



Office for  
Transition  
Ministry

# Ministry Portfolio

*Full Portfolio (last updated Sep 20, 2016)*

## St. Andrew's, Maine

219 Winthrop Center Road, Winthrop, ME 04364, United States

Contact:

Rector / Vicar / Priest-in-Charge (Part-time) | Receiving Names until 11/14/16 [ambler@episcopalmaine.net](mailto:ambler@episcopalmaine.net)

Weekly Average Sunday Attendance (ASA)	Number of Weekend Worship Services	Number of Weekday Worship Services	Number of Other per Month Worship Services
23	1	0	1
Current Annual Compensation	Cash Stipend	Housing / Rectory Detail	Utilities
SECA reimbursement	Compensation Available for New Position	Housing Available for	Pension Plan
	\$14240		<b>We're in compliance with CPF requirements.</b>
Healthcare Options	Dental	Housing Equity Allowance in budget	Annual Equity Amount
Full family	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	

*1/4 time position: \$14,240 total cash comp; benefits if applicable at 25%*

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

The St. Andrews worshipping community views outreach as an important ministry. We distribute 25% of our budget to outreach. We can identify a number of recent successes. For the second summer in a row we have purchased farm shares from two local organic farms. We deliver the produce to local food banks each week. Last year we purchased \$500 worth from two farms; this year we purchased \$1000 worth from each farm, thanks to an anonymous donation from summer parishioners. Members also volunteer at local food banks each week. We recently became aware of a substantial challenge faced by one of our couples. We responded with labor and a large outpouring of financial support. In fact, each time we hear of such needs, we give generously - a local paper mill closing, the Haitian earthquake, diapers for St. Marks everyday essentials pantry (working moms with small children are required to supply diapers for their kids in daycare). We provide scholarships for graduating students at two local high schools. A parishioner recently graduated from the EfM course. We incorporate children in our worship as acolytes and alms bearers.

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

We are light on our feet, having moved from Readfield to Winthrop, where we share the space of the Winthrop Center Friends Church. We are not burdened by owning a building; rather we share the expenses of the Friends' building. We have a wonderful set of rotating clergy whose varying styles, voices, and viewpoints keep our spirits and intellects actively engaged. As noted elsewhere, we provide ashes to go in downtown Winthrop. We have an adult Bible study during the school year after church. We are creating a website. Perhaps most importantly, we are seeking a vicar to shepherd our small flock into the future. However, some of our conservative parishioners fear that our march to the future leads to the progressive/liberal portion of the spectrum, which is not comfortable for them.

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

loving kindness; spiritually intellectual; humor; honest

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

Our primary corporate worship is Sunday morning Eucharist, usually Rite II from the Book of Common Prayer. We select the prayers from the BCP or the New Zealand Prayer Book. We are casual, come as you are, welcoming to everyone. We joyfully embrace members of different faith traditions and those of no faith tradition among our community. Children are welcome at the children's table in the back, joyful noise and all. Children frequently help: acolyte, present the Elements, collect offertory. We share announcements at the end of the service, just before the final blessing.

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How do you practice incorporating others in ministry?

We define ministry broadly, including both our Sunday worship and our outreach ministries. For Sundays, parishioners sign up in advance to greet, to prepare the altar, to acolyte, to present the Elements and collect offertory, to pick the hymns, to be Lector, or to host coffee hour. We provide updates for ongoing outreach ministries and communicate opportunities for new ministries through announcements, the Sunday bulletin and weekly email, and the bi-monthly newsletter, Lines of Fishermen.

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

Our spiritual well-being is supported by our Sunday worship with our visiting clergy rotation, whose differences in style and intellect nurture and challenge us. Holy Day services and adult Bible study also nurture us spiritually, as do our prayers and concerns for each other, expressed both in our published prayer list and during the prayers of the people. Our emotional well-being is nurtured during what some describe as our chaotic passing of the peace, where hugs abound, no one goes un-greeted, and visitors and newcomers are warmly included. All know that they are cared for by the church community, and when needed, personal contact and visits provide support. Our physical well-being is supported on Sundays by a usually abundant table at coffee hour, and at other times as the need arises. For example, we recently supported a parishioner facing a financial crisis through physical labor and generous financial support. On the first and third Sundays each month we express what we are thankful for, including birthdays, anniversaries, and other celebrations. Donations we make for these celebrations go to the United Thank Offering and our Savings Account.

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

We have a broad view of pastoral care as demonstrated by our corporate and individual works and giving. We are a small group with a large commitment. We are aware of the needs around us, both among our parishioners and in the wider community. We maintain an active prayer list for those in need and we provide for identified needs as we are able, including physical labor and financial support, as described elsewhere. In addition to collecting special offerings for those in need, we contribute to Camp Bishopswood, Jerusalem Episcopal Relief, and the United Thank Offering. Individually we provide labor for the weekly distribution at the Mt. Vernon food bank, and as noted in question 5, we purchase organic produce from local farms and deliver it to Mt. Vernon and Winthrop food banks, addressing local food insecurity challenges. Individually we are also supporting the Travis Mills foundation with our time and donations. Individually we also participate in the annual Walkathon for hunger, do pastoral care at the local hospital, send cards or emails and do home visits, and join the Friends in programs on gun violence and food insecurity.

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

Our engagement in the wider Church and region takes several forms: church-related, charitable outreach, and community-related. We support outreach ministries of the K6 (Episcopal and Lutheran) churches in the Southern Kennebec Valley and have conducted joint events with some. We include K6 notices and events in our communications. We participate in the Episcopal Peace Fellowship-Maine, in the diocesan kneeler project, in diocesan support for older clergy, and in the diocesan general convention. We contribute diapers to the Basic Essentials ministry of The Church @ 209, and clothing to St. Augustine's thrift shop in Dover-Foxcroft. We support our local Mt. Vernon and Winthrop food pantries through our purchase of fresh organic produce through the growing season from two local farms. We engage with the local business community through our membership in the Winthrop Area Chamber of Commerce.

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

We have initiated several new ministries. Contact Tom Ward, Senior Warden. Our most visible new ministry is our support of the Mt. Vernon and Winthrop food banks, described elsewhere. We have initiated Ashes to Go, with Fr. Jim Gill administering ashes to anyone who asks in downtown Winthrop on Ash Wednesday. This year the Kennebec Journal, our local newspaper, featured a front-page photo and article of Jim administering ashes. Some members are certified to assist with the Eucharist on Sundays and to take the Eucharist to homebound parishioners. We have created a portable twenty-foot-square labyrinth that we roll out on special occasions, open to the community, to support quiet contemplation. The labyrinth is also available to rent. Contact Jeni Lewis or Suzan Wachs Katzir.

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

Priorities in spending are important to us. We conduct our annual pledge conversation in the fall, and in addition to our careful budgeting, our parishioners' pledges allow us to continue to stay in the black. Our stewardship has thus put us in a position to be searching for a vicar. As additional needs become evident during the year that are not in the budget, we invite additional giving beyond our pledges, and these invitations are usually quite successful. We commit 25% of the budget to outreach, for example our support for local food banks described elsewhere. In addition, this year we instituted a ranked choice voting system to decide where to place our outreach donations, a process well supported by the congregation.

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

We experience conflict in two areas: related to our move to Winthrop to share space with the Friends; and related to our differing places on the conservative-liberal social-political spectrum. Sharing the Friends' building raises issues of display of flags, worship schedule, hanging banners, and how to align the pews. We have a "Coordinate and Advise" Committee to find solutions when challenges arise. We try to be honest and charitable with one another, encouraging open discussion and compromise. In some instances we have succeeded, in others we have failed. Some parishioners are no longer attending regularly. Our prayer is that our new Vicar will bring the spirit and the skill to restore our corporate unity. We love and value our absent brothers and sisters.

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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 worked through two big changes in our recent history. The first was our move from our rented space in Readfield to our current space sharing the Friends' church. The second was our participation in what came to be known as the K6 - the five Episcopal churches in Kennebec County and Prince of Peace Lutheran church. In a number of ways the move to Winthrop went well, and in other ways, not so well, as described in question 10. When we've been willing to listen and compromise we've done well. Some report becoming more patient and becoming committed to grow beyond personal wishes. We are learning that good communication is important. We email a church bulletin weekly; we share announcements before the end of Sunday service, including quarterly financial reports; and we have a website. With regard to the K6 work, our geographic location in the western edge of the county has proven to be a blessing. The experiment that was K5 and then K6 has not, on the whole, gone well, and our location here has allowed us to remain independent.



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### Prior Incumbents

Name	Position Title	Date Begun	Date Ended
The Rev. James Gill	Rector / Vicar / Priest-in-Charge (Part-time)	2013-04	2014-11

Name	Position Title	Date Begun	Date Ended
The Rev. Ed Greene	Rector / Vicar / Priest-in-Charge (Part-time)	2005-01	2012-01

Name	Position Title	Date Begun	Date Ended
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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:

**Rector / Vicar / Priest-in-Charge (Part-time) | Receiving Names until 11/14/16** [mambler@episcopalmaine.net](mailto:mambler@episcopalmaine.net)Worshipping Community Web site: <https://www.facebook.com/St-Andrews-Winthrop-162363470625445/>

Media Links:

Online References:

Languages Significantly Represented:

Provide Worship or Classes in:

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### References

Bishop:

207.772.1953 ext 125; [slane@episcopalmaine.net](mailto:slane@episcopalmaine.net)**The Rt. Rev. Stephen T.  
Lane**

Diocesan Transition Minister

207.772.1953 ext 123; [mambler@episcopalmaine.net](mailto:mambler@episcopalmaine.net)**The Rev. Canon Michael  
Ambler**

Current Warden/Board Chair

Please contact Canon Ambler for information about St. Andrew's

**Mr. Tom Ward**

Previous Warden/Board Chair

Search Chair

Parish/Institution

Local Community Leader