



Office for
Transition
Ministry

Ministry Portfolio

Full Portfolio (last updated Jul 28, 2023)

Episcopal of Transfiguration, Eastern Oregon

121 Brooks Camp Road, P.O. Box 130, Sisters, OR 97759, United States

Contact:

Rector / Vicar / Priest-in-Charge | Receiving Names until 10/31/23.

neysa.anne@gmail.com

Weekly Average Sunday Attendance (ASA)	Number of Weekend Worship Services	Number of Weekday Worship Services	Number of Other per Month Worship Services
74	2	1	1
Current Annual Compensation	Cash Stipend	Housing / Rectory Detail	Utilities
\$41700	\$27600	\$0	
SECA reimbursement	Compensation Available for New Position	Housing Available for	Pension Plan
	\$41700		We're in compliance with CPF requirements.
Healthcare Options	Dental	Housing Equity Allowance in budget	Annual Equity Amount
Full family	Yes		\$27600
Vacation Weeks	Vacation Weeks Details	Continuing Education Weeks	Continuing Education Weeks Details
Other	6	2 (standard)	
Continuing Education Funding in budget over \$2000/year	Sabbatical Provision	Travel/Auto Account	Other Professional Account
	Yes	Yes	

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

The gifted and giving ministry team that moved into place so quickly after our rector resigned has been a great success. People really appreciate the variety of preaching styles.

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

We are one congregation with two distinct worship styles. As mainline membership decreases (especially in the Northwest), we believe it is important to emphasize not our differences, but our shared beliefs and values. This allows us to work together for our community and our world without inordinate regard for denominational labels.

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

Actively involved. Strong pastoral leadership. Welcoming. Strong people skills. Able to deepen understanding of Christ's teachings. Able to help us grow in Christian discipleship.

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

We have two services each Sunday, a mainline Protestant service at 8:30am and Rite II Eucharist at 10:15am. Our style is traditional, with hymns from the Episcopal Hymnal and the Renew Songbook, accompanied by the organ. (See Profile page 10 for more detail.)

How do you practice incorporating others in ministry?

A number of in-house ministries provide opportunities for people to serve as they feel called (see Profile, page 10), from hospitality to caregiving to liturgy and worship activities. We also formally welcome New Members, introducing them to the congregation, and helping them connect with existing ministries.

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

Care Team, Prayer Chain, Centering Prayer, Yoga classes, labyrinth walks, social gatherings, Lenten soup suppers, weekly Bible study (when we have a leader).

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

We are a covenant church with Habitat for Humanity, support a student through Hope Africa, serve a monthly meal at Bethlehem Inn (a nearby homeless transition shelter), provide meeting facilities for AA meetings and for a local Caregivers Support group led by one of our congregants.

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

Please see the previous response. Also, we have sent money, supplies and volunteers on three medical missions to Kenya, with United Methodist VIM. As we are able, we have supported the local cold weather shelter.

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

When COVID struck and the Diocese made the difficult decision to suspend in-person worship, it became apparent that a number of our parishioners were becoming isolated and not receiving the pastoral care they needed. In response a group of lay members and a couple of retired clergywomen came together to form the Care Team. Its mission was to provide pastoral care and support connections for those members in need. The Care Team remains an active and vital part of our church ministry. The current leader is the Reverend Anne Bartlett.

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

We have a stewardship committee with members from both services who plan the campaign. We are careful stewards of the facilities, making sure building and grounds are maintained. At the end of the Stewardship Campaign, we gather for a celebration of thanksgiving.

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

During the peak years of Covid 19 we had a fair number of members needing pastoral care. A number of them were not contacted or were communicated with only rarely. Some members emotionally disconnected from our church. This reality conflicted with our mission/vision as a church body. That being realized, a Care Team was born. Currently a few retired clergy and other lay members now do an excellent job reaching out and making sure pastoral needs are met. Our take home lesson is—our members will be progressively more involved in ministry moving forward. (Refers back to the question regarding formation of a new ministry)

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?

In a truly unfortunate event of timing, just as our last rector was called to this pulpit, our former rector was “defrocked.” He had been here for years, and this was a shock to parishioners. Other than being assured his penalty had nothing to do with finances, the congregation knew nothing, and our new rector didn’t/couldn’t help the congregation process that loss. After eight years do scars remain? On a more positive note: when our last rector resigned, we were informed that because we had a “deep bench” of retired clergy, we would not be getting an interim. Those five clergy people, a Licensed Lay Preacher, and the Senior Warden and Vestry, got together immediately to lay out a plan to move forward with regular services, communion, all the things we normally did for worship. Soon a group of lay folks decided to organize some social events. Because so many folks were willing and able to step up, the transition has gone remarkably well. We have even increased our membership by about a dozen during this transition.



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Prior Incumbents

Name	Position Title	Date Begun	Date Ended
Rev. Joseph Farber	Rector / Vicar / Priest-in-Charge	2017-01	2022-01

Name	Position Title	Date Begun	Date Ended
Rev. Ted Rodrigues	Rector / Vicar / Priest-in-Charge	2006-01	2017-01

Name	Position Title	Date Begun	Date Ended
Rev. Larry Harrelson	Rector / Vicar / Priest-in-Charge	2003-01	2006-01

Church School	Number of Teachers/Leaders for Children School	Number of Students for Children School
No		

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

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://www.transfiguration-sisters.org>

Media Links:

www.transfiguration-sisters.org/Dox
> <https://www.nuggetnews.com/story/2023/07/19/a-and-e/sisters-will-host-26th-country-fair/35433.html>

Online References:

facebook.com/episcopalsisters

Languages Significantly Represented:

English

Provide Worship or Classes in:

English

Full Profile can be found with this link: www.transfiguration-sisters.org/Dox

References

Bishop:

The Rt. Reverend Patrick Bell

Diocesan Transition Minister

Rev. Neysa Shepley

Cell Phone: (208)659-2325 Email: pbell@edeo.org

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Current Warden/Board Chair

Steve Amsberry

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Previous Warden/Board Chair

Cory Bradshaw

503-428-3801

Search Chair

Judy Beaver

Judy Beaver: jabeaver@mac.com. 808-783-2942 Doug Rude: drude44@gmail.com 541-647-4473

Parish/Institution

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Local Community Leader

Peter Hoover

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