



Office for
Transition
Ministry

Ministry Portfolio

Full Portfolio (last updated Jan 25, 2022)

Trinity Church, New Hampshire

PO Box 635, Meredith, NH 03253, United States

Contact:

Rector / Vicar / Priest-in-Charge | Receiving Names until 03/31/22.

tpickering@nhepiscopal.org

Weekly Average Sunday Attendance (ASA)	Number of Weekend Worship Services	Number of Weekday Worship Services	Number of Other per Month Worship Services
50	1	4	1
Current Annual Compensation	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 Negotiable	Dental No	Housing Equity Allowance in budget	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 Yes

See diocesan compensation guidelines <https://www.nhepiscopal.org/clergy-compensation-manual>

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

While we might mention our outreach into the Meredith community through Hearts and Hands second-hand store and the Got Lunch program, or even mentioning the way the parish did the Renewal process, we would underline our thorough and successful response to the Covid 19 pandemic. We stayed connected throughout the period we could not worship in person together, and not just on Sunday, but during the week as well, mainly through Zoom. People felt connected through worship and communications and study. We now are able to have full communion with wine. We would note that our Rector did not consume the elements because the worshippers could not.

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

Just as the Diocese created "Our Kids" as a way to serve young people where they needed help rather than try to draw them into the church, Trinity seeks to serve others in the community rather than placing a priority on bringing them into the church. We are trying to meet people where they are. In addition, as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic, we are using technology (Zoom generally) to communicate and worship with one another. We will continue to explore uses of technology for our future.

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

Pastor; Preacher; Sense of humor; Welcoming

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

We practice a traditional Episcopal, Prayer Book liturgy with the Eucharist on Sunday being the focal point. The Sunday liturgy is mainly Rite II, and occasionally Rite I, is said (not sung), and vestments are worn. There is a formal, serious side to our liturgy but there is also interspersed an informal side with dress code variety, personal prayers for anniversaries and birthdays, and healthy humor at times. We do believe we are a spiritual church which also focuses on the Bible. We do include from time to time prayers and liturgies from other parts of the Anglican world; we do compline at times; on the Feast of St. Francis we have the blessings of the animals, and we have creative elements added to a service focusing on children.

How do you practice incorporating others in ministry?

We strongly encourage participation in the church's ministry beyond worship and provide ample opportunity for a wide variety of ways in which to participate. We have exceptional, almost daily, email communications and Facebook interaction, which helps everyone feel informed and included. Parishioners serve during Sunday worship as greeters, ushers, readers, prayers, etc. Nobody is turned down who wants to participate. We have many programs within the church in which we ask for volunteers, and many do volunteer: church suppers, decorating the church, coffee hour, road clean-up, Heart and Hands, Got Lunch, etc. We encourage and support many parishioners who serve outside the church walls on non-profit boards, CASA, LRCS, Meredith Historical Society, The Greater Meredith Program, Altrusa, etc.

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

We completed a long and thorough review of our spiritual development through the Renewal Works program which has helped us address spiritual and emotional needs. The preaching continually addresses spiritual and emotional well-being. Incorporating members in ministry as extensively as we do help to address our well-being. We have maintained close contact with our membership through Zoom, prayer group, and Thursday night check in before Compline.

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

In addition to all of the involvement described in the preceding question #5, we also participate in giving to, and participating in, the Community Caregivers (rides for people, etc.), the Rector's articles in the local newspaper from time to time, offering the church facilities for use by non-profit organizations, and our prayer group. Our support for Heart and Hands Thrift Store has generated \$360,000 for organizations serving the most vulnerable in our community since it began in 2016.

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

We consider our involvement in our local community to be a major strength of Trinity. We have provided important leadership in establishing and supporting Heart and Hands (an ecumenical second-hand store that donates all profits to community organizations serving the vulnerable); we help provide thousands of meals to needy children through the Got Lunch program; we assist CHIPS, a diocesan program to provide gifts to children of parents who are incarcerated; weekly we contribute to the local food bank; we participate in the UTO gathering and the Episcopal Relief Fund; we have provided coffee and hot chocolate for the hundreds who participate in the weekend ice hockey tournament held just down the street; church community dinners; and services led at nursing homes (pre-COVID). As to the wider Church, we participate in the Lakes Region convocation and have several members who have served on diocesan committees or as General Convention delegates.

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

Heart and Hands is an ecumenically established and operated second hand store in Meredith. The leadership was provided by two members of Trinity. Tom Witham (603-279-6106, milepoint8@gmail.com) and Tuffy Hamblet (603-279-6794, whyknot@metrocast.net). The store is amply supplied with items from parishioners and others and the ample profits are given to non-profit organizations serving the low income and disabled people in the community.

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

The “practice” of stewardship at Trinity is to give one’s “time, talent, and treasure.” And members of the congregation for the most part do just that, in greater or lesser degrees in regard to how much they have to give. The Rector and Vestry do not need to beat the drum; announcements are made of who is needed for what project and goals are announced for the budget and then members of the parish make the response which is nearly always satisfying. This practice results in a financially healthy and socially active parish.

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

The parish has not experienced much conflict. When there are differences of opinions the parish practices “compassionate listening” and patience and resolutions to the differences are eventually reached. However, there was some anger expressed by some members when the Diocese elected a gay man as Bishop of New Hampshire. Some members left. There was sadness and understanding as a result by the parish; not criticism or judgment. Eventually many of those who left returned. Patience, being receptive to other points of view, and compassionate listening undergirded the atmosphere for those who were disillusioned by the election of Bishop Gene Robinson.

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 accordance with the preceding question, our church has dealt extremely well with change, primarily due to a climate of respect of others and acceptance of different views. This atmosphere was greatly enhanced by the Rector who helped people to see all sides of the question/issue, encouraged flexibility, educated the membership, and set an example of patience and openness. If we learned anything it would be that something else was probably going on with anyone who stopped communicating or was angry. In the example we cited in the preceding question, all but one family returned to the church in due time, thanks to the patience and understanding provided those who disagreed. We are grateful to have had a Rector with a long tenure who helped us establish right relationships with each other. We believe this firm foundation with each other will enable us to move into change with hope and excitement, not fear.



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Prior Incumbents

Name	Position Title	Date Begun	Date Ended
Robin Soller	Rector / Vicar / Priest-in-Charge	1996-08	2021-08

Name	Position Title	Date Begun	Date Ended
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Name	Position Title	Date Begun	Date Ended
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Previous to last long term Rector, church was served by part-time chaplains from the nearby Holderness School.

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.trinitymeredith.org/trinity

Media Links:

> <https://heychurches.com/06557614/trinity-episcopal-church-meredith-nh>

Online References:

> <https://www.episcopalassetmap.org/diocese/diocese-new-hampshire/list/trinity-episcopal>

Languages Significantly Represented:

English

Provide Worship or classes in:

References

Bishop:

Rt. Rev. Rob Hirschfeld

arh@nhepiscopal.org; 603-224-1914

Diocesan Transition Minister

Tina Pickering

tpickering@nhepiscopal.org; 603-224-1914

Current Warden/Board Chair

Will Cabell and Anne McDonough

603-968-7952 willcabl@yahoo.com; 603-253-6590 armlake@gmail.com

Previous Warden/Board Chair

Search Chair

Rev. Pete Woodward

603-968-3817; bwwjr7@gmail.com

Parish/Institution

Rev. Celeste Hemingson

603-496-8160 celeste340@aol.com

Local Community Leader

Tom Witham

603-279-6106, milepoint8@gmail.com