



Office for
Transition
Ministry

Ministry Portfolio

Full Portfolio (last updated Oct 17, 2017)

St. Anne of Grace Episcopal Church, Southwest Florida

6650 113th St. North, Seminole, FL 33772-6214, United States

Contact:

Rector / Vicar / Priest-in-Charge

ecooter@episcopalswfl.org

Weekly Average Sunday
Attendance (ASA)

164

Number of Weekend
Worship Services

2

Number of Weekday
Worship Services

1

Number of Other per Month
Worship Services

Current Annual
Compensation

\$64000

Cash Stipend

Housing / Rectory Detail

Utilities

SECA reimbursement

Compensation Available for
New Position

\$64000

Housing Available for

Pension Plan

Healthcare Options
Clergy only

Dental

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

Sabbatical Provision

Travel/Auto Account

Yes

Other Professional Account

Yes

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

As a Spirit-led church many ministries have sprouted independently of each other. These ministries emerge without a common awareness of the many ways we serve our community. The Bishop's Committee created an umbrella ministry chart illustrating the many ways St. Anne of Grace acts Christ's hands and feet in the larger community as well as within our own congregation. The result has been better transparency, communication, mutual respect, accountability, and a renewed sense of common purpose. The snapshot provides a shift in the ways we see ourselves as a community in Christ. It fosters transparency, engenders mutual respect, enables a sense of common purpose, and specifies lines of accountability among the ministries. This makes parishioners more aware of the many ways in which we act as Christ's heart and hands within both our congregation and the larger community. Two individuals, a grandmother and a teen, used the chart to identify and participate in our ministry of serving meals at Carlton Manor, a home for troubled children. These individuals reported that their lives have been deeply touched, changed, and blessed through their interaction with the children.

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

During this transition, we are preparing ourselves through prayer, service to others, and worship of the One who makes all things possible. For St. Anne's the future is a new, fresh opportunity to focus on the Baptismal Covenant, the primary way to live more fully as the body of Christ. Our leadership articulated four areas of ministry for attention. Prayer and service in the larger community have historically defined St. Anne's. We hope to continue to build on what we believe is a firm foundation. Stewardship and incorporating people, especially newcomers, more fully into congregational life are the other areas of focused attention. We recognize that there is much opportunity for growth in these areas. We are strengthening our commitment by establishing and equipping ministry teams. The congregation recognizes the importance of a full-time priest to help "equip the saints" for ministry in this branch of the Jesus Movement. God has created a pathway for this to happen. Everyone is prayerfully considering his/her financial commitment of thanksgiving for God's grace. As they are able, people are increasing their commitments through Pathfinders and our stewardship ministry.

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

integrity, effective preacher, growth, Accessibility

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

Three decades ago St. Anne of Grace would have been described as an Anglo-Catholic parish. Over the years the Holy Spirit has redirected our worshipping community. The term Broad Church would best describe St. Anne's liturgical style today. In the pews, you might see a former monk with his rosary worshipping next to a Charismatic parishioner whispering in a private prayer language with arms lifted high. This would not seem strange but welcomed in our church. St. Anne's has two Sunday morning worship services. Currently there is a Rite II 8:30 service with traditional organ music, a small choir and flute. Rite I is used one Sunday a month at 8:30. The 10:30 a.m. service follows Rite II, includes a youth sermon, and features contemporary Christian music accompanied by a Praise Band. We hold a noon healing service on Thursdays after weekly Bible study. We have a monthly open ultreya with Eucharist hosted in people's homes.

How do you practice incorporating others in ministry?

We have become more intentional in incorporating others in ministry. One emphasis of this effort involves newcomers. We now station a greeter at the door before Sunday services. The greeter's duties are distinct from those of the ushers. The greeter welcomes newcomers, answers their questions, and extends an invitation for them to join us for breakfast in the Parish Hall after the services. Clergy also initiate follow up contact with newcomers. A second emphasis of this effort involves thoughtful listening to one another's stories, exploring our interests and passions, and discovering how those interests and passions can augment our current ministry effort and enable St. Anne's to live more fully as the body of Christ. The umbrella chart mentioned above has aided this process significantly. A third emphasis of this effort includes our recently begun contact with other congregations to explore how we can join in mutual ministry endeavors.

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

Prayer is foundational and transformational at St. Anne's. At 8:30 clergy quietly offer individually tailored prayers of healing for those who remain at the altar rail after Holy Communion has been distributed. At the 10:30 service lay prayer teams offer individual prayer after people have Communion. We have a prayer chain and a Daughters of the King chapter whose members model and encourage prayer. Each week we conduct at least three Christian formation offerings led by experienced laity and clergy. Cursillo, Happening and New Beginnings provide spiritual growth for middle school through adults. People enjoy several ministries focused primarily on fellowship. We offer a hot breakfast after each Sunday service, sponsor monthly dinners at local restaurants, and organize many Parish Hall potlucks throughout the year. These events serve a dual purpose of building community and providing emotional support. Recently we hosted a Community Health Care Forums and have a Defibrillator with lay persons trained for emergencies.

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

Clergy and laity of St. Anne's are deeply involved in providing pastoral care to those both within and beyond our worshipping community. EVs and clergy visit parishioners who are unable to be present at worship. When we visit those in nursing homes and rehabilitation centers, we are attentive to and reach out to other residents as well. Several members take their therapy dogs to visit nursing homes and schools. Our card ministry sends personalized cards to individuals who are homebound or have special pastoral needs. Recently our children made cards which they will deliver to a neighboring senior community. Three parishioners are chaplains in an inter-denominational program and visit local nursing homes. We've begun researching what it would take for our Diocese to offer training and establish an ongoing network of a similar type chaplaincy initiative.

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

We are involved in numerous ministries beyond St. Anne's. We are pleased that our youth are active, enthusiastic participants in this work. One leads the Diocesan youth leadership team and has participated in E.Y.E. Others serve on New Beginnings and Happening teams. Many of our efforts involve outreach to children. One member serves as Executive Director of Carlton Manor while two others serve on the board. We provide meals, Christmas gifts and other support to these children who live in either three therapeutic homes or thirty foster homes. We provide scholarships to our diocesan summer camp, uniforms for children in Melrose Elementary School, and school supplies to other schools. We partner with another Episcopal Church food pantry through regular food collections, provide clothing and toiletries to a men's shelter and host community health care coverage learning forums and healing prayer series. Our Deacon is a leader in Celebrate Recovery. We are exploring ways to expand a small ministry in which several people take their therapy dogs to nursing homes and schools. At Christmas we and an ELCA congregation host a Service of Hope.

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

Members of St. Anne's work hard to be good stewards of both our treasure and our environment. We combined these two interests by installing solar panels on our sanctuary roof three years ago and all the light fixtures in the sanctuary were modified and converted to LED lighting. David Lyons and Bill Overton are the contacts for this. The leadership recognizes the need for a temporary infusion of money until our annual budget can sustain the costs associated with a full-time priest. We formed a group of Pathfinders and invited the congregation to join. Pathfinders contribute to support the costs of a full-time priest while the stewardship team works to increase the congregation's awareness of our role as faithful stewards of God's abundant gifts. We developed a series of Community Health Care Forums presented by and led by a physician health manager and a retired nurse to help people become knowledgeable consumers of and make better decisions about health care, including Medicare. Darry Spalding is the contact person.

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

As a proponent of environmental responsibility, St. Anne's installed solar panels and LED sanctuary lighting. Regarding people's annual giving, historically St. Anne's household pledges have been below the Diocesan average. However, the congregation is generous when a need is identified, regardless of circumstance or geographic location. This fall we initiated a comprehensive stewardship plan based on the TENS stewardship theme of Journey to Generosity. People are asked first to recognize and give thanks for God's gifts in their lives and then to determine what percentage of their income is currently being committed to God. After making this determination, the next step is to consider prayerfully a step forward to increase that percentage little by little. The anticipated outcome is that people recognize that a steward takes godly care of all that God generously provides and gives back to God a portion of those abundant resources. In this way, God works through the church in intentional ways for the ongoing, eternal care of creation. These efforts are undergirded by a prayer team functioning collaboratively with the stewardship team.

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

Although, St. Anne's has been fortunate to have generally had a history of strong lay leaders, there have been instances when leaders haven't always communicated clearly their decisions and plans to the congregation. To remind us that reconciliation is our primary ministry, the Bishop's Committee has taken the following concrete and intentional actions: • Frame meetings within a worshipful context; • Use the Myers-Briggs personality inventory as a resource • Develop the ministry umbrella chart to depict how various ministries interact; • Maintain contact with ministry leaders; and • Keep the congregation informed of plans, actions and opportunities for ministry through weekly eNews, the web site in process of revision, and announcements. These steps help our leadership better understand one another's perspectives and appreciate these differences as gifts for the group as it works together in service to Christ and his church.

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?

Several years ago our priest, the Rev. Dr. Stephen Ankudowich began a battle with throat cancer. He remained our priest until retiring prior to his death in 2016. He inspired us to put our trust in God's plan, embrace Holy Spirit, and turn to Jesus to supply our needs. Because of these unforeseen changes, we grew spiritually and in mutual support. Associated with these changes came the Bishop's Committee's decision, with congregational input, to reduce the number of Sunday worship services from three to two. The previous schedule included a spoken Rite I liturgy at 8 a.m., a Rite II liturgy with traditional organ music at 9, and a hybrid Rite II liturgy with a Praise Band at 10:45. This decision caused concern for some who preferred the 8:00 a.m. Rite I said service. The new Priest met conferred with all interested parties and it was decided to modify the new schedule by using Rite 1 once a month. Parishioners need to know that the clergy and lay leadership listen to them. It is also important for leadership to know themselves to be supported and empowered to serve. However, we learned that some people may leave and find another church home.



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Prior Incumbents

Name	Position Title	Date Begun	Date Ended
The Rev. Glad R. McCurtain	Rector / Vicar / Priest-in-Charge	2016-09	

Name	Position Title	Date Begun	Date Ended
The Rev. Dr. Stephen Ankudowich	Rector / Vicar / Priest-in-Charge	2004-01	2016-05

Name	Position Title	Date Begun	Date Ended
The Rev. Harry A. Hughes	Rector / Vicar / Priest-in-Charge	2000-01	2002-01

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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Worshipping Community Web site: www.stanneofgrace.com

Media Links:

Online References:

Languages Significantly Represented:

English

Provide Worship or Classes in:

References

Bishop:

The Rt. Rev. Dabney T. Smith

Phone: 941-556-0315

Diocesan Transition Minister

The Rev. Canon Eric S. Cooter

Phone: 941-556-0315 - E-mail: ecooter@episcopalswfl.org

Current Warden/Board Chair

Mr. Ramsay McLauchlan

Phone: 727-743-3237 - E-mail: ramsay@mclauchlan.us

Previous Warden/Board Chair

Mike Flynn

Phone: 727-595-3651 - E-mail: mflynn13@verizon.net

Search Chair

William Overton

Phone: 727-433-3967 - E-mail: owilliam@aol.com

Parish/Institution

Local Community Leader