The Episcopal Diocese of Wyoming
Diocesan Council Meeting Minutes
August 7, 2019, Zoom 3pm


The Rev. Bobbe Fitzhugh provided an opening prayer.

Bishop Smylie welcomed the group and called the meeting to order at 3:01.

John moved to approve the minutes from the June 21, 2019, meeting. Seconded by Joe, motion carried.

Bishop updated Council on the Bishop transition/call for new Bishop. It was noted that his involvement in the process is very small and that all information we get from the Standing, Search, and Transition Committees will be put on the Diocesan website.

Hand Raymond Ranch Camp:
Joel gave an update on the property and building improvements. Wyoming Recovery is still working on the programming. The leadership team from Wyoming Recovery went and visited the camp last week. Joel noted that George Lentz has been volunteering his time to make updates to the camp. George has done an amazing job and our hope is to have the camp open for a clean-up later in early fall.

Wind River Indian Reservation:
Roxanne gave an update on the progress of the Strategic Plan at the Circle. She noted that their focus is on the Parish Hall on the circle in Ethete.

Financials:
Jessica gave an update on the 2020 Draft Budget.

Fresh Expressions:
Bobbe gave an update on Fresh Expressions. She noted that in information will be going out soon on the Round Tables that will be smaller Deanery Communities.

Regional Reports:
Region 1 – Kenli Lowe gave her report on Region 1.
Region 2 – Mary Appel gave her report on Region 2.
Region 3 – Tom Johnson gave his report on Region 3.
Region 4 – Peggy Hotchiss gave her report on Region 4.
Region 5 – No report given.
Region 6 – John Angst gave his report on Region 6.
John Angst offered special prayers to Press and Roxanne on and staff, as well as to Lynn Cunningham, and Bishop John Smylie. He also gave special thanks to Mary Erickson and her recent article in the eSpirit.

Closing Prayer provided by the Rev. Jim Shumard.

Adjourned at 4:05
Region I Report

Holy Trinity, Thermopolis
Rev. Ron Philips wrote:

Holy Trinity Thermopolis has been focused the past several months on the retirement of our rector Fr. Joe Galligan. He retired June 30th after 23 years with us. He and Ellen are deeply missed. The good news is that we are seeing the fruits of careful planning. Our congregation has really become a shared ministry congregation. We have a strong vestry, many willing hands and Fr. Ron Philips as our Priest of the Congregation.

St. Alban’s Worland
Sr. Warden Shirley Wildman wrote:

St. Alban’s hosted an Enneagram Workshop July 27, with Maggie Simpson, we had ten individuals attend. It was good time of learning about ourselves. We are preparing for our Annual picnic at St. Christopher’s in the Big Horns on August 18th.

Christ Church, Cody
Rev. Mary Caucutt wrote:

I’m happy to report that in July our deanery hosted a Pioneer Training at TAC (thanks to Bobbe!) and two Enneagram Workshops in Cody and Worland.

Christ Church has happily survived Mary’s sabbatical and “non” election as Bishop of Montana. We are transitioning a small house on our property into a Mission House with multiple use for/with the community and we are exploring initiating an Episcopal Service Corps experience which would begin in 2021.

St. John’s, Powell
Rev. Megan Nickles wrote:

St. John’s is supporting the formation of two Iona students, Kenli Lowe from Meeteetse and Nancy Fees from Cody. These two have joined our preaching collaborative, where they participate in offering feedback to other preachers, and receive feedback when it is their turn to preach here. We enjoy having these two new voices in our rotation, and hope that what we have to offer benefits their ministry.

We have also called two people to formation at Iona, Susan McEvoy and Tim Glatzer. Our community will continue to discern gifts and make additional calls to ministry this fall.

We had two small group formation classes this summer. Eight people were part of the "Embracing Forgiveness: What It Is and What It Is Not," and 12 people are working on "The Universal Christ" by Richard Rohr.

St. John’s youth group is working on raising funds to freshen up the playground. They have ordered a dump truck full of wood chips and are asking $1 for every shovel full. They are hoping to raise $3000.

The parking lot was freshly striped and parking blocks were installed in July. Hopefully this will help reduce some of the problems that have occurred. The lawn care shed took the brunt of those problems and was repaired as well.
On July 24 Megan went to the church for class and discovered that the basement had been vandalized. Apparently the door been left unlocked and some kids playing at our playground found their way into the building. Fortunately, no serious damage occurred but they did empty a fire extinguisher all over the basement. Many Parishioner responded to an emergency call and got the majority cleaned up that evening. The Powell police identified the kids and are working with the county attorney and DFS to resolve this situation. We purchased a new keyless lock to prevent further mishaps from happening.

We Baptized Haiden Urbach in June. He is the infant son of Nate and Hidee Urbach, granson of Tom and Deb Urbach of Basin.

Thank you for all the council does to support the work of diocese,
St. John's, Powell
Trinity Lander

June 10 – 8 am Men’s Breakfast

June 12, 26 – 5:30 Eve. Prayer, 6 pm Bible Study

June 15 – 8 am-noon Clothing Swap

June 15 – 6 pm Ministry Review w/ Joel Dingman, congregation, and carry-in

June 18 – 6 pm Vestry meeting

June 19 – Bobbe Fitzhugh, Liz Rawlings-Fresh Expressions

June 20 – 6 pm Ladies Night

June 21 – Trinity helps with Good Samaritan meal June 23 – Carry-in brunch after service

St. John’s Jackson

Mindfulness for Mamas group tomorrow in Hansen Hall

This weekend Sunday for a free Concert on the Green with Coburn Larsen!
St. Thomas Dubois

Vision Team organized and meeting

Annual Spring Clean up occurred 2 Sundays ago.

Attendance is near norms for Summer and we have had many visitors and guests. 53 attendees highest

Supply Clergy have expressed pleasure in celebrating HC at St. Thomas.

Bike Ministry has ramped up and folks from around the world have

Taken advantage of our hostelry.
Ethete

**Join the Bishop for a time to share your thoughts, dreams, and visions.**

2 days and 1 night at St. Michael’s Circle in Ethete Wyoming.

Aug 12-13 All youth entering 6th thru 8th grade

Aug 14-15 All youth entering 9th thru 12th grade

Aug 16-17 All graduated seniors and college students

Possible activities beyond time with the Bishop: * Tepee Set-up and Tepee Take-down  
* Indigenous Games for each age group  
* Archery by certified instructors  
* Arapaho and Shoshone Dancers  
* Shoshone Cultural Center Tour  
* Shoshone Episcopal Mission Tour  
* Sunrise Prayers in Arapaho  
* Cedaring Ceremony  
* Arapaho and Shoshone language spoken for grace

St. James Riverton

St. James is making preparations for Kim Daniels parish community meeting with the COM on the 28th of June at 6:00 pm. We also held a fill the laundry baskets for Eagles Hope, donating 4 baskets, several sets of sheets, pillows, cleaning supplies, and hygiene supplies. St. James held an appreciation of 5 years of service for Rev. Diane Carleton and Rev. Amy Mayes on Mother’s Day, also presented Rev. Diane Carleton with an original drawing by Gary Shoop for her new office in Torrington at All Saints. (Also a goodbye luncheon). St. James hosted 4 young adults who will are with Youth Works, and will be doing mission work on the Reservation for 8 weeks this summer. They were on a preliminary visit to get things finalized.

St. Andrews Atlantic City

Ordination of Bonnie Deyo
Church participation in AC Gold Rush Days
Campground Ministry at the BLM campsites in AC
Join the Bishop for a time to share your thoughts, dreams, and visions.

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Region IV Report
June 2019
Updated (somewhat) August 2019

Prepared and submitted by the Rev. Peggy Hotchkiss
Regional Representative
St. Mark’s, Cheyenne
Pentecost

The kids made crafts with Candy Snead. Then they had a picnic and played games.
St. Mark’s has over 50 ministries!

- **Hospital Ministry:** This group visits and prays for people in the hospitals.
- **Men’s Coffee:** This is a group that meets weekly at Dazbogs for coffee, fellowship and discussion.
- **Newcomer Ministry:** This group helps to welcome and incorporate our guests into this community.
- **Parish Life:** This is a group that helps with food and hospitality for parish events (special meetings, weddings, funerals, etc.)
More Ministries

Infant Playgroup (Birth to 12 months):
Meet other parents! Learn Baby Sign Language! Spend 1 ½ hours just having fun! Check baby’s development.

Girlfriend Groups:
Sew & Sews: Makes blankets for Laramie County children in crisis
Stitch & Chatter: Make small crafts
Lit ‘N Latte: Meets at Barnes & Noble!
Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner

Youth Group Bowling Trip
Compassion Cheyenne Clean-Up Day, May 11
Easter Fun!
MS Walk

Our team was joyfully heard singing down the streets on May 11th walking 1 and up to 3 miles! We walked, skipped, hopped and ran through downtown Cheyenne for 3 members of St Mark’s that we hold dear to our hearts, and for others in our community. The people of St. Mark’s raised over $1,200!
Community Conversation: Combatting Hate, March 29th

Rev. Hannah Roberts Villnave speaking from a microphone in front of a full sanctuary. The event was held in the wake of racist and heterosexist flyers that were posted at a Cheyenne middle school.
Bishop Smylie’s Visitation

August 11th

See photos in the eSpirit!
St. Christopher’s, Cheyenne
Blessing the St. Christopher’s Garden
by Fr. Tim Solon, June 16th
Fr. Tim blessing the garden.
Food Pantry Donations from the Letter Carriers Association!
Events

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper

Family Movie Night in March
ST. ELIZABETH'S GUILD

FEB 2, 2019
9:00AM
2602 DEMING BLVD
CHEYENNE WY 82001
307.632.4488
STCHRISCHEYENNE.DIOWY.ORG

DAUGHTERS OF THE KING

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2019
3:45 PM
2602 DEMING BLVD
CHEYENNE, WY 82001

Women’s Ministries
They get by with a little help from their friends!

Recent supply clergy:
The Rev. Canon Joel Dingman
The Rev. Roger Rapp
The Rev. Tim Solon...

and a cadre of worship leaders, lectors, altar guild members, etc.

In addition, one member of the St. Christopher’s congregation will be ordained to the transitional diaconate in October.
Lenten Study

Soup, short presentation (on The Way of Love – Practices for a Jesus-Centered Life), and lively discussion—held at Canterbury House.
Palm Sunday

Holy Week was busy:

Stations of the Cross

Maundy Thursday Eucharist with foot washing

Good Friday Liturgy

Great Vigil of Easter on Easter Eve
Maundy Thursday

Foot-washing
Great Vigil with Bishop Smylie
Lighting the new fire
Darkened church
Great Vigil
Marilyn preaching
Confirmation
Great Vigil
Lights, bells, music, and Easter lilies!
L: Dick and Mary Naumann. Dick is retiring and the Naumanns are moving to Montana.

R: Dick Naumann, Marilyn Engstrom, and Bishop Smylie.
Easter Micro-fashion
Praise God from Whom All Blizzards Flow

A Doxology for Those Blessed with Both Wintry Weather and a Sense of Humor

Linda Bonney Olin, 2019

Geistliche Kirchenlieder; 1623; harm. Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1906

(LASST UNS ERFREU/EN)

Praise God from whom all blizzards flow, when snow comes down and cold winds blow! Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise God for shovels, gloves, and plows when four-foot drifts surround your house! If more snow falls, praise for snowballs. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
The Soup Kitchen has an awesome new cereal dispenser for their continental breakfasts, which are held at 8:00 a.m. daily.
St. Matt’s hosted the Laramie Civic Choir at the May 5th service, directed by Dr. Holly Dalrymple and accompanied by Stephanie Barth on our organ.
St. Matthew's Cathedral
Organ Concert
May 19 at the Cathedral
Pentecost!

We welcomed our new dean, the Rev. Brian Gross, to St. Matthew’s officially on Pentecost Sunday, June 9. Following that service, we had a Welcome Brunch in the Undercroft.

The flowers were given in thanksgiving for the interim ministry of Dick Naumann and for the new ministry of Brian Gross.

Floral arrangement designed by the multi-talented Janet Killian of Killian Florist.
It looks like nearly 1000 people didn’t eat enough pancakes on Shrove Tuesday!

Laramie Jubilee Days Pancake Breakfast
July 12-- 6 AM · Laramie Soup Kitchen!

Set up began at 4:30 a.m.!
St. Luke’s, Medicine Bow
Farewell to Pamela Glasser

St. Luke’s bid farewell to Pam in May. She has retired as a music teacher in Hanna, Elk Mountain, and Medicine Bow. Pam has served St. Luke’s as Junior Warden, worship leader, lay preacher, musician, and the altar guild! Pam has moved back to her home in Dubois.
During the fourth quarter of the 2018 granting cycle, St. Luke's was awarded their third grant to help with offsetting the costs of the Albany Co. Suicide Prevention Program.

Some of these funds go to help with the Sources of Strength activities. A training in March conducted at Laramie High School was attended by over 40 students.

They also recently started running an ad in advance of the movies at the Studio Theater in Laramie and have distributed 50 more placards to businesses and other locations in Laramie.
St. Thomas’, Rawlins

St. Thomas’ has been without a priest for almost two years. They continue to worship with occasional supply clergy and lay worship leaders.

Since the congregation is small, they gather in a circle at the front of the church and read Morning Prayer. Members of the congregation report that this practice has been spiritually enriching.
Easter—The Rev. Arlen Rounds was the celebrant.
The Choir Loft

St. Thomas’ continues to operate the Choir Loft thrift store and to use the proceeds to fund outreach projects in the community.
St. Paul’s, Dixon
ARK met all spring each Thursday afternoon, ending the season at the end of May, and will begin again in early October.
Bible Study

We have continued our every other week Bible Study. We meet in homes.
Shrove Tuesday

Pancake supper!
The Amazing River Kids helped.

We have enjoyed following the liturgical calendar: Ash Wednesday, Lent, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, Easter Sunrise, Easter Service, Pentecost.
Maundy Thursday

After the stripping of the altar.
Easter

Easter Sunrise service on a parishioner’s porch.

Easter lilies for the congregation to take home.
Parishioners received Easter lilies to take home.
Colorado School of Celtic Consciousness

Linda and Bev attended The Colorado School of Celtic Consciousness with help from a COM grant. They learned about Celtic spirituality from the Rev. Dr. John Philip Newell.
Community Services

St. Paul’s (Rev. Linda) has led several community services: Dedication of memorials at the Baggs Cemetery, Memorial Day Service at Reader Cemetery, two funeral memorials. Shown is the memorial stone for the Jons Brothers.
The Snowbirds have returned!

This boosts our average Sunday attendance by about six to eight!

During the winter months Connie Spicer plays for our services and then when Jo Klendshoj returns from Arizona, she plays.
Pentecost 2019
St. James’, Encampment
Summer congregation has returned

The summer members are very active and assist with the service.
St. James’ provided the acolyte for Peggy’s ordination

Fred Morrison, an acolyte and worship leader, served as the acolyte for Peggy’s ordination at St. Barnabas’ Church, Saratoga.
St. Barnabas’, Saratoga

The church with the deer in the yard.
We sponsored an ASIST workshop at the Platte Valley Community Center in April, funded by the Foundation. People thought the training was very valuable.
Hardly Just a Coffee House

Our new Fresh Expression meets monthly in the Agape House for music, homemade beer and wine, non-alcoholic beverages, snacks, and fellowship.
Singles Eating Together

This monthly Fresh Expression began a year ago. People enjoy getting together for a meal and to share stories. We offer transportation to those who are unable to drive.
Shrove Tuesday
Pancake Supper

We also observed Ash Wednesday, Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, and Good Friday. Our Easter celebration included a fun potluck brunch.
We held weekly soup suppers and followed the curriculum for the Way of Love Lenten Study. We had some good conversations. Even those who usually remain silent talked!
Cross-Country Bicyclists

Our first two guests kindly moved the new yellow bike rack to the backyard. We’ve already hosted over a 70 cyclists.
Daughters of the King

Daughters from Carbon County met on June 1\textsuperscript{st} and July 27\textsuperscript{th} to watch a video discussion with Phyllis Tickle on the Emergent Church. We had a lively discussion and enjoyed a wonderful lunch both times.
Pentecost

Mary Fabin preached. The pews and retables were decorated with pinwheels!
Susan’s Retirement Party

Saturday, June 15th.
Susan’s Retirement Party

Many non-Episcopalian joined us, as did Episcopalians from Rawlins and Wheatland!
Peggy’s Ordination, July 12th

It was hot!
Deanery Gathering
Saturday, August 17

No photos, unfortunately, but we had a lovely service, meal together, and time of sharing.
Bishop Search Listening Sessions. Be sure to attend one!
Peter Sabella Visit

Red Desert Deanery and Region V are thrilled to be welcoming Peter Sabella, the guide for the Diocesan 2015 Holy Land Pilgrimage. Peter will be visiting Southwest Wyoming from August 14th until August 21st providing lectures, workshops, and other events.

A Red Desert Deanery and Region V Congregational Development workshop featuring teachings from Peter’s book, “Under Construction: The Road to Emmaus (a May us)” will be held beginning with a light supper at Holy Communion Church on Monday, August 19th at 5:30 p.m. No charge for the workshop; all are welcome. In order to give all Wyoming Episcopal congregations the opportunity to participate in this workshop we are hoping to offer it through Zoom.

Peter is also available for any presentation at any of our Region V and Red Desert Deanery congregations pending availability. A full schedule of Peter’s presentations will be coming soon.

We are also thrilled to incorporate Peter’s visit into a “Fresh Expressions” outreach. We have received funding from Sweetwater BOCES and the Wyoming Humanities Council for secular presentations throughout our communities. Peter is a brilliant speaker on a variety of topics, most notably on being a Christian in a non-Christian world.

Please contact The Reverend Bernadine Craft for Peter’s schedule and additional information. Once again we would like to invite all of you and your congregations to join us.

St. Christopher’s Highway

“Fresh Expressions” is thriving in Southwest Wyoming through St. Christopher’s Highway Travelers’ Aid program. We have been very busy since January 5th planning and launching this needed outreach in Region V. We have five phones receiving calls from law enforcement, medical personnel, and travelers in need covering the southwest Wyoming areas of Big Piney, Cokeville, Eden, Evanston, Green River, Pinedale, and Rock Springs. These phones are covered by parishioners from the Episcopal, UCC, and ELCA Lutheran church and a number of community members throughout Southwest Wyoming. We would also like to recognize our youth who have an active role in this program overseeing the production and filling of the bags that are given to the travelers.

A couple of St. Christopher Highway highlights are:

1) Since April 1st we have served 15 travelers in need.

2) Besides the support we have received from the Diocese we have received over $3,000 of donations from our communities.

3) The Sweetwater Leadership Class of 2019 chose the St. Christopher’s Highway program as their class project. Donating:
   a. 500 bottles of water from Western Beverage Company
   b. 500 bottles of shampoo, conditioner, and lotions from the Hampton Inn
   c. Flashlights and USB drives from Simplot
   d. Non Perishable Foods
   e. Several cash donations
   f. Several volunteers to cover the phones
We are always looking for organizations and individuals to donate:

1) Financial Donations  
2) Gas Gift Cards  
3) Fast Food Gift Cards  
4) Prepaid Cell Phones  
5) Water Bottles  
6) Nonperishable food  
7) Compact Can Openers  
8) Old T-Shirts (Reusable Bags)  
9) Travel Size  
   a. Razors and Shaving Cream  
   b. Shampoo and Conditioner  
   c. Body Soap  
   d. Tooth Brushes, Tooth Paste, and Mouth Wash

2019 53rd Wyoming Diocesan Convention

Holy Communion is looking forward to having your congregations, youth, and you join us for the 2019 53rd Wyoming Diocesan Convention October 4th through October 6th in Rock Springs. Please refer to the Diocesan website for additional information.

Blessings and Grace!

Peg Larson  
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