



Office for  
Transition  
Ministry

# Ministry Portfolio

*Full Portfolio (last updated Jan 7, 2025)*

## St. Barnabas Episcopal Church, Colorado

1280 Vine Street, Denver, CO 80206, United States

Contact:

Rector / Vicar / Priest-in-Charge | Receiving Names until 01/31/25.

Weekly Average Sunday Attendance (ASA)	Number of Weekend Worship Services	Number of Weekday Worship Services	Number of Other per Month Worship Services
65	1	1	
Current Annual Compensation	Cash Stipend	Housing / Rectory Detail	Utilities
SECA reimbursement	Compensation Available for New Position	Housing Available for	Pension Plan
	\$100000		<b>We're in compliance with CPF requirements.</b>
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	4	2 (standard)	2
Continuing Education Funding in budget	Sabbatical Provision	Travel/Auto Account	Other Professional Account
\$1001-\$2000/year	Yes		Yes

alary range of \$87,000 to \$115,000 BOE. Clergy of all levels of experience encouraged to apply.

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

The annual auction—planning, organizing, and participating in it—is a community effort that is deeply meaningful and joyful. The auction itself is a highlight in members' social calendar. In 2024, it raised \$22,000 with the silent auction comprising 52 experiences (hikes, meals, book talks, movie nights, karaoke, game nights, computer tech sessions, piano concerts, and much more), a party and live auction, 7 larger-ticket experiences (vacation timeshares, performing arts tickets, sports tickets, and an African Safari). Participants express that this experience makes them feel integrated into the church body and enables them to get to know many wonderful people—their talents, warmth, stories, and caring attitudes. For example, in 2024, in a dinner and discussion of McLaren's Faith After Doubt, participants shared their personal spiritual journeys and how they map onto theorized stages of faith development.

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

St. Barnabas is preparing for the Church of the future in several ways. We have updated our technology: we livestream our Sunday service on YouTube and Facebook, we use Zoom for many meetings, we update our website regularly, and we post parish events on Facebook. We share our facilities with community partners, including a preschool, a Buddhist meditation group, and various 12-Step programs. We are engaged in community building through creating several small-group programs, such as a new Bible Study class and Benedictine Way.

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

**We seek: An empowering, connecting, and collaborative leader; an engaging preacher and caring pastor; a theologically progressive and intellectually curious believer; an encourager of diversity, equity, inclusion, and belonging.**

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

We have typically held two Sunday morning Rite II services. The Eucharist is spoken at 7:45 and sung at 9:30. The 7:45 service has been suspended during the interim period.. The liturgical style is traditional and appropriate vestments are worn, and members enjoy a sense of informality in moving about the sanctuary. About 70 people attend the 9:30 service. The Prayers of the People are written collaboratively between laity and clergy, and parishioners rise to light candles near the altar during this portion of the service. Our Peace greetings take several minutes, and we hold hands to sing the Lord's Prayer. Lay people assist in preaching, reading, and serving the Eucharist. The all-volunteer choir of 15 sings accompanied by the choir director and organist/pianist. Hymns are usually from the 1982 Hymnal and often more contemporary hymns are included as well as guest musicians.

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How do you practice incorporating others in ministry?

All members are supported to join in offering parish ministries within our community. An annual Ministry Fair publicizes parish-wide priorities. Volunteers are often recruited by word of mouth—a personal invitation from someone who is involved. Others are recruited through our website, electronic messages/mail, social media, and with announcements during services. For worship services, volunteers are scheduled monthly as readers, chalice bearers, greeters, ushers, altar guild assistants, and acolytes. Other volunteer opportunities include the Caring Ministry, the Social Justice Committee, the Liturgy Committee, the Eucharistic Lay Ministry, and the Outreach Committee. Youth are invited to serve as acolytes, readers, Sunday School helpers, and to participate in service activities and pilgrimage opportunities supported by the Diocese.

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

At St. Barnabas, efforts to provide care for these three areas overlap and make connections on a personal level that strengthen our community bonds. For spiritual well-being, there are the Sunday services, Sunday Spiritual Formation for all ages, Wednesday Bible study and Eucharist, the Forum after the Sunday service, youth pilgrimages and retreats, and the Labyrinth. In addition to pastoral care provided by the clergy, the Caring Ministry is a group of trained volunteers who lend emotional and spiritual support when needed. A prayer chain, greeting card ministry, auction events, and social activities such as the July 4th picnic lend support and connect parishioners. Physical well-being is addressed through the Rector's discretionary fund, and Share the Care provides meals and transportation. Trained Lay Eucharistic ministers visit our homebound parishioners regularly with communion. Our building is ADA-compliant with devices for the hearing impaired. Our youngest worshippers have a cozy and enriching space in the sanctuary to play during the services while their caregivers are able to listen to the liturgy.

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

The Outreach Committee coordinates parish giving addressing human needs, featuring a different nonprofit each month; in the first 8 months of 2024, parishioners contributed \$3080 and the Committee, \$4000 to these causes. Recipients included Urban Peak, Metro Caring, The Gathering Place, and Casa de Paz. Parishioners regularly make sandwiches for the unhoused living in tiny-home communities. We also offer our space to several 12-Step Groups and have recently invited a pre-school into our education building. Previously we hosted unhoused women for one night per week for several years along with several other local churches, but this program has not been reactivated since the coronavirus pandemic. We are looking for other opportunities to make a similar impact with another analogous project in the future.

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

St. Barnabas has a long tradition of championing progressive causes within the larger Episcopal Church, including selecting laywomen for leadership roles, advancing women clergy to priesthood, providing funerals for those who have died from suicide, and blessings of same-sex unions. Parishioners participate in several local charities, such as Metro Caring, the St. Francis Center, and Project Angel Heart. Several St. Barnabas members are actively involved with the Iliff School of Theology. St. Barnabas has joined other faith communities in the Capitol Hill United Ministries in the Women's Homelessness Initiative and tutoring elementary students. St. Barnabas is a member of Together Colorado, nonpartisan, multi-racial and multi-faith community organization working to place human dignity at the center of public life in Colorado.

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

Together Colorado's mission states, "Our vision of God's Commonwealth is a sacred community where we share a commitment to sustaining the earth and all its inhabitants, so that everyone has the opportunity to thrive, without exception." As a member of Together Colorado, St. Barnabas members have participated in campaigns for affordable housing, rehabilitative criminal justice, climate justice, health care as a human right, and immigration reform. These campaigns have involved support for ballot measures, progressive legislative policies, Denver budget amendments, and educating parishioners and the wider community about these issues. Please contact Jana Everett, Chair of the Social Justice Committee, for more information.

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

Our Stewardship Committee meets year-round to support a culture of generosity and gratitude. The pledge drives emphasize that gifts of treasure are on spiritual values. All are encouraged to give a significant percentage of income that grows over time. Testimony is shared regarding the importance of how St. Barnabas has enhanced their experience of God in the lives of parishioners. For over 30 years an annual auction has raised funds and helped connect our members to the wider community. Additional funds come from parishioners using King Soopers grocery loyalty cards (more than \$1,200 per year) and peach sales (\$2,700). Members also contribute their time and talent to many ministries enhancing the life of the parish and reaching out to the community. During this interim period, members have used their talents in doing some of the church administrative work.

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

St. Barnabas has experienced conflict primarily in times of clergy and staff transitions. There is also tension around what feels like enough in our parish - enough time, enough money, enough pledging units, enough volunteers, enough listening, enough information shared. We have learned that it is important for leadership to communicate as openly as possible on issues of conflict and to make sure that members have their concerns heard. Dealing with difficult conversations and heightened emotions was a recent topic in adult spiritual formation. Community members value listening together as they learn also to listen to God and strive to gain different and additional perspectives.

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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. Barnabas has experienced significant change over the past few years, especially regarding clergy and staff and the disruptions of COVID. Some refer to "change fatigue." Parishioners have cited many things learned in growing through times of change: 1) Cultivate compassion about change and its effects. There can be a lot of pain associated with change, and time for healing is necessary. Communication ought to be timely, realistic, and transparent. 2) Avoid factionalism and triangulation. Have common projects to work together for common goals and a sense of efficacy, fellowship, and accomplishment. Support St. Barnabas as a compassionate community. 3) The Diocese is supportive of our efforts. We're not in it alone. 4) It takes courage to change and we need to support each other and trust God to be with us in change.



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### Prior Incumbents

Name	Position Title	Date Begun	Date Ended
The Rev. Stephanie Kopsch	Interim	2024-01	

Name	Position Title	Date Begun	Date Ended
The Rev. Jeffrey Nelson	Rector / Vicar / Priest-in-Charge	2019-01	2024-01

Name	Position Title	Date Begun	Date Ended
The Rev. Paul Garrett	Rector / Vicar / Priest-in-Charge	2008-01	2018-01

Church School	Number of Teachers/Leaders for Children School	Number of Students for Children School
	3	9

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
2	5		

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://stbdenver.org/>

Media Links:

Online References:

> <https://www.youtube.com/@stbdenver>> <https://www.facebook.com/stbarnabasdenver>

Languages Significantly Represented:

**English**

Provide Worship or Classes in:

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### References

Bishop:

**The Rt. Rev. Kym Lucas**

Diocesan Transition Minister

**The Rev. Canon Vanessa  
Stickler Glass****[vanessa@episcopalcolorado.org](mailto:vanessa@episcopalcolorado.org); 720-677-9007**

Current Warden/Board Chair

**Jolene Whitney****Phone: 720-412-0435; Email: [Jolene.whitney@me.com](mailto:Jolene.whitney@me.com)**

Previous Warden/Board Chair

Search Chair

**Carrie Corrigan****Phone: 720-281-1996; Email: [eirracnagirroc@gmail.com](mailto:eirracnagirroc@gmail.com)**

Parish/Institution

Local Community Leader