

The Rev. Dr. Matthew T. Seddon

Christ Church Parish
Montes Escandinavos 405, Lomas de Chapultepec
11000 CDMX, México
revmatccmx@gmail.com
+52 55 5202 0949

US Forwarding Address: 13809 Research Blvd
Suite 500 PMB 92153
Austin, Texas 78750
matthewthomasseddon@gmail.com
801-230-3649

Education

M.Div. – Church Divinity School of the Pacific, 2012
Clinical Pastoral Education – 1 Unit – St. Mark's Hospital, Salt Lake City, 2010
Ph.D., 1998, M.A., 1994, B.A., 1990 – Anthropology – The University of Chicago

Ordination

Priest – December 15, 2012 – St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, Rt. Rev. Scott Hayashi
Transitional Diaconate – June 9, 2012 – St. Mark's Cathedral, Rt. Rev. Scott Hayashi
Canonically resident in the Diocese of Texas, Licensed in the Anglican Diocese of Mexico

Vocational Experience

Christ Church Parish – Mexico City, Mexico (Anglican Diocese of Mexico, Anglican Church of Mexico)
Rector – November 2018 – present

Christ Church was founded in 1871 as an English-speaking, Anglican Church in Mexico City. It currently has 175 active members with an ASA (2019) of 131. The church now also offers Spanish-language services, and the English-speaking congregation is diverse, consisting of approximately 30% American expatriates, 30% British expatriates, 20% Nigerian expatriates, 10% Mexican citizens who speak English and like to worship in English and in the Anglican tradition, and 10% other English-speaking expatriates.

- United the congregation behind a controversial kitchen renovation that had been stalled for 5 years
- Renovated the Parish Hall (both kitchen and Parish Hall renovations completed on budget and schedule)
- Developed and put forward two Spanish-speaking postulants
- Maintained a budget surplus, despite the renovation costs
- Increased the budget for the main outreach ministry, serving and feeding the poor in el Centro
- Developed the congregation at the main outreach ministry into a more formal mission
- Deepened connections with the expatriate community through personal contacts with Ambassadors
- Increased community knowledge of the parish through social media and articles in newspapers
- Developed new lay ministries at parish and outreach site
- Increased active participation by Nigerian members, and incorporated their music and dance into liturgy

St. John's Episcopal Church – Austin, Texas
Rector – December 2104 – October 2018
Priest-in-Charge – August 2014 – December 2014

St. John's is a parish with 200 active members and an ASA (2017) of 140. They worship in both English and Spanish.

- Developed a new mission statement
- Welcomed and integrated more than three dozen new members
- Balanced the budget
- Addressed deferred maintenance issues: repaired roof, replaced 1970s drop ceiling in parish hall
- Won a \$1,990 grant to produce braille worship materials for our blind members and visitors
- Brought Spanish-speaking and English-speaking members closer to one another

- Successfully established an Our Lady of Guadalupe prayer area without losing any members
- Completed discernment to offer marriages to people of the same sex
- Started new connections with the community – a community garden, a farmer’s market, and yoga
- Established working relationships with City Councilmembers and local community groups
- Began a new ministry to the homeless and grew existing refugee ministry
- Produced new websites in English and Spanish, established YouTube presence for sermons

St. Stephen's Episcopal Church – West Valley City, Utah

Vicar – December 2012 – July 2014 (half-time)

Deacon Administrator – June 10, 2012 – December 15, 2012 (half-time)

St. Stephen's is a mission with 160 active members and an ASA (2013) of 52. Located in the same church is the Iglesia Episcopal San Esteban; I worked closely with their vicar and congregation. With the grace of God and while serving as a half-time Vicar:

- Grew membership by 10–11% each year
- Took budget from a \$30k deficit to a balanced budget
- Addressed deferred maintenance issues: paved parking lot, painted, repaired roof, repaired ceiling
- Won \$65,000 grant for solar panels on church roof cutting carbon footprint by half
- Built a new playground and established a “Children's Church” for young children
- Oversaw website redesign, established YouTube, Twitter, and Tumblr presence
- Developed new education ministry for area high school students
- Healed poor relationship with San Esteban
- Built ecumenical and mission relationships with other churches and city leaders

Iglesia Episcopal San Esteban – West Valley City, Utah

Intern/Student Assistant – June 2011 – April 2012

LUMEN – Lutheran/Episcopal Campus Ministry – University of Utah

Chaplain Assistant – 2007 – 2009

Social Justice and Advocacy

México con Paz (Mexico in Peace)

Austin Sanctuary Network

District Four Homelessness Initiative

West Jordan Domestic Violence Council – Helped St. Stephen's Episcopal Church become first faith-based organization with representation on the Council.

Coalition for Religious Communities – Advocated for Medicaid Expansion, restrictions on Payday Lenders, and increasing the minimum wage at the Utah State Legislature

Diocesan and National Church Work

Assistant Director of the Diocese of Texas Commission on Hispanic Ministry

Grants Chairperson for the Diocese of Texas World Mission Board

Convening Cleric for the Austin Central Sub-deanery

Member of the Province VII Anti-Racism Team

Member of the Diocese of Texas Disciplinary Board

Grants, Awards, and Invited Speaking

Society of the Celtic Cross – \$1,990 grant for Braille embosser and software to produce Braille worship materials

Guest lectures at the Seminary of the Southwest – Our Lady of Guadalupe, Multicultural Pastoral Care, Multi-lingual Ministry

Diocese of Texas Vestry Conference – Lecture on multi-cultural ministry (2017)

Diocese of Texas First Time in Charge – Lecture on multi-cultural ministry (2017, 2018)

Blue Sky Program – Rocky Mountain Power – \$65,000 grant to install 20.54 kW solar panel system on parish hall to reduce carbon footprint by half

Interfaith Power and Light – \$2,500 grant for same solar panel system

Diocese of Utah – \$4,500 special maintenance grant for parking lot repair

Invited speaker – 18th Annual Wallace Stegner Symposium – Religion, Faith, and the Environment, University of Utah, April 12, 2013. See: http://ulaw.tv/videos/religion-faith-and-the-environment---matthew-seddon/0_qfhrsowq

Fran Toy Award in Multicultural Ministry – Church Divinity School of the Pacific, 2012

Evangelical Education Society – \$4,470 grant to study religious symbolism in Mexico and produce a website helping non-Latino churches understand worship space in order to be more welcoming to Mexican immigrants. See: <http://simboloyespacio.wordpress.com/>

Weblinks/Social Media

Christ Church - <http://www.christchurch.mx/>

St. Johns – English – <http://www.austinstjohns.org/> and Spanish – <https://www.austinsanjuan.org/>

Sermons

See: St. Johns – https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCnM5NKkXqs_bLi3Ocv5A_gQ

Personal Information

- Born, September 18, 1968
- Member of the Society of Ordained Scientists
- Can speak, preach, and preside in Spanish
- Had a 20-year career as an archaeologist working in Peru, Bolivia, and Nevada, Utah, Wyoming, Idaho, Colorado, New Mexico, Alaska, Illinois, and Pennsylvania
- Married to Heather Stettler, Ph.D.; father of Sadie Seddon-Stettler, age 20