

PARACLETE



MAY 2022

HOLY SPIRIT | EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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Creation Care's field trip to the Camas Fields on June 18

Creation Care will again be hosting a trip to Lolo Pass and Packer Meadows on June 18 to see the Camas flowers in bloom. This annual event draws people from all over the US as Packer Meadows turn a deep blue. This natural event is one all Montanans should see at least once. These are the fields where Lewis and Clark's expedition passed through on their way to the Pacific. Many Indigenous tribes gathered in these fields to harvest the bulbs of the Camas which were a staple in their diet. You can learn about the importance of these flowers and method of preparation by the Nez Pierce

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Stay after church on May 22!

Join Creation Care Ministry for a Container Gardening Workshop

Sunday, May 22 will be this year's container gardening workshop. Plants, soil, compost, eggshells, and some containers will be provided by the Creation Care Ministry for free after the 10:15 service. If you planted a container last year, please recycle your containers by bringing them back for fresh plants and compost. Tomatoes, peppers, basil, marigolds, and squash are already started for your use!

Each of these planters will sequester a bit of carbon, absorb carbon dioxide from the atmosphere, and replace it with oxygen – all of which does a little bit to fight climate change.

Please stay after church for a few minutes and take home a container with a plant or two to grow some food for the summer.

– KAREN SIMONS GARTNER
CREATION CARE MINISTRY

We're busy growing plants for you to use in your container gardens – tomatoes, peppers, basil, marigolds, and squash!



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NEWSLETTER

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Creation Care

A small but important success story – glass recycling

In 2019, a small group of Holy Spirit families started a glass recycling program through our Church, eight or nine families in all. We recognized that glass is easily and economically recycled, but that no viable option to do this was available in Missoula... until Recycling Works, an offshoot of the Missoula Interfaith Collaborative, started operations in late 2018.

Since then, Recycling Works has become an independent non-profit organization, has expanded its service to many parts of Western Montana and has become a donor to other important non-profit organizations in our community. This is important, because it shows how creation care efforts can have a multiplying effect –

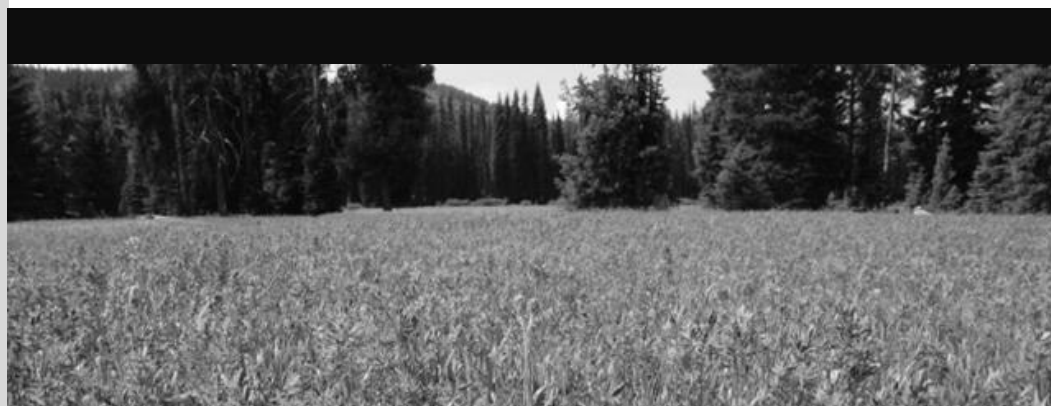
check out

<https://recyclingworksmt.com/community-impact/> for more information.

Also, since then, and even more important, is how the Holy Spirit community has responded to this effort! **Today, 40 Holy Spirit families have joined our glass recycling program!!** Some of these had already been doing glass recycling as individual households, but even considering that, this is an amazing and productive community effort. Please celebrate... and please join us if you are not one of the 40... the cost is less than \$3.00/month and the impact on our community is far more important!

– JAMES WILEY

CREATION CARE MINISTRY



Camas Fields

Continued from page 1

Tribe at this link

<https://youtu.be/ThG3xYi8oY> in a video we recorded in Packer Meadows last spring.

We will gather in the parking lot of the Forest Service visitor center at Lolo Pass at 1:00 pm (Missoula Time; the pass is on Pacific time). If you would like to arrive early and bring a lunch, there is a picnic shelter next to the visitor center.

After touring the meadows, there is the option of taking a short hike to an overlook of a Lewis and Clark campsite. We can also travel a bit further into Idaho to walk at Devoto Grove, a grove of huge Cedar trees along the Lochs River.

Contact Warren Gartner to register for the trip, if you have questions, or if you need to carpool to Lolo Pass. You can reach him at kwgartner@sbcglobal.net or by phone at (317) 872-2431.

– WARREN GARTNER

CREATION CARE MINISTRY

From the Senior Warden

Could we turn our parking lot into affordable housing?

The vestry agreed at its April 13 meeting that the possibility of converting our church parking lot into affordable housing is a worthwhile question for the parish to explore, but there are many questions to be answered before we can move forward. A small committee has spent several months carefully exploring the concept. We talked to city planners, builders, architects and specialists in affordable housing. Our conclusion was that yes, it's possible, but will require much discussion, planning, investigation and compromise.



The first question may be Why? We all know how home affordability has become a huge problem in Missoula, both for prospective owners and renters. Prices have risen so dramatically that many people cannot afford to live here anymore. Missoula could become a very different place, and not a healthy place to live, if renters and entry-level homeowners are squeezed out. Seniors and lower-income residents are those most likely to be negatively affected. Housing is not only a human right that most of us are privileged to have, it is essential to people's health and well-being.

But why should Holy Spirit take on this challenge? The answer, I believe, lies in our vision as an Episcopal church, our mission and our history of leadership in Missoula. Our vision as stated on our website is to "cultivate,

challenge and live our faith in Christ through commitment to each other and the world." Part of our mission is to "follow the example of Jesus as we serve those in need," and to "work to nurture a welcoming, loving community that recognizes and values all of God's people." Those principles guide us to the possibility that we can house those in need, as well as care for the health of our community. To do so effectively, we need to exercise leadership, just as generations of Holy Spirit parishioners in the past have done by envisioning a path forward and working assiduously and collaboratively toward that goal.

How we can use our parking lot for affordable housing is a more complex question, to be worked out by a committee now being formed, along with input we will be seeking from the entire parish. Our exploration committee (David and Nancy Tyrell, Dave Strohmaier and

myself, with the assistance of Andrea Davis, executive director of Homeward) did discern a viable pathway, possibly resulting in a building with the following characteristics: a three-story building with ground-floor parking and two levels of apartments, 20-24 in total, deed-dedicated to lower-income seniors, plus a certain amount of office space. Such a building might cost about \$4 million, to be financed through a combination of marketed tax credits, grants, and donations, with little or no cash outlay and no long-term debt for the church. The key to making this possible is the market value of the parking lot land (yet to be appraised) that our parish has owned for the past 48 years.

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Summer Dates for Youth & Family Programs:

Grace Camp: June 12 - 17, 2022

Price: Free to those who qualify.

For students entering grades 3 – 8 in the fall of 2022

Family Camp One: June 19 – 24, 2022

Accommodations: Camp cabins, RV space, tent space

Family Camp Two: July 3 – 8, 2022

Accommodations: Camp cabins, RV space, tent space

Junior/Middler Camp: June 26 – July 1, 2022

For students entering grades 3 – 8 in the fall of 2022

Senior High Camp: July 10 – 15.

For students entering grades 9 – 12 in the fall of 2022

Ministry Growth Fund:

Through a generous donation, members of Episcopal Congregations in the Diocese of Montana may register for any of the above listed summer programs for \$100 with a completed Ministry Growth Fund camp application (while funds last). Ministry Growth Fund applications are ONLY available through local church offices (not online).





Explorations:

Opportunities to cultivate, challenge and live our faith

Come together for laughter and connection Journey – A Women's Retreat May 13-15 at Camp Marshall

It's been a JOURNEY—these last two years. Join your sisters in faith from Holy Spirit and St. Paul's (in Hamilton) at Camp Marshall as we come together for laughter and connection. Reflect on these last two years. What have you learned? How have you grown? What new paths are appearing?

The rhythm of the retreat will include opportunities to listen to reflections on the theme of spiritual journeying, solo time to ponder and/or journal, ample time for small group reflection, punctuated with lots of opportunities for relaxation and playfulness. Less programed than previous retreats, this time away will

offer opportunities for you to bring along music (instruments), art projects, games, and the like to share with your sisters in faith. Together we will make the retreat time at Camp Marshall exactly what we need.

Please reach out to Rev. Gretchen at gretchen@holyspiritmissoula.org to sign up. The retreat will run from dinner on Friday evening through brunch on Sunday morning. The cost is \$100, and that will cover 5 meals and lodging, plus retreat supplies. Financial assistance is available.

Also, please note that Camp Marshall requires each participant to show proof of vaccination.



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

Join us for Centering Prayer in May

Centering Prayer meets again on May 17 from 4-5 p.m. We will be returning to the comfort of the Guild Room and following the COVID guidelines of spacing, fresh air and optional masking. This ancient meditation style called Centering Prayer is simple and easy to learn if it is new to you. The leader will be gently leading the group into and out of a 20-minute silent time.

We will meet on the third Tuesday of every month from 4-5 p.m. If you have any questions, please call Jennifer Dousset at 406-880-1680 or Willie Hoffer at 541-815-9609.

Centering Prayer

Effortless Contemplation to Deepen Your Experience of God



Celebrate Bear Tracks Bridge

You may have read a recent article in the Missoulian (Friday April 8) entitled *US churches face Native reckoning*. The article highlighted that the US must grapple with its own history regarding boarding schools for Indigenous children. Churches, all manner of them, across the United States were often the sponsoring organizations for these schools. The article warned that a reckoning is coming.

We know that at least 17 such schools were run by The Episcopal Church. And while there were not any run by our church in Montana, there were Indigenous boarding schools here. The article details public apologies which various churches have made, namely Pope Francis, on behalf of the Catholic Church. Apologies, naming the specific harm that was done, are important. Some schools were better, others worse, but even the best such boarding schools were on a mission to “assimilate [Indigenous] children into a predominantly white, Christian society and break down their tribal identities, customs and languages.” Many Indigenous groups now recognize this as “cultural genocide.”

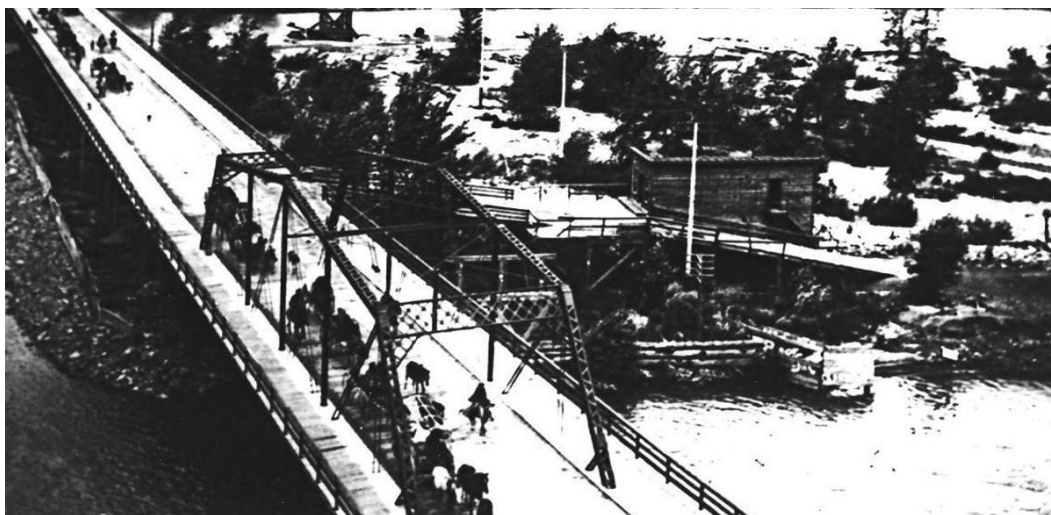
Listening is often described as the first step towards healing. The stories of our Indigenous brothers and sisters must be heard. We have an opportunity before us to bear witness and listen to the trauma that happened here in Western Montana in 1891. In October

of that year the Salish tribe was forced-marched from the Bitterroot Valley up through Missoula (crossing the Higgins Avenue Bridge) and then onto a reservation in the Jocko Valley. It would have been a notable event right through the middle of town.

I did some research to learn if Holy Spirit or the diocese made any mention of the event or had any response to it. Thanks to Bob Wattenberg, I was able to readily access the vestry minutes from 1891 (can you believe that!). I read the minutes of each meeting 6 months before and 6 months after the forced march. Nothing. There was not a mention of it. I did learn that during that time the vestry was focused on hiring a janitor. It was no different on the diocesan level. Our second bishop, Bishop Brewer, was serving the diocese at that time, and his reports were focused on numbers: numbers of churches, numbers of buildings, numbers of rectories, with an occasional note about those which had grass yards and fences.

It seems our church failed to pay attention then. Let’s not make that mistake again. July 16th is the celebration of the renaming of the Higgins Avenue Bridge. The tribal cultural committee chose Bear Tracks Bridge because it honors the history of that forced march in 1891. Plan now to be there and to listen.

— REVEREND GRETCHEN



Stay connected with the Holy Spirit app

Keep up to date on upcoming events, access Sunday worship, see the latest newsletter or service leaflet, 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 **(833) 714-3270**. 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!

Community Ministries
**Be a Holy Spirit
 Voice at Common
 Good Missoula and
 Missoula Interfaith
 Collaborative this
 spring**



**Founding Celebration
 May 19** – Common Good Missoula, born out of the early efforts of Missoula Interfaith Collaborative, is gathering us for a Founding celebration on May 19 from 5-9PM at the Missoula County Fairgrounds 4H Pavilion. The evening includes food trucks and an Indigenous and Local Art Market 5-6:30PM, and a participatory assembly 6:30-8PM.

The Founding culminates more than six years of work engaging people and organizations across Missoula for the common good. At the Founding, we will be making a public commitment to continuing to engage our members, neighbors, and one other in building a healthy democratic space in Missoula. Our goal is to have 20 Holy Spiriters at the Founding.

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Rio Grande Borderland Ministry
We're eager to share our border stories!

Mark your calendar for the **Wednesday, June 1 fiesta and fundraiser for the Rio Grande Borderland Ministry**, which is dedicated to meeting the basic needs of migrants at the southern border—food, shelter, clothing and welcome with dignity. Holy Spirit parishioners who traveled to the border in March and April to see the work of RGBM and observe the border situation first-hand have stories, photos, and video to share.

Festivities start at 5:30 p.m. in the Parish Hall (or in the courtyard if winter ever leaves). Enjoy a simple

Mexican meal—tamales, chilaquiles, rice and beans and “cheesecake Pancho Villa,” along with beverages such as jamaica, tamarindo and Mexican beer.

Before and during dinner, bid for items in a silent auction of articles brought back from the border such as baskets and handicrafts and other donated items. Proceeds from the auction go directly to RGBM.

After dinner, listen to a few of our pilgrims' stories, and see photos and a short video shot and produced by our own James Gartner.

— CLEM WORK, PILGRIM



Parking lot
 Continued from page 3

There may well be alternative visions for constructing affordable housing on the parking lot land. Regardless, there are many questions to be answered, such as: How do we maximize the number of parking spaces available for Holy Spirit Parish? What kind of re-zoning do we need? What type of housing need can we best address? With whom can we partner most effectively for financing and construction? What are the best sources of financing? How do we design a building compatible with the neighborhood? Who will manage and maintain the building? How do we

make sure the building reflects our respect and care for the environment?

As we begin our exploration, we will look for ways to engage the whole parish through communications, forums and other means of participation and open discussion so that everyone can be heard and all questions can be addressed.

If we are able to answer these questions satisfactorily, we will be able to make a real difference in our town, helping to resolve an issue of almost existential magnitude, helping to preserve the community we love, and acting as a Christian community committed to each other and the world.

— CLEM WORK, SENIOR WARDEN



Stories from the border Why don't people come here "legally"?

A frequently asked question about immigration is, "Why don't people just come here legally?" The simple answer is "**LOTS OF LUCK**"!

Immigration law has a long and tortured history in Congress, with both Republicans and Democrats making with little effort to truly address the issues. Specific laws passed are:

- 1882 – The Chinese Exclusion Act (passed after railroads were built)
- 1924 – The Immigration Act (focused on immigrants from southern Europe)
- 1965 – The Immigration and Nationality Act (focused on family ties or employment)
- 1996 – Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigration Responsibility Act (mandates that immigrants who are unlawfully present in the U.S. for 180 days must remain outside the United States for three years)

The result of these laws is that there are essentially four ways to become an immigrant in the US.

Luck is the easiest way—odds of around 1 in 300—enough **Luck** to win the annual Diversity Lottery. Citizens of the following countries can apply for the Diversity Lottery: Bangladesh, Brazil, Canada, China, Colombia, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Haiti, Honduras, India,

Jamaica, Mexico, Nigeria, Pakistan, Philippines, South Korea, United Kingdom, Venezuela, and Vietnam.

If you aren't lucky enough to win the Diversity Lottery, your options are limited to **Blood, Sweat or Tears**:

- **Blood** – based on family ties to U.S. residents. VERY long waiting lists ... current backlog, 4 million people. In the case of Mexicans, those who applied **before Jan. 2000** are now being processed.
- **Sweat** – related to employment, particularly highly educated specialists – doctors, nurses, computer geeks, etc.
- **Tears** – seeking asylum or refugee status, of which very few are approved

Probably the worst of these options is **Tears**. Asylum seekers present themselves to authorities at the U.S. border, while refugees apply in their country of residence. Both are shuttled through a confusing stream of government agencies. With **Luck**, they end up in front of an Immigration Judge, who is more likely than not to deny their application. It is estimated that **less than 1% of asylum seekers and refugees are allowed to remain in the U.S.**

– JAMES WILEY, PILGRIM

Community Ministries
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Fundraising Event with Father Boyle June 29 –

Missoula Interfaith Collaborative is returning to an annual member gathering and fundraising event, this year with special guest speaker Father Boyle of Homeboy Industries. Table hosts will be inviting 5-6 people to a dinner, program and opportunity to support MIC on June 29 at UM's Education Building 6-7:30PM. Father Boyle founded Homeboy Industries (www.homeboyindustries.org) in 1988, and it has grown to be the world's largest rehabilitation, re-entry, and social enterprise training program for former gang members. Ever shaped by the stories around him, Father Boyle is also an engaging author and passionate speaker. Let's fill a table or two there with Holy Spiriters!

Please consider joining me for these events. To learn more and to RSVP, talk to me at church or contact me via email or through the church office.

– FOR THE COMMUNITY WE CONTINUE TO BUILD TOGETHER, THE VEN. DORCIE DVARISHKIS
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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



Container Gardening Workshop

**After church in the
church courtyard
Sunday, May 22**

We'll have free soil, compost,
containers, seeds and plants, and
we'll help you put it all together.
Please join us!

