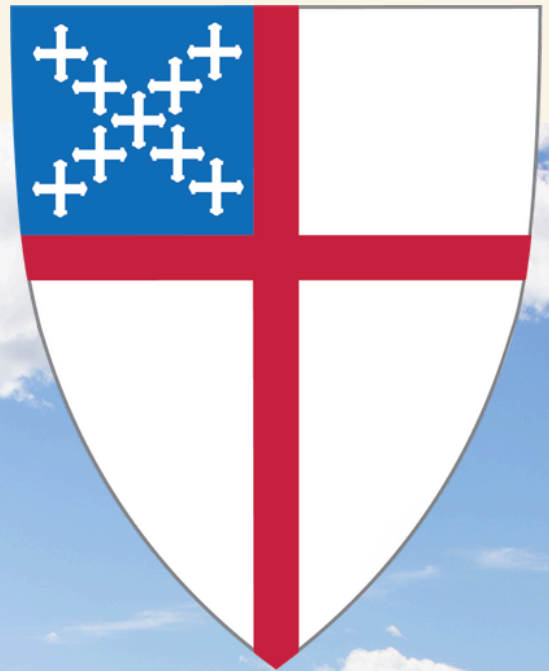


ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

VIRGINIA CITY, SOUTHWEST MONTANA



PARISH PROFILE

JEREMIAH 3:15

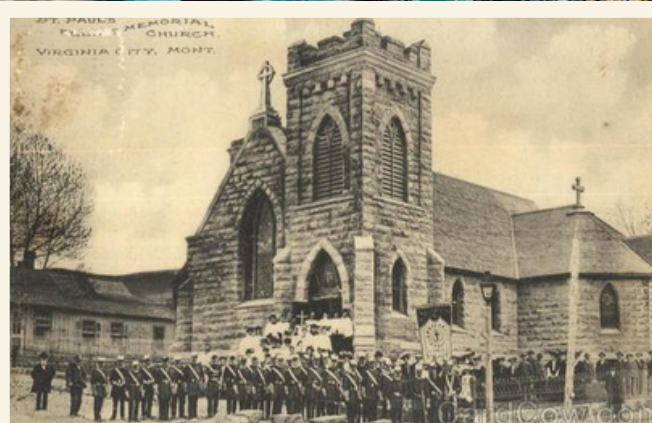
"I will give you shepherds after my own heart, who will feed you with knowledge and understanding."

TABLE OF CONTENTS	
MISSION	4
OPEN POSITION	5
HISTORY	6
CONGREGATION	7
WORSHIP	9
CHALLENGES	11
FINANCES	13
POSITION DETAILS	14
APPLICATION	16
MONTANA	18
VIRGINIA CITY	20



ST. PAUL'S

*Now & Then, With a sunset
view from the parish steps.*





OUR MISSION

IS TO BE A WELCOMING GATHERING PLACE
FOR ALL TO WORSHIP GOD.

All are welcome.

We are the singular established church in Virginia
City, Montana. Serving the community since 1867.



POSITION OPEN

PRIEST IN CHARGE

For a select few, serving in communities with more elk than people and a congregation that has been in active worship for eight generations, is a calling of a lifetime.

The congregation of St. Paul's Episcopal Church is prayerfully seeking a Priest in Charge to serve as our principal pastor and worship leader.



ISAIAH 30:21 *"And when you turn to the right or when you turn to the left, your ears shall hear a word behind you, saying, 'This is the way; walk in it.'"*



OUR HISTORY

St. Paul's Episcopal Church, located in Virginia City, is the first Episcopal congregation in Montana and held its first service on Christmas Day 1865.



In the spring of 1867, a group of dedicated believers organized more formally in anticipation of the arrival of Rev. Daniel Sylvester Tuttle, the first bishop and clergyman of the Episcopal Church to enter the Montana Territory. He arrived by stagecoach in July 1867.

Bishop Tuttle helped raise \$3,400 to purchase an unfinished church building. When the building process was completed, the simple, wood-frame structure became the first Episcopal church building in Montana. The first service there was held May 24, 1868.

In 1903, the original church was replaced with the current stone structure after Mary Elling donated \$20,000 upon the death of her husband Henry, an influential merchant/banker. The “new” church was crafted with native rough-cut grey stone, stained-glass windows from Chicago’s famed Munich Studios, and an Estey pipe organ from Vermont, transported by wagon during the last part of its long journey to Virginia City. In 1904, Bishop Leigh R. Brewer consecrated the new church with a congregation of four hundred in attendance. The handmade altar, made from native juniper, was brought from the original 1868 church along with the original brass altar accessories.

St. Paul's Episcopal Church is a contributing property within the Virginia City Historic District, designated a National Historic Landmark on July 4, 1961.





GATHERING TO WORSHIP

Our congregation is a welcoming place for our greater community. Reaching out to others and to one another is central to our ministries.

We strive to attract new families with children, deepen our spiritual depth and build fellowship with our neighbors and our area's many visitors.

Our congregation gathers to praise our Lord and Savior. We are Bible based with a mixture of traditional and contemporary music through the gifts of our Organist and Violin/Guitar musicians.





Additionally, we offer support to local causes and events such as contributions for the local wood bank, monthly community dinners, and hosting a wide range of events. Some of our annual highlights are participating in the Memorial Day Parade, Christmas in July where we gather for an evening of carols and cookies, classical music concerts featuring members of Baroque Music Montana and the Far Afield musical outreach through the Bozeman Symphony, Runners and Race support for the Annual Virginia City Gold Rush 5k and even sponsored a donut eating contest called the Holy Donut during the Miner's Days Fall Festival.

With the current outreach efforts in place, we believe more can be done to introduce our congregation and the Love of Jesus Christ to our community members and the tens of thousands of annual visitors.

As the only church in Virginia City, many denominations come through St. Paul's doors to feel the welcoming presence of God.

OUR CHALLENGES

Like many congregations, St. Paul's is challenged with aging membership, difficulty in attracting young families, and financial limitations that prohibit the hiring of a full-time Priest in Charge. However, we are confident in our collaboration with the St. James Episcopal Church from Bozeman to continue the firm foundation that has been set in place for us, and believe deeply that God is great and He fulfills our needs.

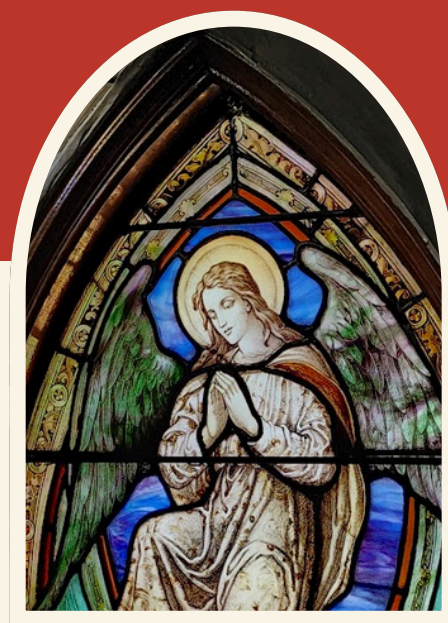
We believe that this open position will be filled by someone who believes strongly in the power of prayer, enjoys living in an area of immense beauty and sees a bright future for growing rural communities passionate for Christ.

Financially, we are in good shape through the generosity of our congregation, visitors, and the local community.



EPHESIANS 4:11-12

“The gifts he gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry...”



Recent key Capital Improvement projects have included:

- In 2019, an accessible entrance for mobility challenged people was constructed.
- In 2024, the stained glass windows. originally installed in 1903, were completely restored.
- In 2026, new furnaces and ductwork were installed.

Generous donations have made these improvements possible. God is in our midst!

Remaining needs related to the building include repairs to the exterior stonework, an accessible entrance to the undercroft and interior renovations.

St. Paul's continues to prioritize building and maintaining a robust Capital Improvements account.

PARISH FINANCES

ST. PAUL'S 2026 BUDGET

INCOME:		EXPENSES:	
Undesignated Gifts/Pledges	\$55,000	Salaries **	\$40,425
Memorial Gifts/Bequests	\$1,500	Assessment	\$9,000
Plate Offerings	\$2,000	Buildings & Grounds	\$5,000
Sales & Volunteer Activities	\$1,500	General Operations	\$4,000
Other Undesignated Income	\$2,500	Outreach	\$3,000
TOTAL	\$62,500	TOTAL	\$61,425

*** For full compensation details, please see vocation hub profile.*





CORE RESPONSIBILITIES

2 SUNDAYS PER MONTH & HIGH HOLY DAYS

The Priest in Charge will serve as our principal pastor and worship leader. Specific duties focus on liturgical and pastoral needs, including:

- **Worship & Preaching:** Leading the Holy Eucharist, Rite II two Sundays per month. Delivering thoughtful, scripturally grounded, and relevant sermons that connect faith to daily life and reflect the reality of a rural Christian experience. Collaboration with our Deacon, Lay Leaders and Vestry for necessary support for times of service as well as outreach and events.
- **Pastoral Care:** Providing care to our congregation.
- **Sacramental Ministry:** Officiating at Baptisms, weddings, and funerals as needed.
- **Community Engagement:** Serving as a visible spiritual leader within the local community, with an emphasis on engaging youth, and working collaboratively with the Vestry.



WE ARE SEEKING A PRIEST WHO

- A Nurturing Pastor: Someone who genuinely enjoys deep, personal connection and can effectively offer pastoral support to all ages in small congregations.
- An Inspiring and Accessible Preacher: Sermons should be relatable, practical, and encourage spiritual growth, avoiding overly academic, political or abstract language, while helping us center our lives in faithful service to others as Jesus taught.
- Offers Pastoral Care to those in need.
- Flexible and Self-Directed: Capable of managing a part-time schedule, comfortable with occasional travel, and a confident self-starter in organizing non-Sunday tasks.
- Committed to Tradition with an Open Heart: Deeply grounded in Episcopal liturgy and tradition, while possessing an open and affirming spirit toward all God's people.
- A "Montana-Minded" Spirit: Appreciates the unique opportunities and challenges of rural ministry and is willing to engage with the local culture and community rhythm.

QUALIFICATIONS

- Ordained Priest in good standing within the Episcopal Church (or a church in full communion).
- Experience in small church or rural ministry is a plus, but not required.
- Must possess a valid driver's license and reliable transportation.

COMPENSATION

This is a **Full Time** salaried position, shared with St. Jame's of Bozeman with a competitive compensation package comprised of salary, housing allowance and full medical offering based on diocesan compensation guidelines and commensurate with experience. *For full compensation details, please see vocation hub profile.*

APPLY

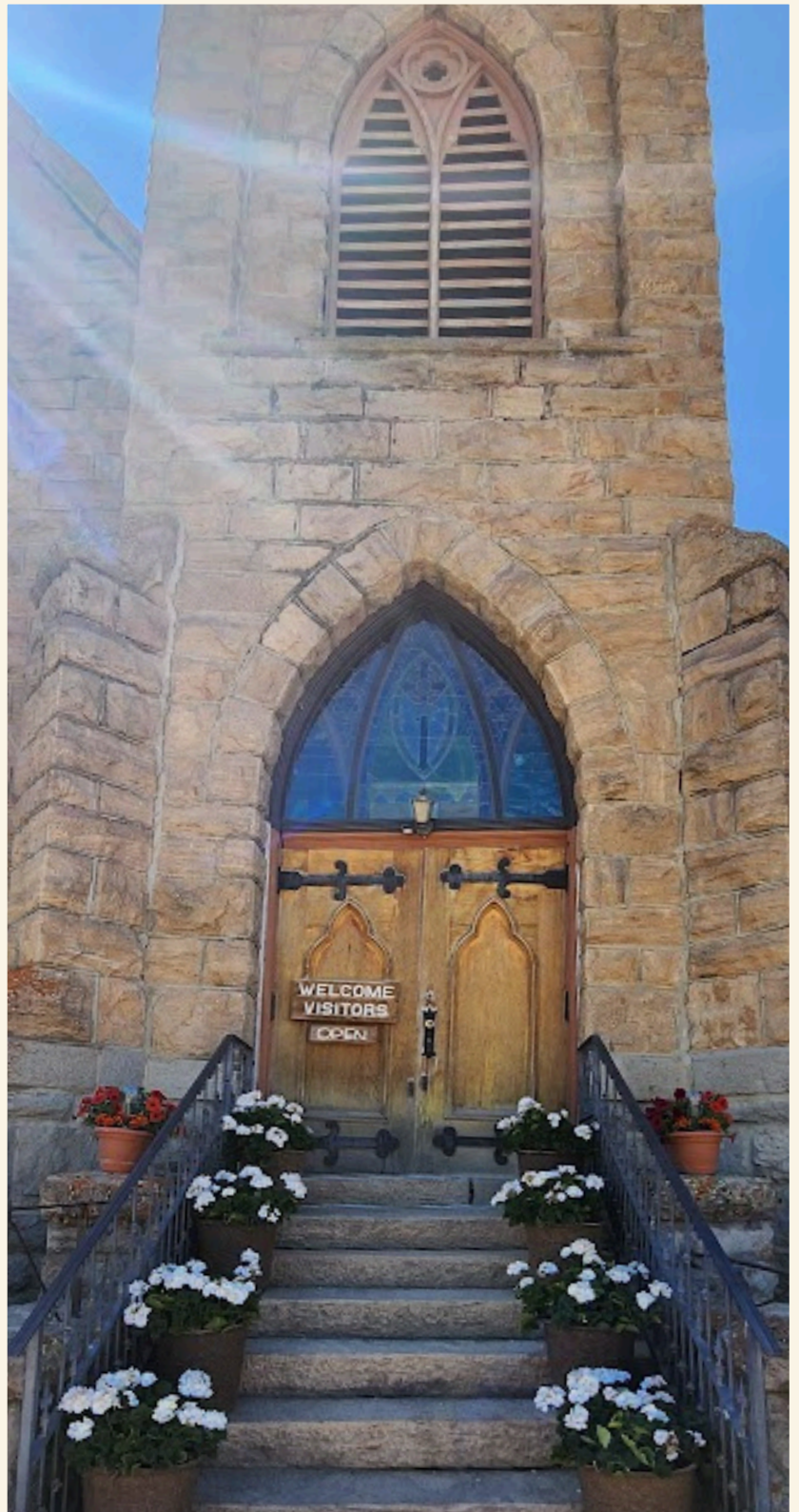
Please email the following to
Rector@StJamesBozeman.org

1. Letter of Interest detailing your call to this Ministry
2. Current CV or Resume
3. Contact information for three references (including one bishop/archdeacon/clergy reference)
4. A sample sermon (written or recorded)



Proverbs 3:5-6

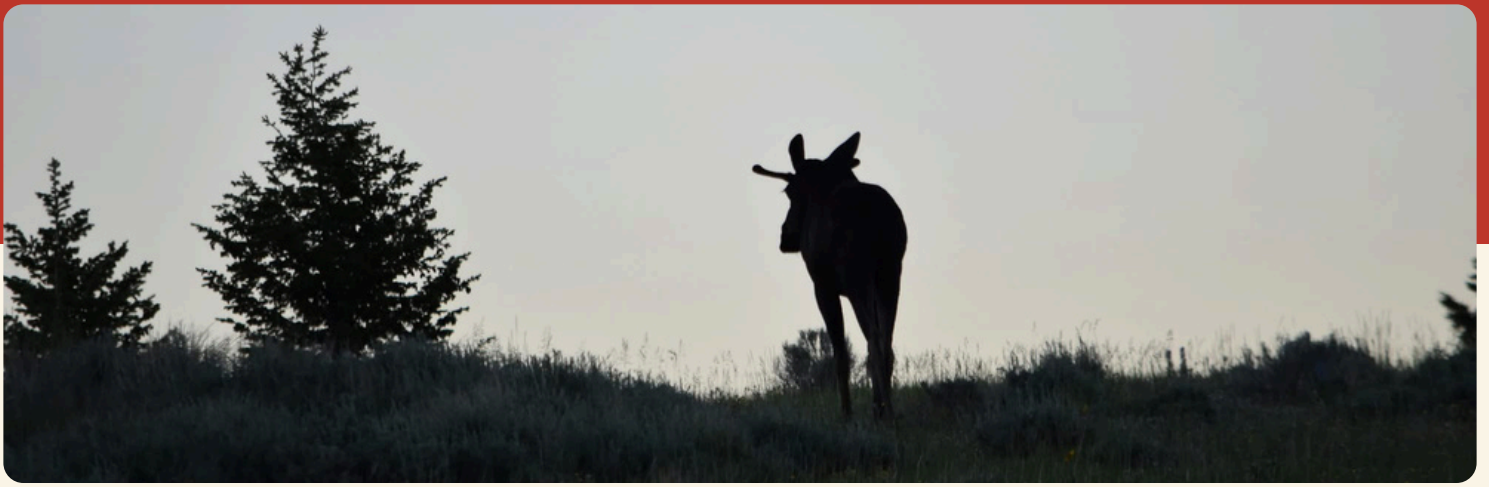
*"Trust in the Lord with all
your heart... and he will
make straight your paths."*



WILD, BEAUTIFUL MONTANA

Southwest Montana is famed for its incredible natural beauty. Yellowstone National Park is just an hour and a half drive from Virginia City. No less than six mountain ranges (Madison, Tobacco Root, Gravelly, Snowcrest, and Pioneer) surround our community. They offer world-class skiing, hunting, hiking and camping. Life in the mountains is blessed by dark skies, bright stars, beautiful views in every direction, and a quiet peace that nourishes the soul.





Wildlife is abundant with plentiful deer, bighorn sheep, antelope, elk, moose and more.

The area is also home to several renowned trout waters including the Madison, Gallatin, Ruby, Yellowstone, and Missouri Rivers, as well as high-mountain lakes. Each year, tens of thousands of anglers from around the world come to our area to enjoy some of the world's best trout fishing.





VIRGINIA CITY, MONTANA

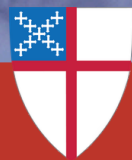
Virginia City is located just “over the hill” from Ennis. Now home to about 225 full-time residents, at its peak the town had a population of 11,000 thanks to the 1863 discovery of gold in Alder Gulch. Virginia City was the territorial capital of Montana from 1865 to 1875; it remains the county seat of Madison County.



In 1961, Virginia City was designated a National Historic Landmark. In 1976, it was listed in the National Register of Historic Places. Residents own or participate in businesses that support the many tourists that visit each season.

The community of Virginia City is tightknit and eclectic, with a mixture of lifetime residents and newer arrivals. Life is slower paced, with time for conversations on the boardwalk or impromptu parties to celebrate the solstice. Community members look out for one another in many ways, including bringing meals to someone who has been injured or is sick, or sharing when a bear or moose or big cat is hanging around in town. Life in Virginia City is blessed by dark skies, bright stars, beautiful mountain views in every direction, and a quiet peace that nourishes the soul.





Psalms 25:4-5

"Make me to know your ways, O Lord; teach me your paths. Lead me in your truth..."



ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
VIRGINIA CITY, MONTANA