

# PARACLETE

FEBRUARY 2024

HOLY SPIRIT | EPISCOPAL CHURCH

130 South 6th Street East • Missoula, MT 59801 • 406.542.2167 • E-mail: [office@holyspiritmissoula.org](mailto:office@holyspiritmissoula.org) • Website: [www.holyspiritmissoula.org](http://www.holyspiritmissoula.org)

A publication of Holy Spirit Episcopal Church



## Holy Spirit Parish Blood Drive

Location – Parish Hall  
130 South 6th Street East  
**Thursday, April 4**  
**1 pm – 6 pm**

Sign up online at [www.redcrossblood.org](http://www.redcrossblood.org)

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## Holy Spirit's blood drive has been rescheduled!

Due to staffing shortages, the Red Cross has had to cancel our blood drive scheduled for February 1. The blood drive will now take place on Thursday, April 4, from 1 p.m. to 6 p.m. in the parish hall. If you have already signed up to donate, please consider rescheduling for the new date and time. We apologize for any inconvenience.

Let's try something new

## Evolving our leadership model at Holy Spirit

You can feel it, can't you? There's renewed energy, new ideas, and great involvement by everyone at Holy Spirit -- and I felt it the first day I returned from my Sabbatical. It continues now, the way breaching a log jam clears a river for a whole new cycle of life. Anytime an established system has a piece removed or shuffled for a time, new opportunities arise with the change. The new life is palpable.

I have said that the transition back was like getting on a horse already saddled and ready to continue the journey all of you began over my time away. It is a journey of transition, looking at what's ahead, and adapting as we go. Little did I know that the Holy Spirit would move me to do something unexpected at a recent Finance Committee meeting, something spurred on by a

greatly increasing deficit and the desire to take advantage of the transitional or liminal time we are in.

I said, "What if you cut me to half time -- what difference would that make?" I didn't say this because I don't want to be here. Quite the contrary. I want to be part of continuing to explore what lies ahead, so that the Holy Spirit community is best positioned for what lies ahead.

Due in part to broader resource issues and changes among clergy themselves, the Episcopal Church has been saying for some time that the larger church is moving toward bi-vocational ministry, where clergy work both in the church and maintain another place of work. This concept is not new to clergy, but it may be to you. Perhaps this is the time to explore what this new concept might

*Continued on page 2*



## OUR STAFF

### Clergy:

The Rev. Terri Ann Grotzinger,  
Rector

[revterri@holyspiritmissoula.org](mailto:revterri@holyspiritmissoula.org)

The Rev. Gretchen Strohmaier,  
Assistant Priest

[Gretchen@holyspiritmissoula.org](mailto:Gretchen@holyspiritmissoula.org)

The Rev. Dorcie Dvarishkis,  
Deacon

[dorcieed@gmail.com](mailto:dorcieed@gmail.com)

### Organist/Choir Director:

Dr. Nancy Cooper

### Parish Administrator:

Judy Parock

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### Bookkeeper/Office Assistant:

Connie Gerke

[Connie@holyspiritmissoula.org](mailto:Connie@holyspiritmissoula.org)

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**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.

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## From the Assistant Thank you for three weeks away!

I am currently taking some time away, and Terri is covering things at Holy Spirit and St. Paul's in my absence, February 2 through 24. I really appreciate it. St. Paul's was so supportive during Terri's sabbatical, and they will be happy to have her in Hamilton with them for worship on February 4 and 18. That means things will be a little different at Holy Spirit on those days. But I think you are now used to "different" after all the variety we've had in worship over the last 6 months. Thank you! I appreciate

your flexibility and your support as we do church in a broader western Montana context.

During my time off I will get to spend a week at home catching up on things, a week with my dad in Walla Walla, and a week of adventure with Dave out and about somewhere. I'll be thinking of you on Ash Wednesday, and I'll be back on February 25<sup>th</sup> at worship here at Holy Spirit. See you then. May the beginning of Lent be full of grace for you.

— REV. GRETCHEN+

## Leadership Continued from page 1

look like, while we have two priests with different gifts to share as co-rectors.

Right now, I don't know what the other half of my time will entail, but I will let the Spirit guide me on that. Perhaps it will be part-time work at St. Andrew's, Polson (like Gretchen at St. Paul's, Hamilton), or secular work, or retirement with part-time work here. All I know is that I am committed to giving this a try.

As it turns out, Rev. Gretchen was considering a change on her part to keep things going as well. When she heard of my offer, it resonated with her enough to see what the Spirit

might be doing. After speaking with Bishop Marty and the Vestry, I received permission to talk with the Sr. Warden at St. Andrew's, Polson, and I will continue to explore a range of options.

I sense deeply that you have thrived in what can only be called a new mix of clergy and laity, working together to guide and energize our church community. This is a nascent moment pregnant with possibilities. Let's see what God's light shines on the path ahead, in line with our ancestral heritage that has explored new terrain time and time again. May we pray, listen, and find joy in this adventure!

— FAITHFULLY WITH YOU  
ALONG THE WAY,  
TERRI+



## Help us prepare for the start of Lent at our Pancake Supper

Shrove Tuesday, also known as Fat Tuesday or Mardi Gras, is coming soon on February 13. As a prelude to the Lenten season, it is an Anglican tradition to feast on eggs, butter, and sugar the day before the Lenten period. As in years past, the men of Holy Spirit will again celebrate this day by hosting a Pancake Supper for all parishioners and guests. Take a night off from shopping for groceries, planning a meal, cooking, and

cleaning up. We will serve **all you can eat** delicious pancakes and sausages, accompanied by syrup, coffee, juice, and milk. The cost is \$6 for adults, \$4 for children, and free for anyone 4 and under.

Please plan to join us! Last year's blizzard on the night of the Pancake Supper cut short our evening, so we're eager to show off our cooking skills and to celebrate with you!

## When does Baptism take place at Holy Spirit?

Holy Baptism is full initiation by water and the Holy Spirit into Christ's Body the Church. Baptism takes place during the Easter Vigil service (Saturday evening, in March), and at a Sunday service about three times a year: the Day of Pentecost (at the end of May this year), the Sunday after All Saints' Day (early November), and the Feast of the Baptism of our Lord (the first Sunday after Epiphany, in early January). Baptism may also take place when the bishop visits (in December this year), and on a Sunday during the summer on a date to be determined. If you are interested in Baptism for yourself or for your child, preparation needs to take place. Please contact the office at (406) 542-2167 to speak with our rector, The Rev. Terri Ann Grotzinger.

The next date for Baptism will be on Saturday, March 30, at the Easter Vigil service.

## Our Lenten journey begins on Ash Wednesday, February 14

Ash Wednesday, which marks the beginning of Lent, derives its name from the ancient practice of marking the foreheads of worshippers with ashes from the unused palm branches of the previous year. As the service for Ash Wednesday says:

*Grant that these ashes may be to us a sign of our mortality and penitence, that we may remember that*

*it is only by your gracious gift that we are given everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.*

Join us on Ash Wednesday, February 14, as we begin our Lenten journey to Easter. **We will have Holy Eucharist with the Imposition of Ashes at 7 p.m. that day.**





February 4 at 8 p.m.  
**Experience the Light of Epiphany in the quiet of Compline**

*O eternal Light, shine into our hearts.  
 O eternal Goodness, deliver us from evil.  
 O eternal Power, be our support.  
 Eternal Wisdom, scatter the darkness of our ignorance.  
 Eternal Pity, have mercy on us.*

Please join us in celebrating the light of Christ in the candlelight of compline on Sunday, February 4, the fifth Sunday after Epiphany at 8 PM. The service meditations will center on a prayer written by Alcuin of York, a poet and theologian from Charlemagne's time best known for the prayer "Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known." The choir will begin the service with a setting of Phos hilaron ("O Gracious Light"), one of the oldest texts in Hymnal 1982, and will also include Michael Fleming's anthem "Kindle a Light."

## 2024 Lenten Series Two Lenten series options offered this year

This year we have two Lenten Series options. Zara Renander will offer "From Generation to Generation" on three Saturday mornings in March: 2, 9, and 16, from 10:00-11:30 a.m. in the Parish Hall. She will be considering several Saints important to our Episcopal/Anglican story (e.g., Cuthbert, Julian of Norwich, Johnathan Daniels). We plan to offer a simple soup and bread lunch afterward with the opportunity to get to know one another better. Watch for more information in the Sunday leaflets!

Another Lenten opportunity is very flexible and can be done individually or in small groups as you decide. A brand-new book is out by Christine Valters Paintner (January 2, 2024) entitled "A Different Kind of Fast: feeding our true hungers in Lent" and offers a self-directed study for one or more during the season of Lent. Several books will be available, or you may purchase one at your favorite seller. Again, watch for more information in the Sunday Worship leaflets.



## Join us for a special Lenten service at Family Worship on February 25

Please join us for Family Worship on Sunday, February 25<sup>th</sup>, from 4:30-5:30 p.m. in the church, as we come together for our Lenten service. During this service, we will delve into the significance of Lent and why it holds a special place in the hearts of people of faith. Our worship will commence with a simple Eucharist, followed by an hour of uplifting

songs, insightful lessons, and engaging activities, all aimed at strengthening our faith as a community. We encourage you to extend the invitation to young ones and their families, as everyone is invited. We eagerly anticipate welcoming all who are able to attend this family-friendly service.



## Community Ministries

## Theological reflection as a Lenten and lifelong practice

In the new year with our Montana School for Deacons' students, we are focusing on some key practices that can transform how we see and live into a diaconal call. One is learning to truly listen in a ministry of presence. Another is becoming more trauma-informed and responsive in how we practice love of our neighbors. But the one we put first was theological reflection, and I think it is worth sharing more broadly as a possible Lenten and lifelong practice.

What makes theological reflection different from other types of reflection is God, not in some abstract sense, but rather in intentionally looking for God's presence in a person's or group's experience. Theological reflection asks us to consider both what difference God's presence makes and what God might intend for us in response to an experience. The practice is meant to help us form a dynamic relationship between our lives, the Christian heritage, and a movement towards insight and transformation. One can

begin by focusing on some aspect of an experience, then describing that experience more deeply to identify what might be at the heart of the matter. That "heart" is then explored in prayer and in conversation with the wisdom of the Christian heritage – how might the stories and experiences of those who have come before us inform what we see of God in this experience? From this conversation, we work to find new insights for how we might respond in prayer, word, and deed.

We drew on the resources of The Art of Theological Reflection and Let Ministry Teach, and have found the practice revealing for our continuing formation and ministries. May it prove to be a fruitful Lenten and lifelong practice for you as well.

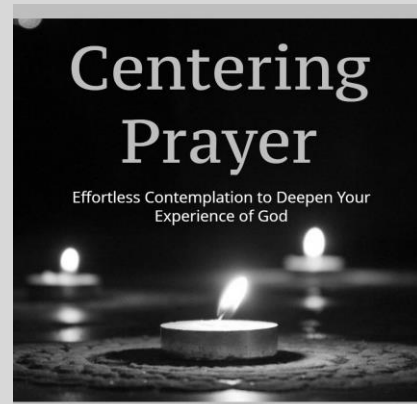
Alongside you,

– THE VEN. DORCIE KAFKA

DVARISHKIS

[dorcied@gmail.com](mailto:dorcied@gmail.com)

406-542-2167 church office



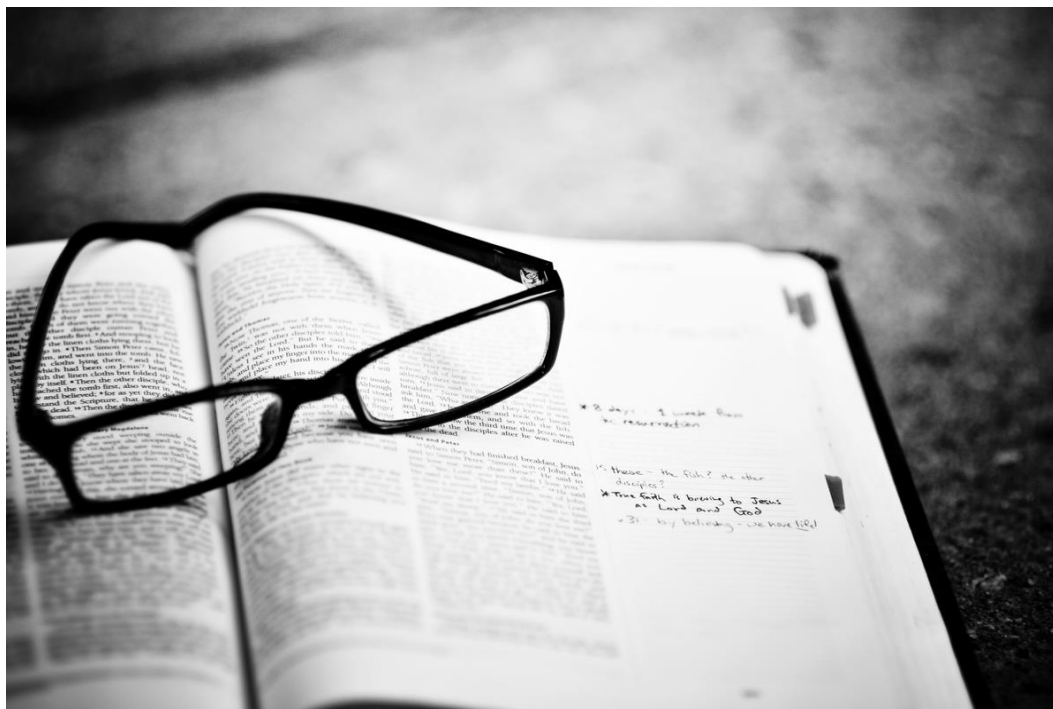
### Join us for Centering Prayer on February 20

All are welcome to a circle of silent prayer. Centering Prayer is a meditation process that invites us to an inner sacred space to quiet our minds, open our hearts and take rest in the Love of God.

We begin by sitting in a circle in an attitude of openness of mind and heart. A leader will direct the circle to breathe deeply and to open one's heart and mind for the presence of God. A reading will be given, a chime will be rung, and the silence begins. We sit in this Holy silence for 20 to 25 minutes, and then another chime will ring, calling us quietly to return to the presence of others. The leader will offer a closing prayer or reading. At this point, some will choose to leave in silence. Others may remain for the rest of our time to ask questions or offer their experience of "sitting" in this Holy silence. We then leave at 5pm.

We meet in the Guild Room at Holy Spirit. We gather at 4pm and leave at 5pm every third Tuesday of the month. **We will meet on Tuesday, February 20.**

If you have any questions, you may contact Willie Hoffer at 541-815-9609 or by e-mail at [rockhaven12@bendbroadband.com](mailto:rockhaven12@bendbroadband.com). Blessings as you go.



## 2024 Lenten Meditations

Reflect on your newness in Christ as you journey through Episcopal Relief and Development's Lenten Meditations, written by Miguel Escobar, and discover new ways your faith is guiding you through the world.

During Lent, we pray, "Create and make in us new and contrite hearts." The 2024 Lenten Meditations focus on embracing this new heart, this new life in Christ, and looking deep within ourselves and acting in ways that seek and serve Christ in others.

Miguel Escobar authored this year's meditations. Miguel is an Episcopal Relief & Development member and the Director of Strategy & Operations at the Episcopal Divinity School in New York City. Throughout his studies and professional life, he has helped many discern and strengthen their call to ministry. He is a thoughtful person who cares that the most vulnerable among us are treated justly. You will get a taste of Miguel's life experiences and personal convictions in this year's meditations.

Access the 2024 Lenten Meditations here:

<https://www.episcopalrelief.org/resource/2024-lenten-meditations-booklet/>



# Episcopal Relief & Development Sunday

## February 25



## ERD Sunday – a day to remember those in need

We encourage all Episcopalians to gather on **February 25, Episcopal Relief & Development Sunday**, to pray for people fighting poverty, disaster and disease in their communities and for all those around the globe leveraging local resources and expertise to address disparity and inequality in the world. Each year, Episcopal Relief & Development (ERD) facilitates healthier, more fulfilling lives for more than 3 million people around the world struggling with hunger, poverty, disaster, and disease. The organization works with Anglican partners to create long-term development strategies focused on delivering results in three signature program areas: **Women, Children and Climate**.

ERD's work with **Women** focuses on helping communities promote the rights of women and children and move toward the vision that everyone deserves a life free from violence. Their work with **Children** supports and protects kids under six so they reach appropriate health and

development milestones. ERD's **Climate**-related work focuses on how families and communities can work together to adapt to the effects of rapidly changing weather patterns. In addition, ERD's **US Disaster Program** offers critical resources and training to help people prepare for disasters and provide emergency support so vulnerable communities can make a full and sustained recovery.

We will be taking a special offering at both services on February 25 in support of ERD's mission to assist people impacted by poverty worldwide. All gifts from our offering will be designated to Episcopal Relief & Development's Global Needs Fund. This fund enables ERD to reach those most in need around the world. You can support this work by making a donation in one of the special envelopes provided in the pews that day or by donating on our giving platform Pushpay. Just choose "Episcopal Relief & Development" from the dropdown menu of funds.



## Social Concerns Committee El Golfo Student Sponsorship Program 2023-24

***Editor's Note:** In the spirit of "Love Thy Neighbor," Chuck and Maggi Teague have since 1987 offered a helping hand to Mexican families in a town where they wintered near the top of the Gulf of California, El Golfo de Santa Clara. Every year, the couple loaded their pickup with clothing and household items for the families and raised money for food as well. Later, their efforts turned to scholarships, giving students a chance to complete high school for better jobs. For several years now, the Social Concerns Committee has helped the Teagues with annual donations that offer our neighbors hope and encouragement. Here is report of how our students are doing.*

Holy Spirit sponsors received student grades at midyear. Only 27 students in the High School achieved the honor roll. The Sponsorship Program sponsors 32 students in El Golfo, Mexico. Holy Spirit Social Concerns and some of our members sponsor 11 of these of which 7 are on the honor roll, some with straight A's. Fishing in this town of El Golfo on the Sea of Cortez has become nearly non-existent because of the loss of the Colorado River fresh water diverted by the US and by

unregulated fishing. Few can afford the tuition for high school, (\$110 for 6 semesters) and feed their families.

A mother, who has a street taco stand whose daughter we sponsor, recently wrote to us: "We appreciate your continuing to help us pay for high school for Melody. The economic situation in El Golfo has been very difficult. I don't know what we would do without your help. We work, but the fishing has not been useful, and that is why we hardly sell tacos." She invited us to eat tacos when we are in El Golfo and thanked us for everything. Her daughter Melody's grades were all A+'s.

Students in the Sponsorship Program are selected because they are good students, family supportive, unable to pay the tuition and motivated to go to school to have a better life with education to get a full-time job and hopefully to get more tech school or college education. This program, started by Chuck and Maggi in 1917, is now headed by a woman selected by them (Barbara Cleckner) who is a high achiever. See Chuck or Maggi if you have any questions or wish to sponsor a student for the school year 2024-25.

— CHUCK AND MAGGI TEAGUE  
[maggichuck@gmail.com](mailto:maggichuck@gmail.com)

### Stay connected with the Holy Spirit app

Keep up to date on upcoming events, access Sunday worship, see the latest newsletter or service leaflet, 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 **(833) 714-3270**. 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.

**Be sure to opt in to receive push notifications!**



## HOLY SPIRIT PARISH

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# Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper

**Tuesday, Feb. 13 ■ 5 p.m. ■ Parish Hall**



Pancakes and sausages served  
from 5 p.m.-7 p.m.

Cost: Adults, \$6; Kids, 5-12, \$4;  
Kids, 4 and under, free!

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