

The Reverend Sanford (Sandy) Key is a retired police officer from Charleston (SC) who, after five years on the force, followed his lifelong dream of pursuing a life in ministry. In 1997, Sandy and his wife, Laura, moved to Sewanee, Tennessee, where he received a Master of Divinity from the School of Theology, University of the South. While in seminary, Laura and Sandy's first son, William, was born during their last year (thus in one broad stroke, the new title of "Father" had much more weight and meaning). In 2001, Laura and Sandy's second son, Christopher, was born while Fr. Sandy was serving as the Episcopal Chaplain to The Citadel, Charleston, SC. (During that time of ministry, while on a mission trip to the Dominican Republic, Citadel Cadets gave him yet another moniker, "Padre.")

Fr. Sandy comes to us after serving as a Rector and Associate Rector in both New York and Connecticut. Prior to his arrival in the Northeast Fr. Sandy served several churches throughout the South, in particular, Charlotte, NC; Charleston, SC; and Williamsburg, VA. He is still a southerner at heart. Expect bowties and seersucker in the summer — neither were common in the Northeast and typically received a little good-natured, welcomed ribbing every spring: "Matlock? Is that you?" or "Are we having a Derby party?"

In his former positions as a priest, Fr. Sandy served the communities in which he lived in a variety of ways, including volunteering as a New York State Fire Chaplain, City of Rye Police Chaplain, and the City of Rye and Town of Somers Volunteer Fire Department Chaplain. He also served on the boards of At Home in Somers, NY (an eldercare alliance), and the Whole Child Coalition for the Somers school district. Additionally, Fr. Sandy created a church Food Pantry, a church Golf League, a Theology on Tap forum, and a Tuesdays with Sandy adult forum and a daily Podcast.

Fr. Sandy first discovered his call to ministry while in Haiti as a teen. Ever since his ordination, with his heart pointedly leaning toward outreach and mission, he has been actively involved throughout the island of Hispaniola. Over the past two decades, he could be found leading mission teams in the Dominican Republic (which may also find a space on our church calendar), and he continues to follow that passion today as he serves on an advisory board that oversees mission work throughout the country.

Laura, a native South Carolinian, is a lover of history and local flavor, wherever she may live. She is passionate about her boys, music (probably not the kind you would guess), film, leaving a light footprint on this earth and critiquing Fr. Sandy's writings. She works as an editor in corporate marketing, for a financial services company.

Laura and Sandy have two sons. Will, who is in his final semester at the Rochester Institute of Technology in its Industrial Design program, and Christopher, who is a junior at the College of Charleston pursuing a business degree.

Former church experience at a glance:

- **Sr. Associate Rector** at Christ's Church, Rye, New York, St. John's Church, Stamford, CT & St. Barnabas Church, Greenwich CT.
- **Rector** at Saint Luke's Church, Somers, New York
- **Associate Rector** at Bruton Parish Church and **College Chaplain** the College of William and Mary, Williamsburg, VA
- **Curate** at The Cathedral Church of St. Luke and St. Paul and **College Chaplain** to The Citadel, Military College of South Carolina, Charleston, SC
- **Deacon** at Christ Church, Charlotte, NC
- **Long-Term Intern** at Saint Stephen's, Charleston, SC

Publication: *Disciples of Christ in Community 16-20* University of the South Publications, Sewanee, TN, 2000; Co-Creator and Author

Podcast: <https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/coffee-and-morning-prayers-podcast/id1547255941>;
Creator and contributor