



ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Breckenridge, Colorado

A welcoming community
practicing hospitality,
spirituality, & service



Who we are...

Recently, 75% of our parishioners participated in a parish survey from *Holy Cow! Consulting*. It told us this about our church:

- We are a healthy, progressive, adaptive, high energy, and a highly satisfied church community.
- We are abundant in our commitment to community service.
- We are dedicated to spiritual growth, flexibility, and hospitality.
- We have seen an increase in overall attendance and frequency of attendance since COVID.



- We are a church that restored and renovated our historic building without using professional fundraisers. By the end of 2024 we will carry no debt for that project.

We are looking for new ways to grow. Our priorities include:

- Seeking new ways to serve those outside our church's walls.
- Providing a variety of options for spiritual growth.
- Enhancing our music program.
- Expanding our numbers and broadening the demographics of our congregation.

We know that we will grow—not by wanting to grow—but by what we do to fulfill our pledge of being a welcoming community practicing hospitality, spirituality, and service.

Episcopal Church of St. John the Baptist
100 S. French Street, Breckenridge, 80424

Staff and Vestry

Rev. Peter Munson, Interim Rector
Sheila Brockmeier, Director of Children/Youth & Family Ministries
Jeanie Kramer, Director of Music
Natalie Boyer, Parish Administrator
John Evans, Sr. Warden, Liv Syptak Jr. Warden
Vestry Members: Kay Adamson, Paul Burnham, Carol Goodwin,
Ray Smith, Karen Turner, and Carol Vagnini





Worship

- Holy Eucharist on Sundays, 8:00 am and 10:30 am
- Meditative Eucharist Wednesdays at 12:15 pm
- Adult Forum between services
- Lay Eucharistic Visitors are sent forth with sacraments and our prayers to those unable to attend services.
- Annual outdoor service, "Mass on the Grass," draws many visitors and guests of members.
- Easter and Christmas services attract visitors from all over the world.
- Daily Evening Prayer on Zoom
- Centering Prayer Tuesdays at 12:15 pm



Music at St. John the Baptist

We find our spiritual musical expression in the 1982 Hymnal and the Renew songbook. Our music director leads our choir, hires guest musicians and vocalists, and secures the talents of musicians from the National Repertory Orchestra in the summer. Currently, a worship team is studying ways to enhance our music program.



Outreach at St. John the Baptist

We take seriously and literally Jesus' admonition to "feed my sheep."

- We host a free weekly community dinner, serving over 3,000 meals a year.
- Monthly, parishioners donate groceries to the Family Intercultural Resource Center (FIRC) and Father Dyer food banks.
- Groups from our church provide Friday lunches at the Timberline Adult Day Program, deliver food for the "Smart Bellies" program, and for daily community meals at St. George's Episcopal Church, in Leadville.
- In cooperation with the Summit County Interfaith Council, we help sponsor the "Thanksgiving to Go" program, which distributed grocery gift cards to 747 recipients in 2023.



We seek to serve in other ways, as well.

- The Prayer Shawl Ministry knits and blesses shawls for the sick and grieving, hats, and scarves for the homeless in Denver, and hats for newborns at our local hospital.
- In 2023, the Jubilee Committee shared \$20,000 among several charitable organizations in Summit County and further afield, including FIRC, Smart Bellies, the Interfaith Council, and the Episcopal Relief and Development Fund.
- Time and donations have also been given to "Re-Member" at the Pine Ridge Reservation in South Dakota and to "Summit in Honduras," helping impoverished families and children in the rural northwest of the country.
- Thirteen percent of our annual budget is dedicated to outreach.



By the Grace of God, we are a church of abundance.



Parish History

St. John the Baptist became a Mission of the Episcopal Diocese in 1892 and remained a Mission for the next one hundred years. Our church was built in 1881.



The burgeoning ski industry (“white gold”) changed everything, and the congregation grew sufficiently to enable the construction of a parish hall in 1986. In the ‘90s, we became a Parish Church.



In 2019, we discovered that our nearly 121-year-old building needed extensive structural repair. Through our parishioners’ generosity and hard work and our former Rector’s leadership, we now have a beautifully restored and expanded building.

Leadership from the laity, Rectors, and Interim Rectors has helped us to be a thriving community and develop a commitment to hospitality, spirituality, and service.



Children, Youth and Families

Our approach to Christian formation for children has recently changed to better accommodate the needs of working families. We are now meeting on the first Sunday evening of the month for an all-ages Sunday school lesson, followed by dinner and fellowship. On the third Sunday of the month, we offer a youth-led worship at the 10:30 service, which includes children assisting with ushering and readings, along with a special sermon for children and those who are young at heart.



The Youth Group is small, made up of middle schoolers, and has goals of continuing Christian formation, including the sacrament of Confirmation, as well as to experience fellowship and grow in service to the church and community. The activities of Youth Group have varied significantly over the past several years based on the ages of the teens at the church and the programs offered by the Diocese of Colorado. At present, we have middle schoolers who help at both our SJB Family Gatherings and Children’s worship, in addition to frequently volunteering for Smart Bellies. The youth group is eager to participate in the Diocesan spring retreat and/or the summer Young Episcopalians in Service trip.



About Summit County, Colorado



CLIMATE

- 300 days of sun a year
- Winters last six months (November-April); Average snowfall is 300 inches on the ski slopes. Average daily high in the winter is 38 degrees Fahrenheit.
- Summers extend into September with average high temperatures in the upper 70s and low 80s. Many say that people come for the winters but stay for the summers.

POPULATION AND DEMOGRAPHICS

- Year-round population is 31,000, serving a visitor population of over 100,000
- 90 percent white, with 10% Hispanic, African, Asian
- 56% college graduates
- 20% number of retirees
- 6% live below the poverty line = 2,000 people
- Median family income: \$91,500



SCHOOLS

- Summit County School District: 6 elementary, 1 middle school, 1 high school. Offering bilingual education (Spanish/English), Advanced Placement, International Baccalaureate, and advanced courses at Colorado Mountain College
- The Peak School: grades 6-12, member of National Association of Independent Schools
- Colorado Mountain College (Public): primarily a two-year institution, but with a few bachelor's degree programs. One of the highest-ranking two-year colleges in the country.



RECREATION

Summit County is a recreation paradise, with downhill and cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, snowmobiling, ice skating, dog sledding, hockey, and snow tubing in winter.

Warmer weather brings cycling opportunities on 45 miles of paved rec paths and over 400 mountain biking trails in the county, hiking, fishing, camping, backpacking, climbing, rafting, hunting, tennis, pickleball, kayaking, rowing, sailing, and golfing (on the only Jack Nicklaus municipal course in the world and at three other first-rate courses).

There are 85 miles of maintained hiking trails on natural surfaces and dirt roads in Summit County. Colorado offers 5,583 miles of hiking trails and 53 mountain peaks higher than 14,000 feet.

Silverthorne and Breckenridge have large indoor recreation centers with indoor lap and recreational swimming pools, group exercise classes, ice skating, hockey, pickleball, and many other sports.



ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT



- Breck Create presents numerous professionals in concerts, presentations, and art exhibits. Vail's Vilar Center also offers many concerts. The National Repertory Orchestra bring outstanding classical music to the county in the summer.
- Two area theatre companies offer several productions during the year.
- A variety of restaurants and brewpubs provide interesting opportunities for foodies.
- Many St. John's parishioners are active in the Summit Choral Society, Summit Community Orchestra, Summit Concert Band, Women of Watercolor, and many other arts organizations.
- Denver is a little more than an hour away. Home to four professional sports teams, professional theatre, film centers, and live music, including the Colorado Symphony.
- Summit County Libraries have large, beautiful branches in Silverthorne, Frisco, and Breckenridge. They offer ample collections locally and access to libraries in Colorado and beyond, as well as access to book clubs for adults and children.
- Many festivals and seasonal celebrations, including a world-known ice sculpture competition, winter festivals, and Oktoberfest.

HEALTHCARE

- St Anthony's Summit Hospital is a full-service hospital with 35 beds and Level III trauma care. Affiliated with CommonSpirit Health with Flight for Life to Denver and access to Denver area medical centers.
- World-renowned sports medicine care is available in Summit County and in Vail.



Summit County is a prime tourist destination with many of the activities of a major city.

St. John the Baptist Membership and Financials

We have 106 Pledging members, an average attendance of 90 per week.

2023 Pledges and other revenue: \$530,000

Expenses: \$492,000

Operating Cash: \$112,000

Debt: \$116,000/7 years remaining on mortgage

REAL ESTATE IN THE COUNTY AND OUR RECTORY

Real estate in our mountain community is expensive. That is why we are grateful that we have a Rectory. (Median price of a single-family home in the county is \$1.1 million).



Prospective buyers and renters find the market very challenging, and the recent trend of VRBO and Airbnb conversions has resulted in an affordable housing shortage. The towns and county governments are working to provide more affordable and attainable housing, but there is still a pronounced shortage.



Our rectory is in Frisco, nine miles from Breckenridge, a fifteen-minute drive. Situated in a lovely housing area, it is large: 4BR/3.5BA, plus office and outdoor hot tub. Elementary, Middle, and High schools are all within 4 miles of the house.



The Rector We Seek

Our call to our next Rector is an invitation to minister to St. John the Baptist and to our Summit County mountain community.

We seek a Rector

- Who sees the mission of the church as shared between the Rector and the laity.
- Who will share our vision of extending service beyond our church - someone who will lead us in the work of the Spirit to strive for justice and systemic change.
- Who has strong skills in preaching, teaching, group dynamics, and parish management.
- Who is skilled in pastoral care and will walk with us on our spiritual journeys.
- Who will celebrate the fact that we have many members from various religious backgrounds.
- Who understands a resort community, with a complement of part-time and full-time parishioners.
- Who will be comfortable with our high altitude and long winters.

We seek, above all, a Rector who will encourage parishioners to discover, develop, and employ their individual gifts and will help to bring us all closer to God.

We Have Something Very Special at St. John the Baptist, and We Want to Share It

Thank you for reading our profile. We are very excited to discern whether you are called to be our next Rector. To apply, please email your cover letter, resume, OTM portfolio, and links to two sermons to the Rev. Canon Vanessa Stickler Glass, Canon for Transition and Wellness, vanessa@episcopalcolorado.org

