



Office for
Transition
Ministry

Ministry Portfolio

Full Portfolio (last updated Jul 27, 2024)

St. George's Episcopal Memorial Church, North Dakota

601 North 4th Street, Bismarck, ND, United States

Contact:

Rector / Vicar / Priest-in-Charge

office@ndepiscopal.org

Weekly Average Sunday
Attendance (ASA)

37

Number of Weekend
Worship Services

1

Number of Weekday
Worship Services

1

Number of Other per Month
Worship Services

1

Current Annual
Compensation

\$80500

Cash Stipend

Housing / Rectory Detail

Utilities

SECA reimbursement

Compensation Available for
New Position

Housing Available for

Pension Plan

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

Healthcare Options

Full family

Dental

Yes

Housing Equity Allowance in
budget

Annual Equity Amount

Vacation Weeks

4

Vacation Weeks Details

Continuing Education Weeks

2 (standard)

Continuing Education Weeks
Details

Continuing Education
Funding in budget

over \$2000/year

Sabbatical Provision

Yes

Travel/Auto Account

Yes

Other Professional Account

Salary according to diocesan clergy compensation guidelines at <https://www.ndepiscopal.org/finance/>

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

We held a special Wednesday service to celebrate veterans. Each of our church's veterans had their name read, the branch of the military in which they served and the years they served and primary job. As they came forward, they each received a red, white and blue quilt the Piecemakers had made for them. This service was meaningful and touching for all participants, but especially for the veterans honored.

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

Finding our new rector is being done deliberately to look to our church's future. We continue to encourage our members to be leaders in our ministries to continue our connection in the community. Our vestry has set aside part of a recent bequest to ensure that we can fund a full-time rector. We are working to develop stronger relationships with other churches and community organizations.

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

administration, preaching, pastoral care, outreach

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

We are a middle-high church. Our most recent rector was higher church, for instance, using bells during the great Amen. We treasure our history and traditions. We do incense once or twice a year, throw the holy water on the congregation during Easter season, often do Rite 1 during Lent and enjoy Christmas carols ending with Silent Night by candlelight on Christmas Eve, but we are open to learning new traditions and practice. Our choir is strong though small. We have a less formal Wednesday Eucharist and enjoy less formal services like the annual church picnic in the park.

How do you practice incorporating others in ministry?

We ask them. We ask new members if they would like to join the choir. We also encourage all of our congregation members to participate in the various charity runs. We try to find out others' gifts and find ways to involve them in our church life. As any good Episcopal Church does, we encourage everyone to come to coffee hour so we can learn more and connect with old and new members.

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

We offer centering prayer, participate in community outreach involving physical activity, meals on wheels weekly; we serve the underprivileged meals several times yearly collaboratively with the Banquet. We do provide opportunities for educational discussion and readings. Currently, a job description is being developed for a Education Coordinator to help in our path toward spiritual well-being within our congregation.

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

Parishioners call and visit people unable to attend church. Lay Eucharistic Ministers provide home communion...one visits a 105-year-old man every other Sunday. During the pandemic members wrote cards and made phone calls to other members...just connecting and reminding them that we care about them. We join the community in walks that raise money for the sponsoring groups, and walk as a group in our red St. George's t-shirts. We are partnering with Global Neighbors for continuing ministry in the community. Some members have been mentors there and have done other things to help immigrants such as helping apply for jobs online and write resumes. The Piecemakers (quilting group) has made quilts for Social Services to give children removed from homes, for Warm Start (babies without resources born in the hospital), for Bridges of Hope (incarcerated youth), and all church members that enter assisted living, a nursing home, or are homebound. We have made dog beds for Furry Friends (adoptable animals), and received a grant to make quilts for disabled participants at Camp Grassick. Our interim pastor celebrates Eucharist once a month at an assisted-living facility.

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

St. Georgians assist in the Diocesan activities in our community. Our yearly diocesan convention is in our community every other year. The parishioners participate in annual conventions and other diocesan community participation. We have a large representation on diocesan committees.

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

We began livestreaming our services during COVID. We were nimble and quick to try to use the technology to reach all of our members during that unprecedented pandemic. We have improved, even after regular services resumed as normal, to livestream to minister to our members unable to attend as well as anyone who might be interested in our service.

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

We have an annual stewardship campaign in the fall, which involves several parishioners speaking to the congregation about the importance of sharing their time, talent and treasure. We recognized those who volunteer at the church at a stewardship celebration dinner.

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

We have had some conflict in the past with a former rector. We try to keep reaching out to those on both sides of any issue with grace and openness. Sometimes it works to resolve it. Sometimes some people will leave, but we have regained many parishioners that left and have been relatively conflict free for many years.

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?

During COVID, we had to quickly change how we did our service and reached our members. We developed digital resources to be able to keep doing our work in a different environment. The choir would meet once a month to record the music for services as they were masked and spaced. There were investments made in audio and visual technology. We were able to enlist new members in this ministry. Our ability to handle change is dependent on individuals and volunteers, which is a challenge. Some ministries have faltered when the leader moves away. Sometimes when one leaves, the ministry then falls to the wayside.

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Prior Incumbents

Name	Position Title	Date Begun	Date Ended
Hal Joseph Weidman	Rector / Vicar / Priest-in-Charge	2019-01	2023-01

Name	Position Title	Date Begun	Date Ended
James Zotalis	Rector / Vicar / Priest-in-Charge	2015-01	2016-01

Name	Position Title	Date Begun	Date Ended
Michael Horn	Rector / Vicar / Priest-in-Charge	1998-01	2014-01

Classes have been per topic or book in book club or other program. We do not have a standing formal Children/Teen School. We do not have a Day School.

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	12

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://stgeorges-bismarck.org>

Media Links:

Online References:

> <https://www.youtube.com/@stgeorgesepiscopal4040>

> <https://www.facebook.com/St.Georges.Episcopal.Bismarck>

Languages Significantly Represented:

Provide Worship or Classes in:

English

References

Bishop:

Brian Thom

Diocesan Transition Minister

Current Warden/Board Chair

Joanne L. Lassiter

Previous Warden/Board Chair

Search Chair

Jannelle Combs

Parish/Institution

Local Community Leader