

## Holy Spirit Vestry Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, June 8, 2022

Members present via Zoom: Mark Dvarishkis, Clem Work, Rev. Terri Grotzinger, Warren Gartner, Mary Beth Jourdonnais, Holly Swartz, John Crowley, Audrey Murray, Tanya Lodahl, Kara Hanson, Nancy Errebo, and Caitlin Sherman

- 1) Opening prayer led by Mary Beth
- 2) Consent Agenda
  - a. **Motion to accept the consent agenda items, seconded, approved.**
- 3) No parishioner concerns or correspondence to discuss
- 4) No report from the Memorial Foundation
- 5) Financial report
  - a. Mark and Connie chose to group larger gifts in the “other operating income” line on the balance sheet. Those gifts mean we are still ~\$60,000 over our budgeted income.
  - b. Mark noticed that a few expenses are slightly over budget, like website expenses and lawn & garden. He will look into those. The assistant priest travel expenses are over budget because the costs for the Borderland pilgrimage were not originally budgeted for.
    - i. We are still operating with a ~\$62,000 surplus.
  - c. There have been some improvements in our investments but the Market is still very volatile.
  - d. We used Mary Blair funds for the solar panel project and have now received a \$40,000 grant from Northwestern Energy. We discussed whether or not that money need to be allocated into the MB funds and decided that it did not.
- 6) Old Business
  - a. Our contract with Push Pay is due for renewal on June 29. Connie and Judy spoke with the rep about how we can see more info about who our app is reaching.
    - i. **Motion to renew the contract for another year, seconded, and approved.**
  - b. Affordable housing exploration
    - i. After the parish meeting it is apparent that we need to move slowly. We are living in a time of very strong emotions and opinions, where people are just trying to find any semblance of returning to normal. Some concerns that were brought up include: traffic, parking, the scope of the project, could this harm the neighborhood more than help, and what will the city allow.
    - ii. Going forward the committee will send out a survey and will plan more open times for discussion.
  - c. The RGBM fundraiser was very successful. Around 73 people were there and raised \$3300.
    - i. Another fiesta was held down in Hamilton and next week some of the pilgrims will travel to Lewistown to share their stories.
  - d. Properties update

- i. Work on sealing the outside of the church will begin in July and the proceed to the indoor repairs.
      - ii. Mark received a bid for refinishing the Parish Hall floors, \$3 per square foot.
      - iii. The new tables that the Rummage Sale committee asked for have already been very helpful. Terri will look into getting more.
    - e. Convention Planning
      - i. Nancy is looking into the meeting rooms at the Holiday Inn but the main person she needs to speak with has been out.
      - ii. The Diocese would like the menu to be finalized by July in order to put it up on the website.
      - iii. The Diocese will be offering scholarships for rooms at the Holiday Inn on a first come, first serve basis.
      - iv. Terri and Bishop Marty hope to have the liturgical side of the planning done by the end of June.
    - f. Check ins
      - i. Warren received some hesitancy from the Stewardship committee but they will help with calls. He also has the list of people that helped Gretchen make calls during the start of the pandemic.
    - g. Directory
      - i. Kirk is working through some issues that arose from the first test groups and has been going above and beyond to help parishioners.
      - ii. There really aren't many non-digital options for this type of directory any more.
      - iii. We are still planning on having some sessions in the parish hall to help any parishioners that need it.
    - h. Montessori School
      - i. Terri, Mark, and Clem met with Anna Sanor to get an update on how things are going. Overall, the arrangement is going very well for everyone involved.
        - 1. Instead of humidifiers, they actually got a grant and purchased air purifiers.
      - ii. Anna asked if we could authorize a longer lease and add into the contract that we would give them 12-18 months notice if we need them to move out.
      - iii. **Motion to up the Montessori School's lease to 2 years and add a clause stipulating a 12-18 month notice to end the lease, seconded, and approved.**
- 7) New Business
  - a. Insurance
    - i. Who can we have review the information? We may need to reach out to the greater Episcopal Church for assistance.
  - b. Annual review of buildings and inventory
    - i. Mark to work on

- ii. Should we consider how we store the documents from this process? They are currently stored in a physical binder in the office, should we invest in a fire safe or store them digitally?
  - c. St Paul agreement
    - i. The current arrangement is working very well. Terri wants to find ways to get more lay people involved in our spiritual education programs in order to free Gretchen up to spend more time and energy on pastoral care.
  - d. Courtyard Sale on August 27
    - i. Intake of donations will take place the week before.
  - e. The Holiday Market committee is exploring having a small table at the convention.
  - f. Camas Bloom outing on June 18
  - g. We will review the annual audit information at our August meeting.
  - h. The Church Picnic is scheduled for August 7 at the pavilion by the horse shoes by Fort Missoula.
    - i. The Creation Care ministry would like to have some environmentally conscious activities for kids.
- 8) The next Vestry meeting is scheduled for August 10 at Pat Cole's house.

Respectfully submitted

Caitlin Sherman  
Clerk of the Vestry

**June Rector's Report to Vestry**

No report.  
Faithfully,

Rev. Terri Ann Grotzinger, Rector

## June Assistant Priest's Report to Vestry

**Pastoral Care.** I provided pastoral care for 9 individuals/families in May.

**Communication.** I met with the personnel committee to review our shared ministry agreement between Holy Spirit and St. Paul's. We brainstormed ways the two churches could work together and benefit one another's ministries in meaningful ways. Participated in one staff meeting.

**Diocese.** I participated in one diocese-wide zoom call in May. I participated in the Clericus meeting to discuss small group ministry.

**Community.** Worked with staff to reach out to Hope Gospel Mission for potential collaboration and/or support of local homeless population.

**Worship.** I presided at Sunday worship once in May. I presided at worship once up at Camp Marshall for the Women's Retreat.

### Spiritual Formation:

**Adult Ed.** Offered a weekend retreat at Camp Marshall for women from both Holy Spirit and St. Paul's. Eleven women participated. It provided a nice opportunity for intimacy and community building.

Met with Lucia Work to discuss options for a support role at Holy Spirit during the Higgins Ave bridge rededication (in July). Learned later that the celebration of the bridge is being postponed because the bridge is not making sufficient progress to warrant a July celebration.

**Creation Care.** I participated in the monthly Creation Care meeting for coordination and communication among ministries. We had a guest, Rev. Robin Biffle. She informed the group about her experience and process for offering Wonderful Walks and Holy Hikes to her congregation.

**Social Concerns.** I attended the monthly Social Concerns meeting for collaboration and coordination of ministries. Met with other pilgrims who went to the southern border to discuss potential next steps to support Rio Grande Borderlands Ministries.

**Children's Ministry.** Confirmed a date for our first Family Worship Service, Sunday June 26<sup>th</sup> 4:30 – 5:30 pm. Collaborated with parishioners to invite children to Grace Camp at Camp Marshall.

**Continuing Education & Self Care.** I participated in my monthly spiritual direction group and I met with my spiritual companion once and my spiritual director once. I had a weekend away with my extended family in May (Memorial Day weekend). I am currently reading, *The God Who Sees: Immigrants, the Bible, and the Journey to Belong* and *Church of the Wild: How Nature Invites Us into the Sacred*. I read up on small group ministry during the month of May.

Submitted by: Rev. Gretchen Strohmaier

## June Vestry Ministry Reports

### A) Communications – Clem Work (Judy Parock, Chair)

May and the beginning of June have been busy times with a number of church events taking place. Here's what has been happening this past month:

- **Women's Retreat, May 13-15:** The poster we created for the Women's Retreat was also used as the source material for the website rotator for the retreat. These were posted on the church website, and we created a Facebook event for the retreat to create more interest. We used some of these images on the retreat registration form so that all the materials had a unified look, and we shared these materials with St. Paul's in Hamilton. The event was successful, with 12 women from St. Paul's in Hamilton and Holy Spirit attending. Photos from the event were posted on the church Facebook page.
- **Parking Lot Discussion on May 22:** After receiving from Molly Bowler a piece promoting the Parish Parking Lot Discussion on May 22, I created a rotator and event image to use in the promotion of the discussion. A poster was also created and put around the church buildings to promote the discussion. I created a Facebook event for the discussion and invited parishioners to participate. Copies of Clem Work's Frequently Asked Questions handout has been posted to the "Housing in Missoula" page of the website, along with Clem's presentation, "Building for the Future: Learn More about the Affordable Housing Project" and an audio recording of the Q and A portion of the May 22 parking lot meeting. Over 50 parishioners attended the May 22 meeting, and a short synopsis of the meeting was posted in the Spirited Times for those unable to attend. This "Housing in Missoula" page of the website is easily accessible from the parking lot panel on the homepage of the website, and all of the current information is located there.
- **RGBM Fiesta and Fundraiser on June 1:** Signups for the dinner and fundraiser began on May 15 and continued throughout May. The information that the dinner was free was included in the announcement for the event in the weekly Spirited Times and in the service leaflet. We also featured the event as the cover photo on the church Facebook page and used our Facebook event to invite parishioners to participate.
- **Pentecost Sunday, June 5:** We updated our poster for Pentecost Sunday that encourages folks to wear red for the celebration that Sunday. We also created a Facebook event for Pentecost Sunday and encouraged participation that way as well. Any photos from that Sunday will be posted to our church Facebook page.
- **Habitat Build Days on June 9 and 16:** We have posted the information from Bob Deaton regarding the need for volunteers for this summer's Habitat Build in the Spirited Times and the Sunday service leaflet. The information is also available on our website with a rotator on the homepage taking you to an event page with more information on how to sign up.
- **Promotion of Creation Care Field Trip to Packer Meadows on June 18:** As we did last year, we held off on the publicity for the Packer Meadows field trip until after the Creation Care container gardening workshop had taken place. Again, we created a rotator for the homepage of the website that linked to an event page with detailed information about the field trip and how to sign up. These field trips by the Creation Care Ministry offer wonderful opportunities for members of our congregation to enjoy and take note of the beauty that surrounds us every day.
- **Change to Summer Schedule:** Summer Office Hours with the office closing on Fridays began with Memorial Day weekend. We updated our office hours on the church Facebook page and created a post to use on the Facebook page with that information as well. We also posted the office hours information on the church app. When we switch to the summer worship schedule with services at 9 a.m. on June 12 we will update the service time information on the homepage of the website. I've had an announcement regarding the change in service times in both the Spirited Times and the weekly service leaflet. We will also update the information on the Episcopal Asset Map so visitors can access that information as well.

– Judy Parock

B) Holiday Market/Outdoor Fall Festival – Caitlin Sherman (Marva Gallegos)

No report from Holiday Market.

– Bob Wattenberg and Sue Lowery, Co-Chairs

C) Parish Life – Mary Beth Jourdonnais (Kathy Swannack, Coffee Hours; Anne Cohen, receptions)

**Reception committee report:** There was one memorial reception held in May, the first one since September 2019.

– Anne Cohen

**Coffee Hours:** Rev. Terri has been talking about returning to post-service hospitality, but no plans have been made as yet.

– Kathy Swannack, Coffee Hour Coordinator

D) Properties – (Margaret Borg and Kevin Borg, co-chairs)

**Properties/Buildings Report:** After the cold weather earlier this spring, the outside water has been turned back on for the sprinkler system.

E) Rummage Sale – Holly Swartz (Marva Gallegos, Chair)

The Rummage Sale group met June 2 to discuss a sale for this year. We decided we would like to hold a one-day sale in the courtyard on August 27. We will start accepting items and setting up in the hall on August 23. More details will follow in the Spirited Times and the Paraclete.

– Marva Gallegos, Chair

F) Social Concerns – Audrey Murray (Jim Wiley, Chair).

Group met on June 7, and report will be forthcoming.

– Jim Wiley, Chair

G) Spiritual Formation – Nancy Errebo (Gretchen Strohmaier, Chair)

See Assistant Priest's report.

**Youth Ministry:** May has been a busy month for all involved in the youth group. Between families going on weekend trips and wrapping up spring sports there has not been much of a chance for us to get together. Unfortunately, because of this I have only been able to get all involved to one meeting this past month. I hope this won't continue throughout the summer, but we all know how much Missoulians enjoy the warm weather. Just the other day I did have an idea to increase numbers, many churches are probably having the same issues as I am with low numbers coming out of Covid. Maybe they haven't had youth group, and I am thinking I will reach out and see if I can fold some kids into our program. That's all I have for now,

– Lewis Myers, Youth Director

H) Stewardship – Pat Cole (Barb Hosier, Chair)

The Stewardship Committee continues to work on the plan to provide an online directory for Holy Spirit Parish. Kirk Johnson is working with Elizabeth Serviss in finalizing details. Members of the Vestry and the Stewardship Committee have received the invitations to register with Realm. Kirk has created very specific instructions for the process of registering, and we will continue to refine and answer specific questions about the registration.

I also wish to apprise the Vestry that I am passing the baton as chair of this committee. I am blessed to have been a part of this ministry for several years. Terri will announce a new chair.

– Barbara Hosier

## Stewardship Committee

- I) Creation Care Ministry – Warren Gartner (Karen Simons Gartner, Chair)  
Creation Care Agenda  
19 May 2022 noon Via Zoom

Present: Robin Biffle, Karen Simons Gartner, Warren Gartner, Pat King, Katre Laney, Sue Lowry, Gretchen Strohmaier

Opening prayer: Robin Biffle opened by explaining how she incorporated the Benedictine practice of thanking God for natural items on her walks. Also, using Book by Joan Stittister, practice of statio (being still and acknowledging the present), also being of service (picking up litter, helping neighbors) 4 areas of focus.

Wonder-Full walks made them more formalized.

Included 3+ minutes of silence.

Had several 30 second meditations along the walk.

Scheduled one midweek, one weekend, and mixed up times (Saturday morning was consistent every other week).

Sent out a monthly schedule.

Confirmed with sign ups 1-2 days ahead.

45-90 minutes.

Most days the average age of the average walker was 55.

Holy Hikes (is a registered trademark)

evolved from Wonderful-walks

Includes a eucharist afterward. Eventually did the eucharist in stages during the hike.

Sometimes alternated Holy Hikes and Wonderful-Walks

Walked in a counterclockwise motion to purge evil, clockwise to invite the spirit. Did both directions (these are Celtic and Native traditions).

Need multiple leaders

1. Holy Spirit Sustainable practices
  - a. Solar power for church
    - i. Convention tour would be Friday afternoon during the convention.
    - ii. Creating a banner - Warren - Ask Kirk about the dove
  - b. Recycling
    - i. How do we get started with new recycling?
    - ii. Tubs - ordered.
      1. Kate - Printing signs
      2. Article in ST (great job Kate)
      3. Kate got a Butterfly grant to pay for containers.
  - c. [Holy Hikes](#)
    - i. Gretchen will consider them.
2. Getting info to members to help them live more sustainably.
  - a. Paraclete
    - i. Off for the summer
  - b. Container gardening day - May 22.
    - i. Went great
    - ii. More people took plants than planted containers.
3. Community voice
  - a. Diocesan Convention

- i. offer early morning bird hikes, get folks outside.
  - ii. Offer a map of local hike trails and destinations that participants can take during breaks in the conference.
  - iii. Add stop at church for contemplative prayer
  - iv. All cleared with the diocese.
  - v. Can have a table with information.
- 4. Fun opportunities
  - a. June 18 - Camas Bloom at Lolo Pass -have had several people respond.
    - i. Flowers may not be at peak.
    - ii. Will meet in the visitor's center for initial video.
  - b. August 7 - Parish picnic.
    - i. Possible activities: Build a solar oven, take a nature walk.
    - ii. Who is in charge - Sue looking for a location
  - c. August - Travelers Rest tour
    - i. no cost
    - ii. Can focus on native plants
    - iii. Set a date?
  - d. September? - Zara Renander has offered to lead a field trip to the labyrinth in Victor.
  - e. October - Karen Shelley could do a walking tour of the U of M campus. Gretchen will mention it to her.
  - f. Taser gardens - Kate to find out more - open from 10-6, have herbs and medicinal plants. Have a high tea. Quite a drive.
  - g. Milltown dam
  - h. Lee Metcalf
  - i. Possibly a group camp out? Sue will check out options
  - j. Council Grove.
  - k. Bear Tracks Bridge Opening date postponed
- 5. Other business
  - a. new members - Gretchen reached out to Sue LaRose and Abigail Carey
  - b. other?

Next meeting June 16, 2022

– Karen Simons Gartner