

~ ST. MARK'S FAMILY ~
ALBUM



“Celebrating God’s Inclusive Love.”



ST. MARK'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

118 Chadwick Road • Teaneck, NJ 07666

(201) 836-7275

HELLO! WE ARE READY!!

The members of the Search Committee of St. Mark's Episcopal Church in Teaneck, New Jersey say, "Welcome!" We invite you to read about us and prayerfully decide if this could be your church. You'll find here a lively, active parish filled with strong lay leadership, active and talented parishioners of all ages, many races, and varying points of view. We are single, married, with or without children, in various stages of spiritual development, but all sharing an abiding love of Christ and the St. Mark's community. We seek a full-time rector who will thrive in our community of souls who love beautiful music and the liturgy, who love to celebrate together, and who serve the people both inside our parish, and outside in our greater Teaneck neighborhood and beyond.

The first part of this profile is our collective voice speaking to you, giving you our best understanding of who we are, how we worship, the qualities we love about ourselves and the areas where we are challenged to grow. The second part of this profile is an appendix which gives you the "nuts and bolts" of the parish: descriptions of the building, diocese and neighborhood, financials and attendance, current staff and other parish data.

Areas where we seek leadership include: Taking an activist role in addressing major political and social issues; becoming more proactive in developing our financial stewardship; and growing our youth ministry.

We are ready to be challenged by you: to laugh, cry, worship, sing, work and pray with you, and beside you. We will pray for you in your discernment process, and we trust God to lead us all to a new and fuller life as we move forward. When you read the following pages, we hope you sense the abundance with which God has blessed us, and we ask you to ask yourself if we are the flock that will inspire the full range of your pastoral gifts were you to become our shepherd.

In faith,

St. Mark's Search Committee, on behalf of the Vestry,
and our Brothers and Sisters in the parish.





WHO WE ARE

These principles have shaped our Church, and continue to be essential guideposts as we serve and worship God:

WE ARE A DIVERSE COMMUNITY

We strive to “CELEBRATE GOD’S INCLUSIVE LOVE” by intentionally and joyfully welcoming those of all ethnicities, races, gender orientations, family structures, ages, abilities, and religious affiliations. St. Mark’s provides a safe haven where each and every individual can worship God as they pursue whatever unique and wondrous journey life holds for them.

WE ARE WORSHIP CENTERED

We are seekers and believers with many spiritual backgrounds and ideas. When we come together to worship through Word, sacrament, music, and prayer, our hearts are rekindled with joy, peace and purpose.

WE ARE COMMITTED TO SERVICE, AND TO THE PURSUIT OF SOCIAL JUSTICE

Our faith makes us “first responders” to the many profound needs in the world, including caring for those most vulnerable; serving in a wide variety of settings; acting for social justice; and advocating for peace. Within our community are musicians, educators, social workers, medical clinicians, caregivers, social activists, and many others who use their skills and passion to live their faith, and inspire others to be engaged in God’s world.

WE ARE A CHURCH OF LOVE RATHER THAN A CHURCH OF LAW

Our lives are enriched by our differences and supported by the unity of our strong and affirming community. Our paths are many, but each of our journeys is richer when we know that we are grounded in a supportive, caring church community.

WE VALUE LEARNING

We seek a better understanding of God and of our spiritual selves through study of scripture, human experience and tradition. Our inclination to ask many questions and try to discern answers is both challenging and exciting. Knowing that we are all experiencing different crossroads in our unique journeys allows for safe faith-based discussions.

WE HEAR EVERY VOICE



Church members march in parade



OUR ST. MARK'S COMMUNITY

In a recent survey taken as part of this search process, the congregation described itself as: a loving, inclusive, diverse, accepting and embracing family, one that enjoys uplifting music, reaches out on social justice issues and enjoys celebrating together. That pretty much sums it up.

St. Mark's is committed to being an open, welcoming, safe and inclusive place—a community of those who choose to sit together in God's house and commune together at God's table.

We are incredibly diverse. Our membership is predominantly middle class, and at a worship service you'll find congregants from a wide variety of ethnic groups, interracial couples and families, singles and couples of all ages, folk who identify as gay, lesbian or transgender, some with children, and some not.

Visit us on any Sunday and you'll discover something else that is key to the dynamics of St. Mark's: We like each other, which becomes apparent during the long and loud "peace" or the traditional coffee hour after the service.

We have always placed a priority on service. We view outreach as a way we live out our faith, carrying it out of the building and into the world. We are more active and effective than our membership numbers might suggest, as captured in the section entitled "Outreach."

From "cradle Episcopalians" to those who identify simply as "seekers," all are welcome to worship and receive the Word as it speaks to them. When surveyed, we describe ourselves as a place to bring our hopes and fears and doubts and wounds to Christ, a place for believers and skeptics at the same time.

We struggle with our faith, our world, and even each other. Most of all, we are ALIVE in Christ here—not perfect, but definitely alive—and committed to our journey together.



❧ WORSHIP ❧

At St. Mark's, worship and prayer are central to our life together as a people of God, our source of energy and renewal, preparing us to do God's work in the world.

Our church community as well as our worship practice, combines both the traditional Anglican and the more liberal traditions of the Episcopal Church and the Diocese of Newark. St. Mark's worship practice may be described as "broad church."

The religious roots of our members are diverse, and include congregants from Episcopal, Lutheran, Roman Catholic, Southern Baptist, American Baptist, or Congregational traditions, or those who had none at all. All are invited to our church home and our table; we practice open communion. We welcome everyone – as you come to St. Mark's the sign welcoming you says, "This Church is open to those of all faiths or none."

We are blessed with an active, committed, and participating laity. We see everyone, priest, music director, choir, acolytes, altar guild, readers, ushers, bread bakers, and congregants, as ministers and celebrants, "one body," in communal worship.

We are enthusiastic, noisy and genuine in offering the peace to each other. Many of us leave our seats at this time to seek out and greet each other as a declaration and reminder of the peace that Jesus Christ made for us.

We have two Eucharists on Sunday mornings at 8 a.m. (an intimate service encouraging comment and participation in the sermon) and 10 a.m. (with organist and full choir, which is live-streamed on Facebook). During the summer months, a "Mass on the Grass" Eucharist is offered at 6:30 p.m.

Each month, the youth help lead the 10 a.m. Eucharist. Also, once a month, at the end of our Sunday Eucharist, we offer individualized healing prayers for parishioners through the laying on of hands.

Indeed, all the elements of our worship practice—hearing the word, music, and sermon; sharing prayers, Eucharist, and the peace—help to nourish our community with the spiritual food needed to support us in our daily lives. As one parishioner said, when asked what excites her most about St. Mark's, it is "our understanding of faith as a process and a journey, not as a stagnant destination, our ability to place God's love at the center of our communal life."

CHILDREN AND YOUTH

We strive to meet the needs of all children and youth within the congregation, doing our best to keep our kids engaged in ministry as active members of the church. Church school numbers are not high, but spiritual education of children and youth is very important to our community. It is our goal to expand this vital element of our ministry in the coming years.

Our church school education program serves children from first through fourth grade. Students in this program enjoy the well thought-out and ever-engaging Atrium Program, derived from “The Catechesis of the Good Shepherd.” Every Sunday, during the 10 a.m. worship service, they meet in their classroom before joining the rest of the congregation for the Eucharist.

The classroom contains simple yet beautiful materials that they use to create their own worship experience. They engage in discussion and projects relevant to their lives, and plan activities such as “Change for Change” collections and Christmas cookie exchanges to raise funds to benefit those in need. The children make the choice themselves; one favorite has been to support families through Heifer International.

Around age 11, the children are encouraged to join St. Mark’s Youth Group. “Youth Group Check-In” (divided into middle and high school ages) meets immediately after the worship service to share food, conversation and projects. Both groups together enjoy social events such as movies, bowling, miniature golf and dinners out.

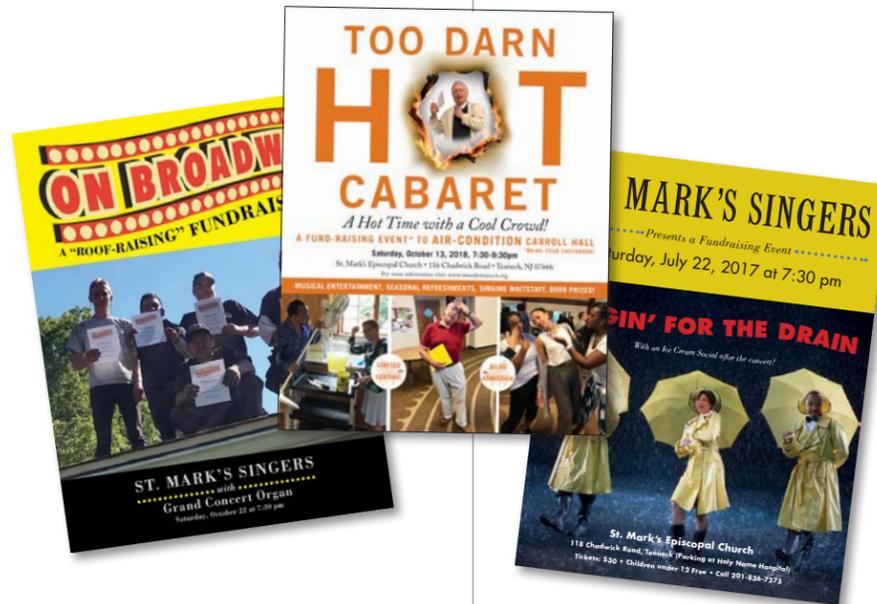
This year, the Youth Group: (1) created and hosted a “Halloween Fun House”, (2) presented an Adult Forum on social media and how it might benefit one’s spiritual life, and (3) moderated a “how-to” session designed to help seniors better understand their smart phones. During Lent, the Youth Group also hosts our traditional Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper, Maundy Thursday lock-in, and Easter egg hunt.

Confirmation class, currently “Confirm not Conform”, is offered to youth who wish to continue their faith journey beyond Church School and Youth Group to confirmation.

Along with the spiritual formation offered by these programs, young people participate in worship services as acolytes, acolytes-in-training, or members of the adult choir. These opportunities allow our children to feel a real sense of service and community within St. Mark’s, and gives the entire congregation a chance to know them, and become involved in their faith formation.



❧ MUSIC AT ST. MARK'S ❧



Music is much more than a mere accompaniment to worship at St. Mark's; it is an integral part of this church's ministry and is thoughtfully and comprehensively woven into the texture of worship and parish life.

We appreciate many different styles of music—traditional, gospel, contemporary and everything in between—and we lift our voices to it all with gusto. Hymns are carefully chosen and balanced in terms of familiar and new, with selections both within and outside the Episcopalian tradition, reflecting our diverse musical backgrounds.

Our choir is a volunteer, ministry-based group open to all regardless of ability. All are welcome. Choir members are warm and supportive, and parishioners are invited and encouraged to join the choir. As a result, the choir continues to grow and averages 15 to 20 voices each week.

Each Sunday from September through June, the choir sings for the 10 a.m. Eucharist. In July and August our "Summer Music Series" offers music for worship featuring professional guest musicians and in-house talent with musical selections ranging from classical to jazz.

At Christmas, Easter and on other special occasions, we sometimes invite a small orchestra, string quartet or other musical ensemble, to further enrich the worship experience. This was especially true on Good Friday 2018, when instrumental and choral music combined with works of art to illuminate the Passion. To many, this was a singular inspirational event. As if that wasn't enough, St. Mark's Praise Band, composed of parishioners known for making

a joyful noise, leads our worship several times a year.

In addition, the choir presents special concerts as fund-raising events for the church. In the past five years, we have presented three concerts: "On Broadway: A Roof-Raising Musical Evening," to raise money to fix the church roof, "Singing for the Drain," to help pay for a new drainage system, and the "Too Darn Hot Cabaret," with proceeds going to air-condition the parish hall.

The solid congregational singing, a hallmark of St. Mark's, is made possible, in large measure, to the concert hall-quality acoustics of St. Mark's sanctuary, and a three manual Allen Renaissance Digital organ with Vista Navigation installed in 2016. The instrument is a custom installation that allows for a broad range of instruments and effects beyond "traditional" organ sounds.

We are also blessed with an outstanding music director, George Wesner (currently principal organist at New York's famed Radio City Music Hall), and a number of individuals in the congregation with exceptional musical, artistic and creative abilities. The music program has been structured to complement the gifts and talents of the congregation in order to support the ministry of the church. It is a one-of-a-kind model. Wesner says, "Our goal is to have music which is relevant and present—a vital and God-given gift with which we share the good news of our Christian life and experience every time we are together."

OUTREACH

One of our most important missions is to engage the larger community. We gather together in worship and fellowship, give thanks for God's blessings, and then seek to share them in service to others. Our faith calls us to use our God-given gifts and talents to minister to the needs of those whose lives touch ours. This is faith in action.

We give and receive pastoral care in the individual relationships we build with those we serve, and through the various groups that minister here (see Meeting Space Hospitality, below). In addition to long standing outreach ministries named below, we respond to calls for action from local, diocesan and world organizations with generosity.

Examples of St. Mark's outreach activities are:

Math Adventures and Word Play (MAWP)

This popular Saturday morning enrichment program is staffed by volunteers from St. Mark's and the surrounding community. It has been serving students from Teaneck and nearby towns for more than 15 years. The program, which includes math, writing, arts, and parent workshops, supports both students and their families with a goal to reach each student's full potential, often exceeding the individual's grade level. MAWP is promoted and supported not only by the Teaneck school district, but also by Ramapo College, sending students who act as tutors weekly.

WIC Play Group

The WIC Play Group ministry is a special expression of God's abundant love at St. Marks. St. Mark's houses one of the sites of a large Women Infants and Children Supplemental Food and Nutrition Program (WIC) serving northern Bergen County. Volunteers from St. Mark's organize and supervise play groups for the young children while services are rendered by the WIC Program's staff to parents in need.

E-S-L to Go (Day Laborers)

For more than eleven years, St. Mark's parishioners and members of the community at large gather in the early morning hours to bring coffee, pastries, or cold drinks, and to teach English to day laborers while they wait



for work opportunities. Through the years this ministry has evolved into a "ministry of presence" (many already know how to speak English), giving us the opportunity to share conversation in English, while getting to know them and their needs. Each year we begin with a renewed vision for this program. We look for a leader with a missionary vision to guide us in this outreach ministry.

The Lion's Den



A monthly coffeehouse and "open-mic" night where aspiring performers and artists are free to take the stage. Born during times of national distress, the Lion's Den continues to be a venue for artistic expression and artistic response to current social issues, while opening our doors to musicians and poets from throughout the area.

Meeting Space Hospitality

As previously indicated, we regularly provide meeting space to many support organizations, and national and community organizations, including 12-Step groups (AA, Al-Anon, CA), two theater groups, a yoga class, and two Girl Scout troops. In addition to these affiliated organizations, St Mark's hosts events for many community groups and serves as a Township polling place.



Other Outreach Activities



St. Mark's partners with Family Promise of Bergen County by twice a year acting as a co-host congregation providing housing and meals for homeless families in Bergen County. Partnering with Temple Emeth, which provides sleeping space, St. Markers cook and serve meals, sleep at the site, and engage in fellowship with adults and children in the program. St. Mark's also supports Family Promise by organizing a team for the annual "Bike Bergen" fund raising activity. We collect much needed food for Center for Food Action weekly, and organize additional collections for holiday meals. In addition, St. Mark's regularly supports drives for pampers, infant toiletries, blankets and infant formula supply for North Porch Women and Infant's Center.

❧ STEWARDSHIP ❧

We have learned to grow and fully live as stewards of precious resources entrusted to us by God. St. Mark's is seeking a rector who will continue to lead this parish in sharing our gifts of time, treasure and talent as an act of worship.

We understand that time and talent are as important as treasure, and St. Mark's are very generous in that regard. Parishioners have also been generous with their treasure to complete major projects. However, most parishioners have not significantly embraced the concept of proportionate giving on a regular basis leading to the tithe. We continue to look for ways to be more proactive in the mission of financial stewardship. This includes inviting our community to be open to the blessings and joy inherent in financial giving and the Biblical principle of our hearts being where our treasure is.

Opportunities for stewardship are promoted through information, stewardship sermons, presentation of Living Epistles (October to December), forums on topics of interest, and an annual fair to highlight various ministries. By means of call or collaborative efforts, for things aesthetic value or things of critical need, we have successfully refurbished the stained glass windows, repaired the roof and the drainage system, and replaced the organ. As Christians, we understand that stewardship is a part of ongoing Christian formation; it is everything we do with all that we are given by God, only a piece of which has to do with pledges.



❧ FINANCIAL OVERVIEW ❧

St. Mark's manages its finances internally with the Treasurer and the Finance Committee. The Treasurer prepares the financial statements which include a detailed balance sheet encompassing the various asset classes, liabilities and church restricted and general funds. The income and expense statements include the current monthly results, year to date figures and comparisons of that data against the budget.

As stated in our 2018 annual report, "The Finance Committee serves at the charge of the Vestry to support the Vestry in ensuring that St. Mark's acts as a responsible steward in the management of the financial resources of the parish toward advancing its overall mission and ministry". The Finance Committee meets monthly to review the statements against the budget and makes recommendations to the Vestry based upon its findings. The Committee does a mid-year budget review and adjusts the budget based upon actual results for those first six months. The Committee also handles the distribution of the monthly giving statements to parishioners.

To view St. Mark's Financial Statements, click here:

<https://1drv.ms/u/s!Al6aEQZj5IvDqitSQh1ZSJSQpMc>

OUR FACILITY

Our Doors Are Always Open

The open doors of our facility serve as a statement of outreach and hospitality to the community. As our signs say, anyone is welcome to come in—walk the labyrinth, pray, use the restrooms, or just sit quietly in the sanctuary. Volunteers faithfully carry out this unique ministry 365 days a year.

Set on a beautiful and spacious corner property, the church grounds house numerous gardens and a variety of trees. St. Markers and guests gather here to enjoy picnics, outdoor services, relax under a shade tree or on the porch or sit on a bench in Father Jim's Garden remembering our loved ones who lie there. Members of the Gardening Guild take turns keeping our plants trimmed and weeded, inviting all to enjoy their beauty. Recently, on a parish work day, members installed a Little Free Library for all to use.

Our open and light-filled sanctuary is a welcoming space for worship services. The altar area is raised and may be cleared of all objects and furniture which creates a wonderful performance space. The nave and accessible side seating provide flexible additional seating for many people to comfortably attend services or concerts. Currently, we are at work perfecting a video recording and live streaming system installation.

The building is accessible to disabled persons via a side entrance walkway and includes an accessible bathroom. There are no barriers here. In fact, the Diocesan accessibility team chose St. Mark's as the host location for an intensive look at ways to eliminate barriers, using our space as an example of easy access.

A double office area is located off the side entrance hall, and there are six office/classrooms as well as a fully equipped kitchen adjacent to Carroll Hall. The parish hall itself is large enough for significant events, with moveable partitions to subdivide the space for multiple simultaneous events if needed. A labyrinth is cut into the hall's carpeted floor.



The Buildings and Grounds Committee members are passionate about preserving the safety and integrity of the building assets. The current committee is comprised of people with varying degrees of skill and expertise. These skills often allow for the planning and completion of many projects internally. Larger jobs requiring more specific skill sets are outsourced to local contractors based on a bidding process with larger capital projects requiring at least three vendor proposals.

The Buildings and Grounds Committee actively keeps a wish list of projects beyond basic maintenance of the property and plant and as a parish we strive to meet those goals. We celebrate whenever we can check a project off of this list. A few of the more recent capital campaigns have allowed us to repair and restore our beautiful stained-glass windows, replace significant portions of the roof and install a new drainage system on the church grounds.

We are environmentally conscious and in our maintenance upgrades have sought where possible to retrofit and implement with LED's, building systems and other green technology. Our Green Team works diligently to foster sustainable and easy to enact initiatives. Our green philosophy also extends to the thumbs of a number of the parishioners who make up our Gardening Guild.

The Rectory

The rectory is located less than one mile from the church on a 50 x 110 ft lot in a lovely residential neighborhood near public transportation. The house, built in the 1920's, is a two-story red brick colonial with a detached garage. The four bedroom one-and-a-half-bathroom house has a fireplace and hardwood floors throughout. Recent upgrades to electrical, plumbing and sewer systems in the rectory have been completed.



❧ HISTORY ❧

For nearly a century, St. Mark's Episcopal Church has been a vibrant part of the fabric of Teaneck, an under-stated, ever-present Teaneck institution, trying to live by our motto, "Celebrating God's Inclusive Love."

Teaneck is a racially and ethnically diverse community, with many African American, Latino, Asian and LGBT residents, and our programs and priorities embrace that diversity. Indeed, our rectors have been black and white, male and female, gay and straight—as have been our parishioners.

St. Mark's was created in April 1924 when Grace and Floyd Chadwick, concerned about the Christian education of young children, made their home on Cedar Lane—around the corner from the current church—available for Sunday school classes.

Grace Chadwick taught the first class of five children, but adults became interested and began meeting at the Chadwick home for church services.

Four families comprised the original membership, but the parish quickly grew and in October 1925, a 150-sq-foot lot at the corner of Grange and Chadwick roads was purchased from the Phelps estate. The first church building, a World War I prefabricated field chapel, was acquired and erected on the site. The first service was held there on Christmas morning 1925, celebrated by the Rev. William White, the church's first vicar.

Sunday school enrollment grew to 45 children, and on Jan. 2, 1926, Bishop Edwin Lines signed an application for St. Mark's to become a mission church of the Diocese of Newark. In 1962, St. Mark's became an independent, self-supporting parish in the Diocese of Newark with the Rev. Field H. Hobbs, vicar since 1956, as the first rector.

To meet the needs of a growing membership, St. Mark's embarked on a series of major building projects—including demolition of the original structure in 1958 and the construction of a new parish hall a year later—and physical improvements have continued to this day. Included was a major redesign of the sanctuary and parish hall, completed in 2002, which expanded our usable program space while making the building accessible to disabled persons.

As a bonus, the renovations resulted in concert hall-quality acoustics in the sacristy. That upgrade—along with an outstanding choir director—has been critical in the development of the highly acclaimed choir and music programs we have now.

In 1996, in response to requests from parishioners seeking a final resting place for their loved ones, we obtained approval from the township to create a Memorial Garden on the north side of the church property. The ground was consecrated two years later for that use, and we now have

more than 50 people interred there. But St. Mark's has always been more than buildings.

- In 1990, when a white police officer shot and killed a black teenager, St. Mark's and our rector were in the forefront of efforts to help bring the community together.
- In response to the terrorist attacks on Sept. 11, 2001, St. Mark's opened its doors to parishioners and members of the wider community throughout the day, culminating with Holy Eucharist with special prayers and music—the only such service in any house of worship in Teaneck that day. From that time until this day, parishioners have met the commitment of "being there" by keeping the doors open from morning 'til night.
- In the 1980's, when gay and lesbian residents needed a place to meet, St. Mark's made its parish hall available.
- In 1975, we installed a beautiful stained-glass window with figures of Native American, African American, Latino, and Caucasian heritage behind the altar.
- In the 90's, our outreach budget grew in collaboration with a comprehensive diocesan stewardship program.
- In recognition of the large number of parishioners with ties to Caribbean nations, a festive Caribbean Night has long been a mainstay of our annual social calendar.
- We have nurtured relationships with Jewish congregations in town, including hosting Passover Seders jointly with a local synagogue.
- For the past 14 years, St. Mark's has offered the widely acclaimed Math Adventures & Word Play, a free community-based math and writing enrichment program, to young people from Teaneck and throughout the New Jersey-New York metropolitan area.
- In 1997, we formalized a companion-parish relationship with the Episcopal Refugee Outreach Ministry in Danane, Ivory Coast.
- For 15 years, volunteers in our WIC Play Group have provided hospitality to the families of the federally funded Women's, Infants', Children Nutrition program.

It has been more than 94 years since that first Sunday in 1924 and St. Mark's continues to grow. We have developed into a very diverse community of active and involved people of all ages, a warm and friendly place to worship, open to all who approach our doors.

ST. MARK'S VICARS AND RECTORS

Rev. William J. White, Vicar, 1926 • Rev. Richard Baxter, Vicar, 1926-1934 • Rev. George F. Collard, Vicar, 1935 • Rev. Fessenden A. Nichols, Vicar 1936-1938 • Ven. Leonard F. Nichols, Vicar, 1939-1947 • Rev. C. Philip Staples, Vicar, 1948-1956
Rev. Field H. Hobbs, Rector, 1956-1965 • Rev. Joseph E. James, Rector, 1965-1971 • Rev. Richard M. Louis, Rector, 1971-1978 • Rev. Bruce R. Bramlett, Rector, 1979-1985 • Rev. Canon Lucinda R. Laird, Rector 1986-1997
Rev. Randall C.K. Day, Rector 1998-2008 • Rev. Valerie Bailey Fischer, Rector, 2011-2014 • Rev. Robert L. Shearer, Priest-in-Charge, 2015-2018

TEANECK

The Township of Teaneck, N.J., is located in Bergen County approximately 11 miles North of New York City and approximately 20 miles from Newark Liberty International Airport. The U.S. Census Bureau's 2010 population estimate for the township is 39,776. As of 2010 it was the county's second-most populous township and physically, it is the county's seventh largest municipality, covering 6.22 square miles or 3,893 acres.

Teaneck is positioned along a number of major highways including New Jersey Route 4, the New Jersey Turnpike (a portion of Interstate 95) and Interstate 80. It lies at the junction of I-95 and the eastern final point of I-80, and NJ Route 4, the town's main highway, bisects it into north and south portions. The northern entrance of the N.J. Turnpike is three miles from Teaneck, and the Garden State Parkway is about five miles west. The George Washington Bridge is 5.6 miles east and the Lincoln Tunnel is ten miles southeast. Several bus lines service the town, including express service to New York City and to nearby shopping centers. There is also rail service in neighboring Hackensack and a senior citizens' minibus.

Demographics

Teaneck has a very diverse population. As recorded by the 2010 Census, there were 13,470 households and 10,124 families living in the township with the following racial makeup: White, 53.30%, African-American, 27.70%, Asian, 9.10%; other races, 6.0%; those who identified as two or more races, 3.50%; Native American, 0.30%, and Pacific Islander, 0.03%. From this population 16.50% identified themselves as Hispanic or Latino.

There are 55 religious organizations in Teaneck, including thirteen synagogues (Teaneck has a large Orthodox Jewish population. Many yeshivas have been established, along with kosher restaurants, bakeries, and businesses that serve the Orthodox community), two mosques, one Roman Catholic church, two Episcopal churches, several churches of various Protestant denominations, and a Baha'i center.

Teaneck is predominately middle to upper-middle class, with a per capita income of \$43,779, a median family income of \$117,574, and a median household income of \$101,128. Approximately 72.70 percent of Teaneck's residents live in owner-occupied housing units, with the balance residing in rental units. There are also several senior-citizen housing opportunities in town.

At a Glance

The major institutions within Teaneck include the Metropolitan Campus of Fairleigh Dickinson University, the largest private university in the state, and Holy Name Medical Center. The Teaneck Armory is home to the New Jersey National Guard's 50th Main Support Battalion. Glenpointe, the township's only major development, consists of town houses, two hotels, office space, a spa and fitness center, and a senior living facility. Many residents commute to work, either to New York City or to other communities across the state. Teaneck has four business districts in town and five major shopping centers within ten miles.

The Board of Education supervises four elementary schools (one kindergarten, and three schools with grades one through four), two middle schools with grades five through eight), and one high school. There is also a public Community Charter School (kindergarten through grade eight). Special education is provided for all grades; honors and advanced placement courses are offered in high school

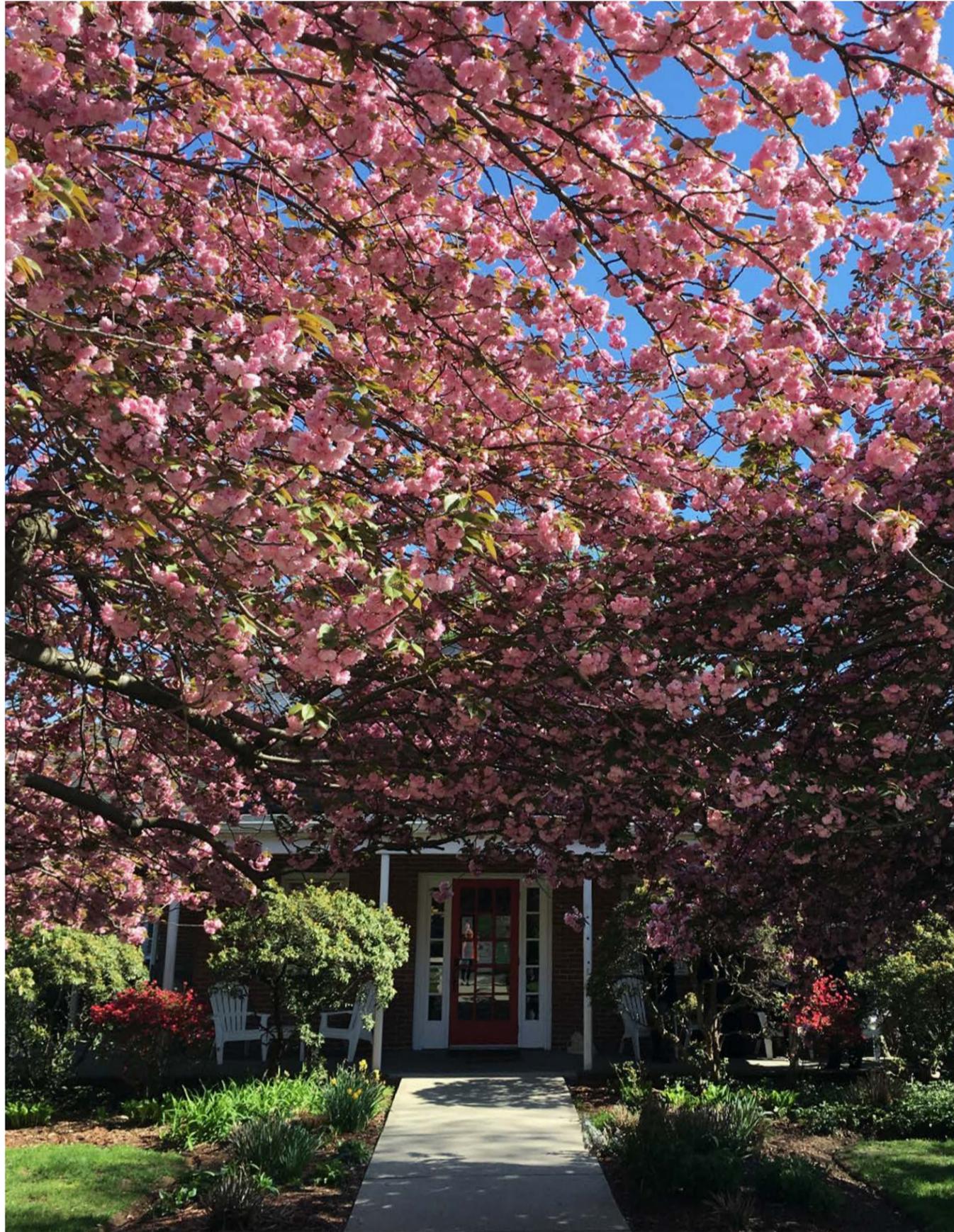
Teaneck has several municipal parks with tennis courts, baseball fields, basketball courts, an in-line skating rink, a private swim club, an in-ground public pool, two above-ground public pools, active youth programs in baseball, softball, junior football, soccer, basketball, marked bicycle lanes, a county golf course, and a county park in adjoining towns. Cultural activities and venues include theater, band, chorus, opera, and barbershop quartet group performances; concerts at the band shell in Votee Park; numerous activities at Fairleigh Dickinson University, the Teaneck Public Library, the Puffin Cultural Forum, the senior citizens center, the Richard Rodda Community Center, and the movie theater.

The township has professional police and fire departments; an active, 24-hour-staffed volunteer ambulance corps; a full-time paid health officer and sanitation inspectors.

Further Information



Please visit Teaneck's Wikipedia page for the township's history and any additional information: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Teaneck, New Jersey](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Teaneck,_New_Jersey)



Friends,

*Life is short and we have but little time to gladden the hearts
of those who make this earthly pilgrimage with us.*

*So be swift to love, make haste to do kindness, move urgently
to lighten the burdens of others; and the blessing of God, the Father,
the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be with you now and forever.*

Amen.