

Church of the Resurrection, Clarkston, Michigan

A Small but Mighty Community: Promoting Unity, Serving with Heart

The mission of the Church of the Resurrection is to help restore all people to unity with God and each other in Christ. We respect the dignity of every person and support activities that seek to unite all humankind and elevate marginalized populations.



Who We Are: Welcoming, Joyful and Casual in the presence of God

Founded in 1960, Church of the Resurrection is the Episcopal mainstay for the Village of Clarkston and surrounding communities. We are a stable, inclusive, and deeply committed congregation of approximately 80 members. We operate with a balanced budget and a spirit of abundance, supported by a dedicated group of pledging families.

We are small but mighty and believe the future of our Church requires growth. While we take pride in our history and our retirees' wisdom, we are a congregation looking to the future. We are active, involved, and hungry for growth—ready to welcome more young families into our fold.



Sunday Worship: Participatory and Personal

We follow the Episcopal liturgy, and our "casual-and-open" approach is what defines us.

- **The Liturgy:** Imagine a service where children and laypeople are active contributors to the lessons. Our children don't just watch; they assist the priest at the altar.



- **The Peace:** It isn't just a greeting; it's a moment where fellowship extends across pews and into the aisles.
- **Lay Leadership:** On Sundays without clergy, we practice Morning Prayer led by a lay leader who, in place of a sermon, provides a story to illustrate and reinforce the day's lessons and invites discussion.



- **The "Social Hour":** Following the service, parishioners convene in the fellowship hall to enjoy our very popular coffee/social hour with coffee and baked goods prepared by a rotating team of volunteers.
- **Hybrid Community:** If a number of parishioners are unable to attend in person, we broadcast the service live on Zoom, often engaging remote attendees to participate as lay readers.



Bishop Bonnie Perry brought a special touch of love and grace to our 2025 Christmas Eve service, guiding us through a wonderful evening of prayer and song.

Fellowship and Outreach: Faith in Action

Our outreach is fueled by the volunteerism and community service mentality of our parishioners, both in terms of time and money. Our parishioners engage in service at the church, in the surrounding community and beyond, enabling our outreach to have real impact and meaning.

Serving our Church: Beyond typical church functions (altar guild, lay readers), parishioners volunteer to host our weekly coffee/social hour, take part in spring clean-up and planting, and organize door-to-door Christmas caroling for homebound members.



Serving our Community: Our relationships with other civic organizations enable us to extend the reach of our service to Christ.



- Multiple times a year, we host fundraising bake sales at the local “Friends of the Library” book sales and raise money for local literacy programs.
- Every fall, we collect school supplies to help needy kids get off to a good start.
- At Thanksgiving, we collect food for the local pantry.

- Our annual partnership with “Humble Design” will find a trailer in our parking lot with church volunteers collecting household furnishings to help transition the homeless into stable homes.



Promoting Fellowship:



Our holiday-oriented events, such as “Day of the Dead” and “Blessing of the Animals” attract potential parishioners to our doors. And our Tuesday mahjong event (promoted in the local paper) is lauded as the friendliest in town – newcomers welcome!



A Broader Reach: Just this past year, we supported (and participated in) a women’s empowerment mission in Madagascar, working alongside the local bishop. And following the devastating ice storm in northern Michigan, we collected money to help Episcopal Camp Chickagami recover from damage to buildings and trees.



Supported by the "Noisy Plate": Many of these are supported by our "Noisy Plate" collection where every Sunday a youth passes a tin plate to collect loose change for that quarter's outreach initiative, proving that small gifts add up to major change.



Our neighborhood and town: Village of Clarkston, Michigan

The Village of Clarkston boasts an historic past with many quaint shops, restaurants, and historic homes, and earned a designation on the National Register of Historic Places.



Located in northern Oakland County, the church is directly across from the Clarkston-Independence District Library and just blocks from Main Street (M-15), the Kimball Preserve, five minutes from I-75 Exit 93, and 34 miles from downtown Detroit. Surrounded by neighboring Springfield and Independence Townships, the area is home to about 51,300 residents.

Who We Seek: Our New Pastor

We are looking for a **Shepherd and a Partner**. Our ideal leader is someone who thrives in a casual environment and is energized by a "roll-up-your-sleeves" culture.

Our Next Leader Should Be:

- **Collaborative & Flexible:** A leader who values our participatory worship style and welcomes children at the altar.
- **Intellectually Engaging:** We appreciate sermons that connect the Gospel to life today, challenging us to think deeply and act justly.
- **A Community Bridge-Builder:** Someone willing to engage with the wider Clarkston area to help communicate our spirit and grow our numbers.
- **A Spiritual Guide:** We are eager for new spiritual offerings, such as resurrecting our Bible study program, led either by you or by lay leaders under your guidance.

This is a part-time call, and we are open to conversations around clergy sharing with another congregation.

Church of the Resurrection and the Diocese of Michigan

Our church is part of the Diocese of Michigan, one of three Episcopal dioceses in the state. The Diocese of Michigan covers southeast Michigan, including the cities of Detroit and Ann Arbor. Church of the Resurrection is an apportionment-paying and involved member of the Diocese.

Our online presence includes a Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/clarkstoneepiscopal/> and a website: <https://clarkstoneepiscopal.com/> . Our website needs some updating, but provides an extensive overview of our history, passions, and ministries.



Discernment for a call begins early in the Diocese of Michigan!

The Episcopal Diocese of Michigan exists to equip and create vital, viable communities of faith that embody the Gospel of Jesus Christ in a way that our world gets better. Guided by our bishop, the Rt. Rev. Dr. Bonnie A. Perry, we are a diocese the values collegiality, creativity and openness. We invite you to come and join us and we embody the Gospel both inside and outside our church doors.

How to Apply

PLEASE SEND A COVER LETTER (ADDRESSED TO THE SEARCH COMMITTEE), YOUR RESUME OR CV, AND A PDF OF YOUR OTM PROFILE TO THE REV. CANON SUSIE SHAEFER, CANON FOR TRANSITIONS AND FORMATION, AT SSHAEFER@EDOMI.ORG

