



Office for  
Transition  
Ministry

# Ministry Portfolio

*Full Portfolio (last updated Apr 28, 2025)*

**Two Churches (TC), Kentwood and Holy Trinity (HT), Wyoming MI,**  
4252 Bretton Rd SE, Kentwood , MI 49512, United States  
**Great Lakes**

Contact:

Rector / Vicar / Priest-in-Charge | Receiving Names until 07/31/25. [transitions@greatlakesepiscopal.org](mailto:transitions@greatlakesepiscopal.org)

Weekly Average Sunday Attendance (ASA)	Number of Weekend Worship Services	Number of Weekday Worship Services	Number of Other per Month Worship Services
78	2		
Current Annual Compensation	Cash Stipend	Housing / Rectory Detail	Utilities
	\$61540	\$18462	
SECA reimbursement	Compensation Available for New Position	Housing Available for	Pension Plan
\$0	\$80000	4	We're in compliance with CPF requirements.
Healthcare Options	Dental	Housing Equity Allowance in budget	Annual Equity Amount
Negotiable	Yes	Yes	
Vacation Weeks	Vacation Weeks Details	Continuing Education Weeks	Continuing Education Weeks Details
One month, including 5 Sundays (standard)			
Continuing Education Funding in budget	Sabbatical Provision	Travel/Auto Account	Other Professional Account
\$501-\$1000/year	Yes	Yes	Yes

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

TC = In October 2024 we raised funds for the Diaper Depot using a process similar to The Heifer Project or ELCA Good Gifts. We raised \$5,900 that allowed the Diaper Depot ministry to continue giving diapers to families in need in our community. HT = We have several flagship programs designed to implement our mission. During the Christmas season, we have our Annual Basket Bonus which is filled with holiday sustainable food that is given away to many needy families. During the year we provide food and items for personal use by collection or our garden (Goods News Garden). We partner with Two Churches Holy Cross and Ascension Lutheran Church (Diaper Depot) to provide diapers to those in need. Holy Trinity volunteers regularly at the Green Apple Pantry.

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

TC = As a covenant community that combines an Episcopal and ELCA church along with parishioners that are neither, we believe we are already becoming the church of the future. Our ministries such as the Diaper Depot and the Bhutanese Community Garden create connections with others in need. These may be rich opportunities for shared spiritual growth. HT = We believe the Church of the future needs to be visible in the community. To improve our visibility within the community, we erected a digital sign to advertise our worship services, coming events, and to deliver an inspirational message to neighborhood traffic. We also increased our online presence through the usage of Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and a completely redesigned website. Each of these platforms allows us to share more information in a user-friendly manner.

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

inspiring preacher, good communicator, stewardship, pastoral care, social justice, TC = Welcomes Diversity, Crisis Ministry/Counselor HT = Worship/Liturgist

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

TC = We use the Revised Common Lectionary, blending Episcopal and Lutheran liturgies. We pray for the world and each other. We share in worship by serving as acolytes, Eucharistic ministers, lectors, ushers, and choir members. We sing hymns with the accompaniment of either a pipe organ or a piano. We stream each service so those that cannot attend in person, can worship with us from home. HT = We are a worshipping community that incorporates a fluid mix of traditional and contemporary elements. Holy Trinity practices an Anglican service that includes hymns, along with some contemporary songs. Our numerically small choir is bolstered by talented musicians from amongst our Church family. We appreciate how our supply rectors come down from the pulpit to present the homily to the congregation. Holy Trinity has a dedicated group of servers: Altar Guild, Greeters, Ushers, and Lectors.

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How do you practice incorporating others in ministry?

TC = In our worship services we use lectors, assisting ministers, and members of the congregation for petitions of prayers of the people. We use volunteers in our Diaper Depot distributions, pantry food collections, meals for Family Promise, altar guild, property maintenance, and a strong community ministry committee. HT = When the supply rectors are unavailable, lay preachers and readers provide worship services without communion. Volunteer greeters' welcome worshipers, distribute bulletins, participate in the service by bringing up the elements, and collect weekly offertory gifts. We offer many outreach opportunities on a weekly and monthly basis for individuals to get involved. Some examples are monthly food ingathering for the Family Network of Wyoming Food Pantry, weekly participation in The Pantry of southern Kent County.

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

TC = Worship services, coffee hours, home visitation with communion, group studies, social events, and prayer. HT = As a part of our worship service immediately following the Eucharist, a special prayer time is offered. Individuals are welcome to come forward to the altar rail to receive prayers, or to gather in support of those that are asking for prayers and the laying on of hands. Our congregation has a powerful prayer chain. Members of the parish have been passionate in responding to physical needs for our members. If a parishioner needs a ride to and from a doctor's appointment, a Holy Trinity parishioner will provide that service for them.

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

TC = Clergy and Eucharistic ministers provide home visits with communion. They also respond to and visit people at significant points in their lives (e.g. death, illness, birth, trauma); counseling to assist persons facing problems or decisions. HT = Pastoral care is one of the most important and best-appreciated ministries at Holy Trinity. Our Lay Eucharistic Ministers visit the sick and administer holy eucharist to the homebound parishioners. Individual members volunteer their time to mentor, tutor, and participate in local charities.

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

TC = Our Diaper Depot ministry supplies a bundle of diapers to around 150 children of needy families each month. We contribute to the local food pantry monthly, plus two large fundraising events each year. We provide garden plots and water to approximately 12 Bhutanese immigrant families. HT = Our school-aged youth participate in different local and national youth events. Several of our youth have participated in several summer camping opportunities provided by the Diocese. The structure of the Diocese is being reconfigured, so we expect greater involvement with other churches of the deanery in the future. Each year we send delegates to the Diocesan Convention.

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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?

TC = We provide a hot meal for a family once a quarter through the Family Promise organization. Sally Todd (972 551-2839) spearheads this effort. HT = We have participated monthly for the last two years at "The Pantry" by serving the needs of their patrons. On average, 10 or more members commit to serving each month. Kevin Wells is the contact person for this project.

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

TC = We conduct a stewardship campaign in the fall that focuses on parishioners giving of their time, talent, and money in service to the church and community. This congregation is very generous in their support of the ministry. HT = Historically, we have had a series of Stewardship talks or testimonies leading up to our ingathering on stewardship day. Many of these talks have been emotional, moving and inspirational. Many of our congregants share their time, talents, and treasure for the good of our Church. This includes hosting coffee hours, cutting the lawn, cleaning, facility maintenance and serving on committees. Our new Vestry leadership has determined that our Stewardship focus needs to be more intentional and needs to be a year-round endeavor.

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

TC = We have had very few conflicts in recent years. There was one incident in 2019 when information was not flowing between our Episcopal treasurer and our Lutheran treasurer. We concluded that our best mode of operation was to have a two-person team handle both treasurer tasks. Situation resolved. HT = We had a parishioner who was unable to except the Episcopal gun control policy on campus. The Parishioner brought a gun onto the Holy Trinity Campus and stored the gun on the bottom scarcity's closet during a funeral. Even after being reinforced of the Episcopal diocesan's policy, the Parishioner chose to ignore our policy and even approached the altar during a reading of a letter from the bishop. We resolved the issue by having a Congregation meeting at which we adapted a no gun on premises policy in support of the bishop's directive.

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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?

TC = We transitioned from separate Episcopal and ELCA churches into a unified covenant congregation. This happened in stages: sharing clergy, merging into one building with a single service, and forming a leadership body representing all members. We then developed a constitution yet to be accepted by both the diocese and synod. Finally, we became a two-point parish with Holy Trinity Episcopal, sharing full-time clergy. Our journey has been a success, guided by listening, prayer, and the Holy Spirit. HT = When there was a leading change in our church, Holy Trinity embraced and support the new Rector and strive to blend our old ways with his new ways. We are unified spiritually and recognize the real work of the Holy Spirit is within our heart. Even though we have different opinions and beliefs, we pray and reflect on God's direction for us. Due to our strong faith, we look deep into our hearts, to make a conscious effort and persevere through these differences. We are truly a spiritual family who provides each other as a community with encouragement, comfort, love, support and commitment.



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### Prior Incumbents

Name	Position Title	Date Begun	Date Ended
Rev. Michael Wernick (Two Churches)	Rector / Vicar / Priest-in-Charge (Part-time)	2011-01	2024-01

Name	Position Title	Date Begun	Date Ended
Rev. Michael Wernick (Holy Trinity)	Rector / Vicar / Priest-in-Charge (Part-time)	2021-01	2024-01

Name	Position Title	Date Begun	Date Ended
Rev. Charles Homeyer (Holy Cross)		1978-01	2009-01

Church School		Number of Teachers/Leaders for Children School	Number of Students for Children School
N/A			

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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Worshipping Community Web site: TC = [twochurches.org](http://twochurches.org) and HT = [holyltrinitywyoming.org](http://holyltrinitywyoming.org)

Media Links:

Online References:

TC = Streamed Worship Services - [facebook/hcealc](https://facebook.com/hcealc)  
HT = Facebook page: Holy Trinity Episcopal Church, Wyoming, MI

Languages Significantly Represented:

English

Provide Worship or Classes in:

English

### References

Bishop:

N/A

Diocesan Transition Minister

**The Reverend Canon Sunil Chandy**

(401) 787-2995 and [Transitions@greatlakesepiscopal.org](mailto:Transitions@greatlakesepiscopal.org)

Current Warden/Board Chair

**TC = Kevin Barry HT = Robert Atwell**

Cell: TC = 616 378-0342 HT = 616 745-0108 Email: TC = [kevinabarry@att.net](mailto:kevinabarry@att.net) HT = [paratwell@charter.net](mailto:paratwell@charter.net)

Previous Warden/Board Chair

**TC = Dan Weller HT = Debbie Murphy**

TC = Email: [danweller@hotmail.com](mailto:danweller@hotmail.com) HT = Phone: 513 728-2541  
Email: [debbiehelpsmurphy@gmail.com](mailto:debbiehelpsmurphy@gmail.com)

Search Chair

**TC = Cal Meuzelaar HT = Lisa Nelsen**

TC = Phone: 515 777-4947 Email: [tcvice@hotmail.com](mailto:tcvice@hotmail.com) HT = Phone: 616 915-0151 Email: [nelsenl@orthogr.com](mailto:nelsenl@orthogr.com)

Parish/Institution

**TC = Rev. Pauline Standley (Interim) HT = N/A**

TC = Cell: 616 901-1131 Email: [pastorpolly@comcast.net](mailto:pastorpolly@comcast.net) HT = N/A

Local Community Leader

N/A

N/A