



Office for
Transition
Ministry

Ministry Portfolio

Full Portfolio (last updated Jan 5, 2026)

Christ Church Cody, Wyoming

825 Simpson Ave, PO Box 1718, Cody, WY 82414, United States

Contact:

Rector / Vicar / Priest-in-Charge | Receiving Names until 02/16/26 searchcommittee@christchurchcody.org

Weekly Average Sunday
Attendance (ASA)

92

Number of Weekend
Worship Services

1

Number of Weekday
Worship Services

1

Number of Other per Month
Worship Services

2

Current Annual
Compensation

Cash Stipend

Housing / Rectory Detail

Utilities

SECA reimbursement

Compensation Available for
New Position

\$78000

Housing Available for

Pension Plan

**We're in compliance with
CPF requirements.**

Healthcare Options

Full family

Dental

No

Housing Equity Allowance in
budget

Yes

Annual Equity Amount

Vacation Weeks

One month, including 5
Sundays (standard)

Vacation Weeks Details

Continuing Education Weeks

2 (standard)

Continuing Education Weeks
Details

Continuing Education
Funding in budget

up to/including
\$500/year

Sabbatical Provision

Yes

Travel/Auto Account

Other Professional Account

No

\$78,000 - \$105,000 DOQ

Christ Church Cody, Wyoming

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Describe a moment in your worshipping community's recent ministry which you recognize as one of success and fulfillment.

Christ Church's commitment to the Wyoming Service Corps program continues to reap many benefits to the church, our county, and to the young adults involved. In a relatively short period of time the program has become a vital part of our community and each year our congregation sadly wishes the current cohort farewell but looks forward to the new cohort in August. The church was particularly gratified to see several young people go through the discernment process to determine whether or not to pursue the priesthood. Recently, we celebrated the ordination of two of those young people: Allen Doyle, one of the founding members of the Wyoming Service Corps, and Andrew Stump, who served as a Corps member. On Sacred Ground Wyoming Service Corps is a ministry of success and fulfillment in our worshipping community.

How are you preparing yourselves for the Church of the future?

We have youth ministries for various age groups. Our high school group takes a summer pilgrimage to the Taizé Christian monastic community in France as part of their two-year study together. We participate in an ecumenical youth group with other denominations as well. We have also improved our Facebook live streams and worked to increase our online presence for additional accessibility. We have a variety of worship and fellowship options for those who may not prefer the typical Sunday church setting, including Wayfarer's Chapel, the seasonal Taizé evening prayers, and less religious gatherings such as Supper Squad (folks gathering to cook in the parish hall kitchen) or Yoga Soul. Our Earth Care Team actively promotes ways to conserve and protect our planet. We also work to make sure that new visitors feel included and welcomed.

Please provide words describing the gifts and skills essential to the future leaders of your worshipping community.

Spiritual depth Management/Administrative Skills True Shepherd Authentic and Empowering

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Describe your liturgical style and practice for all types of worship services provided by your community.

Christ Church routinely uses the Common Book of Prayer for the Sunday services accompanied by hymns and choir music. We have a Healing Service that is held on Tuesdays and there is a faithful group of people from the Cody community who attend and appreciate this alternative to the regular Sunday worship. Christ Church has seasonal Taizé services, often held in the quaint 'Poker' Church on the property. Wayfarers Chapel on the highway to Yellowstone National Park provides an outdoor venue for worship during the summer months and welcomes anyone traveling on that highway to worship on Sunday mornings. Summer Sundays also see the addition of an Evening Prayer service at 5:30pm.

How do you practice incorporating others in ministry?

We have many ways to become involved in ministry. There are the usual Worship Leaders as well as Lay Eucharistic Ministers who serve during services and to home-bound and/or ill members of the church. Members of the congregation volunteer for special readings on Palm Sunday and Pentecost. We have both adult and youth Acolytes. In addition, Christ Church has many committees which foster ministry and leadership. These committees reach both internally and externally and are open to all. They include the Food 4 Kids program*, Communion Bread Bakers, the bell and vocal choirs, an Earth Care Team, the Mission Committee** and Liturgical Arts. We also have the customary church operations committees like Finance, Worship, Building and Altar Guild. If it interests you and we don't have it, you can start one! *Food 4 Kids: A local program in collaboration with First Presbyterian Church, providing weekend backpacks of food for students dependent on school lunches. A member of Christ Church was instrumental in starting this. **Mission: Receives applications for grants and scholarships and fulfills them as budgeted.

As a worshipping community, how do you care for your spiritual, emotional and physical well-being?

The Anglican service fulfills for most members the spiritual needs of the congregation. There are also many special opportunities to worship throughout the church calendar year such as the weekly Healing Service and the Advent/Lenten Taizé services, the annual 'Backpack Blessings', 'Blessing of the Animals', Recovery Sunday, Christmas caroling and Yoga Soul. Counseling support by the pastoral staff is available. The "emotional" needs may be addressed through social opportunities including coffee hour, church suppers, our Third Thursday programs and the Soul Sisters Summer Picnics. There is also encouragement to join with other church support groups such as Caregivers support opportunities. Wyoming has an out-of-doors culture and the church often provides programs which require participants to hike in nature and explore our beautiful environment. Christ Church offers EFM training and people who avail themselves of this program are enriched and enthused about their spiritual lives. We have provided Spiritual Education classes between our two Sunday morning services. We continue to look for other opportunities for life-long learning.

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How do you engage in pastoral care for those beyond your worshipping community?

Christ Church engages in pastoral care through Eucharistic Ministry to those who are homebound, including at Cody Regional Long Term Care, Absaroka Assisted Living, as well as at Spirit Mountain Hospice. Our prayer list is inclusive of all in need of God's help within and beyond our worshipping community. The Food 4 Kids program, in conjunction with the Presbyterian Church, is available for all Park 6 students. Scholarships and donations are provided through our Mission Committee, which supports various groups including the Park County Animal Shelter, the Meeteetse Museum, Cody Beck Lake Challenge and the Park County Library. The Bargain Box is an outreach ministry of Christ Church with the intent of providing affordable clothing and furniture to the Cody community. Proceeds from the Bargain Box Thrift Stores are funneled to non-profit organizations through the Bargain Box Grant Program. Narcotics Anonymous uses the church library for weekly meetings and the Cody Community Choir holds public concerts in our sanctuary.

Describe your worshipping community's involvement in either the wider Church or geographical region.

Our church is seen as a vital and active part of the Cody community. A small sampling: our Spiritual Education Committee solicits themed talks from the congregation, town, region, and even statewide; our most recent program is a three year project, "Our Wyoming Neighbors". This first year (2025) we are hosting presentations from tribal members of the Wind River Reservation and 2026 will see lectures focused on our natural neighbors. Christ Church has made a conditional grant for a tribal-led Wyoming Indigenous Scholars Program which will fund a post-secondary education for one to two students each year. We send congregation members to the annual Diocesan Council and Christ Church members have also recently participated in Diocesan pilgrimages to the Reservation to return tribal artifacts and to honor indigenous children who died last century while attending Episcopal-led Indian Schools. We join with the LDS Church in hosting an annual Faith & Blue event, sponsored by the local Sheriff and Police department and designed to bring the community and law enforcement together through the reach of faith based organizations.

Tell about a ministry that your worshipping community has initiated in the past five years. Who can be contacted about this?

The Wyoming Service Corps On Sacred Ground was started in August 2021. Young adults between the ages of 21 and 32 apply via the national Episcopal Service Corps to spend ten months living in intentional community at the Thomas the Apostle Center and working 32 hours a week at nonprofits, schools, and churches. On weekends, the corps have formation days, field trips, and church activities. 19 young people have participated in the program so far. Two corps members have since been married, and three former members are in the process of becoming priests. The Christ Church community has stepped up to welcome these young people to town with shared meals, special tours, mentoring, and friendship. Corps members are encouraged to get involved in both our church and the wider community. They have stepped up to facilitate formation activities, incorporating an appreciation of the Grateful Dead, Mardi Gras celebrations, and sermons about the Lord of the Rings. A few corps members have even been granted Bargain Box funds for community projects at their placement sites. These young people have brought new life into the community and energy, enthusiasm, and fulfillment to our worship. (Wyoming Service Corps is currently on sabbatical)

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What is your practice of stewardship and how does it shape the life of your worshipping community?

Each October we send out letters and pledge cards to all the members of our congregation speaking of the importance of individual giving to the health of Christ Episcopal Church. A Vestry member shares his or her reasons for giving during the service announcements for stewardship month. We have a special luncheon, at the end of the month, to celebrate the conclusion of the campaign and to thank the congregation for its generosity. The Church has also had campaigns to support other initiatives at the Church, such as funding a solar installation and supporting the Episcopal Service Corps.

What is your worshipping community's experience of conflict? And how have you addressed it?

A conflict occurred when a job in the church was eliminated. The individual involved and his family had been long-term members of the church and liked by many. Some of the congregants were confused and upset, not being privy to the reasons for the termination or the process. Resolution of the conflict occurred with a fuller explanation for the job elimination, sharing enough information while preserving privacy.

What is your experience leading/addressing change in the church? When has it gone well? When has it gone poorly? And what did you learn?

Our church was functioning very well, our membership was holding its own. The congregation was concerned about not being able to maintain our youth and young families. This problem was being worked out when COVID hit. Our church immediately put a plan of action into play, including the designation of specific, distanced seating and the temporary discontinuation of our popular (and lengthy!) passing of the peace. A video camera was set up in the church where the congregation could watch the service on Facebook Live. Then our long time Priest retired, so staff and members of the congregation stepped into additional leadership positions. Things went along as usual with a few hiccups along the way. After COVID some of our members did not come back. We made phone calls to these members. We recently instituted one 9:00 a.m. service instead of the former 8:00 and 10:00 a.m. Sunday services. Several months later, we underwent the necessary processes of change once again to maintain one service, but changed the time to 10:00 a.m., which is the time of our current single Sunday Holy Eucharist service. With all these things happening in fairly close proximity, it forced us to accept the changes and to work together.



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Prior Incumbents

Name	Position Title	Date Begun	Date Ended
Rev. Mary Caucutt	Rector / Vicar / Priest-in-Charge	2006-06	2024-10

Name	Position Title	Date Begun	Date Ended
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Name	Position Title	Date Begun	Date Ended
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Church School	Number of Teachers/Leaders for Children School	Number of Students for Children School
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Number of Teachers/Leaders for Teen/Young Adults School	Number of Students for Teen/Young Adults School	Number of Teachers/Leaders for Adults School	Number of Students for Adults School
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Day School	Number of Students for Day School	Number of Teachers for Day School	Number of Total Staff for Day School
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Worshipping Community Web site: christchurchcody.org

Media Links:

diowy.info/christchurchcody
> <https://www.episcopalwy.org>

Online References:

facebook.com/christ.church.cody
youtube.com/@christepiscopalchurchcody4940

Languages Significantly Represented:

Provide Worship or Classes in:

References

Bishop:

**Rt. Rev. Todd Ousley,
Bishop Provisional**

307-265-5200 todd@episcopalwy.org

Diocesan Transition Minister

Rev. Canon Bobbe Fitzhugh

307-359-3311 bobbe@episcopalwy.org

Current Warden/Board Chair

Tom Keegan

307-250-1123 tpkeegan423@gmail.com

Previous Warden/Board Chair

Cheryl Ajax

307-899-2731 cherylsajax@gmail.com

Search Chair

**Frank Middleton & Cheryl
Ajax**

Frank Middleton: 843-906-5724 middletonfrank@bellsouth.net
Cheryl Ajax: 307-899-2731 cherylsajax@gmail.com

Parish/Institution

Rev. Douglas Sunderland

307-272-9152 douglassunderland5@gmail.com

Local Community Leader

Anne Young

307-587-5821 ayoung@sagecreekranch.com