



Office for  
Transition  
Ministry

# Ministry Portfolio

*Full Portfolio (last updated Feb 26, 2026)*

## St. Thomas', Tupper Lake, Albany

8 Brentwood Avenue, Tupper Lake, NY 12986, United States

Contact:

Rector / Vicar / Priest-in-Charge (Part-time) | Receiving Names until 06/30/26 | [whinrichs@albanydiocese.org](mailto:whinrichs@albanydiocese.org)

Weekly Average Sunday Attendance (ASA) <b>20</b>	Number of Weekend Worship Services <b>1</b>	Number of Weekday Worship Services	Number of Other per Month Worship Services
Current Annual Compensation <b>\$5900</b>	Cash Stipend <b>\$16500</b>	Housing / Rectory Detail <b>\$0</b>	Utilities <b>\$3500</b>
SECA reimbursement <b>\$2448</b>	Compensation Available for New Position <b>\$22448</b>	Housing Available for <b>4</b>	Pension Plan <b>We're in compliance with CPF requirements.</b>
Healthcare Options <b>Negotiable</b>	Dental <b>No</b>	Housing Equity Allowance in budget	Annual Equity Amount
Vacation Weeks <b>One month, including 5 Sundays (standard)</b>	Vacation Weeks Details	Continuing Education Weeks	Continuing Education Weeks Details
Continuing Education Funding in budget	Sabbatical Provision <b>No</b>	Travel/Auto Account <b>Yes</b>	Other Professional Account <b>No</b>

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

St. Thomas has been very active in their yearly Election Day Chicken & Biscuit Dinner offered to the community. Proceeds from this dinner go to organizations such as the Tupper Lake Food Pantry, Kiwanis's Castle of Toys and High Peaks Hospice to name just a few of the organizations that have benefited from this dinner. In addition, we "adopt" a family at Christmas time and provide them Christmas dinner via a food box.

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

St. Thomas is in a time of flux. This is the first time we have had to search for a rector. In the past one had been appointed to us. We have so much to offer through our faith and want to share that with all around. We are looking to keep the Episcopal Church alive and active in Tupper Lake and the surrounding communities.

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

pastoral care, communication, Bible-based sermons, sense of humor

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

Our congregation practices a traditional, liturgical, Eucharist style worship. We offer one service on Sunday mornings and after worship St. Mary's Chapel is available for healing prayer by our prayer team. Music is selected and sung from either The Celebration Hymnal or The Hymnal 1982 using the digital hymnals or pre-recorded music from other devices.

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How do you practice incorporating others in ministry?

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

After worship we gather to have a potluck lunch to enjoy each other's company. In essence to catch up with each other after the week. We also celebrate special occasions after worship for Mother's Day flowers and brunch and Easter Sunday brunch. St. Thomas day is celebrated in June with a BBQ lunch/dinner with past and present members attending. When a member of our congregation passes and the funeral is held at St. Thomas, members of the congregation have provided the potluck meal after the service to help lift some of the burden off from the family?

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

As a congregation we have been active in Operation Christmas Child – Samaritan’s Purse, Mercy Care for the Adirondacks, and a prayer table at the Tupper Lake Food Pantry

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

We have been very active in sending our youth to Beaver Cross Summer Camp and having them attend the Convention in Lake Pleasant. Our members have also represented St. Thomas at convention and many members have attended Cursillo at Christ the King Spiritual Life Center. We support at length missionaries... through "Surge", Shawn & Heather Wallace in Africa.

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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?

Blessing of the Athletes – Tinman Race (Donald Whitmore) 1st Place for Health – (Kathleen Bly)

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

Every Sunday there is a special offering placed in the baptismal font given to organizations such as Tri-Lakes Humane Society, Make-a-Wish, Samaritan House in Saranac Lake which is a homeless shelter the Saranac Lake Ecumenical Society oversees, Tupper Lake & Long Lake Food Pantries, St. Vincent's Center - Haiti, High Peaks Hospice, The Salvation Army, and numerous other organizations.

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

St. Thomas has had their share of conflicts but as a family able to work through these with prayer and conservation, relying on our faith.

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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?

We haven't had an organist in quite some time and had to rely on volunteers to produce the music for worship through different devices. The lack of youth present at St. Thomas and Tupper Lake community as a whole attending worship. We look to the future with the faith that guides us.

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### Prior Incumbents

Name	Position Title	Date Begun	Date Ended
Allen William Cooper	Rector / Vicar / Priest-in-Charge (Part-time)	2003-01	2022-01

Name	Position Title	Date Begun	Date Ended
Edward LaCombe	Rector / Vicar / Priest-in-Charge (Part-time)	1989-01	2003-01

Name	Position Title	Date Begun	Date Ended
Ward Lettney	Rector / Vicar / Priest-in-Charge (Part-time)	1986-01	1989-01

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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Media Links:

Online References:

[StThomasTupperLake@gmail.com](mailto:StThomasTupperLake@gmail.com)> <https://www.facebook.com/St-Thomas-Episcopal-Church-1435952466544823>

Languages Significantly Represented:

**English**

Provide Worship or Classes in:

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### References

Bishop:	518-692-3350 <a href="mailto:bishop@albanydiocese.org">bishop@albanydiocese.org</a>
<b>The Rt. Rev. Jeremiah Williamson</b>	
Diocesan Transition Minister	518-878-4156 <a href="mailto:otm@albanydiocese.org">otm@albanydiocese.org</a>
<b>The Rev. Canon Neal Longe</b>	
Current Warden/Board Chair	518-637-7025 <a href="mailto:dwhitmore82@gmail.com">dwhitmore82@gmail.com</a>
<b>Donald Whitmore</b>	
Previous Warden/Board Chair	518-788-8493 <a href="mailto:adakarl@hotmail.com">adakarl@hotmail.com</a>
<b>Karl Geiger</b>	
Search Chair	518-637-7025 <a href="mailto:dwhitmore82@gmail.com">dwhitmore82@gmail.com</a>
<b>Donald Whitmore</b>	
Parish/Institution	518-788-8493 <a href="mailto:adakarl@hotmail.com">adakarl@hotmail.com</a>
<b>Karl Geiger</b>	
Local Community Leader	518-637-7015 <a href="mailto:Jwhitmore@wildcenter.org">Jwhitmore@wildcenter.org</a>
<b>Jane Whitmore</b>	