



Office for
Transition
Ministry

Ministry Portfolio

Full Portfolio (last updated Jan 7, 2025)

St. Laurence Episcopal Church, Colorado

26812 Barkley Road , Conifer, CO 80433, United States

Contact:

Rector / Vicar / Priest-in-Charge | Receiving Names until 02/15/25.

Weekly Average Sunday
Attendance (ASA)

44

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

\$87400

Housing Available for

Pension Plan

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

Healthcare Options

Negotiable

Dental

Yes

Housing Equity Allowance in
budget

Annual Equity Amount

Vacation Weeks

4

Vacation Weeks Details

4

Continuing Education Weeks

2 (standard)

Continuing Education Weeks
Details

Continuing Education
Funding in budget

\$1001-\$2000/year

Sabbatical Provision

Yes

Travel/Auto Account

Yes

Other Professional Account

Yes

Compensation includes 1/2 SECA.

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

We are a parish that has been in transition for more than 4 years - since our last Rector announced in December 2019 that she would be retiring in June 2020. During the past 4-1/2 years, we have worked very hard to identify and heal old hurts, to discern who we are called to be in this time and place, and to open ourselves to the unimaginable possibilities God is creating for us. During this same period, our average Sunday attendance has increased from 25 to 44, we have celebrated a marriage, 7 baptisms, and welcomed several newly confirmed, received or reaffirmed to our congregation. Ministries which had fallen dormant have been revived and new ministries have been established. We have prayerfully and faithfully increased our annual giving to allow us to support a full-time priest and have fulfilled our Diocesan and Front Range Region assessments.

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

Since March 2020, we have been providing access to our Sunday morning worship services via Zoom. Beginning in 2021, we began hybrid worship by using microphones and a camera in the nave to capture the service for those who could only join by Zoom. As our zooming has evolved, we have invested in better equipment to improve the remote experience. We continue to offer remote participation as an option to our community for those unable to join in person due to illness, travel, or any other reason. During our extended period of transition, we have looked prayerfully at what we need to keep and what we need to change to become the church we are called to be now and for future generations. We are a congregation with a willingness to make changes with an open heart and open mind. We are looking forward to the future God holds for us.

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

inclusive and welcoming, organized, leader, Compassionate and Pastoral

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

Our services are traditional while being comfortably casual. Sunday mornings consist of a 9:00 a.m. adult forum covering a wide range of topics from the sacraments to contemplative prayer while our siblings in Christ with Risen Lord Lutheran Church hold services in the nave. At 10:30 a.m., the St. Laurence hybrid service begins, including communion and choir with piano. Our music incorporates traditional and contemporary selections for the congregation and the choir sings a variety of anthems. We offer the Godly Play curriculum for ages 3-12 Sundays at 10:30 a.m. and during the Passing of the Peace children return to worship with their parents. On Wednesday nights at 7:00 p.m. a meditation service is offered.

How do you practice incorporating others in ministry?

We have a number of ministry opportunities during services (ushers and greeters, altar guild, lay readers and intercessors, choir members, and acolytes/chalice bearers) which are overseen by parishioners who enlist volunteers and make up the schedules. Our young people are invited and encouraged to actively participate on the second Sunday of each month and may serve as greeters, ushers, crucifers, or lay readers. Our choir at times includes members of the Risen Lord Lutheran Church congregation and people from the surrounding community who are joyfully welcomed. We ~~have had the privilege and honor~~ to celebrate jointly with Risen Lord Lutheran Church and to share in several joint services and ministries. Although we are two separate communities of faith, we work together and support each other as one community of God when the opportunity arises. Both congregations have been blessed through this arrangement.

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

Offering adult forum on Sunday mornings and occasional potlucks has been an incredibly rich way for the community at St. Laurence to lift one another up. Wednesday night meditation also encourages this. We have a prayer committee where prayers are offered for anyone as requested and our Prayers of the People include all requests regardless of membership status. This is how we “do life” together, offering our vulnerable selves and encouragement to one another. The people of St. Laurence have always reached out to any and all in need. The congregation at St. Laurence cares deeply for one another and for our neighbors.

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

The Conifer Community Garden at St. Laurence provides fresh food for those in need through the Mountain Resource Center. We pack food boxes and hold food drives to support families through the 285 Backpack Project during school breaks. For the past two years, we have created pysanky (Ukrainian Easter Eggs) and sold them at a silent auction to raise funds for Ukrainian relief through the Episcopal Relief and Development Fund. We have also provided clothing needs for St. Francis Center, collected Soles for Souls, and participated in the community Giving Tree at Christmas.

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

Leigh's Pantry, a storage space located in the basement, is an offering to the Mountain Resource Center as a place for extra food storage for their large food pantry clientele. It also houses the 285 Backpack Project which is sponsored by the Conifer Rotary Foundation. St. Laurence partners with Mountain Resource Center to provide firewood to households in need. We open our building and grounds to hold community events, such as the Evergreen Chamber Orchestra, Conifer Community Chorale, Christmas Café and Bakery, the Renaissance Singers, the Conifer Community Garden, and other events and activities as they might arise. We are always open to new ideas to share our building, grounds, and community with others. In addition, we often have representation to the Front Range Region, send delegates to the Diocesan Annual Convention, and fully fund our recommended financial support to both the Diocese and Region.

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

The Inner Wilderness is a contemplative spiritual community and an outreach of St. Laurence. It is founded on the belief that exploring our true selves through quieting, listening, and sharing will lead us to be more compassionate and understanding toward ourselves and others. It offers an opportunity to build a bridge from the self to the community, to empower each of us on our own uniquely given path in an inclusive and compassionate space. Part of our pilgrimage is building a new framework for our spiritual selves to rest, to breathe, to wander through a map of multiple dimensions in the heart, mind, soul, and physical world. The Inner Wilderness incorporates meditation in several forms (guided, sensory, and sharing) and workshops on Centering Prayer, Art Meditation, Lectio Divina, Enneagrams, and Exploring Our Deeper Self. The workshops may be held at St. Laurence or at various locations in our community. CONTACTS: Katie Ogdon and Jane Gillies.

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

We recognize that we have been particularly blessed by God in our location, our building and grounds, our natural resources, and in our personal lives. We strive to remind ourselves that all that we have is ours only for a moment. It is our responsibility to steward these gifts for the benefit of others.

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

As with all churches, we have had differences of opinion among our members. However, the people of St. Laurence have never lost sight of our purpose in God: to care for and respect each other. The dedication and love of the people of this church has always endured and we move forward together with renewed purpose. We have learned that frequent, clear, and honest communication reduces conflict. During this difficult time of transition we have been dedicated as parishioners through prayer and forum to discern what this parish's mission is and where God has us moving in a changing environment - not only with our core membership, but with the changing environment of "church" in general. Through many discussions, thoughtful prayer, and allowing time for the Holy Spirit to assist in opening up our will, we realized there was a need for more discovery, visioning, and discernment. We have humbled ourselves and shed old viewpoints of what has to be and we've opened our hearts to the freedom of what God is calling us to be in the hope of the unimaginable.

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. Laurence has been addressing change for the past 4 to 5 years as a result of clergy transition, a global pandemic, a change in lay leadership and membership. We have learned that to demonstrate that all people are equally valued and all viewpoints have merit, we have to actively solicit feedback from our parishioners then build consensus around the results. Our most recent discovery and visioning exercises included three Holy Conversations about who we are as a church. The first was focused on what we value, the second on moments of hurt or disappointment, and the third on dreams for the future of our church. The second conversation was particularly impactful and those who participated felt heard and validated. Some mentioned that it was difficult to overcome their reluctance to speak, but found the experience healing. Others shared after the session that they hadn't realized other people had some of the same struggles as they and they now felt less isolated and more likely to share in the future. We have learned that we are adaptable and flexible but it is important to keep the dialogue open, to listen, and to always value our relationships with each other and our community.



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Prior Incumbents

Name	Position Title	Date Begun	Date Ended
The Rev. Shelley Ryan	Rector / Vicar / Priest-in-Charge	2021-10	2024-04

Name	Position Title	Date Begun	Date Ended
The Rev. Lupton Abshire	Interim	2020-08	2021-09

Name	Position Title	Date Begun	Date Ended
The Rev. Nancy Malloy	Rector / Vicar / Priest-in-Charge	2014-01	2024-06

Church School	Number of Teachers/Leaders for Children School	Number of Students for Children School
	1	3

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

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.stlaurenceepiscopal.org/>

Media Links:

Online References:

> <https://www.facebook.com/groups/296253672185>

Languages Significantly Represented:

Provide Worship or Classes in:

English

References

Bishop:

The Rt. Rev. Kym Lucas

Diocesan Transition Minister

**The Rev. Canon Vanessa
Stickler Glass**

vanessa@episcopalcolorado.org; 720-677-9007

Current Warden/Board Chair

Brenda Malottke

operabren@msn.com; 314-401-5344

Previous Warden/Board Chair

Search Chair

Parish/Institution

Local Community Leader