



Office for
Transition
Ministry

Ministry Portfolio

Full Portfolio (last updated Feb 26, 2026)

St. Stephen's, Schuylerville, Albany

One Grove Street, Schuylerville, NY 12871, United States

Contact:

Rector / Vicar / Priest-in-Charge (Part-time) | Receiving Names until 06/30/26.

otm@albanydiocese.org

Weekly Average Sunday Attendance (ASA)	Number of Weekend Worship Services	Number of Weekday Worship Services	Number of Other per Month Worship Services
16	1	1	
Current Annual Compensation	Cash Stipend	Housing / Rectory Detail	Utilities
SECA reimbursement	Compensation Available for New Position	Housing Available for	Pension Plan
	\$26000	3	
Healthcare Options	Dental	Housing Equity Allowance in budget	Annual Equity Amount
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	No

Compensation range: \$13000- \$26,000

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

Three years ago, through our deacon's relationship with the Code Blue Homeless Shelter in our neighboring community of Saratoga Springs our parish community began providing a hot dinner one Tuesday a month from November through March. The Sunday before our parish gathers after coffee hour to cut vegetables and prepare as much as possible to make assembly of the meal on Tuesday afternoon quick and easy. The meal includes an apple crisp dessert made from local apples gleaned by our parish from the orchard in Schuylerville. This group activity has given our parishioners an opportunity to serve our community together, building a connection within our community and to the larger community we live in.

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

The future of our parish is a concern, since we are a small community, whose members are primarily over 50 years of age. Our community needs to be more intentional about thinking and praying about how we can keep our young families interested in attending church. To that end we recently took out some pews in the back of the church to make a space for children to draw or play during the service, since we don't have Sunday school or a nursery. We hope this will encourage families with young children to feel welcome to stay at our church or join once they visit. We continually maintain our buildings so we can worship here for the next 150 years.

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

inspiring preacher, spiritual leader, compassionate, collaborative.

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

We practice traditional common liturgical Eucharist based worship. Historically we had two services at 8 am and 9 am. The 8 am service used Rite I, the 9 am service used Rite II with Eucharistic prayer A. Currently we have one service at 9 am, so we offer Rite I once a month and Rite II three times a month. We currently do not have a music director, so we either have a quiet service or we use a Bluetooth speaker to play Taize music at appropriate times. We are searching for a musician to play our organ or can play music that has been programmed into it.

How do you practice incorporating others in ministry?

One of our lay leaders prepares the church for worship by setting the table and lighting the candles. During the service three members read the psalm and readings for the day. Currently, without a priest and not finding a supply minister on some Sundays we have members who are willing to lead Morning Prayer. Any member of our parish who has an idea for an outreach ministry will be supported by our church both spiritually and financially, as we are able.

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

We have always taken care of each other by visiting the homebound or those with illness. Each Sunday during announcements we encourage parishioners to share a God sighting or how they see God active in their life, including blessings and concerns. This intimate sharing builds a sense of inclusiveness and community. During lent we have had special Lenten practices, including Stations of the Cross gatherings. A lay leader offers Contemplative Prayer and Lectio Divina several times during the year.

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

We have been involved in the following outreach activities: The Schuylerville Area Food and Emergency Relief (SAFER) Food Pantry and the Back Pack program at the school which is part of SAFER is supplied with fresh apples November-March that our parish gleaned from our local orchard. Financially support the Schuylerville School District's Caring and Sharing program. Our Deacon is a certified volunteer for the Code Blue homeless shelter in Saratoga Springs, so we help them by providing a dinner once a month, plus donations of clothing and personal care items. We support our village senior housing center, Schuyler Manor, with food and gifts. This summer we supplemented the library's Summer Meal Program with snack bags and provided financial support for youth programming.

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

Our priest or designated representative attends the Schuylerville Area Ecumenical Council meetings every two weeks, giving us a connection with the other Christian denominations in the village. They also plan joint services throughout the year such as Easter and Christmas holidays. Each year we send delegates and others to the Diocesan Annual Convention to represent St. Stephen's and to enrich our parishioners. In the past, many of our youth attended as well. Members of our vestry have attended the Parish Leadership Conference. We offer a scholarship to youth attendance at the Beaver Cross summer camp, whether they are from our church or a neighboring church. One of our parishioners is in her second year studying Christian Spirituality through CTK Spiritual Life Center in conjunction with the Dioceses of Dallas' Stanton Center.

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

About three years ago we started to provide a hot dinner to the Code Blue Homeless Shelter in Saratoga Springs. That resource is the only homeless shelter in our region, so those needing shelter in Schuylerville would be welcomed to take advantage of services provided there. For more details about this project, please see #1 regarding a successful ministry provided by St. Stephen's Episcopal Church. Contact: Helene Patterson (518) 796-2802

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

We are blessed to have the financial security that allows our vestry, which meets monthly, to oversee the care and maintenance of our buildings and grounds proactively. A few years ago, we invested in a new roof and new pavement. The physical building of our 150-year-old stone church has been well maintained over the decades giving our parishioners a safe and pleasant house of worship.

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

There has been no major source of conflict within our worshipping community in the past ten years. One area of difference in opinion and wishes is regarding the type of service as some prefer Rite I and others Rite II, so even though we are a small parish, in the past our priests have offered two services; an eight o'clock service using Rite I and a nine o'clock service using Rite II with music. Due to the COVID 19 pandemic a significant number of our parishioners have not come back to worshipping at church, so we now have one nine o'clock service where we offer Rite I once a month and Rite II the other Sundays. Currently we don't have a musical worship leader. Over the past four years we've made multiple adjustments to our service time to accommodate the wishes of our priest, but there has never been a conflict within our parish over these changes. We haven't lost any parishioners due to these changes, reflecting on the collaborative nature of our decisions and the flexibility of our members.

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?

In 2015 Father John Kettlewell, our priest for nearly twenty-five years, retired. Thanks to the leadership of our Senior Warden, Don Stewart, we have had three priests since then, in addition to numerous supply priests. Our parishioners seem to be understanding of our situation and flexible as we welcome new priests. We all want it to work out, so we compromise when needed. The COVID 19 pandemic obviously changed our church and resulted in a drastic reduction in worshippers, our efforts to get them back have been unsuccessful. Our music has also changed significantly as our organist left in early 2020. When a new worship music leader offered a different style of music, once again our parishioners adapted to the change. Currently we are without a worship musical director, so we don't have service music at this time, except for some Taize music at the gathering and during the Eucharist.

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Prior Incumbents

Name	Position Title	Date Begun	Date Ended
Mtr. Meaghan Keegan	Rector / Vicar / Priest-in-Charge (Part-time)	2022-01	2024-03

Name	Position Title	Date Begun	Date Ended
Mtr. Donna Arnold	Rector / Vicar / Priest-in-Charge (Part-time)	2015-07	2019-12

Name	Position Title	Date Begun	Date Ended
Fr. John Kettlewell	Rector / Vicar / Priest-in-Charge (Part-time)	1991-03	2015-06

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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Worshipping Community Web site: <https://www.ststephens-schuylerville.com/>

Media Links:

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

Online References:

Languages Significantly Represented:

English

Provide Worship or Classes in:

English

References

Bishop:

**The Rt. Rev. Jeremiah D.
Williamson**

jwilliamson@albanydiocese.org 518-692-3350

Diocesan Transition Minister

The Rev. William Hinrichs

otm@albanydiocese.org 518-692-3350

Current Warden/Board Chair

Don Stewart

Cell- (518) 796-7837, Parish Office-(518) 695-3918
info@ststephens-schuylerville.com

Previous Warden/Board Chair

Search Chair

Don Stewart

Parish/Institution

Helene Patterson

(518)796-2802, hpatterson@albanydiocese.org

Local Community Leader

Pam Driscoll

Member of Old Saratoga Reformed Church, Schuylerville School
Nurse, Board of Directors member for the Schuylerville Area Food &
Emergency Relief St. Stephen's Church Community