



THE EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF WYOMING

Dear Clergy and Lay Leaders,

It is my joy and responsibility to visit each worshipping community across the Episcopal Diocese of Wyoming. My hope is that these visitations will be moments of encouragement, spiritual reflection, and connection. This document outlines expectations and planning details to support a smooth and meaningful visit for all involved.

Attached you will find both this Bishop's Visitation Customary and the 18-month visitation schedule. If your assigned date is not workable for your congregation, we ask that you identify another worshipping community with a scheduled visitation weekend that does work for you, coordinate a switch directly with them, and confirm that **both communities agree** to the change. Please notify the diocesan office of the updated date **no later than 6 weeks in advance**.

We appreciate your attention to this customary and your collaboration in the visitation schedule. Please reach out with any questions or needs.

Peace,

The Rt. Rev. Todd Ousley
Bishop Provisional
The Episcopal Diocese of Wyoming

CUSTOMARY FOR BISHOP VISITATIONS

effective August 1, 2025

Timeline & Overview

- **Visitations typically span Saturday–Sunday.**
- We prioritize:
 - Congregational needs and anniversaries.
 - Opportunities for baptism, confirmation, reception, or reaffirmation.
 - A rotation schedule that ensures all congregations are visited during an 18-month span.

Saturday Schedule

- **Meeting with Vestry or Church Leadership**
 - Focus on the congregation's vision, mission, goals, and challenges.
 - Bishop Todd is especially interested in:
 - One project/ministry you're excited about.
 - Honest reflection on where support is needed.
 - Format may be conversation, Q&A, or presentation by lay leaders.

Sunday Schedule

- **Arrival**
 - Bishop Todd will arrive 30–45 minutes before the first service.
- **Worship**
 - Bishop Todd typically **preaches**.
 - He is happy to **preside**, but this is **not required**.
 - Please provide a bulletin and liturgy outline at least **2 weeks in advance**.
 - **Readings:** Please submit the **readings** along with the **Bible translation** (e.g., NRSV, ESV) **at least two weeks in advance**.
 - **Liturgical color:** follow the season including liturgies of confirmation, reception, and reaffirmation. If baptism(s) are scheduled, please use white.
- **Confirmations, Receptions, Reaffirmations, or Baptisms**
 - For baptisms of infants and young children, clergy pray the Thanksgiving over the Water and conduct the baptism by water with Bishop Todd **chrismating** (anointing with oil or water). Any older children or adults will be baptized by Bishop Todd, including chrismation (this unitive act by the bishop constitutes both baptism and confirmation).
 - For any of these rites, inform the Bishop's Office at least **1 month in advance**.
 - The Bishop will meet with candidates **30 minutes** before worship.
- **Blessing of Chrism**
 - If needed, please have oil prepared and let the Bishop know in advance.
- **Following Worship**
 - Bishop Todd will remain after worship for **fellowship with the congregation**, greeting parishioners and participating informally in post-service hospitality.
 - When possible, a **meal or gathering with clergy and their spouses** will follow. Alternatively, this meal may be scheduled for Saturday evening.
 - The Bishop has no dietary restrictions.

Scheduling Adjustments

- If your assigned weekend is not feasible, you may **coordinate a switch** with another parish directly.
- **Both parishes must agree** to the swap, and notification must be sent to Genie Osburn, Communications Manager, at genie@episcopalwy.org at least **6 weeks before the scheduled date**.
- This ensures proper coordination for Bishop Todd's travel, materials, and communications.

Photos & Communications

- Please assign a **volunteer photographer** for the day.
- Photos should be candid and respectful, especially during liturgy.
- Send high-resolution images to:
Genie Osburn, Communications Manager
genie@episcopalwy.org

Other Logistics

- **Bishop's Vestments:** Bishop Todd will wear a **rochet and chimere**.
- **Discretionary Fund Offering:**
 - Envelopes may be provided.
 - The worshipping community may direct loose offerings to the Bishop's Discretionary Fund, if desired.
 - Any Discretionary Funds collected should be consolidated into one check and forwarded to the Diocesan Office – make checks payable to "Bishop's Discretionary Fund."
- **Documentation:**
 - Please send all materials, bulletins, and lists of candidates at least **two weeks in advance**.
- **Certificates:** A sufficient number of **signed** certificates of baptism, confirmation, or reception will be sent to the worshipping community for completion by local leadership.
- **Parish Register:** It is required by Canon that the bishop review the Parish Register during the visitation. Thanks in advance for having these appropriate registers available for review.

Contact

For all visitation logistics, questions, or to submit readings and materials, please contact:

Genie Osburn
Communications Manager
307-315-2739
genie@episcopalwy.org



CHURCH VISITATION SCHEDULE

effective August 1, 2025

September 2025

6 – 7 Laramie, St. Matthew's Cathedral
 20 – 21 Jackson, St. John's
 23 Laramie, Canterbury Fellowship
 27 – 28 Riverton, St. James'

October 2025

4 – 5 Pinedale, St. Andrew's in the Pines
 25 – 26 Sheridan, St. Peter's

November 2025

1 – 2 Hartville, Church of Our Saviour
 8 – 9 Gillette, Holy Trinity
 15 – 16 Torrington, All Saints'

December 2025

6 – 7 Douglas, Christ Church
 13 – 14 Casper, St. Stephen's

January 2026

3 – 4 Buffalo, St. Luke's
 10 – 11 Dubois, St. Thomas'
 17 – 18 Cheyenne, St. Christopher's
 25 Glendo, St. John the Baptist

February 2026

31 – 1 Cody, Christ Church
 21 – 22 Ft. Washakie, St. David's

March 2026

28 – 1 Kaycee, All Souls'
 7 – 8 Morton/Kinnear, Holy Nativity
 14 – 15 Lander, Trinity

April 2026

11 – 12 Lusk, St. George's
 18 – 19 Rawlins, St. Thomas'
 25 – 26 Newcastle, Christ Church

May 2026

2 – 3 Atlantic City, St. Andrew's
 9 – 10 Big Piney, St. John the Baptist
 16 – 17 Dixon, St. Paul's
 30 – 31 Rock Springs, Holy Communion

June 2026

6 – 8 Cokeville, St. Bartholomew's
 13 – 14 Encampment, St. Bartholomew's
 21 Eden, Oregon Trail Memorial
 27 – 28 Bondurant, St. Hubert the Hunter

August 2026

1 – 2 Basin, St. Andrew's
 8 – 9 Saratoga, St. Barnabas'
 15 – 16 Meeteetsee, St. Andrew's

September 2026

12 – 13 Green River, St. John's
 19 – 20 Thermopolis, Holy Trinity

October 2026

17 – 18 Casper, St. Mark's
 24 – 25 Cheyenne, St. Mark's

November 2026

31 – 1 Wright, St. Francis on the Prairie
 7 – 8 Ethete, Our Father's House
 14 – 15 Kemmerer, St. James'

December 2026

5 – 6 Powell, St. John's
 12 – 13 Sundance, Good Shepherd

January 2027

9 – 10 Evanston, St. Paul's
 16 – 17 Wheatland, All Saints'
 23 – 24 Worland, St. Alban's
 30 – 31 Glenrock, Christ Church

