

IX) Religion

A) St. John's Episcopal Church

The Episcopal Church has been in Jackson Hole since 1909. Its mission has been and is outreach to the people and community of Jackson. St. John's facilities are used by more than 30 non-profits, as well as other churches. The Browse 'n' Buy Thrift Store provides clothing, household goods, and furniture to the community at affordable prices, and also supplies many free vouchers. St. John's also provides rent, medical, utility, and daycare assistance totaling over \$40,000 a year. The Jackson Cupboard and the Community Resource Center are housed in the St. John's facilities as well. Their mission statement is "a community of faith serving with a Christian heart." St. John's has roughly 1000 members, and attendance doubles in the summer both in town and at Chapel of the Transfiguration, located in Grand Teton National Park. (The chapel is a parochial mission, which means that it is part of St. John's and not an independent congregation). The buildings off of the Town Square were initially founded as a wayhouse and became a hospital before finally housing the church. With Browse 'n' Buy, St. John's employs 20-22 people. The budget for St. John's, including Browse 'n' Buy, is \$1 million. During the academic year, two services are offered. In the summer (May-Sept.) four services are offered, two in Moose and two in Jackson. During a non-holiday Sunday, there are roughly 250 attendees for both services combined.

B) Our Lady of the Mountains Catholic Church

Our Lady of the Mountains Catholic Church serves the people and communities of Teton County and northern Lincoln County, Wyoming, and Grand Teton National Park. The ministry provided is liturgical, pastoral, educational, and service. They have three church locations and one educational facility. All ministries are provided in both English and Spanish, as approximately 2,500 Latinos attend services in the high season and 1,500 in the low season. The Catholic Church has had a presence in these areas since 1935 and employs four full-time staff. The mission statement of OLM is as follows:

"We, a Catholic people called to holiness, rooted in faith and tradition, take as our challenge the mission of growing and strengthening our diverse community while welcoming all people and providing a sense of belonging to people at every stage of life. We pray that the Holy Spirit fills and guides us so that we may become the living presence of Jesus in our contemporary world."

C) Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints

The LDS Church in Jackson dates back to Uncle Nick Wilson in 1890s, when the congregation was established. There are two local LDS congregations, Jackson First and Jackson Second. In addition to those two congregations, there is a summer branch that works at Jackson Lake Lodge to serve visitors. The two town congregations divide geographically at the Virginian into north and east/ south and west. The facility on Broadway serves both wards. Services are offered for 3 hours on Sunday, one ward from 9:30-12:30 and the other from noon-3 pm. There are approximately 1200-1300 people who are baptized members of the local congregation. The first ward has 550-600 members while the second has 650. There are significant increases during the summer, with an additional 250 members. It is not unusual for 1000 people to attend church in summer. In the winter, attendance is about 375. In terms of organization, the bishop is a volunteer. The laity of the church performs all tasks. The Church has a Tuesday session for youth, and a once a month evening session for the women's Relief Society.

LDS Church

	1990	2003
U.S.	4,267,000	5,503,000
Wyoming	51,692	55,540
Driggs Stake	3,697	4,123
Jackson	1,240	1,220

D) Presbyterian Church of Jackson Hole

The Presbyterian Church of Jackson Hole was established in 1994. It was housed at the Davy Jackson School for three years, then moved to the middle school for three years before settling at the current facility on South Park Loop Road. In 1996, the Church was chartered with 125 members. On average, 350 people attend weekly services, which is fairly consistent year round. January and August are the lowest points for attendance. There are a number of families that come in for all or part of the summer. The Church's staffing in 1994 included one full-time, one half-time and one volunteer employee. They now have five full time staff, and two half-time staff. As the Church grew, they hired a second full-time pastor to focus on adult ministries.

E) Buddhism in Teton County

Source: Dr. David Shlim, Tibetan Buddhism Instructor

The initial organized Buddhist offerings in Teton County occurred in 2000, when Dr. Shlim organized a conference on "Medicine and Compassion," which drew 65 people from around the country. This conference focused on expanding the Buddhist idea of compassion into modern medical care, developing a balanced relationship between intellect and compassion when serving patients. The conference was repeated in 2002, and it drew 90+ people. Dr. Shlim now teaches a class in Tibetan Buddhism locally, focusing on definitions, principles, and concepts. Initially, his class was advertised in the newspaper, and drew 40-45 people every two weeks. He now has a stable group of 20 people as he stopped advertising it. In 2002, he offered a public talk by Choki Nyima Rinpoche that drew 550 people, entitled "What does it mean to be spiritual in the 21st century?"

F) Jackson Hole Group of Christian Scientists

Source: Sue Tucker, JH Group of Christian Scientists Contact

The Jackson Hole Group of Christian Scientists has been meeting since 1969 in the American Legion building. There are a handful of core group members (~10-20); membership swells in the summer. This is a lay group without a pastor. Services consist of different readers, with a set sermon given from the central organization.

G) Known religious organizations in Teton County

- Chapel of the Sacred Heart
- Chapel of the Transfiguration
- Christian Science Society
- Church of Christ
- Church of the First Born
- Community Bible Church
- Episcopal Church in Jackson Hole
- First Baptist Church
- Gardner Baptist Church
- Gospel Church of Jackson
- Harvest Rock Christian Fellowship
- Jackson Hole Baptist Church
- Jackson Hole Christian Center
- Jackson Hole Group of Christian Scientists
- Jackson Hole Jewish Community
- Jackson Hole Quakers
- Jehovah's Witnesses
- Mountain View Independent Baptist Church
- Our Lady of the Mountains Catholic Church
- Presbyterian Church of Jackson Hole
- Redeemer Lutheran Church
- Self Realization Fellowship
- Shepherd of the Mountains Lutheran Church
- Teton Resort Ministries
- The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints
- United Methodist Church of the Tetons
- Unity of Jackson Hole
- Wilson Baptist Church
- Wilson Community Fellowship
- Wyoming Coalition for Minsk

Source: 2004-2005 Jackson Hole Yellow Pages

X) Social Services

A) Childcare cost in Teton County

Average Childcare Cost in Teton County¹	
Infant – 2 years	\$40/day
Preschool	\$35/day
After School	\$9/day

¹Data taken from survey conducted Feb. 2003 by CCP

B) Budgets breakdowns for certain social services entities in Teton County

Organization	Budget Year	Revenue	
Horse Warriors	2004	\$70,000	
Curran-Seeley Foundation	2004	\$600,000	
CCP	2003	\$954,302	
	2002	\$957,463	
	2000	\$772,013	
	1999	\$741,433	
	1998	\$731,384	
Teton Youth & Family Services	2003-2004	\$1,500,000	
	2002-2003	\$1,300,000	
	2001-2002	\$1,500,000	
	2000-2001	\$1,300,000	
	1999-2000	\$1,200,000	
Senior Center of Jackson Hole	2003-2004	\$502,797	
Community Entry Services		Revenue	Expenditures
	2003-2004	\$1,061,220	\$1,084,715
	2002-2003	\$1,090,114	\$1,132,842
	2001-2002	\$797,492	\$1,005,167
	2000-2001	\$741,419	\$955,004
	1999-2000	\$698,008	\$872,328
	1998-1999	\$664,581	\$782,219
	1997-1998	\$603,500	\$608,400
1996-1997	\$601,450	\$635,450	

C) Community Children’s Project

The Community Children’s Project (CCP) offers consistent care from ages 6 weeks through 3rd grade. One hundred fifty children are served daily; 215 working parents rely on services provided by CCP. CCP works with local agencies to provide care to children who are victims of crime or otherwise considered “in crisis” by Sheriff’s Department staff. Assistance from the Town of Jackson and Teton County enable the long-term reduction of childcare expenses for qualifying families. Scholarships for families in crisis are also available. During fiscal year 2003, 36 families representing 46 children benefited from CCP scholarship assistance with childcare costs. Literacy is a vital component in their entire curriculum. Reading, as well as conversational language, enriches our classrooms from infancy.

Mission Statement: “The Community Children’s Project supports the development of young children through education and services that encourage healthy families.”