



Office for  
Transition  
Ministry

# Ministry Portfolio

*Full Portfolio (last updated Apr 7, 2022)*

## St. Timothy's, Southaven/Holy Cross, Olive Branch, Mississippi

St. Timothy's Episcopal Church, 8245 Getwell Road, Southaven, MS 38672, The Church of the Holy Cross, 8230 Highway 178, Olive Branch, MS 38854, United States

Contact:

Rector / Vicar / Priest-in-Charge | Receiving Names until 05/31/22.

[bhjones9@outlook.com](mailto:bhjones9@outlook.com)

Weekly Average Sunday Attendance (ASA) <b>132</b>	Number of Weekend Worship Services <b>2</b>	Number of Weekday Worship Services <b>2</b>	Number of Other per Month Worship Services
Current Annual Compensation <b>\$80111</b>	Cash Stipend <b>\$54111</b>	Housing / Rectory Detail	Utilities
SECA reimbursement	Compensation Available for New Position	Housing Available for	Pension Plan <b>We're in compliance with CPF requirements.</b>
Healthcare Options <b>Full family</b>	Dental	Housing Equity Allowance in budget	Annual Equity Amount
Vacation Weeks <b>One month, including 5 Sundays (standard)</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 <b>Yes</b>

*Stipend + housing ranges from \$80K to \$90K based on experience and qualifications*

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

The 2022 Stewardship campaign theme was Time, Talent, and Treasure. The Stewardship Committee met twice in person but consistently dialogued almost daily (and nightly) via texts and emails for 7 weeks. From the committee's standpoint, its success is strictly attributed to the fact that each committee member took a leadership initiative role. This initiative was demonstrated through a marketing campaign that consisted of short testimonies during worship services, writings re: stewardship meaning in the church e-newsletter, a Stewardship dinner (gifted by the Stewardship committee to the congregation), placing donation cards in hymnals for easy visibility & availability, maintaining a social media presence, and crafting thank you notes to those that gave monetarily to St. Timothy's - the latter of which is still in process. The end result is that, to date, the stewardship campaign had congregational pledges of \$183,092 to the operating fund and 29 pledges totaling \$29,160 to the building fund. The Stewardship committee appreciated working together and considers themselves a blessed union. Holy Cross had 8 pledges totaling \$30,580.

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

The response to this question can't be answered without mentioning the past two years of almost total suspension of in-person worship and church activities. We have become "the church of the future" by slowly embracing virtual worship. For almost two years we figured out how to livestream using an iPhone and/or iPad mounted on a tripod near the front of the pews. People were grateful they could watch-even participate-in worship from the naves using this awkward mix of tools and technology. But that is the future-we've realized-and the church recently had a wall-mounted camera, upgraded microphones, and new Internet capacity installed. This is not the worship style many of us grew up with, but we've adapted. We are grateful that many parishioners who cannot come to in-person worship can be part of the worshipping body. We've been told by some new to the church that they first checked us out watching online worship before coming in person. Others have enjoyed the option to join in virtual prayer meetings. The future is here!

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

leadership, flexibility, Supportive, compassionate, multigenerational focus, recognize skills of laity, preaching and teaching skills

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

Our liturgical style could be summarized in one word-reverent. This allows our parishioners to be one with Christ without many distractions. Services follow the BCP Rite II and our songs of worship come from the 1982 Hymnal. We provide bulletins that are easy to follow, especially for visitors not familiar with the Episcopal Church. Our Prayers of the People adapt and change weekly based on the needs of the community, world events, and Episcopal churches and other worshipping communities near and far. The Passing of the Peace is a joyous affair with hugs and handshakes across the congregation. Anyone familiar with Episcopal worship would find our church very friendly and familiar.

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How do you practice incorporating others in ministry?

We are strong in lay participation during church services with lay readers, lay Eucharistic ministers, acolytes, torch bearers, vergers and others appropriate to the worship service. Parishioners lead in-reach groups including the Altar Guild, ECW, Adult Bible Study and EfM. Others serve to support the Scouts and Memphis outreach ministries including Memphis churches-Calvary's Lenten Waffle Shop and Grace-St. Luke's food ministries.

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

As the pandemic wanes, the offering of virtual meetings and reintroduction of in-person gatherings have served to strengthen bonds within the church. Groups like EFM meeting on ZOOM have shown themselves to be useful of building relationships and facilitating spiritual growth during the restrictions and they look forward to meeting in person in the future. A Tuesday Morning Prayer Time on Facebook is led by our Deacon, along with in-person Morning Prayer in the Mary Chapel on Wednesdays. Other opportunities for Christian formation such as Adult Bible study and children's ministries are being rebuilt. Social gatherings are resuming as we have always enjoyed spending time with each other. Together these will serve to build up the greater community.

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

Pastoral care involves in and beyond our worshipping community. We deliver the altar flowers to nursing homes, hospitals, and the homes of those who are restricted in travel. In some instances, local fire department and pharmacy staff have been honored with flowers. We also provide gifts for children and the elderly at Christmas through the Angel Tree ministry. We provide bingo and trivia nights and invite friends from outside the church to join in the fun. We are also supportive of ministry efforts of Memphis area churches including Calvary and Grace-St. Luke's.

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

The Honduras Medical Mission is an important part of our reach beyond our local area. We provide supplies, money, as well as clergy and lay personnel for the annual mission trip. Our churches have a deep connection as we have been working with this Medical Mission for over 20 years. Our churches support Camp Bratton-Green in Canton, MS by giving scholarships for local campers to attend. Our parishioners have volunteered as counselors and cabin leaders for the Special Sessions at Camp Bratton-Green along with Camp Able in Marcos Island, Florida. Both churches support seminaries in Tennessee and Texas.

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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?

The church was one of the founding members 40 or more years of the Horn Lake and Southaven Samaritans, a local food ministry. A more recent practice of the last five years has been the Red Wagon, located in the narthex, where parishioners place items donated to the Samaritans (and other community agencies) that are requested for special gatherings. Most recently, our church was asked to donate 100 boxes of cake mix for Thanksgiving Baskets and, to one's surprise, the total donation was almost 250 boxes. Our cake mix and items from other churches were included in baskets distributed by the Samaritans to area families to give them a special Thanksgiving meal. Almost monthly there are items requested including socks for the Grace-St. Luke's ministry to the homeless, along with pet food and other supplies to share with a local shelter as part of the annual Blessing of the Animals. The Red Wagon is just a reminder to share our bounty with others.

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

The foundational stewardship ministries of both churches are built on outreach and in-reach. Stewardship is incorporated in to the life blood of the church whether that is by serving as a lay reader, eucharistic minister, writing birthday cards to parishioners, washing dishes after a church potluck, sweeping leaves in the courtyard, driving a parishioner to a physician visit, serving on a prayer shawl committee, leading a hymn sing and on and on and on. Our practices of stewardship are endless. It is all stewardship because in all acts, congregants are giving of their time, talent, and/or treasure. Stewardship is a collaboration between God and, we, his creation, of using gifts bestowed to us wisely.

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

Both churches were impacted by the actions of a former rector/vicar that led to a diocesan disciplinary process. The process has ended, but there continues to be fallout in terms of parishioners' trust of leadership, the loss of members, and financial instability. Several members left for other churches, citing the impact of the former priest's actions as well as the diocese's procedures. The succeeding rector/vicar found a church dealing with the conflict. We addressed the conflict by praying for all involved who felt betrayed by the actions of a clergy person they should have been able to trust, and also for each other. We talked a lot and listened even more so that all could express their feelings but accepted the fact that many parishioners were not going to be satisfied in the actions taken by the diocese. We talked with parishioners who were disillusioned by the poor financial decisions that were in many cases made without consideration for the long-term impact as we changed from a parish with no debt to one with a large one. The bishop and diocese officials have been very understanding and continue to provide wise counsel and financial support for our church.

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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 COVID-19 pandemic meant that worship became virtual in March 2020. When restrictions were modified by the bishop, the churches continued to experience frustration as liturgical practices were changed and in-person worship, formation activities, and social gatherings were altered. We addressed this by using social media for contact within the church family, being faithful about wearing masks and social distancing, and engaging in a churchwide stewardship campaign in late 2021. Members were given the opportunity to talk about what the church meant to them, how they had become a part of the church family, and how the church continued to support them. In the midst of the pandemic, our rector/vicar was called to another parish. We were fortunate to find an interim who has worked to revive the church in many ways. Some members have accepted the changes more than others, as should be expected. The vestry and mission committee listened to those sharing their frustrations. We've adapted to the new technology and come to realize that there are multiple ways to worship. Slowly, the church is being revived!



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### Prior Incumbents

Name	Position Title	Date Begun	Date Ended
The Rev. Gayle McCarty	Interim	2021-08	

Name	Position Title	Date Begun	Date Ended
The Rev. Elizabeth Wheatley-Jones	Rector / Vicar / Priest-in-Charge	2016-07	2021-06

Name	Position Title	Date Begun	Date Ended
The Rev. Clelie McCandless	Interim	2015-08	2016-06

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

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

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://sttimothys.dioms.org/>

Media Links:

- > <https://www.holycrossolivebranch.org/>
- > <https://www.facebook.com/holycrossolivebranch/>

Online References:

- > <https://sttimothys.dioms.org/>
- > <https://www.facebook.com/sttimothysouthaven>

Languages Significantly Represented:

**English**

Provide Worship or Classes in:

**English**

### References

Bishop:

**The Rt. Rev. Brian R. Seage**

601-948-5954; [brseage@dioms.org](mailto:brseage@dioms.org)

Diocesan Transition Minister

**The Rev. Canon Paul Stephens**

601-948-5954; [pstephens@dioms.org](mailto:pstephens@dioms.org)

Current Warden/Board Chair

**Mike Ligon, St. Timothy's; Cliff Montjoy, Holy Cross**

Mike Ligon, St. Timothy's - [Mligon951@gmail.com](mailto:Mligon951@gmail.com) Cliff Montjoy, Holy Cross - 662-801-6693; [mr.montjoy@gmail.com](mailto:mr.montjoy@gmail.com)

Previous Warden/Board Chair

**Debbie Webb, St. Timothy's; Beth Baker, Holy Cross**

Debbie Webb, St. Timothy's - 662-671-4438; [keithanddebbie388@gmail.com](mailto:keithanddebbie388@gmail.com) Beth Baker, Holy Cross - [elisabeth.baker@stjude.org](mailto:elisabeth.baker@stjude.org)

Search Chair

**Barbara H. Jones**

901-485-2860; [bhJones9@outlook.com](mailto:bhJones9@outlook.com)

Parish/Institution

Local Community Leader