



Office for
Transition
Ministry

Ministry Portfolio

Full Portfolio (last updated Feb 2, 2017)

St. Michael and All Angels, Longview, Texas, Texas

909 Reel Road, Longview, TX 75604, United States

Contact:

Rector / Vicar / Priest-in-Charge (Part-time)

kryan@epicenter.org

Weekly Average Sunday
Attendance (ASA)

74

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

\$35000

Housing Available for

Pension Plan

**We're in compliance with
CPF requirements.**

Healthcare Options

Dental

Housing Equity Allowance in
budget

Annual Equity Amount

Vacation Weeks

Vacation Weeks Details

Continuing Education Weeks

Continuing Education Weeks
Details

Continuing Education
Funding in budget

Sabbatical Provision

Travel/Auto Account

Other Professional Account

Compensation for one service on Sunday and 2 days in the church office per week for one year

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

A frequent supply priest said he wished he could schedule more times to worship with us because he and his wife benefit so much personally from our worship services. Another priest complimented our music as some of the best he has ever experienced. We have been honored to witness the baptisms of an entire family at once and at Christmas, a young woman with cerebral palsy and Asperger's Syndrome come forward unassisted for healing prayers. Our church has also provided a nurturing environment for formerly homeless men who have been attending a local recovery program, walking with them on their journey toward a healthy lifestyle, with amazing success. Three years later, one now serves as a member of our Vestry.

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

In many ways, the future is already here at St. Michael's. We are a lay-driven worship community, supported by clergy but not "centered" on clergy. We have a multi-generational Vestry, a widely diverse congregation in regard to denominational background, ethnicity, economic status, cultural experience, politics and worship style. Individually, we are involved in Bible Study Fellowship, the Mockingbird Conference and the Episcopal Relief Foundation. We are known and visible within EDOT because we are an uncommon Episcopal worship community. Locally we are known for our loving hospitality and acceptance. We have members who can fluently converse in German, Hungarian, Spanish, English, "Texan," Jamaican English and American Sign Language. And we are becoming more exposed to what it means to be a missional church.

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

Spiritual leader; Scripture-driven teacher; Relational pastor; Engaging mentor

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

Our worship style is usually described as “contemporary worship in a traditional setting” but in actuality it is broader than that. We use the Rite II liturgy in a congregation that is at least half full of people who came from other denominations. We have gifted and talented musicians who make up our worship team using keyboards, guitars, mandolin, flute and light percussion. The processional is from the 1982 Hymnal, but what follows is a mix of contemporary praise songs, occasional Southern Gospel favorites and original music with lyrics projected on a screen. We have two vested Lay Eucharistic Ministers, one Lector, two vested Acolytes (both adult and youth), two Ushers and two Greeters. During the passing of the peace, congregants typically leave their pews to exchange the peace with as many people as possible. During Eucharist or Prayers of the People, a team from Daughters of the King stands at the rear of the sanctuary to offer additional prayers for people who desire them. The recessional involves all the children, who come forward and get percussion instruments like tambourines and play along with the Worship Team to the enjoyment of the congregation.

How do you practice incorporating others in ministry?

In our congregation, approximately 70% of the people currently serve in some form of ministry to the church or the community. When needs arise in various ministries, we typically ask for volunteers during our announcement time at church or make an internet appeal. Sometimes, sign-up sheets are available at church. Personal contacts are also made, especially in regard to Vestry candidates and Stewardship Committee members. Our Newcomers Welcoming Committee has a concrete plan in place to follow-up with visitors and people wanting to join our church. This helps them get connected. Also, newcomers and members are encouraged to participate in our online Spiritual Gifts Evaluation Program that we purchased for this use. We have an annual Ministry Fair as well as a website that offers opportunities for volunteers. Sometimes we utilize social media when appropriate. This year we began using www.churchscheduling.com which has streamlined the ease of volunteerism at St. Michael's. It manages placing the volunteers in the appropriate ministry, sending reminders each week and swapping turns, if necessary.

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

We are a very close knit community that believes in praying for the needs of each other. We have regular communal worship and Eucharist, as well as pot-luck meals frequently. We offer an on-line prayer request option that is sent to all who choose to be on the prayer chain. We have a Daughters of the King Chapter which is a great prayer resource for our parish. We take meals to the sick and bereaved. We also host a Health and Wellness Screening Event annually. We host Tai Chi classes twice a week. Our Women's Ministry provides an annual Women's Weekend as well as seasonal birthday bashes to celebrate those born in each season of the year. Our Adult Spiritual Formation Class is well attended and provides many avenues to spiritual growth and community. As one newer member of the class stated, “Attending church will build the skeleton of your faith but coming to Adult Sunday School will put flesh on the bones.”

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

We host an ecumenical small group weekly. Our music team regularly serves the community by performing at fundraising events benefiting various charities. Many of us attend graduation ceremonies at Highway 80 Mission yearly. We also serve as a church home to many of the men in the program, providing transportation to and from church, volunteering professional counseling services and leading midweek worship music at the mission. We send out Eucharistic ministers to the home-bound and are participating in the transition of Camp Gilmont from a Presbyterian Church Camp to an Ecumenical Spiritual Retreat and Conference Center in Gilmer, Texas. We are involved in serving wherever anyone sees the need and feels called by God to minister to others.

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

St. Michael's is well known in our local community for participating in many forms of ministry. We support Highway 80 Rescue Mission's Christian Discipleship Program. We deliver Meals on Wheels. We host Girl Scout meetings and events and AA meetings. We sponsored a youth fundraising Valentine's Day dinner and a Fanny Crosby one-woman production that the entire community enjoyed. We know missionaries in Belize who have connected members with impoverished children who need sponsorship to attend school. As a church, we provide a unique service of recycling large electronics that people want to discard, hence providing the community with a service and our treasury with some cash. Individual members are involved in the Christian Biker's Association, Bible Study Fellowship, Longview Interfaith Council, East Texas Singer Songwriters Association, Newgate and Highway 80 Missions, Camp Gilmont and the World of Wonder Children's Discovery Center. Representatives attend Episcopal Diocese of Texas (EDOT) functions, such as Town Hall Meetings and Vestry 101 training seminars. We support events at other Episcopal churches in the area as well as ecumenical events in Longview.

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

Outreach to Highway 80 Rescue Mission---Contact Anna Purdum Newcomers' Ministry "Mashtini and Fruit Mocktail Party"---Contact Becky Supercinski Birthday Bash held quarterly to celebrate birthday girls---Contact Cyndie Woodbury Women's Weekend---Contact Cyndie Woodbury

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

We have an annual stewardship campaign to teach about stewardship and to obtain pledges. Many practice sacrificial giving of their time, talent and treasure. The majority of our members pledge annually and we are consistently able to meet our budget, despite the deficit between what has been pledged and what is required to fulfill the budgetary needs. Throughout the year the congregation is kept abreast of the status of contributions compared to weekly and year-to-date budgeted amounts. Quarterly reports are sent out to those who make pledges or otherwise designate their contributions. Our faith-based budgeting comes from our history of seeing God's provision for our church over the years. We are more likely to commit to what we believe is God's call regardless of current up-front resources rather than be paralyzed by fear due to a lack of money. This grows faith exponentially because God always provides when we are centered on Him rather than the circumstances. He always provides!

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

Historically, the only schisms St. Michael's has suffered have been a result of decisions made by the National Church. Our occasional personality conflicts still occur but little in the way of truly destructive conflict takes place. Members have deeply held convictions covering the spectrum of politics and Bible interpretation and application but our love for each other and a Christ-centered worship experience supersedes most of the possible difficulties. Those who thrive on conflict don't seem to stay at St. Michael's for very long.

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?

Our experience has been that if change is reasonably presented and patiently exercised, our congregation is agreeable to the change. However, when everyone isn't allowed time to process the change, then people leave the church or get angry and stop attending services. So if the leadership is committed to the change and is consistent with its presentation, then the result is usually favorable. Effective communication is the key—what we are doing, why we want to do it, and how we intend to get it done must be communicated. Otherwise, people feel blind-sided and left out of the process. The current Vestry is amenable to change as long as it doesn't conflict with strong-held Biblical beliefs. Our administrative habits have been the most difficult things to change.



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Prior Incumbents

Name	Position Title	Date Begun	Date Ended
The Rev. Jim Watson	Rector / Vicar / Priest-in-Charge	2006-03	2014-04

Name	Position Title	Date Begun	Date Ended
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Name	Position Title	Date Begun	Date Ended
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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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Contact:
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Worshipping Community Web site: <http://smaalongview.org/>

Media Links:

Online References:

Languages Significantly Represented:

English

Provide Worship or Classes in:

References

Bishop:

713-520-6444

**The Rt. Rev. C. Andrew
Doyle**

Diocesan Transition Minister

713-520-6444, fyoung@epicenter.org

The Rev. Francene Young

Current Warden/Board Chair

Laura Buckner

Previous Warden/Board Chair

Search Chair

Parish/Institution

Local Community Leader