



Office for
Transition
Ministry

Ministry Portfolio

Full Portfolio (last updated Jun 4, 2019)

Good Shepherd, Maine

2614 Main St, Rangeley, ME 04970, United States

Contact:

Rector / Vicar / Priest-in-Charge (Part-time)

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
31	2	1	
Current Annual Compensation	Cash Stipend	Housing / Rectory Detail	Utilities
SECA reimbursement	Compensation Available for New Position	Housing Available for	Pension Plan
	\$33585	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	

Rectory has three bedrooms, two car garage

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

Our biggest success is pulling off a yearly chicken BBQ on July 3rd ,which is Rangeley's 4th. It involves the entire parish, summer and year round. It pulls in local residents and summer residents, It has been running for years , builds a great sense of community and actually people from our two services together, working side by side.

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

Preparing for the church of the future? ... To be honest, we are not looking beyond our immediate future at this time, as our numbers have been shrinking and our population aging. However, knowing that this description IS a picture of the Episcopal Church at large, at least in New England, we are currently facing OUR future by continuing to be a Good Shepherd to our community - making available our lovely lakeside facility for community and family activities of all sorts; being mindful of individually presenting a welcoming attitude in the larger community; making the effort, when possible, to share with others the sense of community we have here; and finding ways to get people involved and make them feel needed in the life of our parish.

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

Collaborative team-builder:Compassionate leader:Creative teacher:Good Shepherd

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

Good Shepherd Church is a fairly “low” Episcopal Church. We are strongly opposed to incense for health reasons. We have two services. 7:30 is spoken Eucharist, Rite 2 we do not wish to sing anything. 9:30 is spoken Eucharist with hymns (and even without any accompaniment we sing). But we prefer familiar hymns, we love Schubert’s Sanctus. We are learning to chant the psalm (with some strong holdouts who just won’t). We have a fantastic Music Director who is working on creating a choir for 9:30. We also have a morning prayer and healing litany on Wed which prays for an extensive list of people from the church and the community. This would be a Eucharist with a priest. We have a ‘soup and study’ on Wed night. We have many who can no longer attend so we have a team of LEVs who provide visits and communion after church.

How do you practice incorporating others in ministry?

We provide many opportunities for participation in our parish. The laity actively participates in all aspects of the worship services: lectors, Eucharistic ministers, acolytes, ushers, altar care, and prayers of the people. Our social outreach programs rely on volunteers from our congregation as well as other denominations. We try to avoid creating “client” relationships by involving people who receive services, inviting them to also serve in ministries such as the public suppers, Thrift Store, Food Bank, and more. And of course, we care for our members through home communion, clergy visitation and personal communication with friends. We partner with other churches to operate outreach activities effectively. We are brainstorming ways to include our summer parishioners in more meaningful ways, inviting participation by all.

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

Good Shepherd is a tight community where lives overlap and connections last a lifetime. We care for each other Spiritually: by bringing communion to the home bound; making calls to shut-ins; and the healing service where we actively pray for those needing help. Emotionally: through acts of kindness ; through open communication; a welcoming atmosphere to newcomers and visitors whom we enjoy because of Rangeley’s status as a resort town; by offering two services - the early service with no music , and the 9:30 service with choir and music; and through the many hugs shared during a very active “peace” .Physically: by giving rides to church, to events and medical appointments, as well as giving neighbor’s kids rides when schedules conflict; by congregants making a real point to attend regularly so if we don’t happen to see each other during the week we can reconnect at coffee hour, which is a very important part of our fellowship time ; and through having complete ADA access to our church.

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

For just shy of 100 years Good Shepherd has been a focal point to the community. Many members are engaged in responding to emerging issues or needs in our community either individually or in parish led activities. We house and assist with the local community's Thrift Shoppe and Ecumenical Food Pantry in which many members of our parish regularly volunteer along with members of local churches and our Rangeley community. The Rector's and Deacon's Discretionary Funds allow them to provide discreet assistance to those in crisis in our community. ECW provides opportunities for fellowship while serving God and the Church through a variety of activities: organizing food for receptions; keeps in touch with fellow parishioners through cards; gives generously to community members, organizations and awards the annual Louise Doak Scholarship. The Good Shepherd Church provides weekly, monthly and annual space for senior socials, Community concerts, AA meetings, town Christmas celebration in our Undercroft and kitchen or our beautiful lawn by the lake.

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

Good Shepherd is very geographically isolated from other parishes but we always participate in Diocesan Conventions, regular and Bishop Elections. We have had occasional members on Diocesan committees and district counsels. Despite our geographic remoteness, Rangeley is the hub for an extended region with drop-in parishioners and guests coming for the various seasonal activities.

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

From a beginning in Rummage Sales, we now have a regular "Thrift Shoppe" - an ecumenical effort housed in the Undercroft to make available second-hand clothes and home goods to the entire community. This ministry is open two days a week - a weekday and a weekend day - to make it accessible to those who work. It is run by the ECW with many willing hands from other churches. We also have recently re-instituted Sunday School - after quite a few years of having no regular children, we now have one regular teen. We also have a new music ministry: after a much loved Music Director retired, for over two years we have been singing a cappella in our 9:30 service -... one person hums a note and the rest join in with gusto for hymns as well as service music, often even with harmony! We very fortunately had a seasonal parishioner retire to our area and take up the job of music coordinator, and now have a choir with regular rehearsals and his fabulous organ preludes and postludes.

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

Our parishioners give to the church what they can: time to volunteer with projects and jobs that need doing from doing the flowers on the altar to cooking chicken at the BBQ; talents from singing in the choir, helping with the bookkeeping or preparing food for coffee hour and treasure, by giving what they can. We range widely in income levels; some can afford to give fairly large amounts while others are far more limited in ability to contribute money. We recognize all gifts of time, talent and treasure as being of great value to our church. Recognizing all gifts makes us all equal and we spend more time working together for the Church.

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

We have a difficult time with conflict. We don't really deal with it- take a deep breath- turn the other check. While this avoids 'unpleasantness' it leaves resentment and hurt feelings. We need someone who can help us deal better with conflict and hurtful comments.

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 are open to change but we have to be gently persuaded and the new ideas have to connect with who we are and with our history. Our Wed soup and study was expanded to be year round to include our summer residents and the study materials and format have been improved resulting in lively discussions.



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Prior Incumbents

Name	Position Title	Date Begun	Date Ended
The Rev. Jennifer Reece	Rector / Vicar / Priest-in-Charge (Part-time)	2016-11	2018-10

Name	Position Title	Date Begun	Date Ended
The Rev. Judson Pealer	Rector / Vicar / Priest-in-Charge (Part-time)	2009-08	2015-12

Name	Position Title	Date Begun	Date Ended
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Sunday attendance increases in summer by about 15. Congregation holds adult Bible Study on Wednesday evenings.

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: <https://goodshepherdrangeley.org>

Media Links:

Online References:

Languages Significantly Represented:

Provide Worship or Classes in:

References

Bishop:

The Rt. Rev. Stephen Lane

207-772-1953 ext 125; slane@episcopalmaine.org. Note that Thomas Brown becomes Bishop of Maine June 22: same phone; tbrown@episcopalmaine.org

Diocesan Transition Minister

The Rev. Canon Michael Ambler

207-772-1953 ext 123; mambler@episcopalmaine.org

Current Warden/Board Chair

Mr. Barry Libby

Please contact Canon Ambler

Previous Warden/Board Chair

Search Chair

Mr. Russell House

Please contact Canon Ambler

Parish/Institution

Local Community Leader