



Office for
Transition
Ministry

Ministry Portfolio

Full Portfolio (last updated Jul 18, 2025)

Church of The Good Shepherd, Granite Springs, New York

39 Granite Springs Road, Granite Springs, NY 10527, United States

Contact:

Priest-in-Charge Shared Ministry

transitions@dioceseny.org

Weekly Average Sunday
Attendance (ASA)

37

Number of Weekend
Worship Services

1

Number of Weekday
Worship Services

Number of Other per Month
Worship Services

Current Annual
Compensation

Cash Stipend

Housing / Rectory Detail

Utilities

SECA reimbursement

Compensation Available for
New Position

Housing Available for

Pension Plan

**We're in compliance with
CPF requirements.**

Healthcare Options

Full family

Dental

Yes

Housing Equity Allowance in
budget

Annual Equity Amount

Vacation Weeks

**One month, including 5
Sundays (standard)**

Vacation Weeks Details

Continuing Education Weeks

2 (standard)

Continuing Education Weeks
Details

Continuing Education
Funding in budget

\$501-\$1000/year

Sabbatical Provision

Yes

Travel/Auto Account

Yes

Other Professional Account

Compensation & benefits negotiable from diocesan minimums.

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

Twice a month a team of volunteers from other organizations along with our COGS volunteers gather in our COGS kitchen to prepare and serve a free hot lunch and delicious desserts to our local seniors. In addition, each attendee receives a take home dinner to enjoy later. It's gotten very popular with our seniors as we have an average of 50-60 attending most times. We also provide music and at times the seniors even get up and dance! Also, twice a month we make approximately 300 bag lunches which we deliver to two local food pantries.

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

We have invested in updating our website, strengthening our social media presence, and improving our Zoom technology to better connect with both our congregation and the wider community.

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

Spiritual. Faith. Fellowship. Outreach. Community. Strength. Growth

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

We celebrate Holy Communion every Sunday with a Rite II service, enriched by music and our dedicated choir. While our worship is rooted in tradition, we are a relaxed and welcoming congregation, creating a space where all feel comfortable and included.

How do you practice incorporating others in ministry?

Each pew contains contact information cards, allowing us to connect with newcomers and welcome them into our community. During every Sunday Mass, an announcement is made inviting everyone to gather in the Parish Hall for Coffee Hour—a time of fellowship that immediately follows the service.

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

Pastoral Care & Prayer Group: This team gives support by providing home and hospital visits, rides, meals, and actively prays daily for the confidential needs of our parishioners and friends. **Music Ministry:** We have an active choir, some of whom are musicians too and perform on most Sundays and holidays. **WOCOGS:** The Women of the Church of the Good Shepherd is a fellowship group open to everyone. They help raise funds through plant and bake sales, etc. and also includes a birthday card ministry who send out cards to all parishioners.

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

Our parish community is active in service beyond our church walls. Members volunteer at the local hospital, offering Reiki healing to the professional staff as a way of giving back to those who care for others. We also participate in outreach programs, including preparing and distributing meals for seniors and providing bag lunches for local food pantries. These efforts reflect our deep commitment to compassion, healing, and service in the broader community

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

In 2024 we further expanded the senior program to include Brewster, a nearby town in Putnam County, Brewster has a large populations of seniors, many of whom are food insecure. To give you a sense of the problem, about 18% of Brewster's population lives below the poverty line. Seniors, sixty five and older, make up nearly 45% of that number. In the spring of 2024 we began a once a month lunch program in that provides two hot meals to 35 seniors each month. In the spring of this year we will increase the frequency to two times per month. With the addition of Brewster, we are now serving over 150 people nearly 7,500 meals per year. In total, between the senior and food pantry the church provides about 10,000 full meals each year. It is our hope to grow the congregation, through the many community volunteers and support from local clubs that help with the distribution of food to the community.

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

Senior Luncheon is our largest outreach program which is growing weekly. Please contact Jack Berkowitz jackmberkowitz@gmail.com

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

We celebrate our life together not only on Sundays, but throughout the week—through phone calls, emails, texts, and informal gatherings. These moments of connection strengthen our bonds as a parish family. On Sundays, we bring it all together in worship during Mass and fellowship at Coffee Hour. We recognize that not everyone is able to give financially, but everyone gives in their own meaningful way. Through time, presence, prayer, and care for one another, we are united in spirit and service. It is this generosity of heart that truly connects us all through God.

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

A few years ago, our congregation faced a difficult period of disagreement with our former rector, which led to the departure of long-time parishioners, a decline in pledge income, and ultimately, the rector's resignation. For many, it was not only a loss of leadership but also a testing of faith. It was a profoundly challenging time. And yet, through resilience and mutual support, we endured. Our commitment to this church and to one another remains strong. As a community, we have reaffirmed our values, including our belief in the importance of maintaining a respectful separation between church and politics. We continue to move forward together with faith, compassion, and hope

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?

Serving as Warden during this time of transition has been both rewarding and, at times, frustrating. However, by leaning on the support of the vestry and listening to the insights and ideas of both elder and younger parishioners, we have grown stronger together. Through collaboration and shared wisdom, we have come together as a unified community.



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Prior Incumbents

Name	Position Title	Date Begun	Date Ended
The Rev. Anahi Galante	Supply	2024-06	2025-06

Name	Position Title	Date Begun	Date Ended
The Rev. Gweneth Mackenzie Murphy	Interim	2023-09	2024-06

Name	Position Title	Date Begun	Date Ended
The Rev. Hal Roark	Rector / Vicar / Priest-in-Charge	2016-09	2023-09

Church School		Number of Teachers/Leaders for Children School	Number of Students for Children School
YES		4	11

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://goodshepherdny.org>

Media Links:

Online References:

www.youtube.com/@goodshepherdgranitesprings5225

Languages Significantly Represented:

English

Provide Worship or Classes in:

English

References

Bishop:

Diocesan Transition Minister

Current Warden/Board Chair

Previous Warden/Board Chair

Search Chair

Parish/Institution

Local Community Leader