



ST. JOHN'S  
EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
TALLAHASSEE • FLORIDA

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ASSOCIATE RECTOR  
for Pastoral Care and Parish Life

# WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT US

## INTRODUCING ST. JOHN'S

St. John's is a congregation of 1,200 members worshipping in the mother church of the Diocese of Florida. It was founded as a mission parish in 1829, and the church's first building was erected in 1837. The original church burned in 1879. A new church was built on the same site and consecrated in 1888, and it is still the parish's principal place of worship. The baptismal font we use now was rescued from the ashes of the original building.

St. John's stands in downtown Tallahassee, not far from Florida State University and the state Capitol. This gives us a unique perspective on the place where education and politics intersect with the Kingdom of God. In the Capitol there's a chapel that was founded by the Episcopal Church.

We are an energetic and thriving church with growing membership and solid financial footing. 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 invite, encourage and welcome others to join us.

We are now able to call a third full-time member of the clergy. This new team member will join the rector, the Rev. David Killeen, and the associate rector for Christian formation and outreach, the Rev. Abi Moon. He or she will be responsible for pastoral care and parish life.

It is a position that requires a unique set of skills: an inward focus on parishioners and their families at challenging times in their lives, and an outward focus to welcome, embrace, enjoy and build community with a congregation whose members range from newborns to those in their nineties.

### What Our Lay Leaders Say

*When we asked some of our lay leaders to describe St. John's, here's what they said:*

*Diverse... a congregation that says yes... It's never dull... moving forward, not just maintenance... a place of health, renewal and healing... thriving... joyful... music... hospitality, food, meals, nourishing... from strong to stronger.*

## NOT YOUR ORDINARY CONGREGATION

Lots of residents of our city find their way in and out of our campus all year long. We host basketball banquets for high schools. We open our doors to civic and arts groups. Our bookstore attracts readers from all over the city. Our much-anticipated fall fund-raiser, the St. John's Market, draws eager shoppers from far and wide who come to buy our homemade jams, jellies and preserves, baked goods, crafts and gifts.

Our Lively Café serves lunch five days a week (four in the summer) and attracts diners from the business and political community. Wander through the Parish Hall some lunchtime and you might spot the justices of the Florida Supreme Court eating together. We may be the only café in the Episcopal Church whose dessert menu proudly includes "Slices of Sin."

Last year so many youngsters wanted to attend Vacation Bible School that we had to cap the classes. When our "Full Summer" project packed 40,000 meals in two hours for Second Harvest, we had to turn away volunteers. Our local Youth Mission Week, at which teens performed service projects around the city, had a waiting list. These are problems we are blessed to have.

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In 2011, we developed a strategic plan, “Visioning the Vineyard,” deeply guided by the Holy Spirit and prayer and a project in which the entire congregation was involved. The creation and funding of this third clergy position grew directly out of that strategic plan.

We administer an operating budget of \$1.4 million, 13% of which is set aside for outreach to organizations including Second Harvest, Tallahassee Shelter (homeless ministry), Habitat for Humanity and Grace Mission.

We invite you to learn much more about our congregation, our ministries and our worship at our website, [www.saint-john.org](http://www.saint-john.org).

## What Our Parishioners Say

*When we asked, “What’s working well at St. John’s?” here’s what we heard:*

*Good communication... outreach, faith in action... welcoming... the café... the bookstore... our stewardship program... increased diversity: race, age, sexual orientation, socioeconomic... the wisdom we’ve learned from our ups and downs.*

## ST. JOHN’S CORE VALUES

1. **Worship:** Worship is at the center of all that we do. We value powerful liturgy rooted in Episcopal tradition, preaching that brings God’s Word alive with clarity and conviction, and an exceptional music program.
2. **Compassion:** We are committed to compassionately serving our local and global neighbors, especially through our pastoral care and outreach ministries. Whether it’s caring for those in need in Tallahassee or embarking on international mission trips, we are passionate about selfless service in Christ’s name.
3. **Openness:** We are firm at the core and open at the edges, which means that we adhere closely to the core teachings of Holy Scripture and Episcopal tradition, while meeting all persons wherever they are on their spiritual journey. We are an inclusive church that seeks to embrace all of God’s people.
4. **Community:** Daily worship, a bustling café and bookstore, and meeting spaces open to the public—we are a 24/7 downtown church that joyfully extends hospitality to our members and the community.
5. **Stewardship:** Since 1829, we have valued faithful stewardship of the time, talent and treasure with which God has blessed us. We seek to be good stewards not just for our own benefit, but also for the wellbeing of generations to come, that future members of St. John’s will share in our faith and love God and their neighbors.



## WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT US

### THIS IS A BUSY PLACE!

- Even on a Sunday—when most churches are closed and quiet after about 12:30 p.m.—St. John’s is alive with activity right through the evening.
- We’re proud of our financial transparency. Our treasurer makes quarterly reports to the congregation that have won praise because “we can actually understand where the money is going.”
- We are challenged by our aging buildings. Maintenance is a chronic problem. Handicap accessibility is not what it needs to be.
- Our administrative staff is stretched thin.
- We’re pretty well organized. Events are entered on a published church calendar well in advance. Bulletins, inserts, e-mail blasts to the congregation, big events and major worship are handled smoothly. We save the last-minute scrambling for the truly unpredictable events.
- We constantly evaluate how we’re doing. After a major event we do “debriefs”: How’d we do, what can we do better next time? We “grow the idea out” with those involved and keep notes for the future.
- We are a congregation of people eager to live out their faith in action. We’re proud of our outreach work. Ask us about our ministry to provide clean, safe drinking water to two communities in Cuba.
- We’re an unusual congregation. Our seniors group just went kayaking on the Ichetucknee River. In terms of activity and enthusiasm, we’re rewriting the book.

- We are six discrete congregations – Sundays at 8, 9, and 11:15 a.m., 5:30 p.m., and 8 p.m., plus our weekday 12:10 p.m. service. We need intentional all-parish events to knit these groups into a whole.
- The clergy lead pilgrimages to educate parishioners on our Christian heritage. In recent years, St. John’s groups have traveled to Israel. In the summer of 2015, pilgrims will travel to England to explore our Anglican roots. This fits in with a strong adult Christian education program, including multiple ecumenical and interfaith events in our community.
- We have a wide variety of children’s and youth programs. Annually, our youth group goes to Cuba to visit our companion parish. Our thriving junior choir sends multiple children to RSCMA camp every year.
- We are a player in the diocese. Our clergy serve on diocesan committees and councils. In 2013 we hosted Diocesan Convention at St. John’s. We are a resource for smaller churches. We are not an island.
- We have fun. This is a generous, welcoming congregation that enjoys being together. We believe it is easy for people to find a place here and a circle of friends.





## ON AND OFF THE JOB

### WHAT IT'S LIKE TO WORK HERE

- We're a team. This is a non-hierarchical place. We share information. If someone needs help, we all pitch in.
- We aren't clock-watchers. We do whatever it takes, whenever, to get the job done.
- Self-care is important: time off, time with family, time to refresh ourselves. We are at our best when we are physically, emotionally, and spiritually healthy.
- We are always looking for the next great idea, the new thing to try, the program or class that has never been offered before.
- As clergy, we feel supported and loved by our congregation. And we support and love them.

### What Our Leaders Say

**We asked leaders to describe our new priest. Here's what they said:**

*Collaborative... caring... sense of humor... congenial... listener... energetic... responsive to the congregation's needs... passionate... sensitive... balances work with family... all-in with the team... lover of Christ.*



**The Rev. David C. Killeen**  
Rector



**The Rev. Abigail W. Moon**  
Associate Rector for Christian Education and Outreach



*Associate Rector for Pastoral Care and Parish Life*

## OUR COMMUNITY

### WHAT IT'S LIKE TO LIVE HERE

Tallahassee, settled in the rolling hills of the Florida panhandle, is a young, vibrant community with a population of close to 250,000 and an average age of 35. It is the capital of Florida and the home of two major universities and a large community college. Although Tallahassee is a youthful city, it is steeped in history and charm with ancient oaks, beloved canopy roads, Indian ruins and old plantations.

With a mild winter and sunny Florida summers, Tallahassee has experienced steady development, as have the nearby coastal communities on the Gulf of Mexico, just an hour's drive from downtown Tallahassee.

There's plenty to offer in Tallahassee. The city is filled with enthusiastic college sports fans and collegiate competition in all sports is eagerly followed. Recreational opportunities include kayaking, sailing, tennis, golf, horseback riding, swimming and biking. The surrounding area offers excellent saltwater and freshwater fishing and hunting of game birds and deer. The college atmosphere cultivates an active cultural community with an appreciation for



concerts, museums, art shows, theater, symphony and ballet. Almost everyone who relocates to Tallahassee is surprised and pleased at the many choices of activities and interests that are easily accessible.

Tallahassee is a wonderful family community with good neighborhood public schools and a number of private elementary, middle and high schools, including Holy Comforter Episcopal School.



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## DOES THIS SOUND LIKE YOU?

### OUR ASSOCIATE FOR PASTORAL CARE AND PARISH LIFE WILL...

- Offer a full range of traditional pastoral care to our congregation. That includes our most senior members (we have 100 members over the age of 80!) who can no longer attend church regularly. It includes all members of the congregation at a time of illness, death or other transition in their lives. This priest will provide sacramental ministry to those in hospitals or nursing homes.
- Oversee our Stephen Ministry. Supervise Eucharistic Visitors and our Angel Food (meals at times of need) and prayer shawl ministries.
- Lead our Thursday morning women's Bible study that attracts 10-15 participants and focuses on a variety of topics and themes.
- Build on our already strong lay pastoral-care team: help additional parishioners discern their gifts for this ministry, provide training and support, coordinate volunteers, and provide thanks and affirmation for all involved in this Christ-like work.
- Develop a grief ministry. Provide support for caregivers to the very elderly (often their senior-age sons and daughters).
- Expand the definition of pastoral care beyond long-term ministry to the elderly and short-term ministry to those undergoing stressful changes or brief hospitalization. Envision how it can include youth, young adults, and those of middle age who can benefit from a listening ear and an acknowledgment of the stresses and speed bumps at the various ages and stages of our lives.



- Enrich and deepen our spiritual lives. Develop programs that strengthen us as people who are both spiritual and religious. Make spirituality a regular part of our conversation at St. John's.
- Improve our connections to new members: Inviting those who are without a church home to visit St. John's, supporting our welcome team, and incorporating new members into our life here.
- Identify, train, and support parish life lay leaders and ministries, including: Greeters, SPUDS (40s and 50s), SALT (seniors), and the Parish Weekend at our Diocesan camp and conference center.
- Oversee intergenerational parish fellowship events.
- Participate in the full range of preaching, celebrating and teaching.



## PARTICIPATE IN OUR SEARCH

### DO YOU FEEL CALLED TO THIS MINISTRY?

Here's how to participate in our search:

1. How can we be in touch with you?  
Please provide your name, address, and preferred phone number and e-mail address.
2. Tell us your current position, location, and where you are canonically resident.
3. Help us get to know you by providing the following:
  - An updated OTM portfolio
  - A résumé
  - Answers to our three questions (at right)
  - A 500-word biographical statement
4. Send your materials to us electronically at [Lindsay@saint-john.org](mailto:Lindsay@saint-john.org).  
Deadline for submission of completed packets: October 15, 2014.

#### Our Timetable:

Application deadline: October 15, 2014

Interviews (by Skype and in person):  
October-November

Call issued: November

Start date: January 2015

### QUESTIONS

Please respond to each question in no more than 500 words:

1. Describe yourself in the context of "coach." How do you invite, train, empower, encourage and thank volunteers? Share with us three things you've learned from your pastoral care work with lay volunteers.
2. Share your "Bucket List" with us: Tell us a place you'd like to visit, someone you'd like to meet, and a book you want to have read. Now tell us what makes a really good day off for you.
3. Tell us your definition of parish life. In a big church like St. John's, with multiple congregations and a wide range of ages and interests, suggest some ways to "make us feel smaller," help us know each other better, and feel part of the same community.



### ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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St. John's Bookstore | 850.222.8814