

# CONGREGATIONAL PROFILE



## Congregation Name and Location

Name Peace Lutheran Church

Mailing address 2600 E Danforth

City Edmond State/Province OK Zip/Postal Code 73034

Telephone 405-341-3205 Fax \_\_\_\_\_

Email address pastor@peace-lutheran.net

Congregation website peace-lutheran.net

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 Gregg Hostetler Title Chair

Mailing address 4355 Wagonwheel Rd

City Edmond State/Province OK Zip/Postal Code 73044

Home phone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell phone 405-227-0531

Email address ghostetler@consoreng.com

## Call Committee Chair

Name Susan Bedwell

Mailing address 1009 E Warner Ave.

City Guthrie State/Province OK Zip/Postal Code 73044

Home phone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell phone 405-830-4567

Email address sbedwell1@yahoo.com

## Congregational Demographics

Number of **paid** staff (full- or part-time): Clergy 1 Lay professionals 2.1\* Secretarial 0.5  
Preschool staff 9 part-time teachers, 2 part-time administrative assistants (paid by preschool)

\*includes sound tech for weekly services

Average worship attendance 129 Average Sunday school attendance 70

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

*Edmond is a large (population 96,000) suburban city that is part of the greater Oklahoma City metropolitan area. Edmond has approximately 36,000 households within the city limits. The average age in Edmond is 36.3. The median household income is \$80,620 and boasts a cost of living 13% below the national average. Edmond and state sales tax combined is 8.25%. The median house price is \$277,000. Edmond has 17 elementary schools, 6 middle schools, and 3 high schools. Eleven are Blue Ribbon Schools. Edmond also hosts 2 universities and a technology center.*

*Three excellent hospital systems and supporting clinics are located in Edmond with several Oklahoma City hospitals, including a VA and a Children's Hospital within 30 miles.*

*Will Rogers Airport is a 45-minute drive from Edmond. Three major interstates (I35, I40 and I44) are within easy access.*

*Numerous community amenities are available including: 2 YMCA; fishing, sailing, boating at nearby lakes; walking and bicycle trails; sports such as golf, tennis, pickleball, basketball; summer Farmer's market and active Arts Council; various planned family friendly activities. <https://visitedmondok.com/events.php>*

### Describe the congregation's ethnic composition and age distribution.

*Peace is primarily Caucasian.*

0-10	41
11-18	50
19-29	42
30-49	62
50-69	73
70-89	69
90+	2

### 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.

*Most members refer to the Great Commission, sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ with the world, connecting people to Christ with a focus on HIM. Some members participate in the work within the church and some do not.*

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

*We want to be the hands and feet of Christ, to work well together, to be welcoming, caring, and understanding of each other as we grow as disciples of Christ.*

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

*We currently have two services, at 8:00AM and 10:30AM. During the summer we have a monthly outdoor service on Saturday. We enjoy a variety of Lutheran liturgies, music from hymns to contemporary praise, and celebrate communion weekly. Our congregation is open to learning new hymns and worship settings. All members, including youth, have the opportunity to participate in worship in the following ways: planning the service, musical offerings, assisting minister, acolyte, cantor, usher, communion assistant, and altar guild.*

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

*Christian education is offered from preschool to adults. All classes are led by lay people/pastor. Sunday education opportunities include: children's (2-year old – 5<sup>th</sup> grade), confirmation (6<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup>), high school (9<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup>), and adult. Weekday opportunities include: 3 women's bible studies, Thursday morning men's devotion, Faith builders (adult), LUCK-Lifting Up Christ the King (1<sup>st</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup>), LUFF-Letting Us Find Faith (6<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup>) and LOFT-Letting Our Faith Thrive (9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>).*

*We are blessed to be ministry partners with Peace Preschool for 34 years. In 2019, Peace Preschool served 77 children. Peace was rated the top Edmond preschool in 2018-2019. Several members of Peace send their children or serve as teachers.*

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

*PLC has a renewed and vibrant Missions Ministry that builds on the congregation's Discipleship Vision to be obedient to Christ's Great Commission in Matt. 28:19-20. It defines mission as "responding to God's amazing gift of grace to spread the good news of Jesus' death and resurrection to all peoples of the world through word and action."*

*We are committed to supporting a variety of ministries at the local (OK county and state), regional/national and global areas that have real financial need, are rooted in the Gospel and provide a variety of ways for the saints at Peace to partner and engage with the ministry including prayer. Current missions we support include all of the ministry areas of the NALC and the following: Cook's Night Out, City Rescue Mission, Project 66 Food & Resource Center, Oaks Indian Mission, Kairos Prison Ministry, San Miguel LC (NALC) in Ft. Worth, TX, missionary Pr. Didi Panzo's ministry to the DRC, and weekly worship and bible studies at the Veraden, a local assisted living center. Many of our in-person community missions have temporarily suspended during the current pandemic.*

*Recently the Congregation moved to financially support Missions with a 10% tithe of all offerings which go into a dedicated account which is not swept at the end of each fiscal year.*

**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. People person (social, willing to reach out to people at events, do home and hospital visits)
2. A person who will be open with the congregation and allow the congregation to be open with them, acknowledging strengths and weaknesses so the congregation can complement and support the pastor effectively
3. Strong biblical preacher
4. Person that is in the Word and lives out his/her faith
5. Person who encourages and inspires the congregation 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 move to the NALC (2011)– It signified our commitment to the Lutheran tenants of word alone, faith alone and grace alone.*

*Beginning our community mission through Cook's Night Out (2014) – It is the first regularly held, sustained community outreach that involved all age groups in service.*

*Building of Peace Lutheran Church facility (1984) – Gave the congregation opportunity to expand from a small campus church to a more community congregation.*

**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. *Despite COVID-19 restrictions, we had a large percentage (80%) of worshiping members participated. Congregants answered workshop questions via Survey Monkey and mailed questionnaires. Review of questions were held in person and by Zoom.*
2. *Clarified our weaknesses and strengths, our lingering hurts and our desire to move forward.*
3. *Identified areas we can work on currently and those needing collaboration with a new pastor.*

**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?**

*Congregation went through a period of financial strain and discerning appropriate staffing for the size of the church. The situation strained relationships within the staff. At the same time our pastor decided to leave which further created disruption. Our congregation has stabilized and is moving forward despite changes in staff.*

**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).....

**What was the nature of the relationship between your last pastor and the congregation? Positive?**

*Our ministry together went well in the beginning. But over time, lack of communication caused a disconnect between the pastor and the congregation.*

**How did your council/congregational leaders work together with your last pastor?**

- 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:**

Voice     Vote

**Congregational finances**

Total budget for last fiscal year: \$ 452,016

Benevolence to the North American Lutheran Church: \$ 9,800

Other benevolence: \$ 1,200

Total debt of the congregation: \$ 0

Total savings, reserves, and endowments: \$ 113,000 \_\_\_\_\_

**Compensation of Former Pastor**

Salary: \$ 45,000 \_\_\_\_\_ Parsonage \$ parsonage w/utilities \_\_\_\_\_  
Social security offset: \$ 4,400 \_\_\_\_\_ Pension: \$ 5,850 \_\_\_\_\_  
Health Insurance: \$ 21,288 \_\_\_\_\_ Vacation: 4 weeks, 4 Sundays \_\_\_\_\_  
Continuing education (time/funding): 2 weeks/\$1,000 \_\_\_\_\_  
Travel reimbursement: per IRS standards \_\_\_\_\_  
Other: housing equity \$4,000, professional expenses \$1,000 \_\_\_\_\_

**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.**

Avg attendance 129, 2 services, weekly communion. We are located in Edmond, Oklahoma near Oklahoma City, a large metropolitan area. Peace Lutheran Church is looking for a partner in ministry who can help us live out our mission to be the hands and feet of Christ, to work well together, be welcoming, caring and understanding with each other as we grow in our faith walk as disciples in Christ. We are a congregation that values strong biblical teaching, fellowship with others, open communication and the power of prayer.

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

[www.peace-lutheran.net](http://www.peace-lutheran.net)  
<https://youtu.be/jvR7vaRE3-Y>

Completed by: Peace Call Committee \_\_\_\_\_ Date: 10/20/2020 \_\_\_\_\_

