



Office for
Transition
Ministry

Ministry Portfolio

Full Portfolio (last updated Dec 10, 2025)

St. Philip's Episcopal Church, Southport, East Carolina

205 East More Street, Southport, NC 28461, United States

Contact:

Rector / Vicar / Priest-in-Charge | Receiving Names until 01/21/26.

slallen@diocese-eastcarolina.org

Weekly Average Sunday Attendance (ASA) 215	Number of Weekend Worship Services 3	Number of Weekday Worship Services 1	Number of Other per Month Worship Services
Current Annual Compensation	Cash Stipend	Housing / Rectory Detail	Utilities
SECA reimbursement \$13000	Compensation Available for New Position \$165000	Housing Available for	Pension Plan We're in compliance with CPF requirements.
Healthcare Options Clergy+1	Dental Yes	Housing Equity Allowance in budget	Annual Equity Amount
Vacation Weeks One month, including 5 Sundays (standard)	Vacation Weeks Details	Continuing Education Weeks 2 (standard)	Continuing Education Weeks Details
Continuing Education Funding in budget \$1001-\$2000/year	Sabbatical Provision Yes	Travel/Auto Account Yes	Other Professional Account

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Describe a moment in your worshipping community's recent ministry which you recognize as one of success and fulfillment.

During COVID, the priest, vestry, staff, and parishioners went out of their way to ensure the congregation could attend a service without fear of catching or spreading the deadly disease. The Worship Ministry and staff provided the Usher Captain and his team of ushers the guidance and resources to ensure the congregation would adhere to COVID restrictions for meeting in a group environment like a church service. These initial COVID church services were held outside on the church yard, using marking stakes, marking tape, and six-foot pool floats to ensure proper separation between church members sitting on lawn chairs. Also, during the pandemic, we instituted streaming the 10am service and making it available anytime on YouTube. This monumental effort displayed how unified our church members worked together as a single body to serve God and each other

How are you preparing yourselves for the Church of the future?

We want to strengthen our presence in the community through a more intentional outreach, including social media, print media, and use of digital billboards. Our vestry has a mission of focusing on three strategies, covering growth of the church, and providing organizational structure to sustain our current congregation and prepare for the growth that is expected with the growth of Southport and the surrounding developments in Brunswick County. We are also reaching out to the two Protestant churches within a block of St. Philip's to develop interacting support activities that will be mutually beneficial for all concerned.

Please provide words describing the gifts and skills essential to the future leaders of your worshipping community.

caring, approachable, inspiring, spiritual

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Describe your liturgical style and practice for all types of worship services provided by your community.

St. Philip's Sunday morning services (8:00am and 10:00am) and Wednesday service liturgical style is centered around Holy Eucharist and the use of prayers, hymns and reading of New and Old Testament scripture. This liturgy ascribes to the Book of Common Prayer. We do not physically use the Book of Common Prayer, but our church services are scripted following the Book of Common Prayer and distributed as a pamphlet. Our 10am Sunday service is recorded and can be watched via our church website. This practice started with COVID restrictions and has been maintained so that parishioners who cannot attend services in person due to medical or other restrictions may view and pray with the congregation in attendance. Our Saturday Celtic service (5:00pm) offers a unique blend of meditative silence and calm worship that creates the opportunity to simply be present and to rest in God's presence. This service includes a short reflection from a regularly scheduled member of the service. Celtic Spirituality is marked by the belief that what is deepest in us is the image of God and a belief in the essential goodness of creation.

How do you practice incorporating others in ministry?

At St. Philip's, we intentionally invite participation in ministry through creative and personal engagement. Our annual Ministry Fair helps recruit volunteers, and "Ministry Minutes" during worship highlight the many ways parishioners serve and make a difference. The church supports dozens of active ministries organized within six ministry groups: Parish Life, Facilities, Spiritual Formation, Worship, Outreach, and Pastoral Care. Many of these groups partner with community organizations such as Day of Hope, Brunswick Partnership for Housing, the Southport Oak Island Inter-Church Fellowship (SOIICF), and the Diaper Bank of North Carolina. Members personally invite others to serve alongside them, building relationships and deepening faith through shared purpose. This strong culture of volunteerism reflects our belief that ministry is most meaningful when it includes and empowers others to serve God and one another.

As a worshipping community, how do you care for your spiritual, emotional and physical well-being?

At St. Philip's, our Vestry identified three strategic priorities two years ago to guide how we care for one another as a worshipping community. One of these, the Whole Person Ministry, is grounded in the belief that faith and well-being are inseparable, addressing the mind, body, and soul together. This ministry provides support in many interconnected ways, including access to medical assistive devices, trained caregivers through Community of Hope International (COHI) and Stephen Ministers, and spiritual care through the Pastoral Care Ministry Board. We offer comfort through the Walking Through Grief and Bereavement Ministry, prayer support through the Prayer Shawl Ministry, and Eucharistic care through Lay Eucharistic Ministers who share the Eucharist weekly with those unable to attend worship. Together these ministries ensure that physical, emotional, and spiritual needs are met in an integrated way that reflects our call to care for the whole person in Christ's love.

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How do you engage in pastoral care for those beyond your worshipping community?

St. Philip's extends pastoral care well beyond our congregation through several intentional ministries. Our full-time Director of Pastoral Care, who also serves as our Deacon, oversees outreach to the wider Southport community. Through our Whole Person Ministry, a confidential Care Line receives requests for assistance that are routed to the appropriate ministry team. The Prayer Shawl Ministry provides handmade shawls and blankets to those in the community who are ill, grieving, or in crisis as well as celebrating moments of joy such as the birth of a child. Stephen Ministers offer confidential, one-on-one Christian care to individuals navigating personal challenges. Our "Walking Through Grief" program supports anyone in the community experiencing loss. Together, these ministries express Christ's love in action, offering comfort, compassion, and presence to those beyond our parish doors.

Describe your worshipping community's involvement in either the wider Church or geographical region.

St. Philip's is deeply engaged in the wider church, our local community, and the Diocese of East Carolina. Within the last four years, our former rector and assistant rector introduced a Celtic service that includes a candlelit setting at 5 pm. The service attracted new attendees from downtown Southport and the greater community averaging about twenty-five worshippers. Our Chapel of the Cross, in the heart of Southport's shopping district, offers a Wednesday Noon Day service open to all. We also offer a lay-led 9 a.m. service at a nearby nursing home. St. Philip's partners with the Southport Oak Island Inter-Church Fellowship (SOIICF), that operates a food pantry serving the Southport community. Our Angel Tree Ministry, working with South Brunswick Middle School and Brunswick Partnership for Housing, provides gifts for students and families in need. Our Diaper Ministry partners with the Lower Cape Fear Diaper Bank. We remain active in diocesan life through convention delegates.

Tell about a ministry that your worshipping community has initiated in the past five years. Who can be contacted about this?

St. Philip's began a Celtic Service within the past five years to offer a quiet and meditative worship experience open to the Southport community. The service is held on Saturday evenings in the Chapel of the Cross with candlelight, music, silence, and Scripture. The service provides space for reflection and renewal for those who may not attend traditional morning worship. The service is led by clergy and lay members who offer brief meditations. The service has drawn both parishioners and many visitors from downtown Southport.

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What is your practice of stewardship and how does it shape the life of your worshipping community?

St. Philip's clearly has deep roots in the Southport community. After the turn of the century, a highly motivated congregation realized that the existing Chapel would no longer be practical for the church's growth. The members of the church funded the construction of the "new" church that was finished in 2006. The growth of the church was challenged when the old Parish Hall could not support the church's congregation, and the church once again provided the funding to build a new Parish Hall. This significant, long-standing contribution to the Church and the community has been reinforced with the introduction of new members who have provided energy, enthusiasm, and talent. The sum of the local knowledge, mutual respect, a team effort and added momentum has been the hallmark of St. Philip's stewardship.

What is your worshipping community's experience of conflict? And how have you addressed it?

When St. Philip's Church transitioned to a program church organization, ministry boards were delegated authority and responsibilities that had previously been assigned to the Vestry. The initial delegations did not designate the specific authorities/responsibilities. The church by-laws provided the Vestry oversight authority but did not define how oversight was to be exercised. In the six years since the reorganization, it became apparent that the church organization was not functioning as well as it should have been and that adjustments were necessary. A committee was tasked with reviewing how the church was operating and to report its findings to the Vestry. Ultimately, the committee's report recommended that one of the ministry boards needed to be restructured with one set of responsibilities assigned to a ministry board formed to oversee several related ministries. The remaining function was assigned to a committee reporting to the Vestry. This solution satisfied both state and church law. In accordance with the recommendations, revised policies and procedures were constructed and related job descriptions were written. All were approved and implemented by Vestry.

What is your experience leading/addressing change in the church? When has it gone well? When has it gone poorly? And what did you learn?

The National Church instituted Model Policies, which became the "Safe Church, Safe Communities" program. This program required an assessment of who would be required to take the mandated on-line courses, and which courses were required for each parishioner providing a volunteer service to the parish. With clergy support, St. Philip's registered and tracked the progress of each parishioner that met the specified criteria. Following completion of the initial set of required courses, St. Philip's established a staff function to continue administration of the program's requirements. Funds were being raised for a new Parish Hall. The Episcopal Church Women (ECW), long committed to improving the old parish kitchen, had raised \$30k for that purpose. The Building Committee asked them to contribute, and the ECW agreed, expecting input on design and equipment. As construction finished, most of their suggestions were ignored, prompting a meeting with the Pastor and Committee chairs. Though some changes followed, disappointment lingered. Over four years, many ECW ideas were added, improving function and repairing trust, underscoring the need for commitments, listening, and transparency.



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Prior Incumbents

Name	Position Title	Date Begun	Date Ended

Name	Position Title	Date Begun	Date Ended

Name	Position Title	Date Begun	Date Ended

Church School	Number of Teachers/Leaders for Children School	Number of Students for Children School

Number of Teachers/Leaders for Teen/Young Adults School	Number of Students for Teen/Young Adults School	Number of Teachers/Leaders for Adults School	Number of Students for Adults School
		5	75

Day School	Number of Students for Day School	Number of Teachers for Day School	Number of Total Staff for Day School



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Worshipping Community Web site: <https://www.stphilipchurch.org>

Media Links:

Online References:

:> <https://youtube.com/@st.philipsepiscopalchurchs5769?si=H-8rhYEHq8j7HJfS>

Languages Significantly Represented:

Provide Worship or Classes in:

To apply, send cover letter, resume, and OTM portfolio to Canon Stephanie Allen, slallen@diocese-eastcarolina.org

References

Bishop:

rskirving@diocese-eastcarolina.org

Rt. Rev. Robert Skirving

Diocesan Transition Minister

slallen@diocese-eastcarolina.org 252-522-0885

Canon Stephanie Allen

Current Warden/Board Chair

Previous Warden/Board Chair

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