



Office for  
Transition  
Ministry

# Ministry Portfolio

*Full Portfolio (last updated Jan 31, 2023)*

## St. Andrew's Edwardsville, Springfield

406 Hillsboro Ave., Edwardsville, IL 62025, United States

Contact:

Rector / Vicar / Priest-in-Charge

[canon@episcopalspringfield.org](mailto:canon@episcopalspringfield.org)

Weekly Average Sunday  
Attendance (ASA)

**41**

Number of Weekend  
Worship Services

**2**

Number of Weekday  
Worship Services

**1**

Number of Other per Month  
Worship Services

Current Annual  
Compensation

Cash Stipend

Housing / Rectory Detail

Utilities

SECA reimbursement

Compensation Available for  
New Position

**\$67200**

Housing Available for

Pension Plan

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

Healthcare Options

**Full family**

Dental

**No**

Housing Equity Allowance in  
budget

Annual Equity Amount

Vacation Weeks

**One month, including 5  
Sundays (standard)**

Vacation Weeks Details

Continuing Education Weeks

**2 (standard)**

Continuing Education Weeks  
Details

Continuing Education  
Funding in budget

**\$501-\$1000/year**

Sabbatical Provision

Travel/Auto Account

**Yes**

Other Professional Account

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

It is a long-running tradition in our parish for the children to prepare and present a Christmas program. It has taken many forms over the years, including a Christmas Pageant dramatizing the nativity story. During the two years of COVID, we kept the tradition alive by asking all children who were willing to share their talents by video, which were then compiled and shared with our parishioners. This past December, however, we were thrilled to be back live. Shepherded by several parent volunteers, nearly every member of our congregation under the age of 18 participated – a cast spanning from preschool to high school senior. They presented solo, duet and ensemble musical numbers. Scheduled after coffee hour following our primary 10:00 service, the church was filled with parishioners and extended family members. The mood was festive, and the effect of the gathering was electric. It seemed clear to those present that this was something very special. More than any other time since the onset of COVID nearly three years ago, we gathered together in joy as a congregation, and we were led by our children.  
<https://www.facebook.com/Standrews.Edwardsville/videos/854314079022836>

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

We were blessed to have a tech-savvy rector as the COVID-19 pandemic kept us all away from in-person worship for an extended period. We were able not only to broadcast services, but we held regular “virtual coffee hours” by Zoom afterwards. After initially relying upon cell phones to broadcast to Facebook, the Vestry decided to invest in a dedicated camera and infrastructure to provide a more professional and reliable experience. The current system is simple to operate, and a new ministry is being developed to ensure that services are consistently broadcast without having to rely on the rector to operate the equipment. Additionally, we have recently upgraded our wifi within the church building and replaced our incandescent light bulbs with more energy-efficient LEDs in order to be better stewards of our environment. We are also rethinking how we use our physical space, identifying underutilized rooms and finding ways to improve the experience for parishioners and visitors to our building. We are also working to improve parking by paving a lot across the street from the church. And we frequently post to our Facebook page and regularly update our parish website.

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

communication skills, inspire and direct the laity, strong community involvement, clear commitment to ministries, prayerful appreciation of liturgy, embrace technology for outreach

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

We would describe ourselves as follows: non-fussy Anglo-Catholic. Our primary Sunday morning service is Rite Two, and includes an organ prelude, hymns, the Gloria, Hosanna, psalm and other service music sung by the congregation and choir, a choral anthem, and, during most of the church year, an organ postlude. Depending on the preference of the priest, appropriate elements of the service are chanted. We generally use the traditional version of the Lord's Prayer. Over the years we have varied between a full service program and a more austere bulletin. The priest is assisted by a crucifer, book bearer and Eucharistic ministers. Generally, the crucifer and book bearer are middle-schoolers. Lectors come from the congregation and may also act as Eucharistic Ministers. A cantor from the choir typically sings the Exsultet and the Great Litany. It is our tradition to hold a candlelit Great Vigil. Our eight o'clock Sunday service is a "said" service using Rite One. We offer Morning Prayer and Evening Prayer five days each week, typically with lay leaders.

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How do you practice incorporating others in ministry?

Ministry heads ask others to help for short-term needs, train new volunteers and invite them to consider a longer-term commitment to ministry. Additionally, annual pledge materials request intentional participation by asking persons to review the list of active ministries and to identify those for which commitment is or will be made. Liturgically, we offer the Morning and Evening Prayer five days per week, generally with lay leaders. Our Acolyte Master actively recruits parishioners of all ages to serve in the altar party. We have recently expanded our lector rolls to include all willing parishioners, not just Eucharistic Ministers. Our largest single ministry has been our book fair, held several times each year. Our undercroft is dedicated to this endeavor and houses several thousand volumes for sale to the public and book dealers. Each fair requires several shifts to fill various roles over a two-day span. A significant number of parishioners volunteer in some aspect in the book fair, and it has become a fellowship opportunity in addition to its financial benefits and impact on the Edwardsville community.

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

Historically, the Julian of Norwich Prayer Group met weekly and offered intercessory prayer and emotional support for those who are seriously ill. We are excited to resume these meetings after a COVID-imposed hiatus. The Pastoral Care Ministry helps with everyday needs, such as food and transportation. We work hard to keep our members informed and engaged through a robust communication ministry. With weekly electronic newsletters and other incidental communications, we have been able to stay in touch, even when that has been difficult due to the pandemic. To illustrate the point, of an aggregate total of more than 10,000 emails sent to parishioners in 2022 (counting all messages and all recipients), more than 78% were opened. We also recognize the importance of pets in many parishioners' lives, and annually hold a Blessing of the Animals, which is always well-attended. Finally, we benefit from a strong, informal web of parishioners who keep tabs on one another, send cards to those in the hospital, and ensure that those who are in need of prayers receive them, as well as any other support they may need.

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

The Outreach Ministry maintains a year-round donations basket for food and personal care items that are delivered to a food pantry. Outreach also holds an annual retreat with Edwardsville's Main Street Community Center in an effort to provide services to those in need. This ministry also provides other opportunities to donate to the larger community; for example, school supplies, "baby shower" items, Thanksgiving baskets, and Christmas giving tree. The Scarf Project supplies hats, scarves, gloves socks and blankets to the homeless. Over the past year, we have also gathered household items for Afghan immigrants. For many years, St. Andrew's has participated in Relay for Life both to raise funds for the American Cancer Society and to be present at Relay events for local cancer survivors and those mourning lost loved ones. We also share our facilities with the broader community by hosting an Alcoholics Anonymous meeting. Finally, our Quilt Guild has provided quilts to Quilts of Valor to be awarded to veterans and servicemembers touched by war and offers an opportunity for the families of quilters to donate or sell sewing supplies and notions that are no longer needed.

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

Parishioners are elected as representatives to Deanery and to Synod. At Synod, we have had parishioners elected to serve at General Convention. Our most recent rector held the position of Chair of the Diocese's Standing Committee during the period of our bishop search process. We are fortunate to have the Chancellor of the Diocese as a member of our parish and search committee. This parishioner has been a member of the Diocese's deputation to the General Convention for many years. Our parishioners are extremely active in the Edwardsville community. You will find our members volunteering for and leading several organizations. Founded five years ago by a former parishioner, Opera Edwardsville is a growing performing arts organization that boasts four St. Andrew's members as board members. Similarly, our members hold leadership roles in the Madison County Historical Society, Friends of LeClaire, Main Street Community Center, as well as the Benjamin Stephenson House, to name just a few. And the church regularly supports these outside organizations by allowing them to use our facilities for rehearsals, fielding a team for a trivia night, or sponsoring a booth at their events.

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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?

When our ECW ministry perceived a need for a multi-generational fellowship opportunity, they started a game night. One Friday night each month parishioners gathered in our fellowship hall to talk, eat snacks, and, of course, play all sorts of games. It would not be unusual to see chess being played at one table, Clue at another, and a game of Twister on the floor in between. This event has successfully joined the youngest and the most senior of our members. We also regularly welcome friends who are not members. After a COVID hiatus, the game night made its return in 2022. Contact: Mary Jane Helsel, [helsel.m@yahoo.com](mailto:helsel.m@yahoo.com). In 2020, the City Edwardsville modified its Halloween traditions by holding a drive-through trick-or-treating event. St. Andrew's has participated from the beginning, with the congregation donating candy and volunteers (including our rector and Senior Warden) passing out candy to thousands of children. Even as it has evolved into a walk-through activity in a city park, we have continued to participate. This has increased our visibility in our community and added a new outreach opportunity to our repertoire. Contact: Kevin Babb, [attorneykevinbabb@sbcglobal.net](mailto:attorneykevinbabb@sbcglobal.net).

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

An annual stewardship period is launched in the autumn, the results of which determine monies available for the annual budget. In recent years, we have had parishioners prepare video testimonials, sharing two or three each year during our stewardship drive. This past year, we were blessed to have our Deacon offer a series of sermons urging us to be faithful, grateful and obedient as we prayerfully weighed our own relationship with St. Andrew's. The strong commitment to our parish may be seen in the clear trend over time of an increasing average dollar amount of our annual pledges, even though the pandemic. In addition, as larger, occasional needs face the parish, our congregation has made significant financial contributions through informal, focused-giving on discrete projects, such as new entry doors and restored stained-glass windows. Currently, we are about to complete the second phase of a revitalization of our parish hall and kitchen. We have painted all walls and ceilings, and have had new carpet and kitchen flooring installed. This project was made possible by separately raised funds, independent of our annual stewardship campaign and maintenance budget.

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

One polarizing issue has been whether we needed to have paid personnel answering the phones and generally staffing the office. Well-meaning parishioners felt strongly on both sides of the question. In time, we managed to settle on a compromise of having volunteers take up the various duties previously performed by paid staff, like answering phones, handling parish-wide communications and preparing the service leaflets. In 2021, our rector began celebrating the Eucharist facing East, a practice that had not occurred within the experience of any of our current members. The rector had not given any instruction or notice of this change in liturgical style. Some interpreted this practice as the rector turning his back to the congregation in a dismissive or disrespectful way. Others felt that it disconnected the rector from the worshippers in the pews, or that it was not faithful to Episcopal liturgical practice. A small but vocal group started absenting themselves from corporate worship and threatened to cut their pledges. Many more were unconcerned about the change. Our rector took steps to explain the practice, but the disagreement remained unresolved at the time of his departure.

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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?

The last ten years have seen frequent change in clerical leadership. This span started with the departure of a long-term rector (17+ years) to be followed by a part-time Priest-in-Charge, who provided stability and spiritual growth for the parish. Upon his retirement, we called a rector who also elected to retire. Our most recent rector responded to a call in academia. Amidst these clergy changes, we are blessed to be led by a cadre of excellent supply priests, as well as retired priests who call St. Andrew's home. Even with the new faces in the pulpit, we have developed strong and dedicated laity who have ably supported the mission of the church. And back in the early 2000's, we recognized that our facilities were not sufficient to provide the amenities expected of a 21st century church. At that point, we made two key decisions: to stay in the center of Edwardsville rather than relocating, and to build a new addition. The result more than doubled the square footage of our church, adding a parish hall, church offices, a choir room, church school and nursery classrooms, and a colonnade connecting the old with the new. This expansion has served us extremely well.

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### Prior Incumbents

| Name          | Position Title                    | Date Begun | Date Ended |
|---------------|-----------------------------------|------------|------------|
| Ben Hankinson | Rector / Vicar / Priest-in-Charge | 2020-02    | 2022-07    |

| Name        | Position Title                    | Date Begun | Date Ended |
|-------------|-----------------------------------|------------|------------|
| Joel Morsch | Rector / Vicar / Priest-in-Charge | 2019-02    | 2019-07    |

| Name            | Position Title                    | Date Begun | Date Ended |
|-----------------|-----------------------------------|------------|------------|
| Ralph McMichael | Rector / Vicar / Priest-in-Charge | 2013-11    | 2018-01    |

*Fr. Hankinson left us to take a call as Admissions Director for Nashotah House Seminary Fr. Morsch was unable to relocate from Florida, decided to retire. Fr. McMichael retired and returned to academic work.*

| Church School | Number of Teachers/Leaders for Children School | Number of Students for Children School |
|---------------|--|--|
|               | 2  | 10                                     |

| 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 |
|---|---|--|--------------------------------------|
|   |   | 1  | 10                                   |

| 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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canon@episcopalspringfield.orgWorshipping Community Web site: <https://www.standrews-edwardsville.com/>

## Media Links:

> <https://www.standrews-edwardsville.com/quilt-guild/>  
> <https://www.facebook.com/standrewsbookfair>

## Online References:

> <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC5oJzKS-X1j-pb9WZlxcPXQ>  
> [https://www.facebook.com/Standrews.Edwardsville/videos/?ref=page\\_internal](https://www.facebook.com/Standrews.Edwardsville/videos/?ref=page_internal)

Languages Significantly Represented:

**English**

Provide Worship or Classes in:

**English**

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### References

Bishop: 217.525.1876 [bishop@episcopalspringfield.org](mailto:bishop@episcopalspringfield.org)  
**Rt. Rev. Brian Burgess**

Diocesan Transition Minister 217.525.1876 [canon@episcopalspringfield.org](mailto:canon@episcopalspringfield.org)  
**Rev. Canon Mark Evans**

Current Warden/Board Chair

Previous Warden/Board Chair 618.210.7757 [lizjayne66@gmail.com](mailto:lizjayne66@gmail.com)  
**Ms. Elizabeth Edwards**

Search Chair 618.741.6751 [attorneykevinbabb@scbglobal.net](mailto:attorneykevinbabb@scbglobal.net)  
**Mr. Kevin Babb**

Parish/Institution

Local Community Leader 618.558.3062 [stm11@hotmail.com](mailto:stm11@hotmail.com)  
**SJ Morrison**