

For almost 25 years, The Rev. Charlie Holt has served the Episcopal Church in three unique missional contexts. In Charlotte, North Carolina, he developed a true heart for evangelism and discipleship as hundreds of people came to a new relationship with the Lord through the Alpha Course. Out of the fruit of that ministry, they planted a new church in Charlotte.

At age 30, Fr. Charlie became rector of St. Peter's Episcopal Church in Lake Mary, Florida. Lake Mary was a fast-growing rural community transitioning to become a dynamic suburb of Orlando. St. Peter's became a hub for youth and children's ministry. They would see 1,000 children and youth on campus in any given year.

During his 16 years there, they developed what proved to be an innovative strategy to reach the community by connecting a small group ministry with its liturgical calendar and church year. The goal was always to have over 110% of the church's average Sunday attendance in small groups.

At St. Peter's, Fr. Charlie developed a commitment to community engagement ranging from relief work to homeless ministry. As a leader in Sanford Pastor's Connecting, a group of racially diverse ministers, they developed a unified and prayerful community response following the shooting of Trayvon Martin.

Fr. Charlie's ministry during his time in Houston (2017-2022) focused on developing a world-class teaching center at St. John the Divine. The church, through Fr. Charlie's leadership, equipped a deep bench of lay teachers who effectively communicated the gospel with Biblical and theological rigor. They also developed young adults to teach and lead a vibrant young adult group that now reaches nearly 100 young adults each week.

Most exciting to Fr. Charlie during his time at St. John the Divine was the 'English as a Second Language' program. Because of the program, over 150 students came to the church from over 44 countries speaking 33 different languages. This program still engages 50 lay volunteers in hospitality to immigrants and visitors in the Houston area. In the last three years, they have seen many adult baptisms of new members from places like China, Russia, Japan, and Turkey.

In every context, Fr. Charlie's core has been to fulfill the Great Commandment and the Great Commission.