



# PARACLETE

SEPTEMBER 2022

HOLY SPIRIT | EPISCOPAL CHURCH

130 South 6th Street East • Missoula, MT 59801 • 406.542.2167 • E-mail: [office@holyspiritmissoula.org](mailto:office@holyspiritmissoula.org) • Website: [www.holyspiritmissoula.org](http://www.holyspiritmissoula.org)

A publication of Holy Spirit Episcopal Church



## Join us for our Fall Kick-Off on Sunday, September 11

Join us as we reconnect from our summer travels. Spend some time relaxing together in the courtyard with your church family after worship and enjoy lunch together. Learn more about ministries here at Holy Spirit and maybe meet a new person or two. We have new faces around here since our COVID hiatus! Yard games and face paint will be on hand for those who are interested!



## Plug In and Power Up at Holy Spirit!

As we power up at Holy Spirit for the year to come, you're invited to plug in to places where your skills can have an impact – leading, doing, engaging and perhaps taking on something new for our church community. There's a place for everyone at Holy Spirit, in a range of activities that guide and support our worship, programs and people.

We're recharging a number of ministries, and this makes some sense in the larger context. The pandemic prompted people across the economy to rethink their commitments and make changes. At Holy Spirit, we've seen the same dynamic of change for some individuals who have been key engines for church activities over many years.

As always, there are many rewards for getting involved and lots of places to do so – whether you're a someone who likes to organize teams, excels as an idea person or prefers a hands-on project. No matter your talent or inclination, chances are you're a fit for a ministry at Holy Spirit.

Here are several areas where your time and talents are needed and welcomed:

- Spiritual Formation
- Stewardship
- Altar Guild
- Buildings & Grounds

For more information, contact Molly Bowler or Sue LaRose, as well as Terri or Gretchen.



OUR STAFF

Clergy:

The Rev. Terri Ann Grotzinger,  
Rector  
[revterri@holyspiritmissoula.org](mailto:revterri@holyspiritmissoula.org)  
The Rev. Gretchen Strohmaier,  
Assistant Priest  
[Gretchen@holyspiritmissoula.org](mailto:Gretchen@holyspiritmissoula.org)  
The Rev. Dorcie Dvarishkis,  
Deacon  
[dorcied@gmail.com](mailto:dorcied@gmail.com)

Organist/Choir Director:

Dr. Nancy Cooper

Youth Director:

Lewis Myers

Parish Administrator:

Judy Parock  
[office@holyspiritmissoula.org](mailto:office@holyspiritmissoula.org)

Bookkeeper/Office Assistant:

Connie Gerke  
[Connie@holyspiritmissoula.org](mailto:Connie@holyspiritmissoula.org)

Technology Specialist:

James Gartner  
[jameswgartner@gmail.com](mailto:jameswgartner@gmail.com)

Webmaster:

Elizabeth Serviss  
[serviss7@msn.com](mailto:serviss7@msn.com)

Sexton: Lori Cordis

NEWSLETTER

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Community Ministries  
**Beginning again**

My service in Exchange Club provided the spark for Mark, pup Mocha, and me to commit to an epic camper-pulling summer road trip to the National Convention in Greenville, South Carolina. Our 5,700 miles through 20 states uprooted our familiar rhythms for prayer, work, and down time. We tried to adapt and prioritize each day, welcoming new people and experiences while staying connected to family, neighbors, and a few practices that ground us. When we arrived home, we looked back on the mix of new and familiar things that had fed and renewed us along the way. Which did we want to hold on to? Which felt OK to give up? The intentionality of "beginning again" continues to bear fruit for us.

As we look toward a new season of ministries at Holy Spirit, we might recognize a similar invitation to consider "beginning again." What do we want to recommit to and work to make even more impactful? What new opportunities and partnerships might the community be calling us to explore? What might it be time to let go of? Let's put our heads and hearts together to see how God may be calling us to adapt, prioritize, and begin again.

– SERVING ALONGSIDE YOU,  
THE VEN. DORCIE KAFKA  
DVARISHKIS  
[dorcied@gmail.com](mailto:dorcied@gmail.com) ~  
406-542-2167 church office



**Holy Spirit Blood Drive**

Location: Parish Hall  
130 South 6th Street East

**Thursday, September 22**  
**1 pm - 6 pm**

Sign up online at  
[www.redcrossblood.org](http://www.redcrossblood.org)

Blood drive set for Thursday, September 22  
**Sign up to participate in the Fall Blood Drive**

Holy Spirit Parish will host a blood drive on **Thursday, September 22, from 1-6 p.m. in the parish hall.** The Red Cross requires 56 days between donations, so if you would like to donate on September 22, your last donation would need to have been made by July 27. You can

make an appointment now for the blood drive by clicking on the link below:

<https://www.redcrossblood.org/give.html/drive-results?zipSponsor=HOLYSPIRITPARISH>

# Family Worship Service

Worship designed especially for families with children of all ages



Sunday, September 11 / 4:30 - 5:30 pm

## When does Baptism take place at Holy Spirit?

Holy Baptism is full initiation by water and the Holy Spirit into Christ's Body the Church. Baptism takes place during the Easter Vigil service (Saturday evening, in April), and at a Sunday service about three times a year: the Day of Pentecost (the first Sunday in June this year), the Sunday after All Saints' Day (early November), and the Feast of the Baptism of our Lord (the first Sunday after Epiphany, in early January). Baptism may also take place when the bishop visits (in December this year), and on a Sunday during the summer on a date to be determined. If you are interested in Baptism for yourself or for your child, preparation needs to take place. Please contact the office at (406) 542-2167 to speak with our rector, The Rev. Terri Ann Grotzinger.

The next date for Baptism will be on the Sunday after All Saints' Day, November 6, at the 10:15 am service.

## Kids and Church

It feels odd but we are starting up the school year without traditional Church School. We've known for a while that the literature about Christian formation (as well as feedback from parents) has been focused on integrating children into worship, rather than separating them out. Likely, you have noticed that we are trying to offer children's sermons when kids are present with us. This fall we'll be working to fold kids into other aspects of the service, everything from carrying the Gospel book in the procession, to assisting the ushers and carrying the cross. Kids learn best by emulating adults, and they need to be with us in the worship experience to do that. Our Christian Formation Team—Katie Nederhoed, Karen Gartner, Meredith Mehne, Rev. Dorcie Dvarishkis and Rev. Gretchen Strohmaier—will

continue to reassess and adapt to the needs of our children and families as we learn more about what helps kids authentically participate in worship.

In June we kicked off **Family Worship**, specifically designed for families with children. Family worship happens once a month on Sunday evenings from 4:30-5:30. We share kid-friendly music, led by Mary Beth Jourdonnais on the guitar. The Bible lesson is prepared with both kids and parents in mind, and it always includes lots of movement. We share a shortened version of Communion and then have either a game or a craft that the whole family can participate in. We close with a shared snack. The next Family Worship is Sunday September 11<sup>th</sup> at 4:30 pm.

— THE REV. GRETCHEN STROHMAIER  
ASSISTANT PRIEST

*Our next Family Worship takes place on Sunday, September 11, from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. It's lots of fun and is for families of all ages! Please join us.*





## Explorations:

Opportunities to cultivate, challenge and live our faith

## Build a connection. Join a small group!

Is it time for you to build a connection to a small group here at Holy Spirit? We know after coming through COVID that relationships are key. Relationships keep us centered and grounded and moving forward, and even though we know that, we (as a community at large) are finding it harder to participate in lots of things we did almost automatically in the past. It's as though we have gotten out of the habit, and it's tough to build back habits.

A small group may be able to help you with that. A group of people who know you and miss you when you are not there helps us to be committed. A group of people who are thinking about you and praying for you gives hope and encouragement to life. A group of people who actually know what's going on in your life, that is a gift indeed. Please pray about the possibility of participating in a small group here at church. We are in the planning stage for starting up at least

a couple of groups. We'll add more as interest builds. More details will be coming your way. Pray about the opportunity to participate in a small group. And reach out. Let Rev. Terri or Rev. Gretchen know if this is resonating with your needs at this time. You can reach them both at the church office, (406) 542-2167 or by email: Terri at [revterri@holyspiritmissoula.org](mailto:revterri@holyspiritmissoula.org) or Gretchen at [Gretchen@holyspiritmissoula.org](mailto:Gretchen@holyspiritmissoula.org).

### Small Groups:

- Build relationships with more depth (it's hard to really get to know people during fellowship time).
- Are often focused around a theme or topic area of interest.
- May be either short term or longer term.
- Offer a place to be real about your faith and the ups and downs of life.

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

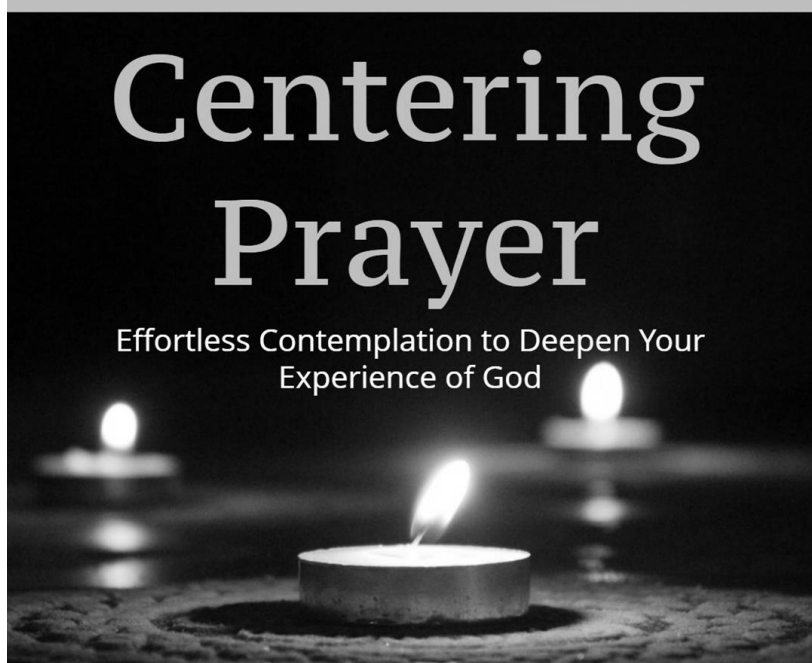
## Join us for Centering Prayer in September

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, September 20** in September. If you have any questions, please contact Willie Hoffer at 541-815-9609.

# Centering Prayer

Effortless Contemplation to Deepen Your Experience of God



## Season of Creation

The Season of Creation, an ecumenical movement to add an additional liturgical season, began some 20 years ago. Holy Spirit participated last year devoting the five Sundays between September 1 and October 4 to themes of creation. We will be doing so again this year. Get ready to learn from this planet we call our island home. It has so much to teach us about life, faith and our spirituality. Too often in the past

Christians believed that Church was a building and that Church was something that happened on Sunday morning within four walls. We recognize now that Church is so much bigger than a structure or one specific place. Join us in September as we celebrate and integrate the “cathedral of the trees” into our Sunday worship.

– 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!**



## Creation Care Ministry Join us for a labyrinth walk in September!

The Creation Care team would like to invite you to join us for a labyrinth walk at the Victor Labyrinth on Saturday, September 10, at 10 a.m. This contemplative program will be led by Zara Renander from Holy Spirit. The Victor Labyrinth is a

beautiful location just west of Victor, MT. Enjoy the spectacular mountain views as you slow down and focus spiritually.

Contact Warren Gartner if you have any questions: (317) 872-2431 or [kwgartner@sbcglobal.net](mailto:kwgartner@sbcglobal.net).



**What are you thankful for?**

Our Fall Ingathering for the United Thank Offering (UTO) will take place on Sunday, September 25, at both services. Special envelopes will be in the pews that day for your donations, and you can bring your Blue Boxes to church and place them in the basket at the back of the church.

The monies raised from the thank offerings are given back in the form of grants in support of programs within the dioceses of The Episcopal Church and the Anglican Communion that address compelling human needs and supporting the alleviation of poverty.

**The UTO Prayer**

*Gracious God, source of all true joy; accept we pray, these outward signs of our profound and continuing thankfulness for all life. Keep each of us ever thoughtful for all the blessings of joy and challenges that come our way. Bless those who will benefit from these gifts through the outreach of the United Thank Offering. This we ask through Him who is the greatest gift and blessing of all, Jesus Christ. Amen.*

Creation Care Ministry  
**The Hess Family's journey to solar**

John and Valerie Hess had been interested in solar for a number of years. In 1976, they thought it could be a viable option but wasn't practical then. In 1986, they saw that the technology had improved, but it was still too expensive for them. In addition, their local historic landmark regulations posed administrative problems.

Although the costs had come down considerably by 2016, the same administrative obstacles kept them from installing solar where they were living in Colorado.

In 2020, they relocated to Lolo, into a house that had a south-facing roof. They decided the time was right to reconsider solar in a more realistic light! Early in 2022, encouraged by seeing the solar panel installation on Holy Spirit Church, they decided to make the move to solar power. They selected a contractor (the same outfit that installed the solar panels at Hellgate High School and Holy Spirit) and made a deposit on a

system designed to support 99% of their current energy usage. They still have room to add a couple more solar panels when they eventually get an electric car.

In April 2002, the installation was quickly accomplished by the efficient SBS solar crew (shown in the photo below). After the federal tax rebate (unfortunately the state of Montana recently discontinued solar system rebates), their total cost was \$10,000. John and Valerie are thrilled to finally to have achieved the dream of their own solar home! And it sounds like their neighbors are planning to follow their lead.

If anyone has questions for them about their journey to solar, they are happy to discuss the matter after church during Coffee Hour. Many thanks to John and Valerie for sharing their story!

– LANCE COLLISTER  
 CREATION CARE MINISTRY





## Stories from the border Visiting with Border Patrol Agents

Our Rio Grande pilgrimage included two visits with U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) agents – the folks we call “the Border Patrol.” The first session was in a park in El Paso that abuts the infamous wall; the second was at a Border Patrol office in Alpine, Texas, a rural community 80 miles north of the Mexican border. For me, these visits were immensely thought-provoking, requiring that I suspend preconceived notions of the CBP and hear the agents’ messages with an open heart and mind.

Begun in the 1920s in response to prohibition, today Border Patrol oversees 328 US ports. The agents reinforced the enormity of their tasks and the stress entailed in covering huge geographic areas (that includes rivers and desert) with an understaffed workforce. The agents are one element of a three-pronged approach to border protection that also includes surveillance and physical barriers such as the wall. They described a complicated, fragmented immigration system, with frequently changing rules and myriad agencies, including ICE, having authority for parts of the process.

The agents willingly shared the emotional side of border patrol work. In warm and engaging exchanges, they said they became agents because of a desire to serve. They are proud of their work of “keeping the border secure while (re)unifying families” but described their jobs as difficult and scary. Each relayed experiences that haunt them, describing “rescues” where they saved lives and “recoveries” where they located bodies of those who died crossing the border. One agent wiped tears from his eyes as he described having had “blood on his badge.”

The agents said they often feel at odds with policies they swore to uphold, and they wish for reform of antiquated US immigration laws so they can focus on corrupt individuals who should not enter our country.

I left our meetings with a mixture of thoughts and emotions, recognizing that these CBP agents are human beings trying to do untenable jobs in a confusing and complex environment. I took to heart their message that their effectiveness – and the plight of asylum seekers – would improve with better national policies.

– JEANNE TWOHIG, PILGRIM

## RIO GRANDE BORDERLANDS MINISTRY: Really See People

During our springtime pilgrimage to the southern border one of the mantras that kept resounding in my head was: see people, really see people. It was an admonition that I gleaned through observation. I am not sure that any of the leaders we met at the border actually told us to take the time to really see people, but over and over they demonstrated it for us. By closely observing others over time, they had developed their compassion skills in notable ways. I guess I hadn’t really been aware previously that one’s compassion could grow. I thought you were either compassionate or not. I learned that close observation of someone else, together with a thoughtful question to honestly learn more about their life situation, can build significant compassion muscles, whether you are working with asylum seekers or the border patrol. The challenge is to move more slowly in life so there is time to really see others, to absorb a little bit about them, to become curious about their story.

I am betting that you’ve had an experience in your life, a time in which someone really saw you. It’s notable when this sort of thing happens. I thought about this recently, at the reception after John Talbot’s memorial service. If you knew John, I bet you’ve had the experience of being *seen* by him. He had a slow and thoughtful way of recognizing the people around him. It wasn’t big and showy, but just for a moment you were aware that you had been seen, even held for an instant by his acknowledgement. This is a gift, one that is well worth emulating.

– REVEREND GRETCHEN



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**YOU  
CAN  
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LIFE**

**GIVE  
BLOOD**

**Holy Spirit  
Blood Drive**

Location - Parish Hall  
130 South 6th Street East

**Thursday, September 22**  
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