

PROTESTANT CHAPLAINCY

2022-2023 newsletter



Protestant Chaplain
The Reverend Dan Bell, MDiv

All are welcome. All are valued as part of the community.
All are loved by God.

Welcome! My name is Dan Bell and I serve as the Protestant Chaplain at Tufts University. I provide spiritual care and support to anyone on campus and work closely with the Protestant Students Association (PSA) to offer engaging programs. As you explore what the Protestant Chaplaincy has to offer, I hope you will find a warm and welcoming community open to all people and identities. We celebrate the many traditions that make up the Protestant family of faith, and we are passionate about building an inclusive and justice-oriented Christian community on campus. Whether you grew up in church or you are exploring religion and spirituality for the first time, I would be delighted to get to know you.

There are many ways to connect with the Protestant community. You can find us on Sunday nights at our weekly Protestant Evening Worship (PEW) services in Goddard Chapel. A few times each semester, we have "Dinner Church" gatherings where we enjoy a meal together during worship. No matter when you join us, please know "there is always room for you in the PEW."

I pray that you find a sense of belonging at Tufts as we explore faith, enjoy fellowship, and work together to help make God's dream for the world come true. Please email me if you have any questions or would like to meet for coffee and conversation. I look forward to learning how I can best serve you at Tufts.

Blessings,

The Reverend Daniel Bell, MDiv
Protestant Chaplain

The Protestant Chaplaincy strives to be a radically welcoming and inclusive Christian community. We celebrate our diversity in the Body of Christ as we join together for worship, prayer, fellowship, and service to love God and our neighbors.

Regular Programming

- Protestant Evening Worship with music, prayers, and guest preachers from different denominations, followed by food and fellowship, Sundays at 7pm in Goddard Chapel
- Discernment Dinners, Bible studies, and other small group gatherings
- Weekly "Breakfast Club:" prayer and study group for faculty and staff, held on Zoom
- Overnight retreat to Rolling Ridge in North Andover, Massachusetts
- Seasonal observances and holiday celebrations, including LGBTQ+ Pride in the PEW, Thanksgiving dinner, a Christmas celebration, and Easter brunch
- Community service opportunities coordinated by chaplains and student leaders
- Annual interfaith field trip to Boston with the Muslim Students Association, and other interfaith programs, such as film screenings and panel discussions



Welcome brunch on the Tisch Library roof

Program Spotlight: Discernment Dinners

Chaplain Dan launched a series of engaging “Discernment Dinners” last year. Students gathered over a meal to talk about life’s big questions such as purpose, passion, relationships, and faith. They discussed topics like time, money, and how their studies relate to their sense of calling. Future dinners are being planned as part of a larger effort by the University Chaplaincy to explore vocation with students, in collaboration with the Career Center. We hope programs like this will help everyone on campus become better equipped to answer the striking question posed by poet Mary Oliver: “Tell me, what is it you plan to do with your one wild and precious life?”



“The Protestant Students Association was an integral part of my first year at Tufts. It gave me a community where I always felt welcomed, and a group to which I always felt like I belonged. Whether I needed someone to talk to, or wanted to find some peace and quiet away from studying, PSA always offered kindness and an open space to talk and listen. I am so excited for this upcoming year, and I hope you are too!”

Bella Sidoruk, A25

SUPPORT PROTESTANT LIFE AT TUFTS UNIVERSITY

A vital portion of our programs are made possible by community donations. Here are some suggestions for how you can help make a difference in students’ lives:

- **\$25** Provides students with study resources and meals for Discernment Dinners to gather in a supportive community and reflect on life’s big questions and their sense of calling
- **\$75** contributes to a semester’s worth of chaplain meetings to offer pastoral care and support to students over a coffee or tea
- **\$150** helps the Protestant Chaplaincy host its fall orientation brunch to welcome new students to campus and invite them to participate in our spiritual life programs

To give to the Tufts Protestant Chaplaincy Fund online, please visit <http://go.tufts.edu/giveProtestantLife>. To discuss a major gift, endowment, or bequest, please contact our Advancement liaison Lorraine Sparrow:

(617) 627-2052 | Lorraine.Sparrow@tufts.edu

Thank you for your generosity and support.