



Office for
Transition
Ministry

Ministry Portfolio

Full Portfolio (last updated Sep 1, 2017)

Calvary, Clifton (Cincinnati), Southern Ohio

3766 Clifton Avenue, Cincinnati, OH 45220, United States

Contact:

Rector / Vicar / Priest-in-Charge | Receiving Names until 10/27/17.

Lcarter-Edmands@diosohio.org

Weekly Average Sunday Attendance (ASA) 123	Number of Weekend Worship Services 3	Number of Weekday Worship Services	Number of Other per Month Worship Services
Current Annual Compensation	Cash Stipend	Housing / Rectory Detail	Utilities
SECA reimbursement	Compensation Available for New Position \$71000	Housing Available for	Pension Plan We're in compliance with CPF requirements.
Healthcare Options Negotiable	Dental Yes	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 Yes	Travel/Auto Account Yes	Other Professional Account Yes

SECA included in compensation; salary negotiable 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.

Between 2013 and 2016, with the encouragement of the Diocese, Calvary had a formal partnership with St. Andrews Episcopal Church in nearby Evanston. The partnership included financial support for St. Andrews to attract a full-time rector, as well as sharing of social and spiritual activities that enriched both parishes. In addition to picnics and worship services twice a year, the two churches decided to link their Sunday School programs with a special service every winter, called Kristingle. The Kristingle service originated in the tradition of British children raising funds to support a children's service organization and having a worship service to celebrate the ingathering of those funds. Our churches alternated hosting the service, and we supported the work of our local Children's Hospital. The children learned about the service, songs, and readings; they also collected funds to support the hospital. The services were moving experiences that culminated in shared food and fellowship. All members recall those services as important in their children's, and their own, spiritual lives. The feelings of connection, ministry, and service solidified our relationship with St. Andrews.

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

At Calvary, there is a place for you! We understand that Calvary must be both welcoming and intentionally accessible to those who have grown up as Episcopalians and those who have not. We recognize that our thriving 9:30 service is a critical pathway for young families to become church members. We have made participation in our traditional 10:30 easier by clarifying our bulletin for those who did not grow up Episcopalian, and those who are out of practice. The vestry has determined that our facilities must be flexible to accommodate staffing and programming; we are pursuing options for adaptive reuse of our former rectory. Calvary engages in intentional activities looking toward our future, as a community oriented church who provides spiritual inspiration to a wider population than we do now. We are also intentional in our encouragement of members to become involved in outreach which does good, builds camaraderie, and weaves our church family closer together. Finally, we recognized that keeping Calvary's youth involved as they progress into middle school and high school years is a "growth opportunity" for the church, and we recently hired a teen group leader.

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

Generous Spirit, Provocative Teacher, Nurturing Leader, Magnetic Evangelizer

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

We have several styles of meaningful worship. There are 3 services on Sunday mornings. Our 8:00 a.m. service is a quiet, contemplative service; the worshipers gather around the altar and celebrate the Eucharist without music. Our 9:30 a.m. service is a lively, non-traditional service of Eucharist, with hymns and children's songs, accompanied by hand held instruments and guitar. Children actively participate; this service is our fastest growing. The 10:30 a.m. service uses Rite 2, with traditional organ music and hymns, some penned by our own music director. We are involved in the service; for example, when the choir is on hiatus during the summer, the congregation chants the Psalms with the choir director instead. Twice a year, a combined service is held, beginning with the contemporary format in Hannaford Hall (our multi-purpose hall) and concluding in the church with formal Eucharist.

How do you practice incorporating others in ministry?

We offer the opportunity to minister in a variety of ways. Our members are attracted to the specific ministry activities highlighted elsewhere in our profile. Those groups incorporate others mostly by word of mouth, but some members are directly asked, depending on individual talents. We engage newer congregants early on, to both assist in performing our outreach services and to build camaraderie between newer and more seasoned members. We find that ministering together builds connection and engagement. In addition, members (young and old) are engaged participants in our services. At our 9:30 services, children are invited and encouraged to hold the plates and chalices during communion, and adults serve as worship helpers for the service to run smoothly. At the 10:30 service, congregants serve in the altar guild, as lectors, and assist with the communion. Across services, a large number of members minister to each other, and the parish as a whole, as the Kitchen Crewe, organizing and serving church meals. Finally, adults and older youth teach and run our Sunday School and VBS programs, to engage our youngest members at the start of their spiritual journeys.

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

Details matter, and we pay attention to each other. We are emotionally connected through worship, community gatherings (picnics, coffee hours, and musical events), and fellowship. Offerings for spiritual well-being are creative and evolving. Last year, we offered a series on "Inside the Episcopal Mind," "Prophets and Mystics [and Heretics]," and a class on contemporary issues. This year we have a series on Islam and other faith traditions. A Gospel Meditation group meets weekdays to read, meditate on, and discuss the gospel for the coming Sunday. Occasionally we have a special series, reflecting the church season, faith, and current issues. This year, the Lenten program included a Taize prayer service, followed by dinner. The physical comfort of parishioners is important to us. We have child care during the 10:30 service, and bathrooms are well equipped to assist those with small children. We can improve in some areas, including health ministries; a systematized manner of communicating and assisting one another when members have family needs, emergencies, illnesses, or deaths is needed. There is room to grow!

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

We are called to serve. Calvary is a church passionate about caring for the Cincinnati community. Each outreach group is led by dedicated church members. Our volunteers prepare and deliver meals for about 75 people once a month as part of the Tender Mercies program that assists homeless adults with mental illness. Our outreach with Interfaith Hospitality Network is an ongoing personal ministry to parents and their children; we provide meals, child care, and personal connection to families struggling with homelessness. Our Habitat for Humanity outreach is very active, regularly leading build days. Our VBS fundraising was dedicated to Habitat last year. Homeless youth in the Lighthouse Crisis Center are anonymously "adopted" by members at Christmas to ensure individual presents are found under their tree. We financially support Caracole, a local organization dedicated to helping those suffering from HIV/AIDS. We provide meeting space for a transgender support group from Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center. We also collect food for two food pantries. You will find our collection box just inside the parish hall door.

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

Boots on the ground! We are ready to lead and assist churches and other organizations when needed. Repeated Gulf Coast hurricane devastation resulted in over ten mission trips in a five-year period to assist in clean-up, repair, and rebuilding. This was done in cooperation with our diocese, other parishes, and Boy Scouts. Internationally, we support El Hogar de Amore e Esperanza, a children's home in Tegucigalpa, Honduras. Our sponsored child is a celebrity at Calvary! Volunteers regularly visit to assist in facility improvement projects and ministry there. We also host Heifer Fair, which results in international plant and animal donations to people trying to establish a sustainable income. The fair is an educational opportunity for our youth group members, who run various information booths during the event. We participate in and support diocesan programs for youth (even a rural camp!); our young parishioners are involved in Episcopal Community Services. We also sponsor Cub Scouts and Boy Scouts, drawing from many nearby neighborhoods, who perform conservation and outreach projects yearly. Many of these benefit our church facilities.

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

We like to try new things. In the last 5 years, a Coffee House has been initiated as an opportunity for Calvary members and those they know to perform and raise money for a designated cause. There have been a broad range of musical offerings, from a budding teenage rock band to classical, to our own Queen City Sisters, a 1940's style singing trio. The benefitting causes range from Interfaith Hospitality Network to Caracole. Edy Dreith is the contact person for the Coffee House, at empresdreith@gmail.com.

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

We take a traditional approach in stewardship. We prepare pledge cards late Fall/early Winter, encouraging members to complete and return the pledge cards before Christmas, through announcements and sermons. We have not typically engaged in direct outreach to individual members or prepared individualized pledge cards; however, we provide personalized quarterly pledge progress updates for members who have pledged, reminding them about their pledge. While our pledges have remained steady, we recognize that a more tailored and methodical approach to stewardship is an opportunity for growth. It is our intention to enhance our stewardship and rely less on our invested funds.

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

In 2015, a statue of Homeless Jesus was installed in our church yard. This limited edition became available on short notice. It was summer. Many parishioners were out of town. The Vestry had limited time to decide whether to take the statue, but it seemed perfect for memorial gifts we received. As people became aware of the decision, many thought this was a drain of operation funds, becoming vocal in opposition. The explanation that this was a memorial for a long-time member who volunteered in food kitchens for the poor satisfied some; others, embarrassed by their snap judgments, left despite efforts to comfort them. Our attempt to address the conflict did not result in the optimal outcome. We learned to make a larger effort to proactively communicate. We continue evolving our communication to meet needs of the parish. We now have Calvary Chimes, a weekly e-newsletter. We have identified 'go-to' people for various issues. We are first and foremost a worshipping family who cares more about people than things. We know that change is difficult but essential to church growth, development, and ultimate survival.

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 recognized a need for a less-structured/youth-centered service. The 9:30 service was proposed by the rector and approved by the vestry without much fanfare. It started one fall - but created controversy - in Hannaford Hall. "Camp" music with guitars, a talking monkey, slide show ... non-traditional novelties met with dismay by members who treasured classic, traditional methods of worship. But the children loved it. And brought their parents. And grandparents. And friends. Soon, the service became multi-generational. As it grew in size, the idea to move it into the main sanctuary took root. Structural changes were made to accommodate the projectors. For a year, this attempt at utilizing one sanctuary for two distinctly different service formats struggled. The space functioned poorly, the choir was annoyed at having to wait to practice until the 9:30 service concluded, and it returned to Hannaford Hall. We learned that there was value in change, but that we needed to be more sensitive. We needed an open space for movement for 9:30, that the 10:30 attendees needed pre-service quiet time. We got a little uncomfortable but learned that the two concepts complement each other.



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Prior Incumbents

Name	Position Title	Date Begun	Date Ended
Jason E. Leo	Rector / Vicar / Priest-in-Charge	2001-01	2015-12

Name	Position Title	Date Begun	Date Ended
Patrick A. Pierce	Rector / Vicar / Priest-in-Charge	1990-01	1997-01

Name	Position Title	Date Begun	Date Ended
M. Chotard Doll	Rector / Vicar / Priest-in-Charge	1980-01	1987-01

Church School	Number of Teachers/Leaders for Children School	Number of Students for Children School
	8	25

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	8	4	30

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: <http://calvaryclifton.org/>

Media Links:

Online References:

> <https://www.facebook.com/CalvaryClifton/>

Languages Significantly Represented:

English

Provide Worship or Classes in:

References

Bishop:

Thomas E. Breidenthal

513.421.0311 / tbreidenthal@diosohio.org

Diocesan Transition Minister

Lynn Carter-Edmands

513.421.0311 / Lcarter-edmands@diosohio.org

Current Warden/Board Chair

Daren Grayton

Previous Warden/Board Chair

Maggie Davis

Search Chair

Eric Landen

Parish/Institution

The Rev. Joanna Leiserson

rev.joanna.leiserson@fuse.net

Local Community Leader

Sue Eby

On site day care center: (513) 221-8353 seby@atchildcare.com