

PARACLETE

JANUARY 2023

HOLY SPIRIT | EPISCOPAL CHURCH

130 South 6th Street East • Missoula, MT 59801 • 406.542.2167 • E-mail: office@holyspiritmissoula.org • Website: www.holyspiritmissoula.org

A publication of Holy Spirit Episcopal Church

2023 DIOCESAN CONVENTION EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF MONTANA

Sign up to be a delegate to Diocesan Convention to be held October 6-8, hosted by St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, Livingston, Montana. Holy Spirit is entitled to 4 delegates who will be elected at the Annual Meeting on January 29. If you are interested in representing Holy Spirit at the Diocesan Convention, please call the church office, 406-542-2167, by Wednesday, January 25, 2023.

October 6-8
Livingston, Montana

For more information:
(406) 542-2167
www.holyspiritmissoula.org

Sign up to be a delegate to Diocesan Convention

The next Diocesan Convention will be held October 6-8 in Livingston, hosted by St. Andrew's Episcopal Church. At this convention we will be caring for the business of the diocese. We will elect delegates and alternates to the convention at the Annual Meeting on Sunday, January 29. Holy Spirit is entitled to 4 delegates to Diocesan Convention; alternates are also needed as people's plans change during the year. Our number of delegates changed due to changes made to the Diocesan Canons. Any interested parish member who is willing to serve in this capacity should notify the church office at (406) 542-2167 by Wednesday, January 25.

Please join us at the Annual Meeting Parish begins new year at Annual Meeting on January 29

Don't forget to attend the Annual Meeting to be held in the parish hall after the 10:15 service on Sunday, January 29. We're looking forward to being able to meet in person for the first time in three years! We hope to be able to livestream the meeting for those who are unable to attend in person. A light meal will be served at the meeting at a cost of \$5. Reservations for the meal will be taken after services starting January 15 and continuing each Sunday until the Annual Meeting, or you may call the church office at (406) 542-2167 before Wednesday,

January 25. If you would like, you are welcome to bring your own snack.

Do plan to attend this very important Annual Meeting. New members for the Vestry will be elected as well as delegates to next fall's Diocesan Convention, and the budget for the coming year will be presented. Reports from various parish organizations will also be given. This is your church meeting, and we hope you will be here to help get the year off to a great start for our parish!

— REV. TERRI



OUR STAFF

Clergy:

The Rev. Terri Ann Grotzinger,
Rector
revterri@holyspiritmissoula.org

The Rev. Gretchen Strohmaier,
Assistant Priest
Gretchen@holyspiritmissoula.org

The Rev. Dorcie Dvarishkis,
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dorcieed@gmail.com

Organist/Choir Director:

Dr. Nancy Cooper

Youth Group Leader:

Lewis Myers

Parish Administrator:

Judy Parock
office@holyspiritmissoula.org

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Connie Gerke
Connie@holyspiritmissoula.org

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NEWSLETTER

Paraclete, from the Greek meaning 'Holy Spirit,' is published monthly, September through May, by Holy Spirit Episcopal Church. All material is due by the fifteenth of the month preceding the month of publication.

**HOLY
SPIRIT**
**EPISCOPAL
CHURCH**

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Missoula, MT 59801
406.542.2167

office@holyspiritmissoula.org
www.holyspiritmissoula.org

Help provide socks and gloves for Missoula's homeless

WARM HANDS, warm feet!



Please donate a pair of men's and/or women's socks and gloves or warm hats

January 8, 15, and 22 in the parish hall or on the church porch

Bring your donations January 8, 15 and 22

Socks, gloves, and hats needed for homeless men and women

As we at Holy Spirit Parish ring in the new year, it is time again to embrace what has become a new-year tradition here: collecting warm socks, hats, gloves and scarves for our houseless brothers and sisters who spend large chunks of their day in Missoula's chilly temperatures.

Every January, we collect winter accessories for residents of the Poverello Center, which provides shelter for men and women who otherwise might be living on the streets or in their cars or trucks. This year, our collection will be conducted on three consecutive Sundays, January 8, 15, and 22. Look for the eye-catching red-and-white striped box! There also will be a plastic bin on the porch outside the church office for round-the-clock drop-offs.

We welcome new and gently used items, store-bought or hand-knit hats, gloves, and scarves but especially warm and wooly socks! Please remember: socks should be made from wool or synthetic fabrics such as

Thermolite yarn. Please, NO cotton! Cotton does not keep out the cold and fails to wick away moisture, making feet feel cold and damp. The Pov gives away many, many pairs of socks each day in the winter months so every pair of socks we collect helps a great deal!

Our collection levels were lower last year than for previous years' collections, so we are hoping again to place bins on the porches of parishioners' homes for neighborhood collections. I can provide the bin and signage and will pick up the collections periodically so there is always room for more wooly contents. Please contact me at lucia.solowork@gmail.com if you are interested.

Predictions are for a colder and snowier than average winter this year in Missoula. Please help provide warmth to those who need it most. Many thanks!

— LUCIA SOLORZANO WORK
SOCIAL CONCERNS COMMITTEE

Donation boxes are in the parish hall and on the church porch. Please be generous!



A Blessing of Homes

Gertrud Mueller Nelson in her book, *To Dance with God*, reminds us that Epiphany is a time to think about a house blessing. Here's a simplified version:

Leader: Peace be on the house.

All: And on all who live here.

Leader: You used the light of a star to show all nations and peoples your only begotten son, O God. Allow us to know you and to recognize the epiphanies in our lives.

All: All nations will walk in your light and kings in the brilliance of your splendor.

Leader: Bless, O Lord, this household and family. Help us to live in the shelter of this house in peace and health. Inspire us to learn and grow here so that we may contribute to the peace and health of the world around us. Make our house a haven for friends and visitors. Enlighten us with the brilliance of your Epiphany star so that as we leave this house, we might clearly see our way to you in our work and in our play.

All: For yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. **Amen.**

It's traditional to close the blessing with the sign of the cross and to use chalk to write the initials of the three wise men (Caspar, Melchior, Balthasar) over the main doors of the house. Their initials are framed by the numbers of the new year. This is what it might look like over your door: 20 CMB 23.



From the Rector

Let us be seekers who look, listen, and respond to the Spirit

Sometimes I like to read all the scriptures for each Sunday in a season of the Church year to see what stands out overall. I did this recently with the scriptures for the season of Epiphany, and several themes, or should I say verbs, stood out to me. Whether reading from Isaiah, 1 Corinthians, or the Gospels of John and Matthew, and even in some of the Psalms, certain words caught my eye.

Consider verbs like look, come, and see, or seek. There are more: belong, proclaim, consider, and act. We are told to not point fingers, speak evil of another, and to remove the yokes we put upon others. Clearly this season of Epiphany, "The manifestation of Christ to the Gentiles as represented by the Magi" (Matthew 2:1-12) – *Miriam Webster Dictionary*, is a time for action. But why? Why is action so much a part of this season?

The Incarnation, God with us and known among us in Jesus, has made the world a different place. Instead of tearing each other down and naming

enemies, we are called to a way of life like that of a seeker. A seeker looks in new ways, like the blind who begin to see, and is open to what is seen and heard, willing to learn new things in otherwise well-established ways. Paul reminds us that our proclamation of Good News is visible "not in eloquent wisdom" but in the words and deeds that make our ordinary lives shine a light of hope, the light of Christ, to a despairing world. As we respond to the call of Christ, the whisper of God, the energy of the Spirit, we become individually and together the light of Christ embodied in the world, a light of hope, justice, and love.

The Psalmist writes, "Lord seek my face. Your face, Lord, do I seek." Let us be seekers who look, listen, and respond to the Spirit in ways that reveal Christ's love and hope to those who yearn for it.

Faithfully with you on
the way,
– REV. TERRI+



Explorations: Opportunities to cultivate, challenge and live our faith

Choral Compline returns on Friday night, January 6 (the Feast of Epiphany)

The tradition of dividing each day into parts and assembling to pray was embraced by early Christian monastic communities. These “canonical hours” came to include “compline,” a set of prayers to be said before retiring each night.

The service is sung in candlelight by the Compline Choir. It begins with the “Night Prayer” (“Lord it is night. The night is for stillness . . .”). Canticles and the psalm appointed for the day are chanted. Imbedded in the service are music and meditations appropriate to the church season or themes apropos to

compline’s contemplative nature. The final moments center on compline’s central prayer, “Guide us waking and guard us sleeping.”

The service lasts less than 30 minutes. The candlelit church is open for a half an hour before and after the service for quiet prayer.

This year’s compline series will begin on Friday evening, January 6th at 8 p.m. It will be a fitting way to celebrate Epiphany, also known as the “Feast of Lights.”

— KEITH KUHN



Centering Prayer meets the third Tuesday of the month at 4 p.m.

Join us for Centering Prayer in January

All are welcome to a circle of silent prayer. Centering Prayer is a meditation process that invites us to an inner sacred space to quiet our minds, open our hearts, and take rest in the Love of God.

You will be gently led in and out of a 20-minute time of silence with prayer or readings. We gather in the Guild Room at Holy Spirit the third Tuesday of each month from 4 to 5 pm. That means we’ll meet on **Tuesday, January 17**, in January. If you have any questions, please contact Willie Hoffer at 541-815-9609.

Centering Prayer

Effortless Contemplation to Deepen Your Experience of God



A new book study is on the horizon

Simplicity and Community: Getting a Grip

Now that the holidays are over and winter sets in for real, please join Margaret Watson and Carla Mettling for conversation and refreshments in a small HSP group. There will be some common weekly readings, mostly out of the book *Less is More*, by Cecile Andrews and Wanda Urbanska, and discussion on the topics of getting past busyness, clutter, loneliness, and anxiety, by way of community. We will

meet alternately in our two homes, some 10 or so Thursday afternoons, and get acquainted or reacquainted after two years of isolation. Books will be available for around \$5 at our first meeting—3 p.m., on January 12th at Margaret's house. To join the discussion, contact Margaret Watson at marg59803@gmail.com or Carla Mettling at carlamettling@gmail.com.

Simplicity and Community: Getting a Grip

A small group book study of "Less is More"

Begins January 12 at 3 pm

To join the discussion, contact Margaret Watson at marg59803@gmail.com or Carla Mettling at carlamettling@gmail.com.



Join us for Family Worship on January 22

Join other families on Sunday January 22 for Family Worship at 4:30 pm. During this hour we sing Church School songs, we share a kid-friendly Bible story, prayers, and Communion. During January this is all done in the quiet beauty of the chancel, giving families the opportunity to see the images and carvings up close and to savor the space in a way that is unique to Family Worship. Also, each month we have a game or a craft, and we close our time with a snack. Join us for the joy and wonder of Family Worship and get to know other families of the parish.



Baptism dates announced

The next date for baptism at Holy Spirit Episcopal Church will be at the Easter Vigil service on Saturday, April 8, at 7:30 p.m. If you are interested in baptism at that time, either for yourself or for your child, please call the church office at (406) 542-2167 and ask to speak to Rev. Terri. If you are interested in the April 8 baptism date, Rev. Terri needs to hear from you by March 5.

The remaining dates for baptism for this year are on Pentecost Sunday, May 28, on a date in the summer yet to be determined, on the Sunday after All Saints' Day, November 5, and when the bishop visits (date to be determined).

If you are interested in baptism, preparation needs to take place. Please contact the office to speak with our rector, the Rev. Terri Ann Grotzinger.

Community Ministries

The gifts of a renewed Alms Sunday practice

The Constitution and Canons of the Episcopal Church call for a monthly gathering of alms and contributions for our neighbors in need. With the support of the Vestry, Holy Spirit renewed and expanded on this Alms Sunday practice in 2022. We invited organizations/ministries to share their stories and needs during our church services. We invited our parishioners to consider charitable support and further involvement in their programs. Over the year, we welcomed The Poverello Center, EmpowerMT, Parenting Place, Rio Grande Borderland Ministries, Habitat for Humanity, All Nations Health Center, Creation Care Ministries, Hellgate High School Family Resource Center, and Missoula Food Bank and Community Center. In addition, opportunities to support the

United Thank Offering, Episcopal Relief and Development, and Bishop Marty's discretionary fund were promoted. Several parishioners commented on the new information they had learned, and our collective gifts in support of the local organizations/ministries alone totaled nearly \$3,800. Thank you for this generosity and your warm welcoming of our Alms Sunday speakers throughout the year.

Please contact me if you would like to assist with the Alms Sunday practice in 2023. We look forward to a new year of learning and giving ahead!

In gratitude to and for you all,

— THE VEN. DORCIE KAFKA
DVARISHKIS

dorcied@gmail.com

406-542-2167 church office

The need is constant.
The gratification is instant.
Give blood.



Holy Spirit Winter Blood Drive

130 South 6th Street East
Parish Hall

**Thursday, February 2
1 p.m. – 6 p.m.**

Sign up online at
www.redcrossblood.org or at
eadrummond56@comcast.net.
Please plan to donate!



I give blood. Will you?

redcrossblood.org | 1-800-RED CROSS

Blood donors needed!

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention predict a serious spread of flu this year and is already reporting a spike in cases in several states. When seasonal illnesses increase, the number of healthy donors tends to decrease, leaving the Red Cross blood supply vulnerable to a potential shortage.

Seasonal illnesses make it harder to collect the blood hospital patients require this winter. Donors – especially those with type O blood and those giving platelets – can help bolster the blood supply now by making an appointment to give. Visit www.RedCrossBlood.org to make an appointment today!

Holy Spirit's Winter Blood Drive set for February 2 It's time once again to roll up your sleeves and help save lives

Holy Spirit Parish will host its annual winter blood drive on **Thursday, February 2, from 1:00 – 6:00 p.m.** in the Parish Hall.

According to the American Red Cross:

Every two seconds, someone in the U.S. needs blood. Blood is essential to help patients survive surgeries, cancer treatment, chronic illnesses, and traumatic injuries. This lifesaving care starts with one person making a generous donation. The need for blood is constant. But only about 3% of age-eligible people donate blood yearly. You can help the American Red Cross make sure that supply meets demand.

The Red Cross provides about 40% of our nation's blood and blood components, all from generous volunteer donors. And since the time blood can be stored before its use is limited, regular donation is needed to ensure that blood is always available when it is needed. The Red Cross continues to address a nationwide blood shortage. Donors of all blood types are needed to give now to ensure blood is available when patients need it.

You can sign up for an appointment to donate blood using the Red Cross online scheduling system at www.redcrossblood.org or by contacting Elizabeth Drummond (406-240-8873; eadrummond56@comcast.net).

The basic requirements to donate are:

- You must be in good health and feeling well.
- You must weigh at least 110 pounds.
- If you are not yet 18 years old, you must have a consent form signed by your parent or guardian. Additional height and weight restrictions apply to those 18 years or younger.

If you have eligibility questions, you can call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or visit RedCrossBlood.org.

In addition to blood donors, we need volunteers to register donors and to prepare and serve refreshments. To volunteer, please contact Elizabeth. We look forward to seeing you at the Holy Spirit Parish Blood Drive!

– ELIZABETH DRUMMOND
SOCIAL CONCERNS COMMITTEE

Holy Spirit Blood Drive

Location - Parish Hall
130 South 6th Street East

**Thursday, February 2
1 pm - 6 pm**

Sign up at redcrossblood.org or
contact Elizabeth Drummond at
eadrummond56@comcast.net

Check out the national church's work on social justice

In a cloud of witnesses

Prior to 2015, when Rev. Terri gave a teaching seminar on advocacy in the Episcopal Church, the Episcopal Church for me meant dignified and beautiful liturgy, toleration of divergent beliefs in its members, and parishioners active in local charities. The seminar was a wonderful eye-opener on the national church's admirable work on social justice. For decades, our national church has been identifying issues in our society, formulating positions on them, proposing solutions, and calling on church members to advocate for these solutions with their elected officials.

Seeing the Church's work and care on problems ranging from violence against Indigenous women, to profit-making on the backs of incarcerated people of color, to degradation of the natural world filled me with a new pride in the value and dignity of my church.

The Church's Office of Government Relations (OGR) identifies its mission as representing the Church's policy priorities to the U.S. government. Through its Episcopal Public Policy Network (EPPN), the OGR works to educate, equip, and engage Episcopalians to

advocate for just government policies that are in line with Episcopalian and Christian values.

The five major policy areas of the OGR are

- Creation Care
- Racial Reconciliation
- Ending Poverty
- Migration, Refugees and Immigration
- Human Rights and Peacebuilding

The OGR provides resources to educate us on these issues, help us build relationships with elected officials, and alert us to critical legislation and policy initiatives at the federal level.

Here is the link to the webpage of the OGR:

<https://www.episcopalchurch.org/ministries/office-government-relations/about-us/>. Have a look and feel proud to be connected to such a marvelous "cloud of witnesses" to justice and God's work in the world, through the painstaking, devoted labors of generations of faithful Episcopalians.

— CARLA METTLING
SOCIAL CONCERNS COMMITTEE



St. Paul's Update

Reverend Gretchen continues to serve half time at St. Paul's in Hamilton, MT in addition to her half time duties here at Holy Spirit. She works for St. Paul's on Mondays and Tuesdays and for Holy Spirit on Wednesdays and Thursdays. She alternates between the churches on Sundays.

St. Paul's is thrilled that Alana Cruse and Paul Nelson have now completed the 3-year deacon school program. They are continuing in their field placement work in Hamilton as they complete their postulancy and move into candidacy. The church hopes they will be ordained as deacons in September. A third parishioner, Jocelyn Snider, who many of you met last spring, has moved to Tennessee and begun seminary as she follows a call to the priesthood. St. Paul's continues to be grateful for those folks from Holy Spirit who served on all three of these discernment committees.



HOLY SPIRIT PARISH

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Missoula, MT 59801-4222

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HOLY SPIRIT | EPISCOPAL CHURCH

ANNUAL MEETING

An in-person Annual Meeting this year!
Stay tuned for details

January 29, 2023

