

St. Michael's Episcopal Church Telluride, with help from our grant, continues to grow within the Telluride community but has also had to assume new costs. First, until February 2025 we conducted weekly services in St. Patrick's Catholic Church in Telluride. We were not charged for use of the sanctuary. In January 2025 we were told we were no longer welcome (at that time as the last Episcopal congregation in Colorado that utilized a Catholic Church). We have now found a new home using Christ Presbyterian Church in Telluride, but as part of our agreement we pay that church \$100.00 for each use of the sanctuary. This included multiple services during Holy Week. Our new relationship with Christ Presbyterian and their pastor, Peter Haas, has resulted in greater exposure and additional attendance at our services by some of their congregation, and we have also held joint services.

Our use of Christ Presbyterian now comes with designated storage for our prayer books, hymnals, communion supplies, cross, etc. and also includes use of an office for meetings and counseling. We were encouraged by an attendance of 35 worshipers for the recent visit of our Bishop with a reception in our home that is next door to Christ Presbyterian Church.

An additional cost is in regards to our new obligations to Fr. Rob Rose, now the Vicar of Telluride. Prior to his ordination and appointment as our rector, we did not compensate him for his travel or services as a Deacon. Now as our designation as a "Special Congregation" we are assuming our obligations regarding his financial support.

We have also been able to continue weekly advertising in the local paper, the Daily Planet. For special services (like our Holy Week schedule, a summer outdoor service and pot luck supper, blessing of the pets in the park) this has required expanded ads. As in so many situations, those rates have increased. However, the external advertisements continue to inform part time residents and visitors who may not be on our informational e-mail communications. Grant funds have also supported outreach activities such as "ashes on the mountain" on Ash Wednesday when Fr. Rose spent the day both in town and on the ski mountain praying with people and anointing a great many with ashes.

All of the above has been directly and productively supported by our grant. As our future looks bright, we are now moving towards further commitments of our community in terms of annual pledges.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert C. Snip, MD, Treasurer