



Office for
Transition
Ministry

Ministry Portfolio

Full Portfolio (last updated May 8, 2020)

St Andrew and St John, Maine

315 Main St (St John), Rte 102 Seal Cove (St Andrew), PO Box 767 Southwest Harbor, ME 04679, United States

Contact:

Priest-in-Charge Shared Ministry

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
41	1		
Current Annual Compensation	Cash Stipend	Housing / Rectory Detail	Utilities
SECA reimbursement	Compensation Available for New Position	Housing Available for	Pension Plan
	\$74220	4	We're in compliance with CPF requirements.
Healthcare Options	Dental	Housing Equity Allowance in budget	Annual Equity Amount
Full family	Yes	Yes	
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

\$74220=diocesan standard Total Compensation for the area. Includes value of rectory. Negotiable.

St Andrew and St John, Maine

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

Within the past three years we have initiated a "School backpack program" which provides weekend food security for elementary school children whose families experience food insecurity. This program compliments another thirty-year ministry, the Westside Food Pantry (WFP). There we are able to converse with those who come to participate in the sharing that happens (they share their need, we share the resources we have). They often share with us their stories, as well as their gratitude, and their desire to help with what we are doing, their wanting to give back for that which they have received. They do this giving back in many ways - sharing their resources when times improve for them, helping with setup/takedown of the WFP distribution space, or helping during the distribution with all aspects of what we do. Many people in our community who are not members of the church nor recipients of the WFP assist with this ministry. God shows up in the sharing that happens.

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

We are actively and energetically partnering with other Mt. Desert Island Episcopal parishes to strengthen mission and reduce duplication, sharing clergy, staff, outreach and other resources. This effort, largely lay led, has gone on for many years but intensified recently as the number of church partners has increased and the relationships deepened. A wide range of community groups use our building, which is in the center of Southwest Harbor, for example: the Island Quilters Guild, an AA group, the BB Jammers Dulcimer group, Acadia Senior College classes, concerts, Mahjong players, the Boy Scouts, and others.

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

Preacher educator, pastoral sacramental, outgoing engaged, compassionate uniter

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

We are an open, engaged parish with strong congregational singing and lay participation. The Parish worship spaces are inviting and simple in decoration. We are open to a range of liturgical styles having enjoyed the presence of a broad variety of supply clergy with varying liturgical approaches. (For example, acolytes and chalice bearers are flexible and accustomed to differing approaches to the administration of the sacrament.) New members are actively encouraged to take on leadership roles at their pace. The Parish welcomes exploring new liturgical ideas, and seeks active participation in that change. Change is not a stranger to us.

How do you practice incorporating others in ministry?

Our sanctuary is never locked. In a way, this symbolizes our openness to the community and serves as an unspoken invitation to enter for private worship, meditation, or even just for a quiet time. As a church community we encourage involvement by greeting each other, welcoming strangers, listening to one another and discerning each other's interests and willingness to be more involved in our parish community's ongoing life. St John's sits right on Main Street in Southwest Harbor, and our picnic tables on the lawn are a further invitation to the community to come and use this space for an impromptu picnic or a few minutes of respite in a busy season. We involve members of the parish in various ministries such as altar guild, lectors, greeters, acolytes, coffee hour hosts, and vestry. Additionally, there are opportunities for ministry which extend beyond our parish membership to include leading our weekly meditation services, volunteering at the Westside Food Pantry, and filling backpacks each Friday to counter food-insecurity situations among school children over the weekends. Participants regularly include members of the community beyond our parish membership.

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

We do our best to address all three types of well-being. Spiritually, in addition to Sunday services, we have a mid-week eucharist on Thursdays at noon, and a lay-led meditation service on Tuesday afternoons. Members also take the opportunity for spiritual growth at the nearby Alcyon Center, a place for contemplation and peace. Emotional support often comes in the form of the prayer chains we maintain, one public, the other private and confidential, as well as a greeting card ministry at times of grief or celebration, and church members who offer meals and informal pastoral care—'solace and soup'. Physically and intellectually, we offer a Sunday forum from time to time to discuss topics suggested by our members and we have members who participate in the all-parishes men's weekly breakfast group and in the all-parishes weekly Bible study group, we have an all-parishes common book study during Advent and Lent.

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

Our doors are always open and our back pew stocked with food and toiletries so that those in need, or simply in need of a safe space to be still, can find it. The Westside Food Pantry, governed by our vestry but staffed by volunteers from all over the island, (including current and former service recipients) meets twice monthly from November through April and provides healthy food recipes, food stuffs, and library books as well as financial vouchers for food and basic needs. Our parishioners volunteer at the many service opportunities available in the area, including Hospice, Evensong (a singing group that works with Hospice) Island Connections (providing rides), the Seacoast Mission, and others. We have hosted community meals and also forums on topics of religious and/or health issues..

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

The Parish of St Andrew's and St John's has been a part of the three-parish exploration of joint sacramental, administrative, and social union over the past two decades of progress along this path. We are challenged to view our own parish as part of the greater presence of the Episcopal Church on Mount Desert Island, and to learn to be better listeners and facilitators as we move toward mutual understanding and mission. We've had our setbacks of course, but the sense of shared community and purpose among our three parishes is evident and growing. Additionally, we involve ourselves in our wider community in many ways: the Westside Food Pantry, of course, but also the annual celebrations and parade in the community of Southwest Harbor, the Hancock County Medical Mission to Latin America, our annual parish Yard Sale to raise money for outreach, and a Lenten weekly shared service with a soup and bread meal, to name a few. Most parishioners are also individually involved with a host of different community organizations on Mount Desert Island.

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

In recent years we have initiated and help staff a school backpack program which provides weekend food security for elementary school children in our local and neighboring school district. Dianne McMullan can be contacted about it.

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

As a community, we seek to share our time, our talents, our gifts, and our service as we care for each other, the community in which we live through assorted ministries mentioned elsewhere in this profile, and in our care for our physical facilities (including making our building accessible during a renovation done at a time when we had no Priest in Charge or Rector). We share our building with many community groups. These efforts (including the normal fall stewardship campaign) and endeavors bring us together as we work towards fulfilling our mission of “Worship God, Serve People.”

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

The most honest response to this question is that when an individual has had a conflict with something that has/is happening, if that conflict remains unspoken and/or unresolved, that individual leaves our midst. We recognize that this situation has happened more than once, and are pondering how we can do better at allowing differences to be expressed, and resolved with a process of reconciliation, that would allow all parties to go forward in unity, but this discussion is in its infancy.

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?

Change is difficult. We are fortunate that we have been able to pull together for some changes, and when we have not, we have lost members. We have learned that we need to work harder to make change possible for everyone, and to be sensitive to each other when change is happening.

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Prior Incumbents

Name	Position Title	Date Begun	Date Ended
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Name	Position Title	Date Begun	Date Ended
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Name	Position Title	Date Begun	Date Ended
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This is a single position which will encompass leadership of three closely associated congregations: St. Saviours Bar Harbor; Church of Our Father, Hull's Cove; and St. Andrew and St. John, Southwest Harbor. The priest will have resources available to call an assistant or arrange for supply clergy to share worship leadership. For much more information about the Island-wide Episcopal collaboration, please visit <http://www.mdi-episcopal.org>

Church School	Number of Teachers/Leaders for Children School	Number of Students for Children School
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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
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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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Contact:
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Worshipping Community Web site: www.saintsmdi.org

Media Links:
www.mdi-episcopal.org

Online References:

Languages Significantly Represented:

Provide Worship or Classes in:

References

Bishop: tbrown@episcopalmaine.org; 1-207-772-1953 ext 125
The Rt. Rev. Thomas J. Brown

Diocesan Transition Minister mambler@episcopalmaine.org; 1-207-772-1953 ext 123
The Rev. Canon Michael Ambler

Current Warden/Board Chair **Please contact Canon Ambler**
Ms. Genevieve Mackenzie

Previous Warden/Board Chair

Search Chair

Parish/Institution

Local Community Leader