

May 2024

# The Flock

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

St. Francis of the Tetons Episcopal Church

20 Alta School Rd. Alta, Wyoming 83414 307-353-8100 sftetons@gmail.com stfrancis.idahodiocese.com

> <u>Church Services</u> Sundays at 10:00am

<u>Office Hours</u> Monday & Wednesday 9am – 3pm

### The Voice



Due to a sudden change in leadership mandated by our diocesan office, we currently do not have a Senior Warden to write our "Voice" article this month.

Thank you John Parisee for all the time and thoughtfulness that you put into your beautifully written articles over the last three and a half years, I know your "voice" contributions will be missed by many.

#### Eastern Deanery Worship Leader Training

New and existing Worship Leaders in the Eastern Deanery are invited to attend Part One of the Worship Leader training on Zoom on Thursday, May 2nd from 10am - 11:45 am.

Trainings should be updated every three years and a license allows you to take part in leading the service of Morning Prayer as the main Sunday worship in parishes within the Episcopal Diocese of Idaho. Please email or call the Diocesan Office to RSVP with your email, telephone number, parish and the name of your priest/deacon (or Senior Warden if you have no clergy resident at your parish).



If you are taking the training for the first time please have your clergy person or senior warden send Canon Emily a note recommending you for the training.

Bring a hard copy of the Book of Common Prayer (a pew edition borrowed from your parish is perfect) along with a second device that can connect to the internet – we'll use these to explore resources.

Part Two of the training will be in person at your home parish or the closest parish with resident clergy.

Call or email Canon Emily with questions or for more details. <u>evanhise@episcopalidaho.org</u> or 208-297-3651. Or call the Diocesan Office to RSVP at 208-345-4440.

### A Visit From Our Deanery Deans



Our Eastern Deanery Deans, Bruce and Barbara Turner, will be visiting St. Francis on Sunday, May 5th.

Bruce and Barbara will be coming to talk to the congregation about the upcoming Diocesan Convention that will take place in Pocatello in November. Parishes in the Eastern Deanery will be helping to sponsor the meeting this year.

What can you do to help?

#### Potluck Mother's Day Brunch



A Mother's Day potluck brunch will take place after the church service on Sunday, May 12th.

Potluck dishes to share will be needed that day. Help will be needed in making the coffee & lemonade, putting out the dishes, and cleaning up afterwards.

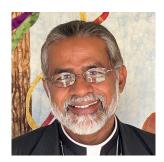
Now it the time to show the "moms" in your lives, whoever they may be, how much you love and care for them!

### The Bishop's Annual Visit

### Bishop Jos Tharakan

will be at St. Francis for his Annual Visitation

### Sunday, May 19th



Join us for a special service that day at 10 am followed by a potluck brunch. Bring a dish to share if you can

#### **Spiritual Retreat**



Church of the Redeemer in Salmon, ID is hosting a retreat featuring Brother James Dowd of Omaha, Nebraska on Saturday, May 18th from 9 until 3 pm.

Brother Dowd founded the Midwest's first Episcopal Benedictine Monastery in 2018 in Omaha, Nebraska. The monastery includes monks and lay people who attempt to follow Jesus in a specific way, a Benedictine way, which includes a life of prayer, service to the poor and forgotten, and a life of community fellowship.

There is no charge for the retreat, donations will be accepted. Lunch will be served. To register please email Ginny Griffith at ginnygriffith810@gmail.com.

Our Church of the Redeemer is located at 204 Courthouse Dr. Salmon,

### Spring Clean Up



## Your Help Is Needed! Saturday, May 18th at 9 am

Bring your gardening gloves and rakes to help us clean up the church grounds in preparation for the summer events.

## United Thank Offering

The ingathering for the UTO boxes will be on Pentecost Sunday, May 19th. Please bring your blue boxes filled with coins, cash, or checks and we will gather them and offer prayers for all of our blessings. This ministry is one of gratitude for every one of our blessings. Gratitude for our families and friends, our homes, our food, our health, our church, our jobs, our pets, our ministries and for our very lives. The coins we collect add up to cash which supports many, many parishes in the form of grants which are also available to St. Francis. By counting our blessings, we bless others so please grab a box if you don't have one and fill it with your spare change.

### Hannah Hoth Wins Distinguished Young Women Competition



Congratulations to Hannah Hoth, who was the overall winner of the Distinguished Young Women award on Saturday, April 20th at Teton High School. Hannah is the daughter of Monica and Edward Hoth.

In the talent competition, Hannah wowed the audience with her amazing piano performance; she also excelled in the physical fitness, academic, and interview portions of the competition, all of which she received additional scholarships for.

Hannah will go on to compete against other winners in Idaho in the state DYW competition that will take place later this year.

Well done Hannah!

#### Ladies' Lunch



#### Wednesday, May 1st 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.

### Office Closure in May

The church office will be closed from Wednesday, **May 8th through Tuesday, May 14th.** If you have a concern please email the office at sftetons@gmail.com or talk to one of our vestry members. Emails will be checked on a regular basis.



#### **April Review**



### Her Gift of Music

New to us musician, Susan Nowack, jumped in with both feet on April 28th to play for our worship service that day. Susan is the newest member of our blessed band of musicians at St. Francis. We truly are so grateful to have so much talent in our small parish.



Thank you to all our musicians for your beautiful gift of music!

### Birthday Blessings

The St. Francis ladies showed up for a surprise birthday luncheon for Nancy Parisee's 6oth birthday on April 17th. Gayle Lien, whose birthday took place on April 19th, was also honored during the luncheon.

Right: Nancy and Gayle were humbled when 10 ladies from the congregation sang "happy birthday" to them during a fabulous luncheon. Thank you for throwing and being part of Nancy's first surprise birthday party!



#### A Message From Nancy Groshart

Thank you to Ruth Lindstedt for her wonderful retreat on Saturday on care of creation/tending the earth. We had a day of meditation, communing with nature, paying attention to the beauty and gifts which surround us, beautiful poetry, Indigenous wisdom, and a lively conversation about how we can be better stewards. We discussed many ideas including regenerative agriculture, reviving an environmental program at St. Francis, looking into solar panels, and being more conscious of our own personal conservation efforts such as using less water, reducing our food waste, and eating local as much as we can. Thanks to Elaine Moehring for providing us with a delicious lunch. We also celebrated Sara Reinke's birthday. A bonus was a warm sunny day!





### Piano Concerts in May

The church has two musical concerts booked for the month of May. You are invited to attend a piano concert by High School Junior Lucy Bates on Monday, May 13th at 7 pm. You can also spend the afternoon listening to musical performances of the students of Selena Miskin on Sunday, May 19th at 2 pm.

#### We Need You!



Your help is needed to fill our weekly volunteer positions including Lector, Greeter/Usher, Refreshments & Altar Guild.

Lector - This person reads the first lesson during our worship service. Greeter/Usher - This job varies depending on whether the service is Morning Prayer or Holy Eucharist. When having Morning Prayer, the job of the Greeter/Usher is to welcome people at the beginning of the service, hand out bulletins, and count the number of people at the service and record it in the red book at the lectern. During Holy Eucharist, the Greeter/Usher will perform the duties above as well as bring up the communion gifts, along with another volunteer, collect the offering, and then bring the offering up during the Doxology. Refreshments - We have an open potluck refreshment time each Sunday, anyone can bring something to share. Help is needed to make coffee each Sunday, if you can help please email the office. Altar Guild - Our Altar Guild team has various tasks that are needed to prepare for the worship service each Sunday.

If you would like to help, please contact the office to get a detailed list of job duties.

#### **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



### Weekly Attendance & Offering

April 7	19	\$ 1,675.00
April 14	20	\$ 250.00
April 21	13	\$ 425.00
April 28	28	\$ 1,015.00



#### Prayers of the People

#### Please remember in your prayers:

Al Wilner, Will, Hansine Goran, Jim Palmer, Tommy Huss, Marlene Wisinich, Betty Elliott, Mary Carol Staiger, the family & friends of Bruce Blackmer, as well as all faith Communities and schools of Teton Valley.



#### May Birthdays & Anniversaries

**Birthdays** John Parisee – May 11th Clarke Arick – May 14th Carl Schiner – May 18th Mark Hanson – May 21st



#### **Church Staff & Vestry Members**

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

Supply Priest Rev. Eric Moehring

Supply Priest Fr. Coke McClure

#### Senior Warden

Junior Warden Ron Lien

Vestry Members Jerry Groshart Wood Palmer Ruth Lindstedt John Parisee

#### Parish Administrator

Nancy Parisee

Parish Treasurer Dan Baxter

**Custodian** Angie Warner

#### **May Service Volunteers**

<u>May 5</u> Easter 6 Morning Prayer	<u>May 12</u> Easter 7 Holy Eucharist Mother's Day	<u>May 19</u> Day of Pentecost Holy Eucharist Bishop's Visit	<u>May 26</u> Trinity Sunday Holy Eucharist
Worship Leader: Ruth Lindstedt	Celebrant: Fr. Coke McClure	Celebrant: The Rt. Rev. Jos Tharakan	Celebrant: Fr. Coke McClure
Musician: Beverly Charette	Musician: Gayle Lien	Musician: Beverly Charette	Musician: Rev. Eric Moehring
Lay Minister: Sarah Balben	Euch. Minister: Angie Warner	Euch. Minister: Ruth Lindstedt	Lay Minister: Sarah Balben
Lector: Jerry Groshart	Lector: HELP NEEDED	Lector: Jim Steele	Lector: Angie Warner
Greeter/Usher: Carl Schiner	Greeter/Usher: Linda Wilner	Greeter/Usher: Carl Schiner	Greeter/Usher: Ruth Lindstedt
Altar Guild: Sarah Balben	Altar Guild: Angie Warner	Altar Guild: Beverly Charette	Altar Guild: Sarah Balben
Refreshments: Potluck	Refreshments: Mother's Day Potluck	Refreshments: Potluck for Bishop	Refreshments: Potluck
For more information on how you	u can volunteer for any of our churc	ch services nlease see Nancy Parisee in th	ne office or call 207-252-8100

For more information on how you can volunteer for any of our church services please see Nancy Parisee in the office or call 307-353-8100.

#### St. Francis Vestry

#### **Approved Vestry Minutes** April 2024

Present: John Parisee, Jerry Groshart, Ron Lien, Wood Palmer, Bishop Jos Tharakan & Ruth Lindstedt attended via Zoom, Dan Baxter attended as Treasurer.

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

The March vestry minutes were approved via email by John, Ron, Ruth, Jerry, Ruth & Wood.

#### Treasurer –

Dan Baxter reviewed the Transaction Detail by Account for March. Ron made a motion to accept the expenditures and Jerry seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

Dan reported that the church purchased two CDs this month.

#### Senior Warden

- Congregational Development John stated that we should look at our role as a church and within the community. The committee discussed spiritual development and well as growing the church are two different topics to be discussed. Bishop Jos stated that he would like a recognized and authorized leader within the parish that leads our spiritual development that people can connect to.
- Sr. Warden Replacement John had spoken with a possible candidate to take over as the Sr. Warden, but that person declined. John asked if any of the vestry members would be willing to take on the Sr. Warden role, no one responded. A vestry member said that they felt that of all the Sr. Wardens they know, those wardens don't do 1/10 of what John has done in this church, they felt that this is an issue. This person also said that the amount of John's involvement and the fact that he is acting as the "face" of the parish every week is harmful. We will need the Sr. Warden replacement for the remainder of the year.

Eastern Deanery Meeting Review – The meeting took place last Saturday on Zoom. The purpose of the meeting



is to plan the upcoming convention in November. John stated that we will need to be involved in the planning of the convention. We are also in need of a new church banner to bring to convention.

**Recommendation from Building & Grounds Committee** – The Building & Grounds committee had met on Sunday and discussed an upgrade of our church audio system. As liaison, Ron Lien was supposed to present the recommendation and a bid from the Piano Gallery for the new system, which included accepting a gift from a parishioner for the new audio system. John asked Ron for his opinion, which was not in favor of the system. A discussion took place about whether or not vestry had been aware that there had been complaints about our sound system as well as how we accept gifts. John made a motion to accept the gift of a new sound system, Wood seconded the motion. No retraction of the motion was made on the vote to accept the recommendation from the B&G committee. The bishop decided to table the talk for now so that Ruth, Ron and John can have further discussions on the Building & Grounds recommendation.

#### Designated Funds -

- The purpose is to redefine guidelines after the bishop changed our Pastoral Care and Outreach committee descriptions last year.
- Pastoral Care will now oversee help for members of the parish and Outreach will oversee help for those outside of our parish.
- A discussion took place regarding the Thornton Hill Funds and whether they should be used for Pastoral Care or Outreach.
- It was determined that in 2009 the Thornton Hill fund was set up for church maintenance but over the years the fund had been used mainly for outreach and some pastoral care.
- In the past this fund has been a designated fund, but bishop felt that because this fund is not a donor designated fund it should be a vestry designated fund and be a part of the operating account in the future so that should be budgeted every year. The church vestry has the authority to move this fund into a non-designated fund, if passed with a majority.
- It was decided that if the committees want to withdraw funds from this account that they will need to get vestry approval.
- Raises for employees John had asked that vestry reconsider the raises for church employees since the initial raise voted on and then rescinded at the beginning of the year was to be larger. The employees received a smaller cost of living raise because the finance committee that was in place felt that we would not have money for larger raises, which is no longer an issue. No decision was made.
- Open Dialogue Discussion A member thanked John for being more inclusive lately.

#### Junior Warden

Ron reported that the chair lift was fixed. Ron had gotten a bid to remove the oil tank in the parking lot, John said he had a friend in Portland who does this kind of work, he will contact him about the project before we make any decision going forward. Ron and Brita picked up a backup Rennai heater from a donor.

#### Committees

Worship – no report was given.

- Pastoral Care Jerry reported that birthday cards have been sent out, meals & rides provided as well as calls to parishioners.
- Outreach John gave a verbal report on requests for assistance. Bishop's visit and Mother's Day coming up. We got our Tin Cup application in. From now on emails will need to be registered through the church and not through individual emails, the office will now be forwarding emails to volunteers.
- Building & Grounds Ron read the minutes from the committee meeting. John reported that the committee picked out light fixtures for the foyer so we can get the ceiling sheet rocked and put new lighting up.

Finance – no report was given.

Endowment – no report was given.

Christian Education – A further discussion took place regarding possible candidates to head up this committee. Ruth will follow up with contacting the candidates.

John's Role as Sr. Warden – John announced that this was his last meeting as Sr. Warden. The bishop will now be overseeing the vestry until we have a new Sr. Warden in place. John said he will remain on vestry as a member. The bishop will lead the vestry meeting in May. He will call and speak with vestry members to come up with a plan for a new leadership team. The bishop suggested that in the future the vestry meetings stay under an hour and a half. The bishop thanked John for his time as Sr. Warden.

The next meeting is scheduled for May 14<sup>th</sup>.

Respectfully submitted, Nancy Parisee





## May 2024

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	
			1	2	3	4	
-			Centering Prayer 11am	Office Closed Centering Prayer	NA 6:30pm		
<u>Office Hours</u> Monday & Wednesday 9am – 3pm Friday 9am – noon		Ladies' Lunch 12:30 pm	4pm				
		NA 6:30pm					
	en e						
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
Easter 6	NA 6:30pm	Office Closed	Office Closed - Nancy away	Office Closed	Office Closed - Nancy away NA 6:30pm		
10am MP with		NA 6:30pm	Centering Prayer	Centering Prayer 4pm			
Worship Committee Mtg			11am	-			
after church Deanery			NA 6:30pm				
Dean visit WORSHIP							
Al-Anon 5pm							
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	
Easter 7	Office Closed - Nancy away		Office Closed	NA 6:30pm	Church Clean U 9 am		
<b>Mother's Day</b> 10am HE with	Church Rental	Vestry 6:30 pm NA 6:30pm	NA 6:30pm	Centering Prayer 4pm		Cleanup	
Fr. Coke McClure	7 pm - Lucy Bates Piano	The	The	The			I Bible Study
Mother's Day	Concert NA 6:30pm						10 am
Brunch after church	•					HOLY	
Al-Anon 5pm							
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	
Day of Pentecost	NA 6:30pm	Office Closed	Centering Prayer	Office Closed Centering Prayer	NA 6:30pm	Church Rental	
10am HE with Rt. Rev. Jos Tharakan		NA 6:30pm	6:30pm 11am NA 6:30pm 4			1-5 pm Alta Cemetery Mtg. 6 pm	
Bishop's Visit							
Brunch With the Bishop							
Church Rental 2 pm - Miskin Piano Recitals							
Al-Anon 5pm							
26	27	28	29	30	31		
<b>Frinity Sunday</b>	NA 6:30pm	Office Closed	Centering Prayer	Office Closed	NA 6:30pm		
l0am HE with Fr. Coke McClure		NA 6:30pm	11am NA 6:30pm	Centering Prayer 4pm			
Al-Anon 5pm							