

The Very Reverend Daniel Paul Richards

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#danieloftheway

SUMMARY OF QUALIFICATIONS

- More than 20 years working for the church in diocesan and congregational settings
- Five years in current position as rector of established urban congregation and school
- Recently elected by colleagues as dean of eastern Phoenix deanery
- Seven years in small city as dean and rector of growing parish with successful outreach ministries
- Dean for diocese working with 14 other churches and communities as liaison for the bishop
- Four years of leading and growing a small mission through change and new life
- Dynamic and inspiring Biblically-based preacher and teacher
- Strong leadership, interpersonal and communication skills
- Organized and lead groups of youth, young adults, seminarians, and adults overseas
- Ability to work effectively with a wide range of constituencies in diverse communities

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Christ Church of the Ascension and Day School, Phoenix, AZ 12/2015 – Present

Rector and Dean of Eastern Phoenix Deanery

- Leading an established traditional congregation of more than 500 members, 250 ASA
- Primary pastor, preacher, teacher, administrator, and, chief liturgist.
- Overhaul of finances, reporting, and administration of parish.
- Teach regular Bible studies and discipleship classes.
- Empowering lay leaders to take on more significant role as vestry and ministers of Gospel.
- Sponsoring three leaders through discernment of holy orders.
- Recruiting and retaining new members through increased online and community presence.

Grand Traverse Deanery, Diocese of Western Michigan, MI 3/2010 – 11/2015

Dean

- Served as liaison for the diocesan bishop for clergy and parish support.
- Counsel with bishop and other three deans regularly.
- Visited local communities to help support ministries, ensure diocesan communication, and offer care.
- Led local services for diocese, representing bishop at deaths of clergy and in non-diocesan liturgies.
- Helped to negotiate relationships between clergy and community, including Episcopal-Lutheran congregations.
- Mentored local clergy and lay leaders.
- Offered deanery training for spiritual directors through WellSprings

Grace Episcopal Church, Traverse City, MI 2/2009 – 11/2015

Rector

- Led a strong, established urban congregation of more than 500 members, 240 ASA
- Primary preacher, teacher, administrator, head of staff of eight and 35 ministries, chief liturgist.
- Oversee budget approaching a half-million dollars.
- Teach regular Bible studies and discipleship classes.
- Led vision process to overhaul children and youth programs.
- Led large group process of communal conversation around worship, welcome, study, service, based on the work of Peter Block.
- Recruited and retained new members through increased online and community presence.

The Episcopal Church of the Holy Spirit, Phoenix, AZ

1/2005 – 1/2009

Priest-in-charge, Vicar

- Lead a dying congregation from 50 members to 170 in three years.
- Served as the primary preacher, teacher and liturgist.
- Thoughtfully moved the music program to a re-voicing of traditional music.
- Lead the congregation through discernment, eventually changing the name of the mission.
- Taught regular Bible studies and discipleship classes.
- Recruited and developed volunteers.
- Sponsored and shepherded a member through discernment to ordination as a deacon.
- Recruited and retained members.
- Managed growth and the spirit of hospitality and community that mark the mission.

Saint Michael & All Angels Episcopal Church and Day School, Tucson, AZ

6/2003 – 12/2004

Curate and Day School Chaplain

- Lead worship in both an Anglo-Catholic parish and across the life of an active day school.
- Worked with both church and school to improve relations and communications.
- Taught classes for children and adults from room visits to eighth grade religion to parent's Bible studies.
- Worked with administration, teachers, and staff to support and care for students and teachers.
- Provided pastoral care to parishioners and students.

Diocese of California, San Francisco, CA

8/2002 – 5/2003

Associate Coordinator of Young Adult Programs and Church Development

- Worked with diocesan staff and bishop's office to improve young adult outreach and involvement.
- Consulted with churches on development of local young adult ministries, increasing number of ministries and membership.
- Planning, organizing and implementing events for young adults both within the diocese and with other denominations, introducing new people to the church.
- Advised diocese on youth and young adult issues and outreach.
- Organized and lead the young adult committee, expanding its role in consulting with local churches.
- Provided spiritual direction and oversight for youth and young adult events.
- Taught workshops and mentored young adults during 2003 General Convention

Saint James Episcopal Church, San Francisco, CA

3/2002 – 5/2003

Worship leader and Seminarian/Intern

- Lead "contemporary" praise and worship service, including preaching, planning, and fundraising.
- Preached and lead classes for adults and youth as seminarian/intern.
- Consulted with priest and staff on organizational structure, daily life of the parish, long-term vision.
- Studied leadership and administration style with rector.

Diocese of Arizona, Phoenix, AZ

5/1998 – 9/2000

Youth and Young Adult Coordinator

- Recruited, supported, and developed local youth ministries, resulted in growth in number of youth ministries, paid youth ministers, and membership.
- Organized and lead overseas mission groups.
- Initiated, planned, and implemented new events for youth in diocese.
- Planned and implanted the theme and entertainment of the 2000 diocesan convention.

First Southern Baptist Church, Buckeye, AZ

2/1995 – 8/1998

Youth Minister

- Ordained as Southern Baptist minister 2/2/1997
- Coordinated, over saw and lead youth program of more than eighty students.
- Planned and lead retreats, camps, and various educational programs.
- Taught classes and lead prayer and worship with youth and others throughout the church.

VOLUNTEER HISTORY

Diocese of Arizona, Phoenix, AZ 2018 – Present

President of Disciplinary Board of Diocese

- Oversee disciplinary cases and consult with bishop, chancellor, and board under diocesan structure.
- Assign members to roles under canons.
- Define board structure and practices under direction of bishop.

Phoenix Fire Department Chaplain, Phoenix, AZ 2018 - Present

Chaplain

- Offer spiritual care and pastoral services to firefighters, staff, and families within department.
- Participate and lead services for City of Phoenix and surrounding municipalities.
- Fire station visits and home visits for active and retired members.
- Work closely with Union Local 493 staff to provide coordinated care and psychological services.
- Crisis response, support, and training for community.

Chapel Rock, Prescott, AZ 2016 – 2019

Board President

- Reconstituted camp and conference center board under diocesan structure.
- Coordinated with camp staff on fundraising and long-term planning.
- Recreated board structure and practices.

Area Commission on Religious Diversity, Traverse City, MI 2012 - 2015

Commission Member

- Participated in cooperative conversations, coordination, and mutual support between religious leaders.
- Participated in Shoah Remembrance, Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, Blessing of the Bay, and other ecumenical services.

Commission on Ministry, Diocese of Arizona 2005 - 2009

Commission Member

- Participated in recruitment, interviews, and shepherding of aspirants.
- Wrote new procedure for identifying charism of leadership in priests.
- Delivered keynote address at 2008 Day of Information on Discernment.

Chapel Rock, Prescott, AZ 1998 – 2006

Camp Dean

- Wrote and led senior high camp spirituality program for five years.
- Coordinated with camp staff on program and planning.
- Supported summer staff during transition period between camp directors.

EDUCATION

Best Skills Best Churches, Phoenix, Arizona

Lodestar Non-Profit Management Institute, Arizona State University, and Diocese of Arizona
Nonprofit Management Certificate (2016)

Church Divinity School of the Pacific, Berkeley, CA

Master of Divinity (2003)

Grand Canyon University, Phoenix, AZ

Bachelor of Arts: Creative Arts in Worship: Speech and Performance (1997)