



Office for
Transition
Ministry

Ministry Portfolio

Full Portfolio (last updated Apr 30, 2019)

St George's York Harbor, Maine

407 York St, York Harbor, ME 03911, United States

Contact:

Rector / Vicar / Priest-in-Charge

mambler@episcopalmaine.org

Weekly Average Sunday Attendance (ASA)	Number of Weekend Worship Services	Number of Weekday Worship Services	Number of Other per Month Worship Services
105	2	1	
Current Annual Compensation	Cash Stipend	Housing / Rectory Detail	Utilities
\$83482		\$23482	\$6000
SECA reimbursement	Compensation Available for New Position	Housing Available for	Pension Plan
	\$83482	5	We're in compliance with CPF requirements.
Healthcare Options	Dental	Housing Equity Allowance in budget	Annual Equity Amount
Full family	Yes	Yes	\$2400
Vacation Weeks	Vacation Weeks Details	Continuing Education Weeks	Continuing Education Weeks Details
4		2 (standard)	
Continuing Education Funding in budget	Sabbatical Provision	Travel/Auto Account	Other Professional Account
\$501-\$1000/year	Yes	Yes	Yes

\$60,000 cash plus use of Rectory; compensation is negotiable

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Describe a moment in your worshipping community's recent ministry which you recognize as one of success and fulfillment.

October 1, 2017 was the day we came home to our newly renovated church and our own liturgy with a sense of accomplishment and joy. We had been working towards this day for almost 2 years - developing goals and a plan for the renovation, raising the money, moving out of our space for the demolition and rebuilding, moving in with the welcoming York Ogunquit United Methodist Church to share worship and outreach for the duration. The renovation was a great success - pulling together many ideas & feelings to one common goal and providing an up-to-code space for the St. George's Time of Wonder Early Learning Center.

How are you preparing yourselves for the Church of the future?

All parishioners value openness and flexibility in the face of change, continuing involvement and outreach in both existing programs and in new ones during the interim period and a little planning for the future. Some hope to preserve current practices. The church has spent considerable time and money on reconfiguring the physical space to make a more useable space for the community at large. We are aware of generational differences. The inherent value of a church community is becoming less readily apparent to the younger generations. We must find ways to connect, welcome, listen, and prayerfully adapt to changing realities. Being open to needs as they arise and making changes are important. At the same time, we need to recognize that there is a place for the old - old ways as well as older people. We need to find a two-pronged approach: one to attract young families, the other to support our aging process. Our Church of the future needs a powerful and spiritual preacher, one who incorporates teaching, prophetic leadership and public pastoral care.

Please provide words describing the gifts and skills essential to the future leaders of your worshipping community.

inspiring leadership, radical welcome, Insightful Inclusive, Passionate Shepherd

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Describe your liturgical style and practice for all types of worship services provided by your community.

We have a sign over the door of St. George's that states 'All are Welcome at God's Table.' Every week we have both a spoken, Rite 11 Service at 8 AM and an innovative service with music at 10:30. We use the 90 minutes between services for committee meetings, choir practice, education programs, and "cross pollination" of participants of the two services. Our services are both light and reverent; we are grounded in but not limited to the Prayer Book; it's serious but not solemn. We are not high church. Our energetic Music Director leads the choir and the congregation in song ranging from Mozart to praise and gospel music. On Thursday mornings we have a Healing Service with Prayer Book and an open discussion of the readings and the homily. In the summer there is a traditional musical service at Trinity, our neighboring Episcopal chapel. We value innovation within tradition and the creative tension between the traditional and progressive services. At each of our services the Sign of Peace is an extended opportunity for people to move about the church to greet fellow parishioners and welcome newcomers.

How do you practice incorporating others in ministry?

Many people join us in ministry as a result of personal invitations and conversations with clergy and lay members. As part of this we encourage lay preachers, an open choir, lay readers and writers of the Prayers of the People, greeters, and attendance at Bible study. Our lay preachers bring us a variety of perspectives from their different religious backgrounds, genders, and cultural upbringings. We offer training as needed. We are looking for a priest who is adept at identifying people's gifts and empowering them to lead and to participate.

As a worshipping community, how do you care for your spiritual, emotional and physical well-being?

In addition to our regular services, opportunities for fellowship and for outreach, St. George's supports small group ministries such as Stephen Ministry, Benedictine Spirituality Group, Bible study and Choir. Pastoral care includes the prayer chain, a transportation ministry, Meal Train, Lay Eucharistic Visitors, community support for funerals, weddings, baptisms, etc. The Meal Train is a web-based ministry for parishioners to request temporary assistance with meals on account of health issues or family situations. Recent recipients of meals include a family with a newborn baby and a parishioner who had knee surgery. Parishioners sign up online to provide meals. The cooks and drivers frequently stay for fellowship as they drop off meals. One of the important portions of this ministry is that it connects parishioners outside of the four walls of St. George's. See the 2018 Annual Report on the St. George's website for additional examples. We have been very focused on outreach and are aware that we need to balance this with opportunities for personal spiritual development.

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How do you engage in pastoral care for those beyond your worshipping community?

St. George's has invested in relationships with several community organizations to help and support people outside our church. We are currently developing partnerships with other local parishes in nurturing community youth programs. We respond to the needs of the community as they arise e.g. sponsoring an ecumenical concert to raise funds for furloughed government workers in response to a recent government shutdown. We would like a priest with the creative imagination to see the wider needs of the community and to join with other area churches to meet these needs.

Describe your worshipping community's involvement in either the wider Church or geographical region.

St. George's offers many opportunities for personal, community and ecumenical outreach in Maine and the seacoast area. There are several food programs in the area in which St. George's has both actively participated and helped initiate, including the YCSA Food Pantry, Table of Plenty and End 68 Hours of Hunger. St. George's parishioners initiated organized and continues to staff evening hours to provide additional access to the local food pantry. We also buy targeted gifts for families listed on our Christmas Giving Tree. St. George's is deeply involved in community programs to counter racism, homophobia and sexism. We co-founded the LGBTQ Christians Group, a new ecumenical ministry that offers fellowship activities to the community. We host community concerts and have partnered with the local art association to host a summer arts camp. We have a community reputation for involvement and inclusion.

Tell about a ministry that your worshipping community has initiated in the past five years. Who can be contacted about this?

Our most significant new ministry has been the taking over of Time of Wonder, a failing childcare center, one of the only programs in the area accepting low income vouchers - and transforming our building into a welcoming place for the children. Time of Wonder provides high-quality, affordable childcare for low income families. Many members of St. George's volunteer at the Center but it is a stand-alone 501(c)(3) business with its own staff and financial management. Time of Wonder helps fulfill the congregation's vision for the capital project the church was undertaking at the time: to open the church building for community use seven days a week. The church's role, played by both the rector and the vestry, is to give strategic and financial advice. As a matter of practice, the rector sits on the center's board. The center runs three classrooms - infant, toddler, and pre-school - and has growing waiting lists for each as its reputation spreads.

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What is your practice of stewardship and how does it shape the life of your worshipping community?

In the past two years our Capital Campaign has raised \$1.2 million dollars for the renovation of the building and installation of the Time of Wonder. As a partial result, our regular Stewardship campaigns suffered from a lack of focus and attention. We did raise enough money to fund our regular responsibilities and to support the Rector's Discretionary Fund. We are a solvent congregation but we realize that our top donors are leaving, dying or finding other needs for their resources. We are focusing on how to find and encourage more members and donors. We need to make stewardship a creative, year-round activity instead of a three-week effort in November. Our Stewardship Committee is becoming a year-round membership committee, as well.

What is your worshipping community's experience of conflict? And how have you addressed it?

Our Vestry & especially our past two rectors did a lot of quiet conflict resolution between individuals, which resulted in early resolution of conflicts. There is mild tension between 8:00 worship and 10:30, with music being an issue. People are often uncomfortable with change e.g. the renovation. We have had a lot of changes in the past two years. There are minor strains between those who want to see the church expand and reach great heights and those who find peace in the church we have worshipped at in the past. In recent memory nothing has risen to the level of a church-wide rift.

What is your experience leading/addressing change in the church? When has it gone well? When has it gone poorly? And what did you learn?

We have had massive changes in the last 2 years - takeover of a failing childcare center, discernment for renovation, capital campaign, renovation including up-to-code space for Time of Wonder, worshipping with the Methodists during the renovation, return to our unfamiliar, renovated space, rector's sabbatical, rector's resignation and now, interim and the search for a new rector. The church initiated most of these changes. They have not been forced upon us. Through all this, one thing that has not changed: the welcoming spirit of St. George's members, our support for each other, and our steadfast belief in God.



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Prior Incumbents

Name	Position Title	Date Begun	Date Ended
The Rev. Calvin Sanborn	Rector / Vicar / Priest-in-Charge	2011-01	2018-10

Name	Position Title	Date Begun	Date Ended
The Rev. Paige Blair	Rector / Vicar / Priest-in-Charge	2000-08	2009-05

Name	Position Title	Date Begun	Date Ended
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"Adult school" number represents total participants in book studies and other adult programs

Church School	Number of Teachers/Leaders for Children School	Number of Students for Children School

Number of Teachers/Leaders for Teen/Young Adults School	Number of Students for Teen/Young Adults School	Number of Teachers/Leaders for Adults School	Number of Students for Adults School
	7		75

Day School	Number of Students for Day School	Number of Teachers for Day School	Number of Total Staff for Day School



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Worshipping Community Web site: stgeorgesyorkharbor.org

Media Links:

Online References:

facebook.com/StGeorgesYorkHarbor

Languages Significantly Represented:

Provide Worship or Classes in:

References

Bishop: 1-207-772-1953 ext. 125; slane@episcopalmaine.org

The Rt. Rev. Stephen T. Lane

Diocesan Transition Minister 1-207-772-1953 ext. 123; mambler@episcopalmaine.org

The Rev. Cn. Michael Ambler

Current Warden/Board Chair Please contact Canon Ambler

Ms Holly Sargent

Previous Warden/Board Chair

Search Chair Please contact Canon Ambler

Ms. Janie Sweeney, Mr. Robert Palmer

Parish/Institution

Local Community Leader