

Siasconset Union Chapel

MINISTER IN RESIDENCE JOB DESCRIPTION

September 1, 2026

The Trustees of the Siasconset Union Chapel in Siasconset, Massachusetts, on the island of Nantucket, invite candidates to apply for the position of Minister in Residence.

Siasconset (often called ‘Sconset) is a seasonal resort village on the eastern end of Nantucket Island. The year-round village population is roughly 300 residents, but the population expands to an estimated 3,000 people during the peak months of July and August. The summer population includes year-round residents, summer residents, and vacation renters. The village contains historic rose-covered cottages, grand summer estates, and many other historic and more recently constructed homes. Sconset is home to the Sconset Casino (tennis and social club), the Sconset Market (coffee, newspapers, ice cream, and groceries), a Post Office, several restaurants, a sandwich shop, several small stores, and, of course, the Chapel itself.

Built in 1883 as an ecumenical house of worship, the picturesque Chapel has served Protestant and Roman Catholic congregations during summer months for over 140 years. The Chapel and its gardens are holy spaces at the center of Sconset life. They serve congregations that include year-round and summer residents, as well as summer visitors. Separate services for Catholic and Protestant congregations welcome all and are well-attended. The clergy for Roman Catholic masses is provided through *St. Mary – Our Lady of the Isle*, the Catholic church in the Town of Nantucket’s Historic District. In addition to Sunday Chapel services, the Protestant congregation convenes for early morning Sunday beach services four times per summer, and a midweek communion and prayer service every week during the summer months.

The Chapel’s services are augmented by vibrant but modest children’s and teen programs. The children’s program, in particular, is a Chapel jewel. The program takes place periodically during each summer and coincides with Sunday Chapel services. Children experience the beginning of the Chapel service and then transition outside the sanctuary, where they joyfully engage in singing, storytelling, craft activities, and other age-appropriate community-building activities, all under the guidance of enthusiastic volunteers from the Chapel’s congregation.

The Chapel’s Outreach program supports Nantucket’s most needy residents through regular food donations, and by providing financial resources to numerous island service organizations.

The Chapel is a highly sought after setting for island weddings, baptisms, memorial services, and other sacraments and ceremonies.

The Chapel is financially sound, having no debt and strong endowments.

Additional information about the Chapel's history, traditions and mission can be found at <https://www.sconsetchapel.org>.

The administrative powers of the Chapel are vested in a 15-member Board of Trustees that supervises, controls and manages the property, affairs and funds of the Chapel. The Minister in Residence will be selected by the Chapel Board and will serve under contract as the spiritual leader of the Chapel's Protestant congregation. He or she will be responsible for the spiritual welfare of the congregation, administering the sacraments, supervising all public services of worship, providing pastoral care, and in general helping individuals navigate life and grow spiritually. The Chapel has limited support staff and, therefore, relies on volunteers from the congregation, as well as the Minister, for many administrative functions.

The Minister in Residence would be expected to reside in Sconset, conducting services on a full-time basis, from mid-June through mid to late September, and to be available in person or virtually for pastoral care on a part-time basis during other times of the year. The Minister also may be requested to perform wedding services during the Chapel's wedding season, which is the period between Memorial Day in May and mid-October.

Candidates should be ordained in the Protestant faith by any traditional denomination (e.g., Episcopal, Presbyterian, Lutheran, Methodist), should have substantial previous experience leading congregations, and should have demonstrated a commitment to community outreach in his or her prior communities. Experience with children's and teen church programs would be greatly valued. Personal warmth, humility, and love of community are desired qualities.

The Minister in Residence will receive compensation including a generous stipend paid during the summer months commensurate with ministerial credentials, senior leadership experience, and history of community outreach. The Minister also will receive a discretionary spending allowance, travel reimbursement, and supplemental fee income determined by the Board for weddings, memorial services, interments and baptisms. Housing and utilities will be provided for the Minister and his or her family in the "Amen" cottage, adjacent to the Chapel, during the season. In addition, the Minister will enjoy memberships at Sankaty Golf Club and the Sconset Casino Association.

Interested candidates should submit to the Chapel Search Committee, via email to scsearch28@gmail.com, a detailed resume, a statement by the candidate as to why he or she would be a good fit with the Chapel and the Sconset community, and a statement explaining how the candidate would coordinate Chapel employment with any other ongoing employment responsibilities. The Search Committee expects to identify finalists during the Spring of 2027, and to schedule finalist visits during the Summer of 2027, with a final decision by the end of Summer 2027.