



PARACLETE

JANUARY 2020

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

2020 DIOCESAN CONVENTION EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF MONTANA

Sign up to be a delegate to Diocesan Convention to be held October 9-11, hosted by St. Peter's Cathedral in Helena. Holy Spirit is entitled to 14 delegates who will be elected at the Annual Meeting on January 26. If you are interested in representing Holy Spirit at the Diocesan Convention, please call the church office, 542-2167, by Wednesday, January 22, 2020.

October 9-11

Helena, Montana

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

Sign up to be a delegate to Diocesan Convention

The next Diocesan Convention will be held October 9-11 at St. Peter's Cathedral in Helena. 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, January 26. Holy Spirit is entitled to 14 delegates to Diocesan Convention; alternates are also needed as people's plans change during the year. Any interested parish member who is willing to serve in this capacity should notify the church office at 542-2167 by Wednesday, January 22.

Just a reminder: delegates to Diocesan Convention attend at their own expense.

Parish begins new year at Annual Meeting on January 26

Don't forget to attend the Annual Meeting to be held in the parish hall after the 10:15 service on Sunday, January 26. A light meal will be served at the meeting at a cost of \$4. Reservations for the meal will be taken after services starting January 12 and continuing each Sunday until the Annual Meeting, or you may call the church office at 542-2167 before Wednesday, January 22. If you would like, you are welcome to bring your own snack. There will be supervised activities for the children, preschool

through grade 5, and baby-sitters will be available.

Do plan to attend this very important Annual Meeting. New members for the Vestry will be elected as well as delegates to next fall's Diocesan Convention, and the budget for the coming year will be presented. Reports from various parish organizations will also be given. This is your church meeting, and we hope you will be here to help get the year off to a great start for our parish!



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: PJ Willett

pj@holyspiritmissoula.org

Parish Administrator:

Judy Parock

office@holyspiritmissoula.org

Bookkeeper/Office Assistant:

Connie Gerke

office@holyspiritmissoula.org

Webmaster:

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.

**HOLY
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Bring your donations on January 12, 19 and 26
**Socks, gloves and hats needed for
homeless men and women**

As you contemplate making—and keeping(!)—resolutions for the new year, please include a plan to donate warm winter apparel to Missoula's neediest residents.

Once again, Holy Spirit will be conducting a drive for warm socks, hats, and gloves to go to residents of the Poverello Center who spend many of their daytime hours in our cold, blustery winter weather. (For those new to our community, the Poverello Center provides shelter to members of Missoula's homeless and underserved population.) The drive will begin on Sunday, January 12, and continue through Sunday, January 26. That also is the date of our Annual Meeting so we hope you will “sock it” big that final day of the drive.

While we appreciate all donations, wool or synthetic socks are best. Please avoid cotton socks as they make feet perspire and leave the wearer with cold, damp feet! Hand-knitted socks, hats, and gloves are always welcome. Watch also for post-holiday sales that many stores have.

Look in the parish hall for the red-and-white-striped box festooned with dangling hats plus socks and gloves whose mates have long ago gone missing. For the past several years, parishioners have generously donated about 80 pounds of these essential items. Unfortunately, the need increases every year so please let our donations do the same. Thank you!

—LUCIA SOLORZANO WORK
SOCIAL CONCERNS COMMITTEE

Help provide socks and gloves for Missoula's homeless

**WARM HANDS,
warm feet!**



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

**January 12, 19 and 26 in
the parish hall**

**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 January 26. Four of these will serve a three-year term, and one member will be filling out an

unexpired term of a departed Vestry member. The slate of candidates will be finalized at the January Vestry meeting, and then we will print the profiles of the nominees in the Sunday bulletin and the *Spirited Times*.

Volunteer support is a great boost to Church School Church School changes: the results

We've continued to follow the feedback we got from parents and families. We're working towards integrating children more fully into the life of the parish. This fall we have experimented with devoting one Sunday a month to shared worship with adults, and two Sundays a month the children have a brief worship time designed specifically for them followed by shared Eucharist with adults. The final Sunday of the month is devoted to either service projects or a special craft.

The upshot? Things have felt a little chaotic at times, and there is less continuity within the program. Sometimes we miss that. But this affords children the opportunity to participate in worship with their church family at least three times a month. Worshiping upstairs is no longer an isolated occasion; it's just normal. Kids are part of the flow. And sometimes they seem surprised to see people they know. Our kids are in the pews, under the pews, laying low behind the pews (playing with the toys). They are in the aisle, in the chancel and kneeling at the Communion rail. They are absorbing beauty, witnessing quiet ritual, and learning about mystery through their mere presence in the space.

Also, our changes, mostly the changes in my schedule as Assistant Priest, have paved the way for more leadership within Church School. We have four different storytellers (with a

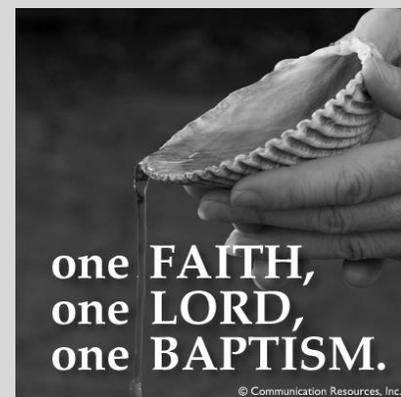
fifth just now joining us) that trade off leading children's worship. We haven't had this sort of variety in the leadership of our program for at least 20 years. We're still finding our way. We're still learning. But change is happening, and rest assured, the Holy Spirit is in the mix. Other volunteers are helping in new ways as well.

Wednesdays have become volunteer days in the office, and they do things like shopping for supplies, decorating classrooms, researching service projects, and planning craft activities. This volunteer support has been a great boost to the Church School program. Not only do the volunteers get the tasks done, but they bring their own expertise, vision and creativity, expanding the jobs and building on the ministry. What a joy!

If you would like to be part of the mix, learning to tell Bible stories for children's worship or volunteering periodically on Wednesdays, please contact me. We'd love to fold you in and then step back and see how the Holy Spirit uses your gifts and skills in new and sometimes surprising ways. Call the church office at 542-2167 or email

gretchen@holyspiritmissoula.org.

– THE REV. GRETCHEN
STROHMAIER
DIRECTOR OF
SPIRITUAL FORMATION



Baptism date announced

The next date for baptism will be at our Easter Vigil service on Saturday, April 11, at 7:30 p.m. If you are interested in baptism at that time, either for yourself or for your child, please call the church office at 542-2167 and ask to speak to Rev. Terri.



Here's what's happening in January in Church School

Sunday, January 5

Joint worship: Kids and adults upstairs

Sunday, January 12

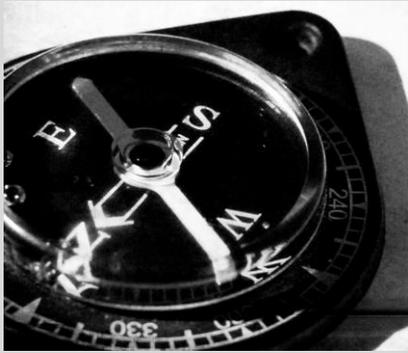
Children start downstairs for a lectionary-based Bible story, Matthew 3:13-17, *Jesus's Baptism*. Children join the second half of worship upstairs to participate in Eucharist.

Sunday, January 19

Children start downstairs for a lectionary-based Bible story, John 1:29-42, *The Lamb of God*. Children join the second half of worship upstairs to participate in Eucharist.

Sunday, January 26

Children spend all morning downstairs doing a special craft project.



Explorations:

Opportunities
to cultivate,
challenge
and live our
faith

The Good Book Club Join Presiding Bishop Curry in reading the Gospel of John

Presiding Bishop Curry calls upon followers of Jesus to join with him in the Good Book Club, reading the Gospel of John each day during the Epiphany season.

The Good Book Club offers an array of resources developed by partners from across the Episcopal Church, making it easy for people to read, learn, and wrestle with the Gospel of John. The church-wide Bible initiative starts January 6, 2020.

Joining the Good Book Club is easy: open your Bible and start reading! In addition, Episcopal and Anglican partners have come together and prepared resources to support the journey, including print and online Bible studies, webinars, reflections, blogs, and social media posts. Find these resources by visiting <https://www.goodbookclub.org>. Watch a short video from Presiding Bishop Curry as he invites our participation:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zog-b0WgxA&feature=youtu.be>

Starting on Sunday January 12th Barbara Barmeyer and Betsy Holmquist will host the Good Book Club class on Sunday mornings between services at 9:15 in the Guild Room to discuss the week's readings from the book of John. Pick up a companion book, *A Journey with John*, from the church office for \$13.

The book of John is a fascinating book. It differs from the other three Gospels in many ways. John includes nothing about the birth or baptism of Jesus. There are no parables. There is no transfiguration. There is no condemnation of the rich and nothing about helping the poor. So what makes this Gospel so powerful? Come. Discover the beautiful, spiritual, meaningful Word that is the Book of John.

Begins on January 12 at 9:15 a.m. in the Guild Room.

Mark the close of the Christmas season Join us for Compline on January 5

*You are the deep innerness of all things,
The last word that can never be spoken.
To each of us you reveal yourself differently:
To the ship as coastline, to the shore as a ship. (from Rilke's Book of Hours)*

Why not use Compline on January 5th to mark Twelfth Night and the close of the Christmas season? The service will be held at 8 p.m. on Sunday, January 5th. The Holy Spirit Compline Choir will begin the service with an 11th century chant setting of "Of the Father's love begotten" and end with the ancient carol "A great and mighty wonder." The meditations for the evening will be short poems on divine love by Rainer Maria Rilke.

Our February service falls on February 2nd. We will celebrate Epiphany and return to the Northumberland Daily Celtic Prayer Book for the service's meditations.

– KEITH KUHN, COMPLINE COORDINATOR



The Great Themes of Scripture: Old Testament A new book study begins in January

Take a NEW look at the Old Testament through the eyes of Father Richard Rohr. Join Deacon Anita Rognas on Thursday evenings starting on January 16th from 6:30 – 8:00 p.m. for a book study of *The Great Themes of Scripture: Old Testament* by Richard Rohr and Joseph Martos. Supplemental resources from Richard Rohr, as well as other scholars, will also be provided throughout the course, adding to the variety of voices informing the themes

of Scripture. This will be a rich and thoughtful opportunity to consider the scope of the Old Testament's message and impact. Order your own book and contact Anita about your interest in the class, 208-305-4022 (call or text) or email her at anita.rognas@gmail.com. Some financial assistance is available to support the purchase of books. Contact Rev. Gretchen about financial needs gretchen@holyspiritmissoula.org.



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 5, 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.

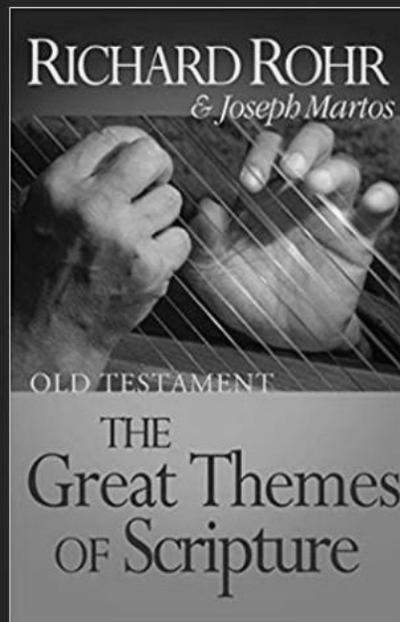
— JUDY PAROCK

Take a new look at the
Old Testament

The Great Themes of Scripture

Thursday evenings
beginning January 16

6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. in
the Guild Room



Youth Confirmation Classes begin in January

Attention youth and parents! We will be starting Confirmation classes in January! Confirmation will be open to any youth 6th grade and up. Classes will be after school on Thursdays, beginning January 23 and going until February 6. If you would like to register, please email PJ at PJ@holyspiritmissoula.org.

— PJ WILLETT, YOUTH MINISTRY



Stay connected with the Holy Spirit app

Keep up to date on upcoming events, access sermons, forms/registrations for events and other activities, see the latest newsletter or bulletin, or submit a prayer request – all that and so much more! This is also a convenient way to make electronic donations by ACH (bank account) or credit or debit cards in addition to making and managing recurring gifts.

Get a link to download the app by texting **HOLYSPIRITAPP** to **77977**. Be sure to put your caps lock feature on; that will bypass the auto-correct feature on your phone and ensure that the code is entered correctly! You may also download the app directly in the Apple iTunes App Store or on Google Play.

From the Rector
The joy of blessings and home

I was recently invited by Jim and Jeanne Clark to offer a house blessing in their new home. It was a wonderful occasion shared with friends. I thought to myself, “I’ll bet many do not know this is something available to them.” Whether you’ve lived in the same home for many years or have just moved into a new abode, the service is available to you. The basic outline of the service for **The Celebration of a Home** is found in **The Book of Occasional Services** alongside such things as Seasonal Blessings, The Way of the Cross, and A Public Service of Healing. It is designed in a manner that allows flexibility and adaptation as needed.

We gathered in the kitchen for opening prayers and lit a candle that would be carried from room to room. From there, everyone but our hosts went outside. We began the prayers and blessings. With a knock on the door, they welcomed us in, and we went room to room, offering formal and informal prayers in each: Entryway, Study, Utility Rooms, Garage, Music Room, Master Bedroom and Bath, Kitchen, Dining Room and the Great

Room/Living Room. Jim and Jeanne were asked if they wanted to share something important about each space and soon important threads of not only their stories but those of prior generations were knit into a story of shared life. Gathered in prayers, blessings, and even chanting, the entire home was blessed by God’s grace. Food, beverage and conversation brought new friends together and home to what was once a house.

As everyone headed to their homes, I stepped out into the night. Above was the almost full moon and neighboring homes bathed in light. I thought of immigrants and refugees seeking a home, of those who have become homeless and of the need to pray and act to make home a reality for all. I thought of the Star of Bethlehem over humble surroundings, God with us, and the light of Christ continually overcoming the darkness. I thought of the many homes, family and friends that fill my life’s story. God bless us all with a place to call home.

– REV. TERRI



Community Ministries

Your help is needed to shine a “Beacon on Deacons”

Our new Diocesan Bishop, Marty Stebbins, is eager to connect with her community of Montana Deacons to learn about our stories and ministries, and to partner with us for growth and systemic change. This is the time for reaching out across the Diocese to those who are in all stages of wondering if they may be called to the diaconate to help them discern. This is the time of us to look at ourselves and our neighbors in the pews for potential Deacons – conveners, voice-builders, change agents – among us.

Where do we begin? An excellent place to start is to commit some time to

praying through The Examination for the Ordination of a Deacon, found on page 543 of the Book of Common Prayer. It will feed your understanding of this lively call and may help you to look in new ways within yourself or at others who could or should be discerning about this. Join us in shining a “Beacon on Deacons,” and please let me know who your prayers raise up for you as you envision future diaconal service leaders. Thank you!

– THE REV. DORCIE DVARISHKIS
239-7655 ~ dorcied@gmail.com



Missoula Interfaith Collaborative

Become a volunteer housing advocate

Every day, hundreds of individuals and families in Missoula face the stresses of homelessness. While they sit on waiting lists and wait for solutions, volunteers with MIC’s Housing Advocate Network use relational currency to help keep these people connected to resources and community. Interested in being trained as a volunteer housing advocate? Call 207-8228, ext. 5, or email zeke@micmt.org.



Get involved with Project Community Connect

Looking for a unique way to support the needs of folks experiencing homelessness?

Missoula Interfaith Collaborative is gearing up for the next edition of Project Community Connect, which is an all-day one-stop resource shop for folks to connect to resources, learn about employment opportunities, pick up clothing or get a haircut – plus new this year is “Homeless Court,” an opportunity to get some assistance quashing misdemeanor violations, etc.

Mark your calendars! This year’s event happens Friday, January 31, at Revive Church, 2811 Latimer. Volunteers are needed!

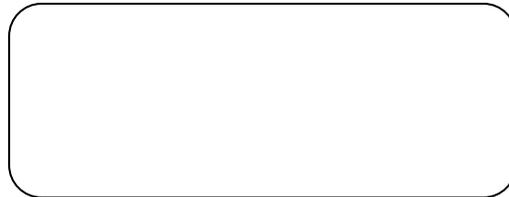


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HOLY SPIRIT | EPISCOPAL CHURCH

ANNUAL MEETING

Immediately following the 10:15 a.m.
service in the parish hall

January 26, 2020

