



# ST. ELIZABETH'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

76 South 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue  
Brighton, Colorado 80601

## High Plains Regional Executive Committee Grant Report 2022

Submitted by Kerri Kennedy  
September 7, 2022

# 2021 Application & Church Goals unmet by January 2022

- Hold an in church showing of *THE CHOSEN* for congregation and families --  
*This event has been rescheduled to Advent of this year, 2022. Currently all Bishop's Committee members are reviewing the first episodes, to assess interest and so we can organize an event that would invite church family and friends, to a kick off viewing at the church.*
- Assessing damage to basement floor, drainage pipes, and flooring--  
*After Easter, two estimates were done on the pipes from two hydro-blast companies. The hydro-blasting is best done in warmer weather. It was determined that hydro-blasting might cause more damage to pipes and foundation that is nothing but alluvial sand. We have vacuumed the dirt out of the drainage pipes and cleaned the toilets of hard water stains. In the next two months, volunteers will clean the existing floor, wash the walls, drapes and reorganize the Sunday School Room.*
- Basement improvements for approximately 800 sq ft including kitchen to be used for classes, non-profit meetings, etc. --  
*With the above assessment and clean up goal, we will revisit the needs when we are using the basement consistently and have a better understanding of what events will be held in the basement.*
- Replacement of all kitchen appliances, and flooring, including toilets in bathroom  
*We will revisit these needs as we assess what events we consistently hold in the cleaned up basement.*

## 2022 Outreach Events

March 12<sup>th</sup> – Harry Potter Day in downtown Brighton

April 9<sup>th</sup> – Community Egg Dash at Rec Center in Brighton

April 17<sup>th</sup> – Egg Hunt with Iglesia Cristiana Amore

June 18<sup>th</sup> – Pride Day at Adams County Fairgrounds

July 3<sup>rd</sup> – Veterans 5K at Adams County Fairgrounds

### Other Church events of 2021-2022 that impacted Outreach events

**November 2021** – resignation of IT volunteer due to professional relocation, and IT duties and upgrade was given to Nancy Ross. She has maintained the website and FB page while upgrading church to google workspace.

**February 13<sup>th</sup>** – resignation of Bishop's Warden due to health problems, and appointment of new warden. The resigning warden was an ongoing Bishop's Committee member and experienced in warden functions. The new warden had previous committee experience but is playing catch up on policies and is doing some learning on the job.

**April 25<sup>th</sup>** – resignation of Rev Hill, to move to Innsbruck, Austria. Her last service was May 15<sup>th</sup>.

**July 16-17<sup>th</sup>** – death of a beloved member of the church. Jane Talbot served the church as a longtime Sunday School teacher and a consistent Bishop's Committee Member. Another Bishop's committee member resigned due to health reasons and another Bishop's Committee Member resigned for relocation.

**July 22<sup>nd</sup>** -- Reduced Bishop's Committee decided to concentrate on priest search and transition. Warden, Kerri Kennedy asks for a deferment of grant application for 2023 to 2024. The deferment was granted by Father Brian Winter.

## Proposed Outreach Events for October to December 2022

### October 2<sup>nd</sup> – *St Francis Day in the Neighborhood,*

Invite all neighbors within a two-three block radius of mixed city zoning, Iglesia Christiana Amore, and all those who helped or donated services to us in the past year, to a blessing service in church back yard.

### November 30<sup>th</sup> – *Advent Study on THE CHOSEN,*

Invite the congregation and young adults to view and discuss the series on a launching night for the study, showing 1-2 episodes.

With interest we would hold a discussion every other Wednesday, closing with Compline, until January, perhaps beyond.

### *Continuing Outreach efforts for end of year, 2022*

- Advertising in Brighton Buzz, Next Door, and other surrounding papers
- New banners for St. Francis Day, Christmas Eve and Easter
- New microphones for Zoom services, for better experience online and eventually, to upload livestream to our website

# Harry Potter Day in Brighton



The streets were filled with hundreds of families . The costumes were amazing, and we had plenty of pleasurable chats with everyone.

On a sunny, Saturday morning, the whole town turned out for a Harry Potter Festival. Our church was only two blocks from these pictures.

We wrote and printed 500 bookmarks, to explain the Christian underpinnings of the JK Rowling novels. The bookmarks also showed our address and service times We handed out all the bookmarks in rapid time.



Sadly, we missed the deadline to have the church put on the Marauder's Map of the area. We would have been the Godric's Hollow of the area and had many folks come into the church, to get their map stamped.

We have put ourselves on the list for any succeeding events of this kind in the business circles.

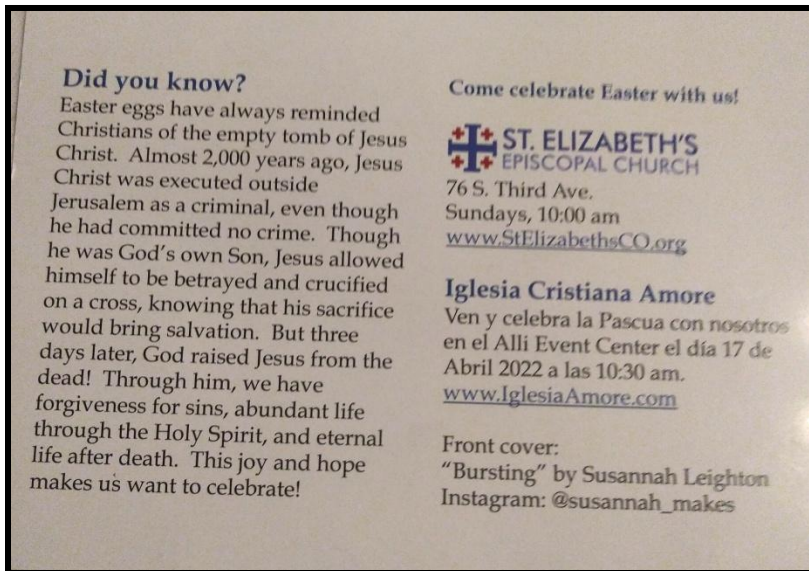
We had 6 participants and a lovely discussion fellowship discussion on the intent of our outreach for the day.



# Egg Dash at Brighton Rec Center

Two weeks before Easter, we hoped this event would be as fun and friendly as the Harry Potter Day. During the month, we reached out to a Spanish church who was using the venue across the street to do a joint outreach event.

We printed about 750 postcards and had t-shirts made with our church name on the front and service time on the back. We had 6 volunteers who wore shirts and distributed postcards. We talked and gave out all invitations to our Easter service before the dashing began.



The dash, however, was not organized well and became a free for all. Many children were separated from parents and hurt in the rush for eggs. With our t-shirts identifying us as safe people, our members reunited crying children with the lost and found station and parents.



## Easter Day Egg Hunt with Iglesia Amore

The Brighton Egg dash was somewhat disappointing to our church family, so a few volunteers decided to hold our own Egg Hunt in the back yard, and we invited the children of Iglesia Amore.

Not only did we have eggs, but we gave the children small bags, decorated with Easter motifs and some Easter thoughts.

Our volunteers filled, placed and helped the little ones find their egg treasures. It was a wonderful way to dispell the hurt and confusion of the Brighton Egg Dash.



## Other Outreach Projects not funded by grant funds

### *Pride Day at Adams County Fairgrounds*

This was the first Gay Pride event of the County. We had two teams of volunteers to come, wear our shirts and distribute some rainbow colored bracelets and information on our church. One team took the mid morning shift and the other team took the mid afternoon shift. This event was very friendly and full of young, millennial adults. We engaged in honest evangelism, by answering many questions about the Episcopal Church's views on the LGBTQ+ communities. Pride awareness literature was exchanged for bracelets and chats, and we brought back much information for the whole congregation. All bracelets and literature were donated by a member of the Bishop's Committee.

### *Ministry Visitations to Avamere*

Another Bishop's Committee member started a nursing home ministry to visit patients regularly and take them literature and flowers from our church. All materials were donated by this member.

### *Almost Home New Start Baskets*

Funded by a grant from St. John's Cathedral, this ministry supplies the necessary tools for a new apartment dweller who has recently been homeless. This has been the most successful ministry and will continue to the end of the year.

### *Ribbons for support of Ukraine*

Still Another Bishop's Committee member bought supplies and made blue/yellow/ sunflower ribbons to show our support for Ukraine. Volunteers were scheduled to help assemble and pack medical supplies to be flown to all needy areas of the world, called PROJECT C.U.R.E.



## *Veterans 5K at Adams County Fairgrounds*

By this weekend of July 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup>, our church family was in priest transition and Canon Vanessa Stickler-Glass was scheduled to serve us and speak with us about the transition process.

Before I became warden, I had signed up to do this event by myself. I have done several 9-11 stairclimbs at Red Rocks, but the altitude got to me in 2021, so I was looking for another event for myself. This event was a fundraiser for local veterans who are incapacitated, both physically and emotionally, and need extra help.

The week before the event, I also hyper extended my knee and was hobbling quite a bit, but I still went.



Since I wouldn't be available to visit with Canon Stickler-Glass on that Sunday, I asked the Bishop's Committee if I could wear our t-shirt and distribute more postcards to runners and families at the event.

I got some contributions along with my own to bring that day.

I talked to the organizers and put myself on their event and newsletter list. This is an event that I think I will do again, but I'm not sure it would be a good church event.

I walked until my knee was hurting and then cheered on the finishers.

# 2021-2022 Grant Fund Expenses



2021 High Plains Grant Expenditures.pdf

## Conclusions and observations

- We began to discuss how best to use outreach funds: for ministry or congregational growth or facility improvements, to be more inviting to new members, etc.
- We did learn more about the post-pandemic , emerging Brighton community.
- We gained insight into what our few and friendly members can do.
- We, as individuals, attempted new and different ministries and outreach events.
- We ran into some facility delays that precluded us using our church basement for more events for this year. We hope to finish these facility upgrades within a year.
- We garnered no new visitors or members from any of the outreach events
- Most of the new visitors and members who have come to us this year, found us on social media and attended our zoom services before coming into the church.
- We may want to spend more energy and resources on social media that caters to the younger generations.

*Thank you to all in the Diocese who have helped us over the past few years in all our transitions, from worship online to priest search and to future outreach.*