

## Holy Spirit Vestry Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, April 13, 2022

Members present via Zoom: Mark Dvarishkis, Clem Work, Rev. Terri Grotzinger, Warren Gartner, Mary Beth Jourdonnais, Holly Swartz, John Crowley, Pat Cole, Audrey Murray, Tanya Lodahl, Kara Hanson, Nancy Errebo, and Caitlin Sherman.

Guests: Jocelyn Snider, Dave Strohmaier, Nancy Tyrell, David Tyrell, Andrea Davis

- 1) Opening prayer led by Warren
- 2) Consent Agenda
  - a. **Motion to approve the consent agenda items, seconded, approved.**
- 3) Parishioner concerns and correspondence
  - a. Feelings and thoughts on masking in church
    - i. One parishioner has already directly expressed that all masks should be done away with.
    - ii. Mary Beth mentioned that schools are no longer requiring masks and Mark brought up that there needed to be absolute clarity on our requirements
    - iii. Going forward we will relax the masking requirements with the understanding that the situation is still very fluid, and we may have to reverse course. Terri will get word out to the congregation and stress that anyone that wishes to continue wearing a mask is more than welcome to.
- 4) Guest presentation introduced by Clem
  - a. Housing prices in Missoula have skyrocketed and demand far exceeds the supply of housing. Housing is a basic human necessity and an obligation of the community of Christianity is to help the needy and alleviate suffering. Last year the Memorial Board explored possible opportunities but did not find anything feasible.
  - b. Could our parking lot be converted into affordable housing? Could a multi-use dwelling and office space building be built there while still allowing us to retain some parking spaces?
    - i. Loans, grants, donations, and working with organizations like Homeward could all help financially.
    - ii. A project like this could help maintain and enhance the vibrancy of the neighborhood. It could also potentially increase the size of our congregation.
  - c. Dave – It is easy to focus on just the obstacles when considering a project like this but there are also so many possibilities. This is just the start of considerations and will need broader input from everyone involved.
  - d. Nancy T – Holy Spirit has long been a pillar of our community, and this is an opportunity to work with more organizations and build even stronger relationships. This is a chance to do something good and to do it right.
  - e. Andrea – Other faith communities nationwide have done similar projects. Housing tax credits are allocated by the IRS to the states and Homeward works on getting those credits for appropriate projects. These projects are deed restricted so

they always remain affordable. Homeward would be the owner on the project so they would take on the responsibilities and the debts.

- f. Terri – the greater Episcopal church has organizations that assist in finding financial assistance for projects like this. There would also need to be considerations of what our canons dictate for projects like this with properties changing hands.
  - g. Warren – Getting in at the start of a project like this would allow us to include green space and make environmentally conscious choices with the design and construction.
  - h. This is just planting the seeds for this idea. The next steps need to be forming a group of parishioners to explore all facets of this possible project. Looking into things like rezoning the space and possible parking issues that could be exacerbated. Information will be communicated through the Paraclete and Spirited Times.
- 5) Financial report
- a. We received an unrestricted \$60,000 gift that was unexpected and not budgeted for. Which puts our year-to-date surplus at \$101,495.38, the budgeted expectation was \$37,458.82.
- 6) Old Business
- a. Rio Grande Border Ministry – Audrey
    - i. The pilgrimages were very successful and positive experiences. There are hopes to plan a third one in the near future.
    - ii. The June 1 fundraiser will be a time to share stories about the pilgrims' experiences and there will be both a silent and a live auction.
    - iii. Mark would like to look at having someone involved with the pilgrimages make a presentation to the Rotary Club.
  - b. Convention planning – Nancy
    - i. The Diocese has \$10,891 for the convention but are wondering if they should hold some part of it back for financial assistance. After some discussion we decided that scholarships would be more advantageous for people than us just lowering the registration fee. We will ask the Diocese to handle the scholarships.
    - ii. Terri urged the formation of a planning committee as soon as possible to assist with the multiple facets of the preparations for the convention and to ease the burden on Nancy.
  - c. Vestry Check ins – Warren
    - i. Warren is working with Judy on compiling the contact information we will need to make these calls and then with Holly's help will be dividing the names up. The 3 basic questions we are asking are: How are they doing, how effective are our current communications, and what are their hopes for Holy Spirit's future?
  - d. Properties – Mark
    - i. Concerning pending maintenance, what do we think are the most pressing matters? He is currently working on getting a bid for the repairs needed to deal with moisture issue causing the bubbling plaster but the weather this week pushed that out until next week.

- e. Tables for markets – Holly
  - i. Marva and Holly remember between 12 and 24 tables rented or loaned by parishioners for last years sales. Holly has checked multiple stores and has found prices ranging from \$50-\$60.
    - 1. **Motion to buy 12 tables, seconded, and approved.**
      - a. Mark offered to help facilitate buying and transporting the tables.
  - f. The Stewardship Committee meets next week and will discuss how to move forward with plans for an updated directory.
  - g. Remember to finish the Safeguarding online course and email Judy that you have read through the policies.
- 7) New Business
  - a. Nancy has requested a paid sabbatical for the summer. Valerie Hess would be willing to sub as organist during that time and we would pay her the typical \$100 a Sunday for that service.
    - i. How do we make this equitable for other staff members?
    - ii. **Motion to have a personnel committee to discuss this matter and to make a decision as long as it does not impact the budget in excess of \$3,000, seconded, and approved.**
- 8) The next Vestry meeting is scheduled for May 11 at 5:30 pm

Respectfully submitted

Caitlin Sherman  
Clerk of the Vestry

## **April Rector's Report to Vestry**

I am now back after surgery and primary recovery. I am still rebuilding strength and stamina but am back in full at my work. My thanks to everyone for all the support and prayers. It does make a difference.

It has been busy with planning for Holy Week, Easter and beyond. We are in another interesting adaptive time as Covid 19 and its variants are currently at a low, with most protocols eased, and parishioners still determining what is right for them regarding their health and the health of those with whom they live who have underlying health conditions. I characterize this time as similar to getting a large ship fully operable out of dry dock and back onto the seas. It takes time to get all the support systems running again, finding volunteers to help with: worship so that we can get back to two services on a Sunday; fellowship between/after services; moving from primarily Zoom back to primarily "in person" ministry meetings; and continuing to explore the uncharted opportunities still before us. We want everything running smoothly but the ship, the people, still need to return to make that happen. There are many new members to meet and get involved as well. Patience and persistence will get us on those seas again. Because of all this, I decided with Staff to continue with the one service on Sunday and adding the single services of Holy Week to that. Now is not the time to shove the ship out without a full crew of volunteers and mentors.

I have also been involved with the pastoral care for three families who lost loved ones in the past month, tending to two memorials with the third to come in early May. Pastoral appointments are on the rise, as are requests for support from those on the brink of homelessness. There is no question that those requests will continue to rise.

Our new technical sound system in the sanctuary has required time to make adjustments and tests as the bugs are remedied. This is to be expected as we launch live-streaming along with in-person worship instead of pre-recording services. We remain in a hybrid mode and will continue to offer in-person and online connection as it is a form of evangelism to those seeking God as well as pastoral support to those who can no longer come to worship in person. Everything is therefore "new". The ship in dry dock is actually getting upgraded before going out again.

In addition, I have overseen a number of Standing Committee needs in my role as S.C. President, particularly as a go between on personnel matters as requested by the bishop. I also spent considerable time documenting the parking situation in our lot before finally towing a student car on 4/4. Our sandwich board signage was stolen, adding to signs which have been destroyed or removed in the past few years. The lot has been full by 10am on several occasions and after contacting the Hellgate High police officer, and notifying the vestry in the past, I went ahead with towing. The student spoke with me but does not take responsibility because "they should be allowed to park there." This will not be the last parking lot challenge, I am sure.

Otherwise, all is well and Easter and new life are upon us. Thanks be to God!

Rev. Terri Ann Grotzinger, Rector

## April Assistant Priest's Report to Vestry

**Pastoral Care.** I had 7 pastoral care contacts in March which were a mix of phone calls and home visits.

**Communication.** During Terri's absence I took on a leadership role within the staff and facilitated weekly staff meetings for enhanced communication. Met with Terri as she prepared to return to work and as she returned to make a smooth transition. I made regular contributions to the Paraclete and the Spirited Times. I participated in meetings related to our sound system.

**Diocese.** I worked with the bishop to set up an internship for Jocelyn Snider here at Holy Spirit. I met with Jocelyn to discuss details related to the internship. I participated in one diocese-wide clergy call in March.

**Worship.** I presided at the Ash Wednesday service. Did some planning to cover worship needs while I was away on the Listening Pilgrimage. And did planning for Holy Week.

**Continuing Education/Spiritual Formation.** Spent a week on pilgrimage in El Paso, learning about immigration.

**Spiritual Formation.** Coordinated a Lenten adult study and recruited volunteers. Valerie Hess led a 5-week study of *Prayer in the Night* via zoom that included participants from both Holy Spirit and St. Paul's. Sacred Ground concluded in March. It was a very successful 10 week anti-racism class.

**Creation Care.** I participated in the March Creation Care meeting via zoom to assist with communication and collaboration.

Submitted by: Rev. Gretchen Strohmaier

## April Vestry Ministry Reports

### A) Communications – Clem Work (Judy Parock, Chair)

The end of March and the beginning of April were busy times for the parish with preparations for Holy Week and Easter. Here are the highlights of what has been happening during this time:

- **Website Updates:** A number of updates to our website have taken place over this past month. They include:
  - **Livestreaming of Sunday services:** With the updates to our Wi-Fi, we are now able to livestream our worship services. We let the congregation know of that change through the Sunday service email which included the link to the livestream. Those Sunday service emails are sent on Saturday afternoon and then again on Sunday morning at 10 a.m., just before the service is due to begin. That way the email with the link is easier to find in the recipient's email in-box.

We updated the Sunday service information on the homepage of our website, on the Worship page, and on the event page for Sunday worship. We provide the link to the livestream on the Worship page, along with the service leaflet. The link to the livestream is also provided on the event page for Sunday Worship.

The information about our livestreaming of Sunday services was also updated on the Sunday announcement on Google My Business, the app, Facebook and the Episcopal Church Asset Map.
- **Promotion of Holy Week and Easter activities:** I created a Holy Week and Easter landing page for the website to make it easy for visitors and parishioners to find the information for our Holy Week and Easter services and activities. To create this page, I needed to make event images for each of these services and a rotator for each service for use on the homepage of the website. I provided descriptions of each to the services to use on the page as well. We have posted the livestream link for each of the services and plan to post the service leaflets for each of the individual services on this page as well.

Because people may look for that Holy Week and Easter service information in different places on the website, we have also included the service schedule and the service leaflet links on the Worship page and the Lent page of the website. Each of the rotators on the homepage for the Holy Week and Easter services links to an event page that has the description of the event along with the service link information and the service leaflet information (when the service leaflets are finalized).
- **Prayer in the Night Lenten Series:** The diocese invited parishes to share their online Lenten offerings in the weekly diocesan e-newsletter, so I sent in the information for our "Prayer in the Night" Lenten Series. We have a very diverse group of folks attending this year's session, thanks to Zoom. We have a person from Helena, people from St. Paul's in Hamilton, and a couple of people from Valerie Hess's former home in Colorado. The large group sessions of this series have been recorded, and we are sharing the links to those recordings on the website and in the Spirited Times.

We also shared with the diocese Rev. Tom Lee's class, "Scribes, Scripts and Scrolls, Parchment and Papyrus: The Bible from Then until Now." James Gartner, our videographer, recorded all of the sessions of Tom's class. We shared the links to those recordings with the congregation through the website, the Spirited Times and the Sunday service leaflet. Once we had all of the recordings, I prepared a description of the class including the links and shared that in the diocesan e-newsletter.
- **Google My Business:** This free venue for advertising our church events helps people to connect with our church and encourages them to find out more about the activities by looking at our website. Currently we have our Holy Week and Easter events, the Lenten series, our Sunday morning worship information, and Centering Prayer on this site. We've gotten a number of views for our church events from folks just googling our church.

- **iContact Newsletters:** We continue to use iContact to send out our weekly e-newsletter, the Spirited Times, to the congregation and for our weekly service announcements. We also used iContact to notify the congregation of changes in COVID protocols for our Sunday services via “A Note from the Rector.” I have been busy creating the service emails for the Holy Week and Easter services. These emails will contain the livestream link and the link to the service leaflet for each of the Holy Week and Easter services. We’ll send these out the day before the service and then the day of the service.
- **Facebook Updates:** We created Facebook events for each of the Holy Week and Easter services and activities and for Parenting Place Sunday. We updated the church Facebook page with the photos and descriptions provided by the Pilgrimage Groups to the Borderlands, using their photos as the Facebook cover to highlight what they were seeing and experiencing. Gretchen Strohmaier from the first Pilgrimage Group and Clem Work and Warren Gartner from the second Pilgrimage Group sent wonderful photos. Thank you!
- **Church App Updates:** We have created homepage images for each of the Holy Week and Easter Services and the Maundy Thursday Prayer Vigil for the app. We coordinate these images with the images that we are using on the website and on Facebook so that everything has the same look. The direct service link and the service leaflets for each of the Holy Week and Easter services have also been posted to the app so parishioners can use the app to view the service or to view the service leaflet while they are watching or participating in the service. The direct links for the Lenten series and for Tom Lee’s class have also been posted to the app, as well as Rev. Terri’s update to the COVID protocols. We also used the app to send out push notifications for the start of each service as a reminder to the congregation.
- **Printed Publications:** We sent out the Paraclete, our monthly newsletter to 326 households. The Easter letter with the offering envelope was sent out to 300 households. I also shared the poster I created for Holy Week and Easter with St. Paul’s in Hamilton so they could utilize it in their parish for their own services.

– Judy Parock

B) Holiday Market/Outdoor Fall Festival – Caitlin Sherman (Marva Gallegos)

No report.

– Bob Wattenberg, Chair

C) Parish Life – Mary Beth Jourdonnais (Kathy Swannack, Coffee Hours; Anne Cohen, receptions)

**Reception committee report:** There were no receptions this month.

– Anne Cohen

**Coffee Hours:** No return to after church hospitality is planned at this time.

– Kathy Swannack, Coffee Hour Coordinator

D) Properties – (Margaret Borg and Kevin Borg, co-chairs)

**Properties/Buildings Report:** State Boiler Inspector examined both boilers on March 24. The safety relief valve on the main boiler was found to be leaking. A HVAC technician from Temp Right replaced the valve on March 28 for a cost of \$385.30. The city sent out notices that the Backflow Prevention Assembly Field Test was due for both boilers. We arranged with Temp Right for the field tests to take place. Summit Sprinklers came and turned the water on and checked the sprinkler system.

The technician from Temp-Right was out this week doing the Backflow Prevention Assembly Field Test required by Missoula Water. While he was doing that work on the boiler in the church office, he came up to say that our galvanized water piping in the church office basement has reached the end of its life. He recommends that we, in the next few years, replace the domestic galvanized water piping from the city service to throughout the basement and storage areas in the church office building. This would be an expensive project, something that we would need to budget for, and he recommended

getting several bids before proceeding with any work. He said that the galvanized piping in the church building also is coming to the end of its life, but that project is much more complicated since there is asbestos involved, and he didn't recommend doing anything with that at this time.

- E) Rummage Sale – Holly Swartz (Marva Gallegos, Chair)  
The Rummage Sale has nothing to report this month.  
– Marva Gallegos, Chair

- F) Social Concerns – Audrey Murray (Jim Wiley, Chair).

### **Social Concerns Committee Report From Meeting on April 5, 2022**

The meeting opened with prayer for the Ukraine led by The Rev. Gretchen Strohmaier.

- 1) Discussion/decision on contribution to Habitat for Humanity for 2022:
  - The Committee approved a \$750 contribution to Habitat for Humanity
  - We fully expect that Holy Spirit parishioners will participate in Work Days for Habitat; Jim Wiley will contact Bob Deaton to coordinate
  - We also expect that Holy Spirit will continue to provide meals for these Work Days; Carla will talk to Kate and between them coordinate this effort
  
- 2) Report on Borderland Ministry of the Diocese of Rio Grande
  - Both Holy Spirit pilgrimages to RGBM took place in March – see Audrey Murray's report, attached, which includes some initial suggestions for next steps
  - A fundraiser is planned for June 1<sup>st</sup> in the Parish Hall and/or Courtyard. Current plans include:
    - A video, stories by pilgrims, Q&A and short discussion of next steps
    - Food – tamales, chilaquiles, rice and beans; possibly a “cheesecake Pancho Villa”
    - Beverages – jamaica, tamarindo and Mexican beer
    - A silent auction of articles brought back from the border and other items being donated
    - Funds will come from the silent auction and requested donations
    - **Next planning meeting is May 10<sup>th</sup> @ 5:00 PM**
  - Considerable time was spent sharing stories from the pilgrimages; Warren is coordinating a meeting to allow further sharing prior to selection of those to be included in the Fundraiser; one focus to the stories might be “Myth Buster” (the reality observed vs. the myths that are circulated by many)
  - Reminder: we need to plan for a Table/Booth at the Diocesan Convention in October (in Missoula), and also try to get some time on the Agenda for the Convention. Bishop Marty has responded positively to our request for time on the Agenda.
  
- 3) Community Ministries
  - Dorcie could not be present at the meeting, but prepared a thorough report on Community Ministries, also attached.
  
- 4) Sacred Ground Update:
  - Glenn confirmed that our first Sacred Ground program has been completed, and he and Lindsay are currently focused on collecting reflections from participants. They would like to focus on figuring out how to get more participation from Parishioners.
  
- 5) Alms Sundays Update:



- Dorcie obtained information from the Church Office on the amounts donated during our first three Alms Sundays:
    - Poverello Center -- \$406
    - EmpowerMT -- \$238
    - Parenting Place -- \$612
  - Plans for the following months were confirmed:
    - April – several opportunities related to Holy Week and Easter
    - May – RGBM (May 22) – preview for June 1<sup>st</sup>
    - June -- Habitat (tentatively June 12) – Pat King to coordinate with Bob Brewer
    - July – All Nations Health Center (tentatively July 17) – Gretchen and Dave Strohmaier
- 6) Two topics for future planning were discussed briefly:
- How to attract/incorporate more of the Congregation in Social Concerns... either as members or as active participants in activities. Lucia remembered how many parishioners participated in early efforts to support Partnership Health, for example. Please think about this for next month's meeting!
  - Plans to celebrate Social Concerns' 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in October/November of this year; Glenn will check with Jeannie Twohig about interviews with founders/long-standing members.
- 7) Creation Care Update
- April 23 – celebrate Earth Day at MUD (probably after the blessing of the Carey home)
  - May 15 – Container gardening activity in the Courtyard
  - June 18 – repeat Lolo Pass visit to view the camas
  - Longer term, continue planning how to tie into the coming Diocesan Convention – information on solar power; sponsoring walks during Convention; other ideas welcome

The next Committee meeting is scheduled for **May 3, 2022**.

The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.  
– Jim Wiley, Chair

#### **Report from Audrey Murray:**

This is my RGBM report for our April 5th SCC meeting. I'm delighted that you will be meeting in person.

The pilgrimage was a big success! We are all still processing the experience and probably will be for some time to come. I think that is a reflection of how rich an experience it was! Clem, Jim, Gretchen, Glenn, Warren & Carla may be with you and eager to share about the pilgrimage, so I will leave further sharing up to them.

As we discussed at our March meeting, May 22nd is **RGBM Alms Sunday**. The donations will go to the new asylum shelter at St. Christopher's Episcopal Church in El Paso. That is where our pilgrims stayed while in El Paso. I have a Sunday Bulletin insert about the shelter, and I will advertise this special offering in the Spirited Times. *If you have other suggestions for how to get the word out, please let me know.*

The **June 1st fundraiser** is shaping up. The planning committee met about 2 weeks ago and decided on a simple Mexican dinner (prepared by the planning crew), an auction (proceeds to go to RGBM), a preview of the documentary James Gartner is making, sharing of a few select stories from the

pilgrimage, and basket sales (proceeds to go to the Palomas Women's Cooperative). We will also invite cash donations.

On the heels of the pilgrimage, there is interest in arranging a **2nd pilgrimage and some service/mission projects**. We haven't been back long enough to act on these possibilities, but I'll be talking with Terri this week about another pilgrimage. Some parishioners have expressed interest in participating in a hands-on project. Working with another RGBM partner on solar panel installations in rural Mexico is one possibility.

Another possible service project is more immediate. When the 2nd group of pilgrims left the border last week, the anxiety about a large increase in the number of asylum seekers was palpable. Since then, the Biden Administration has announced that it will end the asylum limits imposed through Title 42 on May 23rd. Currently there are about 7100 migrants coming to the border each day. That number will increase substantially as individuals who have been waiting in Mexico are able to enter the U.S.

**My question for the group is this:** *Do you have any interest in organizing a service project to help w/ the influx of immigrants when Title 42 is lifted in May?* Please let me know. This could be a good mission for younger members of our community, or for families. I'm thinking it will be quite hot by then, and we know from our own experience that the accommodations are a bit rough. Also, we wouldn't have a guide or chaperone. Let me know what you think about this. If there is interest, I will see what I can arrange through RGBM. I imagine such a project would involve helping out in a shelter.

One final thought about the last item on the agenda - I wonder how each of you got involved with the Social Concerns Committee? Maybe that question can offer insight into how to engage more parishioners. As for myself, I was invited by Bob Deaton to attend a meeting. If he hadn't invited me, I may not have found my way to the group. Have we ever had a "bring someone new" outreach effort? Also, I wonder why some folks come and then don't come back? Have we followed up to see why? I wonder if newcomers can see a place for themselves in this well established group?

#### **Report from Dorcie Dvarishkis:**

##### Parenting Place

As April Awareness 2022 kicks off, our partners at The Parenting Place are offering several learning and engagement opportunities in the coming days and weeks:

**\* April 5th - Intro to Trauma 101 - 5:30-7PM**, Missoula Food Bank and Community Center – (where Dorcie's at tonight)

**\* Missoula Exchange Club Thursday lunch-n-learn opportunities -**

**April 7th - Friends of the Children** - Ben Davis and Stacy Houge

OUR METHOD -We select children who face multiple systemic obstacles. We amplify their voices as they write their own stories of hope and resilience. OUR MODEL -We commit to each child for the long-term. 12+ years, no matter what. Each child is paired with a paid professional mentor called a Friend. Learn more about this new organization to our community and their impact in other states.

**April 14th - The Parenting Place Endowment** – Dorcie, Thad Brinkman, and Marilyn Thorn

In our first 40 years, The Parenting Place has worked with our families, donors, and partners to build funding stability to support our current programs, and to put appropriate operations and facility maintenance reserve funds in place. Now, our donors and leadership team are helping us to establish a permanent endowment with the Montana Community Foundation (MTCF). Learn more about why

this is an important step for The Parenting Place and how you can help through current and legacy giving.

**April 21st - ACE Awards** - Broadway Inn, Mullan Hall

We will honor five ACE Award recipients, all seniors from Big Sky, Hellgate, Loyola, Sentinel, and Willard High Schools. This is an especially meaningful program for bringing a guest.

**April 28th - Mountain Home MT** - Steph Goble

Mountain Home Montana provides shelter for young mothers who need a place to live, and a network of support as they create safe, stable, and nurturing homes of their own. Learn what impact this organization has on our community as well as the newest services they have created to fill needs.

\* **April 18th - screening of two documentaries**, "Resilience" and "Healing Neen", 4-7PM, Roxy Theater - RSVP for this free event [here](#)

Please visit [The Parenting Place website](#) throughout the month to see where they may be participating in community-wide events for you to stop by, learn, and add strength to our shared mission of preventing child abuse and neglect.

For more information, please contact me at [dorcied@gmail.com](mailto:dorcied@gmail.com) or 406-239-7655 cell. Thank you for helping us to build a stronger community of support for the children and families around us!

Hellgate High School

- \* The parking lot is a continuing place of communication and conflict. Please pray for Terri, the Vestry, and our Hellgate neighbors.
- \* There is still Traffic Ed scholarship funding available if you know of Hellgate students in need to connect with an application (available at Hellgate).
- \* When we have a Family Resource Center painting date from A'Lisa, I will share it out.

Missoula Interfaith Collaborative

- \* On my Sundays that I am not serving at HSP or traveling with Bishop Marty, I have been worshipping at fellow MIC congregations. It has been good to connect with our partners and to bring back updates on their worship and ministry to share with staff and others.
- \* Here is the flyer for the Common Good Founding Celebration, and the CGM new logo.
- \* I will be meeting with Lisa Davey after Easter to reconnect.



## FOUNDING CELEBRATION!

Celebrating the power of community and relationships, this is a historic event for Missoula  
Please join us

THURSDAY, MAY 19, 2022 5-9 PM  
PROGRAM AT 6:30 PM

Missoula County Fairgrounds 4H Pavillion

- G) Spiritual Formation – Nancy Errebo (Gretchen Strohmaier, Chair)  
See Assistant Priest's report.

**Youth Ministry:** No report for this month. Nothing has really changed on my end in the past month, so I think I will a report for the next Vestry meeting.  
– Lewis Myers, Youth Director

- H) Stewardship – Pat Cole (Barb Hosier, Chair)  
Committee chair Barb Hosier met with Pat Cole to familiarize her with the committee's functions and annual timetable of activities. The next meeting of the Stewardship Committee will be Wednesday, April 20, at 2 pm in the Guild Room; development of a new members' directory will be discussed.

- I) Creation Care Ministry – Warren Gartner (Karen Simons Gartner, Chair)

Creation Care Notes  
17 March 2022 noon Via Zoom

Present: Lance Collister, Karen Simons Gartner, Warren Gartner, Kate Laney, Sue Lowrey, Gretchen Strohmaier

Opening prayer: Warren

1. 4 areas of focus

a. Holy Spirit Sustainable practices

i. Solar power for church

1. Need educational programming and/or signage. Ideas:

- a. Warren will check with Nancy Errebo/Bishop's office to see if we can set up a tour for diocesan convention this fall when she gets back.
  - i. Could be a pre-convention or post-convention tour
  - ii. Open it up to other churches.
  - iii. Look into an activity for convention - possibly an Urban Nature hike - early morning birding, get folks outside.
  - iv. Self-guided option
  - v. M trail
  - vi. Native plants garden behind old Missoulia
  - vii. Add stop at church for contemplative prayer
- b. Creating a banner - Terri has OK'd funding and Warren will contact Kirk with Lance's suggestion. Warren

ii. Recycling

1. Gretchen has checked about bins for recycling in foyer

- a. Need to look nice
- b. Must be clearly labeled - Kate offered to make signs
- c. Lance showed us bins - less than 2 feet wide and 24 inches deep. He will contact Bob Wattenberg with his idea for a design.

iii. Energy Audit

1. NorthWestern energy has a standard form
2. Some information may be in the grant
3. Karen will check the grant form from the solar panels and compare.
4. Karen will also contact Nancy Tyrell to see if she will help

iv. Carbon Tracker?

1. Members to read more about it and talk about it next time
2. Could offer to the parish

v. Holy Hikes?

1. Gretchen has ordered books related to them
  2. She will look into it.
- b. Getting info to members to help them live more sustainably.
- i. Paraclete?
    1. Kate wrote about Solar Panels at home for March - should run in April
    2. Lance to write one later about solar panels at church.
    3. Warren is sending articles on field trips.
    4. Karen will send an article about container gardening day for the Spirited Times.
  - ii. Container gardening day - May 15. How are things going?
    1. Kate to find plants
    2. Sue to arrange compost
    3. Karen has started plants
    4. We will ask people to recycle their containers by bringing them back.
    5. Lance has put 15 more containers in the garage. He'll add more next week. We can have people drill their own holes as needed.
  - iii. Community voice
    1. Warren has contacted MUD people about Earth Day to see if we can get a booth.
    2. Sue brought up having a Creation Care "booth" at the Holiday Market with the following as possibilities for "green gifts"
      - a. Recycled jars with labels for kitchen or craft use
      - b. Re-usable shopping bags.
      - c. Upcycled rugs
      - d. Wool dryer balls?
      - e. Water bottle carriers?
      - f. Fruit and vegetable bags
      - g. Grocery shopping bags out of t-shirts
      - h. Perhaps we could stencil them.
    3. Work with students at Hellgate.
      - a. Lance had gotten us contacts
        - i. <https://www.mcpsmt.org/Domain/243>
        - ii. They meet over lunch on Thursday.
        - iii. Advisors are
          1. Katie Wyskiver, 728-2400 X 6509  
[kmwyskiver@mcpsmt.org](mailto:kmwyskiver@mcpsmt.org)
          2. Brian Connelly 728-2400 X 6539  
[bsconnelly@mcpsmt.org](mailto:bsconnelly@mcpsmt.org)
      - b. Who would like to contact them - Lance will contact them to invite himself and Warren to a meeting - via Zoom or in person.
      - c. Have them share with us about what they are doing
        - i. Come back with a specific project.
        - ii. Find out what they do
  - iv. Fun opportunities –
    1. March 19- Nature journals
      - a. Supplies are ready at church
      - b. Three people have officially signed up.
    2. April - Earth Day with MUD.
    3. May 15 - container gardening
    4. June 18 – Camas
    5. Taser gardens - Kate to find out more
    6. Labyrinth

7. Milltown dam
  8. Fall - Native Plants
    - a. Sue to check on
    - b. Fort Missoula?
  9. Iron shield creative - Warren to find out cost (cost is \$225 per person)
  10. Travelers Rest tour - no cost
  11. Lee Metcalf
  12. Possibly a group camp out? Sue will check out options
  13. Karen Shelley could do a walking tour of the campus. Gretchen will mention it to her.
2. Other business - new members and who will contact them
- a. John Hess – Lance
  - b. Abigail Carey – Gretchen
  - c. Sue LaRose -Gretchen
  - d. Nancy Tyrell - Karen will check
  - e. Mike Kennedy –
  - f. Pat Cole - we can ask her on Saturday.
  - g. Susie Wiseheart - Lance

Next meeting April 21, 2022.

– Karen Simons Gartner