



Office for  
Transition  
Ministry

# Ministry Portfolio

*Full Portfolio (last updated Feb 17, 2026)*

## St. Paul's and St Peter's, Great Lakes

1006 3rd St, , Muskegon, MI , MI 49440, United States

Contact:

Rector / Vicar / Priest-in-Charge | Receiving Names until 03/01/26.

[alan@greatlakesepiscopal.org](mailto:alan@greatlakesepiscopal.org)

Weekly Average Sunday Attendance (ASA)	Number of Weekend Worship Services	Number of Weekday Worship Services	Number of Other per Month Worship Services
80	2	1	2
Current Annual Compensation	Cash Stipend	Housing / Rectory Detail	Utilities
	<del>\$70,000</del> \$61,500		
SECA reimbursement	Compensation Available for New Position	Housing Available for	Pension Plan
	<del>\$70,000</del> \$80,000		
Healthcare Options	Dental	Housing Equity Allowance in budget	Annual Equity Amount
Full family			
Vacation Weeks	Vacation Weeks Details	Continuing Education Weeks	Continuing Education Weeks Details
4		2 (standard)	
Continuing Education Funding in budget	Sabbatical Provision	Travel/Auto Account	Other Professional Account
	Yes	Yes	Yes

*Negotiable, Housing available -3 bedroom Home*

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

**St. Peter's:** Our youth group partnered with Ferry Memorial for a mission project, completing seven initiatives in three days: serving the homeless, organizing donations, pulling weeds, packing lunches, and chaperoning children on a fishing and hiking day. We continue hosting monthly First Saturday Breakfasts, free to the community, now with a "Second Blessing" table offering essentials like paper products, gloves, socks, and hygiene items. In Lent, we collaborate with neighboring churches through weekly Wednesday luncheons, each with a brief message; donations support the Food Pantry and Methodist Outreach. St. Peter's hosts the first luncheon annually. We also formed the "Solo Sisters," a fellowship group for widows and single women. **St. Paul's:** This year, our former Rector, a retired educator, led interactive Bible study sessions blending history and geography to enrich understanding of upcoming Gospel readings. In 2024, the Vestry and congregation pledged full support—spiritual, financial, and logistical—for Ms. Chris Hamel in her Deaconate Formation. A long-standing member, Chris was unanimously affirmed through diocesan discernment as she begins this ministry journey.

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

**St Peter's:** Creating a Technology Team. Applying for a technology grant. **St. Paul's:** In the past 1-2 years - St. Paul's has formalized a virtual Service Attendance program through Facebook Live - reaching out to broadcast live, and maintain archives, of regular Sunday 10:00 AM church services. Support from the Diocesan Technology Fund has been applied for and granted to support enhanced WiFi capability throughout the sanctuary and Parish Hall. St. Paul's maintains an open partnership with the City of Muskegon, and neighboring facilities (Muskegon Museum of Art, Hackley Public Library) in relation to its geographic proximity to the cultural and event center of city. Numerous summer public festivals and events happen around the corner of Third & Clay - and St. Paul's welcomes its place as a hospitable partner for the revitalization/re-birth of Downtown Muskegon, while seeing the potential for St. Paul's to become part of the spiritual and cultural hub of Muskegon.

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

inspiring, pastoral, communicator, spiritual

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

St Peteers: A. Sunday Eucharist is the most important part of our worship. Music is loved. We use acoustic guitars occasionally, in the absence of our organist. We like contemporary music to go with our traditional hymnal songs. B. Tuesday Eucharist is informal with a reading about a saint or revered person from the past, followed by discussion. We have a bible study after this service. St. Paul's: Not overly traditional, orthodox "High Church" - but not completely informal, relaxed "Low Church" either. Very nice blend of traditional Anglican elements, with welcoming & open spiritual messages, along with variety of musical worship accompaniment. One of the strongest, most spirited pipe organs in all of Muskegon - but also incorporating various forms of vocal accompaniment, group and solo, musical instrumentation - piano, harpiscord, trumpet, flute, guitar - on different occasions.

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How do you practice incorporating others in ministry?

St Peter's Most of our regular parishioners participate in multiple roles. We have ushers, altar guild, readers, and servers who work on a rotating schedule. Coffee hour is supplied with many goodies without a planned schedule. We have activity bags and snacks for the young people who attend. St. Paul's: St. Paul's utilizes a rotating cadence of Lectionary Readers and Morning Prayer Leaders - with utilization expected to increase with our rector transition. We have been openly preparing congregation for the increase in layperson-led Morning Prayer services during our supply priest experience. Past practice at St. Paul's involves offering Healing Prayer following communion, using lay persons who have been trained how to offer Healing Prayers. This experience proved to be a blessing for those receiving & offering Prayers alike.

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

St. Peter's Physical::Newly started Diet Club. Emotional: Out to Lunch Bunch, Sunday and Tuesday. Spiritual: Sunday Worship, Tuesday Worship, Bible Study. Tuesday Study is a very important prayer and sharing time for our women, in addition to bible studies. S. E. P. our youth group engages in multiple activities which give them all three kinds of support. St. Paul's: Post-service Coffee Hour at St. Paul's is a significant demonstration of communal gathering, with social and emotional support for parishioners. Birthday Cards, Get Well, and Sympathy cards are sent to all parish members. St. Paul's has a good history of having a priest leader with whom our congregation felt free to ask puzzling or troubling questions. Recently, some members have engaged in a spiritual director to achieve a deeper sense of the Spirit as it has manifested itself to individuals.

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

**St. Peter's:** We provide home visits by priest or laypersons and host monthly Community Breakfasts for eight months each year. Neighbors often stop by seeking assistance, and we always respond—whether through gas cards or other aid. At Christmas, we distribute gifts to families in need identified by local schools. **St. Paul's:** Historically, Eucharistic Ministry ensured that homebound parishioners received communion, and while not practiced in the past two years, there is openness to reviving it. Our Facebook Live broadcasts of Sunday services have been a highly effective tool for connecting with worshippers at a distance. Volunteers partner with Central Methodist and other Muskegon churches to distribute food items and serve monthly free meals at Supper House, Temple UMC. St. Paul's also participates in the Muskegon Public Schools "Meet Up & Eat Up" program, offering meals and hospitality in our Great Hall and volunteering at school sites to support after-school community sessions, most recently in 2022 and 2024.

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

**St Peter's:** Special collection for various groups :Jerusalem Church at Easter,Giving tree Christmas,Hurricane funds to ERD, Youth Mission Trips, Flood in Texas: we raised \$1000.+ to be sent to our sister Church St. Peter's Episcopal in Kerrville, Texas in July2025 **St. Paul's:**Regular delegate attendance to the state-wide Diocesan Meetings. Previous rector was/is actively involved in Diocese organization deliberations and efforts. Participation with: Muskegon Area Churches for Food Truck distribution, Gun Violence Action support walks, Muskegon Pride Festival support, CROP Walk activities and fund raising, Muskegon Area People (MAP) Supper House support and volunteers.

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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?

**St. Peter's:** Our youth group partners with neighboring churches for mission activities, guided by Fletcher Thommen. Just before COVID, the parish purchased a house for additional Sunday School space. Though no longer needed for that purpose, it has since served as a youth gathering spot and occasional counseling site through the public school program. Plans are underway to sell the property, with proceeds added to the Endowment Fund (contact: Jim Thommen). After COVID, we began livestreaming worship, an effort led by Christy Thommen. **St. Paul's:** Growth of the Adult Choir has been a bellwether for congregational vitality; participation has doubled since 2023, enriching worship through stronger congregational singing (contact: Jack Franklin, Music Director). The parish has also been a committed partner in Kid's Belong: Muskegon, providing school supplies, clothing, and bedding for children and families in the urban neighborhood. This outreach reflects our role as "the downtown church" and a visible presence for families in need. Contact: Chris Hamel, Deaconate candidate.

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

**St. Peter's:** Financially, we are in a strong and comfortable position. We carry no debt, regularly make upgrades, and maintain a welcoming, well-kept campus. In recent years, we have also begun an Endowment Fund, now totaling over \$150K. Our property includes a treed vacant lot, rectory, meeting house, and church building with offices, a basement hall, and a county-certified kitchen that is fully up to date on inspections. Whenever additional needs arise, parishioners respond quickly. Our fall appeal remains modest but consistently productive. With these resources, we are well-positioned to sustain a half-time rector, whether independently or in partnership with another congregation. **St. Paul's:** We have streamlined operating expenses to essentials, with 70% allocated to personnel, insurance, and utilities. Parishioners are asked to give in proportion to what their parish home means to them. While funds remain tight, we faithfully make ends meet and carry no debt. For capital needs, we are supported by two endowment funds, each approximately \$250K—one managed by the Community Foundation of Muskegon County, and the other, our Futures Fund, administered by the Vestry.

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

**St Peter's:** Conflict has happened in the past; some have left after Covid changed lifestyles. Our present congregation is mostly like a family, minor rifts that are dealt with in a kindly way and we move on. **St. Paul's:** COVID era presented challenges - very hard to not be together. Supporting one another through correspondence, issues of the Epistle newsletter.

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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 Peter's:** We are learning we must change. We don't want to lose the good things we have, but realize change is coming. It is our Faith that will hold us together. We go on, our church has had a history of change. We continue to unite in the important reasons for being a congregation. We have a vision of making sure that this church is here for our children in the future. With God as our leader, and a strong faith we will survive. **St. Paul's:** One of St. Paul's responses to our parish experience through the COVID pandemic - was development of a consistent online-streaming offering for our Eucharist and Morning Prayer services delivered in person. These have brought an exposure and name recognition for St. Paul's not previously seen. Positive outcome. Our loss of parish members, and families with regular attendance has been an unfortunate outcome. Loss of ministry participation, community, financial impact - all are tangible negative outcomes. In some ways, we are still in recovery mode. Involvement of new members for Vestry leadership participation. Regular Sunday attendance counts have taken a positive upturn over the past 6-8 months.

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### Prior Incumbents

Name	Position Title	Date Begun	Date Ended
David Meyers (St Peters)	Rector / Vicar / Priest-in-Charge (Part-time)	2015-01	2025-01

Name	Position Title	Date Begun	Date Ended
Eileen Stoffan (St Pauls)	Rector / Vicar / Priest-in-Charge (Part-time)	2021-01	2025-01

Name	Position Title	Date Begun	Date Ended
Everett Klein (St Peters)	Rector / Vicar / Priest-in-Charge (Part-time)	2004-01	2014-01

Church School	Number of Teachers/Leaders for Children School	Number of Students for Children School
Number of Teachers/Leaders for Teen/Young Adults School	Number of Students for Teen/Young Adults School	Number of Teachers/Leaders for Adults School
1	5	1
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:

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### References

Bishop:

[derek.j.quinn@gmail.com](mailto:derek.j.quinn@gmail.com)

**The Rev. Derek Quinn**

Diocesan Transition Minister

(616) 616-2338, [alan@greatlakesepiscopal.org](mailto:alan@greatlakesepiscopal.org)

**Reverend Alan James**

Current Warden/Board Chair

(231) 722-2112 and (231) 893-2425

**Lindsay Bonn, Jim  
Thommen**

Previous Warden/Board Chair

Search Chair

(231) 722-2112 and (231) 893-2425

**Rod Hayhurst and Rona  
Howell**

Parish/Institution

Local Community Leader