



# The Flock

*The Printed Voice of St. Francis of the Tetons Episcopal Church*

## St. Francis of the Tetons Episcopal Church

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### Church Services

Sundays at 10:00am

### Office Hours

February 2024

## The Voice

Now that we've wrapped up the business part of 2023, I am looking forward to focusing on bringing 2024 to life and making it a productive year. I have faith that this will be coming to fruition due to the energy that I have been noticing over the last few months. The number of people who have decided to volunteer for committees and vestry positions has increased, and is very encouraging.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the folks who participated last year on committees, for Sunday services, and on vestry. The work of the volunteers goes largely unnoticed and without appropriate praise. I'm here to say **'Thank You!'** Without your service, we surely wouldn't be where we are today. I would also like to welcome all those people who are willing to jump in and become more involved this year. It's a very clear indication that many are feeling connected and want to share in the good work we are doing. I look forward to seeing and hearing from all of you as we reach toward our new goals. So, **'Thank You'** for coming on board!

So what's in store for February? In short, there is much to do. We'll start with Men's Breakfast this coming Saturday. Outreach will be setting the tables for a Shrove Tuesday pancake dinner, followed by an Ash Wednesday service to bring us into the Lenten Season. What are you planning to do with your 40 days and nights?, hopefully it will be something to move you closer to Christ. Will these acts continue beyond the 40 days? Can the 40 days of Lent bring you into something new and exciting? 40 days of preparation is a long time. Jesus prayed and fasted in preparation for his ministry.

Wouldn't it be great if we could all take that time to honor Him, while preparing ourselves for a closer connection with Him? Prayer, fasting and almsgiving are the 3 pillars of Lent. Where do you see yourself with respect to these? How can you participate in the Pillars? I suspect we all have some time and energy we could put forth, and with the rewards of a closer relationship with Christ, why wouldn't we?

It's such a great opportunity. It's 40 days and nights. A lot can happen. Don't miss out.

Be Well and God Bless,

John

## Meet Our 2024 Vestry Members

On January 21st we said goodbye to dedicated vestry members Sarah Balben and Elaine Moehring, who both served us for 3 years. At the same time we welcomed two returning members, Wood Palmer & Ruth Lindstedt.

### Senior Warden

#### John Parisee

This is John's fifth year as a Vestry member and fourth year as a Sr. Warden. His first year was spent as a Jr. Warden.

If John is not found on the golf course, you can find him at church volunteering his time toward the many projects that we have going on. John is married to our church administrator Nancy, they live in Victor, Idaho.



### Ron Lien

#### Jr. Warden

This is Captain Ron's fourth year on Vestry as our Jr. Warden.

He and his wife Gayle, one of our church musicians, were raised in North Dakota, they now reside in Alta, WY full time.

Ron enjoys fixing anything electronic and spending time on his boat in Jackson or in Yellowstone.



### Jerry Groshart

This is Jerry's third year as a vestry member.

Jerry is married to Deacon Rev. Nancy Groshart. Jerry & Nancy moved here from Logan, Utah, they now reside full-time in Driggs, ID with their dog.

They both enjoy hiking and being outdoors in the summer.



### Wood Palmer

Wood is serving his first 3 year term after previously serving 5 years on vestry from 2018-2023.

Wood brings many blessings to his position on vestry through his knowledge of outreach for our community as well as his experience with Boy Scouts.

Wood and his wife Ann Loyola reside in Alta, Wyoming full time.



### Ruth Lindstedt

Ruth has graciously accepted to come back to vestry for a 2 year term. Previously, Ruth served on vestry as our Treasurer from 2018-2021.

Ruth brings a lot of knowledge of church financials to her seat as a vestry member. I am sure her role as a Catholic Woman Priest will be a huge asset to us as she brings her pastoral wisdom to the vestry meetings.



### Dan Baxter

#### Parish Treasurer

(not a voting vestry member)

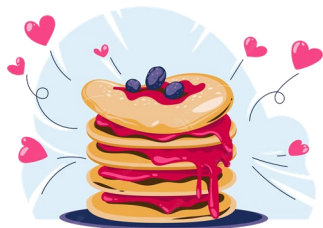
Dan has offered to serve his first full year as our St. Francis Treasurer.

Dan stepped into the Treasurer role in the middle of 2023, after the last treasurer resigned in June.

Dan lives in Victor full time. He spends his time on the golf course and the ski slopes.



## Shrove Tuesday



Join us on Tuesday,  
**February 13th at 5:30 pm**  
for a Shrove Tuesday pancake feast.

Shrove Tuesday is celebrated as a day of penitence, to clean the soul, and a day of celebration as the last chance to feast before Lent begins.

Donations of fruit, butter, bacon, sausage & orange juice as well as help in the kitchen will be needed, please see the sign up sheet at church.

## Ash Wednesday

Ash Wednesday service  
on **February 14th at 6:00**  
Come and receive your ashes!  
Rev. Eric Moehring will be our Celebrant



## Men's Breakfast



The February Men's Breakfast will take place on **Saturday, February 3rd at 9 am.**

This breakfast is open to anyone (men & women) who long for a delicious breakfast, cooked by the men in the church, and some good conversation.

Donations of eggs, english muffins, bacon & sausage are needed for this month's meal. Please call or email the church office if you can help.

Don't miss out on this opportunity to hang out with your friends at church!

## Ladies' Lunch



**Join Us For A Potluck Lunch**

**Wednesday, February 7th at 12:30 pm.**

You are invited to join us for our monthly potluck lunches that take place on the first Wednesday of the month.

This lunch is for all. Please bring a dish and friend if you can.

## Schindler Family Concert

The "Family Schindler" are planning a concert

**Sunday February 25th at St. Francis Church**

We hope you come and enjoy the talents of this musical and theatrical family.

More details will be coming, watch your weekly emails and announcements.



## Serving Our Neighbors & Our Community

January has been a busy month at St. Francis and our community. On January 28th we hosted a Teton High School Ambiance Choir performance, this was a chance to give the High School youth a chance to practice for their upcoming state choir competition. The house was packed for the performance! Kristy Romano led the magical sounds of the youth choir, much to the delight of all who attended. We look forward to having many more musical performances at St. Francis in 2024.



On the 29th & 30th the church opened its doors to those who live in Alta, Wyoming so they could sign a petition in reference to the high taxes that they have encountered as residents. Although the church had nothing to do with the petition, we felt it was an outreach opportunity to help our community by providing a space for them to come and make their voices known.

Coming up in February we will be hosting a "Schindler Family Concert", featuring the talented family members of Brent and Julie Schindler.

## Committee News

**Worship Committee** - You are invited to participate in Worship Committee which meets once a month after church. Our next meeting is February 11th. Here's the description of what we've been asked to do:



To creatively meet the worship needs of the parish.

To assist with training for Lay Readers, Greeter/ Ushers, Gift Bearers and Lay Eucharistic Ministers.

To coordinate with Music Ministers, Clergy and Altar Guild to plan worship services.

All input, both positive and constructive is welcome.

Just for fun, think of this riddle: What's missing...??? CH\_\_\_CH ??? - Gayle Lien

**Building & Grounds** - We met for the first time this year on January 28th. It was exciting to see some new faces and feel the energy that the members brought to the meeting. This year we look forward to finishing our Front Entry Project and new shed as well as some much needed help for our current sound system. Looking forward to a productive year! - Nancy Parisee

**Outreach/Fellowship** - The Outreach Committee is looking forward to a busy year in 2024, with the addition of several new members. We have already approved a request from the CRC (Community Resource Center) for rent assistance and are in the process of chartering the Boy Scouts for another year. Outreach needs your help for the potluck Shrove Tuesday fellowship event, please see the sign up sheet at church. - John Parisee

**Thank you to all who signed up for committees for 2024. This year we were blessed with new faces and new enthusiasm for our St. Francis committees. We ask that someone take the helm of each committee and get a meeting scheduled with the members so you can pick a chair and discuss how your committee can make an impact to either our church family or the community. Meeting on a regular or quarterly basis will help keep the members in touch as well as give them a chance to have their voices heard as well as create enthusiasm for the committee as a whole. Thank you for being the hands and heart of Jesus!**

We hope more committees will write an update each month on what they have been up to for our newsletters; our congregation wants to hear more!

## January Review



### It's All About Family

Left: Leland and Diane Brendsel pose with their son Michael at one of the January worship services. Michael has been visiting from San Francisco; he has been a regular at church services while visiting his parents. We will all miss his delicious short bread during fellowship time!



## Online Giving With Realm

Through Realm you can set up online giving so it automatically comes out of your checking or credit card account each month. You also have the control to give just one time or numerous times, whenever you feel inclined to make a donation.

To donate online please follow this link or the link on the front page of our website

<https://onrealm.org/StFrancis99835/give/now>

Your donations matter!



## Weekly Attendance & Offering

January 7	27	\$ 2,101.00
January 14	22	\$ 365.00
January 21	19	\$ 225.00
January 28	25	\$ 500.00



## Prayers of the People

Please remember in your prayers:

*Barb Rieb, Al Wilner, Harry & Martha Baxter,  
Hansine Goran, Jim Palmer, Tommy Huss, Ron  
Race, Marlene Wisinich, Connie Kirby,  
as well as all faith Communities and schools  
of Teton Valley.*



## February Birthdays & Anniversaries

### Birthdays

Toni Hill on February 1st  
Mary Lou Oslund on February 5th

### Anniversaries

None



## Church Staff & Vestry Members

**Bishop of Idaho**  
The Rt. Rev. Jos Tharakan

**Supply Priest**  
Rev. Eric Moehring

**Supply Priest**  
Fr. Coke McClure

**Senior Warden**  
John Parisee

**Junior Warden**  
Ron Lien

**Vestry Members**  
Jerry Groshart  
Wood Palmer  
Ruth Lindstedt

**Parish Administrator**  
Nancy Parisee

**Parish Treasurer**  
Dan Baxter

**Custodian**  
Angie Warner

## February Service Volunteers

### February 4th Epiphany 5 Morning Prayer

Presider: Rev. Nancy Groshart  
Musician: Beverly Charette  
Lay Minister: Ruth Lindstedt  
Lector: Jerry Groshart  
Greeter/Usher: Carl Schiner  
Altar Guild: Nancy Parisee  
Refreshments: Potluck

### February 11 Last Epiphany Holy Eucharist

Celebrant: Fr. Coke McClure  
Musician: Gayle Lien  
Euch. Minister: Nancy Parisee  
Lector: Jim Steele  
Greeter/Usher: John Parisee  
Altar Guild: Angie Warner  
Refreshments: Potluck

### February 14 Ash Wednesday Holy Eucharist

Celebrant: Rev. Eric Moehring  
Musician: Gayle Lien  
Euch. Minister: Angie Warner  
Lector: Ruth Lindstedt  
Greeter/Usher:  
Altar Guild: Angie Warner

### February 18 Lent 1 Holy Eucharist

Celebrant: Rev. Eric Moehring  
Musician: Beverly Charette  
Lay Minister: Sarah Balben  
Lector: Nancy Parisee  
Greeter/Usher: Linda Wilner  
Altar Guild: Sarah Balben  
Refreshments: Potluck

### February 25 Lent 2 Holy Eucharist

Celebrant: Fr. Coke McClure  
Musician: Rev. Eric Moehring  
Lay Minister: John Parisee  
Lector: Sarah Balben  
Greeter/Usher: Nancy Parisee  
Altar Guild: Beverly Charette  
Refreshments: Potluck



## St. Francis Vestry

### Approved Vestry Minutes December 2023

Present: John Parisee, Ron Lien, Jerry Groshart, & Dan Baxter as Treasurer, Elaine Moehring & Sarah Balben attended via Zoom.

The meeting was recorded on Zoom, the minutes were written from the recording.

The November vestry minutes were approved by the majority via email, Elaine abstained from voting on the minutes.

**Treasurer** - John reviewed and presented the Transaction Detail by Account. It was noted that an outreach expense category will need to be amended. A motion was made by Ron to accept the TDBA for November, Jerry seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried. Debit card account – Dan said that we will be phasing out our old debit card account. In the future we will be using the new church credit card. Dan will schedule meetings for the Finance and Endowment committees.

#### **Senior Warden -**

Bylaws – John said that there will be one more review of the Bylaws, hopefully they will be ready for the Annual Meeting.

Nomination Committee – Sarah announced that she is willing to stay on and take over what is left of Angie Warner's term on vestry, 2 years. Ron said he has decided to stay on another 3 year term. Both John and Jerry will stay on another year. A discussion took place for possible candidates for 2024.

Committee Descriptions – John asked for committee guidelines & descriptions, including protocol for each committee. This description should include what each committee does and how they get their work done. John will follow up with committee chairs.

Review of visit with Mother Lea Colvill – The vestry discussed concern over having someone that we don't know coming in and guiding our church. A self-analysis of our parish should be done by the incoming vestry. Members expressed their desire to look at our budget once we find out what her commitment would be and how much she would want to be paid. The vestry decided to table further discussions until after the annual meeting so that the new vestry members could be in place.

Raises and Bonuses to employees - The vestry discussed increasing Angie Warner's Christmas bonus and her hourly wage. Jerry made a motion to increase her wages, Elaine seconded the motion, all in favor, motion carried.

John made the motion to increase Angie's Christmas bonus, Jerry seconded the motion, all in favor, motion carried.



A motion was made to increase Nancy Parisee's wages. John stepped out of the room. A conversation took place but there was no decision to increase her wages.

John made a motion to increase the Musician wages per service, (Elaine and Ron recused themselves from voting), Jerry seconded the motion, all in favor (without Elaine & Ron), motion carried. John made a motion to increase the Musician Christmas bonuses (Elaine & Ron recused themselves from voting), Jerry seconded the vote, all in favor (without Elaine & Ron), motion carried.

**Junior Warden** - Ron gave a report stating that the crack in the basement floor has been fixed.

Ron installed almost all of the new LED light fixtures throughout the church.

We have hired Choice Property Mgt. to plow this winter.

New signs are up in our parking lot asking that parking throughout the winter if for church members only.

The Building & Grounds committee will be meeting on December 17<sup>th</sup>.

**Committees** - No written minutes or reports were submitted for review.

John announced that Gayle Lien is the new Worship Committee chair.

Sarah gave a verbal update on the recent Food Drive. She stated that the Sing a Long is coming up. She stated that there were outreach requests during the month of November.

Jerry gave a verbal update on the Pastoral Care committee.

The next meeting date is January 9<sup>th</sup>

**Additional Minutes Given to the December minutes given at the January vestry meeting -**

The members who met after the video was turned off retracted any raises given previously so they could look at the raises in relation to the 2024 budget. Ron made a motion to retract all employee and musician raises, Jerry seconded the motion, all in favor (except John who was not present), motion carried.

Respectfully submitted, Nancy Parisee

### **Approved Vestry Minutes**      January 2024

Present: John Parisee, Elaine Moehring Jerry Groshart, Sarah Balben, & Dan Baxter as Treasurer, Ron Lien attended via Zoom

The meeting was recorded on Zoom, the minutes were written from the recording.

The December vestry minutes were not approved.

**Treasurer** - Dan reviewed the financial report and the financials prepared for vestry.

The Transaction Detail by Account was reviewed for December. Dan recommended that the bonuses are reflected before the expenditures are approved. A motion was made by Sarah to accept the TDBA with the exception that the 2 outstanding bonus checks in the financials need to be resolved and need to be added to the administration wage bonuses, Elaine seconded the motion, all in favor, motion carried.

Dan said the Finance Committee met. Minutes of the meeting, along with the proposed 2024 budget were distributed to vestry members.

Dan presented the 2024 budget to the vestry members for their recommendation. The vestry had discussions on the pledge and plate amounts as well as employee compensation, they did not vote on the budget.

A discussion regarding CD's came up, Dan said there would need to be a recommendation from the Finance Committee to purchase CD's.

**Senior Warden** -

Nominations for Vestry – John thanked the two outgoing members of vestry for their time. He said that there are two people, who had previously served on vestry, that committed to serve again.

Senior Warden - John said that was willing to stay on another year as the Senior Warden. He stated that he had emailed the bishop regarding protocol for electing Senior Wardens, he has not heard back from him.

The Annual Meeting will take place on January 21, 2024.

Junior Warden 2024 – Ron said he was not interested in being the Junior Warden.

Employee reviews & raises – The Zoom recording was turned off for this part of the meeting. John reported that Ron made a motion to accept a cost of living raise of 4% for the two church employees, Jerry seconded the motion. John recused himself from voting for Nancy's raise. All in favor (except John for Nancy's raise), motion carried.

December vestry minutes – December Minutes were updated to include discussions and voting during the unrecorded period of the meeting.

**Junior Warden** - Ron reported that the front entry roof was shingled by John and Tom Warren.

He stated that we have been saving money on snow plowing due to the lack of snow.

The Building & Grounds committee will talk about replacing the Rennai heater in the sanctuary.

The egress window for the sleeping room in the basement came in.

**Committees** - Only the Finance Committee submitted written minutes for review.

Worship – John gave a verbal update and said that the Worship Committee is going well.

Outreach/Fellowship – Sarah gave a verbal update on Tin Cup expenditures during December.

Pastoral Care – Jerry said cards went out.

Finance – A verbal report wasn't required as Treasurer Report covered the same topics.

Endowment – John stated that we need another person on the Endowment Committee for 2024.

Building & Grounds – Ron said that the committee will discuss the front entry at their next meeting.








John thanked everyone for another year on vestry.

The next meeting date in February is scheduled for February 13<sup>th</sup>.

Respectfully submitted, Nancy Parisee

VESTRY

# February 2024

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1 Office Closed Centering Prayer 4pm	2 NA 6:30pm	3 Men's Breakfast 9 am 
4 <b>Epiphany 5</b> 10am MP with Rev. Nancy Groshart Finance & Endowment Committee Mtg after church Outreach/ Fellowship Mtg after Church Al-Anon 5pm	5 NA 6:30pm	6 Office Closed NA 6:30pm	7 Centering Prayer 11am Ladies' Lunch 12:30 pm NA 6:30pm 	8 Office Closed Centering Prayer 4pm	9 NA 6:30pm	10
11 <b>Last Epiphany</b> 10am HE with Fr. Coke McClure Worship Committee Mtg after church Al-Anon 5pm 	12 NA 6:30pm	13 Office Closed Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper at 5:30 pm NA 6:30pm 	14 + <b>Ash Wednesday</b> <b>Valentine's Day</b> ♥ Centering Prayer 11am Ash Wednesday Service at 6 pm with Rev. Eric Mochring NA 6:30pm	15 Office Closed Centering Prayer 4pm Vestry 6:30 pm 	16 NA 6:30pm	17 Bible Study 10am 
18 <b>Lent 1</b> 10am HE with Rev. Eric Mochring Pastoral Care Committee Mtg after church	19 <b>President's Day</b> NA 6:30pm	20 Office Closed NA 6:30pm	21 Centering Prayer 11am NA 6:30pm	22 Office Closed Centering Prayer 4pm	23 NA 6:30pm	24
25 <b>Lent 2</b> 10am HE with Fr. Coke McClure Schindler Family Concert TBD Al-Anon 5pm	26 NA 6:30pm	27 Office Closed NA 6:30pm	28 Centering Prayer 11am NA 6:30pm	29 Office Closed Centering Prayer 4pm	<u>Office Hours</u> Monday & Wednesday 9am - 3pm Friday 9am - noon	