



The Vine and Branches

SAINT JAMES EPISCOPAL
CHURCH
DILLON, MONTANA



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September/October 2024 Issue

*Notes from our Senior Warden
Kathryn Hatch*



May the Spirit satisfy you with
the water of grace.

We continue to be blessed with Rev. Theresa twice a month for services. She has lead two funerals of beloved members of our church and recently did an immersion baptism at Clark Canyon Reservoir followed by a celebratory picnic.

Thank you Theresa.

A priest candidate from Missoula, Rev. Terry, has withdrawn her application. Talking with other members of our church we are more than happy with Sunday Eucharist two times a month and Morning Prayer two times a month.

We have grown into our roles as a lay lead congregation thanks to the work of our congregation.

Thanks be to God!

From Lee Graves....

FIRST CONFIRMATION AT ST. JAMES SINCE 2019

Alex Jones will be confirmed at St. James Episcopal Church in Dillon on Sunday, September 29, 2024. Doing the honors of confirmation will be retired bishop of the Southern Diocese of North Carolina, The Right Reverend Waldo Hassan. Bishop Hassan is a close friend of our bishop, Marty Stebbins. Marty suggested that he spend a day or two in Dillon as he has a special interest in Bannack as his great-great grandfather lived there in the early 1860's and was an acquaintance of the outlaw sheriff, Henry Plummer. Bishop Marty also gave Bishop Hassan special permission to confirm Alex Jones while he was here. Following church on Sunday we will have a potluck in the Guild Hall in honor of Alex's confirmation as well as Bishop Hassan's visit. See you Sunday, September 29th.

After a momentary silence spake
Some vessel a more ungainly make:
"They sneer at me for leaning all awry.
What, did the hand then of the potter shake?"
The Rubaiyat of Omar Khayyam



**MIKHAELA'S BAPTISM 8/11/2024
AT CLARK CANYON - A good time was had by all!!!**

TOWN PUMP MATCH FOR FOOD PANTRY

It is that time of year again, and the Town Pump has graciously offered to provide a match up to \$20,000. As we're sure you know, the cost of food keeps climbing and we are helping more families.

We would truly appreciate you helping us reach our goal of \$20,000 in cash donations. This is what we can bring in from September 1 - November 30, 2024. If we reach the \$20,000, they will match that amount. We use these funds to purchase milk, produce, eggs, cheese and meat. We are a non-profit 501(c)3 business. We will send out receipts for tax purposes in January 2025. Please make checks out to:

Beaverhead Community Food Pantry, or BHC Food Pantry, and
send to P.O. Box 1356, Dillon, Mt 59725.

(There are also pre-addressed envelopes on the table in the
Narthex.)

Thank you very much,
The Beaverhead Community Food Pantry.



THE FOOD BANK IS BACK!!!

One of the wonderful community outreach programs St. James has fostered is the Community Food Bank. It was the brainchild of the late Millie Brown and has grown and flourished to aid many, many residents of Beaverhead County.

Once again, there will be a large tote in the Narthex where you can put your contributions of non-perishable goods.

They will be blessed on the 4th Sunday of the month when Rev. Theresa Kelley-Bergmann will be here to lead Holy Eucharist.

Calendar of Events

Worship: Sundays, 10:00 am

Holy Eucharist led by Rev. Rev. Theresa Kelley-Bergmann on second and fourth Sundays each month.

9/8, 9/22, 10/13, 10/27/2024

Morning Prayer will be held all other Sundays.

Retired Bishop Waldo Hassan will be at St James on 9/29 to lead the Holy Eucharist service and to confirm Alex Jones. This will be followed by a potluck luncheon.

Contemplative Prayer:

2nd and 4th Wednesdays at 5:00 PM in the Guild Hall.

Vestry meets 3rd Sunday of each month: 9/15 and 10/20/2024.

Adult Education:

Sundays following the service in the Guild Hall. Notification will be sent when the next session will begin.

Our Peace Candle

I'm sure you have noticed the single candle in front of the lectern. That is our Peace Candle. There is a dish with smaller candles next to it. We light one of them to honor all of our military personnel; active duty, retired, living or deceased, any branch of service.

Please light one when you return from communion to honor our brave troops who are serving and have served to keep our country safe.

EUCCHARISTIC VISITS

For those of you who may have a friend or relative that would like to receive Eucharist, St. James can accommodate those people who aren't able to attend church in person.

We have a lovely traveling Eucharist kit, donated by the late Edith Boothby. It is a lovely addition to our church and allows Eucharist to be set up and administered gracefully and with reverence.

Please let me or a vestry member know if you are aware of someone that would like to have a visit and/or be administered Eucharist.

Mary Ann Nicholas
406-660-0339



CELEBRATING OUR CONGREGATIONS

On July 20 at 10 am there was a Diocesan-wide ZOOM call for all parishes in the Montana Episcopal Diocese. The purpose of this call was to share in a conversation about what our church family is doing to bring the message of God's love to the community in which you serve. Instead of always focusing on what is wrong and how we can fix things, this was fun and a positive approach to learn about what everyone else is doing and to tell about our activities.

Ellen set up the call in the Guild Hall for all who planned to attend, and I linked in from home. Unfortunately, we were the only representatives from St. James.

Most of the parishes linked in were small, less than 30 attendees per Sunday, so it was very relatable to us. Everyone on the call was encouraged to share anything at all about their church's activities.

Some of the ideas I thought would be applicable to St. James are:

- 1) A yoga class 2 times a week. It wouldn't be a money-maker, but would let the community know we are here. Details would be worked out.
- 2) Family worship service on a Sunday PM once a month. It would be a VERY SHORT service led by a lay person after which there would be activities for the adults and the children to do together. Again, it is a way to have people check us out.
- 3) Having several churches combine for various services and/or events during the year. Again, a community presence.
- 4) Mary Alice and Jim Jones, deacons in Anaconda who did their internships at St. James, shared some of their activities. That is a small parish and their ideas were applicable to us. I would like to visit them and talk about their work.
- 5) One priest in Eureka shared that she had been a twice a month supply priest at the going rate. They asked her to be a ¼ time priest with some benefits. This way, she can function completely in the business of the parish. I don't know the particulars, but I am sure we can get that information.

I shared that our own Millie Brown started the Food Pantry and we still make contributions, both monetary and food stuffs (always blessed). Also the Wood Bank that Rev. Harry and Val Neeley started years ago. There are many volunteers, some from the St. James family.

I told about our contribution a few weeks ago to help with the task of caring for all the abused and neglected animals found in Dillon. A collection was taken to help with this tragedy. The participants on the call were taken aback and rather emotional. This is an example of not always concentrating on ongoing projects, but stepping up when a situation arises and doing what we can.

Now, here's the great part - There will be a presentation at convention about services and liturgies that can be performed by lay people instead of deacons or priests. There are a lot of them! They have put together a packet of all the information and I have asked each of our delegates to bring a packet back to St. James. In our situation it would be a great help not to have to rely on finding a priest to perform those services.

This ZOOM conversation will be scheduled in a year when we can share how our activities are proceeding and if we have started any new ones. I don't know about you, but I can't wait!!!

Carol