



Office for
Transition
Ministry

Ministry Portfolio

Full Portfolio (last updated Mar 13, 2025)

St. Peter's Cathedral, Helena, Montana

511 N. Park Ave., Helena, MT 59601, United States

Contact:

Dean | Receiving Names until 04/30/25.

spchsearch@gmail.com.

Weekly Average Sunday Attendance (ASA) 94	Number of Weekend Worship Services 3	Number of Weekday Worship Services 6	Number of Other per Month Worship Services 1
Current Annual Compensation \$48481	Cash Stipend	Housing / Rectory Detail \$43000	Utilities
SECA reimbursement	Compensation Available for New Position \$100000	Housing Available for	Pension Plan We're in compliance with CPF requirements.
Healthcare Options Full family	Dental Yes	Housing Equity Allowance in budget No	Annual Equity Amount
Vacation Weeks 4	Vacation Weeks Details	Continuing Education Weeks 2 (standard)	Continuing Education Weeks Details
Continuing Education Funding in budget \$501-\$1000/year	Sabbatical Provision No	Travel/Auto Account Yes	Other Professional Account No

Includes salary and housing allowance. Negotiable.

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

A notable success for St. Peter's Cathedral is our active involvement with Family Promise, a national charitable organization addressing homelessness among families with children. As part of an interfaith effort within Helena, St. Peter's provides overnight accommodations and overnight hosts, meal preparation, grocery shopping, laundry, and support for families transitioning to their own homes. Our leadership within the community-wide organization further enhances our impact. Not only benefiting children and their families in Helena, this ministry is also immensely rewarding for our volunteers, who find grace and joy in their service. The ministry is a great opportunity for many of our members to participate together because there are so many ways to contribute regardless of age, ability, or resources.

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

We're preparing for the "Church of the future" by embracing inclusivity, working to create a welcoming environment for all, and challenging past norms to align more closely with Jesus' teachings on diversity. We are building strong community ties through engagement in community-focused activities and nurturing relationships within the church, such as through outreach programs and Togendowagan services. Members are also taking ownership of the church's direction, stepping into leadership roles, particularly in the absence of a Dean. Continuous learning is a priority, with discussions centered on making biblical teachings relevant to modern life and exploring diverse spiritual paths. The congregation is addressing the need to attract younger members through varied services and making the church's message more accessible. To ensure the church's future success, there is a focus on strengthening leadership and governance, and ensuring that church leadership aligns with the congregation's values, particularly in inclusivity and community engagement. Through these efforts, and expanding our use of social media, the congregation is actively preparing for a relevant and vibrant future.

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

Inspiring; Empowering; Compassionate shepherd; Personable

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

St. Peter's Cathedral cherishes the traditional Episcopal liturgy while providing a variety of worship and musical styles. Weekly offerings include Rite I and Rite II; Godly Play and Sunday School; Morning Prayer; regularly scheduled Togendowagan Society services, which incorporate Indigenous traditions with liturgy and Eucharist; and Eucharist at a senior living community in Helena. During Advent and Lent, we incorporate a more meditative weekly Taizé service. Feedback from our parish survey and listening sessions indicates a desire for greater variety and contemporary worship options. This presents an opportunity for the next Dean to help shape and expand our liturgical practices to reflect our community's evolving needs.

How do you practice incorporating others in ministry?

Empowering and collaborating with people in the congregation to lead ministries is an important task. At St. Peter's, we have numerous individual ministries. In September of each year, we set aside one Sunday for a ministry fair. "Rally Sunday" is not only a time to welcome members back from Summer when they may not have been as present, but also a time to consider where they're feeling called to share their time and talents in the new year. We provide information and displays for each of our ministries. At each station we have sign-up sheets and contact information for the lead person of the ministry. The leader contacts persons who show an interest in the ministry to provide a welcome to the team and set up any training that may be needed. The leader, and those who already are on the team, continue to mentor and guide the new volunteer through their learning process and beyond. Throughout the year, ministry leaders continue to seek out and recruit new volunteers. Sometimes a person may choose a ministry and sometimes a ministry may choose the person.

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

St. Peter's Cathedral puts worship and gathering together to grow and support one another at its center, with people understanding and learning what it means to love God with our whole heart, mind, and spirit and to love our neighbors as ourselves. In addition to Sunday morning and Togendowagan services, coffee hour and community meals are part of our fellowship, along with several other events through the week and month including Wonderful Wednesdays, where we gather to eat and learn together; Episcopal Church Women's Game Nights; Men's Tuesday morning breakfasts; and the Prayer Shawl ministry, where we knit, crochet, and pray together. Members of the congregation also participate in virtual Morning Prayer and Bible Study. Our worship continues whenever we gather together as believers in Jesus Christ.

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

The many organizations for which St. Peter's members volunteer are ways in which we care for our neighbors in their darkest times. Additionally, our Social Concerns Committee coordinates with local shelters to provide and serve food and we hold congregation-wide drives to collect hats, gloves, socks, and blankets for those in need. The Togendowagan Society has recorded services for use by inmates at the Lewis and Clark County Detention Center. St. Peter's representatives participate in the Carroll College Holy Week to ensure non-Catholic students understand there are services that are available to them. We also provide Eucharist at a local senior living community. Our Sunday services are broadcast and available at any time on our Facebook page. We have an active prayer chain used by parishioners for their own intercessions and the needs of others in the community and across the state, country, and world. In the absence of a Dean, the Chapter created a system in which its members are on call to respond to requests for pastoral care. This includes responding to requests by non-congregants for in-person visits.

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

Community outreach is an integral component of St. Peter's. In addition to Family Promise of Helena, our members volunteer with multiple organizations in our geographic community, including Helena Area Habitat for Humanity, building affordable homes; the YWCA, offering transitional housing and supportive services for homeless women and children; Florence Crittenton Family Services, specializing in programs for pregnant and parenting teens and their children; the Friendship Center, delivering a safe haven from domestic violence; Good Samaritan Ministries, offering social services and a thrift store; Helena Food Share, providing food assistance to anyone in need; and God's Love Homeless Shelter, supplying shelter, food and clothing to those in need. The Togendowagan Society sponsors and volunteers with The Last Chance Community Pow Wow, providing outreach to our community youth, sharing native culture, and celebrating and encouraging a deeper understanding of others while raising awareness about diversity and inclusion. As the Diocese Cathedral, St. Peter's hosts events led by the Bishop and partners with community providers such as St. Peter's Hospital and other area churches.

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

St. Peter's Cathedral initiated the Heart of Helena Art Show and Auction, with the first event held on April 11, 2024. This successful auction raised over \$22,000 to support various non-profit organizations in our community. The proceeds were divided between these organizations and St. Peter's Cathedral Capital Campaign Fund. While the Capital Campaign primarily aims to improve church accessibility, the Capital Campaign Committee recognized the value of expanding our engagement with the Helena community. Thus, the art auction was designed to benefit the local community and the church. We are looking forward to our second Art Show and Auction to be held on April 10, 2025. For more information about this project, please contact Dave Gallik at Dave@galliklaw.com or 406-443-0009.

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

Our members give generously of their time, talent, and treasure to address community and parish needs. We share our financial resources with a multitude of nonprofit organizations – a conscious choice notwithstanding operational needs. Most recently, we instituted a community-wide art auction to benefit various charities as well as the St. Peter’s Capital Campaign. To date, the campaign has raised \$800,000 to fund long-term maintenance and improve accessibility, thus making us more welcoming and inclusive to all who wish to visit and worship. Our various fellowship activities build commitment to, and stewardship of, the church and to each other through expanded opportunities for social engagement. As with many churches with a predominantly older membership, St. Peter’s recognizes the need for a Dean who can help us welcome new members, assist all congregants in discerning and sharing their gifts to support our mission, and help us develop additional creative solutions for long-term financial goals.

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

St. Peter’s Cathedral experiences periodic and varying degrees of conflict at home and as a body of the national church. The congregation weathers storms together and remains vital and committed to the well-being of our church. A Dean with a collaborative approach to working through conflict would be a good fit. St. Peter’s, like the national church, has had diverse opinions related to same-sex marriage. There have been hard conversations over the years as dialogue ebbs and flows. Due to personal convictions, some parishioners left the church or reduced their involvement while others joined. As a congregation, we’ve held together and made space for diversity in opinions amongst individuals. The results of our parish survey and listening sessions in this Dean search process make clear that a majority of the congregation wants to focus on inclusivity in all aspects and desires to invite and welcome back those who have left. We want all persons to feel safe and welcome here. St. Peter’s is a congregation that cares about each other and, as chosen family, sticks together even in disagreement, finding our way forward.

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?

We find success when parishioners, the Dean, staff, and Chapter communicate openly and share responsibilities. Conversely, change goes poorly when communication falters, too few take on too much, and individuals remain silent, expecting others to act. These moments highlight the importance of working together to care for our church. This spirit is evident as we operate without a Dean. Many members stepped up to ensure services and activities continue. Just before our Rector retired, our Office Administrator/Music Director also left. We adapted with rotating guest preachers and musicians and a new service schedule, which knit our congregation closer together. We hired a new Administrator, secured a musical intern, have lay leaders selecting music and leading the choir, and await our new Dean to help with the hiring of our next Music Director. St. Peter’s needs an experienced priest who can empower staff while establishing clear expectations around communication, workload, and boundaries to avoid burnout. While St. Peter’s is full of willing volunteers, we expect the Dean to be a working manager and direct supervisor for staff.

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Prior Incumbents

Name	Position Title	Date Begun	Date Ended
Scott Anderson	Cathedral Dean	2018-06	2024-06

Name	Position Title	Date Begun	Date Ended
Heidi Kinner	Cathedral Dean	2011-10	2017-01

Name	Position Title	Date Begun	Date Ended
Stephen Brehe	Cathedral Dean	1991-11	2010-01

Leaders for Children's School include 3 teachers and 1 sub. There are 4 youths of youth-group age who participate in acolyte ministry, choir, and attend Sunday school; there is no current youth fellowship group. A total of 10 youths participate in acolyte ministry, together with 5 adults. Wonderful Wednesday meetings (adult education) is led by both clergy and laity on a rotating basis in the absence of a Dean.

Church School	Number of Teachers/Leaders for Children School	Number of Students for Children School
Sunday school, Godly Play, & Nursery	4	27

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
4		20	

Day School	Number of Students for Day School	Number of Teachers for Day School	Number of Total Staff for Day School