

**CHURCH OF THE RESURRECTION
LITTLE SWITZERLAND, NORTH CAROLINA**

VICAR POSITION 2022.

The Church and Congregation

Members of the Congregation are blessed to be able to experience God's Work and Love in the beauty of the Blue Ridge Mountains, to worship and care for one another in the fellowship of Christ in this historical setting together with a welcoming, friendly family of fellow Christians.

The Church of the Resurrection is located in the Village of Little Switzerland, NC, within a few yards of the Blue Ridge Parkway. The Church has been a seasonal Chapel of the Diocese of Western North Carolina since 1913 and is on the National Register of Historic Places. The Centennial Celebration was documented in a 2013 publication which is available upon request.

Little Switzerland is principally a community of summer second homes but the location in the Blue Ridge Mountains and proximity to the Parkway has resulted in a robust tourist presence. Information about the Little Switzerland community is available at www.visitlittleswitzerland.com and [www.youtube.com / watch? v=Ovky6U3vzN0](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ovky6U3vzN0)

Our Church roster consists of approximately 140 regulars with Sunday attendance averaging 40-55 participants, including visitors. A typical Member attends 20 Services during a 26 Sunday season. The majority of the Congregation is Episcopalian with several Protestant faiths well represented. Most regulars are in the range of 60 -80 years of age, retired, with primary homes in warmer climates where they spend the winter months. Members are well educated and alert to current trends on a world scale. Members describe worship at Church of the Resurrection in the following terms: "overall ambience of friendship and warmth", "welcoming attitude," "spirit of enthusiasm," "feeling of family" The Church offers ample opportunity for participation, leadership, and volunteering opportunities such as ushering, reading, and leadership in administration and operation of the Church. All is enhanced by the personable guidance and leadership of our departing Vicar and an exceptional musical component supplied by our talented organist and Members. The Sunday Service is followed by a well attended Coffee Hour which is hosted by volunteers.

Generosity of the Congregation provides ample funds for Church related expenses, including a modest salary for the Vicar, a vicarage and consistent community support through gifts to Outreach and provisions to assist the needy. Historically, Members of the Congregation, led by a Bishop's Committee (Vestry) conduct the operations of the Church and this is not expected to change. The Vicar is welcomed and his/her advice solicited but there is no need for the Priest to organize or monitor the workings of the Church. The Vicar will not be expected to engage in fund raising



The Vicar

Ideally, our new Priest will live and share life with our Members, embracing and encouraging participation by lay leaders and Members. The Priest should be mature and flexible in a kind and non-political way, continuing a preaching style which is relaxed and always inspirational.

The Vicar will celebrate Holy Eucharist, including a sermon, every Sunday at .11 '00 a .m . A lay Chalice Bearer assists. A lay Lector reads Lessons, Psalm and Prayers of the People. In recent years, Services have alternated between Rite I and Rite 11. The Church contracts with an organist for Sunday services, and the Vicar coordinates selection of music with the organist. There are usually one and three weddings each summer, though there may be more or fewer. A regular Member acts as wedding coordinator, and the Church organist provides music. Funerals or interment of ashes in the Church Memorial Garden, may be required occasionally. Historically, the Vicar has visited sick or shut-in members and taken Communion if requested. A regular Member was recently licensed as a Lay Eucharistic Minister and thus will be available to assist in this Ministry.

The Vicar meets with the Bishop's Committee monthly. The input and advice of the Vicar is welcomed and encouraged but the Vicar will not be expected to organize or manage Church operations. There are Episcopal churches in nearby Spruce Pine and Marion, with which the Vicar has historically maintained friendly, informal relations. It is tradition for the Vicar to provide an invocation at the annual meeting of the Little Switzerland Community Association in July.

The need for occasional absences is recognized for the Vicar to attend to personal or health matters. Two Episcopal Priests are nearby residents and frequent visitors to our Church. Each has conducted Services when requested. The Vicar is requested to make arrangements for a supply Priest when absent.

In a November 2015 survey of the Congregation, the most important qualities desired for our new Vicar were 1) Preaching and Teaching 2) Authenticity, honesty, transparency; 3) Training and support lay leaders 4) Sense of humor 5) Sense of personal goals, vision, confidence.

Compensation

The Vicar is paid a stipend of \$3,000 for each week of the 26 Sunday season. If the Vicar is absent, the supply priest is paid instead. A furnished two-bedroom vicarage adjacent to the Church is provided to the Vicar, including electricity, gas, water, internet service, and local telephone services. The Vicar is requested to provide his or her own vestments. Compensation for weddings and funerals/interments is arranged by the Vicar and the parties, independent of compensation provided by the Church.