



Office for
Transition
Ministry

Ministry Portfolio

Full Portfolio (last updated Apr 11, 2023)

Ascension St. Matthew's Church, Utah

522 N Homestead Blvd, Price, UT 84501, United States

Contact:

Rector / Vicar / Priest-in-Charge | Receiving Names until 06/30/23.

arogers@episcopal-ut.org

Weekly Average Sunday Attendance (ASA) 20	Number of Weekend Worship Services 1	Number of Weekday Worship Services	Number of Other per Month Worship Services
Current Annual Compensation \$62199	Cash Stipend \$40120	Housing / Rectory Detail	Utilities
SECA reimbursement \$4079	Compensation Available for New Position \$62199	Housing Available for	Pension Plan We're in compliance with CPF requirements.
Healthcare Options Full family	Dental Yes	Housing Equity Allowance in budget No	Annual Equity Amount
Vacation Weeks One month, including 5 Sundays (standard)	Vacation Weeks Details 5	Continuing Education Weeks 2 (standard)	Continuing Education Weeks Details 10
Continuing Education Funding in budget \$1001-\$2000/year	Sabbatical Provision Yes	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.

A Transition Team appointed by the Governing Board led a congregational event in November 2021 to help the congregation recall its stories of faithfulness. Contributors told stories about congregational, family or individual high points by putting yellow paper stars on the timeline. Some spoke of difficult moments within the life of the congregation or for themselves personally and placed paper broken hearts on the timeline. Others placed whole paper hearts for their shared experiences of joy and gratitude within the congregation. This exercise and occasion to hear one another's stories acknowledged and celebrated the resilience of this faith community and gave voice to hope. Two mainstay traditions in the congregation's life, The Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper and The Fall Fare were on hiatus during the throes of the pandemic. The 2021 Pancake Supper was accomplished successfully; it was a "to go" event. The 2022 Fall Fare has been revised to better fit the congregation and the community it serves. Committed volunteers have assured that weekly worship services are live streamed and posted on Facebook and YouTube. The congregation anticipates sound system improvements in 2023.

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

ASM benefits from the rich resources for teaching and advocacy that The Episcopal Church and the ELCA claim. Synodical leaders and volunteers met and further developed ideas prior to the pandemic. The group convened by Rocky Mountain Synod Bishop Jim Gonia called this program "Church Becoming and Classic Church." The introductory video was shown to the congregation, which prompted a rich discussion. The congregational leaders continue to use the programs' ideas as they consider which programs are best retained and improved and which are best released. Congregational leaders participated in an online series, "Introducing the Hybrid Church." In-person and virtual church work and efforts are now considered normal and our leaders are embracing this mindset. Fall 2021 brought an improved online presence when the congregation launched a new website. The congregation participated in a Fall 2021 stewardship campaign led by members via zoom called "Beginning a Culture of Generosity" about abundance and gratitude. Congregational leaders gained confidence in helping the membership move through the financial stress during the pandemic. Pledges increased and fostered a spirit of resilience.

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

Nourished in practices of prayer and study of Scripture; Faithful and able as preacher and celebrant of The Holy Eucharist; Tolerant and Welcoming; Attentive and Responsive to Needs

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

The Sunday morning Celebration of The Holy Eucharist is central to the congregation's life of faith. Worship planners draw from and lead hymnody and liturgy rooted in both The Episcopal and ELCA traditions. When clergy is not available to celebrate The Holy Eucharist, able lay leaders provide Morning Prayer on Sunday mornings. The seasons of the church year and the three-year lectionary lay the foundation for the Word preached and for the Word made known in the administration of the Sacraments. Regarding worship styles the congregation is open and adaptive. Throughout the years the congregation has embraced formal and less formal liturgical practices as set by the called priest. As volunteers receive training and invitation, the congregation welcomes worship practices that connect them with Anglican and/or Lutheran practices of a more high church nature. The congregation also enjoys worship practices that bear less formality, yet remain liturgical. The building's inviting and well-planned worship space and natural lighting connects the worshipping community with the surrounding splendid landscape. Altar Host and Word are the focus light creation and natural outdoor beauty amplify.

How do you practice incorporating others in ministry?

The congregation enjoys a balancing act of riches. In 1984, Ascension Lutheran and St. Matthew's Episcopal congregations in Price, UT were blessed by the two church bodies to nurture a fellowship that practiced altar and pulpit fellowship prior to The Episcopal Church and ELCA's formal agreement. This spirit of tolerance and acceptance is a congregational hallmark and furthers camaraderie among faith neighbors. Christian communities in Price include 12 non-denominational churches, Greek Orthodox, Roman Catholic and LDS. Occasions of unity, spearheaded by ASM, benefit the community. Expressions of commitments in time and money to local, regional and global ministries beyond ASM include ELCA World Hunger, Episcopal Relief and Development, Episcopal United Thank Offering, Women of the ELCA, Community Day of Caring, Carbon Caring for Kids, Lutheran and Episcopal seminaries, school programs, Senior Angel Tree, Hope Squad-suicide prevention, and Perky Van cancer program. Ministry Action Teams guide the congregation: Worship/Art/Music, Faith Formation, Resource Management, Congregational Support, and Community Outreach. More information located on www.ascensionstmatthewsprice.org

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

Prayer and mutual support are central to ASM. The Prayer Chain is a key expression and involves members of the congregation and others. We pray and invite prayer for the welfare of all, with specific prayer requests made through phone and in-person visits, supplemented by email connections. Intercessory prayer is equally important. During worship, shared needs and concerns are received and offered. Home communion is offered and provided upon request for those unable to attend worship. The congregation seeks to be aware when congregants experience stress or loss due to illness, death of a loved one, or other difficulties. Willing hands and hearts are well-rehearsed in meeting needs when frail or challenged members to need help. A meal, transportation to an appointment, errands, phone visits, and personal visits of encouragement are examples of the core of care that ASM's volunteers deliver. Renewal for these caregivers, as well as renewal for the clergy are both necessities. The congregation's Governing Board recognizes and supports this by providing clergy time away for monthly sessions of spiritual direction and vocational coaching by trained professionals chosen by the cleric.

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

The congregation tells its story so that those outside of ASM's church walls learn of the pastoral care and Christ-nurtured friendship of ASM. Deeper attentiveness to the needs of others comes when ASM's clergy or a parishioner learn of community needs. Awareness comes through the monthly Castle Country Pastors meetings and visits with leaders such as local government, Active Re-Entry, and local Family Support Center and Children's Justice Center. ASM extends time, talent, and money to church and community food pantries and United Way's annual Day of Caring. Requests come to ASM through our church office phone or Facebook page when our clergy receives a request from a traveler or a resident whose resources are low. ASM provides a budgeted Discretionary Fund for such requests and must be carefully considered. Occasionally our church office receives requests from the local funeral home when the family of a deceased person asks that clergy conduct the funeral for their loved one who was without a church home. ASM's pastoral care and Christ-centered friendship are visible when ASM's ministry extends, through its priest, in this "outside of the walls" manner.

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

ASM has long provided faithful giving and benevolence to aid the efforts of Episcopal Relief and Development and the ELCA's Mission Support, as well as such efforts as disaster and hunger responses. Some of these ministries are part of the annual budget. As additional needs are raised during the year through our church bodies and others, the congregation provides opportunities for special offerings. Volunteers also assist with the larger work of the church. Currently, ASM's own Jan Young serves on the Congregational Ministries Board of the Rocky Mountain Synod (ELCA) and volunteers to aid congregations in adaptive change. The church women are active in the Women of the ELCA and the Episcopal UTO.

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

"Zoom" has become a common part of our local congregation's vocabulary and practice since 2020. ASM was responsive and provided worship remotely when the pandemic commenced. ASM leadership realizes that online worship opportunities are the "new normal". ASM will continue to work to improve such offerings. For a time, we live streamed, recorded and posted our worship services online. Currently, we await remedies for our building's sound system so that we may more effectively provide regular worship services online. Jan Young and Norella Pilling work most closely with our online efforts. For the past two summers, our congregation has joined with Price United Methodist Church in a joint outdoor Service of Holy Communion. This has increased camaraderie in the faith. In addition, Classic Church and Church Becoming are topics that ASM further considers and applies, thanks to the resources that Jan Young and the Congregational Ministries Board suggest.

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

For many years, Ascension St. Matthew's Church has not done a formal stewardship drive. In 2021, the church leadership chose to use the resources of the program "Beginning a Culture of Generosity (GSB Fund Raising.com). The outcome was positive and the congregation received commitments from many ASM households. The congregation is engaged in mindful care, outside and inside of the congregation year-round. Stewardship is not always about money, but our time and talents as well.

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

We deal with conflict directly and with care, as we seek to listen to and respond lovingly to opinions and suggestions while maintaining our Core Values, which leadership and the congregation describe this way: Centered in the Gospel by Word and Sacrament and fostering spiritual growth for all, we value: Welcoming community Joyful celebration of diversity Ecumenical witness Nourishing liturgical worship

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?

The Transition Team collaborated and cast this renewed language: Centered in the Gospel by Word and Sacrament and fostering spiritual growth for all, we value: Welcoming community, Joyful celebration of diversity, Ecumenical witness and Nourishing liturgical worship. Our Mission provides a sacred space for growth and spiritual belonging through: Soul-Nourishing Worship that invites you to Christ's open table, Life-sharing hospitality that invites you to be yourself, Quiet commitment to community that invites you to deep relationships and service makes a difference for Ardent discipleship. Our vision is to provide a loving space for ourselves and our neighbors to explore, learn, believe and serve without judgment. We seek to embody the love of Christ in our daily lives. We humbly strive to practice what we preach. ASM's leadership is faced with emerging needs and limited material resources. A gift planner and synodical resource person led a session at ASM so that we might develop a Congregational Gift Plan Policy. Setting new steps take commitments. It is evident that the people of ASM are committed to their mission and lovingly continue to follow the way of love that Christ leads.



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Prior Incumbents

Name	Position Title	Date Begun	Date Ended
James Locke	Rector / Vicar / Priest-in-Charge	2016-06	2020-08

Name	Position Title	Date Begun	Date Ended
James Drury	Rector / Vicar / Priest-in-Charge	2008-09	2015-04

Name	Position Title	Date Begun	Date Ended
Courtney Shucker II	Rector / Vicar / Priest-in-Charge	1998-09	2006-06

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
		1	10

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.ascensionstmatthewsprice.org>

Media Links:

Online References:

> <https://www.facebook.com/ascension.stmatthews.3>
asm.org on Instagram

Languages Significantly Represented:

English

Provide Worship or Classes in:

References

Bishop:

The Rt. Rev. Phyllis Spiegel

Phyllis Spiegel; pspiegel@episcopal-ut.org 801-322-4131 Bishop Jim
Gonia Rocky Mtn. Synod igonia@rmselca.org 303-777-6700

Diocesan Transition Minister

Angela Rogers

arogers@episcopal-ut.org 801-322-4131

Current Warden/Board Chair

Norella Pilling

maryno715@yahoo.com; 435-650-1763

Previous Warden/Board Chair

Don Phillips

Deceased

Search Chair

Norella Pilling

maryno715@yahoo.com; 435-650-1763

Parish/Institution

Trace Browning

allsaints@allsaintssl.org; 801-581-0380
tracebrowning@allsaintssl.org

Local Community Leader

Bobby Etzel

435-637-2668 - Mitchel Funeral Home