

# PARACLETE



MAY 2021

HOLY SPIRIT | EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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**Enjoy the beauty of God's creation and learn more about it on these additional field trips**

Additional Creation Care Ministry field trips being planned include **June 19, Camas blooms in Packer's Meadow at Lolo Pass and a Saturday in July, the Missoula Urban Demonstration site** to see their sustainable practices for home and yard as well as learn about their tool library and truck sharing program. Please plan to join us. Remember to wear a mask and plan on remaining socially distanced as we walk.

**To sign up for these trips, so we know how many to plan for, please contact Warren Gartner at [kwgartner@sbcglobal.net](mailto:kwgartner@sbcglobal.net) or call 317-872-2431.**

## Creation Care Ministry Field Trips

### Join us on a field trip to the Lee Metcalf Wildlife Area this month!

The Creation Care Ministry is helping us live more sustainably by looking at practices at Holy Spirit and sharing information with our congregation which we can apply at home. They are also reaching out to other churches and organizations to partner in improving our communities and state.

Another goal of the ministry is to learn about and celebrate our beautiful environment here in this last best place. To that end, the ministry is offering a field trip each month to take us out to some of the unique local locations and events to enjoy nature. We will also offer opportunities to visit locations where we can learn more about living sustainably.

Our first field trip will be a visit to **Lee Metcalf US Fish & Wildlife Area on May 22**. The refuge is just north of Stevensville and is well marked on the highways. We should be able to catch the end of migratory birds passing through, as well as look for other local wildlife and spring flowers. We will meet at **8:00 AM in the parking lot of the visitor's center**. We will have a spotting scope, field guides and binoculars which we will share. If you have your own, please bring them along. We will spend some time looking at the waterfowl in the large ponds by the visitor's center and then walk the hard surfaced nature trail behind the center.

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## OUR STAFF

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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.

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## From the Rector Let us rejoice!

As I write for this *Paraclete* newsletter, we are just four days from transitioning back to a pandemic form of in-person worship in the sanctuary, a first since more than a year ago. At the same time, we will have Bishop Marty Stebbins visit and a baptism which I find very fitting in a number of ways. The bishop's presence reminds us that our parish is one part of many in the body of Christ. Baptism reminds us of the first step Jesus took before he was driven by the Spirit into the wilderness and then began his ministry. It all reminds us of our calling as Christians to love one another as Christ loves us and that we walk in the way of Jesus, always on the move with Good News. And while we transition back into the sanctuary, we will evolve in our ability to continue to provide virtual worship for those who are not yet able or cannot join us in person. This too will take time to address our needs for improved technological support so that we can live-stream in real time. But for now, we will record the service and present it later in the day on YouTube. In many ways we are restoring and renewing a vintage car or truck so that we can again be on the move.

We've been walking in the wilderness, and in reality, we continue to do so in many respects. To love one another means continuing to think not only of ourselves but those around us. The pandemic is not done, not gone, and is still evolving even while vaccinations increase. We know some things now that we didn't a year ago. We need to see what we've learned and continue to adapt. We know even now that just getting back to worship in a physically gathered way is not as easy as closing up. It will take baby steps, falls, and letting God pick us back up to keep growing and exploring this different world. Worship is just one part of beginning anew. Step by step, we will begin to gather in small groups outside and in our buildings. We will continue to live by ever evolving good practices as are needed during these times.

Stay tuned. Adventure continues to await, and the Spirit is a movin'. Let us rejoice in it!

—FAITHFULLY WITH YOU  
ON THE WAY,  
TERRI+

Continued from page 1

## Join us on a field trip to the Lee Metcalf Wildlife Area this month!



Next we will drive our cars through the refuge to the large parking lot at the nature trail along the Bitterroot River. Here we will walk a short trail that loops along the river and through the woods along other small ponds. Bring comfortable walking shoes and

dress for the weather. Feel free to bring a snack or drink if you would like. Please bring your mask to wear. We will stay socially distanced as we walk.

**To sign up for these trips, so we know how many to plan for, please contact Warren Gartner at [kwgartner@sbcglobal.net](mailto:kwgartner@sbcglobal.net) or call 317-872-2431.**

—WARREN GARTNER  
CREATION CARE MINISTRY

## Church School 2021

### End of year party being planned

Discussion and plans are underway to celebrate the end of this wild school year. Stay tuned and keep an eye out in the *Spirited Times* for details relating to

some Summer Kick Off Fun!

– THE REV. GRETCHEN STROHMAIER  
ASSISTANT PRIEST

## Continuing Children's Worship videos throughout the summer

As we negotiate changes and transitions related to COVID-19, we will continue to offer children's worship videos over the summer. Please know that as your family makes its way back to in-person worship, your children are encouraged to attend with you. Books

and toys and kid-friendly pew activity pages will be available. Both Reverend Terri and Reverend Gretchen will be incorporating children into an intergenerational worship experience throughout the summer.



### Camp Marshall summer programs focus on Family Camps this year

Camp is adapting to one more, not-so-typical year and planning for a return to a traditional season in 2022. This summer a variety of Family Camps will be offered starting at the end of June. Families of all configurations are invited to come for a day, or two, or a week. Families will stay in their own cabin (families with their own RV are welcome bring them for a more self-contained camping experience). Activities include: archery, fishing, outings to Wild Horse Island, ropes course challenges, daily worship, arts & crafts, delicious meals, and plenty of time on the lake. Family camp offers a true experience to rest (no cooking or cleaning, programs for children are ready, supervision is provided), relax, enjoy, play with your family, and replenish your Spirit in the beauty of creation.

Pricing is based on the number of days you spend at camp. It always includes meals, snacks and programs. This year three-tier pricing is in place. You will have options to pay the full price of camp or pay with the support of subsidies. Select what works for your family. Learn more at <https://www.campmarshallmontana.org/2021>.

## Here are the Children's Worship videos for May

Sunday, May 2  
Sunday, May 9  
Sunday, May 16  
Sunday, May 23  
Sunday, May 30

Intergenerational Worship  
The Holy Spirit Comes Down  
Matthias the Apostle  
Pentecost: The Holy Spirit  
Isaiah's Call

Acts 10: 44-48  
Acts 1: 15-17, 21-26  
Acts 2: 1-21  
Isaiah 6: 1-8



## Explorations:

Opportunities  
to cultivate,  
challenge  
and live our  
faith

## Anti-Racism: Our Response

This last year has been tumultuous for all kinds of reasons; in the forefront now are the events that led to George Floyd's death, as we watch the trial unfold. And as we see yet again another young black man, Daunte Wright, shot and killed during a traffic stop in Brooklyn Center, Minnesota. These horrific and ugly events cry out for our attention, demonstrating that racism continues to be a part of our cultural fabric.

In 2020 we hosted a five-session Lenten program addressing issues of race and faith. Members of our congregation also participated in an 8-week True Colors: White Allies workshop, facilitated by Empower MT, and designed to educate about racism and offer tools to combat it. In the fall,

as a diocese we adopted a resolution to Root Out Racism. This winter we hosted a book study which helped illuminate the injustices which people of color have suffered. We heard from folks along the way, encouraging us to focus on issues of racism that are "close at hand," namely racism towards Native Americans.

We are just now forming a Native American Anti-Racism Task Force that will work together to seek out educational opportunities for the parish, helping us all more clearly identify racism towards Native Americans in our community and our state. The goal is education to assist us in dismantling racism of every kind, moving closer towards becoming that *Beloved Community*.

## New anti-racism workshop coming in the Fall

Look for another multi-week anti-racism workshop this Fall, this time hosted by Lindsay Iudicello and Glenn

Hladek, graduates of Empower MT's 2020 series here at Holy Spirit.

## Join us for Centering Prayer in May

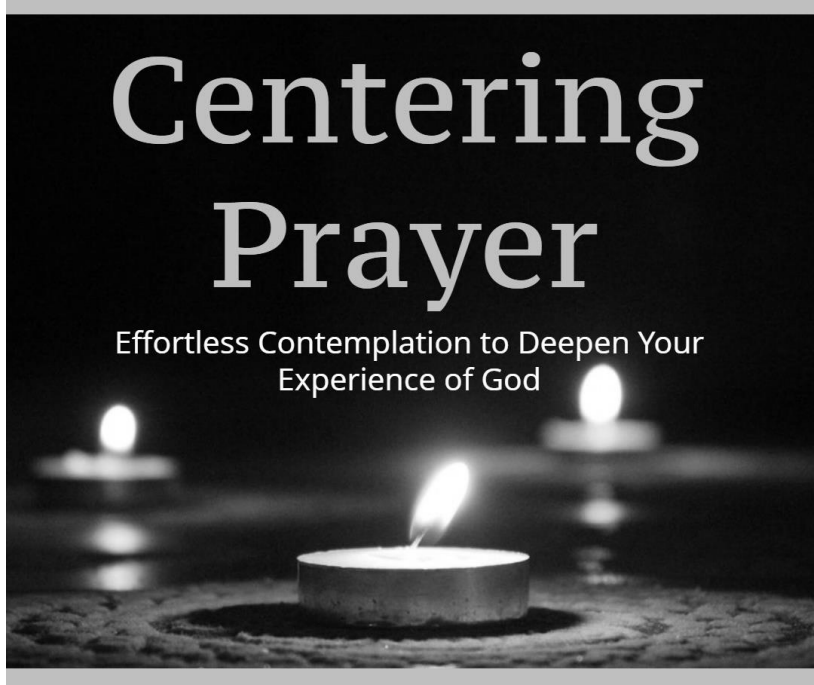
Many of us miss "sitting" in a silent meditation time with others, and so we will gather once more in a new way. We will meet once a month on the second Friday at noon. **Our next sitting will be on May 14, 2021.** Our prayer time will last 30-45 minutes.

We will be using "Google Meet" which is very similar to "Zoom." Go to your internet browser and enter "<https://meet.google.com/irr-zwaa-rrq>" to begin the process of joining the group at the scheduled time.

This Holy time is open to all. If you are unfamiliar with the Centering Prayer process, we assure you it is quite easy, and we will guide you through it as we sit. For any questions, please call Jennifer Dousset (406-880-1680) or Willie Hoffer (541-815-9609). Peace to you all!

## Centering Prayer

Effortless Contemplation to Deepen Your Experience of God





## From the Assistant Priest Our history shapes us

We live in an over-sized state with a dramatic landscape. It's a place in which we can get lost; it's a landscape that can provide anonymity, and spiritual solace, if that's what we're seeking. Many of us are, drawn by the land, the Spirit of the place, if you will. Many would agree that this place, this state of Montana with its wild open spaces, not only calls to us, but shapes us. I contend that it is both the land, and the history of the place, that has the power to shape us.

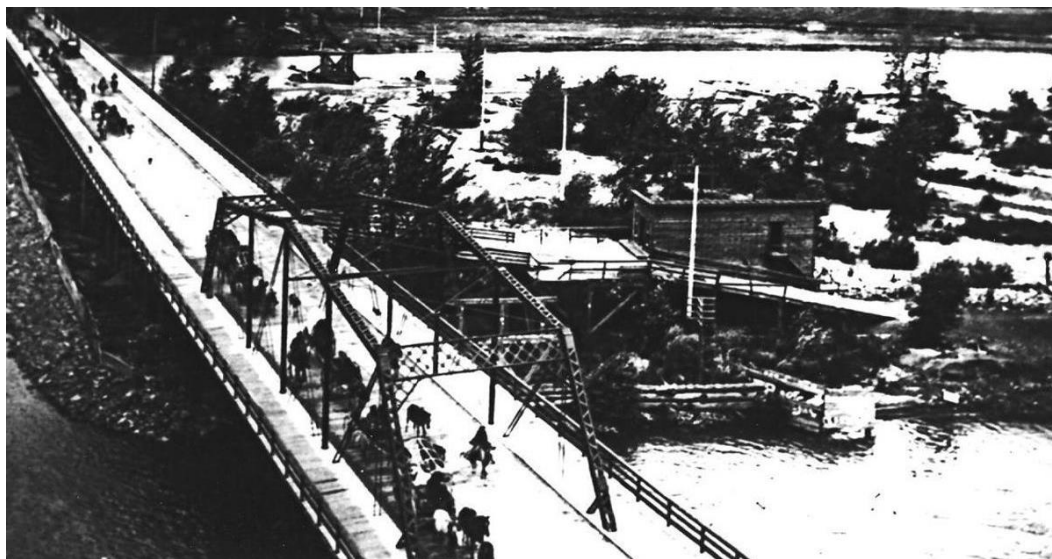
Too often, I believe, as the dominate white culture, when we refer to history, we have taken a narrow view, thinking of white history as *universal history*. When we do this, we neglect the rich history of the place and the people that transpired right alongside white people, and *long before* any white person set foot in the place. That history, known or unknown, shapes us. It is time to be intentional about seeking it out and bringing it to the surface.

Just as a wind-swept vista or craggy outcropping of mountain has power to shape our imagination and Spirit, so too does the knowledge that peoples gathered in this valley for generations digging Bitterroots along the Clark Fork where the U of M campus now sits, and in one of the most productive digging sites, the current WinCo parking lot on Reserve.

When we think Higgins Street Bridge, we likely think of C.P. Higgins, a co-founder, along with Frank Worden, of the Hellgate Trading Post and the city of Missoula. We likely don't think of other history associated with the bridge, such as the Salish *Trail of Tears*. Some 300 Salish people were marched along the bridge, leaving their homeland in the Bitterroot Valley and forcibly relocated onto the Flathead Reservation in 1891. Chief Charlo resisted the removal for many years, but ultimately felt he had no choice for the well-being of his people. This history also shapes us.

I am grateful that we have an opportunity to learn more about this place we live and the history of its people. On May 1<sup>st</sup> at 11:00 a.m. Traveler's Rest State Park is hosting a Zoom event featuring poet Victor Charlo, the great-great grandson of Chief Charlo, and his daughter, Claire Charlo, a civil advocate. To learn more about the event and to register visit [www.travelersrest.org](http://www.travelersrest.org). I hope you will take this opportunity to learn more about this place and its history as we reflect on the many ways it continues to shape us all even today.

— THE REV. GRETCHEN STROHMAIER  
ASSISTANT PRIEST



### A new Education for Ministry group is forming for the Fall

EfM (Education for Ministry) is taking registrations for the fall course which will start in September and go through May and meets each Monday from 12:30-3 p.m. EfM is a small group of people coming together to develop habits of heart and mind and ways of seeing God's mystery and presence in our lives.

The following are some comments from current and past participants:

*I love the camaraderie with people getting to know each other over the year and learning about the Bible in ways I had not thought of before. I love meeting each week in a small community, and I love the challenge of learning about my faith. This group is the community I didn't know I needed. I know I am a little bit different in my life because of my experience in EfM. EfM is a loving, supportive group.*

If you would like to know more or to register, please email Julie Benson at [teambenson@yahoo.com](mailto:teambenson@yahoo.com).



**Coming soon! A new  
online Holy Spirit  
Parish Directory!**

**Easy to use and up to  
date. Details will follow.**



### Stay connected with the Holy Spirit app

Keep up to date on upcoming events, access sermons, forms/registrations for events and other activities, see the latest newsletter or bulletin, or submit a prayer request – all that and so much more! This is also a convenient way to make electronic donations by ACH (bank account) or credit or debit cards in addition to making and managing recurring gifts.

Get a link to download the app by texting **HOLYSPIRITAPP** to **77977**. Be sure to put your caps lock feature on; that will bypass the auto-correct feature on your phone and ensure that the code is entered correctly! You may also download the app directly in the Apple iTunes App Store or on Google Play.

**Be sure to opt in to receive push notifications!**

## From the Rector Thank you! Thank you!

I want to thank everyone who in any way helped us to offer our Holy Week and Easter services. This year was unlike any we've done before with all the services being pre-recorded to allow time for James Gartner to weave everyone of them into the final worship experience. Every service required different liturgical design, set-up, and preparation with protocols. There was the strangeness of doing all of it prior to the start of actual Holy Week and then actually entering the week alongside all of you from our homes that everyone experienced in whatever way they were involved. Thank you all: Altar Guild, Flower Guild, Readers, Choir members, those who made Maundy Thursday prayer vigil and Good Friday quiet prayer in the sanctuary happen. Thank you to each and every member of the staff for the teamwork with which each of you approached what was planned, and how you responded when we were surprised by last minute adjustments. Thank you to each of you who prayed

us through everything, and not just during Holy Week and Easter. There is no doubt that many more of you, unknown to us, deserve our thanks!

I hope that all of you recognize what a wonderful community of faith we share. We're not perfect. We make plenty of mistakes. But I continue to be encouraged by your commitment to one another, the wider world God has entrusted to us, and your willingness to continue growing in relationship with God and one another, working through things, praying always, serving as we are called, and thereby sharing the light of Christ's love in what God does with all of it.

Thank you! Thank you! And may God continue to create among us and through us what is our unique calling as the community of Holy Spirit Parish.

— WITH DEEP GRATITUDE,  
TERRI+



## Community Ministries

## Volunteer opportunities with the families of Missoula's new Family Housing Center

The Missoula Family Housing Center, an effort long led by the YWCA and Missoula Interfaith Collaborative, is preparing to open in May. It will allow Family Promise, the Housing Advocate Network, and Missoula Works to work even more collaboratively with up to 31 families, and welcome more volunteers, businesses, and supporters into this story-and-hope-building work.

Here are some of the volunteer opportunities for individuals, pairs, or congregational/community teams to consider:

- With Family Promise for meals, overnight stays, room turnovers, birthday/holiday celebrations, homework help, etc.
- With the Housing Advocate Network for assisting with advocacy, mentorship, and

housing readiness

- With Missoula Works to help with job readiness and employment search and support
- Teach classes on housing readiness, job readiness, and other needed skills-building
- Donate items to support the families at the Family Housing Center

To learn more and get started, contact the Missoula Interfaith Collaborative at 406-207-8228 or via their website, [micmt.org](http://micmt.org). Thank you for all of the ways you make love of neighbor come to life.

— ALONGSIDE YOU,  
THE VEN. DORCIE KAFKA  
DVARISHKIS  
[dorcie@gmail.com](mailto:dorcie@gmail.com) ~  
406-239-7655 text/cell

*Missoula's new Family Housing Center, the Meadowlark*



### On June 6 we'll celebrate Parenting Place Sunday at Holy Spirit!

Our Parenting Place Sunday on June 6 invites you to engage in awareness and prevention of childhood trauma and the building of resilience.

Our community partners at The Parenting Place will be with us to help us better understand Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) and how they shape the relationship-building and hopeful change that can occur through trauma-informed respite care, home visits, and education for parents, professionals and the greater community. We will learn more about the amazing work of Donation Warehouse, a source of support brought to life by Missoula Exchange Club members. And we will be invited to learn about educational and service opportunities at The Parenting Place.

Please mark your calendar for this special Sunday and plan to join us!

— THE VEN. DORCIE KAFKA  
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406-239-7655 text/cell



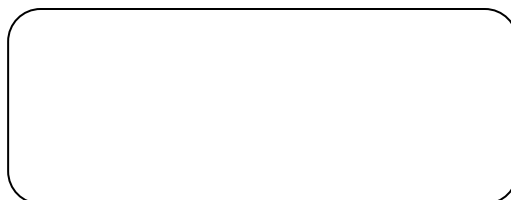
# HOLY SPIRIT

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# FIELD TRIP!

Join us on a visit to the  
Lee Metcalf US Fish and  
Wildlife Area on May 22.

**SIGN UP FOR THE FIELD  
TRIP BY CONTACTING  
WARREN GARTNER**

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or call 317-872-2431

