



Office for
Transition
Ministry

Ministry Portfolio

Full Portfolio (last updated Apr 26, 2019)

Church of the Resurrection, California

399 Gregory Lane, Pleasant Hill , CA 94523, United States

Contact:

Rector / Vicar / Priest-in-Charge | Receiving Names until 05/31/19.

deniseo@diocal.org

Weekly Average Sunday Attendance (ASA)	Number of Weekend Worship Services	Number of Weekday Worship Services	Number of Other per Month Worship Services
131	2	1	
Current Annual Compensation	Cash Stipend	Housing / Rectory Detail	Utilities
SECA reimbursement	Compensation Available for New Position	Housing Available for	Pension Plan
		0	We're in compliance with CPF requirements.
Healthcare Options	Dental	Housing Equity Allowance in budget	Annual Equity Amount
Full family	Yes		
Vacation Weeks	Vacation Weeks Details	Continuing Education Weeks	Continuing Education Weeks Details
One month, including 5 Sundays (standard)		2 (standard)	
Continuing Education Funding in budget	Sabbatical Provision	Travel/Auto Account	Other Professional Account
	Yes	No	No

Following diocesan compensation for "C" congregation.

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

For many years we have participated in the Warm Winter Nights program, an interfaith effort to keep homeless families warm and fed during the winter months. We partner with other faith communities, Christian and non-Christian, to host for two weeks, sharing the ministry of providing meals and shelter to families after they spend their days at work, school, and training programs. This ministry is widely supported by our parish members, who provide a variety of gifts, talents and resources, including manicures, massage, tutoring, reading to the younger children, etc. Last Halloween our volunteers took the children trick-or-treating in the neighborhood. Even the children from the parish participate in this event. Throughout the years this has become a thriving ministry that people look forward to with great fondness and anticipation.

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

We invest in faith formation for the spiritual growth and development of our members, to equip people to go out and do the work we are called to do as Christians. We are invested in the future of the church by supporting our children and youth. Because this area is of utmost importance to us, for over 20 years we have had a staff position dedicated to the Faith Formation of children, youth and families, even when it has challenged our budget. Currently our staff includes a part-time youth minister and a half-time associate for children and families. We have a Legacy Fund, which connects with our past to build for the future. Investing in our physical campus to make it safer and more environmentally efficient has long been a top priority. We fund improvements to our campus from the Preserving Our Future account, established with a previous Capital Campaign. This account allows us to address planned improvements and ongoing major maintenance to ensure the sustainability of our buildings.

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

compassionate, flexible, pragmatic, Lead with integrity and be open, and comfortable working collaboratively.

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

Different opinions, ideas, or beliefs can be found among members of our faith community. We are open to and excited about embracing a wide range of ideas regarding liturgy and worship styles. We use the Book of Common Prayer as our foundation, but take advantage of all of the flexibility that is allowed by the Prayer Book and our tradition, bringing in many other resources. Our casual nature, flexibility, and openness to alternative resources is also mirrored in how we use our space in the Sanctuary. We welcome the variety resulting from flexible rearrangement of furniture. We have chairs, not pews, and a moveable platform for the altar. We have a soft space up front for children, who are always welcome and included in the service. Musically, we have both an organ and a grand piano, a dedicated choir at our 10:15 A.M. Sunday service, and many guest instrumentalists. We are energized by diverse musical styles and are open to the changes they bring. We have two main services, and our openness and flexibility spill over into other services throughout the year.

How do you practice incorporating others in ministry?

We incorporate others by using the following: Written invitations to all, personal invitations extended by leaders and participants, announcements in church, and inclusion in the weekly Ministry News. At times, individuals have brought their ideas and passions for new ministries forward and have been empowered to do them. Admittedly, this is an opportunity for growth. We want to improve in identifying and activating the gifts of others as well as welcoming and incorporating new members into our existing ministries. We would welcome our next rector to help lead us in this area.

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

This is a community of faith whose members are deeply invested in one another. People help each other out in times of loss and need. Members of the congregation address perceived needs and organize others to help. We recognize that this is an area that could be more organized and inclusive. In addition, we have a healing prayer station at both services; our Prayers of the People includes a parish cycle of prayer where over the course of the year each parishioner is prayed for by name; Eucharistic Visitors ensure that those who are unable to attend church are connected; and we have intercessory prayer groups at various times. We have recently added a Labyrinth to our campus, which is open to all. We also offer adult faith formation sessions, and have separate retreats for men, women, and youth in addition to our all-parish retreat. Importantly, we are always looking for ways to have fun together.

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

The results of our Mutual Ministry review (about 5 years ago) identified service to others as one of our real strengths and a top priority. This is being carried out in many ways. The orchard on our grounds provides fruit to the local county Food Bank. Parishioners participate monthly in Loaves and Fishes, a local program that serves lunch to the homeless and those in need. Our Associate for Children and Family Ministry leads a bi-weekly chapel for our preschool, the parish sponsors a Boy Scout troop and supports youth mission trips in partnership with other churches in our diocese. As described elsewhere, we participate annually in the Warm Winter Nights program and host the Party with a Purpose. Our campus especially comes alive one week each summer with up to 100 children and youth from the parish and the surrounding community who participate in Vacation Bible Camp. Throughout the year, we provide space for programs benefiting the wider community, such as 12-Step programs, Singing Messengers, and a centering prayer group. We actively participate in various drives to help meet the needs of charitable organizations throughout the year.

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

We have a high degree of participation in the wider Church. Our delegates are active in Deanery events and Diocesan Convention. We have members who serve on the board for the diocesan Bishop's Ranch, and we have members who have been very active in diocesan summer camps. Our youth attend events within our deanery and diocese. As a church we participate in some of the functions of the Pleasant Hill community, such as the 4th of July parades and Pride events. In cooperation with the mayor of Pleasant Hill, we recently hosted and facilitated a public symposium on gun violence. Our parish is a member of the Contra Costa Interfaith Council and Interfaith Housing Project. Our clergy have always been active in the ecumenical clergy group in Pleasant Hill and with interfaith collaborations to address the needs and challenges of our community, including, for example, homelessness. Our parish also participates in monthly ecumenical Taizé services on a round-robin basis with several churches in our area.

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

For three years we have hosted the annual Party with a Purpose, from which 100% of the proceeds benefit Monument Crisis Center and Contra Costa Interfaith Housing, local organizations that support the homeless and those in need. This event offers a chance to gain a deeper understanding of our beneficiaries, and the last one featured live music, cuisine from around the world, and a wine toss. Over \$5,000 was raised and split between the two programs. For more information, contact the church office: 925-685-2288.

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

Good stewardship is one of our core values. As stated in our 2019 Annual Report, “[w]e use the resources at our disposal wisely and responsibly.” Although we don’t talk about it often as stewardship, we are good caretakers of the gifts that have been entrusted to us. We take good care of our physical plant, we take good care of our people, and we make good use of the talents and gifts that people offer. Like many parishes, we often focus on the financial aspects in order to plan our budget. Our practice of financial stewardship has been a yearly pledge drive on which we base our budget. At times we have funded major projects through capital campaigns, which have not significantly drawn away from annual giving (e.g., last year we raised \$250,000 to seismically retrofit the church apart from the stewardship drive). Part of our budget each year goes to the Preserving Our Future fund, to ensure funds are available for future maintenance or possible emergencies. Our parish members are extremely generous with their own resources, and when additional needs have arisen they have stepped in and offered their support. We would like to broaden our awareness of the wider scope of stewardship.

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

The clergy and leadership of Church of the Resurrection have always highly valued open communication and honest transparency. Because of this, we have been able to remain a very congenial, collaborative, and tolerant church. There is not much open conflict, although we sometimes avoid tensions in order to keep the peace. When there is a conflict within a particular ministry group or area, it is dealt with quickly and privately, without bleeding out into the wider community.

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?

This time of transition is the biggest change we’ve faced in a long time. We understand the importance of clear and open communication with the entire congregation when addressing a system change. This has gone best when we have informed people well in advance of an impending change and the reasons behind it, using a variety of forms of communication. Although we are fairly open and flexible, our members do not respond well when change is effected in an authoritarian way. During this interim time the search committee has learned that it is valuable to take multiple opportunities to invite participation and to listen to and reflect as many of the voices of our community of faith as we can.



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Prior Incumbents

Name	Position Title	Date Begun	Date Ended
Bruce Smith	Rector / Vicar / Priest-in-Charge	1988-01	2018-01

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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Worshipping Community Web site: <http://www.resurrectionph.org/>

Media Links:

Online References:

Languages Significantly Represented:

English

Provide Worship or Classes in:

English

References

Bishop:

The Rt. Rev. Marc Andrus

Diocesan Transition Minister

Denise Obando

deniseo@diocal.org / 415.869.7804

Current Warden/Board Chair

Previous Warden/Board Chair

Search Chair

Parish/Institution

Local Community Leader