalla Centre State/Province Ab Zip/Postal Code

Telephone Fax

Email address valhallachurch@gmail.com

Congregation website valhallalutheranchurch.ca

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

**Congregational President or Vice President**

Name Doug Kochendorfer Title Chairman

Mailing address

City Valhalla Centre State/Province Ab Zip/Postal Code

Home phone 780-356-2114 Cell phone 780-831-5701

Email address dougkochendorfer@gmail.com

**Call Committee Chair**

Name Steve Mumert

Mailing address

City Valhalla Centre State/Province Ab Zip/Postal Code

Home phone Cell phone 780-814-2839

Email address sjmumert@gmail.com

**Congregational Demographics**

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

Average worship attendance 40 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.).**

**Small farming hamlet**

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

Mostly Norwegian background. Diverse age structure

**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.**

Experiencing God’s love, freedom in Christ, Living in God’s love

Welcoming to all

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

To implement our VLC SMART (Specific, Measureable, Achievable, Realistic, Timely) future plan to accomplish our mission

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

**We are a traditional church with an abbreviated liturgy, traditional hymns with Communion the first Sunday of the month**

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

Valhalla Lutheran has Sunday school classes for all ages as well as confirmation classes.

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

Vacation bible school program

Canada day coffee and muffins at church during parade and assisting with community events

Community Supper with Christmas program

Spring time seminars (February) with guest speakers

**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. Gifted in teaching and preaching
2. Skilled at coaching and mentoring
3. Servant leadership and strategizing
4. High level of emotional intelligence and trust
5. Relationship oriented, personable and optimistic

**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.**

2015- Pastor Ella Loberg retired after 20+ yrs as pastor

2016- 100 year anniversary commemorating God’s plan for our church in the community

2019- installation of elevator; our commitment towards accessibility for all

**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?**

Working with transitional pastor through closure issues after Ella’s retirement, adjustments congregation wide dealing with change

**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.

X 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?**

Currently working with a transitional pastor in a positive; constructive relationship.

**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 Vote

**Congregational finances**

Total budget for last fiscal year: $

Benevolence to the North American Lutheran Church: $

Other benevolence: $

Total debt of the congregation: $

Total savings, reserves, and endowments: $

**Compensation of Last Pastor**

Salary: $ 44000 Parsonage/housing allowance: $ 15600

Social security offset: $ Pension: $ 2200

Health Insurance: $ 3600 Vacation: 3 weeks paid vacation

Continuing education (time/funding): 1 week study leave plus $1000 related expenses

Travel reimbursement: mileage max. $400/ month (.50/km ) upon submission of expense claim

Other: $1200 cell phone allowance. $500 book allowance

**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.**

Worshipping together in Valhalla Centre for over 100 years, our heart is to live together as a spiritual family and to serve the Lord as he reveals himself to us. Our vision is “Worshipping, Seeking, Sharing our hope in Christ”. Recognizing that communities change over time, we want to continue to make a difference for him by living out the Fruits of the Spirit, building up those within our church body and sharing His love with those who do not yet know him. At the heart of this church body, our core values remain the same: God’s Word, Biblical Truth, Relationships, Salvation. We aspire to continually enrich ourselves in: love and forgiveness, spiritual growth, valuing all, outreach and volunteering.

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

[enter text]

Completed by: Les Obst Date: June 22, 2019



Valhalla Evangelical Lutheran Church

Pastoral Search

# Who Are We?

Worshipping together in Valhalla Centre for over 100 years, our heart is to live together as a spiritual family and to serve the Lord as he reveals himself to us. Our

vision is “Worshipping, Seeking, Sharing our Hope in Christ”. Recognizing that communities change over time, we want to continue to discern God’s direction for us as individuals and as a congregation, and continue to make a difference for Him by living out the Fruits of the Spirit, building up those within our church body, and sharing His love with those who do not yet know Him.

At the heart of this church body, our core values remain the same: God’s Word, Biblical Truth, Relationships, Salvation.

We aspire to continually enrich ourselves in: love and forgiveness, spiritual growth, valuing all, unity, outreach and volunteering.



**Vision**

Worshipping, seeking, sharing

our hope in Christ

**Core Values** God’s Word Biblical Truth Relationships

Salvation

Valhalla Evangelical Lutheran Church https://valhallalutheranchurch.wordpress.com 780-356-2264

Valhalla Evangelical Lutheran Church https://valhallalutheranchurch.wordpress.com 780-356-2264

**Who are we Looking For?**

The Valhalla Evangelical Lutheran church is currently seeking a pastor with gifts in teaching and preaching, coaching and mentoring, servant- leadership

and strategizing.

As the shepherd of the church you must display a high level of emotional intelligence and trust, be a positive influencer of people, relationship-oriented, personable and optimistic, while understanding yourself

very well.

**Where are We?**

The congregation of Valhalla Lutheran Church makes its home in a 100- year-old, historic church, nestled in the hamlet of Valhalla Centre, the beautiful heart of the

County of Grande Prairie in the Peace River country of Alberta.

Valhalla Centre is a rural community with huge heart; “a tiny community [which] hasn’t just survived, but thrived. With a thriving restaurant, charter school and community centre, Valhalla Centre remains a going concern”1, supported by people who know how to build community.



**What’s Nearby?**

Nearby, are several communities: LaGlace to the east, Hythe to the west, Beaverlodge to the south with a local hospital … all only minutes away, and approximately 60 km southwest, the busy service center of Grande Prairie, a city of 69,000 people with all amenities. Shopping, school (including the Grande Prairie Regional College) and medical needs all are readily met nearby!



The County of Grande Prairie No. 1 is Alberta's first county and is a great place to live, visit, and do business.2 A beautiful area, recreational opportunities

abound! Sports, arts, outdoors … all are nearby and plentiful!



Located in the southern part of the Peace River Country, Grande Prairie is an attractive place to visit or make home. Enjoy nature and the great outdoors at Saskatoon Island Provincial Park, check out some local and Canadian artwork at the Art Gallery of Grande Prairie, learn about the region’s fascinating dinosaur history at the Phillip J. Currie Dinosaur Museum, or maybe enjoy one of the many festivals, including the Bear Creek Folk Festival.

Whatever you choose, there is no time for boredom in this happening area!3

Valhalla Evangelical Lutheran Church https://valhallalutheranchurch.wordpress.com 780-356-2264

# Pastoral Role/Expectations

## Theology

1. The Bible is the word of God and the foundation of faith for all believers
   * Ability to apply the word of truth in preaching and teaching
   * Personal commitment to the study of God’s word
2. Understanding of personal salvation
   * That salvation is given by God the Father by his grace
   * That salvation is obtained only through the acceptance of the sacrifice of Jesus Christ on the cross
   * That God in the person of the Holy Spirit gives man the power to live out his salvation
3. Understanding of Reformation and Lutheran Theology and these principles
   * Christ alone
   * Faith alone
   * Scripture alone
   * Grace alone
   * The cross alone



## Morality

1. The qualifications of a pastor are outlined in I Tim 3:1-7, with the recognition that it is a noble task; and therefore, the pastor must be:
   * God seeking
   * Above reproach
   * Sober-minded
   * Self-controlled
   * Respectable
   * Hospitable
   * Able to teach
   * Not use alcohol to excess
   * Gentle with people
   * Living at peace with others
   * Own family will reflect these values
2. The pastor’s conduct will reflect the above values, for example
   * Conduct that does not bring dishonor to God, the church, or himself
   * Open to others and their ideas
   * Bringing peace and not judgement to situations
   * Careful use of social media
   * Daily prayer and devotions



## Practice

1. Leadership
   * Servant leadership
   * Willing to make decisions
   * Willing to be accountable
   * Willing to follow, apply, and encourage the body to adhere to the VLC SMART FUTURE PLAN
2. Evangelism
   * Salvation focused community outreach
   * Ability to share the gospel with unbelievers
   * Equipping others to share the gospel
3. Preaching and Teaching
   * Act as coordinator/overseer of administrative activities and day to day operation
   * Maintain church records
   * Monthly report of pastoral activities
4. Administration
   * Sunday sermon
   * Confirmation
   * Bible Study/Small group
5. Pastoral
   * Visitation
     + Hospital
     + Monthly Senior Lodge
     + Cards/Flowers to those sick or passing
   * Counselling
     + Regular, available office hours in parsonage office
     + Pre-marital counselling
     + New membership
   * Special services
   * Weddings
   * Funerals
6. Working Relationships
   * Emotional intelligence: aware of self and able to understand others
   * Partner with council in continually evaluating all ministries and

considering ways to support, improve and expand them

* + Ex officio with council chair on all committees
  + Work as coach and mentor to council, committee, and congregational members, striving to develop deep relationships

with them; helping them reach their full potential in ministry by engaging and empowering them

* + Work with other area pastors in the local Ministerial Association
  + Pastor accountable to:
    - 1st - Deacons Board
    - 2nd - Council
    - 3rd - Congregation

Pastoral Review to be completed annually

1. [https://www.albertafarmexpress.ca/2012/10/05/valhalla-tiny-community-hasnt-just-survi](http://www.albertafarmexpress.ca/2012/10/05/valhalla-tiny-community-hasnt-just-survived-but-thrived/#post-44152)v[ed-but-thri](http://www.albertafarmexpress.ca/2012/10/05/valhalla-tiny-community-hasnt-just-survived-but-thrived/#post-44152)v[ed/#post-44152](http://www.albertafarmexpress.ca/2012/10/05/valhalla-tiny-community-hasnt-just-survived-but-thrived/#post-44152)
2. [https://www.facebook.com/pg/cogp1/about/?ref=page\_internal](http://www.facebook.com/pg/cogp1/about/?ref=page_internal)
3. [https://www.todocanada.ca/things-gr](http://www.todocanada.ca/things-grande-prairie/)ande-pr[airie/](http://www.todocanada.ca/things-grande-prairie/)

**VLC SMART (Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Realistic, Timely) FUTURE PLAN**

Why will we exist? (Vision/Purpose) Worshipping, seeking, sharing our hope in Christ.

How will we behave? (Values)

Core Values – lie at the heart of this church body, they do not change over time. God’s Word, Biblical Truth, Relationships, Salvation

Aspirational Values – these are values that this church body wants to have, wishes it already had, and believes it must develop in order to maximize its success towards the vision.

Love and Forgiveness, Spiritual Growth, Everyone’s Valued, Unity, Outreach, Volunteering

What will we do? (Mission)

What difference are we trying to make?

1. Experiencing God’s Love, Freedom in Christ, Living in God’s Love
2. Welcoming to all For what people? Who?
3. Youth
4. Young families
5. Those marginally engaged With what resources? How?
6. Prayer
7. With our finances, church budget
8. Volunteers
9. Using our spiritual gifts

**How will we succeed? (Strategic Goals) Who will do what? By When?**

6 Months

1. Every adherent to invite one friend or couple to church or a church activity. (Everyone)
2. Start prayer sisters (ELW) (April 2019)
3. Start the Call Committee (Call Committee) (May 2019)
4. Mother’s Day – who? (May 2019)
5. Church picnic/SS (Parish Ed.) (June 2019)
6. Canada Day – (July 2019)
7. Review all present programs offered by the church to see if they fit the mission and vision. (Deacons, Parish Ed.) (July 2019)
8. Make sure the church budget reflects the mission/vision (Council) (August 2019)
9. VBS – (Parish Ed) (August 2019)
10. Start a Sunday morning prayer group (September 2019)
11. Supper with Christmas program (Parish Ed.) (December 2019)
12. Finish the year by having 1 new family attend church on Sunday 2019
13. Year
    1. Review all activities/programs to see if they are accomplishing the mission/vision
    2. Prayer sisters along with Teaching/Bible Study (ELW) (April 2020)
    3. Every adherent to invite one friend or couple to church or a church activity. (Everyone)
    4. Breakfast with Easter program on Palm Sunday (Parish Ed) (2020)
    5. Canada Day – (July 2020)
    6. VBS – (Parish Ed) (August 2020)
    7. Sunday morning prayer group (September 2020)
    8. Start a men’s breakfast and Bible Study (September 2020)
    9. Supper with Christmas program (Parish Ed.) (December 2020)
    10. Finish the year by having 3 new families attend church on Sunday 2020
14. Years
    1. Review all activities/programs to see if they are accomplishing the mission/vision
    2. Prayer sisters along with Teaching/Bible Study (ELW) (April 2021)
    3. Every adherent to invite one friend or couple to church or a church activity. (Everyone)
    4. Breakfast with Easter program on Palm Sunday (Parish Ed) (2021)
    5. Canada Day – (July 2021)
    6. VBS – (Parish Ed) (August 2021)
    7. Sunday morning prayer group (September 2021)
    8. Men’s breakfast and Bible Study (September 2021)
    9. Supper with Christmas program (Parish Ed.) (December 2021)
    10. Start a youth group (September 2021)
    11. Finish the year by having 6 new families attend church on Sunday 2021

**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.**