



Office for
Transition
Ministry

Ministry Portfolio

Full Portfolio (last updated Jan 2, 2024)

St. Peter's, Londonderry, New Hampshire

1 Peabody Row, Londonderry, NH 03053, United States

Contact:

Rector / Vicar / Priest-in-Charge | Receiving Names until 02/01/24.

tpickering@nhepiscopal.org

Weekly Average Sunday
Attendance (ASA)

55

Number of Weekend
Worship Services

1

Number of Weekday
Worship Services

Number of Other per Month
Worship Services

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

Yes

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

Travel/Auto Account

Other Professional Account

See diocesan compensation here: <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.

Hands on outreach opportunities offer many of our members a time to be the hands and feet of Christ. Our church calendar is full of such opportunities. We walked in the local CROP Hunger Walk last month which raised \$3,200 for local and global food causes. We have connected with three local food pantries and just donated an overwhelming amount of food for "Thanksgiving Bags" to help 65 families celebrate Thanksgiving. We are off to our monthly "End 68 Hours of Hunger", a hands-on volunteer program that assembles weekend food packages for local children in need. Parishioners are also currently shopping for local families through New Hampshire Social Services for Christmas gifts for families who would otherwise do without. It is heartwarming to see the members of this parish come together in this time of flux to show their commitment, strength and faith.

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

Acknowledging that the church is ever changing and to be open to new ideas, we continue to rethink what we offer on Sunday mornings. Recently, our Blessing of the Animals service was well advertised within the community and as such we welcomed back parishioners that we hadn't seen in a long time as well as new folks from the area who brought their pets to be blessed. For Veteran's day we paid respect to them by offering the opportunity to purchase a flag in their honor to plant in our yard in remembrance of their sacrifice for us. The funds that we received were donated to Liberty House, a transitional housing community for veterans. We also offer weekly Scripture discussions before Sunday services and a monthly book discussion. We offer an intergenerational activities program monthly after church. A strong stewardship message is vital to our continued health, both spiritually and financially. A planned giving program has recently been offered to the parishioners to make a legacy gift.

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

Communication / leadership skills; Nurturing / compassionate; Preaching / pastoral skills; Theologically grounded; Inclusive

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

St. Peter's has a traditional Sunday service based on the Book of Common Prayer, Rite II. Music is a large part of our service with traditional hymns and anthems. Our sermons are scripture based but many in our congregation find additional understanding when a sermon can be related to our current needs, our community and our Church culture. Throughout the year, St. Peter's provides a variety of services that are liturgically based but support the needs of our community. Examples would be our Pride Service in June, our Blessing of the Animals in October, and our Blue Christmas Service in December to support families in our church who have lost loved ones.

How do you practice incorporating others in ministry?

Inviting and encouraging others in church ministries requires effort on many fronts. It starts with enthusiastic leaders, leading by example. We look for regular opportunities to engage this congregation with fellowship, outreach, and spiritual formation offerings. Stewardship conversations about sharing our time, talent, and treasures are also an important part of our Christian life together. Finally, we strive to practice good communication skills, making known our ministry volunteer needs, through regular church communication tools and personal "asks". St. Peter's has also been blessed by the service of Deacon Diane Hovey for several years. She regularly participates in the Sunday services. Once a month, during the service she offers a blessing for infirmed parishioners. She also leads a women's group.

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

We care for ourselves in many ways. Spiritually, we gather together to pray, sing and reflect. Our strong music program lifts our spirits. We provide faith learning opportunities, including monthly intergenerational Formation offerings, Sunday Bible Study, Lectio Divina, monthly book discussions, and seasonal formation offerings. There is also an active prayer chain. Emotionally we share meals, building friendships and bonds. We support each other in times of need. Our Newcomers Committee regularly hosts coffee where newer members can connect with our membership. Our semi-annual craft fair offers a unique opportunity to build community within the parish and beyond. Physically, we care for each other in time of need and for others in the community. We have an active outreach program supporting those in need in the local community including the CROP Hunger Walk, Sonshine Soup Kitchen, End 68 Hours of Hunger and NuDay Syria. We visit the local nursing homes regularly to interact with the residents. We support those in need by making/ distributing prayer shawls and offering emotional support and a ride, if needed. We care for people in all stages of life. Our spirits are full.

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

St. Peter's has always been involved in sharing God's love outside of our Church community. The pandemic limited our ability to meet on an in-person level outside our community but allowed us to open our worship online through a live stream connection. We are once again offering the Eucharist monthly to a local Assisted Living Facility along with the commissioning of a good number of Lay Eucharistic Ministers who are again able to reach out to our members who are unable to drive or who are shut-ins. We work in union with other local Churches of different denominations to offer emergency assistance to people in need through grocery and gas gift cards. This program, The Good Samaritan's Purse, is funded through our Loose Plate collection the first Sunday of each month.

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

St. Peter's participates in the larger church by paying our Fair Share to the Diocese of New Hampshire and through regular attendance at Convocation meetings and the Diocesan Convention. In the local community, St. Peter's members regularly support community programs such as St. Andrew's Food Pantry, including their Thanksgiving food baskets effort, the Angel Tag program at Christmas supporting New Hampshire Family Services, and year round clothing donations for the homeless community.

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

1. We became a Harvest Host destination this year allowing us to offer a nights stay in our parking lot to people who are traveling with their RV's. This has allowed us to share our beautiful local community, our peaceful Church grounds, our congregation and our service. Contact: Jean and Jeff Fugina 2. Newcomer's and Hospitality. Contact: Frankie Cannata, Pam Walker 3. Sunday Morning Bible Study. Contact: Gayle Peters 4. Lectio Divina. Contact: Mary Sargent 5. Monthly Book Club and discussion. Contact: Lee O'Connor 6. Caregiver's Group. Contact: Liz Lanigan 7. Woman's Group. Contact: Deacon Diane Hovey 8. Intergenerational Sunday. Contact: Leslie Blake

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

Our Stewardship prayer shows our approach to stewardship. "Gracious and loving God, we understand that you call us to be the stewards of Your Abundance, the caretakers of all you have entrusted to us. Help us always to use your gifts wisely and teach us to share them generously. May our faithful stewardship bear witness to the love of Christ in our lives. Amen." We commit everything to God. We give generously, as God promises to provide all we need. We support our church and ministries with our time and skills. We strive to live simply. We take fair trade and ethical issues into account when shopping and investing. We help to preserve God's world by sensible use of non-renewable resources and by recycling waste. At St. Peter's we offer opportunities to give of our time, talent, and treasures through things like property work days, singing in the choir, and the many other church volunteer opportunities, by actively participating in Sunday worship, and by supporting outreach programs such as Crop Hunger Walk, the CHIPS program, and donating to the local food pantry. We are challenged to change into giving people by practicing stewardship as a way of life. When we give, we change.

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

There has been little conflict in the cumulative time of this committee at St. Peter's. The most significant event was the recent abrupt departure of our rector under difficult and uncharted circumstances. There was a wide mix of emotion in the parish from compassion and love to anger and broken trust. There was an honest sharing at a special parish meeting and at a Vestry meeting. We recognize that there may be lingering unaddressed feelings but we continue to look for ways to openly discuss and heal our faith community. Our rector's abrupt departure also created difficulties with transition issues involving historical records, parish roster and attendance record, liturgy planning, and access to a variety of church electronic media accounts. It has been quite amazing to witness our parish community come together to work through a range of emotions, volunteer to fill gaps in what St. Peter's offers and even increase their support in attendance and participation in small and big ways. We are blessed with a caring and involved church community.

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?

St. Peter's has welcomed three different priests and several interim priests over the last 35 years. In the past we have tried new things like going from one service to two on Sundays, Saturday worship services, and changes in the seating layout in our worship service. Covid forced us to worship remotely and to look for ways to maintain a sense of community. We are currently at a single service on Sunday and are trying to establish a monthly intergenerational education offering in place of traditional Sunday School. Most parishioners have welcomed, valued and appreciated such efforts. Not everyone welcomes change but no one has left the parish over these efforts. These changes have become a part of who we are.



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Prior Incumbents

Name	Position Title	Date Begun	Date Ended
The Rev. Colin Chapman	Rector / Vicar / Priest-in-Charge	2016-01	2023-01

Name	Position Title	Date Begun	Date Ended
The Rev. Sarah Rockwell	Rector / Vicar / Priest-in-Charge	2012-01	2016-01

Name	Position Title	Date Begun	Date Ended
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Weekly bible study 5-10 adults; weekly lectio divina 4-6 adults; monthly book group 5-15 adults; monthly intergenerational formation 10-20 adults and children; Advent/Lent/Seasonal formation 5-15 adults

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: <https://stpeterslondonderry.org/>

Media Links:

Online References:

- > <https://www.facebook.com/stpeterslondonderry>
- > <https://www.youtube.com/stpeterslondonderryorg>

Languages Significantly Represented:

Provide Worship or Classes in:

References

Bishop:

Diocesan Transition Minister

Current Warden/Board Chair

Previous Warden/Board Chair

Search Chair

Parish/Institution

Local Community Leader