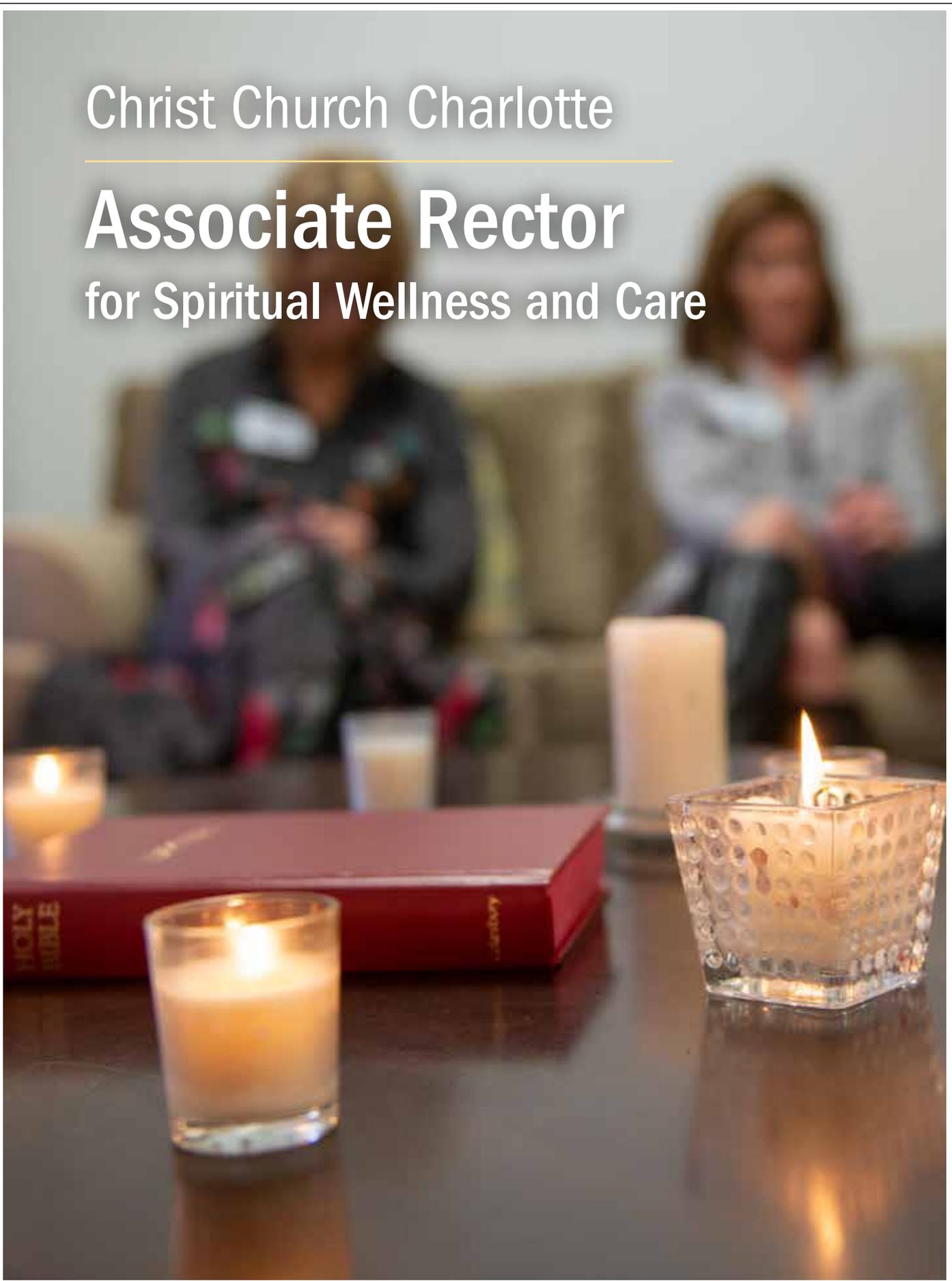


Christ Church Charlotte

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# Associate Rector

for Spiritual Wellness and Care





## What We Seek

We are seeking a new Associate Rector who can help lead our parish into an essential understanding of Christian spirituality and the role it plays in wellness. This important, emerging ministry will encourage and equip people to find deeper connections with God, leading to new paths of healing and addressing core issues in their pursuit of a better life and a better world.

Our new Associate will work in close relationship with a gifted team of other clergy and staff in the shared work of preaching, teaching, and program leadership, drawing upon the experiences and resources of a 6,000-member congregation with an annual budget of \$5.6 million.

Christ Church is strongly committed to the pioneering work of nurturing the connections between spirituality and well-being. Like many churches, we have long-standing creative ministries in pastoral care. Through this work, which is shared among all of our clergy, we have become more acutely aware of the importance of spirituality for individuals, families, and communities, and the ongoing care of our congregation. We believe “spiritual wellness is having a connection with God that nurtures and inspires our life.”

While gratefully acknowledging the value of traditional medicine and other treatments, we also believe spirituality has an underappreciated role in helping people live resilient lives. We know that cultivating a deeper spiritual life has the power to prevent and ameliorate suffering, and to help people heal and recover from crisis.

Over the years we have benefited from the tremendous wisdom of guest speakers and collaborators – Lisa Miller, Ned Hollowell, Lauren Winner, Nora Gallagher, Kate Bowler, Robert Wicks, and Christine Moutier, just to name a few – who have served as resources and challenged us to imagine what this ministry can look like.

To learn more about our commitment to this kind of ministry, we invite you to read “A Church Invests in Mental Health in Response to Parishioners’ Suffering” at [episcopalnewsservice.org/2019/07/11/a-church-invests-in-mental-health-in-response-to-parishioners-suffering](https://episcopalnewsservice.org/2019/07/11/a-church-invests-in-mental-health-in-response-to-parishioners-suffering).

We don’t expect you to have all the answers. We don’t have them either. But we are committed to exploring this life-saving work together.



# What Our Associate Will Do

**CELEBRATE AND HONOR** the vision and mission of Christ Episcopal Church and the Episcopal tradition of diversity, equity, and inclusiveness that we proclaim.

**WORSHIP AND PREACH** in a variety of styles and settings: Rite I and Rite II, with formal preaching and rich music; our informal, participatory contemporary worship service; our relaxed family Discovery Service for the youngest among us in the parish hall; our Sunday evening service, employing a variety of music and readings from around the world; and other forms yet to be identified that help us draw near to God in new ways.

**TEACH** the essentials of Christian spirituality and help people make connections between spirituality and wellbeing. Organize and lead classes, workshops, retreats, and conferences, bringing together resources to help make Christ Church a wellspring of wellness for members and people in our community, the wider church, and the world.

**COLLABORATE** with our wellness team to create psycho-educational offerings to support people during times of crisis and recovery, responsive to the lived experiences of our parishioners. Promote teen and adult mental health wellness around such issues as grief, depression, addiction, and suicide prevention.

**DEEPEN** our efforts to train Christ Church members in the work of pastoral visitation and support to assist the clergy in pastoral care for the congregation. Develop and implement a model for training and ongoing support of these lay pastoral ministers.

**SHARE** responsibilities with other clergy staff in pastoral care, weekday liturgies or services, home and hospital visitations, baptisms, weddings, funerals, and other rites of the church.



There is a genuine emphasis placed on leadership development across the staff at Christ Church and especially with the clergy. Continuing education and personal leadership coaching are provided and encouraged for each of the clergy staff. These resources, partnered with ongoing vocational discernment with the Rector, make for dynamic ministries that occupy that sweet spot of vocation where community need and personal fulfillment meet.

#### **OUR NEXT ASSOCIATE WILL BE...**

- Committed to their own interior life and able to articulate the role of spirituality in their life and community
- Curious, with an interest and passion for the questions we all encounter
- Excited about how to connect Christian spirituality and practice to people's lives, families and community
- Experienced in working with individuals and groups
- Willing to commit to building and leading this ministry at Christ Church for a firm five to seven years.
- Energetic, passionate, and collaborative
- Digitally adept and technologically fluent
- Eager to learn our names and remember our stories
- A quick study who can easily assimilate into a complex organization
- Able to juggle multiple responsibilities, meet deadlines; self-motivated to set and achieve goals; accountable and organized
- A team player, willing to set aside his/her own work to help others, both clergy and lay staff, at busy times
- Versatile, joyful, and flexible
- Respectful of different opinions

#### **OUR DESIRE IS THAT OUR ASSOCIATE...**

- Be committed to self-care; devoted to emotional health as well as physical health; have a network of care to provide support for the long haul
- Have a rich and nourishing spiritual life lived out in regular prayer, study and meditation that grows his or her friendship with God
- Embrace high standards of behavior and performance and maintain a confident, authentic sense of self
- Model a balanced work-personal life by maintaining healthy boundaries
- Take all of her or his vacation and sabbatical time; stay rested and refreshed
- Make family and friends a priority

#### **INTERESTING FACTS ABOUT US...**

- Pets are welcome in the office.
- Our clergy and staff are extremely collaborative, complementary, and non-competitive, and the clergy takes semi-annual retreats together.
- Some of our clergy stay a long time at Christ Church; others go on to become rectors or bishops. Either way, we are a greenhouse for priestly development.



# Participate In Our Search

**1) Tell us how to be in touch with you:**

Name / Address / Preferred telephone / Preferred email

**2) Provide your current position and location**

**3) Identify your Diocese of canonical residency**

**4) Help us get to know you by submitting the following:**

- An updated OTM portfolio
- A resumé
- Answers to our questions (*on the following page*)
- A 500-word autobiographical statement
- **Letters of reference from three people** — one clergy, one lay, and one either clergy or lay who is not supervised by you and who is not related to you. Please ask your references to read our materials, then focus their comments on what it is in your life and ministry that makes you a good candidate for this unique call.

**5) Send us your materials:**

Send your materials electronically to: [priestsearchcc@gmail.com](mailto:priestsearchcc@gmail.com)

Deadline for submissions of completed candidate packets: **April 15, 2022**

## Our Timetable

**Application Deadline:** April 15, 2022

**Interviews:** TBD

**Call Issued:** TBD

**Start Date:** Negotiable

## Contact Us

If you would like to have a conversation to learn more about this position, contact Chip Edens, Rector, at [edensc@christchurchcharlotte.org](mailto:edensc@christchurchcharlotte.org) or email the search committee at [priestsearchcc@gmail.com](mailto:priestsearchcc@gmail.com).



# Questions

*Please respond to these five questions in 500 or fewer words each:*

- 1)** Describe an experience that was healing and restorative to you. How do you practice spiritual wellness in your own life?
- 2)** How do you currently approach spiritual wellness in your professional ministry?
- 3)** What ideas do you have for offering spiritual growth through worship, teaching, retreat, community, pilgrimage, and other experiences?
- 4)** How might you use technology to lead or facilitate a ministry of spirituality and wellness?
- 5)** Describe an experience that you led. What went well? What did not go well? What would you change? What did you learn from that experience?

## **WE WANT TO LEARN ABOUT YOU...**

Once we start to get to know you better, our conversations might touch on these topics:

- Where do you find humor? Joy? Beauty? What energizes you?
- What life experiences have enriched you, enabled you to connect more deeply with people, helped you see God's grace at work?
- How do you stay connected to your community, your city, and the world? Which apps are on your phone? What music is playing in the background? What are you reading? When you go out to dinner, what kind of restaurant do you seek out?
- What credentials would you be open to exploring (for example, spiritual direction) or do you already have?
- How do you remain spiritually centered while at the same time being digitally connected?
- What are your Sabbath practices?
- Your career so far. Did you have a prior vocation? What brought you to the Church?



# Learn More About Us

## **CHRIST CHURCH CHARLOTTE** | [www.christchurchcharlotte.org](http://www.christchurchcharlotte.org)

In 1943, Christ Church Mission, Charlotte, was formally recognized by the Diocese of North Carolina with 98 families. Today our Church has a diverse and passionate membership of over 6,000. We're located in the beautiful neighborhood of Myers Park, a fifteen-minute drive from uptown Charlotte. Visit our website to find detailed information about our congregation, worship, formation, core values, and current priorities.

## **THE DIOCESE OF NORTH CAROLINA** | [www.dionc.org](http://www.dionc.org)

The Episcopal Church in central North Carolina is composed of 49,000 persons gathered into 111 congregations and ten campus ministries throughout 38 counties in the central part of North Carolina. Our diocese is divided into three regions and seven convocations, each headed by a dean. On an average Sunday, more than 13,500 gather to worship across our diocese. On the website you will find information about our diocese and state history, geography, population, economy, education and recreation.

## **CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA** | [www.charlottesgotalot.com](http://www.charlottesgotalot.com)

The current population of Charlotte is 911,659, making it the 15th largest city in the United States based on the most recent census, and it is among the fastest-growing cities in America. The metropolitan area has a population of well over 2.4 million. The city is a leading U.S. financial center, with the headquarters of Bank of America, Truist Bank, and the East Coast operations of Wells Fargo, as well as two major healthcare systems. Charlotte is also home of the NFL Carolina Panthers, NBA Charlotte Hornets, Charlotte FC soccer, Charlotte Knights baseball, Charlotte Checkers hockey team, and the U.S. National Whitewater Center. We are enriched by a wide variety of educational, arts, cultural, and entertainment venues, including several colleges and universities, many museums and theaters, and outstanding symphony, ballet, and opera companies.



**Christ Church Charlotte**  
CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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