



God willing and the people consenting

**The Standing Committee as
Ecclesiastical Authority
Welcomes**

The Rt. Rev. James E. Waggoner,

VIII Bishop of Spokane (retired)

Who, by the laying on of hands

and the Invocation of the Holy Spirit,

will ordain to the Sacred Order of the Priesthood

Gretchen Gina Strohmaier

You are cordially invited to join us to

celebrate this joyous occasion!

Saturday, February 23, 2019 at 1:00 PM

Holy Spirit Episcopal Church

130 South 6th St. East, Missoula Montana

A reception will follow in the Parish Hall

Clergy: red stoles

■ **WELCOME TO HOLY SPIRIT EPISCOPAL CHURCH**

Our Parish Life

Very soon we will mark **GRETCHEN STROHMAIER'S ORDINATION TO THE PRIESTHOOD** on Saturday, February 23 at 1 p.m. here at Holy Spirit. If you would like to recognize her accomplishment and contribute to a fund to help her with such things as clergy attire or other items she might need going forward, please write a check to HSP with "Gretchen Ordination Gift" in the memo line and place it in the offertory plate or mail it to the parish office. It's time to celebrate! **Please see the invitation on the back of this insert.**

Join us for a quiet celebration of the season of light. Please join us for **COMPLINE** tonight at 8 p.m. when we will celebrate the light of Christ in the world. The choir will begin the service with a 13th century plainchant setting of "Alleluia, song of gladness" and Ubi Caritas (God is Love).

IS YOUR SON OR DAUGHTER INTERESTED IN BECOMING AN ACOLYTE? Would you like your son or daughter to participate in our Sunday worship service? Maybe you would like to sign up as a family! If you are interested, please contact our new Acolyte Coordinator Mary Beth Jourdonnais at 406-370-4841 or mbjourdonnais@gmail.com.

Registering to be a donor at the **ANNUAL BLOOD DRAWING** begins today after both services and continues through February 17. Sign-up sheets will be available at the back of the church and in the parish hall at both Sunday services. The Holy Spirit Red Cross Blood Drive will be held on Thursday, February 21, from 1 p.m. to 6 p.m. in the parish hall. For those regular blood donors who want to give at our drawing, you need to know that December 27 was the last day to meet the Red Cross requirement to have at least 56 days in between blood donations. Please consider being a part of our Red Cross Blood Drive.

You'll notice that the **CHURCH SCHOOL IS BEGINNING A NEW FORMAT TODAY.** The children will begin worship with us in the church, then will leave for a short while for a child-specific sermon and will rejoin the larger congregation for Eucharist.

THE REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING OF THE VESTRY for February will take place on Wednesday, February 13, at 1 p.m. in the Guild Room. As always, Vestry meetings are open to all members of the parish. **The second Wednesday of the month at 1 p.m. will be the regular meeting day and time for the Vestry going forward.**

THE NEXT DATE FOR BAPTISM will be at our Easter Vigil service on Saturday, April 20, at the 7:30 p.m. service. If you are interested in baptism at

that time, either for yourself or for your child, please contact Rev. Terri. **The deadline for the April 20 baptism date is March 17.**

Writing Workshop

Social Concerns Committee invites interested parishioners to a second **LETTER-WRITING WORKSHOP** to put together letters from HSP to our state legislators to protect Medicaid Expansion. HSP is partnering with Missoula Interfaith Collaborative and Montana Association of Christians to advocate for those living at or below the poverty line, who depend on Medicaid Expansion for health care and would be greatly endangered if the State Legislature does not make Medicaid Expansion permanent this year. It is urgent that we convince our elected representatives to keep Medicaid Expansion in place for our state's most vulnerable people.

The most effective way to support them is to tell their stories. Come join us after church on Feb. 3rd, at 11:45 a.m. in the Guild Room to put stories into letters to our legislators about people we know or have heard about who have depended on Medicaid Expansion to keep their lives together and seen that support threatened. We will learn ways to organize and present these stories effectively in letters. And telling them would not mean revealing the identities of those involved. Do ask your friends and acquaintances if they have such stories to share, and please send these to Gretchen, so we can use them in our lobbying letters. Let's be a voice for the voiceless to those in power.

Explorations

The following Christian formation classes and programs offer a wide variety of educational opportunities aimed at helping us Cultivate, Challenge and Live our Faith

Are you new to Holy Spirit, or new to the Episcopal Church? Would you like to learn more about us or do you have questions about how to become a member? Please consider yourself invited to the next series of **INQUIRERS CLASSES** starting Sunday, February 3, at 9 a.m. between services and running concurrent Sundays through March 3 (if needed). We will meet in the Guild Room. See you there! ~ Rev. Terri

LOVE GOD, AND LOVE YOURSELF: A SMALL GROUP facilitated by Jody Thomasson—Join others once a month for a guided discussion. The first discussion will be:

I am worthy. During this session participants will explore what it means to be individuals cherished by God.

Participants must sign up by contacting Jody at ethomasson@mac.com. Hand-outs, including Scripture references and articles, will be provided prior to each session so participants can read and reflect ahead of time. The group is open to all adults. Meetings are scheduled on Monday evenings 6:00 – 7:30 p.m. on February 4, March 11, April 8, and May 13.

EVICTED: POVERTY AND PROFIT IN THE AMERICAN CITY by Matthew Desmond—Join facilitators Carla Mettling and Kate Laney for this book study. It started the end of January but feel free to join the group in progress. Check with the church office about availability of the book (\$13). The group meets on Wednesday evenings in the Guild Room from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. and runs through February 27th.

COME TO THE CENTERING PRAYER GROUP, led by Willie Hoffer and Jennifer Dousset. Our next gatherings are **Second Friday, February 8, at 12-1 p.m. and Third Tuesday, February 19, 4:30-5:30 p.m.** Come to either or both sessions! Centering Prayer is a meditation process in which we quiet our minds and open ourselves to our God. If you have any questions, please call Jennifer Dousset at 406-880-1680 or Willie Hoffer at 541-815-9609.

Youth Ministry

The next meeting of the **YOUTH GROUP** will be tonight, February 3, from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. in the parish hall. Please join us for pizza, games, fun and discussion. Come and bring your friends!

Update on the Bishop Search

THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE meets again in mid-February to review the video interviews conducted in January and determine which candidates to invite to the in-person discernment retreat scheduled for the first week of April.

The committee appreciates your continued prayers for our work and the candidates as we continue through the process. **MORE INFORMATION IS AVAILABLE** at www.diomontana.com/bishop-search. Please email your comments or questions to bishopsearch@diomontana.com.