

# WELCOME TO ALL SAINTS EPISCOPAL CHURCH!

All Saints Episcopal Church is a vibrant community of seekers and doers nestled in the center of Omaha, Nebraska. One of the the largest parishes in the Diocese of Nebraska, we foster an open community where people come together to know God's love and share that love with our neighbors and ourselves.

We seek to know the joy, peace, and the generosity inherent in the openness to God's boundless love, as individuals, a church, and within our community.

In sharing God's love, we are committed to service that is rooted in faith-filled efforts to live as Jesus taught us. We "do" through outreach, stewardship, and fellowship in our community. Where there is a need, All Saints parishioners commit to serve. From rolling up our sleeves to maintain our 13-acres of grounds to collecting and providing food for our neighbors, from installing art shows to marching for peace, from providing space for sacred music to providing refuge for immigrant families, individuals of All Saints provide how they can.

As one of our parishioners put it, "At all Saints, we just....do." We are committed to our mission: **Growing Christ's Community by loving, serving, and feeding all people: Soul, Mind, and Body.** We take the "all" of All Saints seriously. All are welcome as they are – in sorrow and hope, joy and doubt, gifts and burdens – to experience solace and renewal in Christ's love. We invite you to join us.

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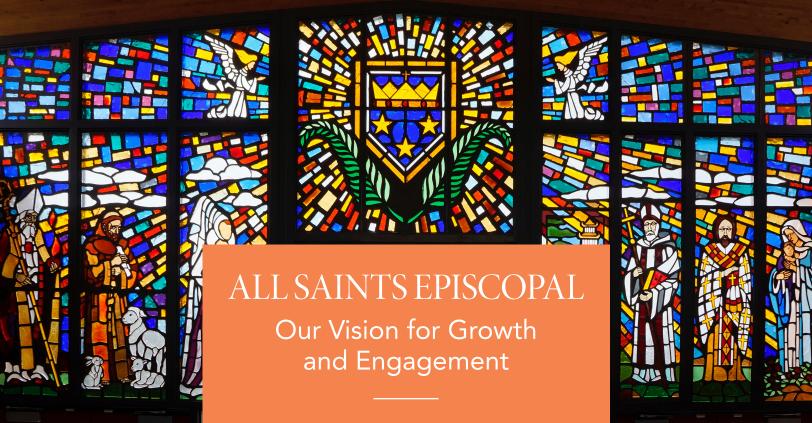
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Omaha, Nebraska



When we envision the future of All Saints, we see a community of continued growth – in numbers of members and regular attendance and beyond to growth in the quality of care within our community, more fellowship, a deeper sense of connectedness among members, and more opportunities for a new generation of members to take leadership around projects that they are passionate about.

#### **Engagement**

In anticipation of great growth, we envision an increase in engagement that means:

- Revitalizing intentional, thoughtful, welcome programming for new attendants and potential church members.
- Adding needed programming, including a return to the variety of committees from our pre-Covid
  era, considering the programs our members are passionate about, and engaging new people in
  new ministries.
- Increasing secular activities to bring in more people and build more engagement, including social activities, service to the community, and more diverse spiritual offerings.
- Growing adult ministry offerings, including a return to diverse offerings of discussion, outreach toward community issues and needs beyond church, and interfaith activities.
- Building on our youth programming to provide richer, more robust service and learning opportunities.
- Building a stronger presence within the greater Omaha community to highlight all that we have to offer within, and beyond, the doors of our church.

# COMMITMENT TO INCLUSION AROUND OUR VALUES

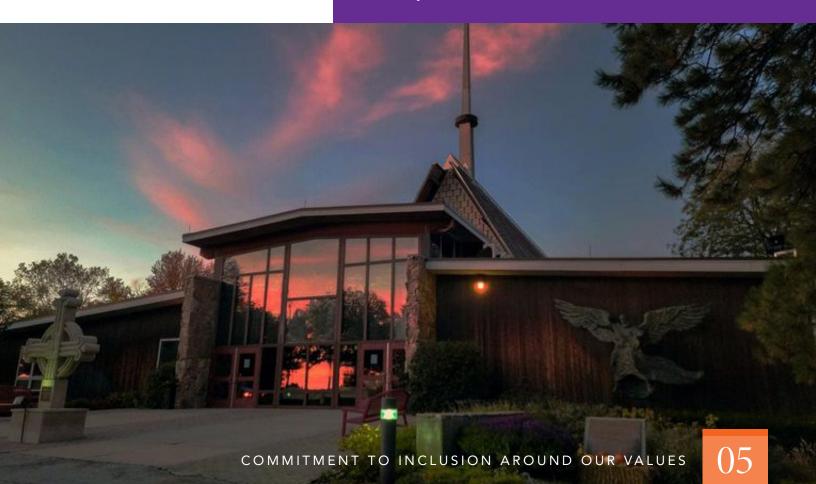
There is a whole world out there – we want them here.

Key to All Saints' mission is the phrase "All People." This sense of inclusion is a key element to how we envision the future of our church community. We view our ideal church to have a wider demographic in cultural, socioeconomic, gender and sexual orientation, age, ability, and neurodiversity among our members.

Key to building inclusive diversity within our church is a commitment to the values that unite us rather than the differences between us. These values include:

- Loving others through openness, non-judgment, and respect, as Christ loves us.
- Caring for the needs of others within our church and in the greater Omaha community through outreach and service.
- Stewardship of the earth through our grounds and gardens, nature walks, and a desire to build a more measured approach to caring for God's creation.

Commitment to these values builds the cornerstone of All Saints Episcopal Church: the people. We envision that commitment to these values will build a diverse church community that fills members with a sense of renewal each week to be the bearers of God's love to ourselves, our families, and within our communities that constitute our daily lives.





### More About Who We Are

All Saints serves a vibrant congregation, averaging 140 attendees throughout the course of our four weekend services. Additionally, our online presence is strong, with routine service viewings of approximately 200. We foster an open community where individuals thrive in their faith-filled relationship with Jesus Christ. This is achieved through the integration of ancient catholic traditions and a strong evangelical commitment. Our four worship services are centered on scripture and the celebration of the Eucharist, following the rituals of the Book of Common Prayer. Worshippers are welcomed as they are – in dress, joys, sorrows, hopes, doubts, gifts, and burdens - to experience renewal and solace in Christ's love. All Saints has 120 different individuals or families that pledge or make routine offerings to the church.

We are a congregation of seekers, striving to know God's love and to share that love with our neighbors and ourselves.

This pursuit leads us to discover the joy, peace, and generosity that accompany openness to God's boundless love, motivating our commitment to service in the community. Our outreach efforts nourish individuals in body, mind, and spirit. We provide food through our pantry and community gardens, along with various outreach ministries. We promote mental growth via youth and adult education, arts programs, and meditation in our prayer gardens. The natural beauty around our church, combined with the light, art, and music within, enriches our congregation as we gather to worship, pray, and share meals.



# COMMUNITY IS CENTRAL TO OUR MISSION

We support one another while addressing the broader needs of Omaha. Our congregation enjoys weekly meals, monthly movie nights, and special events throughout the year. Our retreat center serves dual purposes: providing meals for the hungry and offering safe spaces for those in addiction recovery. The Village on our grounds offers homes for families at various life stages. All Saints is truly a place of worship, service, health, and joy.

Like many church communities today, All Saints faces challenges and changes. Our members must juggle the commitments of increased work and social demands with the human power needed for a robust church life. Our buildings and grounds require repair and maintenance. Although we have fully reopened since the pandemic, our community is still adjusting to its effects on church life. In an era where spiritual fulfillment often occurs outside religious institutions, All Saints is committed to building our community in body and spirit. We believe our next Rector will be vital in honoring our rich history while guiding us in nurturing future generations.



#### **Fellowship**

- Prayer Warriors
- Golf Tournament
- First Friday Movie Night
- Fellowship Bakers and Cookies and Conversation
- Picnics and Potlucks
- All Saints Gardeners
- Bunce

# GROUPS AND FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

- Lay Weeders
- Men's Ministry
- Technology
- Altar Guild
- Acolyte Corps
- Prayer Warriors
- Naomi Guild
- Grief Group

- Christians in Community
- Labyrinth
- Centering Prayer
- Community Garden
- Ministers of Care
- Mobile Food Pantry
- Pantry on Blondo
- Grateful Threads

- Book and Food Share Boxes
- Wednesday Night Supper
- First Friday Movies
- Education for Ministry

### FEEDING THE SOUL IN WORSHIP

#### Worship

#### Weekend Services

- Saturday 5:00 p.m. Rite II Eucharist with Music (in person and via Facebook live)
- Sunday 8:00 a.m. Rite I Eucharist
- Sunday 9:00 a.m. Family Eucharist Service
- Sunday 10:30 a.m. Rite II Eucharist with Music (in person and via Facebook live)

#### Weekday Services

- Morning Prayer offered Monday-Saturday at 8:00 via Zoom
- Wednesday 12:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist
- Wednesday Grassy Mass and Potluck, outdoors in the summer
- Thursday 12:00 p.m. Centering Prayer

#### Music Ministry

Our Director of Music, Dr. Laura Scow, left All Saints at the end of 2024 to pursue a career in education. We are currently searching for a new Director and are interviewing several candidates. We offer music programs for all ages, focusing on vocal, instrumental, and bell music. Our bell training program includes a youth bell choir and Exultation Ringers, with both groups performing several times a year.

The adult Celebration Ringers also rehearse weekly and perform during Sunday Mass. Additionally, our Jubilation Ringers play for special occasions. We have both a youth choir and a Sunday School choir that meet weekly for rehearsals. As youth age out of the youth choir, scholarships are available for those wishing to join the Chancel Choir.

The Chancel Choir rehearses regularly and sings during the 10:30 service on special occasions. They perform a range of music, from traditional hymns to contemporary sacred pieces. Throughout the choir season, they often collaborate with other Episcopal choirs in Omaha for special programs, including Holy Week and Evening Prayer services.

# Lay Ministry and Support

We have a thriving Lay Ministry that provides opportunities for All Saints members to serve the church community according to their passions and gifts, including:

- Grief Support which meets monthly to provide support to those in all stage of grieving loss.
- Ministers of Care provide support and spiritual care for members who are homebound or in care facilities.
- Altar Guild care for the altar, vestments, vessels, and altar linens.
- Funeral Guild provides hospitality and care at church receptions following funeral services.
- Naomi's Guild for widows and divorcees to come together for fellowship and support.
- Lectors, Greeters and Ushers,
   Sound Technicians, Gift Bearers,
   Chalice Bearers, and Acolytes.



## FEEDING THE MIND: EDUCATION MINISTRIES

- All Saints Episcopal Church nurtures individuals in the Anglican tradition, emphasizing that education extends beyond Sunday School. Our programs cater to all ages and interests, reflecting Christ's teaching throughout His time on Earth.
- For our youth, Sunday School has evolved into a curriculum that incorporates various models, with Godly Play for younger children, focusing on meaning through story and play. This approach nurtures their spiritual lives by recognizing their inherent potential.
- We also offer a weekly adult education program led by clergy and skilled educators, covering topics from scripture and theology to health and literature. Additionally, a ten-week Inquirers class is available for those seeking to understand the beliefs and practices of the Episcopal Church.

A standout feature of All Saints Episcopal Church is the building and grounds, which provide a variety of spaces for worship, meditation, reflection, service, and fellowship. These outdoor spaces provide additional sanctuary for both parishioners and the wildlife on our campus, including owls, squirrels, a variety of birds, and pollinating insects.



# BUILDING AND GROUNDS

#### **Meditative Spaces**

- The prayer labyrinth facilitates prayer, meditation, and spiritual transformation.
- The Way of the Cross Garden provides space for reflection through a series of 14 images and stations to reflect on the crucifixion and resurrection of Jesus.
- Memorial gardens and pathways are found in a variety of spaces surrounding the sanctuary and chapel for quiet walks, reflections on nature.



### **COMMUNITY SPACES**

### LIVING SPACES: THE VILLAGE

- Our playground provides a safe space for our youth and children in the neighborhood to explore and play.
- Community gardens provide members with a raised bed box to grow and share produce.
   They also include community boxes with freshly grown produce shared with our local community and food pantry guests.
- The gazebo, picnic areas, and fire pit provide spaces to gather, celebrate, and enjoy the wonders of our outdoor spaces.
- The pollinator and exploratory gardens provide a sensory exploration of native plants, insects who thrive in them, and a burst of color from early spring through the fall.
- The grassy open spaces provide a perfect backdrop for outdoor worship, including summer Grassy Mass and gatherings for picnics, Easter egg hunts, and outdoor games.
- The church retreat center serves as a versatile venue, offering a peaceful space for a wide range of activities. Whether it's hosting celebratory events, providing a quiet setting for meetings, or serving as a rental space for gatherings, the center is designed to accommodate various needs. Available for booking, the center is a welcoming place for all to gather and connect.

The Village is a quiet little neighborhood all its own. It is set back from Blondo Street (low traffic noise) and enjoys peace and quiet. It is located right in the middle of the Parish Garden where many people have plots they use to grow vegetables. The Village is also near the playground and close to the Retreat Center. The units in the Village are available for rent.

 All Saints owns the property, which is managed by an independent property company.



### THE DIOCESE OF NEBRASKA

The Diocese of Nebraska is made up of 52 worshipping communities that represent the diversity of Episcopal life today. From 150 year-old established congregations to new house churches and everything in between, Episcopalians in Nebraska seek and serve Christ in urban, suburban, and rural neighborhoods throughout the entire state.

Our bishop, J. Scott Barker, is committed to fostering discipleship and believes that the best and most impactful ministry takes place at the parish level. Flourishing diocesan ministries include Sacred Ground, The Benedictine Way (a new monastic/contemplative community), Camp Canterbury, and The Bishop's Society, which supports clergy in their formation and continuing development.

The Omaha-metro area includes seven Episcopal parishes and two "New Episcopal Communities," served by a strong collegial group of ordained and lay peers. The Diocese is grateful for a historic relationship with Brownell-Talbot school in Omaha (K-12), where the children of Episcopal clergy receive a tuition reduction. To learn more about the <u>Diocese of Nebraska</u> or <u>Bishop Barker</u>, please visit the diocesan website.

### FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP

We have a stable financial foundation. Approximately 77% of our budget is reliant on pledge and other offering support. The other 23% comes from the All Saints Endowment to help fund music and other ministries. We are blessed by our friends, family, and fellow parishioners who helped establish and fund the Endowment starting about 40 years ago. Their foresight and love for All Saints ensured the lasting strength of All Saints.

What we don't want is to become overly reliant on the Endowment to the point where we begin to spend down its balance. Our Vestry and our Endowment Investment Committee provide oversight to ensure the viability of the Endowment for generations to come (and sustain, if not grow the principal over time). While there was a decline in the value of the Endowment in 2022 with a decline in the stock market, the Endowment has since recovered much of its loss and is near the balance it had at the end of 2021. This is despite an ongoing annual withdrawal of \$171,600 from the Endowment (representing between 4 and 6 percent per year of the Endowment balance) to support All Saints operations and programs.

When needed, our congregation comes together to contribute dollars beyond their pledge to support special initiatives. In the summer of 2024, our Living Tree Campaign raised over \$16,000. This drive enabled our Junior Warden and Vestry to address some critical needs. We used the contributions to replace weathered glass and broken seals at the main entrance protecting our historical stained glass windows. We were also able to replace a rotted wood deck behind our retreat center and replace obsolete lighting in the Sanctuary and Chapel with this campaign.

#### The Future

Our Vestry executed the 2025 Stewardship Campaign knowing it plays a role in our search for a new rector by demonstrating All Saints' strength and vitality. At the time of this writing, we have received 19 new pledges for 2025, and repeat pledges have an average increase of 10.57%.

#### **Endowment**

Beginning Balance (12/31/2022)	\$2,953,671
New Contributions	\$ 9,000
Disbursements	\$ (185,677)
Investment Income	\$ 372,305
Ending Balance (12/31/2023)	\$3,149,299
Current Balance (10/31/2024)	\$3,393,240

# 20 24

#### **Additional Fund Summaries**

We maintain additional funds to help administer our outreach, youth, and other ministries. Fund balances as of October 31, 2024 are:

Capital Management	\$ 2,484
Memorial	\$ 5,289
Special Purposes	\$ 6,546
Christian Outreach	\$35,829
Youth	\$27,239
All Saints Village	\$31,230

- Plate & Pledge
- Endowment

### BUDGET

Our operating budget for 2024 is \$772,911. We carried forward a deficit of \$22,101 from the 2023 budget year into 2024 and programmed an additional deficit of \$40,311 for 2024. For the 2025 budget, the Vestry will consider carrying forward the resulting deficit, addressing the deficit using the Endowment, or a combination of both.

Personnel	\$319,252
Facilities	\$197,000
Administration (including Insurance and Diocesan Assessment)	\$202,069
Program	\$ 35,740
Other (Rector Search and Icons in Transformation)	\$ 18,850

TOTAL \$772,911

### THE RECTOR WE SEEK

#### PERSONAL QUALITIES

- Passionate, creative leadership
- Empathetic listener
- Love of God apparent through open, loving, thoughtful communication
- Sense of joy in spiritual calling apparent in interactions with parishioners
- Desire to create and/or maintain roots in the Omaha area

#### PASTORAL SKILLS

- Proven ability to lead and grow ministries and programming
- Grounded in Scripture
- Creative and engaging communication from the pulpit
- Skilled one-to-one pastoral care in a variety of needs and circumstances
- Ability to develop personal relationships with parishioners through open, honest conversation and reflection
- Ability to minister to parishioners at the level of their individual faith journey
- Rector will need to collaborate with staff
- All Saints has a core group of volunteers and staff

#### **COMMUNITY BUILDER**

- Affirming approach to ministering with and to a community with diversity in cultures, socioeconomic statuses, gender and sexual orientations, ages, and ability needs
- Committed to welcoming parishioners and new attendees from every stage of life and faith journey
- Ability to appreciate the history, customs, and traditions of All Saints while simultaneously embracing the effects of social change on church attendance and push the congregation forward
- Ability to bridge the All Saints community into wider presence of Omaha community
- Ability to engage parishioners to encourage new leadership in both traditional and new ministry roles

### THE RECTOR WE SEEK

#### CHURCH LEADERSHIP

- Ability to manage liturgical year, outreach ministries, spiritual ministries, and youth ministries
- Clear, transparent communication skills of both strengths and needs within the church community
- Ability to discern the vision for All Saints future, passions and interests of parishioners, and skills of people within the community to enact that vision
- Ability to manage the financial demands for building and grounds infrastructure and programming costs
- Experience with or inclination for marketing, outreach, and innovative fundraising

To learn more about serving as the Rector at All Saints Episcopal.

The Rev. Canon Elizabeth L. Easton Canon to the Ordinary

Diocese of Nebraska 109 North 18th Street Omaha, Nebraska 68102 Office: (402) 341-5373



#### What is your favorite thing about All Saints?

- Having the opportunity to participate in service projects, like the Mobile Food Pantry.
- Grassy Mass!
- The people are really kind.
- Crafts during Sunday School.
- Choir and family supper on Wednesday night.
- Fun activities like bounce house, snow cone truck, VBS.

#### What do you think a new leader at our church should be really good at?

- Caring, inclusive, fun, organized, honest, creative.
- Be a helper. Help Mommy & help Norah.
- Have good sermons.
- Be patient and kind.

#### How can our new rector make coming to church even more fun for kids?

- Connect with the kids.
- Keep the 9:00 service. I like it because it's easier to understand and more fun.
- Sing!
- Have Youth Sunday more than once a year.

#### What's the coolest thing you'd want our new rector to do with us?

- Continue to plan more fun events at church, like a fish fry or spaghetti supper, family fun night or movie night, Parents Night Out, etc.
- Go to Costco & the zoo!
- Take the youth on a mission trip.

#### If you could give our new rector one piece of advice, what would it be?

- I don't know, I don't think I should be giving them advice!
- Have fun & use crayons.

### **CLERGY AND STAFF**



Interim Rector
Rev. Dr. Darrel Prott



Pastoral Associate Rev. Karen Watson



**Deacon** ev. Bryan Peterson



**Deacon** ev. Mark Fredrickson



**Deacon** ev. Roy Phillips



**Director of Finance**Cassie Arneson



**Director of Formation**Jill Jozwiak



Director of Music



Office & Facilities
Manager
Connie Sisson



**Sexton** John Bush

# VESTRY



**Senior Warden**Dan Edwards



**Junior Warden** Craig O'Connor



Jay Hammond



Charlie Liakos



Kenley Sturdivant-Wilson



Mollie Sultenfuss



Rob Williamson



Noah Zetocha



Home to four Fortune 500® Companies and the headquarters of some of the nation's best known brands, our population of more than a million residents surprises some, (even those of us who live here), because we're such a close-knit and caring community where it's easy to get to know neighbors and fit in, and Omaha's cost of living is affordable.

There are a variety of neighborhoods to choose from in the greater Omaha area with great public, parochial and private schools, and there's so much to do! Omaha's Henry Doorly Zoo and Aquarium claims top honors in number of visitors from around the globe. Plus, Lauritzen Gardens is a botanical feast for the eyes and soul. We have an abundance of walking and biking trails, golf courses and youth and adult sports teams to get involved in.

If you're a music lover, Omaha is your place. From Opera Omaha to a stellar symphony, we also have the Steelhouse and other independent music venues to suit every taste. Public art abounds and The Joslyn, our newly enhanced, gorgeous art museum, features 5,000 years of human creativity in art across three buildings, including 100 works new to the collection currently on view. Best of all, general admission is free.

At All Saints, we aim to blend these elements of our community into a welcoming, spiritual home, fostering growth in faith as we navigate an everchanging world.

The best way to get to know Omaha is to come see Omaha. We're happy to give you a tour of our church, our campus, and our community.

LEARN MORE ABOUT OMAHA!



Omaha Chamber

Visitor's Bureau



### Prayer for Discernment

Open our hearts to your presence, O God, your presence in those who are here and everywhere in our lives. We pray for discernment and guidance to find our next Rector. O Lord our God, give wisdom to us your people as we seek your face. Humble us and allow us to rely on your spirit's guidance.

