IN THE ST. ANDREWS PINES

November 2026

Celebrating Saints

November starts with the celebration of All Saints, and this year we will also celebrate the feast day of our patron saint, St. Andrew, on our annual stewardship Sunday. His feast day is on November 30, but we will observe it before Advent.

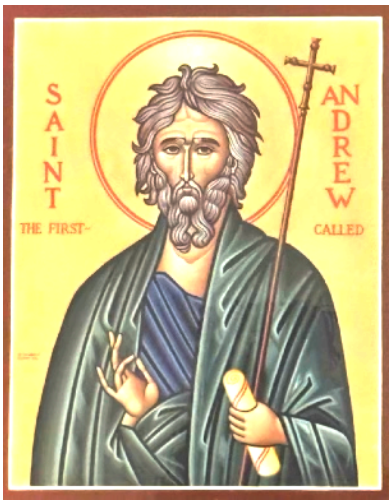
Why? Who are "saints" in the Episcopal Church and why celebrate them?

In our tradition, all of the baptized are saints, set apart for a holy purpose. Early Christians started remembering and honoring specific saints and martyrs to strengthen their faith, and that practice became formalized over time.

A Saint recognized by the Church is a witness to Christ—a holy, faithful Christian through whom God worked in a powerful and unique way. Some particular aspect of God's love, sacrifice, or power was made known, "witnessed," through the life of the saint. This is why the Scriptures refer to a great "cloud of witnesses."

We don't worship or pray to saints, but we celebrate, reverence, and pray in companionship with them. Some of us experience certain saints as friends on a journey, perhaps with challenges or experiences similar to our own. These may become our personal, chosen "patron saints"—saints that we feel a stronger affinity with and invite to walk alongside us to guide and inspire us.

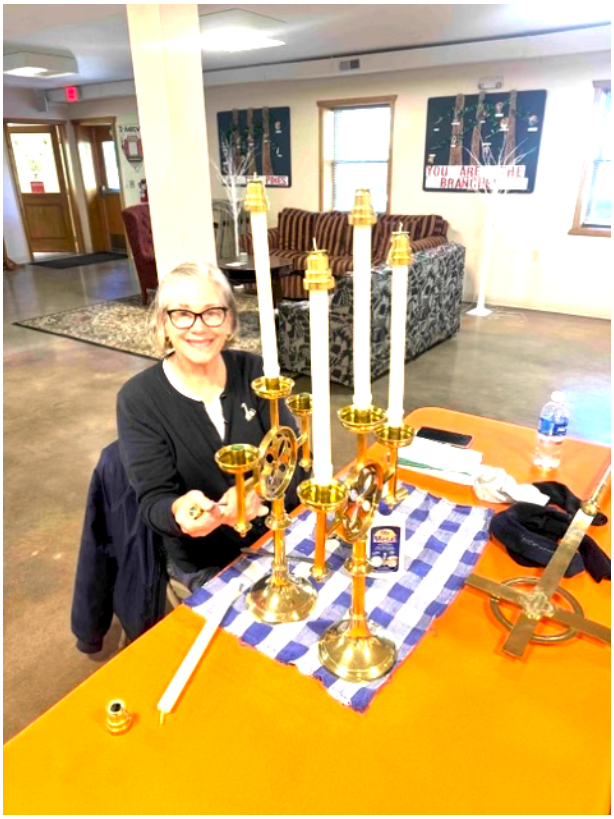
A "patron saint" is one chosen as a special advocate or protector, with a particular kind of witness. Churches with patron saints often choose the name because the saint's life and ministry reflects something to which they aspire or feel called. St. Andrew's in the Pines is named after the apostle Andrew, a fisherman who was the first of the twelve disciples and, in the Gospel of John, is the one who presented bread and fish to Jesus for the feeding of the five thousand. He also took his brother to meet Jesus and he became the disciple known as Simon Peter, then Peter, the rock on whom Jesus built the church. He died a martyr for the faith. Feeding people, inviting others to know and serve Jesus, being a catalyst for transformation in lives and in the world —this sounds to me like St. Andrews, Pinedale! Perhaps St. Andrew has more influence on us than we know! In Scotland, his feast is celebrated for a full week. We will celebrate it on Sunday, November 22 as we also make our annual pledges to support the ministry of St. Andrew's. Bring or wear a family tartan if you have one, and consider bringing Scottish food to the potluck!



Our connection to the "cloud of witnesses" is a gift from God that blesses us as a source of spiritual strength and wisdom in difficult times, personal and global. Also, the "cloud of witnesses" assures us that we are never truly alone in this world; Christians are part of a vast family that is not separated by death. Saints teach us theology, church history, spiritual disciplines, and how to live and die faithfully.

In this season of thanksgiving, give thanks for the communion of saints—of the Church and your own life. Consider choosing one or two to study and pray with, perhaps with an icon or a symbolic object. Let them remind you that regular folks, made holy by baptism, can and do change the world.

Grace and peace,



Julia Cook, Altar Guild, polishing the brass.



The St. Andrew's gift basket which raised over $200 at the auction at convention this year.



Scott Murdock, hidden in the tree and Madeleine Murdock gathering crabapples for jelly.



Vestry Retreat at the Hohl cabin. Everyone is hard at work, but well-sustained with lots of treats!

Wanted:
Coffee Hour Volunteers

A simple and fun way to help out at St. Andrew's is to occasionally sign up for Coffee Hour. Just email standrewspinedale@gmail.com by the middle of the month for a date the following month. If it's your first time, ask someone to show you where everything is.

What Coffee Hour (not really an hour) entails:

Bring some kind of snack. It doesn't have to be fancy or home-baked. Some ideas:

- Store bought treats
- Chips and dip
- Savory items like avocado toast or a cheese platter
- Your favorite snack!

On the Sunday, that you've picked:

- Arrive a little early.—Set up the coffee (very easy, instructions are posted), put out coffee cups, cream and sugar, plates, forks if needed, paper napkins, water glasses and pitcher of water. Put food items in the oven set on warm if needed.
- During the Peace, go downstairs and switch on coffee pot.
- Get downstairs as early as possible after the service (maybe skip the last hymn) and put out food and make sure everything is ready.
- Be available to help serve.
- Afterwords, load dishwasher, wipe counters, put everything away and empty trash if necessary.
- Remember: you can always ask for help!

St. Andrew's in the Pines Vestry

Name	Office	Term Ends
Julie Belton	Clerk	2026
Erin Hastey		2027
Sukey Hohl	Senior Warden	2027
Sarah Hixson	Junior Warden	2028
Joni Mack	Treasurer	

We will need new Vestry Members starting in the new year. Please prayerfully consider whether this ministry is for you.

November Birthdays

Sue Holtz	11/11
Caroline Brazell.	11/14
Peggy Bryant	11/20
Dave Hohl	11/21
Sherrill Hudson	11/26



The LandWe Walk by Andrea Paulsen

2026 Annual Convention
By Sarah Hixson



Sarah Hixson with Charlease Elzinga Bobo in Sheridan.

I had the privilege to attend, as a delegate, the 60th Annual convention of the Wyoming Diocese of the Episcopal church, which was hosted by St. Peter's Episcopal Church in Sheridan, WY. Most of the convention activities took place on the beautiful campus of Sheridan College and the Golden Dome sports arena was transformed to a wonderful space for a large and happy congregation.

St. Peter's hosted the Saturday morning church service for the convention attendees and generously invited everyone to a pig roast at the end of convention. Representatives of over 50 churches from around Wyoming came together to celebrate the Episcopal Church of Wyoming.

The keynote speakers brought us ideas on discernment, what it is, and why it is important. The most memorable part of this was the chance to reflect on the reading that recounts Jesus leaving the crowds on the edge of the sea and going out into the deep water in a boat with some of the disciples. I found a fresh understanding of the boat as a symbol of the church, and the deep water as the unknown, the place of fears and overwhelm where the people of the world often find themselves and Jesus in the boat urging the disciples, with their own fears and doubts, to be "fishers of men." The Convention theme "called here. Called now" came into focus for me: We, the church, called wherever we are to pull people onto the boat, now. Sort of "just do it." Be there for others.

We voted on several very important resolutions born out of care and concern by and for our Native American brothers and sisters and people caught in the troubled immigration system and those working with or for these people. Our own Mother Leann spoke beautifully in favor of the resolutions. All of the resolutions passed by a very large majority of those voting.

St. Peter's youth created beautiful ceramic crosses for every person who attended the convention. The youth worked for months to have these ready for their guests and we were able to communicate our enormous gratitude for their thoughtful gifts. In addition, many wonderful craftspeople from around the diocese (including here in Pinedale) knitted or Crocheted prayer shawls that were available to all bidders during the auction for Episcopal Relief and Development.

Episcopal Relief and Development received well over $50,000.00 between the ingathering from all of the churches, the auction of the gift baskets, and the auction of the shawls. The Foundation matched all monies raised making the total funds collected for Episcopal Relief and Development over $100,000.00, which we were told makes Wyoming their biggest per capita donor out of all the Unites States!

I highly recommend attending these conventions whether as a delegate or a guest. It is a once-a-year chance to really experience a big Church full of happiness, spirit, fellowship, and action!If you are interested in attending the next convention, just talk with a member of the Vestry.

November ROTA

	November 1	November 8	November 15	November 22	November 29	December 6
Type of Service	**Eucharist - ALL SAINTS**	**Eucharist**	**Eucharist**	**Eucharist - Stewardship**	**Eucharist - Advent 1**	**Eucharist - Advent 2**
Altar	Joni Mack	Jen Wilson	Kendra Cross	Mary Lankford	Joni Mack	Mary Lankford
Celebrant / Worship Leader	Rev. Leeann Culbreath	Rev. Leeann Culbreath	Rev. Leeann Culbreath	Rev. Leeann Culbreath	Rev. Leeann Culbreath	Rev. Leeann Culbreath
Chalice		Sarah Hixson	Sukey Hohl	Julie Belton	Sarah Hixson	Sukey Hohl
Greeter/Plate	Peggy Bryant	Peggy Bryant		Peggy Bryant	Sarah Hixson	
Lector	Erin Hastey	Joni Mack	Sukey Hohl	Jen Wilson		Sukey Hohl
Coffee Hour	Erin Hastey		Sukey Hohl	potluck luncheon		Sukey Hohl

St. Andrew's in the Pines Vestry Minutes
September 21, 2026

1. Call to Order: 5:38 pm. Present: Rev. Leeann Culbreath, Sukey Hohl, Senior Warden, Sarah Hixson, Junior Warden, Joni Mack, Treasurer, Julie Belton, Clerk, Erin Hastey and Kelley Pearson via Zoom. Rev. Leeann led the Vestry in a check-in exercise.
2. Opening Silence and Prayer: Erin led us in prayer, followed by 2 minutes of silence.
3. **Respectful Communication Guidelines** were reviewed.
4. Rector's Report: Mother Leeann was gone for most of the month, but shared current pastoral care concerns and her excitement about upcoming fall programs and worship options.
5.August Meeting Minutes: Joni moved and Sukey seconded to have the August minutes accepted as presented and the motion passed unanimously.
6. Financial Report: Financials are fine, open offering is still down now but may pick up before year's end. Outreach funds stand at $2095. We have had some unforeseen expenses, mainly to do with church building repair issues identified by the Diocese and expenses relating to the transition that were not planned for. We have plenty of money in savings to cover said expenses. Joni gave a big thank you to Sarah, Susan Gulbrandson, and Bob Zakotnik for doing a great job on the Audit. Erin moved to accept the Financial Report and Sarah seconded. Motion passed unanimously. Sarah moved and Sukey seconded to approve the 2026 Audit.
7. Grants: Two grants were discussed: One renewing our Mental Health Grant and the other to improve our AV system. We had a long discussion about the Mental Health Grant. With changes at the Diocese and on the Foundation Board, we cannot count on an automatic renewal. Use of the current grant is up significantly and we have also been approached by the Middle School because they are losing some counseling funding. What is our commitment to mental health services in Sublette County? The Foundation may require more involvement on the part of the congregation. It was agreed that we should take the discussion directly to parishioners in the short time available before the filing deadline October 1 to gather ideas and gauge interest in expanding mental health ministry. A conversation was set for after worship on Sunday, Sept. 27. Rev. Leeann will look into pricing for better AV equipment that would improve sound quality for streaming and Zoom and will submit an application either in this quarter or the first quarter of next year.
8. Trailer. Rev. Leeann explained that Diocesan staff inquired about an enclosed trailer registered to St. Andrew's. It was purchased with funds from the bishop's discretionary fund years ago for a collaborative ministry between Rev. Randy Belton and the local Lion's Club, which also invested in the ministry. It has been used for bicycle repair ministry and transporting furniture and other items for community events, but has not been utilized recently. At the time, St. Andrew's agreed to register it but has not been involved in the ministry. It is stored in the yard at Rebel Auto Parts. Leeann updated the vestry on this property and asked if there were any immediate ideas for using the trailer for St. Andrew's ministry. If not, we could discern ministry ideas further or consider selling it. Julie will talk to Randy about the possibility of the Lions Club wanting it. All agreed they should have the first right of refusal. Action is not urgent. Leeann wanted to bring it to the vestry's attention and generate ideas on how to move forward.
9. **Vestry Retreat, Part II:** will take place on Saturday, October 10, hopefully at the Hohl Cabin at Sweetwater Gap, weather permitting. Vestry will leave Pinedale 8 am, potluck lunch, back before dark.
10. Mid-Week Worship Survey. After analyzing the data, Mother Leeann suggested a Wednesday evening half-hour- long 6 pm Healing Service, no Eucharist, would best suit most peoples' needs. The vestry supported the idea and timing.
11. Fall Planning: Stewardship: Sukey will ask Madeleine if she will do her talk again. Mother Leeann will offer a coffee hour class on gratitude on the Sundays in November leading up to Stewardship Sunday and Thanksgiving. Blessing of the Animals on Oct. 4 will start outside if possible; Rev. Leeann will develop a shorter, creation-focused liturgy for that Sunday with no sermon (because it follows Convention weekend). Suggest folks bring donations for Happy Endings in the form of petfood, treats, kitty litter, etc. We also plan to start a Sunday evening soup supper program, lectionary lunch weekday gatherings, and expanding Sublette Center services to every Wednesday, with healing prayer services alternating with Communion services.
12. **Advent and Christmas Planning:** annual Christmas Party will take place at the Rectory this year, we will have the Sublette Center Christmas Tea again, Advent Lessons and Carols, one Christmas Eve service at 7 pm and none on Christmas Day.
13. **Miscellaneous:** Sarah volunteered to stain the south side of the Church. She will have to rent a lift, but there will still be substantial savings over contracting it out. All encouraged her to move forward. Erin invited local clergy and their guest to a Food Basket Dinner on October 22.
12. Compline: Skipped because it was so late.
13. Adjourn: at 7:52.

Treasurer's Report for November 2026 Newsletter **Joni Mack**

Finances for September, approved at the October Vestry meeting.

I want to point out that we received $10,700 in this year's pledge payments in December 2025. That means I needed to account for them in that month, and not apply them to this year's pledges. So that makes the numbers a bit better – we are within $650 or targeted pledges this year. We are a bit behind in our open offerings, but that is not an exact science. We had a few church maintenance expenses this year – new gutters, removal of the rotten belfry, and staining the south and west sides of the building. All necessary and good to keep ahead of potential problems.

Thank you, everyone for your generous support of St. Andrew's ministries.

Assets	Balances as of September 30, 2026
Bank Accounts	
Operating checking	4,949.45
ECW checking	1,297.79
Priest Discretionary checking	2.287.57
Mental Health Fund checking	11,606.63
Summer Lunch checking	11,705.37
Total	**29,562.097**
Savings and Certificates of Deposit	
Savings Account, which includes:	
- Priest Associate fund 331.99	24,079.25
CDs, 3 separate instruments, all maturing various months 2026	86,381.11
Building savings	336.38
Total Assets	**110,796.74**
Dedicated Funds Checking Account	
Outreach Fund	1,645.33
Total Revenue YTD: pledge, open offering and interest income	**77,006.61**
Total Expenses YTD	**(89,011.58)**
Excess of Revenue over Expenses (negative amount)	**(12,004.97)**

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Soup Supper on Nov. 8: Sukey Hohl is hosting our next Second Sunday Soup Supper Sunday on Nov. 8 at 5pm. This month, the host will provide the soup and others will bring bread, salad, or dessert to share. Please sign up int he narthex if you plan to attend.

Sunday Coffee Conversations on Gratitude - Nov. 8 & 15: 'Tis the grateful season! For two Sundays in November, we'll gather downstairs after worship for coffee and conversation about gratitude. Part I will explore a biblical approach to gratitude and Part II will be a chance to share practices of gratitude.

St. Andrew's and Stewardship Sunday - Nov. 22: On Stewardship Sunday this year, we will also celebrate the feast day of our patron saint, St. Andrew. As usual, we will bless pledges during the service and enjoy a potluck lunch afterward. Because St. Andrew is the patron saint of Scotland, wear or bring your family tartan if you have one!

Vestry and Newsletter: November Vestry Meeting will take place at 5:30 on November 9 and the December newsletter deadline will be November 25.

Community Thanksgiving Dinner: The annual Community Thanksgiving Worship Service will be held from 11:30am-12pm, followed by the Community Thanksgiving Dinner, which is served until 4pm at Our Lady of Peace Catholic Church. Look for a sign-up sheet in the narthex soon for our contributions to the meal. Contact Maureen Hutchinson with questions.

Wednesday Worship & Study: Join us on Wednesdays for mid-week worship and study! We offer a service at Sublette Center at 10am, alternating between Eucharist and Healing Prayer. At noon, gather in the undercroft to explore the upcoming Sunday's Scriptures together. A peaceful, 30-minute Healing Prayer Service is held in the sanctuary at 6pm. Bring friends and family!

Choir Rehearsals: The St. Andrew's choir will rehearse for Advent Lessons & Carols and Christmas Eve on Thursday evenings at 5pm in the sanctuary starting Thursday, December 3. In December, the choir will also gather on Sundays at 9:15am for additional rehearsal.

Save the Date!

In order to help you plan for the Advent/Christmas Season, we are providing some dates early. Descriptions and details will appear later in service bulletins, weekly emails and the December newsletter.

Saturday, Nov. 28 - 11am - Greening of the Church

Sunday, Dec. 13 - 2pm - Community Christmas Concert at LDS Church

Wed., Dec. 16 - 10am - Sublette Center Christmas Tea Party, after Eucharist

Friday, Dec. 18 - 6pm - Parish Christmas Party at the rectory (with ornament exchange)

Sunday, Dec. 20 - 5pm - Service of Solace

Thursday, Dec. 24 - Christmas Service at Heritage Home and Sublette Center (afternoon, time TBD). Christmas Eve Eucharist in the sanctuary at 7pm.



Sarah Hixson, Junior Warden staining the south side of the church. Thank you, Sarah. This was above and beyond your job description!

St. Andrew's in the Pines
Episcopal Church
PO Box 847

Place
Stamp



Gobble, Gobble by Andrea Paulsen