



Office for
Transition
Ministry

Ministry Portfolio

Full Portfolio (last updated Nov 8, 2023)

St. Alban's & All Saints' Episcopal Churches, Iowa

2011 23rd St./121 W Marina Rd, Spirit Lake/Storm Lake, IA 51360/50588, United States

Contact:

Priest-in-Charge Shared Ministry | Receiving Names until 12/10/23.

mwagner@iowaepiscopal.org

Weekly Average Sunday Attendance (ASA) 34	Number of Weekend Worship Services 2	Number of Weekday Worship Services 1	Number of Other per Month Worship Services
Current Annual Compensation	Cash Stipend	Housing / Rectory Detail	Utilities
SECA reimbursement	Compensation Available for New Position \$59145	Housing Available for	Pension Plan We're in compliance with CPF requirements.
Healthcare Options Full family	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 Yes	Other Professional Account

58,104 - 59,145, based on experience

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

SPIRIT LAKE: With the resignation of our rector, we have developed lay leadership of ministries to continue the services we provide. We established a worship committee to schedule priests for Sunday services. We have taken responsibility for visits to shut-ins and taking communion to people who are unable to attend services. In the past we have participated in health care(dental) missions to Haiti, Swaziland and Mexico City. Online bulletins are available on our website, and streaming services have continued on Facebook every Sunday, and Facebook St. Alban's digital Coffee Hour. Summer Mid-week Worship Service. **STORM LAKE:** All Saints has made a huge impact on the youngest members of our diverse community working with our elementary school for the past eight years. Our ministries included Books and Briefs which provides underwear, winter clothing, personal hygiene products, water bottles and books for our students. Also, our Tornado Packs program was created to feed 320 kindergarten and headstart students during the school year, providing each student a food pack to take home for the weekends. The program was funded with grants and donations from the community & congregation.

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

SPIRIT LAKE: We are diligently working to maintain the energy and involvement of all members while we are unable to rely on the central figure of a rector and offer multiple ministry opportunities to our members. We are making maximum use of the resources available, so we can celebrate Holy Eucharist as often as possible. We have initiated new ministries during this time of transition. We have used current technology to inform our members through e-mails, and our Facebook page. We have the technological capability to enhance our digital presence. To support and encourage our youth, we continue to have the Saint Alban's Episcopal Church Scholarship Fund in the church. The applicant must have demonstrated a compelling desire to further their education, increase their abilities, and serve humanity. The applicant must show acts of Christian service during further education opportunity if planning to reapply in future scholastic years. We have updated our Church directory. **STORM LAKE:** We prepare ourselves for the future by opening our doors to outsiders, providing a Facebook page, utilizing Zoom and having an active Lay Ministry Team. We are exploring the establishment of a Web page.

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

Preaching; pastoral care; evangelism; leadership

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

SPIRIT LAKE: On Sundays we typically use Rite II, except during penitential seasons. We sing during Sunday services, but no "pomp and circumstance." Our rector's sermons were based on the gospel reading. We usually ring bells during the prayer of consecration. We occasionally have special musical groups and solos; we do not have a choir. Our Midweek morning service has no music and uses Rite I. In summer we have had a low-key, Saturday evening service with no music, but it was dropped during/after COVID. We have an annual outdoor service on the Queen II, a tourist boat on Lake Okoboji. In the past we have had outdoor services at our church or local state park. When there is no priest, we have Morning Prayer, led by our lay ministers. **STORM LAKE:** All Saints provides a traditional worship service using Rite II. The Lay Ministry Team provides for worship services in the absence of a Priest. Younger church members are incorporated into the services as acolytes, presenters and readers. Presently we offer one Saturday evening service each month. Services are conducted on Holy Days. During Covid online services were held weekly. Each fall we conduct a Blessing of the Animals service.

How do you practice incorporating others in ministry?

SPIRIT LAKE: We have a 6 person vestry and a 4 person transition committee with 1 vestry liaison member. Lay members assist during services as lectors, acolytes, and chalice bearers. Lay members lead several of our outreach and other outside programs. By having outside services, we have invited the community to join us in worship. Services are streamed live on Facebook and Youtube. Other activities include: Neighborhood game day and cook-out, Neighborhood Tea Party, Blessing of the Animals (pets), St. Huberius, Blessing of the Hunters. Compline Service at the firepit in the area of the Celtic Cross. Members have supported Upper Des Moines Opportunity by providing weekly food pickup in July from Walmart, serving at a Community Table dinner, Christmas "Adopt A Family" program, and regular food donations. **STORM LAKE:** Providing church school transportation and maintaining the church building, grounds and gardens are examples. Bible study and Vestry meetings are offered by Zoom to include snowbirds. Members of the congregation actively engage in the community at schools, the hospital, Stephen Ministry, civic organizations and serve on various boards.

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

SPIRIT LAKE: Regular services and bible study nurtures our members' spiritual health. During Lent, we have a midweek service, soup supper, and Lenten study program. We are a friendly, welcoming community that notices the absences or emotional problems of members and lifts them up in prayer. We arrange for visits to sick and ill members and include them in our prayer lists. We have a chapter of the Order of St. Luke that has regularly held healing services following Communion. We encourage parishioners to use their professional talents in our church and in the community. On Sundays we have a fellowship coffee hour following the church service. **STORM LAKE:** Spiritual needs are met with thought-provoking sermons, the Eucharist and inspirational music provided by our talented church pianist. Emotional support comes from after service hospitality, home visits and working together on projects with and outside the church.

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

SPIRIT LAKE: We have two members of the Order of Saint Luke, based out of the church. In the past the members have taken part in the Relay For Life in Dickinson County and Clay County. We regularly (quarterly) have services at two local care centers. We arrange for visits to and communion for shut-ins. As noted in question 3, we have supported Mother Bear project, and Upper Des Moines Opportunity. **STORM LAKE:** We participate in Upper Des Moines Opportunity's Adopt-A-Family program at Christmas. Also, we have adopted a single mom with a special medical needs child, providing supplies, clothing, funding and necessities as needed. We support our elementary school teachers with coffee and pastries during Teacher Appreciation week. Our Priest regularly conducts services at the local nursing home.

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

SPIRIT LAKE: Members of St Alban's have taken part in the Diocese of Iowa El Salvador Mission, Uganda Health Care Mission, Swaziland Healthcare Ministry (multiple times), Haiti Companions' Healthcare Mission (multiple times), and the Mexico City Health Care Mission with Faith Lutheran Church in Spencer. In the past our youth have worked at St Paul Indian Mission, Sioux City. We support the Upper Des Moines Opportunity organization with family Christmas gift giving. We continue to prepare/serve a meal at the Community Table in Arnolds Park. Our members have provided strong, multi-year representation on deanery/chapter and diocesan committees, and General Convention. We have been strong contributors to various diocesan church fund drives. Our church facilities are used by several outside groups. We have a naturescape playground, with 12 Apostle logs and 3 Trinity boulders, which has been used by both church members & others. **STORM LAKE:** Diocesan Chapter meetings are held biannually to which our church provides delegates. We send two delegates to the annual Diocesan convention. We have used our beautiful property on the lake to provide nature camps for young people in our community.

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

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

SPIRIT LAKE: Our parishioners' response to the annual "every member canvas" for pledges has always been enthusiastic. Our Congregation Survey indicates our individual giving overall is above average when compared to other churches. We have also been careful to maintain the physical plant as well as two acres of property efficiently. Recent projects include a new roof, new siding and repainting the outside of the church, new windows for the offices, and an underground sprinkler system for the very large grass area. We have created a Prairie Grass and Wildflower Field with paths and a bench at the center for rest and reflection. A sand play area has been built for parish and neighborhood youth. We have had successful "Wish List" drives to raise funds for special requirements, such as the sprinkler system. On a smaller scale, we recycle cans, plastic bottles, and paper. We have been blessed with large endowments over the years, which the Finance Committee has invested well. We offer opportunities for individuals to fulfill their spiritual needs. **STORM LAKE:** Stewardship is accomplished annually. A pledge form provided each member. Special fundraising is performed as needs arise.

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

SPIRIT LAKE: We have had very limited experience of this at St Alban's. The typical type of conflict within a church that frequently tears a congregation apart has not occurred at St Alban's in the last 42 years. We have shown ourselves to be respectful of the opinions of others and have been able to absorb differences of opinion. Our experiences of conflict have centered around the national church's decisions on homosexuality and same sex marriage. Our position is: As Christians we are called to model our lives as Christ did, keep the faith, and abide in love for all. **STORM LAKE:** Conflicts are few in our church family and we endeavor to remain conflict free. When they do occur, conflicts are handled by the Priest and Vestry.

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?

SPIRIT LAKE: The changes in the church - acceptance of homosexuality, same sex marriage, women priests, new hymnal, new prayer book, etc., have all been adopted. In adopting these positions, we have proved to be a very resilient and adaptable congregation. Like most Episcopal churches, we have been rector-centered in the past, but diverse in our beliefs. By necessity, without a rector we have become more operationally self-determining. The changes have not been allowed to affect our equilibrium; we are flexible, open-minded, and adaptable. In general this has gone well, as we have been able to provide priests and Eucharist two or three Sunday services per month. **STORM LAKE:** Change is challenging. Covid provided the biggest challenge but we managed well. We now occasionally incorporate Zoom meetings into our gatherings. We have come to realize that younger generations have different approaches and thoughts regarding spiritual needs which don't necessarily include regular church attendance. We have found this a difficult concept to address.



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Prior Incumbents

Name	Position Title	Date Begun	Date Ended
	Rector / Vicar / Priest-in-Charge		

Name	Position Title	Date Begun	Date Ended
	Rector / Vicar / Priest-in-Charge		

Name	Position Title	Date Begun	Date Ended
	Rector / Vicar / Priest-in-Charge		

This is a 2 point call in beautiful northwestern Iowa in two lakeside towns (Spirit Lake and Storm Lake) that attract outdoors enthusiasts from across the midwest.

Church School Yes	Number of Teachers/Leaders for Children School 1	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: <https://www.stalbansepiscopalchurch.org>

Media Links:

- > <https://www.facebook.com/stalbansspiritalake>
- > <https://www.facebook.com/allsaintsepiscopalsia>

Online References:

Languages Significantly Represented:

English

Provide Worship or Classes in:

English

References

Bishop: 515-277-6170, officeofthebishop@iowaepiscopal.org
The Rt. Rev. Betsey Monnot

Diocesan Transition Minister 515-850-5220, mwagner@iowaepiscopal.org
The Rev. Cn. Meg Wagner

Current Warden/Board Chair
Lisa Baxter

Previous Warden/Board Chair

Search Chair
Jock McDonald

Parish/Institution

Local Community Leader