

A call from...
**SAINT JAMES EPISCOPAL CHURCH
DILLON, MONTANA**



We are searching for a priest to lead our congregation beginning in January 2019, after our current priest retires. If you are thinking about making a move to a part-time position, and would welcome the challenges and opportunities of rural Montana and small-town life, we invite you to consider Saint James Episcopal Church, in Dillon, Montana.

The city of Dillon has about 4,800 residents; Beaverhead County has about 8,000 residents. There is a public library, a County museum, and a YMCA in the city. The local Arts Council and Concert Association sponsor cultural events. There is a craft brewery in town. Rotary, Lions, Kiwanis, Jaycees, Elks, American Legion, VFW, Garden Club, 4H, FFA and other organizations are active.

The economy is based on agriculture (range livestock, grain, hay, potatoes), along with mining (talc), education (University of Montana Western, K-12 schools), regional health care (Barrett Hospital and Health Care), tourism and outdoor recreation (fishing, camping, hiking, historic sites, hunting). Dillon is the Beaverhead County seat, and hosts a full complement of local, state, and federal government offices. There is a county airport locally, and commercial airports in Butte (65 miles) and Bozeman (120 miles). Daily bus service is by the Salt Lake Express,



Dillon is within a few miles of 45° latitude, halfway between the equator and the north pole. The elevation in town is about 5,100 feet above sea level. The valley is mostly sheltered from arctic cold by tall mountain ranges, but sometimes gets short periods of sub-zero weather in winter. The days are generally sunny (more than 300 sunny days per year), with about 14 inches of precipitation annually. If you are a gardener, you prepare for life in Zone 4 or Zone 3.

The Beaverhead, Big Hole, and Madison Rivers, as well as smaller streams and lakes provide blue ribbon trout fishing. The Lewis & Clark and Nez Perce National Historic Trails, and the Continental Divide National Scenic Trail, and Pioneer Mountains National Scenic Byway are all part of our "Big Sky" landscape, with large areas of federal lands managed by the US Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management, as well as Red Rock Lakes National Wildlife Refuge (US Fish & Wildlife Service) and the Big Hole National Battlefield (National Park Service). Bannack State Park preserves the first territorial capital of Montana, the most prominent of numerous ghost towns dating to the mining boom which began in this area in the 1860's. Maverick Mountain is a small ski hill located within 50 miles of Dillon; within a few hours are large ski resorts at Discovery, Big Sky, and Bridger Bowl.

We think this is just about the "last best place" to live, and hope to find a rector who agrees!

About Us

Mission statement

We at Saint James Parish believe that we are Christ's own, and that our reason for existence is to follow his commandments to love God and to love our neighbors as ourselves.

Congregation Profile

About 70 members, with an average Sunday attendance of 32; Vestry of 7 to 9 members. High value placed on fellowship and "family feeling" among members.

Estimated operating budget for 2019

\$109,000 (about \$52,000 available for priest expenses)

Clergy

The Reverend Susan Eades, Rector
The Reverend Steve DeHart, Deacon

Part-time Church Employees (other than clergy)

Musician, Housekeeper

Church Features

Historic church of post-and-beam construction dates to 1882, recently renovated narthex and exterior access. Seats about 125. Vaulted ceiling, antique stained-glass windows, oak altar and pews, pipe organ (electric motor) and piano. Sacristy and office adjoining church. Connected to church is Guild Hall with kitchen, parlor area, restroom, and dining/meeting hall space upstairs; full basement including Deacon's office, classrooms, nursery, restrooms, meeting and storage space downstairs. All located on a large lot in downtown Dillon, with underground sprinklers for lawn, trees and shrubs.

Church Contact Information

USPS: PO Box 1374, Dillon, MT 59725

Physical Address: 203 E. Glendale Street, Dillon, MT 59725

Web site: www.stjamesdillon.org

Facebook: Saint James Episcopal Church, Dillon, Montana

Email: stjamesdillon@live.com

Telephone: 406-683-2735; Priest Mobile Phone: 406-925-3290

Diocese of Montana Contact for Employment Inquiries:

Chris Roberts, Canon to the Ordinary/Transition Ministry
mtcto@diomontana.com, tel. 406-580-1783.

Gifts and Skills Desired in Our Rector

High priority:

- ◆ Preaching and demonstrating a strong message of God's grace, faith, hope, and love.
- ◆ Ensuring the church is a welcoming, safe place for all.
- ◆ Teaching and interpreting scripture, and leading Christian formation and inquiry discussions.
- ◆ Welcoming the challenges and opportunities of rural Montana and small-town life.
- ◆ Inspiring and encouraging others in community service and pastoral care ministries.
- ◆ Working with the vestry in program decisions, financial management, budgeting, and strategic planning, and encouraging stewardship for a sustainable parish.

Helpful:

- ◆ Encouraging participation by members in worship services and other church ministries.
- ◆ Skill in public relations and communication including social media and web sites.
- ◆ Administrative skills including use of office software and ability to maintain office operations.
- ◆ Skill in music selection for worship services.
- ◆ Creating and maintaining relationships with leaders of other denominations and spiritual traditions in order to plan and carry out ecumenical services and meet community needs.

Useful Links:

Beaverhead Chamber of Commerce and Agriculture: <https://www.beaverheadchamber.org>

University of Montana Western: <https://w.umwestern.edu/>

Dillon Tribune Newspaper: <https://www.dillontribune.com>

Barrett Hospital and HealthCare: <https://www.barrethospital.org>

Montana Tourism Information: <https://www.visitmt.com>

Episcopal Diocese of Montana: diomontana.com