



St. John's
Episcopal Church

FALL 2022

ASSOCIATE RECTOR
FOR PASTORAL CARE, OUTREACH, AND PARISH LIFE



GET TO KNOW US

INTRODUCING ST. JOHN'S

At St. John's, we celebrate the life and love of Jesus Christ through shared worship and our many ministries. We are a congregation of approximately 1,500 members—families, couples, single, and widowed. Our post-COVID, in-person average Sunday attendance is approximately 350, with a large number of weekly online worshippers. We are still regaining our footing following the pandemic, but there is energy and momentum. We are excited about our growing membership and the potential that brings. We value excellent liturgy and music; we are seriously committed to outreach; we constantly work to align ourselves with the needs of our community; and we invite, encourage, and welcome others to join us. We are the best kind of family—we enjoy spending time together and celebrating, but we support one other when the going gets tough. We seek deep connections with our fellow parishioners and build lifelong friendships in Christ.

DEEP ROOTS. UNIQUE PERSPECTIVE.

St. John's was founded in 1829. However, the original church burned in 1879. A new church was built in the same place in 1881 and is still the principal place of worship. Our sanctuary is listed on the National Register of Historic Places and stands in downtown Tallahassee, just a few blocks from Florida State University and the state Capitol. This provides a unique perspective on this community where education and politics intersect with the Kingdom of God. St. John's administers an operating budget of \$1.8 million, 14 percent of which is set aside for outreach. At St. John's, we strive in all we do to live into our five core values: *worship, compassion, openness, community, and stewardship.*

THE MISSING PIECE OF THE PUZZLE

We are searching for an Associate Rector to join our team led by our new rector, the Rev. Lonnie Lacy, a staff of 15, three vocational deacons, and a part-time priest associate. This individual will work closely with the rector and assume responsibility for pastoral care, outreach, and parish life ministries. Make no mistake, this is a position that requires a unique set of skills: an inward focus on parishioners and their families at challenging times, and an outward focus to serve, welcome, embrace, and build community with our parish body and those around us. Our Associate Rector will also participate in the full range of preaching and sacraments. We invite you to learn more about our congregation, our ministries, and our worship online at www.saint-john.org.



Photo courtesy of The Tallahassee Democrat. Used with permission.



WHO WE SEEK

PASTORAL CARE

The Associate Rector will coordinate a full range of traditional pastoral care to our congregation. This includes our most senior parishioners (we have 100 members over the age of 80!), and all parishioners at times of illness, death, or other transition. The Associate Rector will oversee St. John's Stephen Ministry, our Eucharistic Visitors, the "Walking the Mourner's Path" grief support program, and our Prayer Shawl Ministry. Building on our already strong lay pastoral care team, she or he can also help additional parishioners discern their gifts for this Christ-like work. Together, we'll expand the definition of pastoral care to include youth, young adults, and those of middle age who might benefit from a listening ear and acknowledgment of the stresses and speed bumps we all experience throughout the stages of our lives.

OUTREACH

Jesus calls us to love our neighbors as ourselves. Our Associate Rector will walk with us as we continue to provide direct support for those living on the margins and aid agencies that do the same. We hope to expand the work of helping "the least of these" through partnerships with local and global agencies like Second Harvest, the Kearney Center (homeless ministry), Big Bend Hospice, Grace Mission, and Elder Care Services. Additionally, the Associate Rector will oversee our social justice efforts, where we are working with the local community to respect the dignity of every human being. She or he will also provide support and oversight for St. John's ongoing efforts to provide clean drinking water to our sister parish and neighboring communities in Cuba, and coordinate with partners in Quito, Ecuador that host our youth annually.

PARISH LIFE

The Associate Rector will oversee our thriving small group ministry, our greeters, and the SALTS group (senior citizens). She or he will also supervise Bible studies and/or book groups, particularly those held via Zoom for parishioners are not able to attend regularly in person. St. John's is a busy place and our staff is currently overperforming. The Associate Rector will help train and support parish life leaders, empowering them to coordinate intergenerational fellowship opportunities like the St. John's Market, our Fall Parish Weekend, and seasonal luncheons. Along with our Membership Director, the Associate Rector will work to improve connections with our newest members—inviting those without a church home to visit for worship, supporting our welcome team, and integrating new members into life at St. John's.



PARTICIPATE IN OUR SEARCH

DO YOU FEEL CALLED TO THIS MINISTRY?

Help us get to know you by providing the following materials.

- an updated OTM Portfolio
- a current resume
- a cover letter expressing why you are interested in St. John's

Please also let us know where you are canonically resident and whether or not your Bishop has released you to pursue opportunities outside your diocese. We also ask that you respond to the following three questions, limiting responses to 500 words each.

- Share with us three things you've learned from your pastoral care work with lay volunteers. Provide specific examples from your life and ministry. How do you invite, train, empower, encourage, and thank volunteers?
- Share your definition of parish life. In a larger church like St. John's, with a wide range of ages and interests, suggest some ways to bring us closer together as a single parish while also capitalizing on the opportunities for smaller groups and ministries.
- What does it mean to you to preach the Gospel? Tell us about a sermon you gave that you and others found meaningful, effective, and true.

Send your complete package of application materials to Mark Ascani, Parish Administrator (mark@saint-john.org) by December 15, 2022.

