



Office for  
Transition  
Ministry

# Ministry Portfolio

*Full Portfolio (last updated Aug 21, 2019)*

## St. John's Episcopal Church, Maine

26 Henderson St, Brownville Junction, ME 04414, United States

Contact:

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

[mambler@episcopalmaine.org](mailto: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
15	1		
Current Annual Compensation	Cash Stipend	Housing / Rectory Detail	Utilities
SECA reimbursement	Compensation Available for New Position	Housing Available for	Pension Plan
	\$15000		<b>We're in compliance with CPF requirements.</b>
Healthcare Options	Dental	Housing Equity Allowance in budget	Annual Equity Amount
<b>Full family</b>			
Vacation Weeks	Vacation Weeks Details	Continuing Education Weeks	Continuing Education Weeks Details
4		<b>2 (standard)</b>	
Continuing Education Funding in budget	Sabbatical Provision	Travel/Auto Account	Other Professional Account
\$501-\$1000/year	<b>Yes</b>	<b>Yes</b>	

*Quarter-time-- comp includes stipend, housing, SECA*

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

Our free community luncheons and ice cream socials are rewarding. People gather to sing with musical accompaniment while enjoying neighborly conversation and a free lunch. The ice cream socials are held on the last day of the school year and are attended by neighborhood children and their parents. This provides an opportunity to build a relationship between the church and the community. Our community has many unchurched children and adults and we encourage their involvement with us. We pray people walk in our open door and be welcomed.

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

While we are accepting and open to new ways of worship, we have faith in our traditional Book of Common Prayer worship service. We have faith that the Lord has a great plan for us. We will continue to work with what we have - a small but mighty community of faithful, but older, Episcopalians.

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

spiritual leadership, good communication skills, compassion and a good sense of humor

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

We offer a traditional style of liturgy. We enjoy Rite 1 in Lent and Advent but commonly use Rite 2 at other times of the year. We enjoy each of the various selections of Prayers of the People and each of the three forms of Eucharistic Prayer. We participate in ecumenical worship at our hymn sings (at both St. John's and the Methodist church); this is also an opportunity for us to welcome the unchurched and share how beautiful our church is and what it offers. We are blessed with an engaging organist! We also participate in Stations of the Cross during Lent.

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How do you practice incorporating others in ministry?

We are all involved in ministry as our strengths allow - readers, chalice bearers, Eucharistic ministers, organist, offering collection, altar guild, bell ringing, greeters - and that's just for our Sunday morning worship. While we have officers (Senior Warden, Junior Warden, Secretary, Treasurer), we encourage members to help out in any way they can. That might be cleaning the church, painting, attending ECW meetings, providing gifts for our shut ins (or others outside our congregation) or changing light bulbs. When a task needs to be done, we all help to accomplish the mission. We are small but mighty!

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

Our small congregation is extremely loving and caring towards each other. We pray for each other weekly, provide cards to celebrate occasions in each others' lives; we are attentive to our members' needs and strive to help wherever we can. We also are generous in donating to area causes. We satisfy our spiritual needs through Bible study attendance, special prayers with/for each other and healing prayers with anointing oil at the altar during Communion, and sharing Christian books and Lenten/Advent devotionals. ECW attendance is another way we care for each other through projects for our shut ins and shut ins in the greater community.

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

We visit those parishioners who are in assisted living facilities and nursing homes, beyond visits by our priest. We have an annual free community luncheon (with entertainment); we go Christmas caroling to assisted living facilities and/or nursing homes in our area as well as to individuals who are unable to get out who would enjoy our visit. Our ECW projects are one more way we reach out to those who are unable to get to church

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

We partner with the Methodist Church for our hymn sings and work with area churches at the Ecumenical Food Cupboard. Our Bible study is also ecumenical with members attending from the Methodist and Catholic churches. We join in worship with St. Augustine's, Dover-Foxcroft, for Mass on the Grass each summer. We worshipped with them when John Hennessey, from the Diocese, visited their congregation. Members also participate in Diocesan convention and other events; we support Camp Bishopswood; we attend events like Fr. Bob Landry's ordination which took place in Millinocket last year. We also participate in online events sponsored by our own Diocese and by the National Church. We donate to activities and fundraisers for those in our area communities, for example, to the high school KEY club who are raising monies for a well in an African community; we Christmas carol to shut ins in the area; we support the annual post-graduation reception organized by the area churches. We pray for all those in need whether members of our congregation, members of another congregation or members of no congregation. If there is a need, we are praying!

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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 been blessed with outstanding biblical studies both at church on Sunday mornings and through our weekly Bible study. Those attending church and weekly Bible study (Janet Kluj, Susan Worcester, Jane Bennett, Joline Frazier, Barbara Campbell) can verify this.

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

Everyone donates by pledging money, time and energy to St. John's. When we needed funds to repair our bell tower and steeple last year, parishioners were very generous in donating money. Each and every one of us loves our church and maintain it to the best of our ability to honor God - this is one form of stewardship. This church was the first built in this railroad community in the 1890s; we pray that it will continue to serve these communities for years to come. While the church is not truly a building but its people, we love the space built nearly 130 years ago to worship and honor God. We hope to maintain it as a place for God's church to continue to serve Him in our area

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

Like any group of people working to serve the community, we have had our differences. Over the last 15 years we have been joined with St. Augustine's, Dover-Foxcroft, in order to secure the services of a priest for this rural area. Some years before that St. John's was one of two Episcopal churches (St. Joseph's, Milo was the other) in close proximity to each other and dwindling congregations required that the two churches become one - in some way - in order to survive. Whether between two church congregations or among the parishioners at St. John's, there have been times when we did not all agree on what should be done. Through these situations we have learned the art of compromise. As one of our members put it: "Build a bridge and get over it." While it may take more give than take for some, it has proven an effective method of dealing with any differences we have encountered over many years and through this, we (St. John's) have learned to stand up for our concerns in every situation.

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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 learned it isn't easy. We have learned that there will be some give and take (see the response to question 10) on everyone's part. We have learned that in order to move forward as a Christian community in a rural, somewhat unchurched area, we need to find our way through our difficulties, set a common goal and work to reach it. Honest, open, non-judgmental communication with respect for each other has proven effective. Sometimes this is difficult for people but it is the only way for us to survive and, we hope, thrive in the future.



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### Prior Incumbents

Name	Position Title	Date Begun	Date Ended
The Rev. Kevin Holsapple	Rector / Vicar / Priest-in-Charge (Part-time)	2015-04	2019-07

Name	Position Title	Date Begun	Date Ended
The Rev. Nancy Moore	Rector / Vicar / Priest-in-Charge (Part-time)	2001-09	2015-01

Name	Position Title	Date Begun	Date Ended
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*Adult school is weekday Bible study led by priest*

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
		1	8

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: **under development**

Media Links:  
[www.trcmaine.org](http://www.trcmaine.org)

Online References:  
> <https://www.facebook.com/St-Johns-Episcopal-Church-Brownville-Junction-ME>

Languages Significantly Represented:

Provide Worship or Classes in:

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### References

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

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

Current Warden/Board Chair **Please contact Canon Ambler**  
**Ms. Janet Kluj**

Previous Warden/Board Chair

Search Chair

Parish/Institution

Local Community Leader