



Office for  
Transition  
Ministry

# Ministry Portfolio

*Full Portfolio (last updated Apr 11, 2024)*

## St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Maine

27 Pleasant Street, PO Box 195, Brunswick, ME 04011, United States

Contact:

Rector / Vicar / Priest-in-Charge | Receiving Names until 05/31/24.

[sroberts@episcopalmaine.org](mailto:sroberts@episcopalmaine.org)

Weekly Average Sunday  
Attendance (ASA)

124

Number of Weekend  
Worship Services

3

Number of Weekday  
Worship Services

1

Number of Other per Month  
Worship Services

1

Current Annual  
Compensation

Cash Stipend

Housing / Rectory Detail

Utilities

SECA reimbursement

Compensation Available for  
New Position  
\$110000

Housing Available for

Pension Plan

**We're in compliance with  
CPF requirements.**

Healthcare Options  
Full family

Dental  
Yes

Housing Equity Allowance in  
budget  
Negotiable

Annual Equity Amount

Vacation Weeks  
One month, including 5  
Sundays (standard)

Vacation Weeks Details

Continuing Education Weeks  
2 (standard)

Continuing Education Weeks  
Details

Continuing Education  
Funding in budget  
\$501-\$1000/year

Sabbatical Provision  
Yes

Travel/Auto Account  
Yes

Other Professional Account

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

On a recent first Sunday, after our Life Together blended service, congregants of all ages helped to stuff colorful bags with "birthday cake kits." Our Family Group (children and adults) had organized a fundraiser, asking parishioners to put quarters in the offering plate for a month. Since kids love birthdays, they planned to use the \$300 raised to buy all the makings for birthday cakes, from frosting to napkins, for other children whose families cannot afford a celebration. This moment encapsulates the parish's joy-filled embrace of our intergenerational mission. "Our" children already partner with adults in worship and other ministries; now they join us in generous community service. The event exemplifies the successful fulfillment of a decision, several years in planning and execution, to hire an assistant rector for intergenerational ministry, and to invest not only money but energy and creativity into our present and future life together.

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

We used the COVID period to enhance our digital presence. We continue to expand our capabilities, currently offering Zoom hybrid meetings, and livestream our services and any activity in the nave. We highlight our outreach to families through our intergenerational service and programs. Our assistant rector likes to refer to the 9 a.m. service as the "test kitchen", exploring innovations in worship (such as expansive language liturgy) that are introduced at other services. We are taking advantage of our close proximity to Bowdoin College with our assistant rector engaging with the Office of Spiritual Life as well as students on an one to one basis.

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

A sense of joy; offer kindness and encouragement; enthusiasm; strong leadership and management skills, courage and vision

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

We offer three distinct and vibrant liturgical offerings each Sunday morning: an 8 a.m. Quiet Eucharist; a 9 a.m. Non Traditional Eucharist, pointedly intergenerational with inclusive language drawn from expansive language of the BCP; and a 10:30 a.m. Rite II Choral Eucharist, with a traditional feel that draws from various resources. There is also a monthly quiet/reflective service in the Celtic tradition.

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How do you practice incorporating others in ministry?

St. Paul's is rich and deep in lay ministry. Many parishioners participate in our many ministries. In conjunction with our stewardship drive, new parishioners are encouraged to indicate their willingness to give of their time and talent. Long-standing parishioners are invited to indicate if they're interested in moving to a different ministry. Our wardens route that information to ministry conveners. Our annual Christmas Fair draws hundreds of people to our church. All of the proceeds are distributed to nonprofit organizations (in 2023, 20 organizations). These groups are later invited to attend our "Outreach Fair" to discuss their programs and show how the funds are used. This also enables parishioners to learn about the programs and become more involved, if desired.

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

There are a variety of ministries and services to be involved in or receive services from, such as Lay Pastoral Visitors, Altar Guild, Healing Prayer Team; Christmas Fair Committee, Outreach; Bible Study; Men's Group; Women's Group; Sharing & Caring; Choir; Earth Care; Family Ministry; Dementia Support Group; Lenten Meditation; and Holy Stitches, to name a few. Please visit our website [www.stpaulsmaine.org](http://www.stpaulsmaine.org) to see our programs in action.

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

Pastoral care is broadly defined by St. Paul's. Our parishioners serve on boards and volunteer their time to provide safe spaces for the indigent, unhoused, and those in need of companionship. We host multiple 12 step programs, as well as a bereavement program. We also host the Brunswick Area Interfaith Council.

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

We are quite active in our local and greater community with many parishioners serving on the boards of nonprofit organizations, volunteering their time and services to benefit others. Through our outreach program, we financially support groups whose reach is local, state and worldwide.. We turned part of our campus into housing for New Mainers, currently an Angolan family seeking asylum in the U.S. Several parishioners serve on diocesan committees such as: The Standing Committee, Trustees of Diocesan Funds, and the Special Commission to Study Diocesan Investments.

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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 are proud to be a leader in Sacred Ground, a film-and readings based dialogue series on race, grounded in faith. We have used funds to pay for the licensing of the program from the wider church so that the program can involve community members outside of our church. To date we have run 24 groups for a total of more than 150 participants, and trained 35 facilitators. The reach of the program continues to grow. In addition, we have hosted more than 100 people from around the community for Antonio Rocha's performance of "A Slave Ship Called Malaga" and subsequently provided funds to sponsor five school-based performances of that show, resulting in nearly 1,000 people seeing that production. Through parallel research during the program, we have learned that one of our founders was a slave owner.

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

“Rooted in Abundance” was the theme of our most recent stewardship drive. Our drives are grounded in transparency about what we need and we are fortunate in the generosity of our St. Paul’s community. Currently, we have 128 pledging units with a total of over \$422,400.

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

We have had a successful record of diffusing conflict prior to it becoming an issue in itself. For example, one of the more difficult times came when we began to consider moving back into the church for worship following Covid. Some parishioners thought it was way past time, others thought it not the right time. Our rector was on sabbatical and our assistant rector spent much time talking with groups and individuals to make the result a positive one and one viewed as consensus. We have clergy and lay leaders who have been adept at recognizing a potential issue and actively working to provide a place to air all views in a safe setting. We are committed to continuing that focus.

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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?

Worshiping during and emerging from COVID has been the biggest challenge and the process overall has gone well. During the pandemic we enhanced our digital footprint and we continue to expand our capabilities, offering: Zoom-hybrid meetings, streaming of services and other activities in the nave so that all felt safe. We erected a tent in our Memorial Garden and worshiped outside during the entire summer and fall of 2021. During this time we began to experiment with and expand our family service which has grown and evolved into an intergenerational service with activities enjoyed by all. We learned that by working together in a transparent manner, we could move forward and be stronger and better for it.



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### Prior Incumbents

Name	Position Title	Date Begun	Date Ended
Rev. Carolyn Eklund	Rector / Vicar / Priest-in-Charge	2013-10	2023-10

Name	Position Title	Date Begun	Date Ended
Rev. Daniel Warren	Rector / Vicar / Priest-in-Charge	1998-01	2011-01

Name	Position Title	Date Begun	Date Ended
Rev. Jonathan Appleyard	Rector / Vicar / Priest-in-Charge	1986-01	1996-01

*Formation for children and adults is integrated into our Family Ministry offerings.*

Church School yes, Sunday	Number of Teachers/Leaders for Children School	Number of Students for Children School
	5	20

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
		4	30

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: <https://stpaulsmaine.org/>

Media Links:

> <https://episcopalmaine.org/>

Online References:

> <https://www.facebook.com/StPaulsBrunswick>

> [https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCGTTgu\\_kGTVO7CNS2RA6P0Q](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCGTTgu_kGTVO7CNS2RA6P0Q)

Languages Significantly Represented:

Provide Worship or Classes in:

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### References

Bishop:

The Right Rev. Thomas J.  
Brown

Diocesan Transition Minister

Rev. Suzanne G. Roberts

sroberts@episcopalmaine.org (207)749-4166

Current Warden/Board Chair

Previous Warden/Board Chair

Search Chair

Parish/Institution

Local Community Leader