



Advent Season Is Approaching By Rev. Bonnie and Martha

The First Sunday of Advent is right around the corner: Sunday, November 30th. This Advent Season we will be using the traditional Liturgy and an alternate Eucharist, which will help us focus on the Spiritual calling of the Season. We will also be recognizing the Holiness of the Sacrament by having members of the Congregation bring forward the “Gifts” to the Altar.

This year we have Advent Devotional Booklets; *Living Well Though Advent 2025, Practicing Generosity with All Your Heart, Soul, Strength, and Mind*. The Booklets will be at the back of the Church on the long table by the Bulletins. If you would like a devotional booklet sent to you, please contact Martha in the Office.

As preparation of the Season we will be joining the Community in a Special Christmas Event with a Parade, Lighting of the Town Tree, Ringing of the St. Thomas’ Bells and opening our hearts and doors to a Special Christmas Shopping Opportunity for the children and youth of our Community. The Love Thy Neighbor-Cowboy Christmas NO COST Kids Shop Corral will be in the Community Room from 4-7 pm on the 30th.

Pastoral Report: Summer and Fall.

By Sandy Lahr, Pastoral Coordinator

As we gradually loosen our ties to a joyous, activity-packed Summer, the shorter days and changing Seasons provide time to reflect upon how our lives were touched by our congregational relationships. Each Summer harkens in a joyous return of our summer residents and visitors, it is with open arms that we greeted each and all, welcoming the return of those we bid Godspeed in the Autumn and greeting newcomers to our community and church family. Our summer church community burgeoned with activities and congregants for Sunday service, as we shared the opportunity to spend time together catching up on each other’s lives during the past year.

Amidst all the flurry of joyous activities, we remain mindful of members who have had or are currently experiencing rough patches in their lives. As we all too often experience the rigors of active lives in Wyoming, three members, **Lois Wingerson**, **Martha Bridge** and **Martha Mitchell** all have mended well from their shared orthopedic procedures and returned to their activities--the gratitude of modern repairs!

Jennet Ballinger has been added to the orthopedic procedures crew.

For those members experiencing ongoing medical concerns, our heartfelt prayers and support go to **Wando Tarness and April Schultz**. From afar in Boulder, Colorado, our prayers were spoken fervently for **Reverend Lynn Cunningham**, our former priest, and **Dorothy Remy** as **Lynn** was facing a medical procedure and recovery. We welcome all updates on his ongoing recovery. Our dear **Twila Blakeman** has been sidelined since late summer with medical conditions. She has been surrounded by and supported by her loving family as she recovers. We remain forever grateful for daughter **Vicki Blakeman**, who now lives with Twila and all of Twila’s family who remain vigilant and support her as her many activities are currently curtailed. Our St. Thomas’ family continues to keep her in our hearts and prayers.

We continue our journey with **John Angst**, who exhibits perpetual strength, resilience and faith on his ongoing path of treatment. His updates with the congregation provide church members with the opportunity to reach out in unity for support. **Margie Cargill** has returned home to Dubois where she enjoyed the remainder of her summer with anticipation of remaining permanently. After spending another winter with her son in Arizona, and having undergone successful surgery, she was cleared to return. Our prayers of gratitude for the blessings of healing remain with her. Such a joy to see her vibrancy and renewing social contacts with many overdue outings.

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CONTINUED Pastoral Report: Summer and Fall. A major incident for our dear Interim Priest, **Reverend Bonnie Deyo** who experienced a fall requiring surgery on her wrist. She was sporting a cast, and with her sheer Wyoming grit and determination has returned steadily to preside over our services—with the added support of lay ministers, acolytes and props. Our prayers continue for a full, steady and quick recovery. On a more joyous note, her dear mother, **Betty Deyo** has recently relocated from Minnesota to Lander to transition her home to living with **Bonnie** and **Harold**. The congregation has eagerly welcomed her as her vitality is a spark for all.

Among others with injuries, **Sheryl Isaly** was supported with crutches for a few weeks following a fall, and **Lillian McMath** was sporting abrasions for a few weeks from a fall. Fortunately, she had substantial recovered as we bid her adieu and Godspeed when she left in October to return to her home in Northern California. We find ourselves watching over each other with sensitive vigilance as we acknowledge all our vulnerabilities.

The congregation was so blessed and overjoyed to have an attendance by **Kathy Treanor** in June during her most compressed visit to Dubois as she worked on their home—seeing as many dear friends as her minimal time allowed. She and **Lary** are settling into their new surroundings In Vero Beach, Florida. As much as they yearn to be in Dubois, **Lary**'s health is much more supported in the lower elevation of Florida, surrounded by family and his medical team. May we include them in our continual prayers as they make these new adjustments—meeting new friends and enjoying the proximity to family. May they know they remain close in our St. Thomas' family.

Two very special individuals in the life and history of St. Thomas' passed this Spring/Summer season. **Reverend Charles "Chuck" Clarke**, a most dedicated Supply Priest and former resident of Dubois passed in March following a lengthy illness. He and his family were comforted regularly by Reverend Pamela Glasser, who walked his final journey with him and guided St. Thomas' members in his remembrance.

We learned of the passing this summer of **Dr. Coralie "Corky" Emmons**, in Cody, at the age of 95. Corky was a devoted member of St. Thomas' and served many years as a Board Member for the Opportunity Shop. She will be remembered for her perpetually joyous smile, love and goodwill for all as she served our Dubois community in numerous capacities over the years. A most heartfelt and fun-filled memorial service was held in the garage of her home (a respite from the pouring rain—and ohhh, so "Corky") as her joyful laughter and personality was so present in the memories.

As we savor transition into the beauty and changes of Autumn, may we hold to the Blessings of each new day, remaining grateful for the healing of those who have regained their health, mindful prayers for those who continue to benefit from support, and gratitude for the memories of those who have passed.



A Stewardship Story:

By *Mary Ellen Honsaker*

We loved Tony Corline's British accent, and he loved St. Thomas' because we blessed his dog! He had found his home in our mountain valley, his peaceful place, and he loved the presence of St. Thomas' and all it did in Dubois. His last months were in Warm Valley Lodge, and at his death, he left the church a very large IRS investment account, whose annual required withdrawal continues to support our Budget to this day. His love, and our love, lives on in the Corline Fund.



St. Thomas' Stewardship Campaign is using TENS (*The Episcopal Network for Stewardship*) this year.

Part of the Campaign is asking the Congregation to share "What St. Thomas' means to you"

Tell out my soul!

The Greatness of the Lord!

Contact *Mary Ellen Honsaker*,
Stewardship Committee
Co-Chairperson for more
information

ST. THOMAS' VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Seasonal Volunteer Opportunities:

SPRING • Growing Hope Gardens • Clean-Up Day

SUMMER • Square Dance • Farmers Market • Hike 'n Bike Guest Support

FALL • Garden Clean-Up • RamsPack: Weekend Food for Preschool and k-12 School

WINTER • Holiday Food Boxes • Christmoose Gift Trees

Year-Round Needs

- Saturday Food Bank – Truck unloading, sorting donations
- Sunday Worship – Acolyte, Worship Leader, Lector/Reader
- Kitchen & Fellowship – Brunch planning and or hosting, Fellowship hosting
- Office Help – Folding, stuffing, light admin
- Community Outreach – Posting flyers around town

OTHER VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY IDEAS ARE WELCOMED AND ENCOURAGED



2025 High School Scholarships

Susan Bodar and Jennet Ballinger presented Adeline Ross Memorial Scholarships to Nate Hinkle, Siler Hess and Jonah Witonski at the spring DHS Senior Scholarship Night in May.

New Heating Systems

Last year right before Christmas, the Coffee Room had the old heaters taken out and were replaced with Cove Heating.

In the past couple of weeks, the Sanctuary and the Community Room heaters were replaced with the Cove Heating System. We are excited to have a major portion of the replacement cost of the Heating System be covered through a grant from The Foundation for the Episcopal Diocese of WY.
ENJOY THE WARMTH OF THE SEASON!!!

Church Office Hours: Tuesday through Thursday 9 am-noon and 1-4 pm

Church Office Phone: 307-455-2313

Interim Priest: Bonnie Deyo: 307-349-2357, bondolander@gmail.com

Parish Administrator: Martha Bridge

St. Thomas' email: stthomas.wy@gmail.com

Food Bank email: stthomas.fb@gmail.com

Website: stthomasdubois.org

Vestry Members:

Senior Warden: Sue Bodar, Junior Warden: Rick Bridge

Treasurer: Kate Falco Clerk: Mary Ellen Honsaker

Members: Nancie Vion-Loisel, John Angst, Sheryl Isaly, Kirk Lindstrom, Harris Bonnell, & Gordon Schultz

St. Thomas' Episcopal Church

2025 CHRISTMOOSE

CHRISTMOOSE is an outreach program for Dubois/Crowheart families who may need assistance during the holidays. **CHRISTMOOSE** is designed to help those needing support to provide Christmas gifts for their children, ages birth to 16.

Shoppers for **CHRISTMOOSE GIFTS**, please be watching for the anonymous ornaments, with a child's age, gender & WISH LIST, to appear soon on a Small Tree

• **AT THE PERCH** and **THE BANK of JACKSON HOLE**. The Unwrapped Gifts are to be delivered to **St. Thomas' Episcopal Church Office** @ 5 S. 1st Street, for distribution to families before Christmas Eve.

For more information you may call the St. Thomas Office @ 307-455-2313



Give a gift of time to your neighbors this Christmas.

Be a Bell Ringer for the Salvation Army's Red Kettle indoors at Dubois Super Foods. Call Mary Ellen at 455-2182 to get on the calendar, December 6th through the 21st. Our only Fund Raiser, and all is used in the Dubois/Crowheart area.



Bell Ringers Needed!

