



Office for  
Transition  
Ministry

# Ministry Portfolio

*Full Portfolio (last updated Feb 9, 2024)*

## Trinity Episcopal/St. Paul's Lutheran, Iowa

204 E 5th St/1524 N Court St, Ottumwa, IA 52501, United States

Contact:

Priest-in-Charge Shared Ministry

[mwagner@iowaepiscopal.org](mailto:mwagner@iowaepiscopal.org)

Weekly Average Sunday Attendance (ASA) <b>40</b>	Number of Weekend Worship Services <b>2</b>	Number of Weekday Worship Services	Number of Other per Month Worship Services
Current Annual Compensation <b>\$38496</b>	Cash Stipend	Housing / Rectory Detail	Utilities
SECA reimbursement	Compensation Available for New Position <b>\$38496</b>	Housing Available for	Pension Plan <b>We're in compliance with CPF requirements.</b>
Healthcare Options <b>Full family</b>	Dental <b>Yes</b>	Housing Equity Allowance in budget	Annual Equity Amount
Vacation Weeks <b>Other</b>	Vacation Weeks Details	Continuing Education Weeks <b>2 (standard)</b>	Continuing Education Weeks Details
Continuing Education Funding in budget <b>up to/including \$500/year</b>	Sabbatical Provision <b>Yes</b>	Travel/Auto Account <b>Yes</b>	Other Professional Account

*42 Sundays per year, 2-4 days per week*

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

The partnership between Trinity and St. Paul has been a success so far, and it is bringing a sense of community between both congregations. For many years before our formal partnership, we enjoyed shared events like Lenten suppers. In 2023 we began a set of facilitated conversations with our judicatories about the ministries, mission, vision, and values that we already had in common and saw places where our gifts and strengths could work together well. By the end of those conversations we agreed to become partners in ministry and share a clergy person.

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

Both congregations are very excited at the potential for growth. The addition of the right clergy person can help us grow the church numerically and spiritually, and give new insights into already running programs and systems. Both churches are committed to finding the right candidate to lead our unique congregations.

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

preaching, pastoral care, communication, healthy conflict resolution

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

Both churches have a traditional, yet casual approach to services. While we prefer the priest to wear Vestments, it is not always necessary. Services at the Episcopal Church use Rite 2 and organ/piano most weeks, along with the traditional Hymnal. We also have access to the Electronic Hymnal. At the Lutheran Church, members don't mind if the minister is wearing vestments or not, and we most often use Setting 4 for services, and the organ/piano on a rotating basis monthly, but if no one is available, use videos of the traditional hymnals for worship.

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How do you practice incorporating others in ministry?

Both churches try to balance giving newcomers a chance to settle in before inquiring how they might like to serve. Both churches try to make it abundantly clear that new people are welcome and are fed. If a person expresses interest in assisting with services, training is provided. St. Paul's uses a sign-up sheet for various ministries like communion assistant, greeter, and reader. Anyone wanting to assist with service or Church duties is warmly welcomed.

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

Both churches participate in Bible Studies weekly, as well as other programs, such as the TOPS (Taking Off Pounds Sensibly) Group that meets at St. Paul. Both churches attend to members needs, making hospital visits, offering home communion as needed, and supporting each other.

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

Our churches host or participate in: a 12 step group, TOPS, Community Market, Blessings, Hospice Visits, feeding folks after Church. Trinity has helped with down payment for apartments and tents for unhoused people. Both Churches have small food pantries, Both also provide transportation for groups and women's shelter, as well as other means of unconditional giving.

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

St. Paul has no representation currently at the Synod Assembly, but do give monetarily to the Synod. Trinity does participate regularly in the Chapter and Diocesan Convention Within the community, both churches participate in a plethora of programs, including: Blessings Soup Kitchen, the Ottumwa Community Market, as well as many other organizations within the greater Ottumwa community.

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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?

We have begun a Community Market that both brings in revenue for the church and allows community members to share their goods and services. Local artists, farmers, gardeners, bakers & more come together for a unique, good-for-body-and-soul, shopping experience, hosted at St. Paul's every second and fourth Saturdays from April 23 - October 22. The Market is open from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m., rain or shine. Community members sell specialty baked goods, original art, handmade crafts or promote their small local business. The Market features jewelry, baked goods, food vendors, recycled treasures, arts and crafts, live music, garden fresh produce, and more.

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

Trinity has annual pledging in November/December and we pay our diocesan stewardship share monthly. We also set and keep a budget yearly. St. Paul gives 5% of their General Offering to the Synod, while we have no formal annual pledging campaign, we do take secondary offerings throughout the year. We also host a lot of fundraisers throughout the year, including the Community Market, and various crafting and bake sales.

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

We try to work toward resolution of conflicts together instead of behind the scenes. We prefer to address the problem directly instead of just leaving the church, or continuing in anger, although that has certainly happened sometimes. Conflict can come in interpersonal issues and over church policies and canons. St. Paul has been facing conflict between the council and outreach minister, and are still working towards a resolution at this time by clarifying policies and responsibilities. As both congregations are searching for a new leader, there has been a lack of pulpit supply, but thankfully are working together to address it.

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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?

One of the most recent big change has been the service time at both churches. When we entered into this partnership, in order to allow the clergyperson time to interact with each congregation, one church had to move their start time to 8:30 am and the other to 10:30 am. In the beginning, that hurdle looked like it might derail the whole partnership. But after careful conversations, developing a shared understanding of how much we had in common, and how beneficial this partnership could be to each church and the wider community, both churches were willing to shift their service times.



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### Prior Incumbents

Name	Position Title	Date Begun	Date Ended
The Rev. Kevin Emge	Rector / Vicar / Priest-in-Charge (Part-time)	2020-12	2024-01

Name	Position Title	Date Begun	Date Ended
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Name	Position Title	Date Begun	Date Ended
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Church School	Number of Teachers/Leaders for Children School	Number of Students for Children School
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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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Contact:  
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Worshipping Community Web site: <https://trinityepiscopalottumwa.squarespace.com>

Media Links:

- > <https://www.facebook.com/stpaulottumwa/>
- > <https://www.facebook.com/TrinityEpiscopalChurchOttumwalowa>

Online References:

Languages Significantly Represented:

**English**

Provide Worship or Classes in:

**English**

### References

Bishop:

**The Rt. Rev. Betsey Monnot/ The Rt. Rev. Amy**

515-277-6165 [officeofthebishop@iowaepiscopal.org](mailto:officeofthebishop@iowaepiscopal.org) 319-338-1273  
[staff@seiasynod.org](mailto:staff@seiasynod.org)

**Current** Director/Transition Minister

**The Rev. Cn. Meg Wagner/The Rev. Dan**

515-850-5220 [mwagner@iowaepiscopal.org](mailto:mwagner@iowaepiscopal.org) 319-338-1273 x806  
[kuckuck@seiasynod.org](mailto:kuckuck@seiasynod.org)

**Kuckuck** Current Warden/Board Chair

[Shepard.brown@gmail.com](mailto:Shepard.brown@gmail.com) [lesleyculver95@gmail.com](mailto:lesleyculver95@gmail.com)

**Shep Brown/Lesley Culver**

Previous Warden/Board Chair

Search Chair

Parish/Institution

Local Community Leader