



## HOLY SPIRIT | EPISCOPAL CHURCH

130 South Sixth Street East • Missoula, MT 59801-4222 • 406.542.2167

*Nearing  
the  
Summit*

*Dear Holy Spirit Parishioners,*

Last spring Holy Spirit made good headway in meeting our annual budget shortfall when many of us added to our pledges at the request of Terri and our Vestry.

Terri is right: We are nearing the summit—the place where our resources match our needs so we can support the Holy Spirit community, do God’s work and move our focus to new ways to do church, both at Holy Spirit and in the community. But this depends on continuing to match the level of resources we asked for last spring, and doing even a bit more.

Typically, our pledge campaign draws commitments of \$360,000. Thanks to new pledges in 2019 and to those who stepped up, we added \$30,000 in our spring appeal. We need this \$30,000 and \$35,000 more on an ongoing basis to have what it takes to run our church using annual income—covering everything from groundskeeping and power bills to programs, social outreach, music and liturgy, and compensation for our committed staff. This means our pledge goal this fall to do all of this is \$425,000 (which, with added funds from our Foundation, Rummage Sale and Holiday Market, creates our full budget).

Raising \$425,000 will be a challenge for Holy Spirit, but I am confident that all of us will consider the central role of this church in our lives and in the community, and work to gather the resources needed to support it from yearly funds, rather than use our Parish Reserve.

If we can do this, we do reach a summit we’ve only dreamed of for a number of years—where we can harness the love, energy and commitment of this parish to do more in our community because we have a balanced budget. Our kick-off Sunday this fall was testament to this energy. We have more than 30 active ministries as we work to nurture each other, ourselves and the world. Let’s reach the place where we can look at all the possibilities ahead. Providing a solid annual budget of pledges will do just that.

Thank you for your gifts to the life of our church. I hope all of us who have the ability will help us stretch to reach this place of wellbeing and promise for the Holy Spirit community we value. If you have questions, I hope you will reach out to me, to Terri, or any member of the Vestry.

Yours in faith,

James H. Wiley, Senior Warden

P.S.: Let me be explicit about what we need:

- We need those who so generously stepped forward last year to continue their increased pledges in 2020.
- Also, we need an additional \$200 from every Pledge—less than \$4.00 a week.