



PARACLETE

DECEMBER 2018

HOLY SPIRIT | EPISCOPAL CHURCH

130 South 6th Street East • Missoula, MT 59801 • 406.542.2167 • E-mail: office@holyspiritmissoula.org • Website: www.holyspiritmissoula.org

A publication of Holy Spirit Episcopal Church



ADVENT III, December 16

8 a.m., Holy Eucharist

10:15 a.m., Holy Eucharist

7 p.m., Festival Service of
Nine Lessons and Carols

Reception follows in parish hall

ADVENT IV, December 23

10:15 a.m., Holy Eucharist

*One service only; Church
School meets as usual*

CHRISTMAS EVE, December 24

4 p.m., Christmas Eucharist
with the children's Christmas
presentation

10 p.m., Christmas Choral
Eucharist

CHRISTMAS DAY, December 25

No services

THE FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS, December 30

8 a.m., Holy Eucharist

10:15 a.m., Holy Eucharist

*No Church School or Adult
Classes this Sunday*

Help us kick off the season of Advent with Advent Crafts & Soup

Join your church family on the first Sunday in Advent, December 2nd, immediately after the 10:15 service. We'll serve a simple soup and bread meal. Take the time to enjoy conversation. Savor the smells of the first greens of the season, enjoy some music (provided by our John Ellis Intern, Toni Braig), and try your hand at any number of craft stations. As always, there will be supplies to make your own Advent wreath. In addition to other crafts, this year you'll be able to make your own pine cone bird feeder with Karen Gartner. Or, wood

burn a new character for your crèche with Gary Swartz.

Make something special to enjoy at home or to share with someone else. Maybe you've made 18 Advent wreaths and really don't feel the need to attempt number nineteen? Go ahead. Make one more wreath and this time share it with a neighbor, a friend, or a member of the church who can't get out.

The suggested donation for crafts is \$10 and for soup and bread is \$3.



OUR STAFF

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Rector

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NEWSLETTER

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Our celebration begins on December 16 Join us for Lessons and Carols

The Festival Service of Nine Lessons and Carols will take place on Sunday evening, December 16, at 7 p.m. in the church. The choir and organ will be in splendid voice, and the beautiful carols and anthems will be the perfect introduction to the last days before Christmas.

The Festival Service of Nine Lessons and Carols, which began in England in the early 1900s, is now a part of Anglican and Episcopal worship throughout the world. The service is made up of lessons alternating with the singing of congregational and choral music. Beginning with the story of

Adam and Eve, the lessons trace the prophecies of the Nativity and end with the beautiful passage from John: "In the Beginning was the Word..."

I invite all of you to join the choir on the 16th, and in the words of the beautiful opening prayer,

to hear again the message of the angels, and in heart and mind to go even unto Bethlehem and see this thing which is come to pass...

A festive reception with punch and wassail will follow in the parish hall.

—DR. NANCY COOPER

ORGANIST AND CHOIR DIRECTOR

*The
Christmas
Story in Word
and Song*

**Sunday,
December 16
7 p.m.**

*Reception follows in
parish hall*

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Church**
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A Festival Service of Nine Lessons and Carols

Cover Art: Honthorst, Gerrit van, 1590-1656. Nativity Scene, from *Art in the Christian Tradition*, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN.

Flower donors needed for Christmas

Your contributions for flowers during Advent are used for the special flowers at the Christmas celebration, and at that time, your prayers and memorials are noted once again in the Christmas bulletin. **Please let us know by noon on Monday, December 3, if you would like to have flowers listed in the Christmas bulletin.** Extra help with flower gifts is always appreciated at this time of year.

Church School

Join us for a special telling of the Nativity Story on Christmas Eve

Join us at the early service on Christmas Eve at 4:00 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.

All Holy Spirit kids who plan to participate in the pageant on Christmas Eve:

- ✓ Must attend Church School on Sunday, December 23rd for costume preparation.
- ✓ Must stay after the 10:15 worship service (on Dec. 23rd) for 30+ minutes to practice.
- ✓ Must arrive on December 24th by 3:30 p.m.

— THE REV. GRETCHEN STROHMAIER
DIRECTOR OF SPIRITUAL FORMATION



Learning how to be God's hands in the world

We are God's hands and feet in this world. When I shared that idea with our Church School children recently, I got some quizzical looks. Maybe it's a concept best experienced and not explained. So we are setting out to share God's love with our hands. First, we need to learn. The kids decided they want to take a field trip to the teen drop-in center at the Salvation Army. They've had interest in the drop-in center for quite a while. A visit will help us understand the services they provide and the needs teens in our community have. The kids will be listening and learning and thinking about ways they can serve. Look for more details to be coming your way soon about a Sunday afternoon field trip to the Salvation Army. And...when you're in conversation with your children, consider discussing how you experience God through other people.

— THE REV. GRETCHEN STROHMAIER



Here's what's happening this month at Church School!

Sunday, December 2	Kids help lead adult worship. Advent Crafts & Soup after church in parish hall.	
Sunday, December 9	Children's worship lesson: Understanding Christmas	Activity Station
Sunday, December 16	Children's worship lesson: Understanding Christmas	Activity Station
Sunday, December 23	Children's worship lesson: Christmas Pageant Story	Pageant Preparation
Sunday, December 30	No Church School. Worship with your whole Church Family.	
Sunday, January 6	Epiphany! And a special visit from the Wise Men.	



Explorations: Opportunities to cultivate, challenge and live our faith

Warm Spirit project brings hope – on many levels!

After much consideration our Warm Spirit Project girls (a group of seven 5th through 7th graders from HSP) determined that one of the biggest challenges facing kids today is getting a quality education. In order to support the educational needs of kids, they decided to meet with the Family Resource Center (FRC) staff at Hellgate High School. They met with Tracy Ledyard and learned about the ways the FRC supports kids at school.

The girls learned that the FRC meets needs for a large variety of kids at Hellgate, providing everything from snacks to gym shorts to feminine hygiene products. The girls learned that by providing these sorts of resources for a large number of kids the FRC helps normalize the use of their services. The girls really liked this concept. They discussed how important it is for kids to feel okay about getting help. Though the girls were unfamiliar with the concept of stigma, they knew all about shame and how it can keep kids from getting what they need.

Some families have more intense needs. Currently there are 30 families at Hellgate who are homeless. The kids in these families are invited to explore the other services the FRC can provide. The girls got a tour and learned about these resources: clothing, coats, laundry, showers, haircuts, food, and toiletries. The girls were impressed when they learned that these families can even sometimes get backpacks and sleeping bags. They learned about how much easier it is for homeless families when this variety of services can be offered all in one place.

The girls were challenged to think about how difficult meal preparation and food storage can be when a family is homeless. They recognized that hunger and worry about food could make it difficult to concentrate in class. They discussed among themselves how the lack of other basic needs could also negatively impact self-confidence, and performance, and even attendance at school. The girls learned that school

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Advent Quiet Space on Sunday, December 2 Set aside time for listening to God this Advent

Set time aside to be intentional about the season of Advent. On Sunday December 2nd the church will be open starting at 4:00 p.m. Create your own mini-retreat. Enjoy the beauty of the nave. Spend time in personal reflection, contemplation and prayer. Perhaps take a prayer walk down by the river. Write in your journal. Walk down to an art gallery. Every hour on the hour there will be a brief offering. Willie Hoffer will read Scripture, A'Lisa Scott will sing an Advent hymn, Jocelyn Siler will share a piece of poetry and Tanya Lodahl will read an Advent reflection. Come and go as the Spirit moves you. The Quiet Space will close with our candlelit Compline service which starts at 8:00 p.m. Sustain yourself for the season. Set this time aside for listening to God.

– THE REV. GRETCHEN STROHMAIER
DIRECTOR OF SPIRITUAL FORMATION



Advent Quiet Space

Join us in the church on Sunday,
December 2. Spend time in personal
reflection, contemplation and prayer.

**December 2, starting at 4 pm
in the church**



Begin your Advent with Compline

Watch therefore for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or in the morning—lest he come suddenly and find you asleep. (Mark 13:35)

Begin your Advent vigil in the quiet darkness and candlelight of Compline at 8 p.m. on Sunday, December 2nd. The Holy Spirit Compline Choir will begin by chanting the 9th century setting of “Creator of the stars of night”. Please join us for this serene and simple beginning to the Advent season.

Our January service falls on January 6th, namely Epiphany Sunday, the beginning of the season of light. We will celebrate the coming of Christ’s light into the world.

— KEITH KUHN

Compline

The ancient service of plainchant and contemplative prayer

First Sunday of the Month, October - June
8 p.m. - All are welcome!



Warm Spirit project brings hope

Continued from page 4

(and particularly the FRC) can be a *lifeline* for kids in these sorts of life situations. The girls decided they wanted to help support the FRC at Hellgate High School. Their interest and empathy and desire to help make a difference all foster hope. Their sense of urgency—they wanted to go shopping that afternoon to purchase supplies for the FRC—inspired hope in the adults around them that day. Their passion was life-giving for us all.

To assist with the needs of the Hellgate FRC the Warm Spirit Project girls are hosting a toiletry drive during the season of Advent (all the Sundays in December). There will be collection stations in the back of the church, in the parish hall and in the church office. Please donate regular-size toiletries like: shampoo, conditioner, deodorant, soap, toothbrushes, toothpaste, hairbrushes, combs, Chapstick, feminine hygiene products, razors, fingernail clippers.

The girls have received a \$300 Butterfly Grant and will work with local businesses to provide special toiletries that may not be donated through the church—little things that can go a long way in helping someone feel comfort and confidence like: body spray, hair gel, makeup and fingernail polish.

WARM HANDS, warm feet!



Please donate a pair

January 6, 13, and 20

Bring clean used or new men's and women's hats, socks and gloves to the parish hall and place them in the striped bin. All hats, socks and gloves donated will be given to the Poverello Center for Missoula men and women who spend many of their winter hours outdoors.

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Our Sock Drive for the Pov begins in January

After you've bought your toiletries to support the Warm Spirit Toiletry Drive for the Hellgate Family Resource Center, and have begun dreaming of well-stuffed Christmas stockings, set aside some room in your heart and your shopping cart for the January sock drive for residents of the Poverello Center. On January 6, the Social Concerns Committee will start collecting socks (synthetic or wool, not cotton), hats and gloves for Missoula's homeless men and women who spend many hours in their wintry days outside on Missoula's streets. Look for the red-and-white striped box in the parish hall after the first of the year. Thank you!

—LUCIA SOLORZANO WORK,
SOCIAL CONCERNS COMMITTEE



Baptism date announced

The next date for baptism will be Sunday, January 13, at the 10:15 a.m. service. If you are interested in baptism, **the deadline for the January 13 baptism date is December 9.**

And the winner is...

Holiday Market Raffle:

Rocking Chair: Beverley Sherman

Christmas Quilt: Mary Lou Cordis

Barn Lantern: Alice Dailey

Turkey Placemats and Napkin

Rings: Phyllis Vining

Death by Chocolate Basket:

Lillian Wenger

Three Bottles of Wine: Sarah Towle

One Bottle of Wine: Nanette Ault

One Hour Massage: Charlotte Orr

Personalized Puzzle: Lucy Deaton

Lava Lamp: Sarah Towle

Youth's Treasure Trove

Basket: Tracey Gage

Dinner at Pearl and MCT

Tickets: Sharon Lukomski

Book Exchange Gift

Certificates (2):

Michelle Nokleby

Nancy Silliman



Holiday Bake Sale – let's make it another great fundraiser this year!

Parishioners at Holy Spirit are not only known for their baking expertise, they're also pretty good at enjoying the fruits of that baking! December 9th is the day for this year's Holiday Bake Sale, and as usual it will be held after both the 8 a.m. and 10:15 a.m. services. It's a good time to do some of your Christmas baking, putting a couple of plates aside for the Sale, not to mention buying some goodies to add to your inventory!

If you have a specialty, we hope that you will contribute it to the sale. Some annual favorites are mini-pies, cakes, rolls, whole pies, muffins, jams or jellies. The goodies will amaze and delight you. The famous cookie table is always a mouth-watering sight to behold – irresistible! This enables you to make up your own assortments.

Your donations for the Sale may be brought to the church kitchen:

- Friday, December 7, before 4:30 p.m.
- Saturday, December 8, between 10 a.m. and 12 noon
- Sunday, December 9, before either service

Mark your calendars! You and your sweet tooth won't want to miss it! We will also be looking for helpers for both Sunday services. Please SIGN UP to help!

– LAURA TAYLOR AND THE HOLIDAY MARKET BAKE SALE COMMITTEE



Silent Auction Winners:

Oregon Beach Condo: Sally Richter

1890s Rocking Horse: Lucia Work

Original Katie Knight Photo: Anita Rognas

Vintage Quilt: Marva Gallegos

Congratulations to all the winners and a HUGE thank you to the donors for the great prizes!

Thank you for a wonderful Market!

As the last boxes were taped shut with a "Holiday Market 2019" label atop and carried downstairs at the close of this year's market, the importance of all the hands involved in this event came into focus. The thousands of items handled by those who donated them – who had known them first in their own lives. Monday's set-up hands that unrolled and taped yards of paper then

garnished them with tablecloths and garlands. The hands of those who unpacked, priced, and set them out for display. The hands that held each other's in our morning prayer circles. The hands that had made so many of the treasures on sale. The hands that brought incredible lunches each day

Continued on page 7

The Wider Church: Episcopal Church in Panama to host Episcopal Youth Event

The Episcopal News Service recently announced that The Episcopal Church of Panama has been selected to host the first Episcopal Youth Event in Latin America, Evento de Jovenes Episcopales (EJE19). It is scheduled to be held at Ciudad del Saber in Panama City, Panama and expects to welcome young people ages 16-26 for several days of worship, music, workshops, and community building. Delegations are invited from the dioceses of Province IX, from Iglesia Anglicana de la Region Central de America, Cuba, Mexico and Brazil as well as the United States.



The Rt. Rev. Julio Murray, Bishop of Panama, has noted, "Today there is much talk of Panama as being one of the countries with the highest economic growth in the region, but there is also reference to the fact that social inequalities continue to challenge the mission of the church. Working with young people is fundamental for our church. It gives us the opportunity to influence, train and motivate leadership of the next generation in an integral way, on emerging issues that challenge evangelization, intentional discipleship and

our response in matters of social justice in favor of building the Kingdom of God in the midst of realities where we have been called to be Church."

Presiding Bishop Michael Curry announced he is looking forward to joining the event in Panama and cited it as a place where young people can learn about and claim their place as members of the Jesus Movement. Registration for EJE19 participants from the United States will be organized through the Latino/Hispanic Ministries Office of the Episcopal Church Center. For more information email eje@episcopalchurch.org.

— PRU RANDALL

Thank you for a wonderful Market!

Continued from page 6

for the volunteers and who kept the kitchen clean and tidy. The hands that put up signs and hauled countless boxes of donations. The hands that prepared and served Friday's luncheon. The musical hands of Dalton Anderson as he played Christmas carols for our shoppers, of Valerie Hess on the pipe organ, and of LeighAnn Bekemeyer on the harp during Friday's concert in the sanctuary. The hands of our cashiers and baggers, who this year mastered the

use of credit card transactions. Those strong, willing Saturday clean-up hands. The hands of each customer who happily carried their purchases out into their own lives. Hands touched the lives of so many this past week through a never-to-be-forgotten Holiday Market. Our thank yous to all who participated in any way – your loving, gracious, and generous hands made it all possible.

— BETSY HOLMQUIST

Practicing Advocacy with Civility

The Social Concerns Committee thanks all who participated in the five sessions of *Practicing Advocacy with Civility*. To find out more about what our own denomination is doing in the advocacy department, go to <https://advocacy.episcopalchurch.org>. This will give you The Episcopal Church's Fall Newsletter, encouraging words from Presiding Bishop Michael Curry, and links to acquaint yourself with the Office of Government Relations. Consider signing up for "Action Alerts" to be emailed to you. This will keep you abreast of issues and suggest ways you can be involved.



The Social Concerns Committee will be hosting in the weeks and months to come more advocacy workshops on some aspects of health-care, poverty, or criminal justice reform, in line with the policy positions taken by our national church. This will assist us as we move toward taking some advocacy steps together as a congregation.

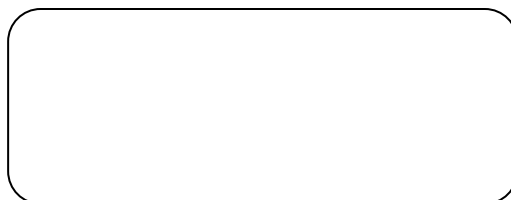
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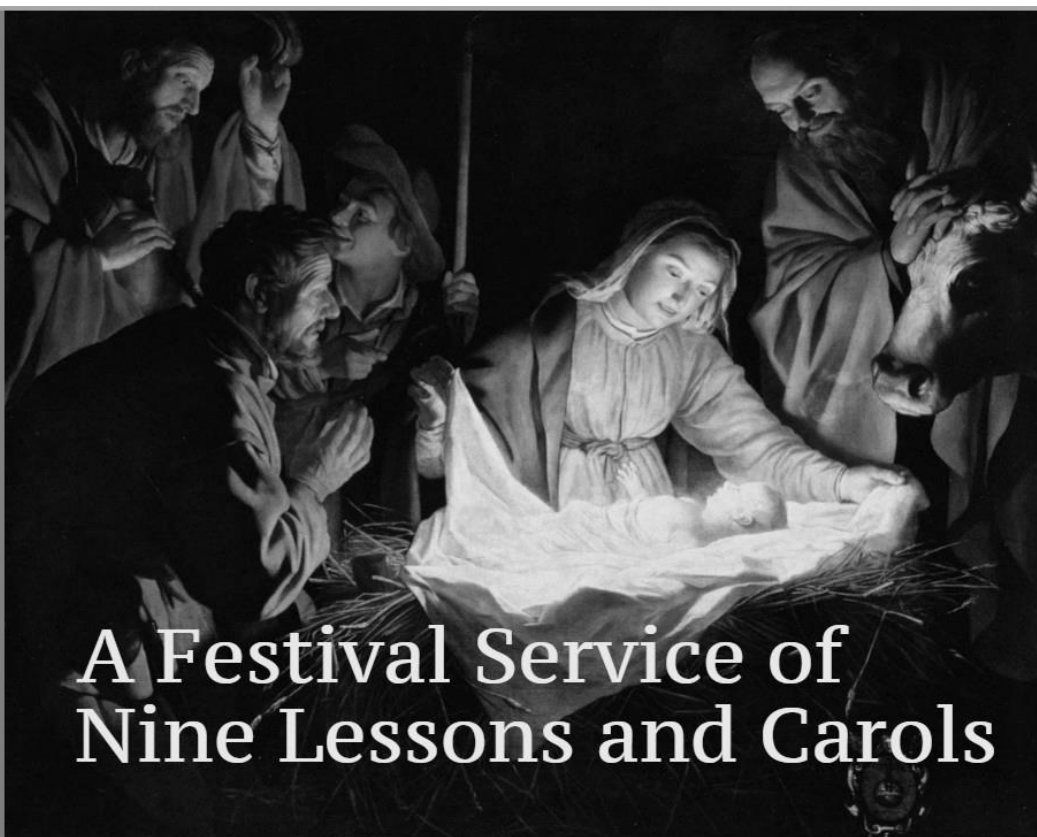
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