The Flock

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

Voice of the Vestry

St. Francis of the Tetons Episcopal Church
20 Alta School Rd. Alta, Wyoming 83414
307-353-8100
sftetons@gmail.com
www.stfrancisalta.org
Church Services - Sundays at 10:00 am

Dear Friends,

This year, once again, St. Francis of the Tetons will celebrate the "Season of Creation" for 5 Sundays beginning September 6 and ending on October 4 with the Blessing of the Animals. This is a special season set aside to join with Christians around the world to focus our attention on and remind us of our responsibility to the earth, the environment and all living creatures.

The theme for this year is "Living Waters". This will be started off with the monthly prayer walk on September 5 at 11am at Bates Bridge. Participants are encouraged to bring a non-plastic container to obtain water from the river. (Containers are available at the back of the church.) The following day on Sunday those containers of water will be brought to the church for a blessing. Those not attending the walk are also encouraged to bring a non-plastic container of water from their home or favorite water source for the blessing.

There will be special readings each Sunday from varying authors as well as a special canticle, "The Canticle of the Sun" included in the services written by our own Bishop Jos.

As stated above this season will conclude with the Blessing of the Animals on October 4 at the 10am service. We are very pleased that Bishop Jos will be presiding that day and The Church in the Tetons will be joining us with their furry friends.

As plans are unfolding, so stay tuned for other possible special events.

Please spread the word! Invite your friends and neighbors to join in experiencing this special season. See you at St. Francis!!

A bit of St Francis' eco-history that some may not know. In 2007, the Vestry held a retreat to determine what our new vision could be following the closing of Alta Retreat Center. The Vestry considered many ideas and voted on dedicating our ministry to Creation Care. A vibrant subcommittee of 12 people felt that "A Green-Spirited Community of Faith" captured our mission. Focused activities, education, liturgy, community outreach about caring for Mother Nature were initiated. We sold and gave away environmentally kind products, had a lending library, engaged the congregation in increasing energy saving measures at home.

The formal Season of Creation concludes Sunday October 4 with Bishop Jos presiding and our traditional Blessing of the Animals. Let's consider resurrecting our "Green-Spirited Community of Faith" and extending the season of creation messages. Please contact Carol Taylor to join our efforts.

God's Peace,

Ellen Rein
Worship Committee Chair
and
Carol Taylor
Vestry Member



Bible Study

September 19 - 10 am - Noon
Would you like to dig deeper into the Bible scriptures? We are currently studiing Corinthians. Join the group led by Rev. Eric Moehring and Ruth Lindstedt to learn about and discuss the scriptures. Contact Rev. Eric at moehringee@att.net, or Ruth at ralindstedt1336@gmail.com for more information.



Worship Committee
September 6
Immediately following the service.



Lunch Bunch - September 2

Join us for potluck lunch and great conversation.

- Time: 12:30 pm
- Location: St. Francis Church

All are welcome!
Please bring a dish to share, and a friend, too!

Pastoral Care Committee will meet Wed. Sep 2nd after the potluck lunch
All are welcome!



A New Website

St Francis has a new website:
www.stfranisalta.org

We are working on posting our events, calendar, staff and volunteers. This is a work in progress, so please be patient.



Behold Our New Roof!!!

The work on the roof is complete! The crew will be back to wrap the soffit, fascia and gable end of the roof with metal to eliminate the need for maintenance and painting. A huge thanks to everyone who donated! We surpassed our goal of $15,000 and have raised $23, 750. The excess funds will go to replenish our Building Repairs Reserve Fund. Thank you all for making this possible!

Mark your calendars:

DOING LOVE WORKSHOPS

with Nonviolent Communication

Rev. Sandy Casey-Martus and Ruth LIndstedt will be facilitating a series of 4 workshops, Oct 31, Nov 7, 14, 21.

More details to follow in the coming weeks.

A Prayer attributed to St. Francis -
From the Book of Common Prayer

Lord, make us instruments of your peace. Where there is hatred, let us sow love; where is injury, pardon; where there is discord, union; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; where there is sadness, joy. Grant that we may not so much seek to be consoled as to console; to be understood as to understand; to be loved as to love. For it is in giving that we receive; it is in pardoning that we are pardoned; and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life. Amen.



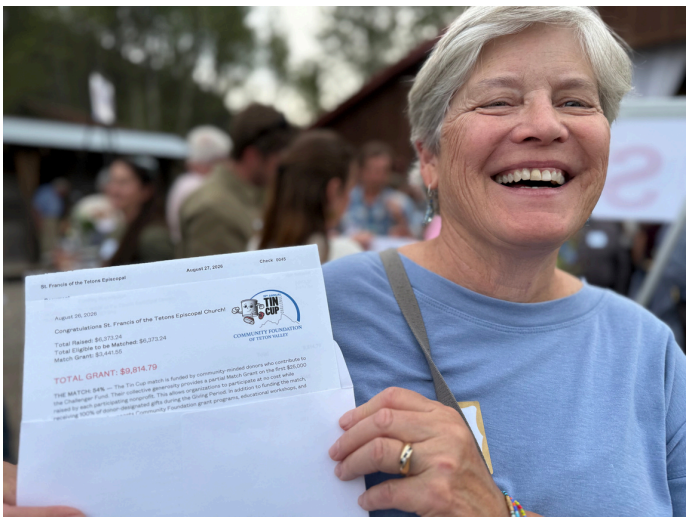
Tin Cup Challenge 2026

We are pleased to announce that our St. Francis Tin Cup donations and matching funds total for 2026 are **$9,814.79**!

This is the 2nd largest amount that St. Francis has raised for Tin Cup; being surpassed only by the 2020 total of $11,936.98 during the pandemic.

Here is a breakdown of our donations and matching funds for 2025 vs 2026:

St. Francis	2025 Tin Cup	2026 Tin Cup	Increase
Donations	$4,558.12	$6,373.24	$1,815.12
Matching Funds	$2,870.91	$3,441.55	$570.64
Number of Donors	22	33	11
Matching Funds %	52%	54%	2%

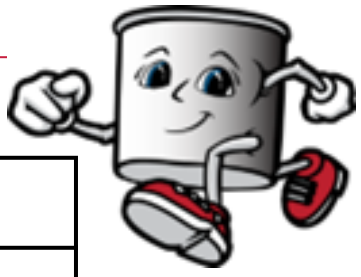


St. Francis Senior Warden, Lisa Wagener, happily receiving the news about Tin Cup donations!

On the following page (page 6), is a breakdown of of our Tin Cup funds over the years.

St. Francis participated in Tin Cup since its inception in 2008, however, the funds raised for 2008-2010 were not available to be included in the newsletter.

*Also, the breakdown of funds raised and matching funds are not available for 2011-2013.



Funds Raised	Matching Funds	Total Amount	Year
$6,373.24	$3,441.55	$9,814.79	2026
$4,887.52	$2,541.51	$7,429,03	2025
$2,994.55	$1,676.95	$4,671.50	2024
$3,336.15	$1,834.88	$5,171.03	2023
$2,654.00	$1,327.00	$3,981.00	2022
$4,797.00	$2,638.35	$7,435.35	2021
$7,460.61	$4,476,37	$11,936.98	2020
$6,435.00	$3,217.50	$9,652.50	2019
$4,997.58	$2,498.79	$7,496.37	2018
$5,995.08	$3,797.29	$9,792.37	2017
$4,598.20	$2,299.10	$6,897.30	2016
$2,206.56	$1,100.00	$3,306.56	2015
$3,910.16	$2,110.00	$6,020.16	2014
		$4,430.00	2013*
		$4,615.00	2012*
		$2,467.58	2011*
$60,645.65	$32,959.29	$105,117.52	

Community Interfaith Prayer Walk for Peace and Social Justice



Prayer Walk

Saturday, September 5th - 11 am

Bates Bridge River Access Trail
We invite everyone to join in the prayer walk along the Teton River.

Living Waters is the theme of the Season of Creation at St. Francis, Sept 1- Oct 4. Inspired by the biblical vision found in the Book of Ezekiel (47:9, 12), the passage describes water flowing from God's sanctuary, bringing life and restoration to ecosystems and communities.

Participants are encouraged to fill a non-plastic container of water from the river (jars will be available) to be blessed at our Sunday Worship Service, on Sep. 6th at 10 am

If you are able, please bring a prayer, a poem, a brief quote or saying to share with everyone.

Prayers, Celebrations and Meetings

Please remember in your prayers:

Nola Edwards, Tony Wingfield, the family of Mike Hurwitz, the family of Jan Blake, Tracy Livingston, the family of John Cormier, Maren Kroenke, Diane Mares, Monica Norby, Rachel, JD, Sarah Lott, Linda, Will, Alan Miller, Nell Hanson, Lana Miller, Amanda Letham, Zac Dubois, Lynn Quanstrom, Tom Davis, Lindsay Davis, and all faith communities and schools of Teton Valley.

September Celebrations:

Birthdays:
Tom Balben - September 4

Anniversaries:
Dan Pauroso and Deb Rouleau - September 2
Craig and Mary Ann Sturken - September 10
Happy 60th Craig and Mary Ann!!!

Centering Prayer meets at 11 am on Wednesdays and 4 pm on Thursdays at the Church. All are welcome.

Vestry Meeting: Tuesday, September 15 at 6:30 pm at St. Francis. -

Please note the date change.

Thank you for reading!

ST. FRANCIS OF THE TETONS	307-353-8100
www.stfrancisalta.org	20 Alta School Rd. Alta, WY 83414

Through the church giving site, www.realm.org you can setup online giving so your donations automatically come out of your checking or credit card account each month. To create your account use the QR code , or go to this URL:

https://onrealm.org/StFrancis99835

	Offerings	Attendance
August 2	$1,265	42
August 9	$1,550	23
August 16	$400	47
August 23	$350	38
August 30	$	33

Church Leaders, Vestry Members and Staff

Bishop of Idaho
The Rt. Rev. Jos Tharakan
bishop@idahoepiscopal.org

Clergy in our Parish
Rev. Deb Adams
chocolatelibrarian@gmail.com

Rev. Eric Moehring
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Rev. Nancy Groshart
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Rev. Sandy Casey-Martus
sandracaseymartus@gmail.com

Worship Leaders
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Darrell Reinke
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Parish Treasurer
Dan Baxter
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Vestry Members

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Carol Taylor
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Employees
Angie Warner - Custodian
Etta Rokes - Caretaker
Mandy Ballenger - Office Assistant
Cheryl Letchworth - Newsletter and Bulletin
Hannah Steed - Admin. Assistant, Website, and Social Media

Church Services

Services begin at 10 am.

September 6
15th Sunday After Pentecost
Holy Eucharist
Celebrant: Rev. Deb Adams
Deacon: Rev. Nancy Groshart
Eucharistic Minister: Ellen Rein
Musician: Susan Nowack
Lector: George Nowack
Greeter/Usher: Jim Rein
Altar Guild: Ellen Rein
Refreshments: Potluck
VMOD: Carl Schiner

September 13
16th Sunday After Pentecost
Holy Eucharist
Celebrant: Rev. Sandy Casey-Martus
Deacon: Rev. Nancy Groshart
Eucharistic Minister: Sarah Balben
Musician: Beverly Charette
Lector: Jerry Groshart
Greeter/Usher: Clark Arick
Altar Guild: Sarah Balben
Refreshments: Potluck
VMOD: Lisa Wagener

September 20
17th Sunday After Pentecost
Morning Prayer
Officiant: Ruth Lindstedt
Musician: Gayle Lien
Lector: Jim Steele
Greeter/Usher: Ron Lien
Altar Guild: Deb Rouleau
Refreshments: Potluck
VMOD: Wood Palmer

September 27
18th Sunday After Pentecost
Holy Eucharist
Celebrant: Rev. Deb Adams
Preacher: Carol Taylor
Deacon: Rev. Nancy Groshart
Eucharistic Minister: Angie Warner
Musician: Beverly Charette
Lector: Dan Baxter
Greeter/Usher: Wood Palmer
Altar Guild: Ellen Rein
Refreshments: Potluck
VMOD: Carl Schiner

SEPTEMBER 2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Al-Anon Sundays at 4 pm		1	Potluck Lunch 12:30 pm Pastoral Care Committee after lunch 2	3	4	Prayer Walk 11 am 5
15th Sunday after Pentecost 6 Holy Eucharist - 10 am Rev. Deb Adams Worship Committee Meeting following today's service.	7 NA 6:30 pm	8	9 Centering Prayer 11 am	10 Centering Prayer - 4 pm NA 6:30 pm	11 NA 6:30 pm	12
16th Sunday after Pentecost 13 Holy EUcharist- 10 am Rev. Sandy Casey-Martus Al-Anon 4 pm	14 NA 6:30 pm	15 Vestry Meeting 6:30 pm	16 Centering Prayer - 11 am NA 6:30 pm	17 Centering Prayer - 4 pm NA 6:30 pm	18 NA 6:30 pm	19 Bible Study 10 am to noon
17th Sunday after Pentecost 20 Morning Prayer- 10 am Ruth Lindstedt Al-Anon 4 pm	21 NA 6:30 pm	22	23 Centering Prayer - 11 am NA 6:30 pm	24 Centering Prayer - 4 pm NA 6:30 pm	25	26
18th Sunday after Pentecost 27 Holy Eucharist - 10 am Rev. Deb Adams Preacher: Carol Taylor Al-Anon 4 pm	28 NA 6:30 pm	29	30 Centering Prayer - 11 am NA 6:30 pm			

God loves you, and there's nothing you can do to change that.

The Rev. Tom Van Culin
Diocese of Hawaii
From 101 Reasons to be Episcopalian