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A publication of Holy Spirit Episcopal Church



Sign up to be a delegate to Diocesan Convention to be held September 30-October 2, hosted by Holy Spirit Episcopal Church, Missoula. Holy Spirit is entitled to the Annual Meeting on February 6. If you are interested in representing Holy Spirit at the Diocesan Convention, please call the church Office, 406-542-2167,

September 30 to October 2

Missoula, Montana

For more information: (406) 542-2167 ww.holyspiritmissoula.org

Sign up to be a delegate to Diocesan Convention

The next Diocesan Convention will be held September 30-October 2 in Missoula, hosted by Holy Spirit Episcopal Church. At this convention we will be caring for the business of the diocese. We will elect delegates and alternates to the convention at the Annual Meeting on Sunday, February 6. Holy Spirit is entitled to 7 delegates to Diocesan Convention; alternates are also needed as people's plans change during the year. Our number of delegates changed due to changes made to the Diocesan Canons. Any interested parish member who is willing to serve in this capacity should notify the church office at (406) 542-2167 by Wednesday, February 2.

A virtual meeting again this year!

Parish begins new year at Annual

Meeting on February 6

Please mark Sunday, February 6, 2022, on your calendar as the date we will hold our Annual Meeting! As with most of 2021, we will hold this meeting virtually, and it will be a briefer meeting to conduct the specific voting required to elect new Vestry members and the Parish Representative to the Holy Spirit Memorial Board and review the 2022 budget. More details will follow as we determine what is necessary to effectively handle the annual business of the parish. We will design the worship of the day and the Annual

Meeting in concert with one another, but without the traditional time of fellowship and sharing lunch in the Parish Hall.

Do save the date and plan to attend this very important Annual Meeting. In addition to electing new members to the Vestry, delegates to next fall's Diocesan Convention will also be elected. This is your church meeting, and we hope you will join us virtually to help get the year off to a great start for our parish!

- REV. TERRI

HOLY SPIRIT | EPISCOPAL CHURCH

ANNUAL MEETING

A virtual Annual Meeting this year Stay tuned for details

February 6, 2022



PARACLETE

OUR STAFF

Clergy:

The Rev. Terri Ann Grotzinger, Rector

revterri @holyspiritmissoula.org The Rev. Gretchen Strohmaier,

Assistant Priest

Gretchen @holyspiritmissoula.org

The Rev. Dorcie Dvarishkis,

Deacon

dorcied@gmail.com

Organist/Choir Director:

Dr. Nancy Cooper

Youth Director:

Lewis Myers

Parish Administrator:

Judy Parock

office@holyspiritmissoula.org

Bookkeeper/Office Assistant:

Connie Gerke

Connie @holyspiritmissoula.org

Technology Specialist:

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jameswgartner@gmail.com

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Elizabeth Serviss serviss7@msn.com

Sexton: Lori Cordis

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.



EPISCOPAL CHURCH

130 South 6th Street East Missoula, MT 59801 406.542.2167 office@holyspiritmissoula.org www.holyspiritmissoula.org



Pilgrims seed dialogue, answers

Parishioners and clergy traveling to Texas and New Mexico along the U.S. – Mexico border later this month have some questions in mind — and they will be happy to seek answers to your questions as well.

The pilgrimage, as it is called, is taking place at the invitation of The Episcopal Church's Rio Grande Borderlands Ministry, based in El Paso. The purpose is to learn about the collaborative ministries of the Episcopal Church on the border, to understand the experience of migration from the perspective of migrants themselves, to deepen our understanding of what it means to welcome people who are different from ourselves, and thus to discern ways that Episcopalians in Montana can support RGBM relief, advocacy, and development ministries.

Those going to the border in late January include Bishop Marty Stebbins and her husband, Bob, Rev. Terri Grotzinger, Paul and Lynda Nelson, James Gartner, Audrey Murray, and Clem Work

The travelers from Missoula, Stevensville, Hamilton, and Helena will visit shelters on both sides of the border, talk to migrants and asylumseekers, shelter workers, and border enforcement personnel, and familiarize themselves with the work of RGBM. Here are some questions for which they seek some answers:

- Who are the people who choose to make such a risky journey, uprooting families and leaving their past behind?
- What really goes on at the border? What are the people involved in the current story like?
- How can we provide sustaining support to the Rio Grande Borderlands Ministries?
- How we can engage others in this ministry, within our own parishes and across Montana?
- How do we develop relationships that can inform migration ministry in other circumstances and into the future?

If you have other questions you would like the travelers to seek answers to, please email organizers Audrey Murray at

<u>audreymurray196@gmail.com</u> or Clem Work at clem.work@gmail.com.

Read more about the Vestry nominees in the Sunday bulletin

The members of Holy Spirit Episcopal Church will be electing five members to the Vestry at the Annual Meeting on February 6. Four will each serve a three-year term, and one will fill out an unexpired term. Those accepting nomination to the Vestry are: Patricia Cole, Mark Dvarishkis, Tanya Lodahl, Audrey Murray, and Kara Robinson. We will print profiles of the nominees in the January bulletins and in the *Spirited Times*, our e-newsletter.



Consider making a King's cake this year

Explore Epiphany with your kids

Epiphany presents a great opportunity for family exploration together with your children. It comes immediately after the short season of Christmas on the church calendar. It is during Epiphany that we celebrate the three wise men finding their way to Jesus. We think of a dark night and a bright star. We think of Jesus coming for everyone (even for three foreign kings—not just for God's people, Israel). We think of journey, discovery, and gift.

Some families celebrate Epiphany with King's cake. At our house we have used a favorite coffee cake recipe and baked it in a Bundt pan which is reminiscent of a crown. There are various traditions; some include, baked into the cake, a small plastic baby.

Others put a ring (symbolizing a king's crown) into the cake batter. Either way the person who gets the piece of cake with the special trinket is the king. As king, or queen, he or she has special rights and responsibilities. Your family can get creative here. Some traditions suggest that the king make a speech, noting the most important events within the family over the last year. It's quite fun to hear the year in review from a child's perspective! Older children or adults may prefer to make a "speech" about what they are seeking or working towards in the next year; either way, have fun and enjoy the season of Epiphany.

- THE REV. GRETCHEN STROHMAIER ASSISTANT PRIEST

Here's what is happening in Church School this month

Here are the lectionarybased lessons that the children will hear during January:

Sunday January 2 Jesus the Word, John1:10-18

Sunday January 9 Jesus' Baptism, Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

Sunday January 16
Wedding at Cana, John 2:1-11

Sunday January 23 Jesus Goes to Nazareth, Luke 4:14-30

nno

Volunteer Opportunities in Church School

We are recruiting new volunteers to help as substitutes and as leaders in our Church School program. Ideally, leaders would serve once every 5-6 weeks. Join a great team of committed people who are excited about sharing God's love with our kids. Please pray about this opportunity within your own life and reach out to Reverend Gretchen if you are interested. The diocese requires background checks and Safeguarding God's Children training (to prevent sexual abuse of children). New volunteers will shadow seasoned leaders as they learn to lead children's worship and find a style and rhythm that suits their gifts and skills. We look forward to sharing the joy of Church School with others in our parish.



Explorations:

Opportunities to cultivate, challenge and live our faith

The Good Book Club returns in Epiphany with the Book of Exodus

This year the focus for study will be the Book of Exodus. The second book of the Bible, Exodus recounts the journey of the Israelites from slavery to freedom. We hear the great stories of Moses, from his discovery by Pharoah's daughter on the bank of the river to the burning bush to his presentation of the Ten Commandments. Along the way, we encounter God's covenant and explore the grand theme of redemption.

This year the Good Book Club will dive into the first twenty chapters of Exodus from Epiphany, January 6, to Shrove Tuesday, March 1. For those who want to keep reading, we'll offer a daily reading guide and an overview of the second half of Exodus. That reading period will conclude on Easter.

Make plans now to join Forward Movement and partner organizations from across The Episcopal Church to study the Book of Exodus during Epiphany. This link https://www.goodbookclub.org/get-involved/ enables you to receive updates on Exodus. And you can view

and download readings here: https://www.goodbookclub.org/readings/.

Resources to support your study:

- This Week in Exodus: Weekly emails by Forward Movement will preview the upcoming readings to provide context and background. The emails also will feature the ministries of partner organizations. To sign up for this resource visit: https://www.goodbookclub.org/get-involved/.
- Introducing Exodus with Vicki Garvey: For six weeks this Epiphany, meet with other students from around the world for a live, online class on the Book of Exodus with Vicki Garvey, a respected teacher and author and canon for lifelong education at the

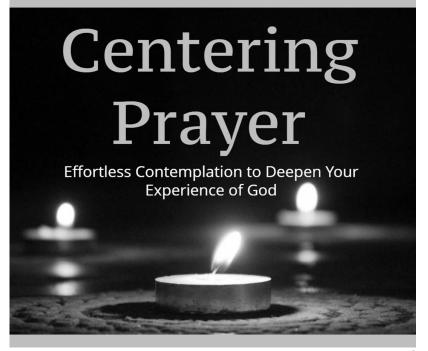
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Centering Prayer meets the third Tuesday of the month at 4 p.m.

Join us for Centering Prayer in January

Centering Prayer meets again on January 18 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 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.



Coming in February...

Scribes, Scripts and Scrolls, Parchment and Papyrus: The Bible from Then until Now

Plan now to attend Rev. Tom Lee's four-session class on Tuesday evenings in February: 1st, 8th, 15th, and 22nd from 6:30 to 8:00 pm.

The history of how written texts of Jewish scripture and the New Testament have come down to us over the centuries is a fascinating one. It includes the chance discovery of ancient manuscripts in monastery libraries and synagogue storerooms, the copying errors commonly made by scribes, and the judgment call translators are forced to make even today when they encounter an unfamiliar word or phrase in the biblical text. In this four-part class, then, we'll explore some of this history. We'll look at some specific examples from both the Old and New Testaments where variations from one ancient manuscript to another may produce different readings for a given passage. How then do translators decide which is to be preferred?

Session 1—The languages in which the Bible was first written, writing materials, and the scribal craft.

Session 2—The Bible in Hebrew.

Session 3—The Hebrew Bible in Greek, Latin, and Aramaic.

Session 4—The Greek New Testament.

The class will meet in the parish hall with room for lots of spacing, and of course, please plan to wear your mask.

Please contact the church office to **sign up by Thursday January 27th**; (406) 542-2167 or office@holyspiritmissoula.org.



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Episcopal Diocese of Chicago. Vicki will teach about the context and themes of the Book of Exodus. Classes will meet live on Thursdays at 8 p.m. EST starting January 6. To register visit: https://www.churchnext.tv/li brary/live-course-the-bookof-exodus-with-vicki-

garvey-173158/377724/about/

Explore Exodus at
Home: Building Faith, a
ministry of Lifelong
Learning at Virginia
Theological Seminary, and
GrowChristians, an online
community of faith, have
partnered to prepare weekly
activities for adults and
children to explore the Book
of Exodus. Visit
GrowChristians.org to
download the activities or to
sign up for the weekly email.



A Blessing of Homes

Gertrud Mueller Nelson in her book, *To Dance with God*, reminds us that Epiphany is a time to think about a house blessing. Here's a simplified version:

Leader: Peace be on the house. **All:** And on all who live here.

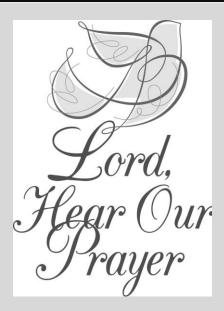
Leader: You used the light of a star to show all nations and peoples your only-begotten son, O God. Allow us to know you and to recognize the epiphanies in our lives

All: All nations will walk in your light and kings in the brilliance of your splendor.

Leader: Bless, O Lord, this household and family. Help us to live in the shelter of this house in peace and health. Inspire us to learn and grow here so that we may contribute to the peace and health of the world around us. Make our house a haven for friends and visitors. Enlighten us with the brilliance of your Epiphany star so that as we leave this house we might clearly see our way to you in our work and in our play.

All: For yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. **Amen.**

It's traditional to close the blessing with the sign of the cross and to use chalk to write the initials of the three wise men (Caspar, Melchior, Balthasar) over the main doors of the house. Their initials are framed by the numbers of the new year. This is what it might look like over your door: 20 CMB 22



We're updating our Prayer List

An important part of our worship at Holy Spirit is the opportunity to pray by name for people in need. We pray for members of our congregation and for many others for whom our prayers are requested. On January 2. we will make a fresh start with the Prayer List included in the Sunday Prayers of the People. In order to keep our prayers current and meaningful, we are asking for your help. If there is someone whose name you would like to have on the list. please give that information to Judy Parock

(office@holyspiritmissoula.org).

The renewed list will include only the names which have been sent to us and the names of our shut-in parishioners. We will renew the list again in six months' time. People may remain on the Prayer List for as long as necessary because we know and understand that many needs are ongoing. However, when someone is ready to be removed from the list, we ask that you let us know. Thank you for your help and for your understanding.

Bring your donations on January 9, 16 and 23

Socks, gloves and hats needed for homeless men and women

As we all ring in 2022 with new, hopeful resolutions, let's commit to continuing an important Holy Spirit Parish tradition—collecting warm socks, winter hats, scarves, and gloves for residents of the Poverello Center. This is an especially tough time of year for residents at the Pov, as these men and women spend many of their daytime hours in our cold, blustery winter weather. (For those new to our parish family, the Poverello Center provides shelter to members of Missoula's homeless and underserved population.) Since 2016, Holy Spirit parishioners have collected new and gently used woolen socks, comfy hats, cozy scarves and toasty gloves for our brothers and sisters in need. This year, the drive will begin on Sunday, January 9, and run through Sunday, January 23.

While we appreciate all donations, wool or synthetic socks are best. Please avoid cotton socks; they make feet perspire and leave the wearer with cold, damp feet. Hand-knitted items are always welcome and much admired!

The red-and-white striped box festooned with dangling hats plus socks and gloves that long ago lost their mates will be back in the parish hall awaiting your donations. We also will have a plastic bin on the front porch outside the church office for those who would prefer to make donations after hours. Several parishioners generously kept bins on their front porches last year to collect winter apparel while the church was closed. If parishioners would like to do this again, or if new parishioners would like to be involved, please contact me at lucia.solowork@gmail.com. I am happy to deliver a bin and signage to your door.

This is an especially difficult time of year for Missoula's homeless population, and the Pov looks forward to Holy Spirit's bountiful and much needed donations. Please be generous. Thank you.

– LUCIA SOLORZANO WORK SOCIAL CONCERNS COMMITTEE

Donation boxes are on the church porch or in the parish hall. Please be generous!

Help provide socks and gloves for Missoula's homeless



Please donate a pair of men's and/or women's socks and gloves or warm hats

January on the church porch or in the parish hall

Holy Spirit's Winter Blood Drive set for February 3

Please schedule your blood donation today

Holy Spirit Parish will host its annual winter blood drive on **Thursday, February 3, from 1:00 – 6:00 p.m.** in the Parish Hall.

According to the American Red Cross:

Every two seconds, someone in the U.S. needs blood. Blood is essential to help patients survive surgeries, cancer treatment, chronic illnesses, and traumatic injuries. This lifesaving care starts with one person making a generous donation. The need for blood is constant. But only about 3% of age-eligible people donate blood yearly. You can help the American Red Cross make sure that supply meets demand.

The Red Cross provides about 40% of our nation's blood and blood components, all from generous volunteer donors. And since the time blood can be stored before it's used is limited, regular donation is needed to ensure that blood is always available when it is needed. The Red Cross continues to address a nationwide blood shortage. Donors of all blood types are needed to give now to ensure blood is available when patients need it.

You can sign up for an appointment to donate blood using the Red Cross online scheduling

system at www.redcrossblood.org or by contacting Elizabeth Drummond (406-240-8873;

eadrummond56@comcast.net).

The basic requirements to donate are:

- You must be in good health and feeling well.
- You must weigh at least 110 pounds.
- If you are not yet 18 years old, you must have a consent form signed by your parent or guardian. Additional height and weight restrictions apply to those 18 years or younger.
- The most frequent exclusions are for those who have traveled in certain foreign countries or have low iron (hematocrit count).

You may still donate blood after receiving a COVID-19 vaccine. You will need to provide the name of manufacturer of the vaccine you received when you come to donate.

If you have eligibility questions, you can call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or visit RedCrossBlood.org.

As usual, we need volunteers to register donors and serve refreshments. To volunteer, please contact Elizabeth. We look forward to seeing you at the Holy Spirit Parish Blood Drive!



The need is constant.

The gratification is instant.

Give blood.



Holy Spirit Winter Blood Drive

130 South 6th Street East Parish Hall

Thursday, February 3 1 p.m. – 6 p.m.

Sign up online at www.redcrossblood.org or at eadrummond56@comcast.net.



redcrossblood.org | 1-800-RED CROSS

Blood donors needed!

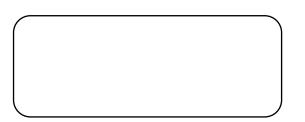
The blood supply in the United States has reached one of its lowest levels in recent years. The current state of the U.S. blood supply is particularly concerning amid the winter months – a time in which blood donations typically decrease due to travel, inclement weather and seasonal illnesses. Eligible donors can help overcome the critical need for blood and ensure blood is readily available by making an appointment to give at our blood drive by visiting

www.RedCrossBlood.org or by contacting Elizabeth Drummond (406-240-8873; eadrummond56@comcast.net).



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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



HOLY SPIRIT | EPISCOPAL CHURCH

ANNUAL MEETING

A virtual Annual Meeting this year Stay tuned for details

February 6, 2022

