



HOLY SPIRIT | EPISCOPAL CHURCH

130 South Sixth Street East • Missoula, MT 59801-4222 • 406.542.2167

Solar Energy Project

The limitless energy of the sun will now power Holy Spirit Episcopal Church in Missoula. Its new solar array will meet its electrical needs, slash its monthly bill, and demonstrate the church's commitment to caring for the earth.

"As the Episcopal branch of the Jesus Movement, we are called to be good stewards of all that God has created and to do so with care not only for the present but also the future" said the Rev. Terri Grotzinger. "The solar panels are a visible expression of our call to care for Creation and we are full of gratitude for the grants that helped make this possible."

SBS Solar of Hamilton installed the array, which comprises six dozen solar panels on the church's parish hall roof and on an adjacent flat roof. It will generate about 26,000 kilowatt-hours per year. Using net metering, excess energy generated in the peak months will be credited annually to the church's account and used to balance out electrical costs in the winter months.

While the church buildings at 130 South Sixth Street East were built in 1915, the steep parish hall roof turned out to be the perfect angle for the solar panels now mounted on its south side.

The renewable generation project was largely funded with two grants—for \$10,000 from the Episcopal Diocese of Montana, and for \$40,000 through the NorthWestern Energy Efficiency Plus (E+) Renewable Energy Program. The program is established with Universal System Benefits Program funds collected from all NorthWestern electric customers in the State of Montana.