



# St. John's Episcopal Church



## PARISH PROFILE 2024

## Welcome

We warmly welcome your interest in St. John's Episcopal Church. Established over 112 years ago as a parish in the heart of the Village of Southampton, St. John's has had only seven Rectors in its history. Now we find ourselves in a second period of transition in ten years. With a rich history behind us, and with much to be grateful for, we are responding prayerfully to God's call forward. We see this time of transition as an opportunity for growth, to continue our journey of faith in a renewed way. To accomplish this, we need a leader who can recognize our strengths, help us meet our challenges, and empower us to move forward in faith.

As you get to know us through this Parish Profile, we sincerely hope that the Holy Spirit may inspire and guide you in carefully considering who we are and what we seek in our next Rector. Through our discernment process we aim to identify a leader who aligns with our values and can carry our mission forward with dedication and fervor. We believe that God has a plan for all of us, and we trust that the right person will come forward to lead us in faith, love, and service. We welcome the opportunity for you to reach out to us, and to gain insights into the enriching journey that awaits the next Rector of our beloved St. John's Church.



## Who We Are

### *A Parish That Makes a Difference*

We are a lively, loving community of all ages, backgrounds, interests, and gifts who come together joyfully as one body in the presence of each other and God. We are financiers and farmers, teachers and tradespeople, telecommuters and “summer colonists.”

Our faith runs deep. We are deep thinkers. Our hearts are open. Our arms are wide in inclusiveness. Our smiles are big and sincere. We are stewards, we are disciples, we are rooted in service to others, and we are family. We tend our sick and our frail of spirit. We delight in the gifts each of us has to offer.

### **Our Congregation**

Our 339 parishioners experience three kinds of involvement at St. John's, reflecting expansion and contraction in attendance over time and the ebb and flow of a resort population. Some have seen three generations and have personally known the last three Rectors, notably Rev. Peter Larsen whose tenure extended for 25 years until 2014. Some new arrivals are familiar with only our current Rector, Rev. Patrick Edwards. Other parishioners attend St. Andrew's Dune Church in the Summer and come to St. John's in the shoulder months of Spring and Fall.

We have a strong sense of community, fellowship, and faith. Our inclusive Eucharistic community actively shares the love of Jesus Christ with our village, town, and the world. It is our mission to invite all inquirers and seekers to experience spiritual growth and to empower all to meaningful service. St. John's Parish House stands as a central location where parishioners convene for daily meetings, Bible studies, worship services, and quiet prayer, or simply to extend greetings to one another.

Our community prides itself on embracing individuals from various backgrounds, ages, and walks of life, all coming together as disciples of Christ. We have a commitment to impart the teachings of Christ to all who visit our establishment. It is our endeavor to foster a culture where all are encouraged to contribute. Our clergy, staff, and lay volunteers work collaboratively. Our parishioners don't just show up to church. They partake in our Altar Guild, sing in our choir, grace services as lay readers, and carry the sacrament as lay ministers. They roll up their sleeves as Vestry members, investment committee participants, and outreach leaders.



## Church Governance

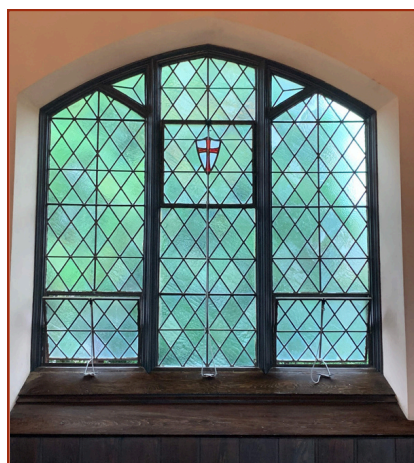
The governing body of St. John's Episcopal Church is the Vestry, a group of nine parishioners elected by the congregation. Each member of the Vestry serves a three-year term. From its members two officers are chosen, the Senior Warden and the Junior Warden. The Vestry also appoints a Treasurer, who works with the church's Finance Committee and a part-time bookkeeper. The wardens assist the Rector in the conduct of the day-to-day operations of the parish.

As a congregation of The Episcopal Church, St. John's comes under the supervision of the Episcopal Diocese of Long Island. The diocesan seat is located at Garden City, NY. The current and eighth Bishop of Long Island is The Rt. Rev. Lawrence C. Provenzano, who was consecrated in 2009. For more information about the diocese and its ministries, see [www.dioceseli.org](http://www.dioceseli.org).

## Finances

The Vestry Treasurer oversees the church operations and prepares the budget. Our operating budget for 2024 was \$375,000. The budget includes our annual tithe to the diocese. The Finance and Investment Committee oversees the parish endowment and reserves of over \$2,000,000. The Rector, with the support of the Stewardship Committee, conducts the annual stewardship campaign to raise funds for the coming year's operating budget. Proceeds from our Fundraiser fund the Outreach projects.

The Treasurer works closely with a part-time bookkeeper to monitor actual income and expenses compared to the approved parish budget and oversees other immediate needs.





## Stewardship

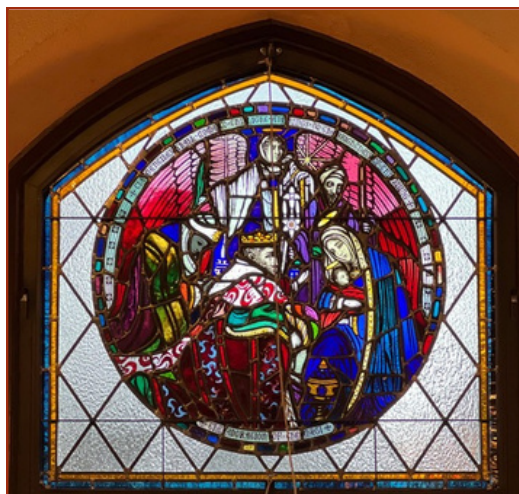
Stewardship at St. John's is about being grateful, responsible guardians of the gifts we receive from God and about contributing money, time, and talent as we live out our Baptismal Covenant. We firmly believe in the transformational power of stewardship, which aids us in discerning what work God is calling us to do. Regardless of how much we have, we value supporting our ministries and mission with abundance.

Financial stewardship has been sound. An astute Finance and Investment Committee oversees our endowment and other financial issues. Its focus continues to be on building our endowment to meet the needs of the parish.

Pledges and donations have increased in the last three years, even during Covid. The Rector leads our annual pledge appeal. Our yearly pledge appeal is an important way for our parishioners and those of the summer community of St. Andrew's to support our yearly budget needs.

In August 2024, we completed a highly successful stewardship effort. What might have been conducted as a typical capital campaign to replace all of our worn out 112-year-old windows became instead an opportunity for parishioners to underwrite works of art. Generous donations more than covered the \$230,000 cost.

Oftentimes, when a particular need is made known to the congregation, some individual will step up and cover the cost. Our parish membership has declined over the past ten years and with it some of our most generous benefactors. But, for example, during Covid when Episcopal parishes were closed, a small group of benefactors opened St. Andrew's Dune Church for us to celebrate Christmas.



## St. John's History

Thomas Topping purchased the land on which St. John's Episcopal Church is sited from the Shinnecock Indians in 1650.

In 1911 the owner at that time, Albert Foster, sold it to the Mission of St. John's Church which was temporarily holding services in the Parrish Art Museum under the direction of Vicar Samuel C. Fish who established the Mission in 1908.

The groundbreaking ceremony for a new church took place on August 18, 1912, and construction began that October. Major funding came from St. Andrew's Dune Church which was founded in 1879. This gift began a dynamic and complex relationship that flourishes to this day.

After the massive hurricane of 1938 heavily destroyed the Dune Church, an amalgamation with St. John's was discussed. St. Andrew's, founded in a former lifesaving station as an independent corporation under civil legislation known as the "Free Church Act," was not a member of the diocese.

In 1943, Bishop James deWolfe of the Episcopal Diocese of Long Island put forward a cooperative plan that preserved the autonomy of the governing bodies of both churches. The Rector of St. John's would preach at the Dune Church at least once a summer and regularly assist in the Sunday services there. Our close association began.

Now, during the summer months St. John's Rector conducts an 11:00 am service at St. Andrew's during which visiting clergy preach at the invitation of St. Andrew's trustees, and a seasonal congregation joins St. John's parishioners in worship at the Dune Church, where God's glorious dunes meet the unfathomable sea.

## Timeline

- **1650** Thomas Topping purchases the land on which the church is now located
- **1730** The Topping House, now the church rectory, is built
- **1879** St. Andrew's Dune Church is founded in communion with the Episcopal Diocese of Long Island
- **1908** Mission of St. John's Church established by The Reverend Samuel C. Fish, who becomes the first Rector; services held at the Parrish Art Museum
- **1909** First Summer Fair was held on the property of Mrs. Charles Bennett
- **1911** Foster property was purchased for the church
- **1912** Cornerstone was laid and construction began
- **1913** Dedication of the church building
- **1941** The Reverend Marland Zimmerman becomes the second Rector
- **1943** The Reverend Alexander E. Hawke becomes the third Rector; association between St. John's and St. Andrew's Dune Church is established
- **1957** The Reverend Hobart J. Gary becomes the fourth Rector
- **1962** Parish House built
- **1966** The Reverend Malcolm L. Foster becomes the fifth Rector
- **1989** Rev. Peter M. Larsen becomes the sixth Rector of St. John's
- **1995** Annual Blessing of the Animals is instituted
- **2013** St. John's celebrates its 100th anniversary with a commemorative history and commissioned hymn
- **2015** St. John's Rectory undergoes a comprehensive renovation and church facilities are upgraded
- **2016** The Reverend William Patrick Edwards becomes the seventh Rector of St. John's
- **2019** The original chapel is restored and is dedicated by Bishop Lawrence C. Provenzano as the St. Saviour Chapel
- **2024** Epiphany Studios of Virginia replaces original church windows with splendid stained glass

## What Matters Most To Us

Our Summit Meeting in July asked five questions and revealed what we cherish and strongly want to preserve.

### We Value

- A feeling of being connected, accepted, and part of a larger community.
- Finding a big family in our small congregation.
- The compassion and empathy shown by Rectors who have guided many people to find God for the first time or find their way back to God.
- The pastoral strengths of Rectors who have provided solace at times in life when they were saddened or challenged by events.
- The close relationship between St. John's and St. Andrew's Dune Church.
- The open, accepting, inclusive attitude of The Episcopal Church that creates a welcoming community.
- The Rector's willingness to listen and be available to the parishioners.
- That St. Johns has good relationships with other churches and charitable organizations.
- A respect for the traditions, music, hymns, and special services of our Anglican tradition.
- Opportunities to gather as a whole congregation.





## Worship

The worship experience is the most important attraction for the people of St. John's.

### Our regular services:

Sunday 8:00 am	Holy Eucharist with Rite I
Sunday 9:00 am	Holy Eucharist with Rite II
Sunday 11:00 am	Morning Prayer with Rite I including distribution of wafers

Once a month at our 11:00 am service, we celebrate Holy Eucharist with Rite I. Morning and Evening prayer is held daily at 7:30 am and 7:30 pm in the St. Saviour Chapel. Additionally, on Wednesdays at 10:00 a.m. we offer a Holy Eucharist with Rite I.

Sunday School takes place during the 11:00 am service.

Coffee hour and Adult Formation are held between the 9:00 am and 11:00 am services.

During the summer months the 11:00 am service is discontinued our Rector and a weekly guest preacher lead services at St. Andrew's Dune Church using the 1928 prayer book for Morning Prayer or Holy Eucharist. Most 11:00 am parishioners of St. John's attend these services.

We miss the monthly centering prayer service that ended with Covid.



## Music

We are blessed to have the incredible organist Peter Ludlow on staff. Although in his thirties, he has been with us for over 15 years and is recognized as one of the best church organists in Suffolk County. We love to sit down after the final prayer to enjoy a free concert: his postlude.

Within the past year we have added a beautiful voice to our services. The very talented Mezzo-Soprano Emily Paccasassi leads us in Hymns and Canticles and sings a moving anthem during the offertory. Our choir, featuring many members of the Choral Society of the Hamptons, performs at special services.



## Special Feasts

Special feasts and occasions enrich our worship, especially at Easter and Christmas.

Beginning in Covid, our children's afternoon pageant moved to at St. Andrews Dune Church where the bleak midwinter came alive in retelling the story of Jesus's birth. Christmas Eve returns to a festively decorated St. John's with choir and Holy Eucharist. Eucharist is again celebrated on Christmas morning.

During Lent we follow the Stations of the Cross outdoors, weather permitting, in our Memorial Garden near our Columbarium.

We mark Maundy Thursday with solemn washing of feet and stripping of the Altar.

On Good Friday we celebrate Holy Eucharist and then bring the Spirit beyond our walls by hosting other local churches in an ecumenical service.

Our Easter Vigil unfolds on Saturday evening with parishioners processing into a darkened church carrying lit candles.

Easter dawn draws crowds to an interdenominational Easter sunrise service conducted on our local beach, drawing several hundred people. Then Sunday services at St. John's culminate our celebration of the Easter Triduum.





## Christian Formation

Our Sunday school is based on Godly Play and conversations about Bible stories. Attendance is small but has a very engaged and involved group of young adults and children. During the summer, the Rector meets with participants in the children's choir of St. Andrew's during their weekly rehearsal.

Adult formation classes are held following coffee hour between the 9:00 am and 11:00 am services. Topics have covered: Comparative Religions, How Should We Read the Bible? – The Genesis Story, How to Pray, and Forgiveness. A selection of books including Dante's *Divine Comedy*, C.S. Lewis's *The Great Divorce* and Charles Dickens's *A Christmas Carol* have formed the basis for discussion.

Lenten study series has introduced us to the spiritual journeys of St. Paul and St. Peter, and spiritual pilgrimages practiced by different religions of the world. We have read the book *Cruciformity: Paul's Narrative 'Spirituality of the Cross'* by Michael J. Gorman, and watched *In the Footsteps of St. Peter*, a PBS Video Series, *The Abolitionists*, an American Experience Documentary, and *The History of Sacred Music* a BBC production. Two engrossing topics fed our souls: the voice of the Church in the public forum and changing views of death and dying in nineteenth century America.

Popcorn Theology, a popular monthly event, encourages us to see the world from the perspective of faith after viewing such films as *Chariots of Fire*, *The Boys in the Boat*, and *Man of God*.

We miss our Sunday evening classes on Greek language and translations of the Gospels that were discontinued due to Covid.

### Sunday Adult Formation

Sundays • 10 AM

*Dante's Divine Comedy* &  
*C.S. Lewis's The Great Divorce*

Journeys through the Afterlife reveal how to live in this life.



### Join us for **POPCORN THEOLOGY** February 24 | DOORS OPEN AT 6:45 PM MOVIE STARTS AT 7 PM



*Man of God* brings to life the incredible true story of Saint Nectarios of Aegina, Greece. A priest of the twentieth century, his humility contrasted the political ambitions of the day. In contrast to his religious superiors - the bishops and patriarchs mesmerized by worldly honors and power - Nectarios cared for the poor, taught peasant girls to read and wrote, inspired by example young men to enter the priesthood, and wrote books and delivered sermons that uplifted nations of believers. In this exquisitely made film, called Nectarios' inspiring devotion and perseverance as, despite the efforts of the religious establishment to discredit him and discourage the good works near decades, he embraced humility and inspired thousands to become one of Greece's most revered saints.

Join Fr Patrick with wine and cheese, as well as the social theatre fare, to enjoy this wonderful film and thoughtful discussion.

St. John's Episcopal Church • 400 South Main Street, Southampton

## Fellowship

Opportunities to receive and spread the Word and enjoy fellowship abound at St. John's on Sunday during coffee hour, and also Monday through Saturday, year-round.

Faith-centered opportunities to gather include dinners following our Lenten adult formation series and our monthly Popcorn Theology movies. A harvest dinner draws a congenial crowd. Our outreach activities also foster deep connections among parishioners.

We join our extended church community every year in an interdenominational sunrise Easter vigil on the beach. Advent is a heady joyous season for all at St. John's when we decorate together.

## St. John's Book Club

In the spring of 2019, two women thought it would be nice to gather once a month with other women in the congregation for a book discussion. Parishioners from the various Sunday services could get to know one another better, utilize the welcoming space of our Parish House, and share in some fellowship. Fifty-four books later, some husbands have joined in, friendships have been forged, virtually every literary genre has been explored, dinners, field trips and movie nights have happened and life events, both cheerful and challenging, have been shared. Although books chosen are not specifically of a spiritual nature and the readers not all members of St. John's Church, the exchange of ideas and sense of community resulting from our monthly meetings have truly enriched us all.

## Knitting Group

For nearly 15 years, a group of knitters from the parish and beyond have gathered each Wednesday afternoon at St. John's Parish House to create hats, scarves, neck warmers and other apparel for The Seamen's Church Institute program, Christmas at Sea. Other beneficiaries of the handiwork are newborns at Stony Brook Southampton hospital. During the current transition, needles are busily at work producing a prayer shawl in the yellow and blue colors of The Episcopal Church to give to our incoming Rector.



## Outreach & Community Involvement

St. John's Church offers an extensive outreach program that supports the needy within Southampton Village, and beyond. We host afternoon parties for our seasoned citizens. We open our doors for weekly AA meetings. We sponsor medical mission trips around the world. Our efforts are funded by donations from parishioners and friends of the church and by proceeds from our Church Bazaar and Art Show.

The Outreach Committee guides outreach grants and activities based on recommendations from the congregation and Vestry. Recipients of our gifts are other not-for-profit organizations chosen because they carry a personal connection with our parish. These relationships, whether close or distant, whether temporary or sustained, enhance the viability of the outreach program overall and ensure continued success. Outreach activities operate after careful consideration by the Outreach Committee and measured approval by the Vestry.

### Maureen's Haven

Maureen's Haven is a focal ministry of St. John's. We join with the First Presbyterian Church of Southampton to provide and serve several meals during the winter months. Maureen's Haven assists homeless men and women with supportive services, access to case management, and a warm, safe place to stay. Many of our parishioners are eager to volunteer to cook and serve nutritious meals, heeding Jesus' call to care for those in need, to practice empathy, compassion and respect, and to support people trying to build a successful future.





## Heart of the Hamptons

A Christmas tree comes to the Parish House every year adorned with stars. The stars carry wishes for a gift from local children taking part in the Heart of the Hamptons Annual Holiday Star Program. Parishioners choose a star and donate a gift, supporting children in need.

## Mission to Malawi

The Feed Malawi Project is a relief program of the Amazing Grace Aids Ministry. It was the perfect fit for an already-existing outreach fund created to help children around the world. Our initial gift in 2020 underwrote food for fifty households. After Cyclone Freddy devastated Malawi in 2023, we again donated to the project. In 2024, we maintained our successful support for children in Malawi by focusing on education for girls who typically do not have an opportunity to attend prohibitively expensive secondary school. We donated a three-year scholarship to the Kids In Need of a Desk (KIND) Program which pays for such expenses as tuition and fees, equipment including bags, uniforms, socks, shoes, sanitary feminine products, and learning materials, boarding fees, and transportation to and from school.

## Operation International

For many years our Outreach committee has made grants to Operation International, a medical mission organization. In 2024, parishioner Dr. Florence Rolston traveled with the organization to Holy Family Hospital in Techiman, Ghana for ten days to volunteer her skills performing a remarkable 63 surgeries including 11 cancer cases, minimally invasive gynecological surgeries and general surgery. Read more about this mission trip. [Operation International Trip](#)



## Our Facilities

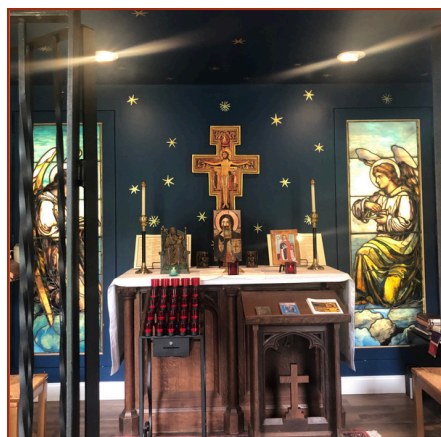
### The Church

The Roman Gothic high church style building remains today much as it was in 1912. In the last year, most of the original windows were replaced. Eleven now have original stained glass designed and created by the acclaimed Epiphany Studios of Virginia. Biblical and other sacred scenes are featured amid clear glass surrounds, allowing plenty of God's light to shine in. As part of the window refurbishment project, a friend of the parish has donated two significant works by 20th century artist Margaret Redmond depicting the Annunciation and The Visit of the Magi.



### The Chapel

The original chapel, located adjacent to the church in the Parish House, was restored thanks to the vision and guidance of Father Patrick and his wife Deborah. New windows, a refurbished altar, and hand-painted details created our newest sacred space. In 2019 Bishop Lawrence C. Provenzano dedicated it as St. Saviour's Chapel.



## Parish House

Built in 1962, The Parish House connects directly to the church and serves as an active hub for gatherings. It is available to the public free of charge for gatherings and meetings. The space includes a fully equipped downstairs kitchen and dining room for 100 and an upstairs living room, galley kitchen and five classrooms. An enclosed space for a secretary and a private minister's office complete the layout.

## Memorial Garden & Columbarium

The newest addition to the property is a Columbarium surrounded by a beautiful Memorial Garden. In 2023, a parishioner designed the landscape of the garden and donated its plantings. The garden includes a 200-year-old whaling pot and anchor donated by the Trustees of St. Andrew's Dune Church. The in-ground Columbarium, completed the same year, comprises 32 spaces with room for expansion. An altar, donated by a parishioner, memorializes her husband who was a former Vestry member. Fourteen pillars supporting images of the stations of the cross surround the garden perimeter.





## The Rectory

Located next to the church and Parish House, the rectory is an historic and truly charming family residence. The home has five bedrooms, a living room, family room, kitchen, study, and four-and-a-half bathrooms, plus a covered terrace and a private yard. The original house was built by the Topping family in 1730. Now a wing of the current rectory, it is used as the dining room and shows its original wainscoting and oven-fireplace intact. The main part of the house was built in 1750. In 2015 a complete renovation of the rectory was undertaken. The entire house and roof were re-shingled, all windows were replaced, a new heating and air conditioning system was installed, four bathrooms were renovated and one added, floors were redone and kitchen appliances upgraded. Local contractors and vendors, many of whom are members of St. John's congregation, were hired for the work. A local Southampton historian authored a history of the building for the church's permanent records noting that it, "retains a very high level of integrity...is a very valuable historic resource to the Village...and is an authentic piece of early American 18th century history..."



## Our Hopes

We want to grow St. John's family. We are an aging congregation, like many others, and want to attract more young families. We desire more mingling of generations. We want to offer more opportunities for formation and fellowship. We look to our new Rector to help us deepen our faith and grow the size of our congregation, while inspiring new ministries, and stewarding our buildings and finances.

A Parish Summit Meeting, convened in July as part of our discernment, confirmed a wide consensus on the most important qualities we seek in a Rector.



## **We Seek A Rector Who:**

- Wants to help us grow our parish.
- Engages fully in our community with a warm and caring spirit; someone quick to laugh, quick to understand, quick to pastor, quick to lead.
- Preaches and teaches thoughtfully, translating our faith and scriptures to the realities of our everyday lives.
- Communicates and connects effectively with, and ministers to, all age groups, meeting each of us where we are, regardless of our backgrounds or where we are in our spiritual journeys.
- Supports a strong and creative Christian education program for children, youth, and adults.
- Appreciates and honors the importance of music in worship and its historic role in our parish.
- Values different expressions of our Anglican tradition.
- Inspires parishioners to support the ministries of St. John's with their time, talent and treasure.
- Commits to outreach ministries and engages with the wider community beyond St. John's.

## **We Seek A Leader Who:**

- Thinks strategically
- Prizes transparency
- Brings financial savvy
- Coordinates and delegates the work of staff and lay leadership
- Leads teams with the whole community in mind

We want to build onto our strengths to steward more, serve more, sing more, in ways that grow us as a congregation and brighten the wider community around us. We want to let this little light of ours shine.

If St. John's sounds like a place where you could continue your journey and weave it into ours, please let us know. Begin by contacting the Diocese of Long Island's Transition Minister, Rev. Canon Claire Woodley, via email at this address: [cwoodley@dioceseli.org](mailto:cwoodley@dioceseli.org)



## Our Local Community

### History of Southampton

In 1640, a small group of English Puritans set sail from Lynn, Massachusetts and landed at what is now known locally as Conscience Point. They established the first permanent English settlement in the State of New York and named it after the British Earl of Southampton. The native Shinnecock people shared essential survival skills with the colonists, teaching them about corn planting and utilizing local resources. The Shinnecock reservation, established in 1701, remains a vital part of the community today.

In the 1870s, the Long Island Railroad connected Southampton to New York City. A prominent doctor visited, became enchanted, and drew an affluent coterie of patients to the area for the health benefits of pure air and natural beauty. This led to a building boom during the early part of the 20th century transforming our rustic village into a bustling resort community. Visitors were drawn to the quaint, quiet charm of the area and its fabled sandy beaches. Large "cottages" began to ring Lake Agawam and the "Summer Colony" was launched. The building boom continues to this day.

Great natural beauty continues to bless our region. Today, the peaceful countryside, pristine beaches, and abundant water views continue to draw visitors and residents to "The Hamptons."



## Demographics

Southampton Village is a year-round community that more than triples in population during the summer months when tourists and owners of second homes arrive. The 2020 US Census recorded a base population of about 4,550 people in its 7.2 square miles. The community is predominantly white (80 percent). African Americans comprise almost 13 percent and other races make up the remaining 7 percent. The surrounding Town of Southampton, including 7 villages and 13 hamlets, covers 293 square miles and has a population of about 69,000 people.

Southampton Village and the immediate surrounding area has a large and diverse faith community of ten Christian churches and one Chabad. Interfaith cooperation supports local outreach programs. Episcopal churches are established in three neighboring hamlets.

## Schools

Southampton families have a range of excellent school choices. The Southampton Union Free School District consists of Southampton Elementary, Southampton Intermediate, and Southampton High School. Other options are the Tuckahoe School (PreK – 8), Our Lady of the Hamptons Regional Catholic School, Southampton Montessori School, and the Ross School (PreN-12). Several daycare options are available.

## Healthcare

Stony Brook Southampton Hospital, centrally located in Southampton village, has 124 beds and is staffed by approximately 250 physicians, dentists and allied health professionals representing more than 50 medical specialties. Governed by Stony Brook University, it is a teaching hospital of Stony Brook's Medical School. Through the Meeting House Lane Medical practice, Stony Brook offers 32 satellite care centers throughout the South Fork of Long Island.

The Covid pandemic benefitted the region by drawing services from large healthcare systems based in New York City. New York University, Weill-Cornell, New York Cancer and Blood Specialists, and Northwell Health have all opened permanent satellites on the South Fork, increasing access to top notch medical care for local residents.

## Culture & Arts

The Southampton community cares deeply for the arts and is proud of its many cultural venues. In addition to our wonderful library and several private galleries, our downtown area has three arts centers and two museums all within walking distance of each other. Just a short drive in almost any direction beyond the Village limits, even more possibilities to experience the arts may be found. Classes, exhibitions, lectures, opening receptions, live performances, films and other happenings throughout the East End have created a vibrant, year-round arts and culture scene with something of interest to everyone.

## Wellness & Sports

The East End of Long Island is blessed with some of the most beautiful beaches in the world and, thanks to concerted preservation efforts over the years, there remain large, wooded areas and open spaces to be enjoyed by residents and visitors alike. The Atlantic Ocean to our south, the Peconic, Shinnecock and Gardiner's Bays to our north, along with freshwater lakes and ponds promote a plethora of water sports. Numerous public playing fields, basketball, tennis, paddle and pickle ball courts, nature trails, bike paths and even a dog park have been established and maintained throughout the Village and Town. Indoor sporting activities are available year-round. The many private clubs and area nonprofit organizations encourage an active, healthy lifestyle for everyone from the youngest children to our senior citizens – often at low or no cost.

The Southampton Chamber of Commerce offers a guide to the extensive events, facilities, organizations and natural resources available in our community. See: [Southampton Chamber of Commerce](#)





## Our Staff & Vestry

### Staff

*Interim:* To be decided

*Parish Secretary:* Ursula Phillips

*Finance:* Dana Ficara

*Organist/Choir Master:* Peter Ludlow

*Cantor:* Emily Paccasassi

### Vestry Members 2024

Lisa Gillespie, *Senior Warden*

William E. McCoy, *Junior Warden/Treasurer*

Sandra Klemuk, *Secretary*

Kat Doherty

Jeanne Ferrer

Patricia Griffith

Florence Rolston

Lisa Vahradian

Håkan Wohlin

