



Office for
Transition
Ministry

Ministry Portfolio

Full Portfolio (last updated Sep 2, 2021)

St. Timothy's Episcopal Church, West Des Moines, Iowa

Contact:

Rector / Vicar / Priest-in-Charge | Receiving Names until 10/31/21.

tpetty@iowaepiscopal.org

Weekly Average Sunday Attendance (ASA)	Number of Weekend Worship Services	Number of Weekday Worship Services	Number of Other per Month Worship Services
175	3	1	0
Current Annual Compensation	Cash Stipend	Housing / Rectory Detail	Utilities
\$85745			
SECA reimbursement	Compensation Available for New Position	Housing Available for	Pension Plan
	\$75000		We're in compliance with CPF requirements.
Healthcare Options	Dental	Housing Equity Allowance in budget	Annual Equity Amount
Negotiable	Yes		
Vacation Weeks	Vacation Weeks Details	Continuing Education Weeks	Continuing Education Weeks Details
4		2 (standard)	
Continuing Education Funding in budget	Sabbatical Provision	Travel/Auto Account	Other Professional Account
\$1001-\$2000/year		Yes	

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

Our response to Covid was, and remains, a work in progress. We have continually changed and adapted as our technological capabilities made that possible. At the beginning of the pandemic, we recorded services and put them on You Tube. The amount of editing required for this exercise was unsustainable, so we pivoted to Morning Prayer via Zoom while we upgraded our technology to allow live streaming of services beginning in Advent. Concurrent with live streaming, we offered drive-up communion in the circle drive in front of the sanctuary. A member of the Search Committee indicated that, in addition to our response to Covid, the method used for confirmation, in which each confirmand recited a "signature scripture" and shared their own faith journey with the parish was memorable.

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

We are challenging ourselves to think of the church as the site of social ministries other than exclusively a place for worship on Sundays. We seek to become the place where ideas can incubate and culminate in concrete ministries to share Christ's hands, feet and voice with the world.

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

Preaching; Strategic Leadership; Pastoral Care

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

Our most common service is Rite II from the BCP. We typically use Eucharistic Prayer A. This summer, we have used the Eucharist service from *Enriching Our Worship*. Our weekly Wednesday morning service uses Morning Prayer II from the BCP.

How do you practice incorporating others in ministry?

Over time, we have attempted a number of different approaches and we have not been satisfied. We are working toward a more proactive approach that addresses newcomers individually by building relationships through phone calls, coffee appointments and individual conversations. We look forward to learning about additional approaches to encourage development of this ministry.

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

Covid 19 and the related pandemic have made this difficult; we have not been able to hold services that comfort members who are bereaved or celebrate the joys of those who are being married or welcoming new members in Baptism. Early on in the pandemic, we established groups of connection callers who were assigned the task of checking in with a small number of parishioners on a regular basis via calls and email. Our prayer chain has remained active and is updated regularly. Individuals continue in their daily devotions and Bible study. Families who are food insecure are delivered groceries to assist with necessary nutritional needs. Prior to Covid, lay eucharistic ministers regularly visited those unable to attend church. We expect this ministry to resume.

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

Our Faith and Grace Garden not only provides produce for food pantries around the metro, but also provides starter plants grown in our greenhouse for community gardens throughout greater Des Moines. Within the last five years, we have sponsored five different re-entry teams to support women who have been discharged from the local prison. Some parishioners work with the JOPPA organization, which provides resources for persons without homes. St. Tim's members were the original founders of the FreeStore, a warehouse where women leaving the family violence center can acquire household furnishings and goods to establish a new home.

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

St. Timothy's members reside in the greater Des Moines metro. Our recent confirmation class included young persons representing eight different high schools. Our members are active in their local communities as school board members and through the Iowa judicial branch. Numerous members of St. Tim's have served or do serve on diocesan boards and commissions (e.g., chancellor, treasurer, bishop search committee, insurance committee, liaison to companion diocese, summer ministry school, bishop transition committee). Others join members of other denominations for Bible study.

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

We recognized that our children's ministry was not consistent with our core mission of being Christ's hands, feet and voice in the world so changed it to better align with actions that the children can take to bring their faith into the world. Throughout our program year, we recognize a monthly partner for whom we designate a second offering received each Sunday. Some of the ministries we have supported include JOPPA, the FreeStore, the diocese of Nzara, the Center for Social Ministry and Women at the Well.

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

We exceeded our budget projection during the stewardship campaigns of the last two years, despite a constricted campaign due to Covid. Despite this success, we were surprised that the recent parish survey showed that the average family contribution is about \$2,700, or about 2% of household income. We are challenged to identify strategies to reach our members and help identify their interests and linkages to our ministries in the hopes of increased stewardship.

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

More than 30 years ago, our parish was shaken by the disclosure of sexual misconduct by our rector. The resulting fallout from that event created many fissures within the church that have taken us many years to overcome. In addressing this, we opted to be as open with the congregation as we could. We learned that while this approach was the proper one, we had to have faith that we would endure and come out stronger at the end. We found that our response to those who left was to encourage them to find a church that better met their needs rather than lament the disappointment associated with their departure. Subsequent rectors have been aware of this trauma and finally, after many years, it no longer defines us.

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 1993, we called our first female rector and some prominent members, including the senior warden, left the church. Since that time, our current rector, Mary Cole-Duvall, has been in her position for 17 years. We have obviously learned much in the intervening years.



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Prior Incumbents

Name	Position Title	Date Begun	Date Ended
Mary Cole Duvall	Rector / Vicar / Priest-in-Charge	2004-05	

Name	Position Title	Date Begun	Date Ended
E. Daniel Smith	Rector / Vicar / Priest-in-Charge	1996-11	2002-12

Name	Position Title	Date Begun	Date Ended
Mary Purcell	Rector / Vicar / Priest-in-Charge	1992-11	1995-04

Pre-school is suspended for 2021-22

Church School	Number of Teachers/Leaders for Children School	Number of Students for Children School
Yes	15	65

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
4	20	3	50

Day School	Number of Students for Day School	Number of Teachers for Day School	Number of Total Staff for Day School
Pre-K			



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Worshipping Community Web site: www.sttimothysiowa.org

Media Links:

> <https://www.facebook.com/StTimothysIowa/>

Online References:

> <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC6jC7o4wT7Zsl6ebvIZxIXA>

> <https://vimeo.com/580872700>

Languages Significantly Represented:

English

Provide Worship or Classes in:

English

References

Bishop:

515-277-6170 ascarfe@iowaepiscopal.org

Alan Scarfe

Diocesan Transition Minister

Current Warden/Board Chair

Suzy Coen

Previous Warden/Board Chair

Search Chair

Daniel Montgomery

Parish/Institution

Local Community Leader