St. Paul’s Episcopal Church in Greenville, Michigan, seeks an energetic, imaginative, family-friendly priest to lead our parish with vision and warmth as our half-time rector. We are a financially sound and spiritually healthy self-sustaining parish of approximately 80 baptized members with an average of 40-45 members pledging and attending regularly. We are the only Episcopal Church in Montcalm County and are aware of our strategic importance for people who are seeking a thoughtful, inclusive approach to Christian life and service.

The ideal candidate is one with a deep and articulate faith, a commitment to social justice, a willingness to connect with the community, and an ability to take initiative while working collaboratively in ministry with lay leaders. Our worship is based in the Prayer Book and Hymnal, with additions from *Enriching Our Worship, Wonder, Love and Praise*, and some Lutheran sources. Music is an important part of the worship at St. Paul’s; anchored in the Hymnal 1982 and simplified Anglican chant, the service is usually sung.

**Our Parish:** Founded in 1872, St. Paul’s has developed deep ties to the local community and a strong tradition of laity and clergy working together in ministry. Lay people serve in worship on the worship committee the Altar Guild and the healing prayer team, and as acolytes, Eucharistic ministers, intercessors, lectors, preachers, and choristers and soloists. There are week-day Bible studies and frequently a book discussion group, led by both lay leaders and the rector.

We understand our mission to be "through action to share the love of Christ, the word of God, with one another and the world." Our main outreach ministry is the Food Kitchen, which serves lunch and supper every Tuesday to whoever comes; we serve 45-70 people in these two meals. We sponsor food baskets for Thanksgiving and provide items to the ecumenical food pantry and care packages sent to service men and women on active duty; we have sent members on mission trips to other dioceses. Our parish hall serves as a meeting and rehearsal space for a variety of community groups. We give a portion of our investment
account to ministries outside our community. Financially sound and spiritually healthy, we are a self-sustaining parish, caring for each other and serving the world around us.

**Our Community:** Greenville is a city of about 8500, located in Montcalm County about 40 miles northeast of Grand Rapids. Many residents work in Grand Rapids and live in Greenville for its quality of life. Most jobs are in the service sector and Greenville is actively working to continue its tool and die industry and rebuild its manufacturing strength. There is significant agricultural activity in the surrounding countryside, and the city boasts a Farmers Market.

Greenville has a public library and a community theater; there are many parks, lakes, and ponds in and around the town. The Flat River, popular for canoeing and kayaking, flows through town and there is an extensive system of hiking and biking paths around the town and into the surrounding areas. A highlight of the cultural year is the Danish Festival, celebrating the city’s original ethnic heritage. The school population is growing, and we very much wish to bring into our parish young families with children.

**Salary and Benefits**

This is a half-time position with a target start date of September 2015 offering:

- Stipend (salary and housing allowance), vacation, and continuing education time provided according to guidelines from the Episcopal Diocese of Western Michigan.
- Full health insurance coverage for clergy plus one
- Allowance for travel and expenses
- Sabbatical set aside

Interested Clergy Should Contact the Transition Officer for The Diocese of Western Michigan:
The Reverend Canon William J. Spaid
269 381-2710, ext 11
wspaid@edwm.org