



Office for  
Transition  
Ministry

# Ministry Portfolio

*Full Portfolio (last updated Aug 18, 2025)*

## St. Barnabas of the Valley Episcopal Church, Colorado

110 W North Street, Cortez, CO 81321, United States

Contact:

Rector / Vicar / Priest-in-Charge | Receiving Names until 09/30/25.

[vanessa@episcopalcolorado.org](mailto:vanessa@episcopalcolorado.org)

Weekly Average Sunday Attendance (ASA)	Number of Weekend Worship Services	Number of Weekday Worship Services	Number of Other per Month Worship Services
35	1		
Current Annual Compensation	Cash Stipend	Housing / Rectory Detail	Utilities
SECA reimbursement	Compensation Available for New Position	Housing Available for	Pension Plan
	\$78542		<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

*1/2 SECA is included in the salary. Salary range of \$78,542 - \$82,000, 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.

Celebrations of The Great Vigil of Easter in both 2024 and 2025 were highlights of the liturgical year. Services began in darkness with the chant of the Exsultet (the Easter Proclamation), continued with readings, baptisms, singing and ringing of bells, and the proclamation of the resurrection. The altar flowers were exquisite. Afterward, everyone headed to the parish hall for a wonderful Greek meal provided by the Rector and his extended family. It was a time of visiting, laughing, eating together, and celebrating Easter in such a profound way that the following Sunday's Easter services seemed anticlimactic. At Grace's Kitchen, we offer lunch to the community, housed or unhoused, 3 times a week. We are currently serving over 100 meals a day. Occasionally, there will be a lunch attendee who comes to church on Sundays or comes in for coffee hour and snacks. Our congregants sometimes go out of their way to fix something more substantial than cake, cookies, and coffee.

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

We are keenly interested in exploring new, entrepreneurial ministry options, such as service-based spiritual care, and education. Recognizing that we need to meet and connect with people where they are, we seek to engage differently with giving and nonprofit support (we are heavily involved in Montezuma Youth Pride, a church and community partnership offering supportive programming for LGBTQIA+ youth here in Montezuma County). We are also keenly interested in offering instructed Eucharists and liturgies, helping the community understand and value the Eucharist as the heart of parish identity and transformation. Financially, we have healthy fundraising endeavors, due in large part to the community's work to support Grace's Kitchen. We were given a large endowment years ago. We seek to frugally manage and utilize it to sustain our parish, prioritizing stewardship for future generations and the parish's legacy. The Finance Committee provides technical assistance to the Vestry regarding financial issues. Technologically, we are seeking to extend and expand our reach in the community through Zoom-based services, while also improving the experience for those in-person at Sunday services.

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

sense of humor, empathy, clear communicator, Servant Leader, Desire for social justice, Sermons that reflect the current world, Supports all ministries, Good self-care, Knowledgeable and deep theologically

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

The preferred liturgical style of this parish is likely as diverse as our membership. Our parishioners hail from many backgrounds and, over the years, have had varying degrees of modernization. Up to COVID, we had two services each Sunday; the early service followed Rite I, while the later service followed Rite II. In recent years, we have used more contemporary versions of prayers. We have two great volunteer organists, a great pianist, and even a promising pianist. Our services incorporate a lot of music from three different Episcopal hymnals.

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How do you practice incorporating others in ministry?

During Sunday services, all are encouraged to sign up for various ministries: the readings, greeter at the door, acolyte, and finance counters. We also practice the tradition of bringing the gifts up from the back of the sanctuary and then passing the donation plate during services. Offering a second chalice for intinction at the Eucharist, we also engage lay members to assist in that manner. Outside of Sunday services we have an active Eucharistic Visitors group that visits those who cannot attend regular services at least once a month. Grace's Kitchen also provides ample opportunity for lay ministry, as does a very healthy Altar Guild. There are community events held at St. Barnabas at least once a month, which provide even further opportunity to serve in the parish.

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

St. Barnabas is a caring and involved congregation. We have many avenues which minister to parishioners' well-being and fellowship. So many, in fact, that this paragraph will likely neglect to mention at least one. The Encouragers provide and coordinate outreach, meals, rides, visits and other forms of support as needed. We have several active groups that allow for fellowship and sharing. There are our regular providers of coffee hour refreshments, a women's luncheon group, study groups, book club, an Art and Beautification Committee, lay Eucharistic ministers, and our talented musicians.

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

Grace's Kitchen is our most significant outreach ministry to community members in need. For 26 years, this volunteer service has provided free take-out lunches for 3 days each week to anyone who is hungry. With an increase in Cortez's unhoused population, the number served by Grace's Kitchen have grown. In the first four months of 2025, Grace's served 5,449 total meals. Street Medicine provides free medical care to Grace's clients one day a week. Local school kids and other community volunteers also assist with the work of Grace's Kitchen. There are many other outreach ministries that provide care to the community on behalf of St. Barnabas Church. These include AA and NA groups that meet at the church, and quarterly art shows with public receptions in the parish hall. Montezuma Youth Pride is a ministry to LGBTQIA+ youth in Cortez. It started with taking pizza to students at the high school and has expanded into a larger, well-funded ministry that provides field trips and support around issues that are crucial to LGBTQIA+ youth. Other ministries include the Wednesday Proper's Bible Study, weekly Centering Prayer, monthly conversation group, book club, and the Encouragers.

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

In the last 5 years, we have collaborated, jointly ordered, and shared supplies with Hope's Kitchen (The United Methodist Church's soup kitchen) and Good Samaritan Food Pantry. We held a fundraiser for the Episcopal Church in Montezuma Creek, in the sale of Navajo Tacos one Sunday. The entire congregation from Montezuma Creek attended St. Barnabas the same day, and the sermon was offered in English and Navajo. The priest there and her husband have come to our Proper's Bible Study. We also hosted a Navajo relay walk for missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls. Each year we send delegates to statewide convention and SW Regional diocesan meetings.

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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?

There had not been a Sunday School for at least 10 years. In November last year a lay lead group of parishioners initiated a Youth Program for young people, 7-14. We have had regular Sunday attendance of three youths, with another three attending periodically. There are currently five adults who have completed the Safe Child Certification and are available to co-teach or be back up adults, as necessary. We are looking forward to growing this ministry this year. Contacts are Jan Heyl (janheylart@yahoo.com) and Debbie Meyers-Corona (dejome4@gmail.com). With advice from church leadership, we started slowly, planning one week per month. After the first session, the youth requested more so we moved to two times per month. We are considering the option to increase that in the fall.

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

We engage in a pledge drive every autumn and collect pledge cards just before Advent begins. For the past several years we have used the Diocese of Colorado's weekly half-sheet handouts and have asked members of the congregation to make brief presentations regarding their own experiences with pledging and giving during Sunday services. We also meet our yearly obligations to the Diocese and the Southwest Region. We have also asked, and the congregation and community have provided money for repair and upgrading of our physical facilities. In the past 5 years, a new roof was installed, the outside of the building was painted, part of the sanctuary was painted, a new, safer courtyard with landscaping was added, and the sanctuary received a new HVAC system. Upstairs, a new, efficient stove has been purchased for Grace's kitchen, and the electrical system has been upgraded. Each of these improvements has been achieved without acquiring debt.

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

The recent national election created a context wherein conflict could have caused chaos among the St. Barnabas Church community. Instead, what occurred were private conversations among members from opposite sides of the political spectrum that were conducted with respect and the ability to listen to one another. In these cases, nothing was resolved, but there was a willingness among the community to accept each other in love. In another instance, there was discord among Altar Guild members over scheduling and other issues. The person in charge would not accept input, and the conflict wasn't addressed appropriately. This resulted in some volunteers leaving Altar Guild. The conflict was finally resolved when the leader of the group resigned. The underlying conflict was resolved when a more flexible leader took over.

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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 do you learn?

We initiated a community outreach ministry of an Art Gallery in which local/regional artists can display their art and hold community receptions. This ministry was supported by the presiding priest, the Vestry, and other stakeholders, as a viable lay lead outreach. It also creates an aesthetic space for other meetings involving parishioners and community. Because the church is very active and has many ministries that use the same space (i.e., Grace's kitchen, the community conversation, proper study), it works best when there is good communication for scheduling between the art committee, the artists, the church leadership and the key personnel in the other ministries. An art committee consisting of both parishioners and regional artists locates and recruits/screens artists. Art events are posted on the calendar, the Church website, the internal newsletter (the Tidings), and on the weekly bulletin as appropriate. The artist/groups of artists are rotated every three months. 15% of sales go to support St. Barnabas ministries. It has run continuously since 2015, hosting about 36 art receptions. The main learning is that good communication is the key.



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### Prior Incumbents

Name	Position Title	Date Begun	Date Ended
The Rev. Doug Bleyle	Rector / Vicar / Priest-in-Charge	2019-01	2025-04

Name	Position Title	Date Begun	Date Ended
The Rev. Leigh Waggoner	Rector / Vicar / Priest-in-Charge	2011-01	2018-01

Name	Position Title	Date Begun	Date Ended
The Rev. Erika Meyer	Rector / Vicar / Priest-in-Charge	2002-01	2009-01

Church School		Number of Teachers/Leaders for Children School	Number of Students for Children School
3		4	

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	2		

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:

Media Links:

Online References:

Languages Significantly Represented:

Provide Worship or Classes in:

### 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

**Sue Frederickson**

fredricksonsusan4@gmail.com; 970-560-8470

Previous Warden/Board Chair

Search Chair

Parish/Institution

Local Community Leader