

Rector, Christ Church Bastrop, LA.

Bastrop is ex-urban Monroe, LA, the home of the University of Louisiana-Monroe and, of course, Duck Dynasty.

Christ Church has been served by a retired priest for a few years and it is now time for him to move on because of health reasons. The vestry wants a fulltime rector and they have the money to fund it. In addition, they have a \$600,000 endowment that is doing extremely well.

The town has seen some decline because of the closure of a plant, but there is potential here for some growth, outreach and impact on the community. In addition, there are a number of very well trained and competent clergy who are within a short driving distance of Bastrop so there is clergy collegiality. The ASA is about 55, but it was in the mid-70s not that long ago. There is an aging plant, but it is in good condition and the location is just off the main thoroughfare in town. Bastrop also acts as a bedroom community for a number of workers in Monroe.

The congregation needs to focus on the following areas: outreach; stewardship; congregational growth. The vestry seems committed to these things.

We are looking for the following in a candidate:

- Good interpersonal relationship skills
- Ability to work with laity to help expand their ministry
- Good communication and pastoral skills
- Ability to help develop a vision for mission and ministry

We would take a seminarian for this position. The bishop's office would provide further support and training where needed. The bishop's staff is committed to seeing this be a success as a re-energizing of a congregation. This is not so much a restart as it is a re-energizing of a good congregation. Enthusiasm is necessary. Being a self-starter is good, but with an eye to working WITH the members of the congregation.

This might also be a very good position for a curate who is ready to move on to something new -- to begin ministry as the leader of a congregation.

We would like to fill this position by Summer, 2017.

Interested candidates should contact Transitions Consultant to the Diocese of Western Louisiana, The Very Rev. Ronald Klingenpeel, directly at rhclingenpeel@yahoo.com 314-249-5908