In order for your **PLEDGE PAYMENTS** to appear on your 2018 statement, **your pledge payments must be received by 9 a.m. on Monday, December 31,** when the last deposit for the year will be made. Your pledge payments will also be posted to your 2018 statement if mailed pledge payments are postmarked by December 31, 2018.

Update on the Bishop Search

THANK YOU TO ALL those who provided suggestions, referrals, or nominations for bishop search candidates! While confidentiality requirements prevent disclosure of the total number, the Nominating Committee is pleased with how many candidates applied by the November 15 deadline. The Committee meets in early December to conduct the first screening, with interviews to occur in January. Thank you also for your continued prayers for guidance in this process. Please direct comments and questions to <u>bishopsearch@diomontana.com</u>.

For information on **THE BISHOP SEARCH**, check out the page at <u>www.diomontana.com/bishop-search</u>. Be sure to check back often for updates.

■ Holy Spirit's Clergy and Staff

Holy Spirit Episcopal Church 130 South 6th Street East • Missoula, MT 59801 Telephone: 406.542.2167 • Facsimile: 406.542.2982 email: office@holyspiritmissoula.org • website: www.holyspiritmissoula.org Office Hours: 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday Closed from 12 noon to 1 p.m.

The Rev. Terri Ann Grotzinger, *Rector*; revterri@holyspiritmissoula.org, 542.2167
The Rev. Judith Anderson, *Deacon*The Rev. Doug Anderson, *Deacon*The Rev. Myrna Chaney, *Deacon*The Rev. Anita Rognas, *Deacon*The Rev. Dorcie Dvarishkis, *Deacon*The Rev. Gretchen Strohmaier, *Deacon and Director of Spiritual Formation*Dr. Nancy Cooper, *Choir Director and Organist*P.J. Willett, *Youth Director*Judy Parock, *Parish Administrator*Jennifer Allen, *Interim Bookkeeper/Office Assistant*Elizabeth Serviss, *Interim Webmaster*Lori Cordis, *Sexton*

■ WELCOME TO HOLY SPIRIT EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Our Parish Life

THE SERVICE MUSIC has changed to reflect the changing liturgical season. In lieu of the Gloria, we will be singing the Trisagion (Holy God, holy and mighty), more in keeping with the sense of expectation and anticipation of Advent. The setting for the Sanctus (Holy, holy, holy Lord) also changes.

All you hungry Episcopalians can satisfy your sweet tooth at the **HOLIDAY MARKET BAKE SALE** taking place in the parish hall following both services today.

Along with its other business, **THE VESTRY WILL BE CONSIDERING THE 2019 BUDGET** at its next meeting on Thursday, December 13, and they need to have a clear idea of our income through pledging at that time. Extra pledge cards may be found at the end of each pew or in the literature rack at the back of the church. Please place your pledge card in the offering plate at either service today. Thank you! As always, Vestry meetings are open to all members of the parish. The proposed agenda is available on our website, www.holyspiritmissoula.org, in advance of the meeting.

THE NEXT DATE FOR BAPTISM will be Sunday, January 13, at the 10:15 a.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 January 13 baptism date is December 9.**

Sunday, December 9th, is our next **SUPPER CLUB POTLUCK**. If you haven't attended in the past, please consider coming. All are welcome. A great time is had by all. Plan to come around 5 p.m. to socialize and mingle with other guests. If you'd like a little wine during this social time, please bring a bottle to share. At 5:30, it's time for supper to begin. Please bring a covered hot dish or salad to share. That's all you need to bring. Everything else needed will be provided. Your hosts, Beverley and Frank Sherman and Anne and Stan Cohen, will provide desserts. Following dessert, enjoy Christmas Caroling with our own Dalton Anderson at the piano. We will be looking for January's host before the start of supper. Look at your calendar to see if you can host. Next supper club will be January 13, 2019.

It's almost time to transform our beautiful building and sanctuary into a Christmas fairyland of birds, bows, icicles, greens and glitter. There are many jobs that need doing to accomplish this, so **IF YOU ENJOY DECORATING FOR CHRISTMAS, PLEASE JOIN US ON WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 19 AT 9:30 A.M. IN THE CHURCH,** or join us that morning when you are able. A pizza lunch will be provided. If this interests you, please call Margaret Borg at 626-4785 to let her know you can help. ON SUNDAY, DECEMBER 23, ADVENT IV, WE WILL HAVE ONE SERVICE ONLY, AT 10:15 A.M. Church School will meet as usual that morning, but there will be no adult classes that day.

This year's **EARLY CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE** will be at 4 p.m. Our own Holy Spirit kids will lead us in remembering the Nativity Story. Any and all other children attending the service that night will be encouraged to participate. Halos and shepherd headdresses will be handed out at the door. Kids are welcome to wear the headgear during the service, and angels and shepherds will be invited to come up front and participate in the pageant as they so desire. Join us as we reenact this Holy Story. We pray for eyes and ears to truly take in the significance of Jesus's birth. The early Christmas Eve service is for people of all ages while meeting the needs of families with children. Our traditional **CHRISTMAS CHORAL EUCHARIST** will take place at 10 p.m. on Christmas Eve. **There are no services scheduled on Christmas Day, December 25.**

Warm Spirit Toiletry Drive

Warm Spirit member Rose Wiltse writes, "A student without toiletries may have low self-esteem because they are dirty and smell bad. It'll be hard for that student to make friends, and they won't enjoy school. Providing that student with things as simple as soap or shampoo could be life-changing for them. Please donate toiletries to the **WARM SPIRIT TOILETRY DRIVE** on the Sundays in December. Collection boxes are in the church, the parish hall and the church office. Please donate regular-size toiletries like: shampoo, conditioner, deodorant, soap, toothbrushes, toothpaste, hairbrushes, combs, lip balm, feminine hygiene products, razors, and fingernail clippers. Thank you so much for your support and participation!

Diocesan Convention Delegates

WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE A DELEGATE TO DIOCESAN

CONVENTION? Every year we elect 14 delegates to go to Diocesan Convention. This year is important in that the Convention will be held at the end of July instead of October due to the need to elect the next diocesan bishop as well as care for the business of the Diocese. All those wanting to be considered for election as a delegate will need to be available to do two things:

 Attend one of the walkabouts across the diocese sometime about two to three weeks prior to Diocesan Convention where candidates for Bishop who have been put forward by the Nominating Committee and approved by the Standing Committee will travel to talk with delegates and Episcopalians across the Diocese; and 2) Will be able to attend the Diocesan Convention July 25-28, 2019 in Bozeman.

Electing the next Bishop of this diocese is an important responsibility of elected delegates on behalf of the entire diocese. If you are able to meet these requirements and would like to be considered for election as a delegate from Holy Spirit Parish, please email Judy Parock, our Parish Administrator, at <u>office@holyspiritmissoula.org</u> by **December 17 at 9 a.m.** to let her know of your interest. She will compile a list of names for our Annual Meeting (January 27, 2019) where a final list of delegates and alternate delegates will be elected. Thank you for offering this your prayerful attention.

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

THE CENTERING PRAYER GROUP, led by Willie Hoffer and Jennifer Dousset, meets on the first Friday and third Tuesday of the month. Our next gatherings are **First Friday**, **January 4**, **at 12-1 p.m. and Third Tuesday**, **December 18**, **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

YOUTH GROUP for middle and high school youth will meet on Sunday, December 16, when we'll celebrate together with a Youth Group Christmas party! The Christmas party will be from 2:30-4 p.m. at the Iudicello's home, 1563 Fox Field. We'll be going sledding, so bring warm winter clothes and a sled if you have it. We will also do a white elephant gift exchange, so bring a gift under \$15.

Stewardship

OUR CHURCH'S ANNUAL STEWARDSHIP APPEAL is underway. Already 175 households have responded by pledging \$350,901. Let's keep the momentum going! Please place your pledge card in the offering plate at either service today or mail it to the church office later this week. If you have misplaced your pledge card, extra pledge cards may be found at either end of the pews or in the literature rack at the back of the church.