



Office for
Transition
Ministry

Ministry Portfolio

Full Portfolio (last updated May 8, 2020)

Saint Saviours Church, Maine

41 Mount Desert Street, Bar Harbor, ME 04609, 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
53	1	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.

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

About 12 years ago, the Vestry decided to close our large parish house, a building that had played an important role in the community over the years, as a community space for dances, a nursery school and a hostel, among other things. Three years later, decisions needed to be made regarding this building since it was in poor condition after lying vacant. If we were to use it again it would need to be brought to compliance with current housing codes, and would cost over a million dollars to renovate. Much discussion and many ideas were floated, each with pros and cons, leaving us with no clear plans. During this time, a group called Local Solutions spoke at our coffee hour about their dream of providing housing for young adults with disabilities and their search for a building - which ultimately the decision was made to "sell" the parish house to Local Solutions for \$1. Although the majority was in favor of this, there were parishioners who were not. It is now a thriving home to seven young adults. When our rector left in January, all of the residents and staff of Parish House, as the residence is called, and Board members of Local Solutions attended the farewell reception.

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

The partnering with the other island Episcopal churches for joint worship, using lay people to lead Morning Prayer monthly, the pooling of resources of all four churches, preparing for a celebration to commemorate 150 years of Episcopal presence on M.D.I.

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

Motivators. Committed. Faithful. Respectful and appreciative of the elderly. Flexible.

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

Choral Eucharist each Sunday at 10 AM and a spoken Eucharist at 7:30 AM.

How do you practice incorporating others in ministry?

Lay ministry, with healing ministers, monthly lay led Morning Prayer, providing tours of the church in the summer, often led by parishioners, incorporating summer members into the Vestry in the winter electronically and by inviting other singers to join for special services such as choral evensong.

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

Contemplative prayer group meets once a week, a confidential prayer chain offering prayers for those who do not wish to be included in the published list of parishioners requesting prayers, book study in Advent and Lent. We serve de-alcoholized wine and gluten free bread (baked by parishioners) to better assist those who need this to feel included.

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

We provide rides to church for those unable to drive, call and check in with shut ins, and provide meals and support on an “as needed” basis.

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

We support the local food pantry by collecting needed food items and volunteer hours at the food pantry or the thrift shop associated with the food pantry, participate in a “March on Mt. Desert”, which is a progressive supper hosted by the non-profits located on Mt. Desert Street and open to all who wish to attend, hosting numerous 12-Step groups, providing space for concerts by local musical groups and bringing worship services to nursing homes.

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

A contemplative prayer group facilitated by Sue Seavey, Lay-led Morning prayer once a month by one or two of six different parishioners who rotate. The wardens now assign the leaders.

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

Encouraging pledging, with vestry members sending personal thank you notes to each pledging member when they renew their pledge or to those who offer a new pledge. Involvement of many parishioners who give time to keep our church going. We are also concerned about environmental stewardship and have begun exploring using solar energy, reducing our use of plastics and encouraging recycling, with bins in the kitchen for recyclables and returnables and refrain from using any pesticides on our lawns and gardens.

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

We do not deal with conflict very well. In an attempt to encourage better communication, we have placed a suggestion box in the parish hall so members can express concerns. When parishioners are upset about something, the communication is often done in the parking lot or among like-minded individuals but never directly expressed to leaders or clergy. Passive aggressive behaviors occur, by not attending services regularly, decreasing a pledge, etc. If asked about this, the reasons given are often evasive or vague. Most parishioners ultimately accept changes with disgruntled acceptance or resignation, while still harboring some resentment. For instance, several parishioners felt that we should have sold our old parish house at market value, rather than donating it for housing. After several years, when finances are discussed, comments are made about how we'd be better off if we had sold the parish house for its true financial worth.

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?

Clear and frequent communication in spoken and written form is important. It is easy to make assumptions about what people know and understand. One on one conversations are helpful from leaders, so that individuals feel like they have been heard. Making changes gradually and incrementally is helpful.

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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.stsaviours.me

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**
Mr. James Vallette

Previous Warden/Board Chair

Search Chair

Parish/Institution

Local Community Leader