

Christ Church, Waukegan

Who We Are

Our People

We are a loving and welcoming community rooted in our Episcopal traditions. While we are an aging community we are also diverse and committed to our community. We are involved in outreach and cultural arts.

Our Vision and Mission

As an outgrowth of our heritage and our deepening relationship with Jesus Christ, Christ Church will become a center of outreach promoting urban social justice, specifically in the areas of poverty, hunger, education, and environmental sustainability, in the greater Waukegan Community.

As a matter of faith, conscience and action, Christ Church seeks to bring down barriers among all people by serving Christ in all persons through partnerships with churches and organizations focusing on poverty, hunger, education, and environmental sustainability in the greater Waukegan community.

Our Worship and Ministries

We offer 2 services on Sunday a spoken Rite 1 at 7:30 and a Rite 2 with music and Sunday School at 9:00. A Wednesday night healing service as well as a Sunday afternoon Spanish service are on hold due to staffing issues. We host a weekly community meal on Sundays and staff it once a month with other churches covering the rest of the time. We also rent space to a Pentecostal church during the week and on Sunday afternoons. Our building is used by many community groups from Waukegan to College, a program for students to assist them in their educational endeavors, to Elder Care, a network to aid seniors and their needs, to Faith in Place. We also rent our hall and kitchen to community members and groups for functions.

Where We Are

Our Buildings

Our church dates from 1888. Our parish house was built in 1903. Both have just received new roofs. We are completing a large project that will make our buildings accessible by installing an elevator. About 25 years ago we put in a memorial garden behind our church. We have been designated a green church by Conserve Lake County being conscious of energy use as well as our use of our grounds. We have a rectory adjacent to the church and own and rent 3 houses, 2 on the block and one a few miles away.

Our Neighborhood

We are located near downtown Waukegan, in a residential area on a major thoroughfare. Waukegan is a large city with about 88,000 people. About 55% of our

residents are Hispanic, 20% are white, 17% African American and 5% Asian according to the 2017 Census estimate. Few of our members are from the neighborhood.

What We Are Searching For

Rector Skills

Personable- works well with people, enjoys interactions with parishioners of all different ages.

Communicator- good preacher with relevant sermons and a clear understandable voice, listens well, bilingual preferred, willing to help educate on Bible as well as other issues as needed.

Team Player- good administrative skills, delegates, organized.

Pastoral- able to provide pastoral services as needed, willing to help parishioners to discern their gifts and to implement those gifts in the best possible way, to allow a place for parishioners to share their concerns and hopes for our community.

Strengths and Challenges

We are an old church that has been in Waukegan since 1846. We have long played an integral part of the community. Our church building is used by many groups throughout the week: Elder Care, Waukegan to College, Pentecostal Church, Faith in Place, as well as a hall and kitchen that are rented out for use by members of the community. But we have become a destination church as well as an aging congregation. We need to discern how to meet our needs as well as integrate with our neighborhood to continue to be meaningful within our community.

Our Diocese

The Episcopal Diocese of Chicago is led by Bishop Jeffrey Lee and has 123 member congregations, spreading from Lake Michigan on the east, to the Wisconsin border on the north and the Iowa border on the west. The Diocese is known for its leadership initiatives designed to support congregational vitality. To this end, the Diocese focuses its energies on four key programs: The College for Congregational Development, Fierce Conversations, and Living Compass. The Nicholas Center, located on the fifth floor of the Diocesan office building in downtown Chicago, provides classroom space and accommodations for these programs as well as other leadership events.

To apply for this position, please complete the Clergy Information Form for Transitions found on the diocesan website:

<https://episcopalchicago.wufoo.com/forms/m1poxgz40cwsj2w/>

For more information about this position, please contact the Rev. Victor H. Conrado, Associate for Ministries / Transition Ministry Officer, at vconrado@episcopalchicago.org or 312-751-4210.